



Vermont Fish Hatcheries Capital Request

- Currently the Department of Fish and Wildlife (VTFWD) operates five state hatcheries and works cooperatively with twoⁱ federal hatcheries in Vermont.
 - Bald Hill Hatchery – located in Newark, VT
 - Bennington Hatchery – located in Bennington, VT
 - Ed Weed Hatchery at Grand Isle – located in Grand Isle, VT
 - Roxbury Hatchery – located in Roxbury, VT
 - Salisbury Hatchery – located in Salisbury, VT
- Hatcheries stock approximately 1.5 million fish (7 different fish species) for both restoration and for angling opportunities throughout the entire state of Vermont
- Economic impacts of hatcheries in Vermont are estimated at \$31.6 millionⁱⁱ
- Funding for hatcheries is supported primarily through federal taxes on sporting goods (60%). Additional funds are secured through VTFWD license sales as well as legislative monies.
- The hatcheries support the Children’s Fishing Program, which partners with over 80 organizations statewide annually to provide over 9,000 children, as well as elderly and challenged individuals, an opportunity to experience and learn about fishing.
- The hatcheries are a destination site for visitors. There are 15,000 to 20,000 visitors annually to the five state hatcheries.
- State of Vermont hatcheries are very diverse in age, location and design, but they all work together as an integrated whole. Three of the five state hatcheries are on the National Historic Register with Roxbury Hatchery coming into operation in 1891.



- Previous capital bill money has helped fund projects including but not limited to:
 - State match for FEMA funds (90/10 ratio) for the Roxbury Hatchery rebuild after most of the facility was washed out by Tropical Storm Irene. The new design will also meet updated water quality discharge codes and standards.
 - Building heating upgrade and predator control for outdoor fish rearing facilities – bird netting at Bennington Hatchery
 - Safety improvement projects at F&W residence– Hatchery staff housing improvements to bring current residences up to rental codes: firefighter accessible windows, smoke detectors, radon/mold mitigation, upgraded wiring, etc. (Bald Hill, Bennington, Salisbury, Ed Weed)
 - Water heating upgrades to the hatchery trout rearing water system (Ed Weed Hatchery at Grand Isle)
 - Water supply expansions for trout rearing (Bald Hill Hatchery)
 - Upgrades to emergency life support systems for fish in case of power/water loss to the VTFWD broodstock hatchery (Salisbury Hatchery)

- Capital bill money going forward will help fund projects including but not limited to:
 - Continued FEMA fund matching to move from architecture & engineering to construction for the Roxbury Hatchery rebuild
 - Replacing the main hatchery building roof (Bald Hill Hatchery)
 - Installation of piping to prevent main water line freezing for hatchery water (Bennington Hatchery)
 - Influent water disinfection system safety / mechanical upgrades (Ed Weed Hatchery at Grand Isle)
 - Future discharge improvements to meet DEC water discharge permit limitations (Salisbury Hatchery)

ⁱ Eisenhower National Fish Hatchery and White River National Fish Hatchery

ⁱⁱ Economic impact calculated from the 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Associated Wildlife Recreation as well as the 2010 Vermont Angler Survey

