

# Cookeville

## *Ecological Services Field Office*



photo: USFWS



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### **Photos (top to bottom)**

*Bottomland hardwood forest.*

*Pristine aquatic habitat.*

### **Station Facts**

- Established: 1977.
- FY 05 budget: \$1,880,000.
- Number of staff: 18.

### **Station Goals**

- Provide technical and/or financial assistance to private landowners interested in the conservation of migratory species and federally listed species.
- Provide accurate and meaningful assistance to help other Federal agencies fulfill their responsibilities toward Federal trust resources.
- Provide assistance to state agencies and local governments in addressing Federal mandates.
- Prevent, or identify and repair, harm or injury to trust resources caused by environmental contaminants.

### **Services Provided to**

- Private citizens.
- State and local agencies.
- Federal agencies.
- Tribal governments.

### **Activity Highlights**

- Responds to over 2,400 requests each year for information and technical assistance involving threatened and endangered species and wetlands.
- Assists several county school systems in developing outdoor environmental labs, and private landowners in restoring riparian areas and prairie/barren habitats.
- Provides planning assistance to Department of Energy's Oak Ridge and Paducah facilities.

- Providing fish and wildlife planning expertise to Corps of Engineers water resource development projects (West Tennessee Tribs., Ohio River Navigation) and military installations.

### **Questions and Answers**

*What does Ecological Services do?*

The Ecological Services program encompasses four major activities:

- **Habitat Conservation**—involves assisting various Federal agencies in analyzing impacts to fish and wildlife resources of the projects that they either perform, permit, license, or fund.
- **Endangered Species**—involves listing species under the Endangered Species Act, encouraging the recovery of species listed, and assisting Federal agencies in complying with the Act.
- **Environmental Contaminants**—involves the identification and prevention of harm to trust resources caused by environmental contaminants, and assistance in the recovery of damaged habitats that support trust species.
- **Partners for Fish and Wildlife**—involves assisting private landowners in habitat enhancement/restoration activities that benefit trust resources.

*What are trust resources?*

Trust resources include migratory birds, species listed under the Endangered Species Act, interjurisdictional fish, marine mammals, wetlands, and Service lands.