

Better Fish Tagging

Resource management and recovery operations need to track the movement of free-ranging fish. This requires a method of tagging or marking the fish, but reliable ways of marking smaller fish have been lacking. Researchers from the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife used the AAHL facilities to evaluate a range of fish marking methods using Oregon Chub.



Visible Implant Elastomer (VIE - an injectable colored plastic) was found to produce an effective mark. VIE was used successfully to document fish migration patterns in 3 river sub-basins. The VIE marks persisted for at least 3 years.