

Mission Area 1: Resource Protection—Protect the Nation’s Natural, Cultural, and Heritage Resources

- End Outcome 1 Improve the Health of Watersheds, Landscapes, and Marine Resources that are DOI-Managed or Influenced in a Manner Consistent with Obligations Regarding the Allocation and Use of Water
- End Outcome 2 Sustain Biological Communities on DOI-Managed and Influenced Lands and Waters in a Manner Consistent with Obligations Regarding the Allocation and Use of Water
- End Outcome 3 Protect Cultural and Natural Heritage Resources

Since Congress created the Home Department back in 1849, Interior’s responsibilities, like its name, have evolved from serving as a general custodian for the Federal Government to our current role as steward of the Nation’s natural and cultural resources. We conserve federally-managed lands and waters, ensuring that these assets are available for future generations to enjoy. We are also the guardians of many of our Nation’s unique cultural and historic sites. And we protect thousands of native plant and animal species, including 1,268 U.S. species with special status under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

In FY 2005, we met 75% of our performance targets for our Resource Protection Mission Area. We did not meet 10% of our targets. This compares with 52% of targets met and 29% of targets where we fell short in FY 2004. (See *Table 1-4* for more detail. Note: Within the narrative discussion for each mission area, we include parenthetical references to Performance Measure ID numbers used in *Table 2-1* of the Performance Data and Analysis section, for the convenience of readers wanting to cross-reference the data.)

Performance fell short of, or exceeded targets within the Resource Protection area during the year due to the following factors:

- The complex and voluntary nature of establishing and implementing partnerships and agreements can create challenges in meeting performance targets affected by such agreements.
- It is difficult to predict exactly how much work may be achieved during the year on a voluntary basis by partners. For example, we far exceeded a target for restoring wetland and upland acreage in FY 2005 because landowners near the Gulf of Mexico contributed much more than anticipated, protecting over 300,000 acres of uplands for the single project.

TABLE 1-4

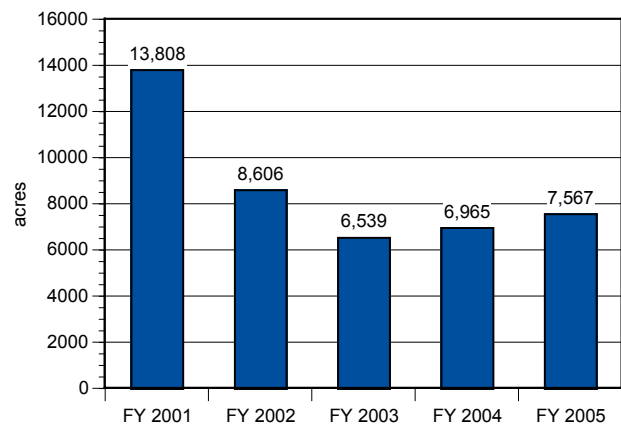
| Mission Area 1: Resource Protection Performance and Resource Scorecard | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|----------------------|
| End Outcome Goal | Number of Measures Met (including estimates) | Number of Unmet Measures (including estimates) | Number of Measures Containing Preliminary Data | Number of Measures Containing No Reports | Costs (in thousands) |
| Goal #1: Improve the Health of Watersheds, Landscapes, and Marine Resources that are DOI-Managed or Influenced in a Manner Consistent with Obligations Regarding the Allocation and Use of Water | 20 | 1 | 4 | 1 | \$1,957,364 |
| Goal #2: Sustain Biological Communities on DOI-Managed and Influenced Lands and Waters in a Manner Consistent with Obligations Regarding the Allocation and Use of Water | 10 | 3 | 0 | 0 | \$1,470,592 |
| Goal #3: Protect Cultural and Natural Heritage Resources | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | \$299,505 |
| Total | 36 | 5 | 5 | 2 | \$3,727,461 |
| Percentage (Total of 48 Measures) | 75% | 10.5% | 10.5% | 4% | |

Restoring Our Lands and Waters to Healthy and Productive Status

Interior’s resource protection responsibilities extend to monitoring and repairing damage done by past mining, even if the lands affected are not federally managed. Based on preliminary data, in FY 2005, we reclaimed 7,567 acres of land, and improved 28 stream miles and 23 surface acres (Ref #5, 6, 7) of water degraded by past mining (see *Figure 1-6* for trend data). This compares to 33 stream miles and 36 surface acres of water that were improved in FY 2004. No comparison can be made for land acres reclaimed because we are unable to report a Department-wide result for FY 2004.

