



# TISHOMINGO NFH MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT JANUARY 2014



## Leadership in Science and Technology

Dr. Day Ligon, professor at Missouri State University, and Denise Thompson, doctoral candidate at Oklahoma State University, collected tissue samples from the 2013 alligator snapping turtles at Tishomingo NFH for genetic analyses for paternity testing. **(CSF 5.2.1; CSF 5.3.7)**

*Dexter Fish Health staff performing health assessment on turtles.*



*Bacteria testing on alligator snapping turtle under back leg.*

The Dexter Fish Health Unit performed a health assessment on alligator snapping turtles at Tishomingo NFH. Bacteria and virology testing were done on various turtles. Carolyn Kupec, graduate student at Missouri State University assisted with this health assessment, then transported thirty-two juvenile alligator snapping turtles back to Missouri State University for metabolic study. **(CSF 5.2.1; CSF 5.3.7)**

## Outreach

At the request of the “Chickasaw Times” tribal newspaper, Brian Fillmore, biologist at Tishomingo NFH, was interviewed about the alligator snapping turtle program on station. The newspaper reporters got to tour the turtle facility viewing all sizes of turtles, from adult to hatchling. A tour and explanation of the remainder of the hatchery activities were also given to the newspaper staff. They were interested in the



*Alligator snapping turtles in their building – hatchling to adult.*



history of Tishomingo NFH and were thrilled when we provided the names of the Chickasaws who sold this land to the U.S. government for hatchery construction back in the 1920's. (CSF 15.4.8; CSF 15.4.12)

*The future site of the Tishomingo NFH in 1930.*



### Maintenance

Quarters 1 suffered devastating damage from a water pipe bursting in the roof area after extremely low temperatures. Even though heat was left on, the unit malfunctioned due to the extended number of days below freezing. Judging from the metered water use, about 300,000 gallons of water ran from the pipe down the walls, ceilings, and collected in the full concrete basement of this house built in 1930. Water flowed out the upper story windows, forming icicles on the exterior of the house. Ceilings in the lower story fell from the weight of the water; fan and light fixtures fell; and the walls warped from being soaked with water. Appliances that could be salvaged were removed to storage for use in other quarters as needed. Mike Zamora, from Engineering in the Regional Office, performed an inspection of the damaged quarters; his findings will be forthcoming. (CSF 13.2)



*Photos showing water damage to Quarters #1.*



*Bedroom ceiling shows bubbles of water.  
Dining room ceiling warped and falling.*



*Ceiling and sheetrock on walls*

*crumble.*

The 2013 deferred maintenance project to replace two pond kettles is now complete. Mike Zamora, Engineer from the Regional Office, performed the final inspection at Tishomingo NFH; final payment has been issued. **(CSF 13.1.7)**



*Kettle replacement as deferred maintenance project at Tishomingo NFH.*

### **Work Force**

Tishomingo NFH staff have successfully completed the refresher training on-line for Heavy Equipment and the Defensive Driving on-line course.