



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and National Fish & Aquatic Conservation Archives

*2019 Year in Review*



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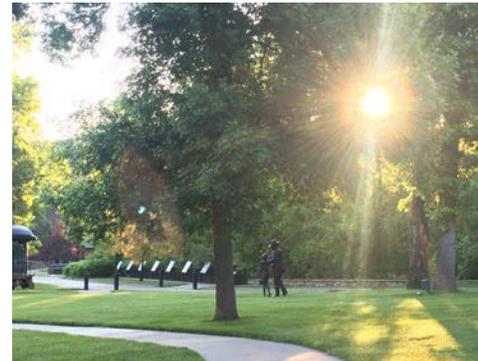
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Top left to right: Visitors entering the hatchery; Western Tanager on a flowering crabapple tree; left to right, Project Leader Carlos Martinez, hatchery mascot Tommy Trout, new Regional Fisheries Geographic Supervisor Nate Wiese, and Curator April Gregory stand next to the Generations statue. Bottom left to right: an unusual visitor stopped by, an artic tern!; early morning sunlight over the hatchery grounds; a game camera captured a mountain lion on the hatchery grounds.

\*All photos in this publication are credited to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or Booth Society employees unless otherwise noted.

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## A message from the Project Leader

Two thousand nineteen marked another productive year for the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and the National Fish and Aquatic Conservation Archives. Programs, partnerships and community support remain strong.

We continue to improve and grow our fish culture program. In 2019 we stocked five reservations in South Dakota, two reservations in Eastern Montana and Ellsworth Air Force Base. We anticipate the same in 2020. Stocking tribal lands provides recreational fishing opportunities and provides a boost in economically depressed areas while fulfilling tribal obligations on behalf of the Department of Interior and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery continues to be involved in a variety of cultural resource and historical preservation roles. As the official archives for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's fisheries program, we strive to protect and preserve fisheries records and artifacts for historic, research and educational purposes. The bulk of the collection focuses on the history of fish culture, fisheries management, the U.S. Fish Commission, U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, National Fish Hatchery System and the overall history of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In 2019, archival material from 8 National Fish Hatcheries and 3 Fish and Aquatic Conservation Offices (FWCOs) were accessioned into the collection. Although this adds to our already large cataloging backlog, the items prove to be priceless additions to the collection. Established in the late 1970s, the ever growing collection consists of approximately 1.8 million archival items and 14,000 artifacts.

Unfortunately, staffing shortages have forced us to eliminate—hopefully temporarily—some youth programming and volunteer opportunities at the facility. We hope to bring back the programs when we can provide the proper supervision and training. In the meantime, we will strive to keep our volunteer force at D.C. Booth vibrant.

The Booth Society, Inc. remains the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's flagship fisheries friends group and D.C. Booth's official education and fundraising partner. The 501 c(3) non-profit promotes, preserves, and enhances the educational cultural and recreational opportunities at D.C. Booth for the benefit and enjoyment of the public. They support visitor services by helping provide interpretive and educational programs and coordinating recreational activities for almost 160,000 annual visitors.

As we approach the 150th anniversary of the National Fish Hatchery System and the 125th anniversary of the D.C. Booth Hatchery, we have begun planning activities and events for the sesquicentennial and quasiquicentennial to be held the week of June 21, 2021, so mark your calendar.

When was the last time you visited D.C. Booth? I encourage you to rediscover the hatchery and all that it has to offer. I look forward to seeing you here sometime soon!

-Carlos R. Martinez



*Carlos R. Martinez, Project Leader of D.C. Booth Historic NFH and National Broodstock Coordinator*

## about us

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*Original 1899 hatchery building.*



*Spring Stocking sculpture on hatchery grounds.*

### **D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery**

Established in 1896 to propagate, stock and establish trout populations in the Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery—previously named Spearfish National Fish Hatchery—is dedicated to fish culture and resource management. The station currently produces trout for recreational fishing on tribal lands in South Dakota and Eastern Montana and regional military waters. Listed on the National Historic Register, the hatchery’s mission and partnerships strive to preserve the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s historic and cultural heritage for educational, research, and historical purposes and provide interpretive and educational programs to the public.

### **National Fish and Aquatic Conservation Archives**

The mission of the National Fish and Aquatic Conservation Archives (NFACA) is to assemble, preserve, protect, interpret and make accessible to researchers the history and technology of the federal fisheries program. The bulk of the collection focuses on the history of fish culture, fisheries management, the U.S. Fish Commission, U.S. Bureau of Fisheries, National Fish Hatchery System and the overall history of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The 10,000 square foot Arden Trandahl Collection Management Facility serves as a Department of the Interior standards compliant archival center.

