The Great American Hatchery Road Trip!



✓ Central Edition





There's nothing like cruising down the interstate, a fresh summer breeze blowing through the windows, the stereo blasting, and the ancitipation of adventures ahead! The hardest part? Picking a destination! Don't worry, we've got you covered.

The National Fish Hatchery System has been improving recreational fishing and restoring aquatic species since 1872, so what better way to explore these cool sites than by starting with ones over 100 years old! Fish hatcheries have something for everyone in your group, so buckle those seatbelts and let's hit the road!

STOP

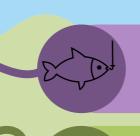
D.C. Booth



Established in 1896, D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery and Archives serves to protect and preserve our nation's fishery records and artifacts while still raising and stocking trout in regional, Tribal, and military waters. The hatchery also houses the National Fish and Aquatic Conservation Archives and has a museum and other historic buildings to tour!



Live out your best main character vibes with the chill beats of the Bee Gees' ballad, "South Dakota Morning." This song is best listened to while wearing an oversized floppy hat and staring pensively out the car window.



Fish af-fish-ianados (see what we did there?) will delight in coming face to face with giant trout at the hatchery's underwater viewing windows. Or head above the surface of the pond and get a chance to feed them!



Explore the grounds on one of the hatchery's hiking trails OR plan your trip during one of the MANY awesome public events that the hatchery hosts, from Father's Day brunches, to Family Creek Fair, and even Hot Rods for the Hatchery!



Bird watchers are in for a treat at D.C. Booth. Ponderosa pines, oak trees, and ponds create perfect habitat for both migrating and year-round birds. You might catch a glimpse of a belted kingfisher, wood duck, or red-breasted nuthatch!



This is THE primo spot for history buffs! Explore the Fisheries Museum, see the inner workings of a vintage fish rail car, and tour the historic 1905 superintendent's home (DeWitt Clinton Booth, who the hatchery is named after!).



The hatchery grounds are a popular spot for various types of photography, from wildlife and scenery photos to family portraits. Be sure to check the friends group webpage for information on their annual photo contest!

MAP LEGEND



The Angler



The Explorer



The Animal Lover



The Historian



DETOUR

Head 30 minutes north of D.C. Booth to make a quick pit stop at the geographic center of the United States (do it for the 'gram, y'all!). After that, head an hour and a half southeast to one of the most iconic roadside attractions in the country...Wall Drug! Drink your free cup of ice water, check out the gigantic dinosaur, and revel in one of the weirdest and most celebrated attractions in America.



Before you hit the road, be sure to check the hatchery's web page for additional activities and call ahead to check opening status.

Next Exit: More Hatchery Fun!

OTHER HATCHERIES IN THE CENTRAL SERIES

- Neosho National Fish Hatchery Missouri
- Leadville National Fish Hatchery Colorado
- ➤ Private John Allen National Fish Hatchery Mississippi
- Saratoga National Fish Hatchery Wyoming