



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Daphne Ecological Services Field Office



Conserving the Nature of America



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service



What is the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?

- The Service is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting and enhancing fish, wildlife and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.
- The Service manages the 97-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System, with 546 national wildlife refuges, and thousands of small wetlands and other special management areas. It also operates 69 national fish hatcheries, 64 fishery resources offices and 81 ecological services field stations.
- The Service enforces federal wildlife laws, administers the Endangered Species Act, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts.



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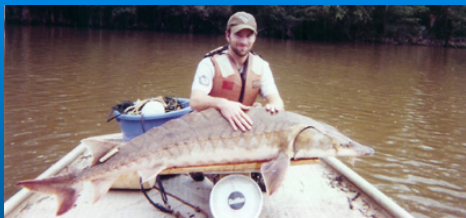


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Endangered Species Act

In 1973, Congress passed the Endangered Species Act, recognizing that:



- various species of fish, wildlife, and plants in the United States have been rendered extinct as a consequence of economic growth and development untempered by adequate concern and conservation,
- other species of fish, wildlife and plants have been so depleted in numbers that they are in danger of or threatened with extinction, and
- these species of fish, wildlife, and plants are of esthetic, ecological, educational, historical, recreational, and scientific value to the United States and its people.
- The intended purpose of the Act is to provide a means by which the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend may be conserved and to provide a program for the conservation of those species.

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Our Goal



- Work with landowners, industry, and State and Federal agencies to assure a balance between environmentally sustainable development and natural resource protection.
- This includes working cooperatively with private landowners to restore and enhance sensitive habitats on private property, participating in wetlands regulation opportunities and participating in watershed and community planning efforts.



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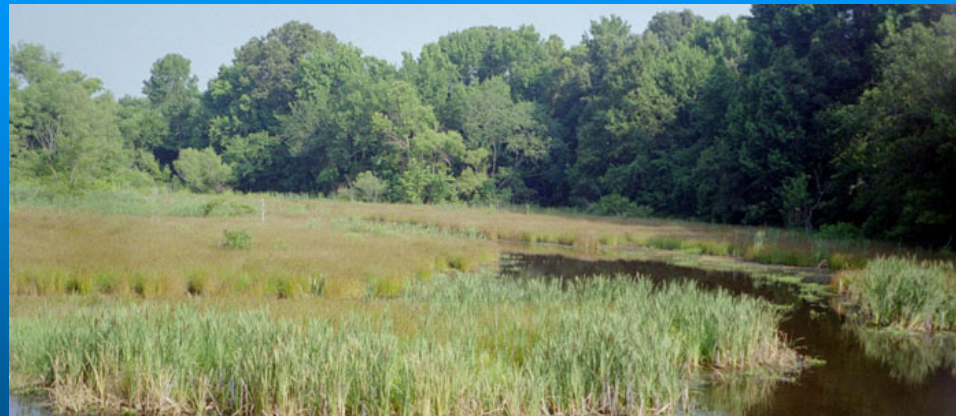


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Our Mission

- Implement recovery, permit and Section 7 consultations for more than 100 federally listed endangered and threatened species in Alabama.
- Conserve, protect and enhance Service trust resources and their habitats.
- Protect and restore wetlands on public and privately owned lands.
- Investigate, prevent and remediate effects of environmental pollution to maximize quality habitat for Service trust species.
- Inform the public about fish and wildlife resource issues.



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Our Customers



We provide service to:

- Private citizens.
- Federal, state, and local agencies seeking Federal or state approvals.
- Non-government organizations
- Schools and other educational establishments
- Community groups.
- Other Service entities.

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Current Activities

- Coordinate recovery for the Alabama beach mice, the Red Hills Salamander, the gopher tortoise (in Alabama), and other species identified as threatened or endangered.
- Coordinate field level work for Section 10 (ESA) permit actions in Alabama
- Review approximately 1,500 federally funded, licensed, and permitted projects annually for impacts on fish and wildlife resources.
- Evaluate impacts of contamination and develop offsetting measures; or, seek compensation under Natural Resource Damage Assessment provisions and Superfund Program.
- Manage the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program within the state of Alabama.



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Conclusion



The US Fish and Wildlife Service is charged with:

- Conserving Healthy Habitats
- Restoring Declining Species
- Working with others to achieve conservation goals
- Educating and training the public and those involved in conservation
- Setting the course for our wildlife heritage

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Questions?

Contact us at:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Daphne Field Office
1208-B Main Street
Daphne, AL 36526

Phone: (251) 441-5181
Fax: (251) 441-6222
<http://www.fws.gov/daphne>



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