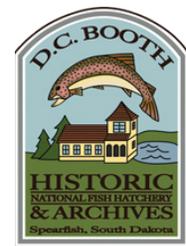
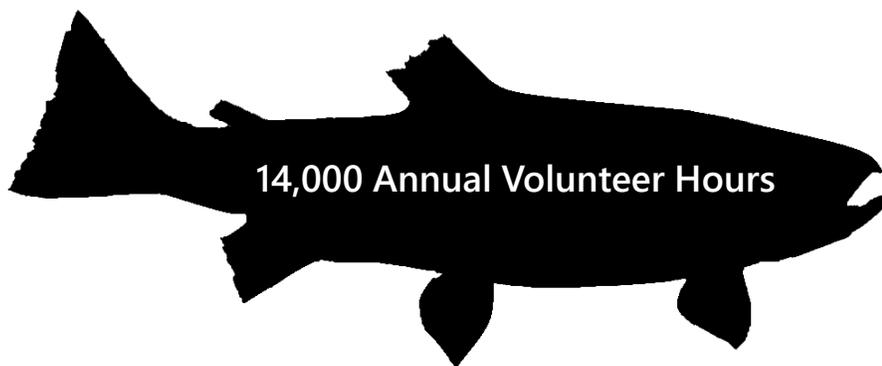


*U.S. Fish Commission Fish Car #3.*



*Historic superintendent's home.*

# D.C. Booth Historic NFH Quick Stats - 2019



**18**  
**Reservoirs**  
in South Dakota and Montana  
stocked in 2019.

## conservation in action

### Fulfilling Tribal Obligation via Tribal Stocking in South Dakota and Montana



Springtime mud hindered stocking at various locations in 2019. Fortunately a local rancher and his tractor were willing and able to lend a hand when the distribution truck struggled to access Willow Creek Reservoir on the Crow Tribe Reservation in Montana.

Currently D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery rears Rainbow and Brown trout for tribal and cooperative fishery management programs that fulfill tribal, state, and Federal fishery management goals.

Stocking numbers and locations are coordinated with the Montana Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (Billings, MT); Great Plains Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office (Pierre, SD); and the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Tribal Liaison. Stocking tribal lands provides recreational fishing opportunities and provides a boost in economically depressed areas while fulfilling tribal obligations on behalf of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Above: DC Booth staff Mitch Adams and Carlos Martinez taking a sample count.  
Right: The 2019 seasonal bio tech, Daniel Delatte, feeding the fish in the raceways.



South Dakota and Montana Reservations stocked by the D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery



Yankton Sioux Tribe, South Dakota



Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, South Dakota



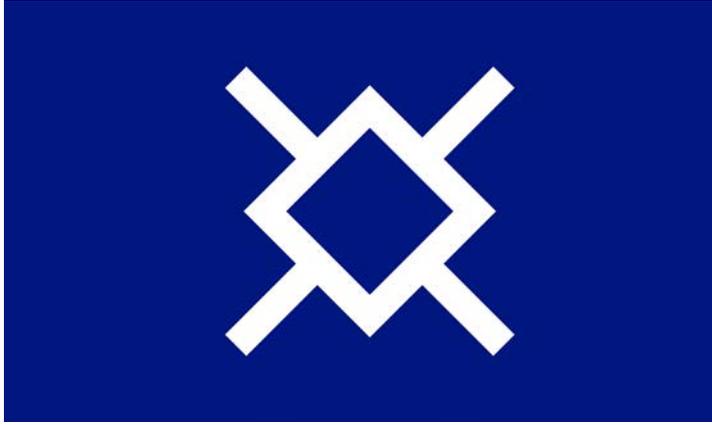
Rosebud Sioux Tribe, South Dakota



Oglala Lakota Tribe, South Dakota



Crow Tribe, Montana



Northern Cheyenne Tribe, Montana

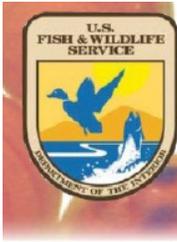


Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, South Dakota



Fort Peck Tribes, Montana

## conservation in action



### U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service National Broodstock Program *Inland Salmonid*

As an auxiliary duty, D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery Project Leader Carlos Martinez serves as the National Broodstock Coordinator. Established in 1970, the National Broodstock Program maintains gene pools of distinct species and strains of inland salmonids. This ensures the availability of

an adequate number of eggs to satisfy fisheries priorities and biological requirements of resource management for recovery, restoration, tribal trust, mitigation, and recreational fishing needs for the American public.

The program provides approximately 50 million eggs annually to Federal, State, tribal and private fishery agencies at over 80 facilities in 37 states. Some of the inland species include Apache trout, Brook trout, Brown trout, Cutthroat trout (various subspecies), Lake trout, and Rainbow trout.



In 2019, the annual National Broodstock Coordination Meeting was held in conjunction with the American Fisheries Society's Fish Culture Hall of Fame Induction at the D.C. Booth Historical National Fish Hatchery in Spearfish, SD.

The 2020 meeting will be hosted by Spring Creek National Fish Hatchery in Washington. Spring Creek is part of the Columbia River Gorge National Fish Hatchery Complex.

