

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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Carroll 343-5634

MAJOR NATIONAL FISHERY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER PLANNED FOR NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

Plans for construction of a major National Fishery Research and Development Center in northeastern Pennsylvania were announced today by Assistant Secretary of the Interior Nathaniel P. Reed. The Center will develop improved methods for producing hatchery-reared fish.

Reed, who heads Interior's programs for fish, wildlife, and parks, indicated that the plant will construct and test prototypes in hatchery design and production techniques.

"The basic design of a fish hatchery has not changed in the past century," Reed said. "We need to learn if more efficient, less costly hatchery production methods can be developed. Improved plant technology has aided the chicken production industry. The same progress must be made in fish hatcheries. We need to develop strains of hatchery brood sport fish which have a high survival rate and are 'sporting' to catch."

The Center, which initially will employ 19 biologists, engineers, chemists, and technical support staff, will serve as the focal point for all Federal hatchery research and development within the Nation.

"Fish hatchery operations constitute a sizeable economic investment within the United States," Reed said. He pointed out that Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service operates 98 hatcheries, each State has several, and the number of private facilities is growing.

Reed added: "With the growing number of fishermen in America and increased competition for water resources, we simply must develop production methods which make better use of available waters."

Site selection studies, underway for five months, have narrowed the potential location of the plant to Tioga or Bradford County. Construction of the estimated \$4 million plant will begin when the specific site is chosen.

Location in northeastern Pennsylvania will place the Center near several colleges from which to draw expertise in engineering, chemistry, fishery and other sciences.

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SITE & BUILDING LAYOUT

EARTHEN PONDS

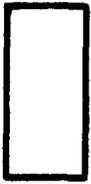


FEED

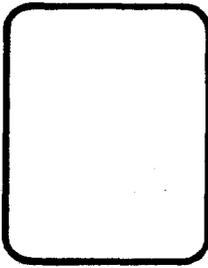


STORAGE

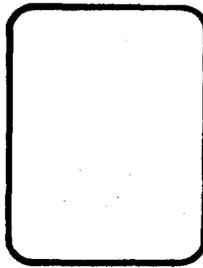
GARAGE



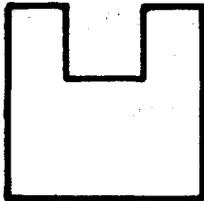
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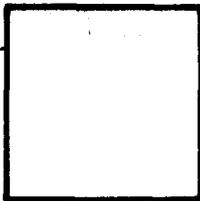
RESERVOIRS



ADMINISTRATION

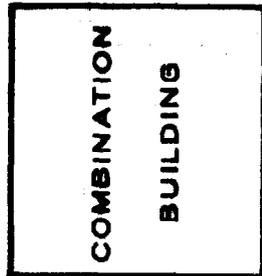


EXPERIMENTAL

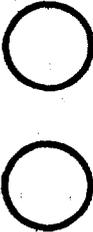


AREA

COMBINATION
BUILDING



CIRCULAR



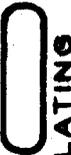
SWEDISH

PONDS



RECIRCULATING

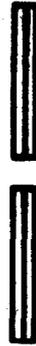
PONDS



PONDS



RACEWAYS



RESERVOIR



RESIDENCE



RESIDENCE



VISITOR PARKING