

Northeast Fishery Center

Fact Sheet

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Arlen Specter (R)
Senator Rick Santorum (R)
Rep. John E. Peterson (R-5th)

Contact

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Purpose

The Northeast Fishery Center provides technical assistance in population ecology, conservation genetics, fish health and fish culture for fisheries management programs administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Public Use Notes

- Environmental education programs, including guided tours, lectures and slide presentations
- Public access to trophy trout fishery in Fishing Creek

Management Activities

- Developing culture and management techniques for the recovery of threatened, endangered and imperiled fish species
- Determining the effects and distribution of pathogens and parasites in wild fish populations
- Monitoring the health of fish populations at fish hatcheries
- Providing technical assistance on management plans for inter-jurisdictional and migratory fishes through population dynamics, genetic analyses and stock assessment techniques

Highlights

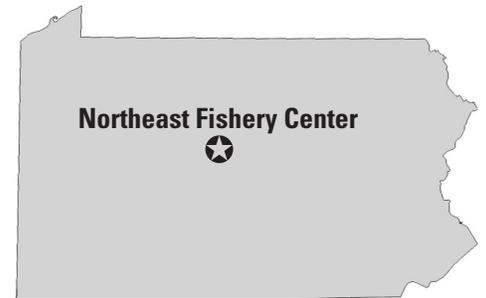
The Center is implementing a cooperative agreement to assist the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission in culture of walleye and striped bass on our federal facility. We recently completed a five-year partnership with the state to restore American shad in the Susquehanna River by providing 15 million eggs to the state and stocking a half million shad fry in the river basin.

The Center takes a lead role in the restoration of Atlantic sturgeon by developing and sharing culture technology and life history information.

The Center has recently lead the effort to get FDA approval for a new fish marking technology, and has also patented a device that will non-lethally detect the mark on young fish. This technology is now used nationwide.

The Population Ecology Section provides technical expertise to federal, state and tribal governments on population trends, monitoring studies and genetic concerns for different species, including Atlantic salmon, American shad and horseshoe crab. Data provided by the Center is being used in management decisions in several drainages throughout the northeast U.S.

The Fish Health Center is involved in a congressionally mandated national wild fish health survey, using the latest DNA technology to document incidences of fish pathogens in wild populations.



Issues

The Fish Health Center works to determine in wild fish populations the prevalence of pathogens, including infectious salmon anemia and spring viremia of carp, viruses new to the U.S.

The new Genetics Laboratory will provide information crucial for prudent restoration, recovery and management of several aquatic species, including American shad in the Susquehanna and freshwater mussels in the Allegheny/Ohio river system.

The Population Ecology Section helps establish protocols to accurately survey horseshoe crab populations, evaluate marks on endangered fish and determine hooking mortality rates for striped bass and American shad.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
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<http://www.fws.gov>

January 2004

