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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

SOUTH DAKOTA

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*The United States
Fish and Wildlife
Service's mission is,
working with
others, to conserve,
protect, and
enhance fish,
wildlife, and plants
and their habitats
for the continuing
benefit of the
American people.*

This book is available on the FWS Mountain-
Prairie Region website:
<http://mountain-prairie.fws.gov/reference>

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Presence in South Dakota

Employment

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) employs approximately 127 people in South Dakota.

The FY 2000 Resource Management budget for Service activities in South Dakota totals \$7,579,000.

Fisheries Facts

One National Fish Hatchery, one Historic National Fish Hatchery, and one Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Office.

Visitation: 215,000 people visited Hatcheries in 1999.

Fishery Contribution: 25,822,000 eggs, fry, fingerling, and adult fish were distributed in 1999.

National Wildlife Refuge Facts

Seven National Wildlife Refuges; more than 48,000 acres.

Seven Wetland Management Districts; more than 1,072,000 acres.

Volunteer Hours: 4,277

Visitation: 310,000 people visited Refuges and Wetland Management Districts in South Dakota in 1999.

Of these: 30,000 people fished on Refuges.

191,000 people hunted on Refuges.

77,000 people visited Refuges to view wildlife.

6,316 school children participated in Service educational programs.

Federal Aid to State Fish and Wildlife Programs

In 1998, South Dakota received: \$3,100,000 for sport fish restoration, and \$3,200,000 for wildlife restoration and hunter education.

