



Kooskia

National Fish Hatchery

Station Facts

- Completed in 1972
- Built and owned by the Service; managed by Nez Perce Tribal Fisheries Program
- Employs four staff
- Traps adult steelhead, spring Chinook, and coho salmon
- Annual fish production includes incubation of 800,000 spring Chinook eggs, rearing/release of 600,000 spring Chinook smolts, spawning of 600,000 coho eggs and acclimation of 300,000 coho smolts
- Contains an interpretive trail commemorating the Nez Perce War of 1877

Contact Information

Station Manager: Kent Hills

Phone: 208/926-4272

Fax: 208/926-4574

Email: kooskia@fws.gov

Web: <http://www.fws.gov/kooskia>

Directions:

Take Hwy 12 to Clear Creek Rd; drive 2 miles to the hatchery entrance.



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

Kooskia National Fish Hatchery (KNFH) was established to rear spring Chinook salmon for release into the Clearwater River Basin for harvest mitigation. The hatchery is funded by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and operated by the Nez Perce Tribe. KNFH plays a key role in coho restoration and spring Chinook production for the Clearwater drainage. KNFH helps to continue the return of salmon and steelhead from the Pacific Ocean to the Clearwater River.

Continually Improving Public Information

Kooskia's information and education program strives to foster public awareness of fish and wildlife resources through guided hatchery tours, school field trips, public information displays, and youth fishing days.



Working Adult Broodstock

The Ever-Changing Kooskia

KNFH produces more fish today than ever before. KNFH traps spring Chinook broodstock for its own needs and to support other hatchery programs in the Clearwater River Basin. The Chinook rearing program has expanded capacity to handle egg incubation, using a small chiller that can operate in warm or cold weather. The hatchery incubated its own Chinook eggs from spawning for the first time in 2012.

The emerging KNFH coho program, which supports reintroduction of a species once extirpated from the basin, has been successful due to Nez Perce Tribe efforts. More returning coho adults were trapped in 2012 than ever before, allowing the hatchery to fulfill its own egg needs and send additional eggs to Eagle Creek National Fish Hatchery in Oregon for incubation.



Kooskia Coho Spawning

Bill Shepherd