



Fisheries
& Habitat
Conservation



Key Partners:

- Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
- Mississippi State University
- Southeastern Aquatic Resources Partnership
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Environmental Defense Fund
- American Tree Farmer
- American Bird Conservancy
- Wildlife Mississippi



A FWS biologist holding a paddlefish. USFWS photo.



MS prescribed burning Longleaf Pine. USFWS photo.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Fisheries and Habitat Conservation

Celebrating Habitat in Mississippi

- The Leaf River Natural Resource Damage Assessment and restoration provided restoration of 5,420 feet of stream channel and adjacent riparian habitat, enhancement of an additional 15,260 feet of stream and adjacent riparian habitat, restoration of 3 acres of forested wetlands, and the installation and monitoring of wood duck boxes.
- In Mississippi during FY 04 and FY 05 Fish and Wildlife Management is working with partners to remove or bypass 45 fish passage barriers in interjurisdictional waters to open 65 miles of stream habitats and 537 of floodplain habitat benefiting at least 20 listed and recreational species.
- The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has engaged in 25 habitat improvement projects, with 7,609 acres of habitat improved in 2004.
- From 2002 to 2004, the Environmental Contaminants Program conducted 48 Clean Water Act Reviews, provided technical assistance on an additional 32 projects, and performed two contaminant investigations.
- 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 Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks.
- The National Fish Hatchery System stocks more than 1.5 million fish annually to support anadromous fish resources in the coastal rivers of the Gulf of Mexico and for National Wildlife Refuge programs.
- The Service has worked with partners to secure funding utilized for the restoration of the imperiled longleaf pine ecosystem and to control invasive cogon grass for the restoration of threatened and endangered species.
- The Service is collaborating with Mississippi State University to survey and monitor waters in proximity to aquaculture facilities utilizing black carp to determine if the species is present in proximity to these facilities as a result of escapement due to flooding events or other reasons.
- The Service participates in 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).

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