



Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery



Releasing Alligator Gar
Into a Hatchery Pond



Paddlefish Collecting
at Grand Lake



Alligator Snapping Turtle

STATION FACTS

- The Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery was established in 1928.
- The hatchery holds 50 ponds, two nursery buildings, a turtle building, six 20-foot diameter fiberglass tanks, and six large concrete raceways on 235 acres.
- The hatchery's water source is high-quality water from Pennington Creek. One of the oldest water rights in the state allows us to divert 10 cfs for fish culture.
- The hatchery employs 8 full-time, 1 part-time, and 3 student workers.
- Fish reared at the hatchery are primarily for federal waters in Oklahoma, but fish are also reared for Kansas and Texas waters.
- The primary species reared at the hatchery include paddlefish, channel catfish, alligator gar, alligator snapping turtles, and largemouth bass.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Directions:

Take Hwy 377 North 8 miles from Tishomingo, OK then go west 4 miles on Hwy 7.

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 Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery raises species known to be in decline or completely removed from areas of their native habitat such as paddlefish, alligator snapping turtles, and alligator gar. The hatchery also rears sport fish such as channel catfish, largemouth bass, and sunfish for stocking waters on National Wildlife Refuges, military bases, and Tribal waters.

Landscape Conservation Cooperative

The Tishomingo NFH is involved in three Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. Hatchery staff are involved in scientific investigations and development of management strategies to protect aquatic species in each of these cooperatives.

Hatchery Operations

The Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery has ample space and facilities to fulfill numerous objectives for both imperiled aquatic species and sport fish. The imperiled aquatic species reared here (paddlefish, alligator snapping turtles, and alligator gar) require specialized equipment, facilities, culture techniques, and knowledge that have been developed here. Additionally, this hatchery is on call to rear other listed species such as the Arkansas River shiner, leopard darter, and peppered chub as needed.

Requests for sport fish are ever increasing as fishing pressure in waters on National Wildlife Refuges, military bases, and Tribal lands overcomes natural recruitment.

Visitors and Outreach

The hatchery has over 10,000 visitors per year. Each summer Boy Scouts from the nearby Slippery Falls Scout Ranch earn badges after a tour of the facility. The hatchery has a self-guided Nature Trail that winds by Pennington Creek and is available to visitors during daylight hours. Also of interest is the restored Historic Water Wheel.

Fall on Pennington Creek

