



Two members of the Mescalero Apache Tribe in southern New Mexico sort rainbow trout at their tribal hatchery.

Mescalero Apache Tribal Fish Hatchery

The YCC crew at the Mescalero Apache Tribal Fish Hatchery in New Mexico was essential in hatchery operations. Moreover, the work was an opportunity to apply cultural teachings that provided purpose and direction to the youth. The students participated in all facets of rainbow trout propagation. They learned practical construction and plumbing techniques while doing hatchery maintenance work. They built trails and installed fish habitat improvement structures in the Rio Ruidoso. The tribal youth were led by staff with the New Mexico Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office. ♦ Chris Kitcheyan

Chris Kitcheyan/USFWS