



California-Nevada Fish Health Center

Pacific Southwest Region

Quick Facts

- The California-Nevada Fish Health Center was established in 1982.
- The Center is co-located with Coleman National Fish Hatchery, and is located in northern California approximately 150 miles north of Sacramento.
- Seven full-time staff work at the Center. In addition, seasonal staff are employed as needed.
- The annual budget is \$770,000. Of that, resource funding is \$355,000 and reimbursable funding is \$415,000.

Facility and Management

Fish Health Centers within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provide expertise that contributes to the health, survival, restoration and enhancement of fish and other aquatic species.

The California-Nevada Fish Health Center provides diagnostic and culture support to the region's fish hatcheries: Coleman National Fish Hatchery,

Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery, and Lahontan National Fish Hatchery.

The California-Nevada Fish Health Center biologists perform applied research on disease and the effects of water quality on imperiled fish in the Central Valley and Klamath basin (in northern California). This research is conducted both in field locations and at the center's wet lab facility.

Since 1995, the Center has worked with cooperators on studies examining how poor water quality affects the growth and survival of endangered Lost River suckers in Upper Klamath Lake. In a recent experiment the scientists determined that juvenile suckers can adapt to high pH levels (the level of acidity or alkalinity) that simulate the lake. This information will be key in understanding how to better conserve these rare fish.

The California-Nevada Fish Health Center also provides technical support to other Service fish and wildlife offices in Stockton, Reno, Red Bluff, Arcata, Yreka and Klamath Falls.



Wetlab at the California-Nevada Fish Health Center

the high level of disease are due to parasitic infections. The results provide key information for managers working to solve this issue and recover salmon populations.

In addition, center biologists partner with other state and federal government agencies such as California Department of Fish and Game, Nevada Department of Wildlife, California Department of Water Resources, U.S. Geological Survey, Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Forest Service.

Staff also provide support and technical assistance to U.C. Davis, Oregon State University and Humboldt State University.

In a recent study, the Center was a cooperator with Oregon State University in a pilot project designed to reduce parasites being introduced into the Klamath River. This is one step in understanding what is happening to the salmon in the river.

Center research reports are available online at: www.fws.gov/canvfhc/reports.asp



A Fish Health Center scientist examines a sample taken from the San Francisco-San Joaquin Delta

Staff from the California-Nevada Fish Health Center routinely work with tribal partners of the Pyramid Lake Tribe, Hoopa Valley Tribe, Yurok Tribal Fisheries and Karuk Tribal Fisheries. For the past five years the Center has worked on a large-scale health monitoring project of juvenile Klamath River salmon with tribal partners in the Klamath basin. These surveys have demonstrated

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