

Midwest Region (3)

Overview

The Midwest Region is comprised of eight states – Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin. The Region is ecologically diverse and contains tallgrass prairie, pothole wetlands, agricultural lands, northern and temperate forests, a large section of the Mississippi River basin, and four of the five Great Lakes. The Region's Headquarters is just outside of Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN.

Resource Facts and Figures

- 54 National Wildlife Refuges encompassing 1.3 million acres, including America's only International Wildlife Refuge
- 6 National Fish Hatcheries
- 12 Wetland Management Districts
- 1.7 million acres acquired by states through the Wildlife Sport Fish Restoration program (WSFR)
- 96 staffed Service field stations
- The Great Lakes contain about 20% of the world's freshwater
- The region's waterways provide vital transportation corridors and support key natural resources
- Roughly 8 million people visit the region's refuges annually
- 68 threatened and endangered species; 10 candidate species
- The Region has 971 FTEs

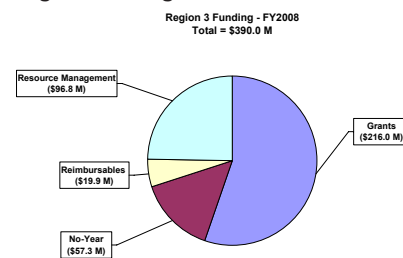


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Regional Demographics

- 107 members of Congress (16 U.S. senators; 91 U.S. reps)
- Population of roughly 60 million
- Less than 4.5% of region is public land
- More than 35 million hunters, anglers and wildlife watchers
- More than \$22 billion spent annually on fishing, hunting, and wildlife observation in 2006

Regional Budget



Key Habitats and Ecosystems

The region includes the basins of the Upper Mississippi River, Ohio and Missouri Rivers, as well as deepwater habitat, reefs, wetlands and shorelines associated with the Great Lakes. Other primary habitat types include tallgrass prairie and northern forest.

Conservation Successes and Challenges

National Wildlife Refuge System – 30 Comprehensive Conservation Plans (CCPs) covering 44 refuges were completed, more than 18,000 acres were approved for purchase at Glacial Ridge National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), and 1,000 acres of coastal wetland were acquired in the Lake Erie Region.

Success in the Great Lakes – Helped establish the Great Lakes Wind Collaborative, signed the Great Lakes Compact into law, and

achieved reauthorization of the Great Lakes Legacy Act (both in October 2008).

Imperiled Species recovery – Successful recovery of peregrine falcon, bald eagle, and gray wolf. All-time high of 91 whooping cranes inhabiting eastern U.S.



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Other Successes –

- \$4.15 million mitigation migratory bird impacts from pipeline construction
- Acquired stocking and assessment vessel, MV Spencer F. Baird, for the Great Lakes
- Partners for Fish and Wildlife program coordinated restoration of over 20,000 acres on private lands in FY 2008

Conservation Challenges –

- Habitat loss and fragmentation from urbanization, wetland destruction, agricultural production, and pipeline and alternative energy development.
- Exotic species introduction and proliferation along with addressing terrestrial and aquatic diseases
- Climate change and associated wildlife impacts
- Contamination from industrial wastes, agriculture, and pollutants

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Region 3

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin

