



Winthrop

National Fish Hatchery

Station Facts

- Annual Budget = \$950,000
- Staffed by 6 full time employees
- Established in 1940
- Production program: rear and release 200,000 summer steelhead, 600,000 spring Chinook salmon, and 250,000 coho salmon
- Part of the Leavenworth Fisheries Complex
- Address: 453A Twin Lakes Road - PO Box 429, Winthrop, WA 98862

Contact Information

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Directions:

Winthrop NFH is located just outside downtown Winthrop, WA along the Methow River. From Highway 20, take Twin Lakes road just east of the bridge on the east side of town.



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

The construction of Grand Coulee Dam blocked access to approximately 1,140 river miles of Chinook, steelhead and coho spawning and rearing habitat. This loss of habitat equates to an estimated reduction of thousands of adult salmonids returning annually to the upper Columbia River Basin. Winthrop National Fish Hatchery was constructed to help mitigate for these losses.

Connecting People with Nature

A new Kids Fishing Pond has been constructed at Winthrop NFH. Winthrop NFH and its grounds also provide opportunities for recreational fishing, visitor services and outreach, coho salmon re-introduction with the Yakama Nation, the Beaver Relocation Project and extensive partnerships with others.



Credit: Curt Schoenfelder

Our programs create sportfishing opportunities.

Winthrop NFH Cycle of Life

Fall - Adult coho salmon return. Spawning occurs in late October through November.

Winter - Spring Chinook eggs hatch and become yolk sac fry. Coho fry soon follow and emerge in April. Fry start feeding in the tanks inside the nursery building.

Spring - Adult steelhead are returning. Spawning occurs in April and May. Releases of all yearling steelhead and spring Chinook begin in April and are completed by mid-May.

Summer - Adult spring Chinook are returning. Spawning occurs mid-August to early September. Salmon viewing is available at the adult pond viewing window. Kids Fishing Day occurs on the second Saturday of June. The Beaver Relocation Project is in full swing and viewing of beavers is a favorite activity among visitors.



Credit: USFWS

Aerial view of Winthrop National Fish Hatchery