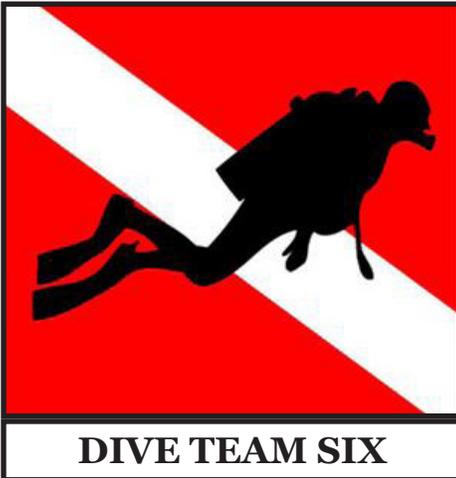


## Migratory Bird Biology and Management

Terry Liddick, Wildlife Biologist and Pilot with the Division of Migratory Bird Management, is based out of D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and his plane is kept at Black Hills Clyde Ice Airport in Spearfish. He assists the Division in managing the continental waterfowl population with the annual surveys that he flies. This includes the May Waterfowl Breeding Population and Habitat Survey in the Dakotas and the March mid-continent sandhill crane population survey in the central Platte River Valley of Nebraska. He also conducts the fall inventory of mid-continent white-fronted geese in central Saskatchewan and Alberta (September) and the Oklahoma mid-winter waterfowl inventory survey (January).

Each year he flies Region 6 conservation easement compliance enforcement flights for grass and wetland easements for wetland management districts throughout North Dakota, South Dakota and eastern Montana. Terry also leads a waterfowl banding crew as part of the Western Cooperative joint USFWS/CWS Pre-season Waterfowl Banding Project every August in Saskatchewan or Alberta. He also participates in the Central Flyway Wingbee every February at Flint Hills NWR, identifying hunter harvested and submitted waterfowl wings to species, age and sex. Survey, banding, and wingbee data are used to set annual waterfowl hunting seasons and bag limits.





D.C. Booth Project Leader Carlos Martinez serves as a scuba diver on the Region 6 Dive Team. One of the team's primary duties is to provide support to Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) monitoring and eradication projects. Three primary projects in 2019 included:

**Tiber Dam/Lake Elwell, Montana** - Divers conducted inspections and surveys of Turner Point and the rock face of Tiber Dam for invasive dreissenid mussels. This was the third year Region 6 divers have assisted the state of Montana with this project in Lake Elwell. Fortunately in those three years no invasives have been discovered. This annual inspection is expected to continue for two more years. If no adult mussels are found after the fifth year, Tiber Reservoir will officially be considered invasive mussel free.

**Lake Fort Peck, Montana** - Divers spent three days installing eleven substrates in seven locations at Lake Fort Peck, MT. This project is a cooperative effort with the Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife

Service and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks to monitor for early detection of invasive dreissenid mussels in Lake Fort Peck. The substrates, which will be retrieved and inspected annually, were designed by Carlos Martinez, funded by Region 6 AIS funds, and constructed by staff at the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery.



Divers Jackie Wichman and Carlos Martinez display examples of mussel substrates installed in Lake Fort Peck, MT.

**Swan Lake, Montana** - Divers assisted a Montana State University graduate student by measuring and photographing specified potential trout spawning habitat. Divers also searched for Lake trout embryos within the spawning substrate. Information obtained will be utilized to prepare an invasive Lake trout eradication project proposal.



Carlos Martinez performs spawning habitat surveys in Swan Lake, MT.



## Private Lands Biology

Joe Nichols, a wildlife biologist based out of D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery, serves as a private land wildlife biologist with the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. He works with ranchers and other landowners in western South Dakota to help improve wildlife habitat on their property. He takes pride in helping ranchers implement conservation practices that benefit their livestock operation as well as grassland wildlife. In 2019 his program was instrumental in 20,000 feet of fence, working with 13 landowners, 14 agreements, 675 acres of seeding, 4 wells, 88,000 feet of pipeline, 31 tanks, 3 ponds, and one electric fence.

## preservation in action

### Collection invaluable in prep for Fisheries 150th Anniversary

Stocking records, annual reports, station guides, budget records, construction projects, architectural drawings, photos...these are just a few of the examples of "gray literature," or unpublished documents, that are housed in the Arden Trandahl Collection Management Facility at D.C. Booth. Primarily materials produced by fisheries employees of the FWS, the items are held among the 1.8 million archival items at the National Fish & Aquatic Conservation Archives (NFACA). Preserving our agency's fisheries history provides an important resource that is utilized both by the general public as well as various state and federal agencies.



Scan of a 1961 photo from Jackson NFH that may be used in the book to celebrate and commemorate 150 years of fisheries work.



A pin used to promote the USFWS at the New Mexico State Fair.

One of the ways we are currently using information from the collection is in preparation for our agency's 150th Anniversary. Items in the collection date as far back as far as 1871, the year the U.S. Commission of Fish & Fisheries was established, which ultimately evolved

into today's U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Fisheries stations across the nation are encouraged to celebrate the anniversary at their facilities. D.C. Booth will be hosting a grand event the week of June 21, 2021,

to recognize the comprehensive history of all of the various fisheries facilities. The FWS Retirees group and various FWS employee groups will be in attendance. The fisheries arm of the FWS is our nation's oldest federal conservation agency - that's a reason to celebrate!

