



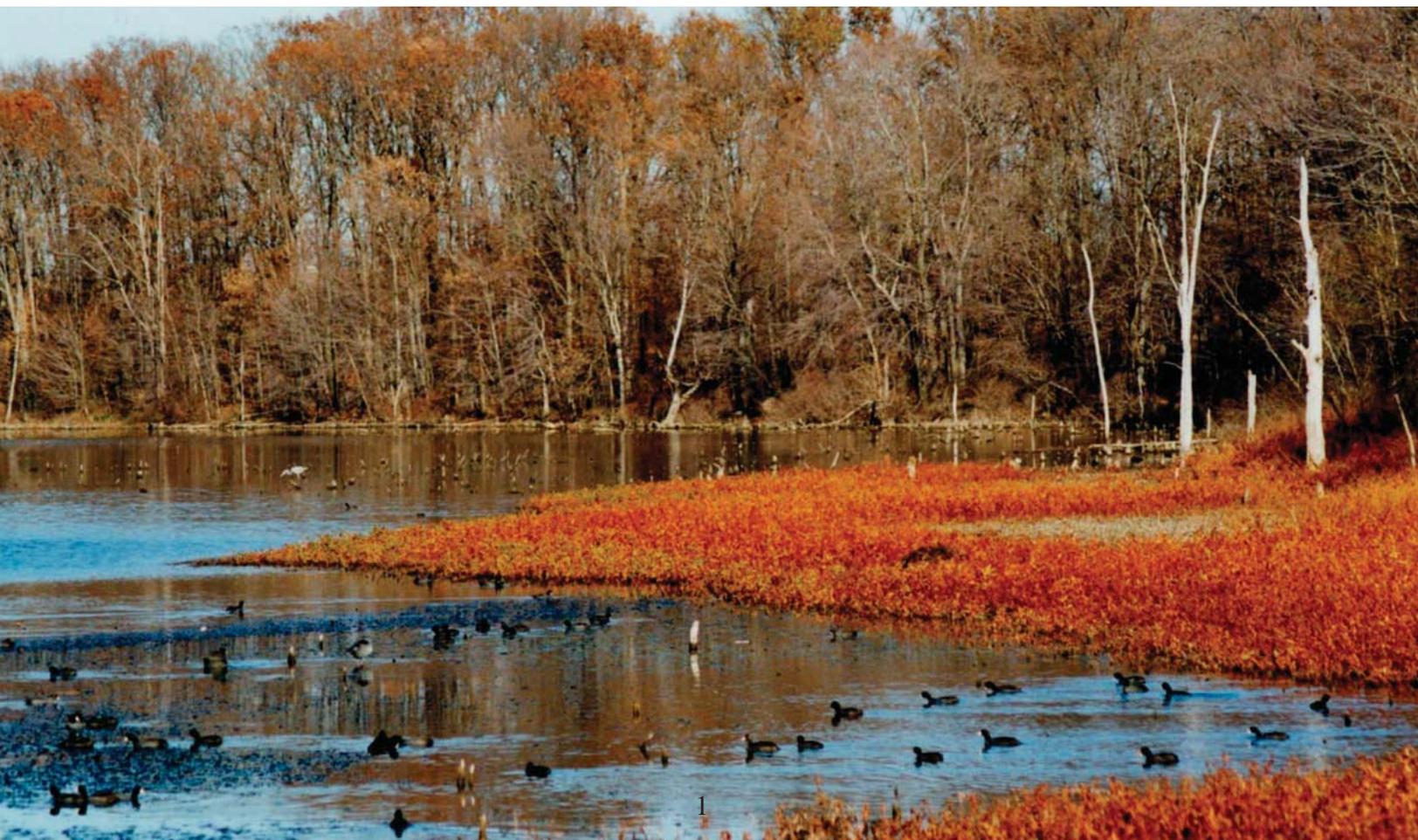
2011

## U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### Mission

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit <http://www.fws.gov>.

