



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# La Crosse *Fish Health Center*

### Quick Facts

#### Center Facts

- Established: 1962
- FY 2002 Budget: \$595,000
- Staff: seven permanent; one student

#### Geographic Area Served

- Eight-state region in the Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Basin
- Member of a national system of nine fish health laboratories

### Center Goals

- Provide fish health services to six national and several tribal fish hatcheries to minimize the risk of disease agents impacting fish restoration
- Assist state and private fish hatcheries in diagnosing and controlling infectious disease agents
- Provide technical assistance regarding fish health and propagation
- Conduct wild fish health surveys to determine and monitor the distribution of fish pathogens in free-ranging fish populations

### Services Provided To

- State and federal agencies
- Regional Indian Communities
- Fishery research agencies
- Commercial hatcheries
- Universities

### Activity Highlights

- Staff instructs several fish health courses offered through the Service's National Conservation Training Center
- Conducts research projects on parasitological, viral and bacteriological fish disease agents
- Has collected more than 21,000 tissue samples from 39 species of fish throughout the Midwest Region for the National Wild Fish Health Survey



- Monitors and oversees the use of drugs and chemicals for national fish hatchery use under the sponsorship of the National Investigational New Animal Drug Program
- Participates on rapid response team to investigate suspicious fish kills in regional lakes and rivers

### Contacting the Center

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