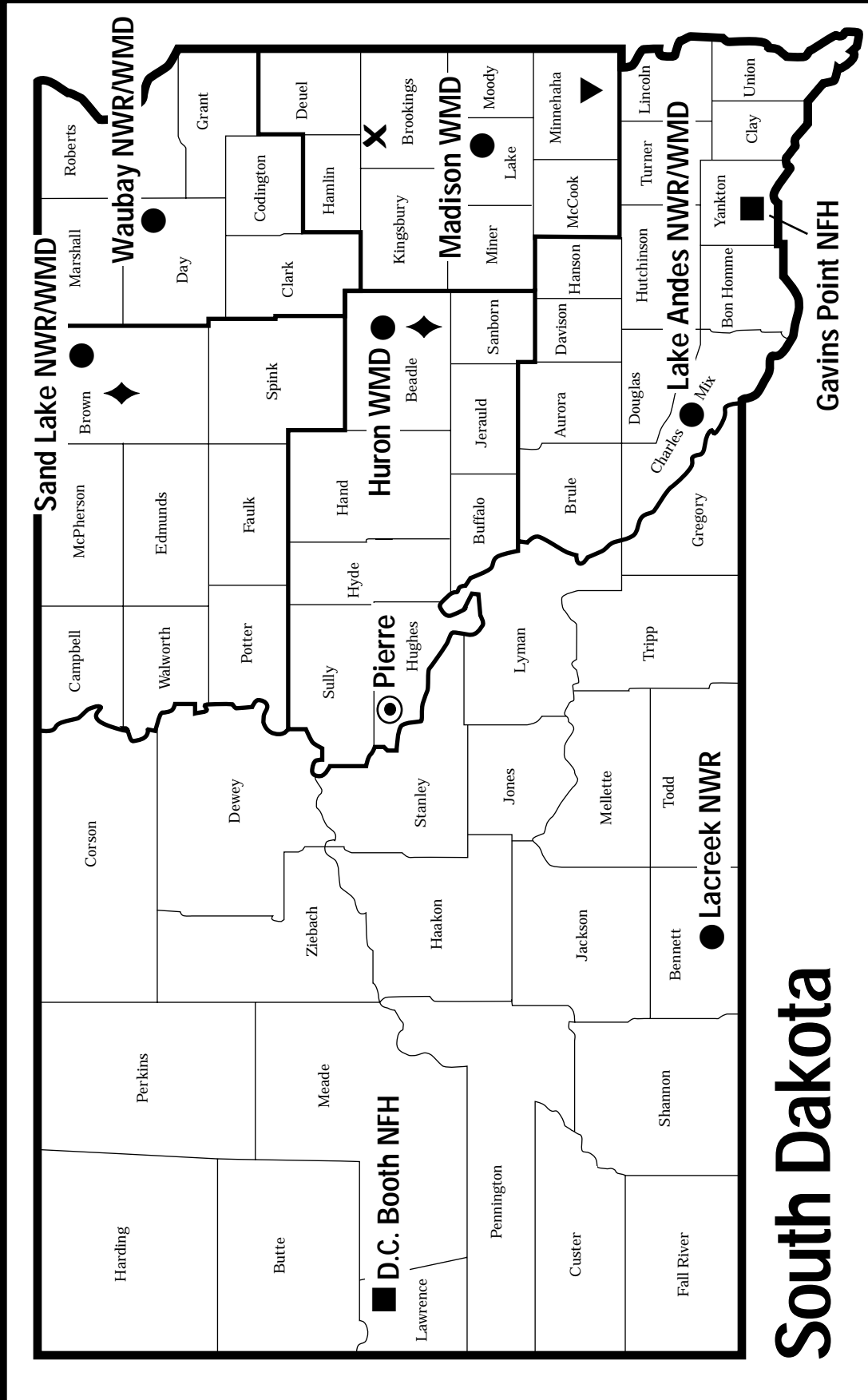
Partners for Fish and Wildlife Facts

With State partners, the Service helped private landowners develop or restore 11,000 acres of wetlands, and develop 57,600 acres of upland projects for the benefit of fish, wildlife, and natural resources.

Endangered Species

Recovery Program Facts

The Service is the lead on black-footed ferret recovery in South Dakota and across the United States. The Service also provides close coordination with various land management agencies in South Dakota. The Service is also the lead on pallid sturgeon recovery in the Missouri and Mississippi River Basins.



South Dakota

Offices of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

- National Wildlife Refuge / Wetland Management District
- Fisheries Office
- ✕ Partners for Fish & Wildlife Office
- In Pierre:
 - ★ Ecological Services Office
 - ▼ Law Enforcement Office
 - Fisheries Office / Fish & Wildlife Management Assistance Office
- Law Enforcement Office
- ▼ Wildlife Habitat Acquisition Office

D.C. Booth Historic National Fish Hatchery

*Contacts: Steve Brimm
Director*

*Address: 423 Hatchery Circle
Spearfish, South Dakota 57783*

Telephone: 605-642-7730

Fax: 605-642-2336

E-mail: steve_brimm@fws.gov

Station Facts

Established: 1896

One of the oldest operating hatcheries in the country dedicated to fish culture and resource management.

Located adjacent to Spearfish City Park.

Hatchery site listed on National Historic Register. Operates through a series of partnerships with:
Booth Society Inc. (non-profit)

City of Spearfish

South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks

American Fisheries Society (AFS)

Station Objectives

Provide a national site for collection, preservation, and dissemination of historic fisheries information.

Provide a Partners for Fish and Wildlife program for western South Dakota.

Operations center for the Service's Private Lands Partners for Fish and Wildlife Archaeology Program.

Coordinate the National Broodstock Program.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 5

Current Budget (FY 00):
\$250,000

Annual Visitation: 145,000

Public Use Opportunities

- Aquatic education
- Fish feeding
- Underwater fish viewing facility
- Fishery Museum and exhibits
- Fish Culture Hall of Fame (AFS)
- National Fishery Artifacts and Records Center Tours
- Tours
- Gift shop

Activity Highlights

DC Booth Day in May.

Father's Day and National Fishing Week Celebration in June.

Hatchery Holidays Celebration in December.

Gavins Point

National Fish Hatchery

Contacts: Herb Bollig

Project Leader

Address: 31227 436th Avenue

Yankton, South Dakota 57078-6364

Telephone: 605-665-3352

Fax: 605-665-3360

E-mail: herb_bollig@fws.gov

Station Facts

Established: 1956

Acres: 190 acres of land and physical facilities, including sturgeon culture and endangered species building.

First fish were produced in 1961.

Fishery Contribution: Nearly 23,000,000 eggs, fry, fingerling, and adult fish distributed in 2000.

Annual hatchery production valued at nearly \$3,000,000.

Hatchery water supply comes from two wells and Lewis and Clark Lake.

The Hatchery was instrumental in rearing endangered pallid sturgeon for recovery stocking in the Upper Missouri River and Lower Yellowstone River.

Station Objectives

Serve as the primary fish culture facility for restoration of unique Missouri River interjurisdictional fishery resources such as pallid sturgeon.

Provide mitigation for impact of Federal water projects on the Missouri River.

Provide fish and eggs (representing 12-14 species) to support research; Tribal, Federal and State management; restoration; and threatened and endangered species programs.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 6

Current Budget (FY 00): \$368,600

Annual Visitation: 100,000

Public Use Opportunities

- Fishery education.
- Large 13-tank aquarium building displaying 30-40 Missouri River fish species.
- Hatchery tours.
- Open air ponds (36), raceways (8), and hatchery building.
- Supports angling throughout South Dakota; over 200,000 angler days per year.

Activity Highlights

- Fishing Derby for children with disabilities.
- Aquarium.
- United States/Russian Environmental Agreement (Russian Sturgeon Scientists).
- State Fair and Water Festivals.
- Threatened and Endangered Species Program.