# MIDWEST REGION INDIANA



# contents

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## MIDWEST REGION

<i>Introduction</i>	4
<i>Midwest Region Highlights</i>	5
<i>Midwest Regional Office</i>	6
<i>Midwest Region Map</i>	7

# contents

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## INDIANA STATE

<i>Science and Strategic Landscape Conservation</i>	8
<i>Indiana Service Overview</i>	9
<i>Map of Service Facilities in Indiana</i>	10
<i>Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge</i>	11
<i>Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge</i>	12
<i>Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area</i>	13
<i>Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs</i>	14
<i>Indiana Private Lands Office</i>	15
<i>Bloomington Ecological Services Field Office</i>	16
<i>Indianapolis Law Enforcement Field Office</i>	17
<i>Indiana Office Directory</i>	18

# Introduction to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



## Quick Facts

- 550 National Wildlife Refuges
- 37 Wetland Management Districts
- 7,000 Waterfowl Production Areas
- 150 million acres of fish and wildlife habitat
- 81 Ecological Services field stations
- 69 National Fish Hatcheries
- 63 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices
- 7,500 employees

## An Overview

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is the principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

The vast majority of fish and wildlife habitat is on lands not owned by the federal government. Given that roughly 70% of the nation is owned and administered by state and local governments, tribes, corporations, and families, it is clear why conservation efforts on non-federal lands are of such great importance.

The Service could not achieve its mission without partnering with state and local governments, non-profit organizations, businesses, and private citizens. Programs such as Partners for Fish and Wildlife, Partners in Flight, the Coastal Program, and partnership activities with individuals are the primary mechanisms for assisting in voluntary habitat restoration on non-Service lands and fostering conservation practices throughout the Region.

The Service manages the 150 million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System that consists of 550 national wildlife refuges, 7,000 waterfowl production areas, and other special management areas. The Service also carries out its mission through the 81 ecological services field stations, 69 national fish hatcheries, and 63 fish and wildlife conservation offices located nationwide.

The agency enforces federal wildlife laws, manages migratory bird populations, restores nationally significant fisheries, conserves and restores fish and wildlife habitat such as wetlands, administers the Endangered Species Act, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. The Service also administers a number of grant programs that promote the restoration of fish, wildlife, and their habitat on tribal and private lands.

The Service oversees the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program that distributes federal excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state natural resource agencies. This program is a cornerstone of the nation's wildlife management efforts; funding fish and wildlife restoration, boating access, hunter education, shooting ranges and related projects across America.

Approximately 7,500 people are employed by the Service at facilities across the United States. It is a decentralized organization with headquarters in Washington, D.C., eight geographic regional offices, and nearly 700 field units.



# Midwest Region Highlights



## Quick Facts

- Employment: Roughly 1,000 permanent employees
- Acres Managed: 1.3 million
- 1.7 million acres of wildlife habitat acquired by states through the Division of Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration's federal grant program
- The Fiscal Year 2010 budget for regional Service activities totaled \$532 million (including federal grants to states and other non-federal partners)
- More than 7 million people visited refuges throughout the Midwest Region to hunt, fish, participate in interpretive programs, and view wildlife in 2010
- 50 comprehensive conservation plans (CCPs) have been completed for national wildlife refuges in the region since 1997
- The Partners Program coordinated restoration or enhancement of over 8,400 upland acres and over 5,600 acres of wetlands, removed 4 fish barriers, and carried out almost 90 miles of streambank/riparian restoration in Fiscal Year 2010
- Through 2010, 68 threatened and endangered species and 10 candidate species were identified in the Midwest Region

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service established the Midwest Region (Region 3) in 1973. The region is composed of eight states – Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, and Wisconsin. The region is highly diverse from an ecological perspective as it encompasses tallgrass prairie and potholes, agricultural lands, northern and temperate forests, a large section of the Mississippi River drainage basin, and four of the five Great Lakes. The region is headquartered just outside of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

## Regional Priorities

- To promote partnerships offering innovative opportunities to enhance the Region's fish and wildlife resources
- To provide healthy fish and wildlife trust species populations and habitats to support them
- To provide the public with quality hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, and other wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities on Service lands
- To provide an organization dedicated to employee excellence, reflecting the nation's rich diversity, and providing quality service to and decision-making for the resources for which the Service has trust responsibility (migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, interjurisdictional fish)



