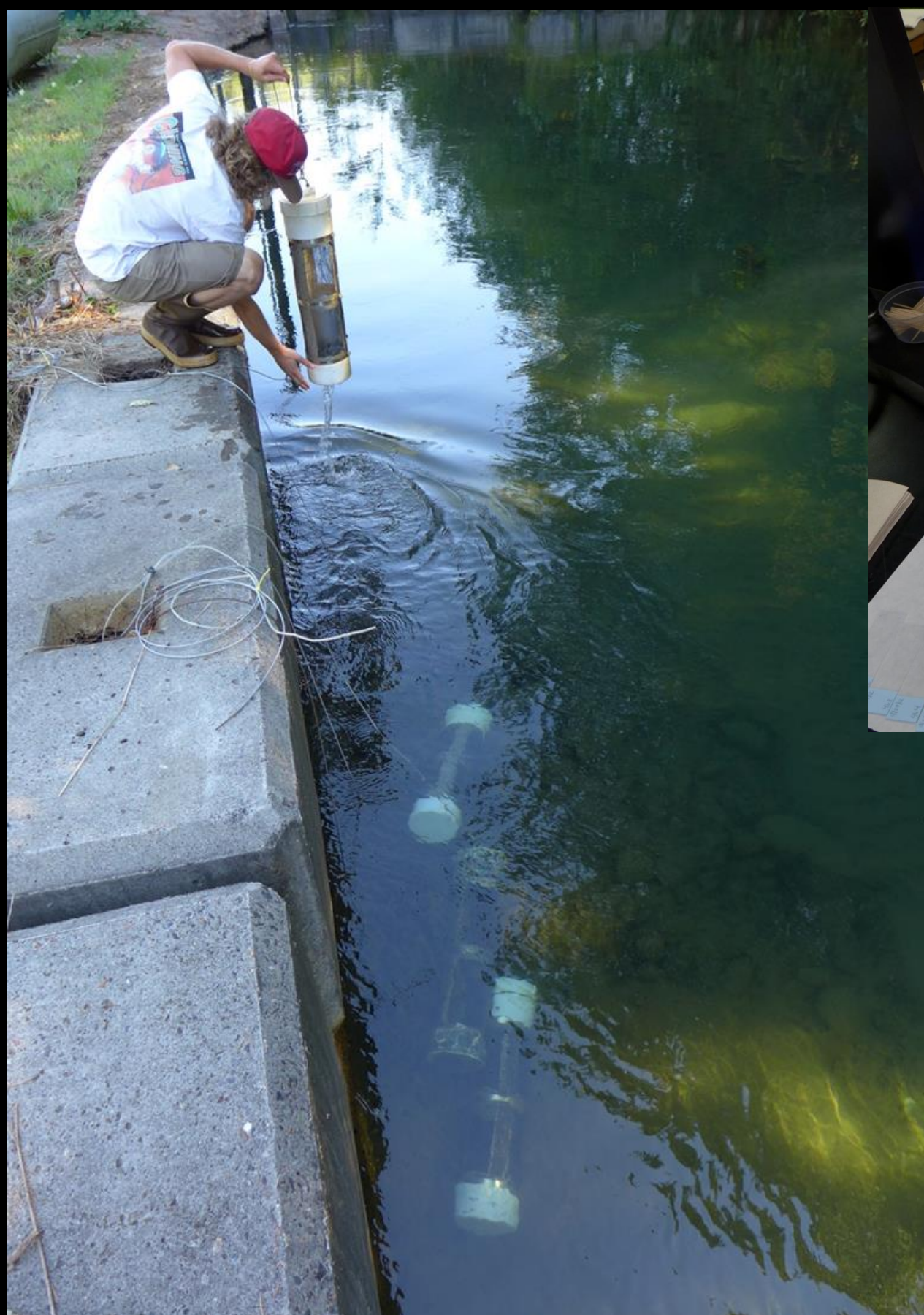


# Wild versus Hatchery

Oregon has over 30 hatcheries that protect and propagate fish. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife have worked with OSU to answer two overarching questions on the interactions between hatchery and wild fishes:

- What is their comparative fitness? (regarding disease resistance)
- Are pathogens transferred between hatchery and free-ranging fish?

Different salmonid species and stocks were studied using sentinel fish exposures and lab experiments.



Researchers from the Blouin (OSU Integrative Biology), Bartholomew (OSU Microbiology) and ODFW Labs found no hatchery effects on disease resistance in rainbow trout. Sentinel fish held downstream of hatcheries undergoing epizootics developed infection with the same pathogen but effects depended on distance, dilution and the specific pathogen.