FIGURE 1-6

Lands Reclaimed from Past Mining *



* Notes - Data prior to FY 2005 represent OSM contribution only. Data for FY 2005 are preliminary.

Habitattitude: Adopt a Conservation Attitude



Interior's FWS has partnered with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Sea Grant College Program and the Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council to lead Habitattitude, an initiative aimed at protecting and conserving our Nation's aquatic resources. This initiative educates hobbyists, consumers, and others interested in aquatic environments on the consequences of releasing exotic aquarium fish and plants into the wild (or our own backyards).

Habitattitude™
PROTECT OUR ENVIRONMENT
DO NOT RELEASE FISH AND AQUATIC PLANTS



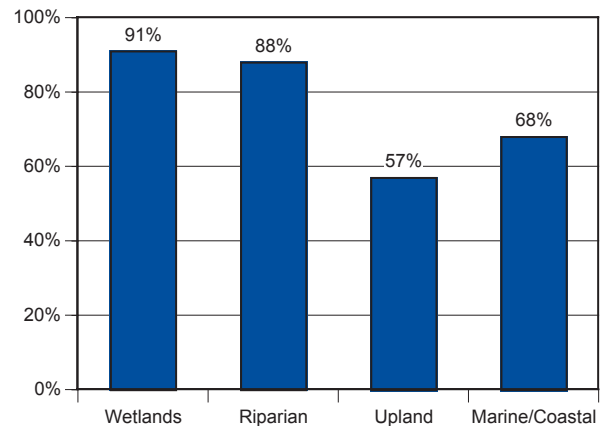
www.Habitattitude.net

Our efforts to support healthy and productive lands increasingly depend upon partnerships. We actively implement the President's Cooperative Conservation Executive Order, which directs specific land-managing agencies to work with others to improve the use, enhancement, and enjoyment of natural resources, and to protect the environment.

Cooperative Conservation exemplifies a new environmentalism that uses partnerships, collaboration, innovation, and incentives to enhance achievement of the Nation's environmental goals. A suite of cooperative grant and cost share programs underpins Interior's conservation partnerships. Landowner Incentive Programs, Private Stewardship Grants, the Challenge Cost Share Program, and Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program all emphasize local input and involvement, using various monetary and non-monetary incentives to inspire and encourage landowners to manage private lands in a manner that supports resource protection goals and a sustainable environment.

In FY 2005, partnerships enabled us to achieve watershed and landscape goals for an estimated 743,192 acres (Ref #22), exceeding our target of 240,230 acres. We achieved goals for 888 stream/shoreline miles against a target of 460 miles (Ref #23). This compares to 770,065 acres and 596 miles in FY 2004. We were also able to protect and/or restore an estimated 21,137

FIGURE 1-7
Percent of Targeted Wetlands, Riparian, Upland, and Marine/Coastal Areas Restored in FY 2005



Note - All data are preliminary.

surface and groundwater systems (Ref #10) directly managed or influenced by Interior by working with State and local resource managers. Our collaborative efforts helped achieve desired conditions for upland, riparian, wetland, and marine and coastal areas, as specified in our management plans (see *Figure 1-7*, Ref #1, 2, 3, 4). Our work with wetland areas addresses President Bush's Wetland Initiative. Successes in meeting these goals are attributed to exceptional voluntary contributions by landowners as part of the FWS Coastal Program restoration efforts and to the removal of invasive fox populations from islands in Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuges that contributed to about 140,000 restored acres. The removal of foxes permitted birdlife to land and nest on the islands, fertilizing the land and encouraging plant growth, thus contributing to restoration of wetland areas.

Fighting the War on Invasive Species

Invasive species threaten the ecological and economic health of our Nation. These are non-native plants, animals, or other organisms such as microbes whose introduction hurts the economy or harms environmental or human health. Problems arise when these species are released into the wild, where they often spread, choking out our endemic flora and fauna and competing for resources like water and sunlight. The spread of invasive plants, animals, and pathogens is

Go Native!



Did You Know—Many common garden plants are in fact invasive species. How many of these plants are in your garden? Next time you think about sprucing up your green space, consider planting only native plants, like the *Asclepias lanceolata* pictured, and verify that the species you are planting are non-invasive.

Here are some common invasive species:

- English Ivy (*Hedera helix*)
- Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*)
- Japanese Honeysuckle (*Lonicera japonica* and *Lonicera*)
- Wisteria (*Wisteria sinensis*)
- Tree of Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*)
- Chinese Privet (*Ligustrum sinense*)

considered one of the most serious ecological problems facing the Nation in the 21st century, second only to habitat destruction.

