



Leadville

National Fish Hatchery

Hunting and Fishing Regulations

Welcome

Welcome to Leadville National Fish Hatchery (NFH), one of 71 hatcheries in the National Fish Hatchery System. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Hatchery System is a living heritage, conserving aquatic species for people today and for generations to come.

About the Hatchery

Leadville NFH is the second oldest Federal fish hatchery in operation today. It is 3,072 acres. The Hatchery has over 12 miles of hiking trails which connect with other trails, such as the Colorado Trail, in the adjacent Mt. Massive Wilderness Area.

Location and Hours

The Hatchery is located in Lake County, CO, and can be reached via Highway 300 off of Highway 24, approximately 6 miles southwest of Leadville. From Highway 24, the main Hatchery grounds and parking areas are approximately 2 miles west on Highway 300.

The main Hatchery grounds and trails are open from dawn to dusk. The Hatchery building and visitor center are open from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm daily.

General Information and Regulations

We invite you to participate in hunting and fishing opportunities at the Hatchery in accordance with State regulations. Regulations are set by Colorado Parks and Wildlife and are for the protection of wildlife, habitat, and visitors. Your compliance with these regulations is greatly appreciated.

- Vehicles are restricted to designated parking areas and the paved roads around the main Hatchery grounds.
- Vehicles and trailers must not block access points.
- Pets must be under the owner's control at all times.
- Camping and overnight use are allowed within the 2,560 acres of the Mt. Massive Wilderness Area on Hatchery property.

Prohibited Activities

- Use of snowmobiles and all other off-road vehicles.
- Water activities other than fishing (swimming, boating, tubing, etc.).
- Outside of the Mt. Massive Wilderness Area, camping and overnight use are prohibited.
- Open fires and fireworks
- Littering

Hunting Information and Regulations

The Hatchery is open to big game, furbearer, and upland game bird hunting in accordance with Colorado hunting regulations. Wetlands in the 2,560 acres of the Mt. Massive Wilderness Area which occur on Hatchery land, are open to waterfowl hunting. In addition, waterfowl hunting is allowed in the Hatchery discharge sedimentation ponds by Special Use Permit.

- Discharging of a firearm is not allowed within 100 yards of a building or parking lot.
- Trapping is not allowed on the Hatchery.

Fishing Information and Regulations

In the areas described below, the Hatchery is open to sport fishing in accordance with Colorado fishing regulations. Additional Federal regulations for National Fish Hatcheries can be found online in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 50, [Parts 27, 70 & 71](#). Species which may be present include cutthroat trout, brook trout, rainbow trout and brown trout.

- All cutthroat trout are catch-and-release only.
- Artificial flies and lures are required for fishing in Rock Creek and its tributaries.
- Cleaning fish on the Hatchery is prohibited.

Areas Open to Fishing

Upstream of Rock Creek Dam, Rock Creek, its headwater tributaries, and the associated lakes are open for fishing.

To access Rock Creek, anglers will need to hike approximately 1 mile from the parking lot.

Through Special Use Permit, the Hatchery's two discharge sedimentation ponds and six Evergreen Lakes are sometimes available for fishing. Contact Hatchery staff for more information about obtaining Special Use Permits for these areas.

Anglers requiring special accommodations should contact the Hatchery Manager.

Accessibility Information

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. Dial 7-1-1 for a free connection to the state transfer relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from people with hearing and speech disabilities. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 719 / 486 0189, or the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Leadville National Fish Hatchery

2846 Hwy 300
Leadville, CO 80461
719 / 486 0189
<https://www.fws.gov/leadville>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

