



The Great American Hatchery Road Trip!

Central Edition



WELCOME TO Colorado

There's nothing like cruising down the interstate, a fresh summer breeze blowing through the windows, the stereo blasting, and the anticipation 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!



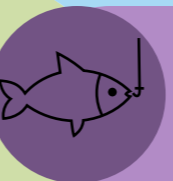
Leadville

National Fish Hatchery

The second oldest federally-operated fish hatchery, Leadville was established in 1889 to distribute trout throughout the Rocky Mountain region. Over 130 years later, they continue that mission and are now the only facility breeding greenback cutthroat trout and other unique species of Colorado cutthroat trout. They also have a ton of recreational opportunities to explore!



Call us basic if you must, but the only way to truly experience one of the United States' highest elevation cities is by blasting John Denver's "Rocky Mountain High."



Fishing is allowed above the Rock Creek dam, which is roughly a one-mile hike from the hatchery. If fishing isn't in the cards, head over to the visitor center to learn more about hatchery operations and get a close-up view of the fish!



If you love cross-country skiing or snowshoeing, then add Leadville to your winter list! Leadville also has great hiking and acts as a main trailhead access into the Mt. Massive Wilderness Area, with several routes around the hatchery grounds!



Don't forget your binoculars, because Leadville offers opportunities for spectacular wildlife viewing! Be on the lookout for mountain blue birds, juncos, jays, hawks, eagles, waterfowl, elk, deer, pronghorn, porcupines, fox, coyote, and pine martins.



As the second oldest federal hatchery, Leadville is a pretty cool spot for anyone who loves old stuff! You can read about their past on their website or call ahead and see if one of the staff are available to answer questions or provide a quick tour!



If you're visiting with an animal lover, now's the time to bring along your telephoto lens and score some amazing wildlife photos! Pro tip: wait for the person with the binoculars to find them first, while you immerse yourself in nature's majesty.



MAP LEGEND

- The Angler
- The Explorer
- The Animal Lover
- The Historian
- The Artist



Look no further than the town of Leadville for this hatchery's detour! The city has a rich mining history, making it a great stop for guided mine tours and museums. Be sure to pop into the Silver Dollar Saloon, Colorado's oldest-operating saloon!



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
- ➔ D.C. Booth National Fish Hatchery - South Dakota
 - ➔ Neosho National Fish Hatchery - Missouri
 - ➔ Private John Allen National Fish Hatchery - Mississippi
 - ➔ Saratoga National Fish Hatchery - Wyoming