In FY 2005, Interior continued to address invasive plant species on Federal lands, controlling 2% (or 614,027 acres) of known infestations (Ref #30), and restoring 383,478 acres of land and 1,313 (Ref #32, 33) miles of stream- and shoreline to mitigate or eliminate the effects of these invaders. This supported native species by creating habitat conditions that enable them to flourish and met our performance targets for the year. Interior worked closely under agreements with both private and public sector partners to achieve habitat/biological community goals for 9,917,351 acres of land (Ref #34), compared to 9,374,196 acres in FY 2004.

Interior's challenge to control the spread of invasive plant species on lands we manage continues to grow. Although the data indicate that the number of infested baseline acres controlled at the end of FY 2005 (614,027 acres) was more than 60% greater than the number controlled at the end of FY 2004 (372,971

Knock on Woods—Two Endangered Species Have Hope



Red-cockaded woodpecker

The future of two endangered North American woodpeckers looks more promising than ever, thanks to dedicated conservation.

The Ivory-billed woodpecker was rediscovered in Arkansas in the Spring of 2005. The bird was believed to be extinct in the United States for more than 60 years. Secretary of the Interior Gale Norton promised, "Decisive conservation action and continued progress through partnerships..." She promised to appoint the "best talent in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and local citizens" to develop a Corridor of Hope Cooperative Conservation Plan to save the Ivory-billed woodpecker.

Recent census counts provided by the FWS reveal that the red-cockaded woodpecker experienced a 23% population boom between 1994 and 2004. FWS partner programs have provided increased habitat for the species by involving private landowners in conservation efforts through Habitat Conservation Plans and Safe Harbor Agreements.

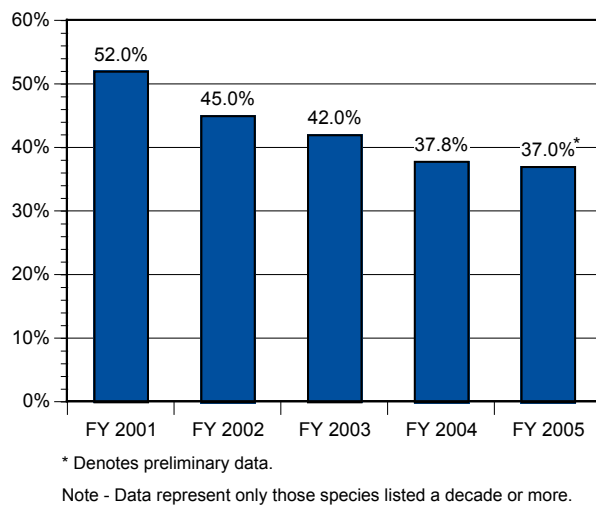
acres), the overall percentage of infested acres under control declined from 9% to 2%. The Department's recent efforts to better coordinate its invasive plant control efforts are promising. However, the ultimate measure of success will be our ability to use these and other techniques to reverse the current harm or degradation that invasive plants are having on the health of public lands.

Improving Endangered Species Status

A key part of our resource protection mission is protecting endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Restoring endangered and threatened species to the point where they can be delisted is a prime responsibility of the Fish and Wildlife Service

FIGURE 1-8

Percent of Threatened or Endangered Species Stabilized Over Time



(FWS). FWS follows legal procedures to determine whether to list a species, depending on the degree of threat it faces. All FWS actions, from proposals to list to proposals to remove species from a specific status, are publicly announced through the *Federal Register*.

In FY 2005, Interior reported that 37% (Ref #28) of threatened or endangered species listed a decade or more have been stabilized or improved (*Figure 1-8*). We helped bring an estimated 42% (Ref #27) of species of management concern back to self-sustaining levels, meeting our target of 40%. Conservation actions or agreements enabled us to avoid listing 1% (Ref #29) of candidate species (3 species), including the lesser Adams Cave beetle, the greater Adams Cave beetle, and the Sacramento Mountains checkerspot butterfly. This was short of our target of 2% (4 species). While conservation actions or agreements did prevent the listing of three species, the target was not met due to the complex and voluntary nature of establishing and implementing candidate agreements, which adds to the difficulties in accomplishing this target.