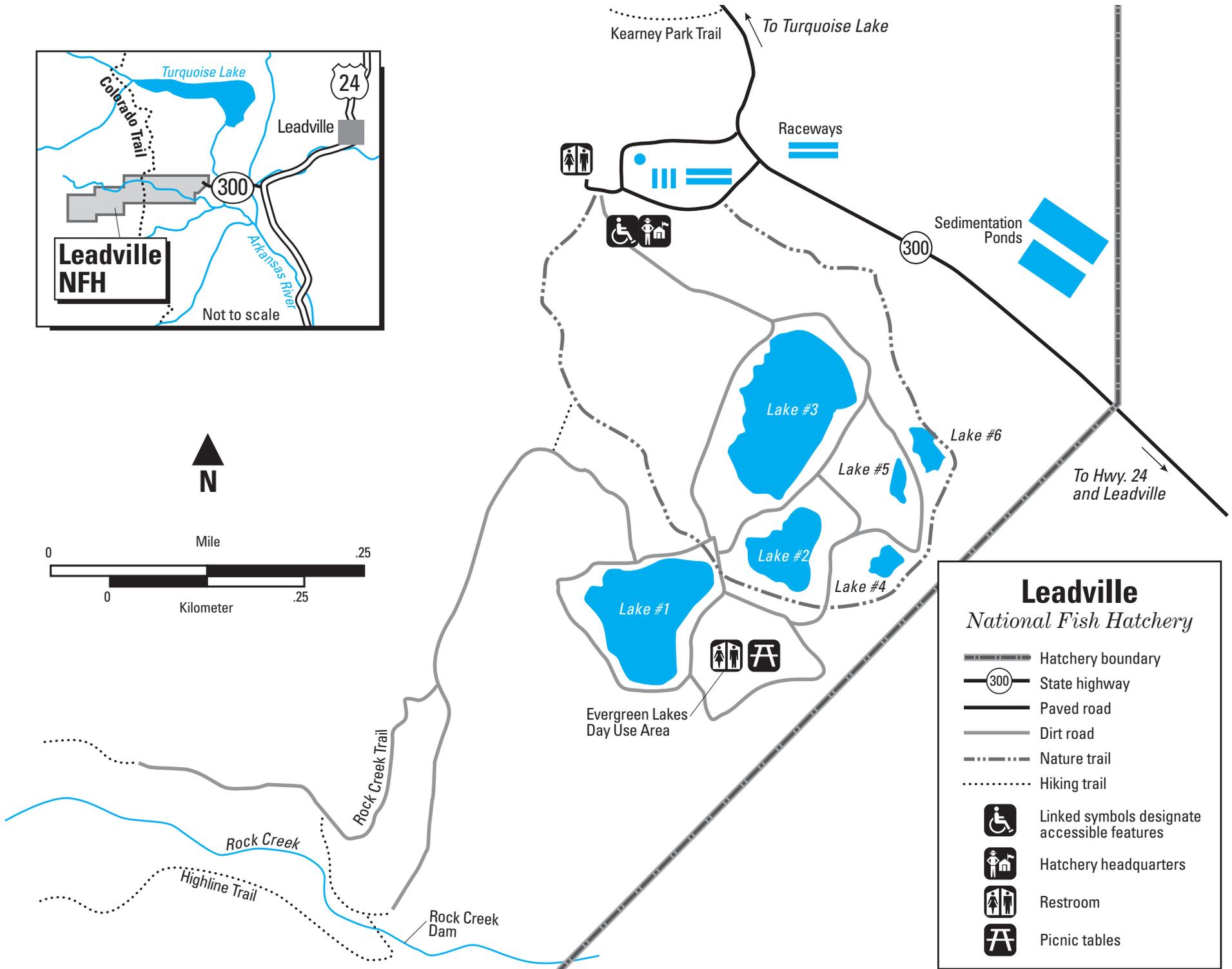
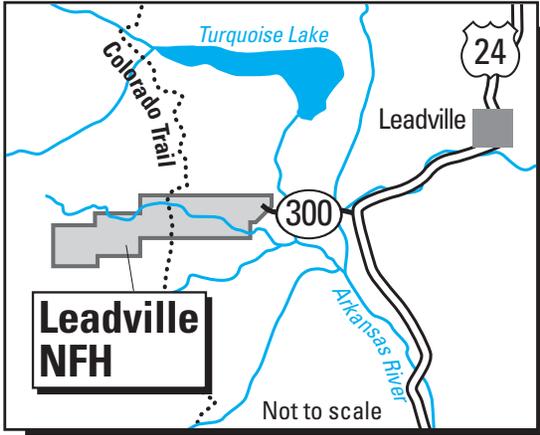
<http://www.fws.gov>

For State Relay Service

TTY / Voice: 711

December 2019





Leadville *National Fish Hatchery*

-  Hatchery boundary
-  State highway
-  Paved road
-  Dirt road
-  Nature trail
-  Hiking trail
-  Linked symbols designate accessible features
-  Hatchery headquarters
-  Restroom
-  Picnic tables