



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# National Fish Hatchery System

## A National System of Conservation Hatcheries

The National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) is comprised of a network of field stations located throughout the nation that work with tribal, local, and state governments, other federal agencies, and foreign nations to conserve fisheries. It consists of 72 National Fish Hatcheries, one historic hatchery, nine Fish Health Centers, six Fish Technology Centers, and the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership. This unique network of highly-skilled scientists conserve federally-listed and non-listed aquatic species.

## Restoration, Recovery, and Refugia

The NFHS is a key contributor to the restoration and recovery of federally-listed and non-listed aquatic species with declining populations. With a network of facilities located across the country, hatcheries are well positioned to provide refugia to populations impacted by wildfire, drought, and other conditions expected to become more common with a changing climate.



Robert H. Pos/USFWS

## Recreation

Operating under approved fishery management plans with its partners, Fish and Aquatic Conservation (FAC) restores depleted fish populations and enhances fishing opportunities. Recreational angling resulting from NFHS stocking generates \$554 million in retail sales and \$903 million in industrial outputs.



Robert H. Pos/USFWS

## Outdoor Classrooms and Friends

Through the NFHS Volunteer Act of 2006, FAC offers outdoor classroom opportunities for over one million youth each year. Classrooms combine learning with personal experiences with fish, aquatic species and their habitats, and the cultural and historical resources found at hatcheries.



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Families, volunteers, partners, and Fishery Friends Groups deliver a wide array of formal and informal conservation education programs at hatcheries and surrounding communities.

In all, these education opportunities will help us better understand the world around us, as well as impart joy and a sense of stewardship for natural resources for conservationists yet to come.

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