## Regional Programs and Offices

- 54 National Wildlife Refuges
- 12 Wetland Management Districts
- More than 300,000 acres in waterfowl production areas
- 6 National Fish Hatcheries
- 6 National Fish and Wildlife Conservation Offices
- 2 Biological Stations
- 8 Private Lands Offices
- 9 Ecological Services Offices
- 18 Law Enforcement Offices



# Midwest Regional Office

## Overview of Regional Programs



### Regional Programs

- National Wildlife Refuge System
- Ecological Services
- Fisheries
- Migratory Birds
- Science Applications
- Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration
- Law Enforcement
- Budget and Administration
- External Affairs



### Midwest Regional Office

#### Purpose

The Regional Office provides a central headquarters to facilitate partnership, administrative, budgetary, operational, personnel and policy execution between the national office in Washington, D.C., and field offices located throughout the region.

#### Organization

The Region is managed by the Regional Director with the assistance of a Deputy Regional Director, seven Program Assistant Regional Directors (Budget and Administration, Ecological Services, External Affairs, Fisheries, Migratory Birds and State Programs, Science Applications, the National Wildlife Refuge System), and a Special Agent in Charge of Law Enforcement.

#### Contact Information

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# Science and Strategic Landscape Conservation

## An Overview



### Quick Facts

- There are five LCCs within the Midwest Region geographic boundary and our staff are active in them all.
- The Region plays a lead role in three of the LCCs: the Plains and Prairie Potholes (PPP), Upper Midwest and Great Lakes (UMGL), and the Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers (ETPBR) LCCs.
- The PPP and UMGL LCCs have received funding and have established steering and technical committees and are actively collaborating across the conservation community to identify applied science needs.

### Contact Information

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 Ft. Snelling, MN 55111

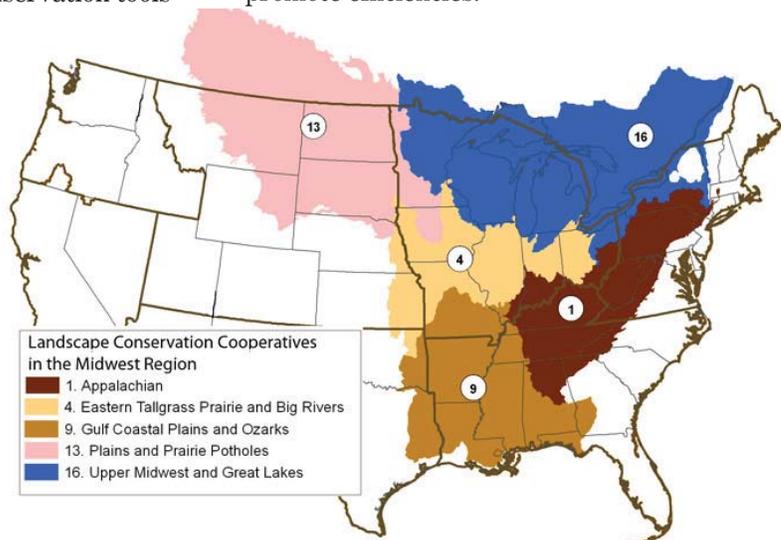
Phone: 612-713-5180  
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<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/climate/LCC.cfm>

- The PPP LCC is headquartered in Bismarck, ND (Rick Nelson, Coordinator: 701-250-4402).
- The UMGL LCC is headquartered in E. Lansing, MI (Craig Czarnecki, Coordinator: 517-351-8470).
- The ETPBR LCC is headquartered in McGregor, IA (Tim Yager, Acting Coordinator: 563-873-3423 X 12)

