

Barnwell Fish Hatchery



The South Carolina Department of Natural Resources Fish Hatcheries

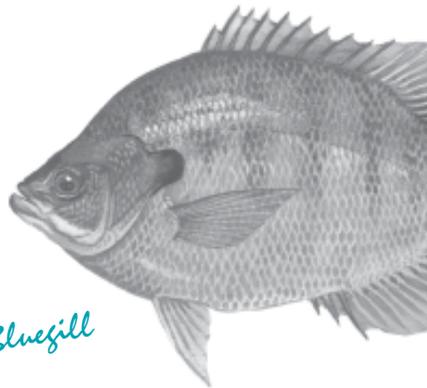
The mission of the Department of Natural Resources' (DNR) fish hatchery program is to propagate those species of fish in sizes required to accomplish fishery management objectives as recommended by the biological staff and approved by administrative personnel, and to provide pond owners, at cost, largemouth bass, redear sunfish and bluegill for private pond management purposes.



DNR



Bluegill



Location: At the intersection of S.C. 64 and U.S. 278 and within the city limits of Barnwell.

Personnel: Hatchery manager (1). Assistance is provided by the Hatchery Coordinator's office with technicians assigned from Columbia.

Background: Planning for the Barnwell Hatchery began in 1939, but due to budgetary constraints during World War II, construction was delayed until 1947. Funds and manpower for the facility were provided by Federal development programs. The first hatchery manager, Ralph Owens, was employed until his retirement in 1978. The hatchery presently produces over 950,000 fish annually.

Total acreage of Hatchery Facility: 15 acres.

Fish Holding House Construction: A post building containing concrete vat and small enclosed area used for net storage. This structure is placed atop a concrete pad. Total area covered measures 12 ft. x 30 ft.

 **Utilities:** Electrical and non-potable water.

 **Function:** Provides a location for the sorting, grading and holding of fish prior to shipment.

Acres of Water: 7.58 acres.

Water Source: Primary water source is from Lake Brown by way of gravity flow subsurface piping. Additional water is pumped from Turkey Creek.

Species Raised:

Largemouth bass
Striped bass
Channel catfish
Bluegill
Redear sunfish



Hatchery staff harvesting and grading fingerling bluegills for public and private water stocking