Great Plains Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Office (FWMAO)

*Contacts: Wayne Stancill
Project Leader*

*Address: 420 Garfield Avenue, Suite 400
Pierre, South Dakota 57501*

Telephone: 605-224-8693

Fax: 605-224-9974

E-mail: wayne_stancill@fws.gov

Station Facts

The Valentine Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Office was renamed the Great Plains FWMAO, and relocated from Valentine, Nebraska to Pierre, South Dakota, in July 1994.

Staff provide fish and wildlife management technical assistance to Federal agencies, military installations, and all Tribes and National Wildlife Refuges within South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas.

Station Objectives

Conduct research on threatened and endangered fish species for the purpose of recovering these species to population levels warranting delisting.

Conduct research and management activities to minimize conflicts between threatened and endangered fish species and recreational fisheries within the Missouri River Basin.

Provide fish and wildlife management technical assistance to Tribes to support self-determination and promote self-sufficiency.

Provide technical assistance to National Wildlife Refuges and other Federal agencies regarding fisheries issues, including management of recreational fisheries.

Cooperate with State, Federal, and Tribal agencies to address non-indigenous aquatic nuisance species.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 3

Current Budget (FY 00):
\$200,000

Activity Highlights

Conducting research and developing management strategies for biologically controlling undesirable rough-fish species that negatively impact aquatic habitat and recreational fisheries.

Monitoring and evaluating the impacts of modified flows and water temperatures from operation of Missouri River dams on population of fish and other aquatic species.

Reintroducing pallid sturgeon into the Lewis and Clark Lake section of the Missouri River. The stocking is being evaluated by relocating radio-tagged fish to determine survival rates and identify important areas and habitats.

Providing technical assistance to numerous Federal and Tribal agencies for developing and enhancing recreational fishing opportunities on Federal and Tribal lands.

Huron Wetland Management District

*Contacts: Kathy Baer
Acting Project Leader*
*Address: Federal Building, Room 309
200 4th Street SW
Huron, South Dakota 57350*

*Telephone: 605-352-5894
Fax: 605-352-6709
E-mail: kathy_baer@fws.gov
Web site: <http://www.r6.fws.gov/refuges/huron>*

Station Facts

Established: 1992

Eight-county District includes: Beadle, Sanborn, Hand, Hyde, Huyghes, Sully, Jerauld, and Buffalo Counties.

Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 60 units totaling approximately 14,350 acres.

Wetland easements: 1,425 contracts protecting about 68,800 wetland acres.

Grassland easements: 147 contracts protecting about 55,700 grassland acres.

Conservation easements: 63 contracts protecting about 10,100 acres.

Station Objectives

Optimize waterfowl production capability on each WPA.

Provide and maintain quality upland and wetland habitat capable of supporting migratory bird populations.

Optimize the abundance and diversity of wildlife and plant species possible on each WPA.

Provide quality wildlife-dependent recreation and education.

Assist private landowners with restoration of wetlands and grasslands.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 5

Current Budget (FY 00): \$409,200

Current Fire Budget (FY 00): \$217,700

- Annual Visitation: 30,000
- Volunteer hours: 1,752

Public Use Opportunities

- Fishing, hunting, and trapping.
- Photography.
- Hiking.
- Wildlife observation.
- Environmental education.

Activity Highlights

Established a prescribed fire/wildfire program in 1997.

Administer the South Dakota Junior Duck Stamp Contest with approximately 900 yearly art entries.

Coordinate Service participation in the South Dakota State Fair.

Participate in Huron's "Water Festival," a multi-agency program for 4th grade students and numerous educational programs in the eight-county District.

Provide educational trunks used by elementary and secondary teachers.

Sponsor teachers for educational workshops such as Project Wild and Leopold Education Program.

Work cooperatively with non-governmental organizations and other government agencies on land management programs on public and private land.

Coordinate the Annual Christmas Bird Count in Huron.

Lacreek

National Wildlife Refuge

Contact: Rolf H. Kraft
Refuge Manager
Address: HC 5 Box 114
Martin, South Dakota 57551

Telephone: 605-685-6508
Fax: 605-685-1173
E-mail: rolf_h_kraft@fws.gov

Station Facts

Established: August 26, 1935

Acres: 16,410

Refuge serves as a production and staging area for West River Canada goose populations.

Refuge provides critical winter habitat for the High Plains trumpeter swan population.

Refuge provides breeding habitat for 2,500 American white pelicans.

Refuge has abundant deer and upland game populations.

The Bear Butte NWR, 566 acres located near Sturgis, is an easement refuge administered by South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks as a State Park.

Station Objectives

Provide habitat and protection for endangered and threatened species.

Provide production and migration habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds.

Preserve a natural diversity and abundance of local flora and fauna.