### Successes and Challenges

- Our Nation’s lands and natural resources are important to our quality of life and economy. The sustainability of native fish and wildlife depend on healthy landscapes.
- Natural resources are impacted by land use change and many threats to the sustainability of natural resources, including drought, fire, habitat fragmentation, contaminants, invasive species, and disease.
- The effects of a rapidly changing climate are compounding these stressors. The unprecedented pace and scale of these threats requires a more networked approach to conservation – holistic, collaborative, and grounded in science.
- These landscape-scale resource challenges transcend political and jurisdictional boundaries. No one individual public or private entity has all the conservation tools and capacities needed to address the suite of threats facing wildlife.
- The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is helping to establish Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) to leverage resources and increase science capacity to inform resource management decisions and actions. These LCCs are a network of self-directed partnerships working in unison to address stressors within and across landscapes.
- Each LCC operates within a specific landscape—21 geographic areas in total. Partners include Federal, State, and local governments, Tribes, universities, NGOs, landowners, and other stakeholders.
- LCCs foster efficient and coordinated use of resources. They do so by jointly identifying science and management priorities, enabling each partner to play a coordinated role and promote efficiencies.

- LCCs build upon existing science and conservation efforts - such as fish habitat partnerships, migratory bird joint ventures, and other natural and cultural resource partnerships - by providing scientific support and linkages to an expanded array of conservation partners.
- Collectively, the LCCs form a national network of land, water, wildlife, and cultural resource managers, scientists, and interested public and private organizations—within the U.S. and across our international borders—that share a common need for scientific information and interest in conservation.
- LCCs will not have new management authority; all partners in LCCs will retain their original jurisdiction, with State, Federal, tribal, and other entities continuing to manage natural resources under their current authorities.



# Indiana Service Overview



## Quick Facts

- The Service has approximately 36 permanent employees in Indiana
- The Fiscal Year 2010 Resource Management budget for Service activities in Indiana totaled approximately \$5.1 million
- Three national wildlife refuges in Indiana total 65,000 acres
- In 2010, nearly 204,000 people visited national wildlife refuges in Indiana to hunt, fish, participate in interpretive programs, and view wildlife

## Habitat Types and Ecosystems

Indiana has a wide diversity of habitats; from the globally rare dune and swale areas formed on the southern shore of Lake Michigan to the cypress tree swamps along the floodplain of the Ohio River.

Other areas of interest include: the lakes region in the northeast, formed by receding glaciers; the agriculturally rich center of the state that was formed by glacial outwash; and the forested hills of south-central Indiana that were spared from glacial scour and includes the biologically rich karst region.

The Wabash River runs nearly the entire length of the state and is the longest free flowing river east of the Mississippi. Along with its major tributaries, the Wabash River system supports the Midwest's most diverse freshwater mussel population.

## Conservation Priorities and Successes

Priorities focus on the protection and restoration of fish and wildlife habitats. Indiana has the national lead for recovery of the federally endangered Indiana bat, whose range includes 20 eastern states. Service recovery efforts have proven successful as there have been documented

population increases over the last 6 years.

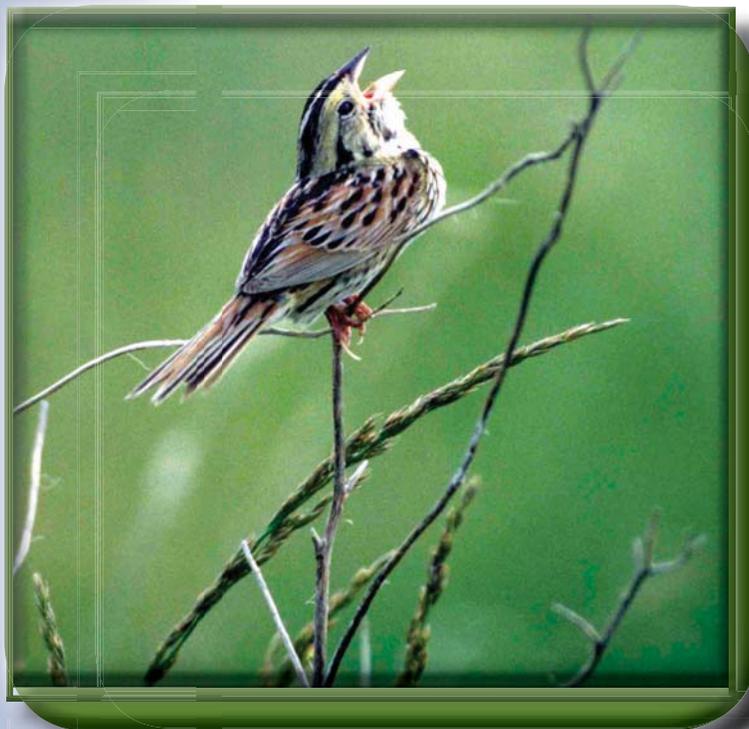
The Service's environmental contaminants program in Indiana is very active in the Natural Resources Damage Assessment arena, resulting in several million dollars being used to repair and replace degraded natural habitats.

