

Nimbus Hatchery Tours Information for Fall 2018

For all organized groups wishing to visit the hatchery in **Nov. or Dec.**

RESERVATIONS MADE BY LOTTERY—HELD SEPT. 7, 2017 9:00 AM

Please complete the Lottery/Reservation Form and submit by email, mail or fax.

Nimbus Hatchery Visitor Center asks that schools and other groups make reservations for field trips to the facility. The reservation system helps ensure safe and educational visitation for all. All **scheduled** groups, guided and self-guided, will receive food to feed the young fish if they are present in the raceways. All of our tours and visits are offered free of charge. A number of salmon-related classroom activities and information are available on the DFW website at <https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/CAEP/Curriculum-Aids>

Fall 2018 Educational Opportunities at Nimbus Hatchery

November: Salmon are in the river. The fish ladder usually starts running during the first week of November, **but this is dependent on river conditions.** Salmon may be viewed in the gathering pond once the ladder has opened. Egg-taking does not occur every day and is not on a pre-determined schedule but will be viewed if it is occurring. Please note that visitors do not usually see salmon jumping up the ladder. Young trout can be observed and fed in the raceways (dependent on water temperature).

December: Similar experience, but fewer salmon in the hatchery and river; fewer days of egg-taking. Steelhead may be present in the ladder as well. Young trout can be observed and fed in the raceways.

- 1. Guided Tours--** approximately 80 minutes (PK-1st grade 60 minutes); aligned to the NGSS and Environmental Education Standards and address the natural history of salmon and/or steelhead, the reasons for the hatchery, hatchery operations, resource management, and individual stewardship. Tours include a ¼ - ½ mile guided walk along the river and observations of the spawning process or a 14 minute video about the hatchery on days when egg-taking is not occurring. Offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, as well as on weekends.
- 2. Self Guided Tours--** scheduled for a 90-minute window and include access to all areas visited by guided tours. Offered on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, as well as on weekends.
- 3. Teacher-Led Tuesdays--New This Year--** an innovative, inquiry-based, NGSS friendly alternative to the standard tour Teachers and students rotate through four 20-minute stations (Visitor Center, Trail, Fish Ladder, Raceways and Playscape) completing naturalist-facilitated inquiry activities. At least one member of the visiting grade level team must attend a 1 ½ hour training in late September.
- 4. Public Visitation**
The Nimbus Hatchery Visitor Center is open to the public weekdays from 8-3 and weekends from 9-3 (closed Christmas Day). The raceways are open from 7:30-3 daily. The river trail is open from sunrise to sunset. **Casual visitors do not require a reservation. There is no cost to visit the hatchery.**
**Please note: There will be no American River Salmon Festival this year.*
- 5. Tours During Other Times of Year**

To schedule a free guided or self-guided tour between January and October, please call 916.358.2884.

For more information: Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/NimbusHatchery

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916.358.2884 (**Please do not call Nimbus Hatchery directly**)

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