

## QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO SETTING UP YOUR SALMON INCUBATOR

This guide is a quick reference only and should be used in conjunction with the full classroom incubation manual. Please read the manual carefully before setting up your incubator. The manual includes full details and photos of how to set up. **Corresponding manual page numbers are in brackets beside each topic.** This guide focuses on the Fluval U3 model and instructions for systems using a Fluval 3+ or under gravel filter will differ.

### GATHER COMPONENTS (p. 4-6)

- See checklist left by your coordinator this fall
- Place cart near sink/electrical outlet if possible

### DISINFECT (p. 4)

- Do this step the day before you plan to assemble your tank
- Do not use vinegar – we have provided Ovadine (iodine used in aquaculture) for you

**DO NOT DISINFECT FILTER MEDIA** (biomax pellets and foam/polycarb pads). Ensure they are not in the Fluval when you disinfect it.

Put in the tank:

- Fluval case (black)
- blue cartridges (3)
- thermometer
- dip net
- probe well (PVC)
- egg basket

Put in a bucket:

- 8-10 liters (2 ice cream pails full) of river rocks

Fill tank and the rock bucket with enough water to submerge the items you are disinfecting. Add ¼ cup of Ovadine (provided in plastic bottle with label) to both the tank and the rock bucket (you will use ½ cup total in the disinfecting process). Use a bit of the water/ovadine solution in the tank to wash the chiller's heat exchanger (large metal tube that normally sits in the tank) with a cloth.

Leave tank and bucket for 2 hours, then rinse everything thoroughly with fresh water and remove the components from the tank

### RINSE FILTER MEDIA (p. 7)

- (For Fluval U3: 2 white foam pads, 2 black polycarb pads, white biomax pellets. For Fluval 3+: black and white foam pads)
- Place filter media in a container filled with tap water. Add 7 or 8 drops of dechlorinator to the water. Remove filter media after a few minutes.

### ASSEMBLE FLUVAL (p. 7-10)

- Insert foam and polycarb pads into blue cartridges (2 sides are identical). See photos in manual.
- Fill the middle cartridge with new biomax pellets (you may choose to use half new and half last year's pellets if you'd like). Be sure the open circle at the bottom of the biomax cartridge lines up with the impeller (circle) in the bottom of the Fluval.
- Turn the dial to setting "A"

### **BUILD SUBSTRATE IN TANK (p. 7)**

Make 3 layers in the bottom of the tank:

1. 10 pounds of gravel (large bag)
2. 1 pound oyster shells (small bag)
3. 8-10 liters of river rocks

### **INSTALL CHILLER (p. 10)**

- Be gentle with the chiller. The chiller is fragile and made from copper wire – do not bend any part of the wire (insulated with black foam) at an acute angle.
- The heat exchanger should sit about 1” away from the back wall of the tank. This takes practice and patience – you can do it!

### **FILL TANK (p. 11)**

- Run the cold water tap for 5 minutes before filling tank
- Fill the tank by deflecting the stream of water with a plate or frisbee – water directly from a hose or bucket will create murky water and disrupt the substrate. Adjust level of water once you’ve installed the Fluval.
- Add dechlorinator – if using “Prime” brand, use 1 cap full. If using “AmQuel” brand, use 3 cap fulls.

### **MOUNT FLUVAL (p. 4)**

- Completely immerse Fluval, turning it around until bubbles no longer emerge (Fluval will not run properly if there is an airlock inside of it)
- Attach Fluval to one of the short ends of the tank using suction cups/bracket
- The Venturi valve is like a snorkel and is the highest point on your Fluval – it must stay out of the water. The rest of the Fluval should be under water. The Venturi valve should be open all the way.

### **INSTALL PROBE WELL (p. 12)**

- Attach the probe well (PVC pipe) to the end of the tank opposite the Fluval. If you are concerned that your probe well is leaking, keep the top of it slightly above the water.

### **POWER UP (p. 13)**

- Plug chiller and Fluval into a power bar leading to a GFCI that plugs into the wall

### **ADJUST STYROFOAM JACKET (p. 14)**

- Feel free to trim/tape your jacket as needed

### **SET THERMOSTAT (p. 14)**

- See manual for detailed instructions

*If any questions come up, please reference your manual first. If it doesn't answer your question, feel free to contact Kate for assistance.*