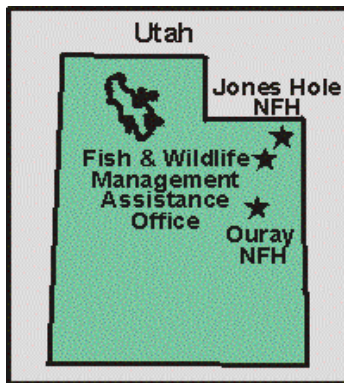




U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery, Utah

Restoring America's Fisheries



"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."

National Fish Hatchery System; Who We Are

The National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) is comprised of 70 Fish Hatcheries, 7 Fish Technology Centers, and 9 Fish Health Centers nationwide. The NFHS operated by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service has a unique responsibility in helping restore native aquatic populations, mitigate for fisheries lost as a result of federal water projects, provide fish to benefit Tribes and the National Wildlife Refuges, and to recover species listed under the Endangered Species Act. The NFHS works closely with other programs in the Service and with the States, Tribes, and the private sector to complement habitat restoration and other resource management strategies for maintaining healthy ecosystems that support healthy fisheries.

Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery

Jones Hole NFH was established in 1956 under Section 8 of the Colorado River Storage Project Act, and produced its first trout in 1970. Located on 390 acres in a beautiful sandstone geologic setting, the hatchery provides management and production of trout for mitigation of Colorado River Storage Project waters of the Upper Colorado River System and to meet Tribal trust responsibilities on Native American land.

Fish that are normally reared at Jones Hole NFH are:

- rainbow trout
- brown trout
- brook trout

To meet the high fish production demands, Jones Hole NFH has 40 rearing tanks and 50 raceways. In fiscal year 2000, Jones Hole NFH reared almost 2 million trout, and stocked fish in over 30 different water areas in Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado, the largest one being the Flaming Gorge.

As a result of Jones Hole NFH's stocking efforts, economic benefits weigh-in at 185,000 angler days valued at over \$9.25 million per year.

How Does the Hatchery Help?

Jones Hole NFH helps in many ways! Currently, the hatchery produces a variety of trout species for the Upper Colorado River System. These trout help to replenish and encourage sustainable fish populations to promote a healthy Upper Colorado River

Ecosystem and provide angling opportunities for recreational users like you!

As the natural aquatic habitat changes from *natural* (drought, flood, habitat destruction) or *human* (over-harvest, pollution, habitat loss due to development and dam construction) influences, the natural production of fish declines. Stocking of fish is one of the many management strategies used by biologists to help replenish the populations for years to come.

Public Use Opportunities

Jones Hole NFH provides many exciting visitor opportunities at the hatchery and surrounding area.

Open to the public, Jones Hole NFH welcomes visitors to the hatchery for a closeup view of the fish production process. With over 7,000 visitors annually, the dedicated staff are happy to answer any questions while you explore the hatchery grounds and view the fish. Educational programs and hatchery tours are provided to school groups and visitors when scheduled in advance.



Welcome to Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery; USFWS



Hatchery employee straining trout eggs; USFWS

Partnerships Make It Happen!

Jones Hole NFH operates closely through a series of partnerships, including: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources; Wyoming Game and Fish Department; Bureau of Reclamation; and other Service and State hatcheries. In addition, many local schools and citizens are actively involved with the hatchery's research, operations, and education.

These many dedicated partners and volunteers help keep Jones Hole NFH operating to help bring trout to the Upper Colorado River System and promote a healthy aquatic ecosystem for you, your family, and future generations!

Join the hatchery staff at the annual Ouray National Wildlife Refuge Open House in May, or at the Uintah County Fair. Hatchery staff also proudly participate in stocking trout in local waters for National Fishing Week Activities.

Jones Hole NFH is located approximately 41 miles northeast of Vernal bordering the Dinosaur National Monument. Come prepared for a day of fun!

In addition to the hatchery experience, visitors also have a bounty of recreational opportunities to explore in the surrounding area and Dinosaur National Monument, operated by the National Park Service:

- Hiking/nature trails
- Fishing
- Picnicking
- Wildlife and birdwatching
- Photography
- Camping
- Canoeing
- Mountain biking
- Cross country skiing
- Snowshoeing

Dust off those boots as you hike to Dinosaur National Monument in the spectacular surroundings, or try your luck landing 'the big one' in Jones Hole Creek. Be sure to bring your binoculars and test your wildlife knowledge while hiking or fishing. You just may be carried away with all the waterfowl and riparian birds!



Overview of Jones Hole National Fish Hatchery; USFWS