When reviewing the progress to improve the condition of America's threatened and endangered species, the percentage of these species listed a decade or more that are stabilized or improving, when calculated as a percentage, decreases. This is due to the fact that the overall number of threatened or endangered species

has increased significantly, and species recently listed are unlikely to become stable or improved for some years. For example, from FY 2001 to FY 2005, the number of species listed a decade or more increased from 616 to 937, a 52% increase. Meanwhile the number of species that were stabilized or improved during this period increased from 320 to 350, a 9% increase. The principal causes for this trend include habitat degradation and invasive species proliferation to which our response requires coordinated action over a long period of time. The Department and its partners must continue to practice timely and effective cooperative conservation to ensure the best means for potentially slowing this trend.

Protecting, Preserving, and Restoring Physical Assets

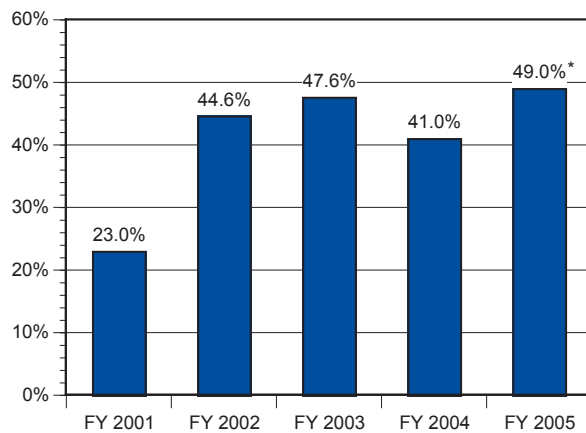
As guardians of the Nation's cultural heritage, we are responsible for priceless national assets, ranging from commemorative sites like the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., to Native American archeological and cultural sites such as Tuzigoot in Arizona. In 2005, Interior finalized its Asset Management Plan (AMP), which establishes a strategy to manage and oversee Interior-owned and leased assets, such as buildings, structures, motor vehicle fleet, and office and warehouse space.

We conduct annual condition assessments of all assets and use what is referred to as a Facility Condition Index (FCI) as a starting point for determining the investment needed to bring the asset to an acceptable condition over time. The FCI is used to quantify the condition of a structure. It is used to compare replacement costs versus deferred maintenance costs on facilities.

The Department plans to repair facilities to "acceptable condition" and reduce deferred maintenance to the established goal of an acceptable facility condition index for each asset type. With the completion of the first round of Comprehensive Condition Assessments in FY 2006, we will review the existing FCIs and the existing conditions of the assets in the inventory, and develop DOI ranges for good, fair and poor ratings by asset type. In FY 2005, our FCI for cultural and natural resources facilities was reported at 0.202 (Ref #47), in line with our target of 0.209, and notably worse than our FY 2004 report of 0.118. However,

FIGURE 1-9

Percent of Paleontological Localities in Good Condition



* Denotes preliminary data.

in FY 2004, one of our bureaus did not report to the measure, therefore the number was lower than it might have been if we had reported the average aggregate. This year, FWS and NPS both successfully provided performance reports. Our FCI for conservation and biological facilities was reported at 0.087, in the fair range (Ref #39), similar to our FY 2004 estimated report of 0.063. As these numbers indicate that the Department’s facilities are in the fair to poor range, we do expect marked improvements in future years since the Department has made maintenance and repair of our facilities a priority. We are diligently tracking progress through our GPRA Strategic Plan measures and actions related to implementing our new Asset Management Plan.

An estimated 48% of the collections in our inventory were in good condition, short of a target of 49% (Ref #41). An estimated 56% of our cultural properties (Ref #40) and an estimated 49% of our paleontologic localities (Ref #43) were in good condition (Figure 1-9). While the condition of our cultural properties met the target of FY 2005, the condition of paleontologic localities did not, but showed improvement over FY 2004. Continued progress in assessment and documentation of conditions is needed first to better track the care of these collections.

We established a baseline in FY 2005 against which we will measure progress toward the percentage of collections designated as Indian natural resource trust

National Park Service Maintenance Efforts



NPS recently restored historic buildings damaged during a storm at the Lewis Farm on Monocacy National Battlefield in Maryland.

assets (defined as objects, works of art, and historic documents representing the fields of archeology, art, geology, biology, paleontology, and ethnology) contained in our inventory that are in good condition. In FY 2005, we reported that 22% of Indian natural resource collections and 70% of Indian natural resource cultural properties were in good condition (Ref #151, 152). While the natural resource collection target was met, the target on cultural properties was not met. Inventory and condition assessments are still being conducted and are taking longer than expected due to other competing priorities.

