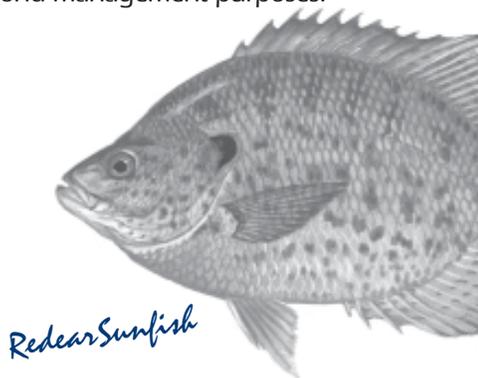


# Cheraw Fish Hatchery



## 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.



**Location:** The Cheraw Fish Hatchery is located five miles SSW of the City of Cheraw adjacent to U.S. Highway 1.

**Personnel:** Hatchery manager (1), assistant hatchery manager (1), fishery technician (1).

**Background:** The Cheraw Fish Hatchery was constructed in 1937 with Federal Funds and assigned to the state for operation and maintenance. However, the facility was returned to the Federal Government in fiscal year 1947/48. and was renamed Cheraw National Fish Hatchery. Ownership of the hatchery was returned to the state in 1983 as part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's effort to reduce warmwater hatchery operations throughout the Federal system.

**Species Raised:**

Largemouth bass	Redbreast
Smallmouth bass	Crappie
Striped bass	Channel catfish
Bluegill	Blue catfish
Redear sunfish	Robust redhorse suckers

**Land Acreage of Hatchery:** 206.1 acres

**Fish house Construction:** A concrete block structure (30 ft. x 50 ft.) with cement flooring. Drive through doors at either end of structure. Permanently installed concrete vats.

 **Utilities:** Electricity and nonpotable water for fish maintenance.

 **Function:** Fish holding and distribution.

**Number of Ponds:** (31) production ponds and one (1) reservoir pond. Over two million fish are produced annually at the hatchery.

**Water Source:** Reservoir pond (Little Puddin Lake), watershed runoff and supplemental pump from Juniper Creek.

**Acres of Water:** 30.5 acres production/ reservoir ponds.



Hatchery staff stocking "brood" channel catfish prior to spawning

