



Vermont Fish and Wildlife Fish Culture Operations



- The Vermont Fish Culture Section employs 25 full time staff across 6 facilities
- Currently, the Fish and Wildlife Department (VTFWD) operates five state fish culture stations, a fish health laboratory, and works cooperatively with two federal hatcheries in Vermont.
 - Bald Hill Fish Culture Station – located in Newark, VT
 - Bennington Fish Culture Station – located in Bennington, VT
 - Ed Weed Fish Culture Station at Grand Isle – located in Grand Isle, VT
 - Roxbury Fish Station – located in Roxbury, VT
 - Salisbury Fish Culture Station – located in Salisbury, VT
 - Fish Health Laboratory – located at the Vermont Agriculture and Environmental Laboratory (VAEL) in Randolph, VT
- The Vermont fish culture program distributes approximately 1.5 million fish (7 different fish species) for both restoration and for angling opportunities throughout Vermont.
- **Funding for fish culture is supported primarily through federal taxes on sporting goods.**
- **ANNUAL ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF FISH CULTURE IN VERMONT ARE ESTIMATED AT \$39.6 MILLION***
- **With an annual operations budget of nearly \$4.2 million before a 60% federal match (\$2.5M) this results in a return on investment of approximately \$23 for every \$1 of state funds spent annually.**
- Funds are secured through Vermont Fish & Wildlife license sales as well as approximately \$750,000 annually in capital bill money for large infrastructure projects.
- The Vermont Fish Culture Section also provides fish and technical guidance to four different cooperative organizations to enhance fish culture programs and promote public cooperation.
 - Lake Champlain Walleye Association – cooperatively operate walleye ponds
 - Hale Mountain Fish & Game Club – cooperatively operate Shaftsbury trout ponds
 - Vermont Fish & Wildlife Conservation Group – cooperatively operate Morgan Hatchery
 - Orleans Rod & Gun Club – cooperatively operate Essex steelhead pond
- The fish culture program supports the Children’s Fishing Program, which partners annually with over 80 organizations statewide to provide over 9,000 children, as well as elderly and individuals with disabilities, an opportunity to experience and learn about fishing.
- The fish culture stations are a destination site for visitors. There are 15,000 to 20,000 visitors annually to the five state fish culture stations.

** Economic impact calculated from the 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Associated Wildlife Recreation well as the 2020 Vermont Angler Survey*



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Economic Contributions of Recreational Fishing — Vermont —

160,000 anglers spent **\$69.5 Million** while fishing in Vermont.

Statewide Contributions by Anglers in Vermont



\$98.7 Million
Economic Output



740
Jobs Supported

National Contributions by U.S. Anglers

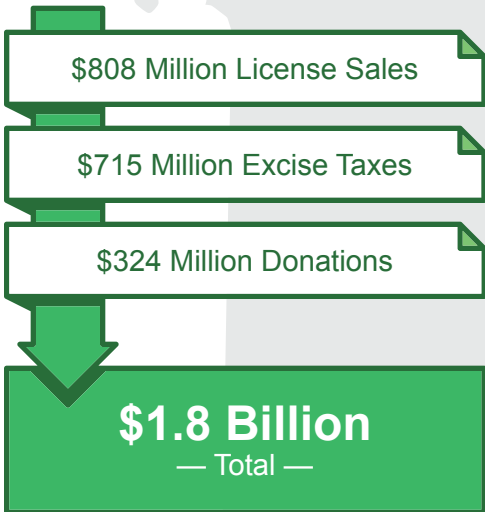


\$148 Billion
Economic Output

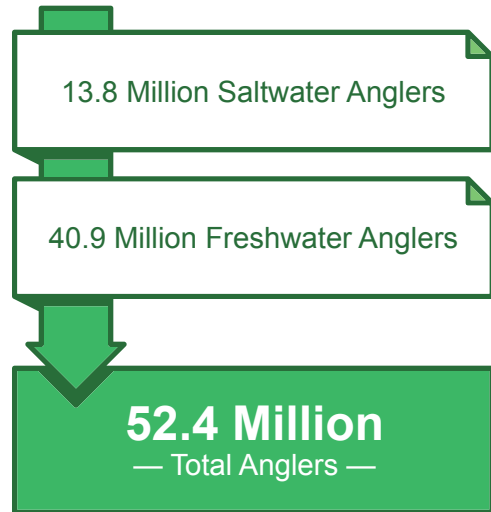


945,500
Jobs Supported

Annual U.S. Angler Contributions to Conservation



U.S. Anglers by the Numbers



Angler participation and spending presented here reflect 2021 estimates.

