



Discover...

Sustainable Aquaculture



University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility

"The NADF provides a range of invaluable and unique services for Wisconsin and the Midwest...Presently, we are working cooperatively with at least three stakeholders that rely heavily on the NADF facilities for research and support."

-Steve Summerfelt

*Director of Aquaculture Systems Research
The Freshwater Institute, West Virginia*



Our Mission

The purpose of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (UWSP-NADF) is to promote public education and advance the discovery, dissemination and application of knowledge for sustainable aquaculture in a northern climate. This facility serves as an incubator for new aquaculture practices, providing resources for the development of lifelong learning.

About Us

UWSP-NADF is a one-of-a-kind facility, internationally recognized as a leader in advanced recirculating aquaculture system technology (RAS). This facility continues to sustain and advance the aqua- business industry among the public, private and tribal sectors through technology transfer, applied research, demonstration and outreach.

Our Technology

With advanced RAS technology, we can operate with significantly less water than a traditional flow-through facility. Through our demonstration projects, we show how RAS technology is more environmentally responsible and sustainable for future aquaculture. This facility is one-of-a-kind, designed with modern, high- tech aquaculture production systems and equipped to provide a wide range of applied research and demonstration for a variety of projects and fish species, including Atlantic salmon, Arctic char, lake trout, rainbow trout, walleye, saugeye, yellow perch, baitfish and others.

Our Services

- **Demonstrate** and test new technology, equipment, designs, feeds and techniques for raising aquaculture fish species in a northern climate.
- **Provide** hands-on training and workshops for college and high school interns, technicians, fish farmers and future aquaculturalists.
- **Conduct** applied research projects initiated by fish farmers, conservation groups and private aquaculture entrepreneurs.
- **Perform** outreach activities such as classroom presentations, community lectures and environmental and agricultural events.
- **Support** aquaculture and aquaponic systems in schools by providing fish, equipment and technical assistance
- **Lead** tours to present the facility's RAS technology, equipment, structures, and various fish species.
- **Assist** aquaculturalists in sustaining and advancing their farm and discuss specific plans and steps for future fish farmers to be successful in aquaculture.



Our Facility

- **Aquatic Production Barn:** An 8,500 square-foot aquatic barn contains adaptable, open work areas with both cold and heated water for “plug and play” setup depending on the need. Oxygen and air lines are also present throughout the facility for all systems and tanks.
- **VFD & SCADA System:** Two high-capacity wells connected to variable frequency drives (VFDs) and a computerized monitoring system (SCADA) that provides cold (46°F), degassed, aerated water in a highly efficient and sustainable method for long-term operation.
- **Water Reuse Systems:** Several modern commercially scaled systems with RAS technology for efficiently rearing a variety of cold and cool water fish.
- **Radial Flow Settlers:** High tunnel building containing partial reuse RAS, dual drain round tanks with integrated radial flow separators for cold-water fish species.
- **Incubation Systems:** Bell jar and hatch tray systems for various cold and cool-water species.
- **Larval Tanks:** More than fifty 240L tanks with heated and cold water available for conducting specialized applied research.
- **Raceways:** A high tunnel building containing linear raceway technology with flow through water for cold-water species.
- **Pond Production:** Four half-acre aerated clay lined ponds with a common fish collection basin for harvest.
- **Research Laboratory:** Analytical water testing and microscopic analysis.
- **Effluent Management:** Two settling ponds and a created wetland for water clarification.

Our Partners

The university's College of Letters and Science directs the facility in collaboration with various partners based on projects and problem goals. Some examples of partnerships include:

- Wisconsin's Aquaculture industry
- Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute
- USDA's North Central Region Aquaculture Center
- Federal, Tribal and state fish hatcheries, natural resource and conservation agencies, other universities
- Private aquaculture entrepreneurs
- Wisconsin public schools (K-12), university internships, community organizations.
- University of Wisconsin- Extension
- Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

Our Education

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point is the only university in Wisconsin offering an aquaculture minor, providing hands on experience and research at NADF. Due to a partnership with aquaponics industry leader, Nelson and Pade, Inc., UW-Stevens Point is the first in the nation to offer an aquaponics minor as well as a Professional Aquaponics Certificate. For more information regarding aquaculture and aquaponic education visit our webpage at: aquaculture.uwsp.edu

Visit Us

Drop-in tours welcome weekdays 9-3pm. It is recommended to schedule tours especially for large groups or special times with Emma Wiermaa, Outreach Specialist at ewiermaa@uwsp.edu or 715-779-3262.

Facility Phone: 715-779-3461

UWSP-Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility

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