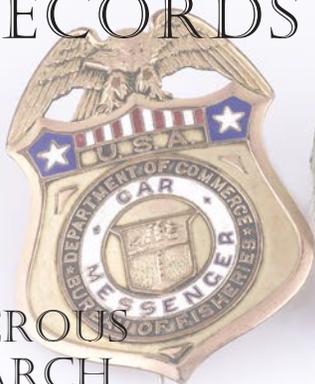
Curator April Gregory and Project Leader Carlos Martinez are also on the Fisheries 150th Anniversary Book Team. They are writing articles using information from the archives and along with archive volunteers, have been identifying and scanning historic images for use in the publication. Other book team members include Katrina Liebich, Tim Smigielski and Editor-Craig Springer.

Contact the curator for more information on the sesquicentennial or to donate items to the collection.

### National Fish & Aquatic Conservation Archives: By the Numbers

1.8 MILLION  
ARCHIVAL  
RECORDS

14,000 OBJECTS



NUMEROUS  
RESEARCH  
REQUESTS  
ANNUALLY

CONTINUOUSLY GROWING!

ITEMS FROM  
EVERY STATE  
IN THE  
COLLECTION

## Giving an Object New Life: Conservation Treatment

A project that has been on the wish list for over 20 years has finally come to fruition - stabilizing the Weber Fly Case for exhibit. The Weber Fly Case is 4x6' wooden case with an impressive array of hand-tied fly fishing flies. The flies range from unusual flies, such as a bumblebee and frog, to more common flies such as caddis and nymphs.

The fly display first arrived in Spearfish in 1937 for an Izaak Walton League Convention. The hatchery was the location of a number of fly casting events. The colorful exhibit was a traveling billboard advertising the company's wares to outdoorsmen. After the convention, the display stayed at the hatchery. For many years it hung inside the hatching room at McNenny NFH. When McNenny was transferred to the state of SD in 1973, the fly case came back to D.C. Booth. Due to a variety of factors, it has been in storage awaiting conservation treatment so it could safely go back on exhibit. Exhibiting the fly case helps tie the work of the FWS to people's outdoor passions.



Above left to right: Project Leader Carlos Martinez, Maintenance Chief Mitch Adams, Conservator Allison Holcomb, Conservator Fran Ritchie, and Curator April Gregory.

The Booth Society received a donation from a private donor for treatment of the object and FWS was able to match the contribution.

Two National Park Conservators, one who specializes in paper and one who specializes in natural science materials, spent six days meticulously working on the case and flies. They cleaned and stabilized the flies, repaired the paper backings, replaced the glass cover with UV filtering Plexiglas and sealed up holes in the frame. Miraculously, over the past 80 years, no pests had gotten into the case to eat the feathers and fur. They also worked with Mitch Adams of D.C. Booth to reinforce the back of the wooden case. All treatments were done in accordance with professional standards and are reversible. Restored and sealed from insects and dust, the incredible display of historic Weber flies is clean, stable and ready for display in the museum!



## Items Added to the Collection in 2019

Material from 8 National Fish Hatcheries (NFHs), 3 Fish & Wildlife Conservation Offices (FWCOs) and one Regional Office were accessioned into the collection in 2019 and are currently being processed and cataloged. The addition of the new materials equal an estimated 10 linear feet, or 16,600 archival items consisting primarily of documents, photos, and blueprints. Multiple objects were also included in the materials.

Creston NFH (MT)  
D.C. Booth HNFH (SD)  
Erwin NFH (TN)  
Great Plains FWCO (SD)

Inks Dam NFH (TX)  
Jones Hole NFH (UT)  
Leadville NFH (CO)  
Montana FWCO

Orangeburg NFH (SC)  
Pendills Creek NFH (MI)  
R2 External Affairs Office (NM)  
Western Washington FWCO

## preservation in action

### Spotlight on NFACA Volunteers

With only one FWS employee working for the National Fish & Aquatic Conservation Archives (NFACA), skilled volunteers are a necessity. Luckily, there is a core group of four dedicated NFACA volunteers that volunteer on Monday and Tuesday mornings each week. They make a great team to assist the curator with cataloging and processing the ever-growing collection. Their contributions are very much appreciated!

#### Larry Kallemeyn

##### 10 Year NFACA Volunteer

"As a retired research biologist, I most enjoy searching through the archives for historic information that will help answer an information request, particularly if our response may contribute to resolving an ongoing management issue."



As a former fisheries biologist with the National Park Service, USGS, and USFWS, Larry's professional background provides knowledge and skills that are extremely helpful when processing the numerous research requests that are received in the archives at D.C. Booth.



