



Fisheries
& Habitat
Conservation



Key Partners:

- Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Cahaba River Society
- The Nature Conservancy
- Asian Carp Work Group
- Gulf and Atlantic ANS Regional Panel
- Southeastern Aquatic Resources Partnership



USFWS photo.



Brown Pelican. USFWS photo.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Fisheries and Habitat Conservation

Celebrating Habitat in Alabama

- The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has worked with landowners and the Cahaba River Society to restore areas along the Cahaba River by reducing erosion, improving 37 acres of riparian and wetland habitat important to many species of plants and animals including a suite of migratory birds, and protection of a known great blue heron rookery and wood stork foraging and loafing area.
- The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has engaged in 36 habitat improvement projects, with a total of 7,245 acres of habitat improved in 2004.
- The Service spearheaded the creation of the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (SARP), which is comprised of State and Federal partnerships that extend beyond the traditional boundaries of resource management agencies. It has established commitments by State fishery resource agencies, the Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, and representation from the coastal Councils and Commissions to work for the benefit of the resource. The SARP now has 16 signatories, including the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.
- The Aquatic Nuisance Species Program has provided technical assistance to National Wildlife Refuges in Alabama in response to their request for information to eradicate infestations of Giant salvinia, an invasive aquatic plant currently spreading in waters of southern-tier states.
- The Service is represented on the Asian Carp Work Group (ACWG), a multi-disciplinary group of federal, state, academia, industry, NGOs, and private entities, primarily from the Mississippi River Basin States (60 members). This is the group of experts that will take the plan framework, work in focus groups, and assist in drafting sections of the plan. Focus groups will be organized for each of the four species.
- The Service worked with partners to remove an outdated dam on the Cahaba River, the state's longest free-flowing river, to aid in the recovery of a number of protected species by improving the habitat needed for their survival.
- The Service participates as a member of the Gulf and Atlantic Aquatic Nuisance Species Regional Panel.
- The Environmental Contaminants Program conducted 733 Clean Water Act Reviews from 2002 to 2004, and is currently performing a study for USEPA on contaminants in the Mobile Delta. The Service also provides technical assistance in the areas of integrated pest management and pesticide use.

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