Provide public opportunities for environmental education and outdoor recreation.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 8

Current Budget (FY 00):
\$313,900

- Annual Visitation: 16,400
- Volunteer hours: 16

Public Use Opportunities

- Fishing, archery and muzzle loader deer hunting, and upland game bird hunting.
- Auto tour route.
- Wildlife observation.
- Wildlife hiking trails.
- Environmental education upon request.

Activity Highlights

Management of the High Plains trumpeter swan populations.

Water management issues.

Use of biological control agents on noxious weeds to reduce chemical use.

Native prairie restoration.

Wetland restoration and creation through Partners for Fish and Wildlife programs.

Cooperation with contiguous state wildlife management area.

Lake Andes

National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Contact: Vacant

Refuge Manager

Address: 38672 291st Street

Lake Andes, South Dakota 57356

Telephone: 605-487-7603

Fax: 605-487-7604

E-mail: r6rw_lan@fws.gov

Website: <http://www.r6.fws.gov/refuges>

Station Facts

The Complex consists of Lake Andes and Karl E. Mundt NWRs, and Lake Andes Wetland Management District (WMD).

Lake Andes NWR

- Established: 1936
- Acres: 938 acres in fee title, and 4,700 acres in easement lands.

Karl E. Mundt NWR

- Established: 1974 for bald eagle protection.
- Acres: 780 acres in fee title, and 305 acres in easement lands.

Lake Andes WMD

- Established: 1961, modified in 1992 to establish Huron WMD.
- Thirteen-county District includes: Brule, Aurora, Davidson, Hanson, Charles Mix, Douglas, Hutchinson, Turner, Lincoln, Bon Homme, Yankton, Clay, and Union Counties.
- Waterfowl Production Areas: 84 units totaling approximately 19,000 acres.
- Wetland easements: 890 contracts protecting about 39,500 wetland acres.

- Grassland easements: 84 contracts protecting about 18,900 acres.
- Conservation easements: 55 contracts protecting about 3,880 acres.

Station Objectives

Preserve, restore, and enhance federally listed threatened and endangered species and the habitats on which they depend.

Provide the life requirements of waterfowl and other migratory birds.

Preserve and maintain a natural diversity and abundance of flora and fauna on Complex lands.

Preserve and maintain a wetland prairie ecosystem for plants and wildlife indigenous to the area.

Provide a range of opportunities for compatible wildlife-dependent interpretation and recreation.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 7

Current Budget (FY 00): \$773,500

- Annual Visitation: 25,000
- Volunteer hours: 216

Public Use Opportunities

- Fishing, hunting, and trapping.
- One-mile hiking trail at Lake Andes NWR.
- Visitor contact station at Lake Andes NWR.
- Headquarters office.
- Eagle observation point near Karl E. Mundt NWR.
- Environmental education.
- Wildlife observation and photography.

Activity Highlights

Strong, active Partners for Fish and Wildlife program.

Interagency cooperation on wetland restoration projects.

Native prairie restoration throughout Complex.

Management of nesting and migratory bald eagles.

Madison Wetland Management District

*Contacts: Tom Tornow
Refuge Manager*

*Address: P.O. Box 48
Madison, South Dakota 57042*

Telephone: 605-256-2974

Fax: 605-256-9432

E-mail: tom_tornow@fws.gov

Station Facts

Established: 1969

Nine-county District includes: Minnehaha, McCook, Miner, Lake, Moody, Brookings, Kingsbury, Hamlin, and Deuel Counties.

Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 220 fee-owned management units encompassing 38,300 acres.

Wetland easements: 1,450 contracts protecting 48,500 wetland acres.

Grassland easements: 100 contracts protecting 27,000 acres of grassland.

Conservation easements: 65 contracts protecting 8,000 acres.

Station Objectives

Optimize waterfowl production capability on each WPA.

Provide and maintain quality upland and wetland habitat capable of supporting migratory bird populations.

Optimize the abundance and diversity of wildlife and plant species native to the Tallgrass Prairie and Prairie Pothole Region.

Provide a range of opportunities for compatible wildlife-dependent interpretation and recreation.

Assist private landowners with restoration/creation of wetlands and grasslands.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 9

Current Budget (FY 00): \$493,800

- Annual Visitation: 60,000
- Volunteer hours: 1,688

119 volunteers donated 860 hours of work in 1999.

Public Use Opportunities

- Fishing, hunting, and trapping.
- Photography.
- Hiking.
- Wildlife observation.
- Environmental education.

Activity Highlights

Native tallgrass prairie restoration on WPAs.

Wetland restorations include 162 restored wetlands in 1999.

Private lands projects in 1999 include 36 wetland/dam developments and 10 contracts to restore 606 acres of native grassland.

Use of biological control agents on noxious weeds to reduce chemical use.

Provide educational trunks for use by elementary and secondary teachers.

