



Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery



Stocking Fish from Hatchery Truck



Big Horn Sheep on the Hatchery



Stocking Fish from Hatchery Barge

STATION FACTS

- Willow Beach celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2012.
- Has a staff of eight full time employees.
- Has an approximate annual operating budget of \$800,000.
- Achi Hanyo Native Fish Rearing Facility located in Parker, AZ is a satellite station.
- Willow Beach NFH raises 3 species of fish and one frog species.
- Researchers like to utilize the hatchery for a location to study quagga mussels.
- Razorback suckers are raised in a recirculation system.
- In 2010, the hatchery installed a solar power system to generate solar electricity and reduce consumption.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Directions:
From Las Vegas, NV
Drive south on highway 93
Turn right on Willow Beach Rd at mile marker 14

From Kingman, AZ
Drive north on highway 93
Turn left on Willow Beach Rd at mile marker 14

Continue 4.5 miles to the hatchery entrance

Who We Are

The National Fish Hatchery System (NFHS) is comprised of a network of 71 National Fish Hatcheries which propagate imperiled species for restoration and recovery programs, provide emergency refugia for species whose habitat is threatened, provide fish to benefit Tribes, and mitigate for federal water projects.

Introduction

Willow Beach National Fish Hatchery (WBNFH) is located on the Arizona side of the Colorado River 11 river miles below Hoover Dam. The hatchery, on 47.81 acres is nestled in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area which is owned and operated by the National Park Service. A Memorandum of Understanding among the Bureau of Reclamation, NPS, and the FWS on April 24, 1959, was the beginning of WBNFH. The hatchery started rainbow trout production in 1962 to supply and support recreational fishing opportunities for Lake Mohave and the surrounding area. The hatchery produces endangered species, bonytail chub and razorback sucker, which are endemic to the Colorado River.

How We Help

- Endangered species conservation
- Tribal trust responsibility
- Recreational fishing opportunities

Key Initiatives

- Propagate endangered fish for the Lower Colorado River. These species include; razorback suckers and bonytail chub.
- Has provided recreational fishing opportunities in the Willow Beach area with stockings of rainbow trout.
- Provide refugium and grow out facilities for relict leopard frogs.

Visitors

The Colorado River in the Mohave Desert is on the migration route for many birds in the west, including herons, eagles, and waterfowl. Visitors can also expect to find a variety of desert plant and animals species. Plant species include multiple cacti, Creosote Bush, Desert Mallow, Desert Marigold, Indian Paint-Brush, Rock Nettle, and Sacred Datura. Animal species include Bighorn Sheep, Antelope Ground Squirrel, Ringtail Cat, Scorpions, Chuckwalla Lizard, and more.

Aerial View of the Hatchery

