



TISHOMINGO NFH MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT DECEMBER 2013



Leadership in Science and Technology

Staff biologist, Brian Fillmore, is collaborating on a publication in the target journal “Zoo Biology” with Missouri State University professor Dr. Day Ligon. The ten-year review will feature culture of alligator snapping turtles, brood stock rearing, juvenile rearing and growth; egg incubation and hatching success, stocking sizes, and pond adaptation prior to release. Solutions to causes of mortality will also be reviewed. **(CSF 5.3.7)**

Staff biologists use marine epoxy to attach transmitters for tracking purposes on alligator snapping turtles.



Techniques to halt fish mortality were provided to Oklahoma State University at the request of a graduate student studying effects of climate change on the fish in Pennington Creek and Blue River. **(CSF 5.3.7)**



Pristine Pennington Creek runs through Tishomingo NFH.

Visitors

A tour was given to a group of Boy Scouts from an adjacent county in order for them to earn the Federal Facility merit badge. This group of Scouts, ages 12 – 14, got to view paddlefish, alligator gar, log perch, and the alligator snapping turtles. Even though most of the scout tours occur during the summer while the boys are at camp, we are thrilled that more requests are coming throughout the year from local scout groups interested in using the hatchery to earn badges. (CSF 15.4.8)



Above, an alligator gar in aquarium for visitors to view; and right, paddlefish kept on station for visitors.



Facility Maintenance

Upon completion of the deferred maintenance pond kettle rehab project at Tishomingo NFH, Robert Baca, Engineer from the Regional Office, conducted the site visit to approve the construction. A punch list was drawn up for items needing attention.