



Garrison Dam

National Fish Hatchery

Station Facts

- Stockings from Garrison Dam NFH account for >60% of all pallids released (over 275,000)
- Induce spawning through human hormone injections
- Maintain a cryopreserved milt repository at -321 degrees
- Analyze DNA from broodstock to produce genetically fit progeny
- Tag all juvenile pallid sturgeon prior to release to monitor growth
- Have collected over 250 wild adult pallid sturgeon since 1988

Contact Information

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Directions:

Exit south off State Highway 200 one mile west of Riverdale, ND. Follow highway signs to the hatchery.



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

This hatchery's role in the recovery effort focuses on the development of techniques for spawning and propagation. Pallid sturgeon propagation at Garrison Dam NFH began in 1998 with successful spawning occurring annually.

Milt Cryopreservation

This hatchery is one of three maintaining the pallid sturgeon milt repository. Currently the repository has milt from 94 males stored indefinitely in liquid nitrogen at a temperature of minus 321 degrees Fahrenheit. The milt is thawed and used to fertilize ovulated pallid sturgeon eggs during the spring spawn.



Recovering the Pallid Sturgeon

Pallid sturgeon from Garrison Dam NFH have been released in the Missouri and Yellowstone Rivers from as far south as Booneville, Missouri and as far north as Loma, Montana - near Great Falls. As of the spring stocking in 2010, a total of 271,202 fish and 803,536 fry had been directly stocked from this hatchery to supplement recovery. Additional eggs, fry and fish from Garrison Dam NFH have been shipped to other participating recovery hatcheries and research facilities. Interesting pallid statistics: To date 257 individual pallid sturgeon broodstock have been collected (since 1988). Of that, 66 were females, 106 were males and 86 have not had sex determined. Most of the adults have been collected on multiple occasions and several are 'frequent fliers' in the hatchery's propagation program.



Spawning Pallid Sturgeon

