

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Hatchery Statistics

Prepared For: House Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Water, Wildlife, and Fisheries

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National Fish Hatchery System

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service operates 71 National Fish Hatcheries across the country to support healthy state and tribally managed fisheries, improve local economies, and sustain outdoor traditions. Nationally, these hatcheries produce more than 138 million fish and other aquatic species each year.

Why We Stock for the American People

1. **Native Species Recovery and Tribal Trust** – Restoring lake trout and lake herring (cisco) to their historical range strengthens biodiversity and helps balance Great Lakes ecosystems, providing species important to Native American Indian Tribes.
2. **Recreational and Commercial Fishing and Subsistence** – Stocked fish support world-class American angling opportunities, boosting tourism and small businesses throughout the region including the estimated \$7 billion economic value generated annually across the Great Lakes.
3. **Habitat Research & Monitoring** – Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices work closely with our Hatcheries to assess fish survival, growth rates, and spawning success—ensuring limited resources deliver the return on investment.

Key Role in Restoration: National fish hatcheries maintain broodstocks, produce eggs, and stock popular target species into the Great Lakes to help restore self-sustaining fish populations and public outdoor recreational opportunities previously impacted by habitat loss, invasive species, and pollution.

National Fish Hatcheries Serving the Great Lakes:

- Iron River National Fish Hatchery (WI) – lake trout, coaster brook trout, and lake sturgeon
- Genoa National Fish Hatchery (WI) – lake trout, coaster brook trout, and lake sturgeon
- Jordan River National Fish Hatchery (MI) – lake trout, lake herring (cisco)
- Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery (MI) – lake trout
- Sullivan Creek National Fish Hatchery (MI) - lake trout
- Allegheny National Fish Hatchery (PA) – lake trout
- Berkshire National Fish Hatchery (MA) - lake trout
- Lamar National Fish Hatchery & Northeast Fishery Center (PA) – bloater
- Dwight D. Eisenhower National Fish Hatchery (VT) – Atlantic salmon
- White River National Fish Hatchery (VT) – lake trout

In total, these stations stocked nearly 4.8 million fish in 2024 across all five Great Lakes.

Total Fish Stocked by the Service into the Great Lakes: 4,769,209

- Lake trout – 3,186,160
- Lake herring (cisco) – 1,259,784
- Bloater – 132,757
- Atlantic salmon – 156,195
- Brook trout – 20,151
- Lake sturgeon – 14,162

Total Fish Stocked by Lake

- Lake Erie – 120,295 (lake trout, lake sturgeon)
- Lake Huron – 1,702,970 (lake trout, lake herring, lake sturgeon)
- Lake Michigan – 2,307,024 (lake trout)
- Lake Ontario – 607,836 (lake trout, bloater, Atlantic salmon)
- Lake Superior – 31,084 (brook trout, lake sturgeon)

National Fish Hatchery Distributions to the Great Lakes

Lake Erie (Total 120,295)

- Allegheny National Fish Hatchery: lake trout – 119,022
- Genoa National Fish Hatchery: lake sturgeon – 1,273

Lake Huron (Total 1,702,970)

- Jordan River National Fish Hatchery: lake herring – 1,259,784
- Jordan River National Fish Hatchery: lake trout – 442,730
- Genoa National Fish Hatchery: lake sturgeon – 456

Lake Michigan (Total 2,307,024)

- Iron River National Fish Hatchery: lake trout – 935,188
- Jordan River National Fish Hatchery: lake trout – 353,201
- Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery: lake trout – 1,018,635

Lake Ontario (Total 607,836)

- Allegheny National Fish Hatchery: lake trout – 317,384, bloater – 2,400
- Lamar National Fish Hatchery and Northeast Fishery Center: bloater – 130,357
- Dwight D Eisenhower National Fish Hatchery: Atlantic salmon – 156,195
- Genoa National Fish Hatchery: lake sturgeon – 1,500

Lake Superior (Total 31,084)

- Genoa National Fish Hatchery: brook trout – 15,000
- Genoa National Fish Hatchery: lake sturgeon – 9,913
- Iron River National Fish Hatchery: brook trout – 5,151
- Iron River National Fish Hatchery: lake sturgeon – 1,020