



# Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery Monthly Accomplishment Journal



## Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management



Paddlefish have been stocked in Lake Eufaula in Oklahoma as part of a commitment to increase numbers of paddlefish present in this drainage area of the Arkansas River. The 2012 year class stocked were 14 – 18 inches long and numbered over 50,000 this year, breaking the hatchery's paddlefish production record. (CSF 15.4.6; CSF 5.1.2)

*Stocking paddlefish in Lake Eufaula.*



Ten paddlefish, with a length of 20 inches or more, were given to the Oklahoma City Zoo after they requested the paddlefish to restore the Zoo's population. (CSF 5.2.1; CSF 15.4.6)

Thirty excess channel catfish, with a length of 16 inches or more, were given to Southeastern Oklahoma State University at the request of their biology professor to aid in his study of predation on Colorado River fish. (CSF 15.4.6; CSF 5.1.2)



*Channel catfish to further study of predation on Colorado River fish.*

## Partnerships and Accountability with Leadership in Science and Technology

Tishomingo NFH provided Arkansas River shiner spawning assistance to the graduate assistants from Texas Tech University that have been working closely with our staff throughout the past year as drought conditions continue to impact this species. (CSF 7.1.2)

*Research performed on Arkansas River shiner at Tishomingo NFH.*



## Outreach



As requested in previous years, Tishomingo NFH provided channel catfish for stocking at Buffalo Lake NWR in Texas for their annual children's fishing derby.  
(CSF 5.2.1; CSF 15.4.6)

*Providing derby catfish for children at Buffalo Lake NWR.*

## Visitors

The number of visitors to Tishomingo NFH has increased this month due to significant birding activity. The pair of bald eagles has returned to the hatchery for overwintering much to the delight of staff and visitors alike. Also delighting birders are the various types of herons, gulls, and ducks as they circle and dive over the ponds.  
(CSF 15.4.8)



*An eagle's nest found overlooking Pennington Creek, with the bald eagle overlooking the nest.*

## FACILITIES

With the approaching fall and winter seasons, the daily tasks have travelled back to maintenance catch-up time. Pond bottoms are being leveled, pond sides are being reshaped, and levees are being smoothed and strengthened. Heavy equipment is being winterized and/or repaired to increase the life span of each piece and to decrease costly repairs required as spring approaches with another spawning season. As vehicles and equipment age, repairs become more complex and occur with greater frequency. **(CSF 52.1.2)**



*A 20-foot circular fiberglass tank is refinished and sealed to prevent leaks.*



*Reshaped and leveled pond.*

A prescribed burn was successfully conducted by the Fire Team from Wichita Mountains NWR at the Tishomingo NFH. The prescribed burn allows for more efficient maintenance of station grounds and ponds, and lessens the impact of potential wild fires. **(CSF 13.1.7)**



*Successful prescribed burn in winter.*

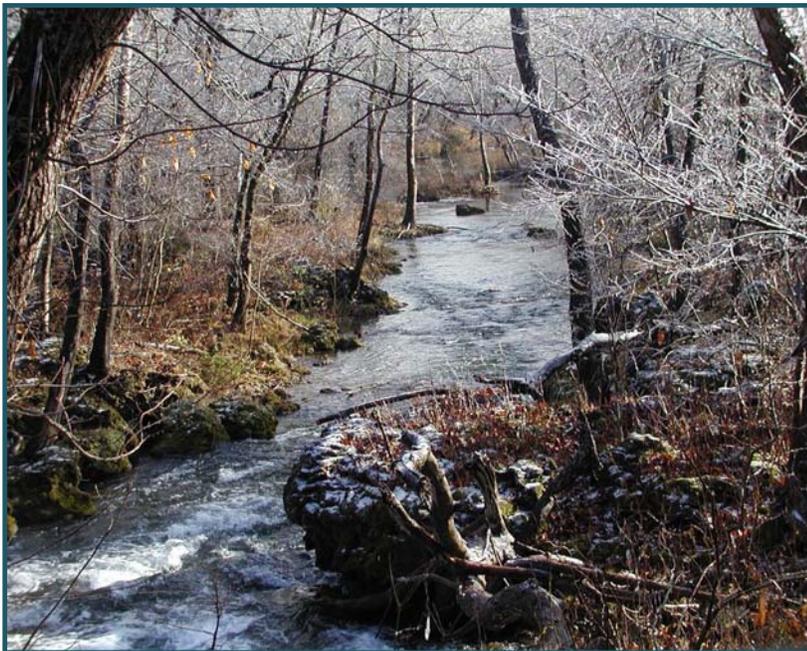
## STAFF

Fishery Biologist, Brian Fillmore, accepted one week temporary duty at Southwest Native Aquatic Resources Center in Dexter, New Mexico, to assist in tagging Rio Grande silvery minnow.

Maintenance worker, Matt Cooper, is utilizing an online group of courses from John Deere University to increase his knowledge in repairing hydraulic systems, drive trains and tires, electrical systems, and undercarriage. Since most of our equipment is manufactured by John Deere, this is an excellent, low-cost method for continuing education.



*Canada geese show their ice-skating abilities on ponds at Tishomingo NFH.*



*Winter on Pennington Creek at the Tishomingo NFH.*



## Fisheries & Habitat Conservation

### *Tishomingo NFH Staff*

Kerry G. Graves ~~~~~ Project Leader  
Ralph Simmons ~~~~~ Assistant Project Leader  
Mary Davis ~~~~~ Administrative Technician  
Brian Fillmore ~~~~~ Fishery Biologist  
Matt Cooper ~~~~~ Maintenance Worker  
Wayne Walker ~~~~~ Maintenance Worker  
Brian Wheat ~~~~~ Maintenance Helper  
Kyle Wisener ~~~~~ Pathways Temporary Intern

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**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**  
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