Work cooperatively with non-governmental organizations, landowners, and other government agencies on land management programs on public and private land, developing long-term partnerships.

Sand Lake

National Wildlife Refuge Complex

Contacts: John Koerner
Refuge Manager
Address: 39650 Sand Lake Drive
Columbia, South Dakota 57433

Telephone: 605-885-6320
Fax: 605-885-6401
E-mail: john_koerner@fws.gov
Website: <http://sandlake.fws.gov>

Station Facts

The Complex consists of Sand Lake and Pocasse NWRs, and Sand Lake Wetland Management District (WMD).

Sand Lake NWR

- Established: 1935
- Acres: 21,498
- Lies along the James River with two dams creating Sand Lake and Mud Lake, the two main impoundments on the Refuge.

Pocasse NWR

- Established: 1968
- Acres: 2,585 near Pollock
- Administered by Sand Lake NWR.

Sand Lake WMD

- Established: 1961
- Eight-county District includes: Campbell, McPherson, Brown, Walworth, Edmunds, Potter, Faulk, and Spink Counties.
- Waterfowl Production Areas: 162 units totaling 45,000 acres.
- Wetland easements: 3,350 contracts protecting about 221,000 wetland acres.
- Grassland easements: 590 contracts protecting about 290,000 upland acres.

Station Objectives

Provide nesting habitat for migratory birds, especially waterfowl.

Provide sanctuary for migratory birds during the spring and fall migrations.

Provide habitat for resident wildlife such as deer and pheasants.

Provide habitat for and promote the biological diversity of plant and animal species.

Provide the public with the opportunity for use (both consumptive and non-consumptive), enjoyment, and appreciation of America's wildlife resources.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 14

Current Budget (FY 00):
\$676,100

- Annual Visitation: 100,000
- Volunteer hours: 537

Public Use Opportunities

- Fishing and hunting.
- Visitor Center with wildlife displays and exhibits.
- Auto tour route.
- Picnic facilities, rest rooms, and hiking trail.
- Wheelchair accessible hunting blind.
- Wildlife observation, photography and birding opportunities.

Activity Highlights

Sand Lake designated as a "Wetland of International Importance."

World's largest nesting colony of Franklin's gulls.

Wetland restoration and creation through Partners for Fish and Wildlife program.

Extensive land use program involving private landowner cooperators.

Annual Eagle Day Open House held the end of March.

Waubay

National Wildlife Refuge Complex

*Contacts: Larry Martin
Refuge Manager*

*Address: Route 1, Box 39
Waubay, South Dakota 57273*

Telephone: 605-947-4521

Fax: 605-947-4524

E-mail: larry_martin@fws.gov

Station Facts

The Complex consists of Waubay NWR and Waubay Wetland Management District (WMD).

Waubay NWR

Established: December 10, 1935

Acres: 4,740

Waubay WMD

Established: 1959

Six-county District includes: Clark, Codington, Day, Grant, Marshall, and Roberts Counties.

First Waterfowl Production Area in the nation, established in 1959.

Waterfowl Production Areas: 352 units totaling 40,000 acres.

Wetland easements: 2,117 contracts protect 105,110 wetland acres.

Grassland easements: 330 contracts protecting 126,424 grassland acres.

Station Objectives

Optimize waterfowl production.

Optimize abundance and diversity of wildlife and plant species.

Provide habitat for endangered and threatened species.

Provide quality wildlife-dependent recreation.

Provide and maintain quality upland and wetland habitat that can support migratory bird populations.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 12

Current Budget (FY 00): \$519,000

- Annual Visitation: 70,000
- Volunteer hours: 68

Public Use Opportunities

- Fishing, hunting and trapping.
- Observation tower (100 feet).
- Outdoor classrooms.
- Visitor Center.
- Hiking trails.
- Picnic area.
- Photography.

Activity Highlights

Visitors from around the world come to see nesting red-necked grebes.

Cooperated with partners for \$1.5 million worth of wildlife habitat improvements on private lands (since 1988).

Insectory for biological control of leafy spurge.

Refuge has Research Natural Area for Burr Oak-Little Bluestem complex.

Since 1960, \$11.5 million has been paid to landowners to protect wildlife habitat on private land through Service easements.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFFW)

Contacts: Carl Madsen
Project Leader

Address: 530-B, 3rd Avenue, North
Brookings, South Dakota 57006

Telephone: 605-697-2500

Fax: 605-697-2505

E-mail: carl_madsen@fws.gov

Voluntary Habitat Programs

Wetland habitat developments:

Wetland restoration and enhancement

Wildlife/livestock ponds

Upland habitat developments:
Livestock grazing systems

Native and tame grass seedings

Riparian restoration and enhancement

Technical Assistance

Private landowners

Local, State, and Federal agencies

Native American Tribes

Private conservation organizations

Primary Habitat Accomplishments

Landowner habitat agreements: 3,187

Wetland developments: 14,563 acres

Upland developments: 164,165 acres

Primary Partners

- South Dakota farmers and ranchers
- 59 local Conservation Districts
- South Dakota Association of Conservation Districts
- Six Native American Tribes
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks
- Ducks Unlimited
- Other private conservation organizations
- South Dakota Department of Agriculture

Funding and Special Projects for FY 2000

\$808,000 for technical assistance and habitat restoration to private landowners.

