Station Facts

- The economic impact of stockings from Garrison Dam NFH in 2010 was $184 million.
- Stockings accounted for the creation of 1709 jobs.
- Garrison Dam NFH generated over $7.6 million in federal tax.
- $228,000 was spent on the hatchery’s mitigation stockings.
- The FWS provided $415,000 for hatchery operations.
- Stockings account for over 70% of the walleye caught in North Dakota.

Contact Information
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Directions:
Located in midcentral North Dakota between Bismarck and Minot. Exit south off state highway 200 one mile west of Riverdale, ND.

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
Fish stockings from Garrison Dam NFH support fisheries programs in several states. Increased angling pressure, habitat alteration, and regional climate trends have challenged our nation’s fisheries. The role of this hatchery is to ensure quality angling opportunities and stable fish populations.

Economic Development
An economic study conducted for the year 1996-97 by the NDSU Department of Agricultural Economics indicated angler expenditures in North Dakota amounted to $340 million annually - that equates to $477 million in today’s dollars. Two mitigation reservoirs constructed by the Corps, Lake Sakakawea and Lake Ashtabula, accounted for $129 million in generated economic activity based on that study. Nearly $8 million is generated annually from the sale of live bait - minnows and worms!

Hatchery stockings are one of two events identified by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department biologists that have significantly shaped the State’s fishery; the other being extreme climatic events. North Dakota relies on the two federal hatcheries for fish stockings and provides funding and assistance to support hatchery operation. States outside our border also benefit from the hatchery. Reservoirs in Wyoming and Idaho receive annual walleye stockings to maintain their fisheries. The fisheries supported by those stockings in turn generate jobs and economic development. When you consider the Fish and Wildlife Service’s 2010 economic estimate of $228 million generated from stocking and the hatchery’s combined budgets of $625,833 spent on recreational fishing you have $365 dollars generated for each dollar spent at the hatchery. Fishing is economic development.