#### Jo Kallemeyn

##### 10 Year NFACA Volunteer

"Finding a 1920 Glacier National Park map marked with locations of fish hatchery stocking for that year and journals from a Japanese fish culture society, things like these are what keep all the sorting and categorizing we do interesting. The privilege of working with talented USFWS professionals and volunteers keeps my mind stimulated and looking forward to the next new project – it's never dull."



Jo files a report in the rolling shelves. Her attention to detail is a perfect fit for all the processing and data entry she assists with.

#### Jane Doerges

##### NFACA Pest Management Intern

"I like helping out in the archives because, in a way, it has helped me discover new things about bugs and the importance of a controlled environment within the archives. I have learned to use the clues and signs that the bugs and the traps leave, whether those be good or bad signs. For example, moth flies. I didn't even know they existed before I started to work in the collection. It's interesting to see all of the diversity that is found within our everyday homes and experiences."



Each month, Jane records what insects are in each sticky trap. After replacing the traps, she uploads the info into a database.

**Did you know?** *D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Established as part of the National Historical Preservation Act of 1966, the National Register of Historic Places is the official list of our nation's historic buildings, districts, sites, structures, and objects worthy of preservation. D.C. Booth takes great pride in its historic buildings and structures and works diligently to meet Secretary of Interior Standards.*

## Cultural Resources Continuing Education

Maintenance Chief Mitch Adams and Curator April Gregory strive to improve their knowledge and skill through continuing education. Both attended cultural resource related trainings during 2019. The courses they attended were hosted by National Park Service's Vanishing Treasures Program.

Adams attended *Guiding Principles for Field-based Historic Preservation* in Salem, MA. The workshop presented a working knowledge of historic preservation principles which inform the execution of skilled trades work on cultural resources in the field. Mitch came away with a deeper understanding of how treatment decisions are developed, how resources are evaluated and how compliance, laws and Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties are directly connected to the work he and trades personnel perform on the hatchery grounds and buildings.



*Historic replica of a water wheel for operating an iron mill near Salem.*



*Gregory learned about IPM maintenance on historic wood structures. Above she practices chinking a log cabin.*

Gregory attended *Integrated Pest Management for Historic Structures*. Pest management is a critical part of her responsibilities in both the archives and the historic buildings that serve as museums. The workshop covered Integrated Pest Management (IPM) with an emphasis on pest issues in the Northern Rockies. She learned about the inspection and diagnostics processes best suited for determining what pests are present and the extent of infestation; safety and implementing mitigation measures in historic buildings; and options for pest exclusion that are sensitive to the buildings historic integrity. These processes comply with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties.

## Archive Tours - Protecting and Sharing Our Irreplaceable Resources

Unlike a library, an archival repository houses one of a kind materials such as diaries, letters, scrapbooks, maps and photographs. As a result, storage and access are handled much differently than the open shelves of books available in a library. Collection materials are not only irreplaceable, but require special handling and storage environments which necessitates that collections be closed to the public. This does not mean that the public cannot view the materials, it simply means they need an appointment to do so. The National Fish and Aquatic Conservation Archives (NFACA) gets numerous research requests each year, not just in-person, but via phone and email as well.

The holdings in the NFACA are vast, and we do our best to rotate out our display exhibits in the museum. We also strongly believe in providing tours of the archives. In 2019, tours were given to several FWS groups that had meetings at D.C. Booth, multiple Spearfish organizations and during various special events such as Booth Day. Archives require protection, but they also must be seen and shared - they provide a valuable resource for research and education!



*Curator April Gregory giving a tour to the Spearfish Young Professionals group.*

## visitor services

### School Tours

In 2019, over 3,000 students from South Dakota, North Dakota, Montana and Wyoming toured the hatchery with their classmates. Some classes traveled as far as 3.5 hours one way to visit!

After the students spend a few hours at the hatchery, they go across the bridge over Spearfish Creek and have a picnic lunch in City Park. Several of the schools that come are from surrounding tribal reservations and the students are always surprised and excited to learn that some of the fish at D.C. Booth are

stocked in lakes and ponds near them.

The students learn about the history of the hatchery, what types of fish we raise, the National Fish Hatchery System, birds and waterfowl they saw on the grounds, and the anatomy of a trout. They also tour the Fish Rail Car to learn about historic shipping of fish. In the Replica Ice House, students are taught about Aquatic Invasive Species.

Tours were also given to several nursing homes, daycares, preschools and several groups that had meetings on-site.



Maintenance Chief Mitch Adams, a former middle and high school science teacher, leads many of the school tours in spring and fall.



Members of the public watch and learn as Dr. Jensen explains the process of bird banding.

