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Department of the Interior
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
Statement Concerning
White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery, West Virginia

The White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery, established in 1902, propagates trout and warm-water species of fish for distribution to waters in the States of West Virginia and Virginia. The hatchery is located close to the Monongahela and the George Washington National Forests. The requirements for stocking trout in the waters on these and other Federal lands become greater each year. The major portion of the trout fishery in West Virginia is now maintained through the use of hatchery-produced fish. Fishery managers estimate that the State will need a 100 percent increase in hatchery-reared trout within the next ten years to satisfy the growing sport fishery.

The Soil Conservation Service estimates that during the next five years there will be about a 25 percent increase in the number of farm ponds constructed in the distribution area served by the hatchery. These ponds will require stocking with fingerling warm-water fish, placing an additional production requirement on the hatchery. In addition to the production and distribution functions, the facility is also a major producer of trout eggs for use throughout the National Fish Hatchery System.

The hatchery is located on one of the most heavily traveled Federal highways crossing West Virginia and attracts many thousands of visitors each year. A visitors center to be constructed later this year will provide facilities to better accommodate the visiting public.

With funds provided in fiscal years 1964 and 1967, most of the outmoded and obsolete facilities have been replaced. The program outlined below is needed to complete the hatchery as presently planned for maximum efficiency and to provide the facilities necessary for the visiting public.

Funds Needed for the Program

Replace dam at lower spring	\$ 6,000	
Expand utility building	30,000	
Visitor parking area	9,000	
Outside display pool	20,000	
Relocation & paving of service roads	18,000	
Landscaping	10,000	
Lighting for raceway & parking area	14,000	
Fencing	<u>6,000</u>	<u>\$113,000</u>
 Total Estimated Cost		 \$113,000

If it is determined at a later date that additional fish are needed, it will be necessary to drill additional wells or explore the possibilities of reconditioning and reusing the present supply.