FIGURE 1-10

How We Measure Up: Performance on Key Resource Protection Goals

| Performance Goal (Total Number of Reported Results) | Average Performance Rating and Number of Reported Results | | | | |
|--|---|---------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|
| | Target | Not Met | Below Target | On Target | Target Exceeded |
| End Outcome Goal – Improve health of watersheds, landscapes, and marine resources that are DOI managed or influenced in a manner consistent with obligations regarding the allocation and use of water. | | | | | |
| Wetland areas – Percent of acres achieving desired conditions where condition is known and as specified in management plans consistent with applicable substantive and procedural requirements of State and Federal water law. <i>2 Results</i> | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Riparian areas – Percent of stream-miles achieving desired conditions where condition is known and as specified in management plans consistent with applicable substantive and procedural requirements of State and Federal water law <i>2 Results</i> | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Upland areas – Percent of acres achieving desired conditions where condition is known and as specified in management plans consistent with applicable substantive and procedural requirements of State and Federal water law <i>2 Results</i> | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Marine and coastal areas - Percent of acres achieving desired marine and coastal conditions where condition is known and as specified in management plans <i>1 Result</i> | | | | | 1 |
| Number of land acres reclaimed or mitigated from the effects of degradation from past mining <i>3 Results</i> | 2 | | | | 1 |
| Number of stream-miles for which degradation from past surface coal mining has been improved <i>1 Result</i> | | 1 | | | |
| Number of surface of acres of water for which degradation from past surface coal mining has been improved <i>1 Result</i> | | 1 | | | |
| Protect and/or restore X number of surface and ground water systems directly managed or influenced by DOI, as specified in management plans and consistent with applicable Federal and State law, by working with State and local resource managers, as appropriate to meet human and ecological needs <i>2 Results</i> | | | | 2 | |
| Number of acres achieving watershed and landscape goals through voluntary partnerships <i>1 Result</i> | | | | | 1 |
| Number of stream/shoreline miles achieving watershed and landscape goals through voluntary partnerships <i>1 Result</i> | | | | | 1 |
| End Outcome Goal – Sustain Biological Communities on DOI Managed and Influenced Lands and Waters in a Manner Consistent with Obligations Regarding the Allocation and Use of Water | | | | | |
| Percent of species of management concern that are managed to self-sustaining levels, in cooperation with affected States and others, as defined in approved management documents <i>2 Results</i> | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Percent of threatened or endangered species listed a decade or more that are stabilized or improved <i>1 Result</i> | | | | 1 | |
| Percent of candidate species where listing is unnecessary as a result of conservation actions or agreements <i>1 Result</i> | | 1 | | | |

FIGURE 1-10

How We Measure Up: Performance on Key Resource Protection Goals

| Performance Goal (Total Number of Reported Results) | Average Performance Rating and Number of Reported Results | | | | |
|--|---|--------------|-----------|--------------|-----------------|
| | Target Not Met | Below Target | On Target | Above Target | Target Exceeded |
| Percent of baseline area infested with invasive plant species that is controlled <i>4 Results</i> | | | | | |
| Number of acres restored or enhanced to achieve habitat conditions to support species conservation consistent with management documents, program objectives, and consistent with substantive and procedural requirements of State and Federal water law <i>2 Results</i> | | | | | |
| Number of stream/shoreline miles restored or enhanced to achieve habitat conditions to support species conservation consistent with management documents, program objectives, and consistent with substantive and procedural requirements of State and Federal water law <i>2 Results</i> | | | | | |
| Number of acres of landscapes and watersheds managed through partnerships and networked lands that achieve habitat protection <i>1 Result</i> | | | | | |
| Conservation and biological research facilities are in fair to good condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index <i>2 Results</i> | | | | | |
| End Outcome Goal – Protect Cultural and Natural Resources | | | | | |
| Percent of cultural properties on DOI inventory in good condition <i>3 Results</i> | | | | | |
| Percent of collections in DOI inventory in good condition <i>3 Results</i> | | | | | |
| Percent of paleontologic localities in DOI inventory in good condition <i>3 Results</i> | | | | | |
| Facilities are in fair to good condition as measured by the Facilities Condition Index <i>2 Results</i> | | | | | |

KEY

| | |
|-------|---|
| Range | 95% - 105% of Target |
| ▼ | DOI FY05 Aggregate Actual compared to FY05 Target |
| ▼ | DOI FY04 Aggregate Actual compared to FY04 Target (Relative position of Bureau results identified by number) |