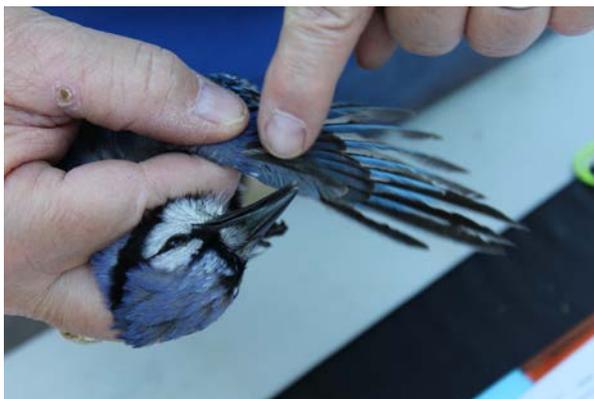
### Bird Banding

Each summer D.C. Booth partners with Dr. Kent Jensen, an ornithologist with South Dakota State University, to conduct bird banding sessions. 2019 marked the eleventh year of our partnership, and over 70 different species of birds have been recorded at the hatchery over that time period.

The general public and youth organizations are invited to observe, learn, and participate with the banding. Dr. Jensen removes birds from the netting and explains the process of banding, weighing and taking other scientific notes from each bird. When he is done with each bird, visitors and youth take turns releasing the birds - from their hands! For many, it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.



Dr. Jensen preparing to release a blue jay.



Taking measurements on a blue jay and teaching about wing structure.



An excited member of the public releasing a bird.

## D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery takes first place in FWS visitor services competition



D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery is honored to be one of the FWS sites to test pilot a new interactive geo-based app called Agents of Discovery. The app is free and provides another way for visitors to explore and learn about fish, nature and hatchery history.

The Agents of Discovery company launched a 3-month friendly competition in summer 2019 between all the FWS sites utilizing the app. The goal was to see which site could get the most visitors to play the game. D.C. Booth Historic NFH got first place with 400 players! Second place went to Patuxent NWR with 314 players, third place was Seney NWR with 176 players. When D.C. Booth Historic NFH found out they won the competition, they had a celebration potluck. As the only fish hatchery hosting the app, D.C. Booth is proud to present visitor services and outreach on behalf of all hatcheries. Go Fisheries!

The hatchery's summer volunteers, who give tours of the historic buildings and grounds, were instrumental in promoting the app to our visitors.

Approximately 160,000 visitors of all ages and backgrounds explore the beautiful grounds and historic buildings at the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery annually.

*A young visitor using the app. Agent Wade, the cut-out trout mascot, guides players in the app and helps promote the game on-site. He also doubles as a popular backdrop for photo opps by visitors.*

## Annual Hatchery Events

**Hatchery Holidays** - Over 800 people toured the original 1905 superintendents house from Dec. 1-4 while enjoying live Christmas music by various community members.

**Father's Day Brunch** - This community brunch and family fair brought in lots of families for a morning of food & learning.

**Booth Day** - Each May, we kick off the summer season with free hot dogs and hatchery themed prizes.



*Local musicians, above, filled the Booth House with tunes while tours were given (and hot tea and cookies, too!)*



*The Booth House, left, decorated for the holidays.*

*Far left, a volunteer talks with kids during the annual Booth Day celebration in May.*



## working with partners

# The Booth Society, Inc.

## Visitor Services support at D.C. Booth

*The Booth Society is the hatchery's official education and fundraising nonprofit partner. The friends group partners with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to create and provide opportunities for the public.*

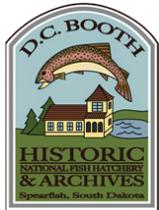
Programs supported by the Booth Society include managing the volunteer program, advertising and creating educational outreach materials, school and bus tours, special events, coordination of the SD Junior Duck Stamp Program, Generations Endowment Fund, financial assistance with grounds maintenance and improvement, grant writing, advocacy, and fellow Friends Group support for Refuges and Hatcheries nationwide.



*View of the land the Booth Society purchased adjacent to the hatchery.*

In 2019, the Booth Society took on a large capital campaign project - they purchased 64 acres adjacent to the hatchery. Acquiring the land will protect the hatchery groundwater supply which is important for fish cultural purposes, and will prevent a housing development from overlooking and ruining the aesthetics of the historic property and popular tourist attraction. In addition, the Society has a variety of conceptual ideas for in-perpetuity public benefits that involve expanding existing visitor and youth education opportunities at the D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery. They have raised \$572,000 in six months and have \$88,000 to reach their fundraising goal.

### Booth Society Mission Statement



*Promoting, preserving and enhancing the educational, cultural and recreational opportunities at D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery & the National Fish and Aquatic Conservation Archives, in cooperation with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, for the benefit and enjoyment of the public.*

### **By the Numbers: Booth Society supported Visitor Services in 2019**

**Gift Shop 49,000 visitors**  
**Museum 25,446 visitors**  
**Booth House 10,300 visitors**  
**Rail Car 29,000 visitors**

**\*These numbers reflect visitation to volunteered staffed buildings, not the grounds in general. Annual visitors to the hatchery grounds is ~160,000.**

# South Dakota Junior Duck Stamp Program

The Junior Duck Stamp Program is an annual national art contest that combines biology with art while teaching wetland and waterfowl conservation to students K-12.

The Booth Society coordinates the South Dakota Junior Duck Stamp Program in conjunction with FWS staff from the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery. The Booth Society is able to provide additional resources for prizes, advertising and catering at the awards ceremony.

