Station Facts

- Garrison Dam NFH has released nearly 275,000 juvenile pallid sturgeon since 2002
- Pallid sturgeon have been stocked from Missouri to Montana
- Garrison Dam NFH has provided over 60% of all pallid sturgeon stockings nationwide
- Garrison Dam NFH is providing shovel-nose sturgeon and sauger for restoration in Wyoming
- Garrison Dam NFH was successful in pioneering propagation for the globally threatened burbot
- Paddlefish from Garrison Dam NFH are periodically released in the Missouri River

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

Our Nation’s fishery resources are constantly challenged by habitat impacts. Water use, drought, dam construction, pollution and fishing pressure have taken a toll on many of our fish species. Garrison Dam NFH is uniquely positioned in the upper Missouri River Basin to help threatened and endangered aquatic species overcome those threats.

Pallid Sturgeon Recovery

Pallid sturgeon recovery presented a major challenge with the threat of local extirpation expected to occur by 2010. In response, Garrison Dam NFH in concert with its many partners, developed spawning and propagation techniques and implemented a stocking strategy to prevent short term extirpation. The strategy appears to be paying off.

Native Species

Restoration and recovery of native species in the Missouri River watershed encompasses a variety of unique species such as the sturgeon, paddlefish and burbot. But restoration also includes the more familiar species such as sauger, walleye and pike. The responsibility the National Fish Hatchery System is to be stewards to all aquatic resources. As such you will find us developing propagation methods for mussels, toads and turtles as well as a whole host of fish species that are struggling for survival. Re-establishing a species through stocking or maintaining a temporary refuge for threatened species are ways we can ensure species survival. It will however take more than hatchery propagation or refugia to ensure that future generations will enjoy the same aquatic species left to us. We all need to be responsible stewards of our aquatic resources.