

Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery

Linking the Biological Health of the Nation's Aquatic Resources with the Economic Health of the Nation's Human Communities



Linking Biological and Economic Health

The Southeastern U.S.'s fish and aquatic resources are among the richest and most diverse in the world. These resources, and the recreational opportunities they provide, have helped support the Nation's growth by providing enormous ecological, social and economic contributions. Our aquatic resources are recognized as National assets that contribute to the quality of life and well being of the American people. National Fish Hatcheries help foster this critical link between the biological health of our Nation and its overall economic health.

A Multiplier of Economic Benefits

The high quality and efficient trout production at Chattahoochee Forest National Fish Hatchery (NFH) is just one aspect of their fish production that creates a positive ripple effect for all Americans. Recreational angling for fish produced by the hatchery results in considerable expenditures of recreation-related goods and services such as lodging, transportation, boats, fishing equipment, and other gear used by the fishing public. A recent economic study clearly identified these annual economic benefits (Caudill and Charbonneau, 2010).

Chattahoochee Forest NFH provides an enormous economic impact to local, regional, and State economies. The hatchery is the economic driver for many of the counties in northern Georgia. The economic impact is felt by everyone, not just those associated with addressing the needs of anglers. This is especially significant in small towns and rural areas near the waters that are stocked by the Chattahoochee Forest NFH and where the purchases of fishing equipment, lodging, food, and transportation are made. In addition, businesses and industries that supply

JOBS = 317 PEOPLE, \$8.2 MILLION IN WAGES
Fish production at Chattahoochee Forest NFH provides employment for more than 317 people with over \$8.2 million in wage and salary income.

RETAIL SALES = \$15.3 MILLION
Retail sales associated with angler expenditures as result of stocking trout by Chattahoochee Forest NFH amounted to \$15.3 million. Almost \$4.7 million of these expenditures relate to costs for food and lodging and transportation.

TAXES GENERATED = \$1.9 MILLION
Federal tax revenues amounted to \$1 million. State and local tax revenues amounted to \$909,000.

TOTAL ECONOMIC OUTPUT = \$28.8 MILLION
Total economic output (multiplier effect) came to \$28.8 million, a return of more than \$37.00 for every dollar spent.

EACH TAX DOLLAR RETURN = \$37.00
Each taxpayer dollar spent for trout production at Chattahoochee Forest NFH generates \$37.20 in economic output.

ECONOMIC BOOST = NORTH GEORGIA
Georgia Congressional Districts 6, 7, 9, 10, and 11 receive direct benefits from fish produced at Chattahoochee Forest NFH.

"An Assessment of Economic Contributions from Fisheries and Aquatic Resource Conservation" (Dr. James Caudill and Dr. John Charbonneau, 2010)

local retailers benefit from angler expenditures. For example, a family purchases a set of fishing rods for an upcoming vacation. Part of the total purchase price will go to the local retailer. The retail store pays a wholesaler who in turn pays the manufacturer. In this way, each dollar of local retail expenditures can affect a variety of businesses at the local, regional and national levels. According to the study, the total economic output for trout production at Chattahoochee Forest NFH amounts to \$28.8 million every year. That's a return of more than \$37.00 for every tax dollar spent to operate the hatchery.

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