



Fisheries  
& Habitat  
Conservation



**Key Partners:**

- Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
- Conservation Fisheries, Inc.
- Tennessee Aquarium
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Southeastern Aquatic Resources Partnership
- Asian Carp Work Group
- Corp of Engineers
- Tennessee Valley Authority



A trout. USFWS photo.



Darters. USFWS photo.

## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

### Fisheries and Habitat Conservation

# Celebrating Habitat in Tennessee

- The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has worked with partners and private landowners as part of an overall effort to improve water quality within the Rocky River watershed. Efforts include creation of a 100 foot riparian zone, alternative water sources for cattle, and erosion control measures. Results from this project will assist in improving water quality within the Rocky River and ultimately within the Caney Fork watershed.
- The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has engaged in 10 habitat improvement projects, with 16 miles of habitat improved in 2004.
- The Environmental Contaminants Program conducted 247 Clean Water Act Reviews from 2002 to 2004, including 12 consultations on effects to endangered species. The program was very active in providing technical assistance to other agencies and partners, performing several hundred activities over the three-year period.
- The Service participated in 10 oil spill drills and responded to three spills.
- The Service's Clear Creek oil spill response in 2002 helped to contain the impact area to only 2 miles of Clear Creek and 0.5 miles of Whites Creek. Clear Creek is one of only nine rivers in the southeast with the Wild and Scenic River designation.
- 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). This is the group of experts that will take the plan framework, work in focus groups, and assist in drafting sections of the plan.
- 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 Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency.
- The Project Planning Program worked with partners to produce young of five rare fish species, including four endangered species, for reintroduction into existing and formerly occupied habitats.
- The Project Planning Program worked with partners to produce more than 85,000 juvenile freshwater mussels (FY 2004) of six endangered species, more than 21,000 of which were reintroduced into existing and formerly occupied habitats.
- Two National Fish Hatcheries stock more than 1.9 million fish annually to support mitigation of Federal water development projects, produce more than 12 million disease-free trout eggs for Federal, State and Tribal hatcheries to support fishery mitigation efforts, assist Tribal governments in managing fisheries resources on Tribal lands, and provide support for projects that enhance Federal fish and wildlife trust species and their habitats.



Reelfoot NWR  
Photo by David Haggard

- The Aquatic Animal Drug Approval Partnership was established within the National Fish Hatchery System to ensure continued progress towards obtaining FDA-approved and EPA-compliant new animal drug approvals for use in Federal, State, Tribal and private aquaculture program throughout the United States.

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