



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices

## A Nationwide Network

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices (FWCOs) comprise a nationwide network of field stations focused on conserving America's fish and aquatic resources. Staffed with fisheries biologists and other conservation professionals, they work closely with state and federal agencies, private landowners, tribes and conservation agencies.

Over 300 biologists in 65 offices conserve fisheries from the Arctic Circle to the Florida Keys. Some offices engage in wildlife conservation as well. Their staffs work with private landowners, tribal, local, and state governments, other federal agencies, and foreign nations to conserve fisheries. Work conducted by FWCOs represents an original charge of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service dating to 1871.



*A Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office biologist measures a walleye captured during a research project on Lake Erie.*

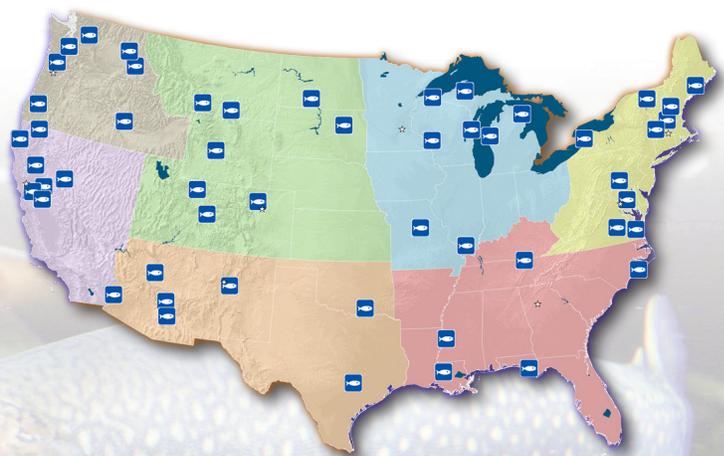
## Complex Challenges

Conserving America's fisheries is a complex challenge, FWCOs collect and apply scientific data to steer fish conservation work of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on high-priority species and habitats. FWCOs concentrate on key conservation areas to strategically address the most pervasive threats to fish populations in the U.S. These areas include:

- Conservation of native species
- Habitat restoration
- Interjurisdictional fisheries management
- Aquatic invasive species control
- Assessment of species and their habitats
- Assisting Native American tribes
- Supporting recreational fisheries

FWCO scientists specialize in population modeling, hydrology, ecology, statistics, habitat restoration and other areas of conservation science.

## FWCO Facilities



*Locations of nationwide network of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices.*

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