Prairie Pothole Joint Venture (PPJV).

Phase III North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) Multiple Purpose Wetland Creations \$984,000, and \$1,509,000 in partner contributions.

Special appropriation of \$2.0 million for wetland restoration on private lands.

Ecological Services (ES) Field Office

Contact: *Pete Gober*

Field Supervisor

Address: *420 South Garfield Avenue, Suite 400
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-5408*

Telephone: *605-224-8693*

Fax: *605-224-9974*

E-mail: *pete_gober@fws.gov*

Station Facts

The South Dakota Ecological Services Field Office has unique responsibilities for fish and wildlife resources in the State. Other responsibilities are shared with other Service programs and other Federal and State agencies.

The office staff consists of nine personnel including a supervisor, two administrative personnel, and five biologists and one student trainee. Staff are located in Pierre.

Station Objectives

Provide oversight of Endangered Species Act compliance, particularly with regard to Federal actions.

Conduct activities necessary for Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act responsibilities.

Participate in the environmental review of federally funded projects that may affect fish and wildlife.

Address potential contaminant impacts on fish and wildlife.

Contribute to wetlands conservation through the review of proposed work plans.

Station Fiscal Facts

Staff: 9

Current Budget (FY 00):
\$649,400

Activity Highlights

Lead for endangered least tern and threatened piping plover recovery efforts along the Missouri River and at other sites in the Northern Great Plains. In particular, this effort requires extensive coordination with the Corps of Engineers regarding river operations.

Work with the State and others to cooperatively manage federally listed, candidate, or native species of concern (particularly the American burying beetle, swift fox, Topeka shiner, and black-tailed prairie dog).

Work to ensure adequate mitigation for the impact of South Dakota reservoir development on endangered species and migratory birds.

Address the potential need for restoration and protection of fish and wildlife and their habitats that mining in the Black Hills may have adversely affected.

Law Enforcement

Contact: Robert Prieksat, Senior Resident Agent Telephone: 605-224-1001
Address: P.O. Box 254 Fax: 605-224-7518
Federal Building, Room 360 E-mail: robert_prieksat@fws.gov
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

Contact: Marty Hernandez, Special Agent Telephone: 605-330-4318
Address: 230 South Phillips, Room 401
Sioux Falls, South Dakota 57104

What is Wildlife Law Enforcement?

Wildlife law enforcement is one of the basic tools used by FWS to achieve its wildlife management goals. LE personnel assist in controlling human interactions with the wildlife resource. They promote, through outreach and other educational programs, voluntary compliance with Federal wildlife laws. LE personnel apprehend those individuals and organizations who elect to violate the law.

Special Agents are criminal investigators who enforce Federal wildlife laws across the U.S.. Their investigative activities include surveillance, undercover work, developing intelligence on suspected violators, collecting evidence, making arrests, and preparing cases for court. Special Agents often work with other Federal, Tribal, foreign, or State LE agencies, as well as provide training to them about wildlife law enforcement techniques.

Wildlife Inspectors are the front line defense against the illegal wildlife trade - a

criminal enterprise that threatens species worldwide. They are stationed along the Canada border and interior Customs Ports of Entry to inspect wildlife, their parts and products that are being imported into or exported from the U.S. When violations are encountered, they either refuse entry into the U. S., detain the shipment for further inspection, or seize the shipment, either seeking abandonment or referring to a Agent for investigation.

Activity Highlights

- Protect endangered species and their habitats, from illegal take, import/export, and commercialization.
- Investigate illegal take, transportation, and commercialization of big game and other wildlife.
- Ensure compliance with Federal migratory bird hunting regulations.
- Protect bald and golden eagles from being illegally poisoned, trapped, shot, electrocuted, or illegal commercial activity.
- Ensure wildlife being is legally imported/exported, including being in compliance

with international treaties (CITES) and other applicable laws.

- Investigate illegal take of migratory birds associated with environmental hazards such as oil production facilities, exposure to herbicides/pesticides, electrocution on power lines, and primary and secondary poisonings.
- Assist with law enforcement on Service lands, including protection of National Wildlife Refuges, wetland, grass land, and other conservation easements.