The 2019 Best of Show winner for the state of South Dakota was an oil painting of a Wood Duck by Jane Doerges, age 16, of Spearfish, SD. The painting was based off several photos of ducks that Jane took on the D.C. Booth grounds. Erika Symens, age 13, of Amherst, SD, won the SD Conservation Message with her entry: "Preserve the Present for the Well Being of the Future." Jane and Erika's entries went on to represent South Dakota at the National Judging.



*2019 SD Jr Duck Stamp Best of Show entry by Jane Doerges.*

## AFS Fish Culture Section Fish Culture Hall of Fame Induction

The 2019 Fish Culture Hall of Fame Induction honored Dr. Claude Boyd, a world authority on water chemistry and soil management in pond-based aquaculture production systems. Every few years the American Fisheries Society's Fish Culture Section votes to induct fisheries professionals who have made technological advances in fish culture into the Hall of Fame. They work closely with D.C. Booth Staff and the Booth Society to conduct a ceremony, reception, and other activities. Typically folks from around the country attend the event. Exhibits and information about inductees are displayed proudly inside the replica ice house on the hatchery grounds.

This year's ceremony was multifaceted. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service presented the Booth Society with a plaque to mark the 30th anniversary of partnering with the agency's oldest fisheries friends group; and Arden Trandahl, former superintendent of D.C. Booth who passed away in 2019, was remembered with the naming of the Arden Trandahl Collection Management Facility.



Dr. Claude Boyd, left, accepts his induction plaque from Carl Kittle, Past-President of the Fish Culture Section.



Above: Project Leader Carlos Martinez, left, read a tribute about Arden Trandahl and called family members forward. Son Jeff Trandahl, Executive Director of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is pictured center, Arden's wife Sylvia is pictured at right.



Greg Gerlich, Region 6 Assistant Regional Director, presented the Booth Society with a plaque honoring 30 years of partnership. The Booth Society is the oldest fisheries friends group in the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

## City of Spearfish Visitor Services Support at D.C. Booth

The Spearfish hatchery has always been a popular tourist attraction while providing a significant positive economic impact to the region. The City of Spearfish and area residents are committed to ensuring the facility maintains visitor services. As a result, City Council created the Hatchery Advisory Board to assist with funding and historical, cultural and educational development. The board evolved and eventually morphed into the Booth Society, Inc., which was incorporated on April 11, 1989. Subsequently, the public voted to approve a Hospitality Tax with the intent of providing perpetual funding for three primary Spearfish attractions including the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery. Today, Hospitality tax remains a vital source of funding and the City's Parks, Recreation and Forestry Division continues to provide critical in-kind support.



## working with partners

### Lending a Helping Hand to other NFHs - Snow and Spawning



Snow started falling, and kept falling...and falling...add the wind and that is a recipe for 12 foot high snow drifts encapsulating the entrance road to Jones Hole NFH near Vernal, Utah. The entrance road is not 100 yards long or even a city block long, it is 13 miles long.

Staff at Jones Hole put out a call for help for additional equipment and manpower to operate that equipment. One of those who responded was Mitch Adams, Facility Operations Specialist from D.C. Booth. Mitch spent four days helping with the snow removal along with several other employees from around the eight state Region. Mitch said of the experience, "I was glad to be of help. If we were covered in that much snow, I know we would appreciate all the help we could get."



Each fall Saratoga National Fish Hatchery asks for volunteers to help them with spawning Lake trout and Brown trout. Since it is always an educational experience and an opportunity for networking, someone from D.C. Booth typically partakes in the project. In 2019 Mitch Adams and summer seasonal Daniel Delatte assisted the station located in Wyoming.

*Mitch Adams (top) strips eggs. Dave Paddock (center), Saratoga NFH biologist, teaches Daniel Delatte (bottom) how to strip eggs from the female trout prior to fertilization with milt from the male.*



*Members of the FWS Broodstock Committee help D.C. Booth staff load fish into the stocking truck. They came in early, at 6am, to help load the truck before attending meetings at the hatchery the remainder of the day.*



### D.C. Booth hosts NCTC Electrofishing Course

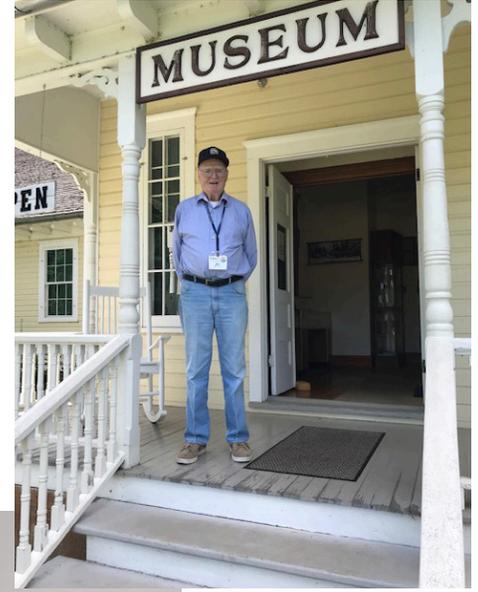
Principles and Techniques of Electrofishing, a National Conservation Training Center (NCTC) course, was hosted by D.C. Booth in October. Electrofishing is a versatile and important sampling and collecting method for assessing freshwater fish and invertebrate populations and can be instrumental in viewing and characterizing fish populations and assemblages.



