OREGON HATCHERY RESEARCH CENTER

A State-of the Art Laboratory in the Natural Environment

Established October 2005

OREGON Fish & Wildlife

OSU Oregon State University

OREGON HATCHERY

LOCATION

The Oregon Hatchery Research Center is located along Fall Creek in the Alsea Basin, halfway between Oregon State University in Corvallis and the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport.

1. RESEARCH BUILDING

The research building features a wet and dry lab, interpretive center, living quarters, classrooms and conference rooms.

- The laboratory contains bench space for analytical work.
- Indoor tanks and aquaria support experiments examining behavior and growth of small groups of fish.
- An interpretive center offers a place for K-12 youth and the public to learn about hatcheries as a fisheries management tool, and about fish ecology and watershed processes.
- Dormitory-style living quarters provide rooms for researchers, students and natural resource professionals conducting long-term projects or attending conferences.

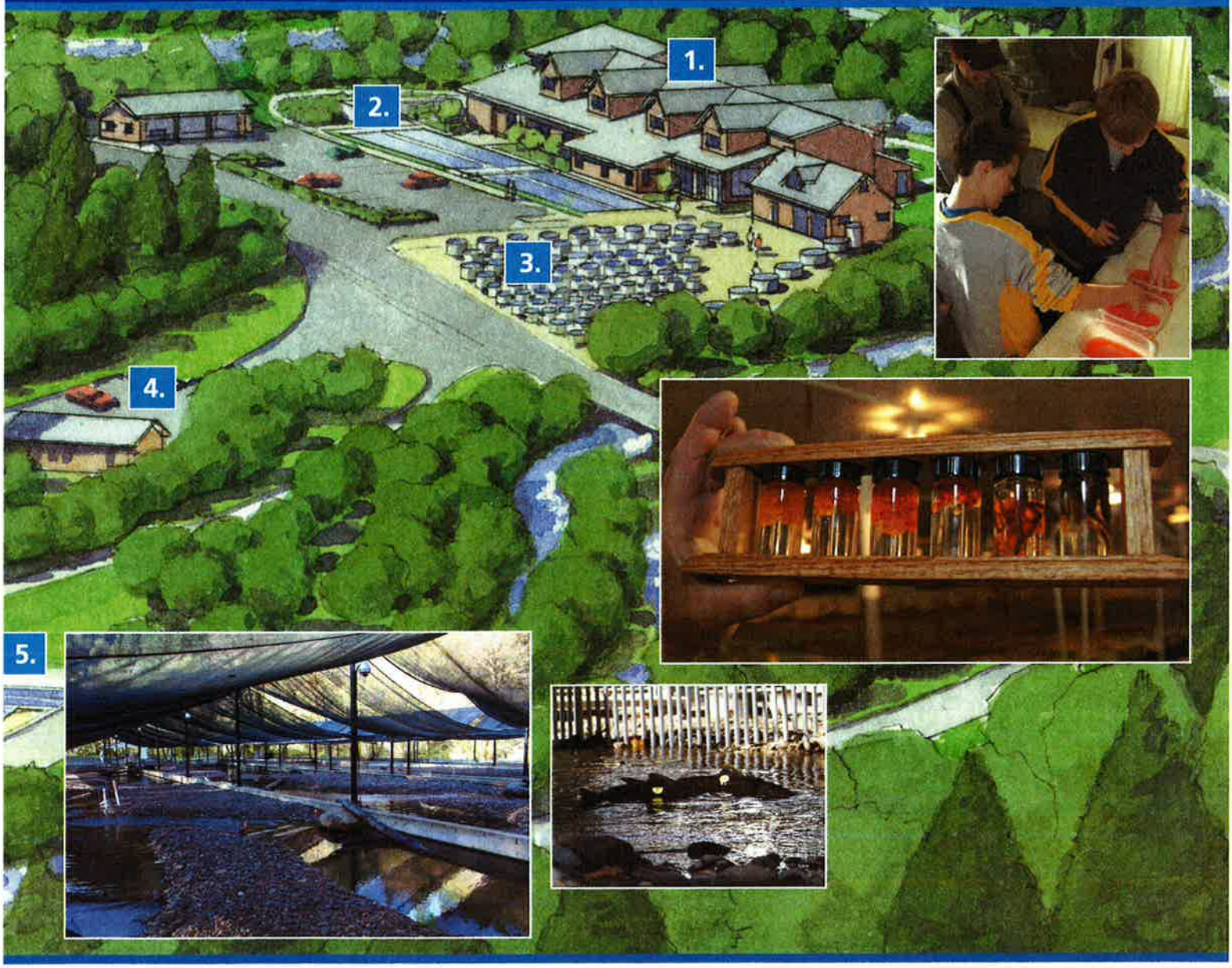
2. RACEWAYS

- Traditional raceways produce fish reared under conventional hatchery conditions for comparison with wild fish and fish produced under alternative hatchery methods.
- The raceways also give the public an opportunity to view juvenile fish.

3. TANK FARM

- The tank farm provides a location for rearing large groups of fish for experiments using different lineages, spawning and rearing conditions, and other treatments.

RESEARCH CENTER



4. Staff Housing

- On-site living quarters are provided for the facility manager and technicians.

5. Artificial Streams

- Four 25' x 200' replicate channels feature substrate, cover, shade and controlled flow that mimic a variety of natural conditions.
- Viewing platforms and video cameras offer scientists and visitors the opportunity to observe fish behavior.

6. Water Intake and Fish Ladder

- A state-of-the-art fish ladder facilitates passage and capture of native fish, including lamprey.

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Mission

The mission of the Oregon Hatchery Research Center (OHRC) is to:

- Understand mechanisms that may create differences between hatchery and wild salmon and steelhead.
- Develop approaches to best manage differences to meet fishery and conservation objectives.
- Help Oregonians understand the role and performance of hatcheries in responsibly using and protecting Oregon's native fish.

Construction Funding

The Oregon Hatchery Research Center received $7.8 million in total funding:

- $4 million form Ballot Measure 66 capital funds
- $1.125 million from the OWEB Restoration and Protection Research Fund
- $1.875 million from ODFW
- $.84 million form the ODFW Fish Restoration and Enhancement Program

Operational and Research Funding

- $500,000 annually from ODFW
- Additional support provided by various granting sources and research institutions

Research Goals

Research will provide information to help:

- Use hatchery fish responsibly to support viable populations of wild fish and sustain sport, commercial and tribal fisheries
- Understand biological processes and management implications on landscape scales
- Identify hatchery practices that minimize the impact of hatchery facilities on the natural environment

Staff

The OHRC staff includes:

- A senior scientist to oversee research and operations, identify research priorities, plan and conduct research, collaborate with fishery professionals and students, and coordinate with an advisory team
- A facility manager and two technicians to operate the facility, oversee maintenance and safety, culture fish and provide fish culture guidance, and conduct education and outreach activities.

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