

Connecting People with Nature 2014 Highlights



To help people of all ages better understand and appreciate our aquatic resources and how to conserve those resources for future generations, the Fish and Aquatic Conservation program provides educational experiences and activities to connect people with nature. Our conservation education program includes introducing newcomers to recreational fishing, outdoor learning areas and field study opportunities, hosting festivals and events, and developing tools for teaching today's conservation ethic. We also engage youths and adults through U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service employment programs, volunteer opportunities, and partnerships with states and tribes.

1.5 Million!

The number of visitors to our field stations with almost **1/2** under the age of 18.

Play

Fishing is fun and a great way to connect kids and others to conservation. Our field stations host or assist with hundreds of fishing events every year.



More than **3400**

aquatic education programs, events and activities annually, educating and engaging **over 700,000** participants.

Learn

Native Fish in the Classroom, Youth Fisheries Academy, archery, just a few examples of aquatic education programs throughout the regions. All to inspire, educate and build career awareness.



Our volunteers, over **3,000**

strong and contributing **112,000** hours of their time.

Of our 72 National Fish Hatcheries, 1/2 have a Friends group.

Serve

Volunteers, they're passionate about fish, aquatic species, and conservation. They contributed numerous hours for projects such as fishing events, creating outdoor learning areas, planting pollinator gardens, and developing interpretive trails.



Over **100** hires

through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's youth and graduate level career development and employment programs.

Work

From conducting fisheries assessments to maintenance work, youth hires completed a variety of jobs with Fish and Aquatic Conservation staff, all while learning what it takes to be a fisheries biologist and to work for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

