Chapter 9:
Record Keeping

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Record Keeping

**Before the eggs arrive:**

1. Instruct students on how to conduct a daily inspection of the aquarium;

2. Show them how to make sure the equipment is working properly and how to read and record the temperature;

3. It is best if you organize biologist teams and assign times for each to monitor and record the aquarium information;

4. Explain that when the eggs arrive, they will also be checking for egg mortality;

5. Assign three students to conduct the inspection twice daily for a week;

6. At the end of the week rotate out one student and put a new student in. This way, after the first week, you will always have two students with experience in conducting the inspection.

_Have students inspect the aquarium early in the morning and at the end of the day and record their findings on the daily inspection record and on the progress chart._

_Record keeping is an essential part of the program. Records can identify potential problems and can be used to reference experiences from past years. Students should record everything that is done or observed._

For example:

- Dates
- Name of individual(s) conducting the tests and feeding the trout
- Time trout were fed to avoid overfeeding
- Feeding amount
- Temperatures
- Egg/alevin/fry numbers
- Problems and solutions
- Water quality testing results
- Mortality
- Observations: hatching, predation, etc.

You can use the following daily inspection record and progress reports that follow or have students create recording sheets of their own. In addition, progress reports can be posted on the Trout in the Classroom yahoo forum.

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# Monitoring Records

**DAILY INSPECTION RECORD**

Week of: ____________  
Inspectors’ Names: ______________________________________

At the end of the week, you must calculate the following:

- Average temperature: ____________________________
- Average pH: _________________________________
- Average ammonia: _________________________________
- Total mortality (# of eggs/trout removed): ____________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHECK THE FOLLOWING</th>
<th>RECORD DATA:</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chiller is plugged in</td>
<td>Temperature (F)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air pump is plugged in</td>
<td>Water is clear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Monday**
- **Wednesday**
- **Friday**

*At the end of the week, you must calculate the following:*

- **Average temperature:** ____________________________
- **Average pH:** _________________________________
- **Average ammonia:** _________________________________
- **Total mortality (# of eggs/trout removed):** ____________

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## Monitoring Records

### Report of Operations

Teacher:  
Species:  
# of Eggs Received:  
School:  
Phone #:  
Grades:  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mortality</th>
<th>Water</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Egg</td>
<td>Fry</td>
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Total Egg Mortality: ____________  
Number Fry Released: ____________  
Total Fry Mortality: ____________  
Release Site/Stream: ____________  

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Monitoring Records

Equipment Inspection Record

Date: ____________________
Temperature: ___________
Chiller unit plugged in ___
Powerhead plugged in ___
Air Pump plugged in ___
Powerhead and Air Pump operating properly
   Water at correct level ___
   Even flow ___
   Bubbles evident ___
Water
   Clean ___
   pH within acceptable range ___
Mortalities removed and recorded ___
Comments:

Inspector’s Signature ____________________

Equipment Inspection Record

Date: ____________________
Temperature: ___________
Chiller unit plugged in ___
Powerhead plugged in ___
Air Pump plugged in ___
Powerhead and Air Pump operating properly
   Water at correct level ___
   Even flow ___
   Bubbles evident ___
Water
   Clean ___
   pH within acceptable range ___
Mortalities removed and recorded ___
Comments:

Inspector’s Signature ____________________

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### Monitoring Records

**Who is feeding?**
**Do Not Over Feed, It can KILL the fish.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Amount/Type of Feed</th>
<th>Name</th>
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