

# Nashua

## National Fish Hatchery

### Represented by Members of Congress:

Senator Judd Gregg (R)  
Senator John E. Sununu (R)  
Rep. Paul Hodes (D-2nd)

### Contact

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### Purpose

The Nashua National Fish Hatchery supports Atlantic salmon and other fish restoration efforts in the Merrimack River and other rivers in New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The station provides eggs for fry release programs and broodstock for Atlantic salmon fisheries. Salmon eggs are obtained from adult sea-run salmon captured in the Merrimack River and held on the station and from domestic broodstock maintained at the hatchery. American shad eggs are obtained from adult shad returning to the Merrimack River, and juveniles are released to underutilized sections of the Merrimack River and Charles River in Massachusetts.

### Public Use Notes

- Guided tours
- Lectures
- Multimedia presentations

### Management Activities

Each year the Nashua National Fish Hatchery utilizes approximately 1,300 Atlantic salmon for egg production. Once spawned, the domestic fish are surplus to program needs and are released into the Merrimack River for the largest directed Atlantic salmon fishery in New England. The fish are marked, transported and released by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department.

The Nashua National Fish Hatchery hosts approximately 1,500 students and adults from the Adopt-A-Salmon Family watershed education program, area schools, and civic and scouting groups, and provides them with information about resource stewardship and anadromous fish restoration programs.

### Highlights

The station produced 1.4 million salmon eggs in 2006. In 2006, most of the salmon eggs were shipped to the North Attleboro National Fish Hatchery where they were incubated, hatched and released into the headwaters of rivers. The fry mature in a natural environment and migrate to the sea to complete their life cycle.

Also in the summer of 2006, the hatchery produced 1.8 million shad fry that were released into the Charles River in Waltham, Massachusetts, and provided a refuge for 1,200 endangered brook floater mussels that were stranded without water when the Suncook River near Concord, New Hampshire, changed its course last May.



Shad tank

USFWS



Brook floater mussels

Tim Roettiger/USFWS

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD  
<http://www.fws.gov>

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