Partners

- South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
- Other land management agencies
- Native American Tribes
- U.S. Attorney's Office

Wildlife Habitat Acquisition Offices

Aberdeen and Huron

*Contact: Patrick Russell
Project Leader
Address: Federal Building, Room 109
P.O. Box 1514
Aberdeen, South Dakota 57402-1514*

*Telephone: 605-226-7588
Fax: 605-226-7551
E-mail: patrick_russell@fws.gov*

*Contact: Tonna Hughes
Project Leader
Address: Federal Building, Room 307
200 4th Street, SW
Huron, South Dakota 57350-2470*

*Telephone: 605-352-7014
Fax: 605-352-7015
E-mail: tonna_hughes@fws.gov*

Service Ownership

Fee: 197,000 acres of Waterfowl Production Areas and National Wildlife Refuges.

Easements: 763,000 acres of wetlands and grasslands.

Active Acquisition Programs

The Service acquires wildlife habitat using fee title acquisition and conservation easements.

Conservation easements include two types: wetland easements and grassland easements.

Easements provide protection of the habitat, but most surface ownership and taxes remain the responsibility of the landowner.

Fee title is acquired for Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA). WPAs are open to hunting, fishing and trapping and contribute to nesting cover for waterfowl.

Acquisition is under the authority of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act of 1934. Waterfowl production is the primary purpose and benefit of acquisition.

Fund Source for Habitat Acquisition

Funds for acquisition come from the Migratory Bird Conservation Fund.

Revenues from duck stamps, import fees on firearms and ammunition, and National Wildlife Refuge entrance fees contribute to this fund.

From \$5 to \$7 million is spent for acquisition in South Dakota each year.

Refuge Revenue Sharing Payment

The Service makes payments to counties based upon the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act.

Payments in South Dakota are based upon three-quarters of one percent of the market value of the property owned in fee title. Local governments may use the money for any governmental purpose.

Fire Management

Regional Phil Street
Contacts: Fire Management Coordinator
Jim Kelton
Fire Management Specialist
Address: P.O. Box 25486, DFC, MS 60130
Denver, Colorado 80225

Telephone: 303-236-8145 x676
E-mail: phil_street@fws.gov
Telephone: 303-236-8145 x618
E-mail: jim_kelton@fws.gov
Fax: 303-236-4792

Contact: Brian McManus
Zone Fire Management Officer
Address: J. Clark Salyer NWR, P.O. Box 66
Upham, North Dakota 58789

Telephone: 701-768-2552
Fax: 701-768-2626
E-mail: brian_mcmanus@fws.gov

Contact: Shane DelGrosso
Fire Management Officer
Address: 200 4th Street SW, Room 309
Huron, South Dakota 57350

Telephone: 605-352-5894
E-mail: shane_delgrosso@fws.gov

Fire Management Facts

Fire is an important component of the prairie ecosystem, and is an important tool used to manage many other ecosystems.

The exclusion of fire has altered many ecosystems from systems perpetuated by fire to systems which no longer represent the plant and animal communities present before the arrival of European man.

Six Service areas in the State receive supplemental funding to suppress unwanted wildland fires and to facilitate the use of fire as a management tool.

In order to use fire to achieve resource management objectives, certain environmental factors (fuel, moisture, wind, relative humidity, etc.) and managerial constraints (adequate staffing, contingency planning) must

be met. These conditions are known as a “prescription.”

Refuge managers must address NEPA requirements, State Air Quality Standards, have an approved Fire Management Plan, and a site-specific burn plan before initiating a prescribed burn.

Activity Highlights

The use of management-ignited prescribed fire is an important tool which is used to perpetuate endangered plant and animal species and their habitats. Fire is also used to manage and control undesirable plant species, and to reduce hazardous fuel loadings to protect critical habitat and human life and property.

In 2000, fire managers conducted 42 prescribed burns in South Dakota for 4,439 acres. During the same period, fire managers in South

Dakota suppressed 7 wildfires involving 191 acres.

Fire management and Refuge officials work with Federal, State, and local fire managers to control wildland fires and accomplish other common objectives.

Partners

- South Dakota Division of Forestry
- Various Tribes in S.D.
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- U.S. Forest Service
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Land Management

North American Waterfowl Management Plan

Regional Contact: Carol A. Lively
NAWMP Coordinator
Address: P.O. Box 25486, DFC
Denver, Colorado 80225

Telephone: 303-236-8155 x252
Fax: 303-236-8680
E-mail: carol_lively@fws.gov

State Contact: George Vandell
Address: SD Dept. of Game, Fish, and Parks
Foss Building
523 East Capital
Pierre, South Dakota 57501-3182

Telephone: 605-773-4192
Fax: 605-773-6245

About the Plan

International agreement signed in 1986.

Goal: Return continental waterfowl populations to levels of mid-1970's.

