

## EWMS Milestones and Experiences

An attempt to record decisions made and results of the first two years of raising trout.

| Event                       | Year One Decisions and Results  | Year Two Decisions and Results  |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| Before Eggs arrived         | Spent a day with SMTU setting up the equipment and organizing the room. Tank ran without anything in it.  | Set up equipment afterschool one evening. Students were selected to lead the project and were trained on testing of water.  |
| During the egg stage        | Eggs stayed in basket. Students were trained and checked eggs to remove bad every morning and evening. Teacher followed up afterschool each day to remove missed bad eggs. Fed trout in basket as they swam up.   | Eggs stayed in basket. Students were trained and checked eggs to remove bad every morning and evening. Teacher followed up afterschool each day to remove missed bad eggs. Fed trout in basket as they swam up. Focused on feeding very small amount. |
| Dropping the basket         | When most of trout had begun to swim up the basket was dropped. Began feeding trout in open tank.   | When all of the trout that appeared healthy began swimming up we dropped the basket. Fed in the basket until this time. Focused on feeding small amount.  |
| Once the feeding begins     | Fed trout 3 times per day by students. Checked ammonia, nitrite, and pH weekly. Did major water change every couple of weeks.   | Kept uncertain trout in basket and Fed trout each morning and afternoon by students. Checked ammonia, nitrite and pH weekly. Did major water change every couple of weeks.  |
| Short Breaks (3-4 days)     | Had fall break and Thanksgiving break. Planned for students to check in on trout after sports practice. Teacher checked in after students to ensure all was going right.  | Had fall break and Thanksgiving break. Fed fish well on day before the break and had come in once to ensure that all was working well. Students were not able to assist due to the building being locked to students.                                 |
| Long Breaks (about 2 weeks) | Started using automatic feeder and planned for students to check in after sports practice every other day. Checked water weekly. Teacher checked behind students to make sure that they came in and did all that was needed. Students adjusted feeder near end of break | Tried automatic feeder again but instructed students to not adjust. Checked water weekly with students checking in and teachers following up on a twice per week schedule due to snow days where we could not get into the school.                    |

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|                 | <p>because they did not feel it was feeding enough, unknown to teacher who increased number of times feeder fed each day. Teacher came in to brown water and a Major ammonia problem developed. Began major water changes 3 times per week. Students did when possible but mainly teacher work after school.</p> |  |
| Snow days       | <p>Snow days were plentiful cancelling practices and forcing teachers to come in to do water checks and changes.</p>   | <p>The snow days continued and we were not able to check water frequently nor do water changes as needed. The nitrites reached a very high level and never returned to normal. Would do major water change when we could get into school. Mainly teachers as students were out due to school closings.</p> |
| Problems Happen | <p>Ammonia problem lasted throughout the rest of the year. Teacher and students worked to keep check and do major water changes at least 3 times per week.</p>   | <p>Trout began to die. We lost almost 60 trout in a weekend. Many more trout died during the next week leaving us with around 10 trout and a continuous nitrite problem which required teacher and students to work to do major water changes at least 3 times per week.</p>                               |
| Release day     | <p>Arranged for around 30 students to attend trip to Stone Mountain to release around 25 trout. Spent the day learning and enjoying time outdoors with SMTU.</p>   | <p>Arranged for around 30 students to attend trip to Stone Mountain to release around 9 trout. Spent the day learning and enjoying time outdoors with SMTU.</p>  |
| Clean up        | <p>Worked with students to clean out the tank, wash and rinse equipment and gravel. Finished up the process during the workdays at the end of the year and put the equipment in storage. Prepared a list of needed supplies for next year.</p>   | <p>Time was not available for students to help clean up. Teacher cleaned out the tank, washed and rinsed equipment and gravel during the workdays at the end of the year and put the equipment in storage. Prepared a list of needed supplies for next year.</p>   |
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