



White River

National Fish Hatchery

Station Facts

- Established: 1978
- Staff: 3
- FY 2020 Budget: \$375,358
- 2017 Visitation: 1,500
- Acres: 65
- The Fisheries Program consists of almost 800 employees nationwide, located in 67 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices, 71 National Fish Hatcheries, 9 Fish Health Centers, 7 Fish Technology Centers, 1 Historic National Fish Hatchery, and the Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership office.

Contact Information

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Directions:

State highway 107 Bethel, VT.



Who We Are

The National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) is comprised of a network of 71 National Fish Hatcheries which propagate imperiled species for restoration and recovery programs, provide emergency refugia for species whose habitat is threatened, provide fish to benefit Tribes, and mitigate for federal water projects.

How We Help

The White River National Fish Hatchery maintains and develops landlocked Atlantic salmon and lake trout broodstocks. The hatchery also provides facilities for applied research. A feral landlocked salmon broodstock has been developed from 2016-2018 to supply eggs to fish hatcheries working to restore the species in Lake Champlain. Lake Champlain Domestic lake trout broodstock supply eggs to Federal restoration efforts on the lower Great Lakes.

Key Initiatives

White River NFH is providing eggs to State and Federal fish hatcheries and is working on adaptive research projects to improve restoration of salmon in Lake Champlain. These include work on salmon homing, magnetic orientation and a salmon thiamine deficiency tolerant (TDT) broodstock.



Adult landlocked Atlantic salmon

Highlights

The White River National Fish Hatchery re-opened in 2016 after repairs and improvements following Tropical Storm Irene. The new mission consists of providing salmon and lake trout eggs for species restoration in Lake Champlain and the Great Lakes. Applied research projects with partners provides opportunities to adaptively manage salmon restoration on Lake Champlain. For example, the development of thiamine deficiency resistant (TDT) salmon broodstock for Lake Champlain. This condition is caused by the consumption of the invasive prey alewife and causes early mortality syndrome in the offspring. It is hoped that TDT fish will improve salmon fry survival and in turn increase adult spawner returns to the tributaries of Lake Champlain. In 2021 TDT salmon will be stocked in Lake Champlain.



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