Achieve population goals by protecting, restoring, and enhancing wetland and grassland habitat.

Includes 12 habitat joint ventures and 2 species joint ventures in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico.

Partner Involvement

Private landowners
Nonprofit organizations
Corporations
Local, State and Federal
Government agencies

South Dakota Projects

State projects include: Arikara Wetland, Columbia Marsh, Lake Thompson Watershed, northeast South Dakota Prairie Pothole, Northern Tallgrass Prairie Restoration, Stratford Slough, and Wetland Development on Private Lands.

Over 2,021 farmers, ranchers, and other landowners, 95 conservation districts, 6 Native American Tribes, Federal and State agencies, conservation organizations, private ranching groups, and community groups participate.

Habitat Accomplishments

Over 60,000 acres of wetlands and associated uplands restored, enhanced, or protected through North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA) grants.

Financial Contributions to South Dakota

Total NAWCA projects: \$12,357,970
NAWCA contributions: \$3,250,493
Partners contributions: \$9,107,477

Public Benefits

- Broad coalition of partners that support voluntary wetland conservation.
- Improved water quality.
- Enhanced floodwater storage.
- Improved community and landowner relations.
- Enhanced wildlife diversity.
- Increased public recreation opportunities.



South Dakota Federal Aid-- Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration

Contact: Vacant
 Chief, Federal Aid
 Address: P.O. Box 25486, DFC
 Denver, Colorado, 80225

Telephone: 303-236-7392
 Fax: 303-236-8192
 E-mail:

Source of Funding

Federal excise taxes paid by hunters, anglers, and boaters on fishing and hunting equipment; portion of the Federal fuel tax; and import duties on fishing tackle and pleasure boats.

How the Money Can Be Used

Fish and wildlife research; habitat enhancement; technical assistance; environmental review of public projects; land acquisitions; operation and maintenance of areas and facilities; boating and angler access improvements; comprehensive planning for fish and wildlife resources; and hunter and aquatic education.

Federal Aid to South Dakota (FY 00 Apportionments)

- Sport Fish Restoration: \$3.1 million
- Wildlife Restoration: \$3.2 million

Percent Federal Aid in State Wildlife Budget:

26.1%

Number of Participants and Economic Benefits to South Dakota

Fishing:

- Number of anglers 1998: 244,768
- Economic Impact of Angler Expenditures:* \$206 million

Hunting:

- Number of hunters 1998: 204,599
- Economic Impact of Hunter Expenditures:* \$176 million

Federal Aid Project Types in South Dakota **

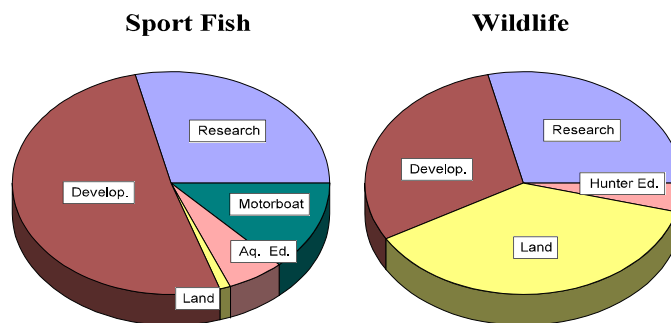
Sport Fish Restoration Projects:

- Research: 29%
- Development: 52%
- Land: 0.2%
- Aquatic Education: 6%
- Motorboat Access: 13%

Wildlife Restoration Projects:

- Research: 29%
- Development: 30%
- Hunter Education: 4%
- Land: 38%

Percentage of South Dakota Project Types in FA:



* Based on the "1996 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation."

** Based on approved 1998 Grant obligations (percentages reflect ±1%). State has five years to obligate Motorboat Access funds.

Migratory Bird Conservation

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Migratory Bird Coordinator

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Contact: *Stephanie L. Jones*
Nongame Migratory Bird Coordinator

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Inventory and Monitoring

Nongame bird monitoring

Spring sandhill crane survey

Mourning dove call count survey

Mid-winter waterfowl survey

Duck banding program

Habitat inventory and monitoring consultation

Research

Biological surveys of migratory birds on National Wildlife Refuges and Waterfowl Production Areas.

Population status and winter habitat use of High Plains trumpeter swans.

Colonial waterbird and shorebird surveys and management.

Management

Migratory Bird permit issuance and management

Migratory Bird hunting regulations development

Migratory Bird population surveys and management

Wildlife habitat management

Grassland/wetland restoration, creation, enhancement, and protection.

Partnerships

South Dakota Department of Game, Fish and Parks

South Dakota State University

South Dakota Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit

Outreach

International Migratory Bird Day

Co-Sponsorship of Non-toxic Shotgunning Skills Workshops

Student Career Experience Program