



AQUATIC SCIENCES LABORATORY

Winter 2006

The Aquatic Sciences Laboratory is a multipurpose research lab operated by the Montana Water Center on the campus of Montana State University

- Bozeman. Originally established as the Wild Trout Research Laboratory in the fall of 1996, the facility was designed specifically for research on various aspects of whirling disease in trout. Recently, a major renovation has been conducted at the lab to broaden the range of research projects the facility can serve. The laboratory is now able to host a variety of experiments, ranging from basic fish biology to more complex topics such as amphibian or invertebrate studies, invasive species and disease research.

The Aquatic Sciences Laboratory is ideal for research involving aquatic nuisance or invasive species. Its design, an artifact of its whirling disease origins, guarantees quarantine of invasive or pathogenic organisms. The main tank systems are designed as closed recirculating systems with minimum discharge. Effluent is drained into a boiler for disinfection prior to being released into a septic drainfield. The lab is not located near any open water bodies, nor is it connected to a municipal wastewater system, so the chance of escape or contamination of local water bodies is minimal. The lab facilities consist of both the main laboratory building and a large secure outdoor area that accommodates open-air and larger-scale experiments.

The Aquatic Sciences Laboratory provides a full range of services, including animal and tank maintenance, fish feeding and anesthesia, disposal of research specimens and hazardous chemicals, and varied facilities and equipment for the housing and care of experimental organisms. The services provided are based on the needs of the specific project, and the fees for laboratory use are set accordingly. Laboratory personnel are available to assist with experimental designs and planning when needed.

For more information on laboratory facilities or current/past research projects please refer to the laboratory web site or contact the lab manager. Inquiries from all potential research investigators are welcome.

Contact:

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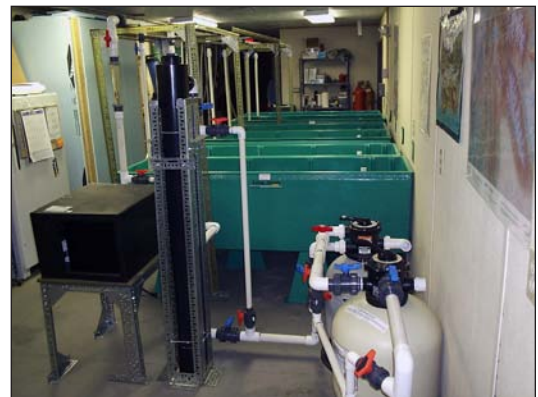
<http://watercenter.montana.edu/aquaticlab>



Tanks for holding small fish



Experimental snail system



Recirculating raceway systems



Preparing fish for histological examination