Held in the Snappers Club, a historic US Bureau of Fisheries hatchery building, the course built knowledge and skills that will enable biologists to increase the standardization and efficiency of electrofishing sampling. Participants learned how to apply electrical circuit and field concepts to various challenges related to sampling, equipment performance, electrode design, selection of suitable equipment, equipment troubleshooting, fish injury, and safety.

Approximately twenty students representing South Dakota Game Fish and Parks, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service performed sampling via boat in Bear Butte Lake and via backpack in Spearfish Creek and Crow Creek.

## volunteers in action



Volunteers are a huge part of D.C. Booth. People from all ages and backgrounds volunteer on site year-round. They help with everything from data entry to giving tours to gardening...the list goes on and on.

Approximately 14,000 volunteer hours are tallied at the hatchery each year.

Who are these volunteers? Students, civic groups, retirees, and traveling RVers from around the nation. They range in age from 6 years old to 92 years old!



## working with communities

The Spearfish community loves the D.C. Booth hatchery. In addition to spending time at the hatchery with friends and family, they contribute to it in many ways. The following are examples of some of the events (not all!) that were put on to support the hatchery.

### Lamba Chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity



A fraternity from Black Hills State University in Spearfish helped decorate the grounds for the holidays and made a monetary donation to the Booth Society.



Roger O'Dea, Sales Manager of Spearfish GMC Cadillac  
Nancy Cole, Gift Shop Manager  
April Gregory, U.S. Fish & Wildlife service Curator  
Karen Holzer, D.C. Booth Society Executive Director  
Todd Jensen, Owner Spearfish GMC Cadillac

### Cadillac GMC

Cadillac GMC of Spearfish hosted a food and wine tasting at their business. Tickets to the event were sold in advance and the event was well attended. Cadillac GMC donated the proceeds to the Booth Society.

### Annual Summer Canyon Acoustic Concert Series



Members from Spread the Tunes present a check to the Booth Society. Proceeds from the six week concert series' beverage sales annually benefit the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery. In 2019, the event raised \$8,000.



Concert-goers bring lawn chairs, blankets, kids and dogs to enjoy the show.

# 6th Annual Black Hills Beer Run



2019 marked the sixth year that community members organized the Black Hills Beer Run. Pictured above are the committee members and day-of event volunteers. The event grossed \$10,000 which was donated to the Booth Society.



Runners (left) start out on the 5K. After the run/walk they enjoy beer samples from various breweries.

## Spearfish Masons



The Spearfish Masons gave a monetary donation to the Booth Society for their upcoming museum exhibit renovation project. Pictured above are members Charlie and Claire inside the fisheries museum. D.C. Booth, the first superintendent of the hatchery, was a devout and successful Mason in Spearfish.

## HomeArt



A local art gallery gave a percentage of total sales from their art show to the Booth Society. The art was by local artists and was displayed in a local home for sale.



## Hot Rods for Hatcheries



This car show was open to all makes and models, including motorcycles, with over 50 vehicles showcased at the event. Sidney May, third from right, organized H4H as part of her studies at Black Hills State University. Because of its success, she plans to spearhead the event again in June of 2020.

# ***Our people*** *in the field and behind the scenes make conservation possible.*

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## **Project Leader Supervisory Fishery Biologist**

Carlos R. Martinez serves as the Director of the D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives. He has overseen all aspects of the facility's programs and partnerships for the last eleven years. He has numerous auxiliary duties, most notably serving as Coordinator of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Broodstock Program and serving as a scuba diver on the agency's Region 6 Dive Team.



## **Curator, National Fish and Aquatic Conservation Archives**

April Gregory is the Curator of the National Fish and Aquatic Conservation Archives. She oversees and manages all aspects of the archival and museum collections. She is also in charge of interpretive signs and educational displays, design and outreach materials for the facility and plays an important role in managing the care of the cultural resources on the historic site. April also serves on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Heritage Committee.

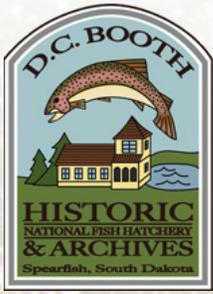


## **Facility Operations Specialist**

Mitch Adams is responsible for facility operations and maintenance of the D.C. Booth Hatchery and Archives while following Department of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. He is also the station's Collateral Duty Safety Officer and plays an important role with trout production, visitor services, public outreach, youth education programs and represents Fisheries on the Service's Wage Grade Council.







U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery &  
National Fish & Aquatic Conservation Archives  
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