# Table of Contents

I. Introduction ......................................................................................... 4

II. Statement of Objectives ..................................................................... 4

III. Description of Fishing Program .............................................................. 5

A. Areas to be Opened to Fishing ............................................................. 5

B. Species to be Taken, Fishing Periods, Fishing Access ....................... 5

C. Fishing Permit Requirements (if applicable) ..................................... 6

D. Consultation and Coordination with the State ................................. 6

E. Law Enforcement ............................................................................... 6

F. Funding and Staffing Requirements .................................................. 6

IV. Conduct of the Fishing Program .......................................................... 6

A. Fishing Permit Application, Selection, and/or Registration
   Procedures (if applicable) ................................................................. 6

B. Hatchery-Specific Regulations .......................................................... 6

C. Relevant State Regulations ............................................................... 6

D. Other Rules and Regulations ............................................................ 7

V. Public Engagement

A. Outreach Plan for Announcing and Publicizing Fishing ................. 7

B. Anticipated Public Reaction to the Fishing Program ...................... 7

C. How the Public Will be Informed of Relevant Rules Regulations... 7
VI. Compatibility Determination…………………………………………………7

List of Figures

Figure 1. Aerial map of Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery, Tishomingo, Oklahoma. The green line shows the portion of Pennington Creek open to public fishing. Public access is granted along the west side of the creek. The area enclosed in blue is designated for hatchery operations, is fenced, and closed to the public…………………………………………………5
Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery
Fishing Plan

I. Introduction

National Fish Hatcheries are guided by the mission and goals of the Fish and Aquatic Conservation program (FAC), the purposes of an individual hatchery, Service policy, and laws. Relevant guidance includes the Strategic Plan for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fish and Aquatic Conservation Program: FY2016-2020 and selected portions of the Code of Federal Regulations and Fish and Wildlife Service Manual.

The hatchery was originally authorized as a National Fish Hatchery under the Appropriation Act 44 Statute 1215, 2-24-1927.

Originally the primary purpose of the hatchery was to meet the demands for warmwater sport fish in the American Southwest. The current purpose of the hatchery is to rear and develop captive propagation techniques for imperiled aquatic species, as well as producing warm water sport fish.

The mission and work of the National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS):

“...improves recreational and public use of aquatic resources, recovery of federally listed threatened or endangered species, restoration of imperiled species...and fulfillment of tribal partnerships and trust responsibilities.”

National Fish Hatchery System propagation addresses top priorities such as:
- Enhancement of recreational fishing
- Enhancement of public use of aquatic resources
- Recovery of federal protected species
- Restoration of imperiled species
- Fulfillment of tribal partnerships and trust responsibilities

Therefore, it is a priority of the Service to provide for wildlife-dependent recreation opportunities, including hunting and fishing, when those opportunities are compatible with the purposes for which the hatchery was established and the mission of the National Fish Hatchery System.

The Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery (NFH) has provided public fishing access to the portion of Pennington Creek that lies within hatchery boundaries since its establishment in 1927. In doing so, the hatchery is supporting outdoors enthusiasts and continuing to ensure the importance and relevance of our mission to the American public.
II. Statement of Objectives

The sole objective is to continue to provide recreational fishing access to the portion of Pennington Creek that lies within the boundaries of the hatchery.

III. Description of Hunting Program

A. Areas to be Opened to Fishing

Approximately 5,650 feet of Pennington Creek lies within the boundaries of the Tishomingo NFH. Public access has been allowed along the west side of the creek since establishment of the hatchery in 1927. Management of the creek and the fish species in the creek is the responsibility of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC).

Figure 1. Aerial map of Tishomingo National Fish Hatchery, Tishomingo, Oklahoma. The green line shows the portion of Pennington Creek open to public fishing. Public access is granted along the west side of the creek. The area enclosed in blue is designated for hatchery operations, is partially fenced, and closed to the public.
B. Species to be Taken, Fishing periods, Fishing Access

All fishing rules and regulations are determined the ODWC. Regulations for fishing in Pennington Creek can be found in Oklahoma Fishing publication or online at www.eregulations.com/oklahoma/fishing/. Sport fish species found in Pennington Creek include largemouth bass, spotted bass, smallmouth bass, channel catfish, flathead catfish, and a variety of sunfish species.

C. Fishing Permit Requirements

Appropriate license as determined by ODWC.

D. Consultation and Coordination with the State

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is proposing to continue to provide public access to the portion Pennington Creek within hatchery boundaries for recreational fishing.

E. Law Enforcement

Law enforcement officers from the ODWC and the Fish and Wildlife Service periodically patrol this section of Pennington Creek.

F. Funding and Staffing Requirements

The only cost incurred by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be from periodic law enforcement patrol. These costs are current and no new expenditure is expected from the continuation of this activity.

IV. Conduct of the Fishing Program

A. Fishing Permit Application, Selection, and/or Registration Procedures (if applicable)

All license requirements will be at the discretion of ODWC and the State Game Commission.

B. Hatchery-Specific Hunting Regulations

No specific fishing regulations exist.

C. Relevant State Regulations

All license requirements will be at the discretion of the ODWC and the State Game Commission.

D. Other Hatchery Rules and Regulations for Fishing
Public access to Pennington Creek will be from the west side of the creek within hatchery boundaries. Appropriate fencing and signage will be posted to prevent the public from entering Service lands designated for the propagation of aquatic species.

V. Public Engagement

A. Outreach for Announcing and Publicizing the Fishing Program

Fishing access has been allowed on this property since the establishment of the hatchery in 1927. Based on past pressure it is apparent that the fishing community is aware of this access to Pennington Creek.

B. Anticipated Public Reaction to the Fishing Program

It is anticipated that continuing to allow access to this property for the purpose of recreational fishing will be well received.

C. How Anglers Will Be Informed of Relevant Rules and Regulations

General information regarding fishing can be obtained through ODWC. Annual rules and regulations are published by the Department and can be found online at http://www.eregulations.com.oklahoma/fishing/.

VI. Compatibility Determination

Access to Pennington Creek for recreational fishing activities proposed in this plan is not detrimental to the propagation and distribution of fish or other aquatic wildlife.