



## Bozeman Fish Technology Center Bozeman, Montana *Conserving America's Fisheries*



### MISSION

To conduct research and provide technical assistance to Federal, State and other partners in solving aquatic resource issues of regional and national importance.

### CENTER INFORMATION

In 1892, the Bureau of Fisheries established the Bozeman National Fish Hatchery in southwestern Montana. In 1966, this hatchery ceased rainbow trout production and became a research center focused on traditional fish culture. Today's Center conducts a diversity of research. The Center, located on Highway 86 in Bozeman, includes 171 acres along Bridger Creek adjacent to the Gallatin National Forest. Several historic structures still exist. Warm and cold springs feed several fish culture buildings. Bridger Creek water supplies a small pond. The Center has a feed laboratory and the new 16,500 square foot Robert G. Piper Administrative and Laboratory Building. The Center receives more than 5,000 visitors a year to walk, tour or visit this beautiful facility.



Cal Fraser performing water quality assessment in the containment building.

### Excellence in Science

Cal Fraser was hired at the Center nearly 3 years ago for his abilities in designing and maintaining fish culture systems. A Tennessee native, Cal moved to Montana in 1997 to manage the Wild Trout Research Laboratory at Montana State University. At the Center, Cal assists the fish culture team of Matt Toner, Hatchery Manager, and Jason Ilgen, Biological Technician, in the daily care of fish, design and maintenance of water systems, and in the use and treatment of influent and effluent water. Cal is taking a leading role in development of the Center's new Aquatic Ecosystem Health program. This program provides specialized technical assistance to hatcheries in order to minimize impacts from their operations on local aquatic natural resources. In the past year, Cal has visited a number of Federal hatcheries in the west to provide assistance in aquaculture system design, water quality monitoring and control, and development of protocols to reduce impacts of fish culture. To learn more about our teams Excellence in Science visit us at:

<http://www.fws.gov/bozemanfishtech/>

### Children and Nature

Taken from: <http://www.fws.gov/children>  
Did you know that nature is good for your health? Emerging research shows that children who feel connected to nature have better physical, mental, and emotional health. Nature also improves student learning. And sharing the outdoors together can build strong family bonds and create life-long memories. **What Can You Do?**

#### Go outside...

Spending time outside is fun for the whole family. And it doesn't have to be somewhere far from home. It can be simple and safe:

- Take a walk in the woods
- Lie on your back in your backyard and watch the clouds roll by
- Turn over rocks in a stream and look for critters
- Catch bugs in a jar
- Climb a tree
- Fish at a local stream
- Picnic at a local park



The US Fish Wildlife Service has joined a national initiative to bring people closer to nature. The Bozeman Fish Technology Center is a great place to connect with nature in a beautiful, wild and friendly setting. Feed the fish, walk the grounds, picnic or birdwatch. Montana Outdoor Science School, now located on Center grounds, offers classes in a diversity of outdoor subjects. See: [www.outdoorscience.org](http://www.outdoorscience.org)

### Region



### CENTER RESEARCH PROGRAMS

- Reproductive Physiology
- Pallid Sturgeon Research
- Fish Nutrition and Feed Development
- Traditional Fish Culture
- Sensitive Fish Species Conservation
- Water Treatment Systems
- Aquatic Nuisance Species & Ecosystem Health

## The Wild Lives of Wildlife



A black bear, a mountain lion, a beaver family, deer and a young moose have been observed on the grounds in recent months. Come see the beaver's dam and his other busy work in the oxbow bend along Bridger Creek.



## TRAILS UPDATE

National Public Trails Day was celebrated September 29 with MOSS, Montana Conservation Corps, the Global Culture Club and Gallatin Valley Land Trust. We broke trail through the brush and removed old fence posts and barbwire to make way for the construction of the Bridger Creek bridge that will connect our existing nature trail with Drinking Horse Mountain (DHM).



Global Culture Club members from Montana State University participated in a very wet National Public Lands Day. Students represented the US, Russia, Dubai and India.

The Gallatin Valley Land Trust with our Friends Group is raising funds for the DHM trail. If you are interested in learning more or donating to the trail contact: GVLТ at 406-587-8404.



## FACILITY TOURS & FUNCTIONS

Group or family tours can be scheduled by calling 406-994-9951 at **least 2 weeks in advance**. Please leave a phone number, where you can be contacted. Your tour will be confirmed by phone. This number can also be used to schedule use of the Robert G. Piper conferencing facility or Center grounds for an agency function, community event or meeting. **Scheduling must be at least 1 month in advance.**

## Be sure to stop by the Annual Watershed Festival on May 17

### FRIENDS of BFTC

Friends of the Bozeman Fish Technology Center help through **volunteering, community involvement, education and fundraising**. MOSS organizes volunteer trainings for people interested in giving tours, helping at the reception desk and aiding in environmental education. For more information on volunteer opportunities contact Ciara Wolfe, 994-9951.

## Greg Kindschi Retires



Greg Kindschi came to the Fish Technology Center in 1986 from Beulah Fish Technology Center in Beulah, WY. As a research biologist, he published his first results in 1987 and continues to publish in retirement. Over the years, Greg has contributed significantly to the field of fish culture and fisheries management through diet, density and temperature studies, and development of fish culture techniques for a variety of fish species. Within the US Fish and Wildlife Service, Greg was known as an expert on water treatment systems, assisting many facilities in construction and retrofits to optimize fish rearing systems and water use.

In his career, Greg served senior researcher and as the Center's Assistant and Acting Director. Most recently, Greg provided an invaluable contribution to the design, oversight and construction of the Robert G. Piper Administrative and Laboratory Building resulting in an environmentally friendly and safe workplace for the Center's future researchers.

Greg was also the defacto Center historian, cataloging and maintaining records of numerous projects, happenings, and changes at the Center over the years.

We miss Greg's dedication, his "get it done" attitude, and his unwavering desire to help others be successful. His contribution to Montana's and the nation's fisheries resources is far reaching and appreciated.

Issue 6 – March 2008

## Behind the Scenes

- In February, the Montana Chapter of American Fisheries Society awarded the Center's Assistant Director, Yvette Converse the 2007 Outstanding Individual Achievement Award for her efforts working with the Upper Basin Pallid Sturgeon Recovery Workgroup and for promoting children in nature through the Center's partnership with MOSS.
- Matt Toner and Jason Ilgen attended a water recirculating system training at the US Fish and Wildlife Service's National Conservation Training Center in Shepardstown, West Virginia.
- The Kappenman-Webb family welcomed a new baby girl, Poppy, to their household this winter.
- Cal Fraser and Kevin Kappenman participated in Gavins Point National Fish Hatchery pallid sturgeon propagation review.
- Jim Boyd, an MSU Master's student, began research to evaluate stress on rainbow trout at various temperatures.
- Cal Fraser is providing technical assistance to Jackson Hole National Fish Hatchery in design of a new fish culture building.
- Linda Beck conducted training at 7 Ecological Service offices on Invasive or Aquatic Nuisance Species and writing HACCP plans.

## Center Contact Information

Bozeman Fish Technology Center  
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The Center provides technical assistance to National Fish Hatcheries, Fish Management Offices and assists state, tribal and non-governmental organizations in:

- Fish spawning and reproduction
- Histological analysis
- Sturgeon eco-physiology
- Specialized feed development
- Fish tissue and feed analysis
- Water treatment & recirculating systems
- Traditional fish culture
- Aquatic Nuisance Species
- Aquatic Ecosystem Health
- Teaching and training courses in
  - Cold Water Fish Culture
  - Fish Physiology
  - Aquatic Invasives and HACCP
  - Water Treatment Processes