The Service's Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program has been very successful and has restored thousands of acres of wetlands, forests and prairies throughout the state.

## Conservation Challenges

White -nose syndrome (WNS) is a malady that is killing thousands of bats in the north-east portion of the country, and it is rapidly spreading west. Significant efforts are underway to stop or slow the spread of WNS to prevent it from reaching areas that support several endangered species of bats.

Many of Indiana's streams and rivers have been altered or have degraded water quality, resulting in once common species becoming rare. It is a difficult challenge to maintain and improve stream systems while still allowing for industrial, agricultural, and recreational use.



# Map of Service Facilities in Indiana



# Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge



## Quick Facts

- Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge consists of approximately 50,000 acres within Jefferson, Ripley, and Jennings counties in southeastern Indiana
- The refuge contains the largest unfragmented forested block in southeastern Indiana and some of the largest grassland areas found within the region
- The refuge provides habitat for 120 species of breeding birds, the Federally endangered Indiana bat, and 41 species of fish
- The has been designated as a Globally Important Bird Area

## Refuge Objectives & Opportunities

- Conservation of grasslands, shrublands, and forest is a major focus of the refuge.
- Refuge staff promote habitat protection to support healthy populations of wildlife, especially declining species of grassland and forest-dwelling birds and animals.
- Existing habitats are managed to provide large contiguous blocks of forest, grassland, and shrub habitat.
- Grasslands are maintained via extensive controlled burning program.
- Forests are managed for large contiguous blocks, a habitat rare in the present landscape of Indiana and required by “forest-interior” species.
- Beaver populations are encouraged as their impoundments increase the area of permanent water and diversity of wetlands found on the refuge.
- All management decisions are based on an ecosystem concept, taking the refuge’s role in the larger landscape into consideration.
- Population and habitat monitoring are used to periodically evaluate and improve management techniques.
- Recreational opportunities include environmental education, fishing, hunting, interpretation, photography, and wildlife observation.

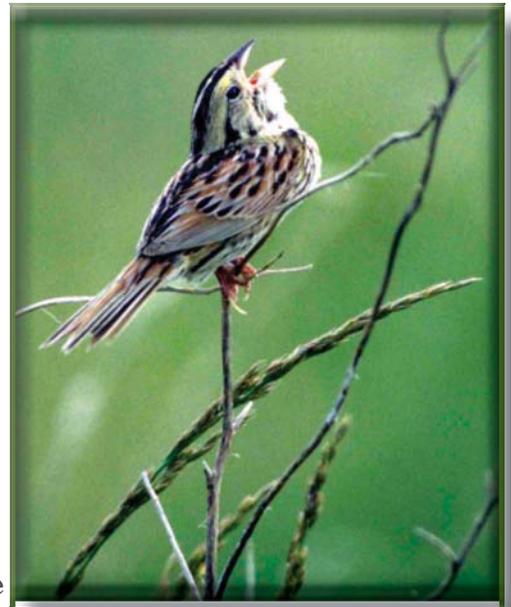
## Contact Information

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<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/bigoaks>

## Directions

The entrance to the refuge is located on U.S. Highway 421, five miles north of Madison, Indiana. The refuge office is in Building 125 (off of the refuge) in the cantonment area of the former Jefferson Proving Ground. From Madison, drive north on Highway 421 to the main entrance of the former Jefferson Proving Ground and go west on Ordnance Drive. Take the first right (Shun Pike) and then a left on Niblo Road. Building 125 is located on 1661 West Niblo Road.



# Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge



## Quick Facts

- Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge is located in south central Indiana
- The refuge is approximately 7,800 acres in size
- Nine miles of refuge roads that are open sunrise to sunset seven days/week attract approximately 150,000 visitors to the refuge each year
- Wildlife-viewing opportunities are excellent at Muscatatuck, and the refuge is known as a premier bird watching site
- Wildlife abounds at the refuge; some interesting species are wood ducks and copperbelly watersnakes

## Refuge Objectives & Opportunities

- Water manipulation is an important management tool at Muscatatuck. Many wetland units are connected by pipes and water control structures so that water can be moved between units at different times of the year.
- Muscatatuck's moist soil units, low open areas surrounded by dikes, are filled with water in the fall and drained in the spring to provide feeding areas for waterfowl and shorebirds.
- Green tree units, diked lowland forests, are flooded with water in the fall for waterfowl and drained in the spring to keep the trees healthy.
- Water manipulation is used to create permanent marshes - swampy areas of lush vegetation interspersed with pockets of shallow open water, which are ideal homes for ducks and geese to hatch and raise their young.
- Trees are planted to reduce forest fragmentation and provide even more diverse habitats for wildlife.
- Recreational opportunities include environmental education, fishing, hunting, interpretation, photography, wildlife observation, and hiking.



## Contact Information

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<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/muscatatuck>

## Directions

The refuge is located in south-central Indiana on U.S. Highway 50, just three miles east of the I-65/U.S. 50 interchange at Seymour, IN. Muscatatuck is approximately an hour's drive from Louisville, Kentucky, and Indianapolis, Indiana, and is approximately 86 miles from Cincinnati, Ohio. The main entrance on U.S. Highway 50 is marked with large brown signs.

# Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area



## Quick Facts

- Patoka River National Wildlife Refuge and Management Area was established in 1994
- The refuge is located in southwestern Indiana within the historically important north-south flyway of the Wabash River Basin
- The refuge is strategically located to provide important resting, feeding, and nesting habitat for migratory waterfowl, shorebirds, and neotropical songbirds
- The refuge is approximately 6,000 acres in size
- The proposed refuge boundary encompasses a total of 22,472 acres and will consist of 7,189 acres of national wildlife refuge and 15,283 acres of contiguous wildlife management area

## Refuge Objectives & Opportunities

- The primary management focus on the refuge is to enhance diversity within existing forests and re-forest over 6,000 acres so that approximately 75% of the refuge will be forested in the future.
- Bottomland restoration efforts are underway to create roughly 1,000 acres of shallow wetlands distributed in clusters of five or more wetlands.
- Wetland sites will be scattered to spread out waterfowl and shorebird use and to take advantage of the flat, open areas now drained for crop production.
- Management of existing woodland habitat adjacent to river oxbows will focus on providing mast-producing trees and trees for cavity-nesting birds within a half-mile of the wetland. The emphasis will be on enhancing nesting and brood-rearing habitat for wood ducks and neotropical songbirds.
- Upland areas will be restored to forest and approximately 1,000 acres of prairie and old-field habitat for upland species of wildlife. Cropland will be reduced from 7,800 acres to 250 acres of food plots.
- Special efforts are being made to provide ideal nesting habitat for the Federally endangered interior least tern on the Cane Ridge Wildlife Management Area.
- Recreational activities include hunting, fishing, hiking, environmental education, wildlife observation, and canoeing.

## Contact Information

Project Leader: Bill McCoy  
510 ½ West Morton St.  
Oakland City, IN 47660

Phone: 812-749-3199  
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E-mail: [bill\\_mccoy@fws.gov](mailto:bill_mccoy@fws.gov)  
<http://www.fws.gov/midwest/patokariver>

## Directions

Located in the counties of Pike and Gibson, the refuge is 30 miles north of Evansville by way of State Road 57. It is adjacent to the small towns of Oakland City along State Road 64 and Winslow on State Road 61. The refuge headquarters is located on the west side of Oakland City on the south side of State Road 64.



# Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Programs

## FY 2010 Allocation - Indiana (\$25.8 million)

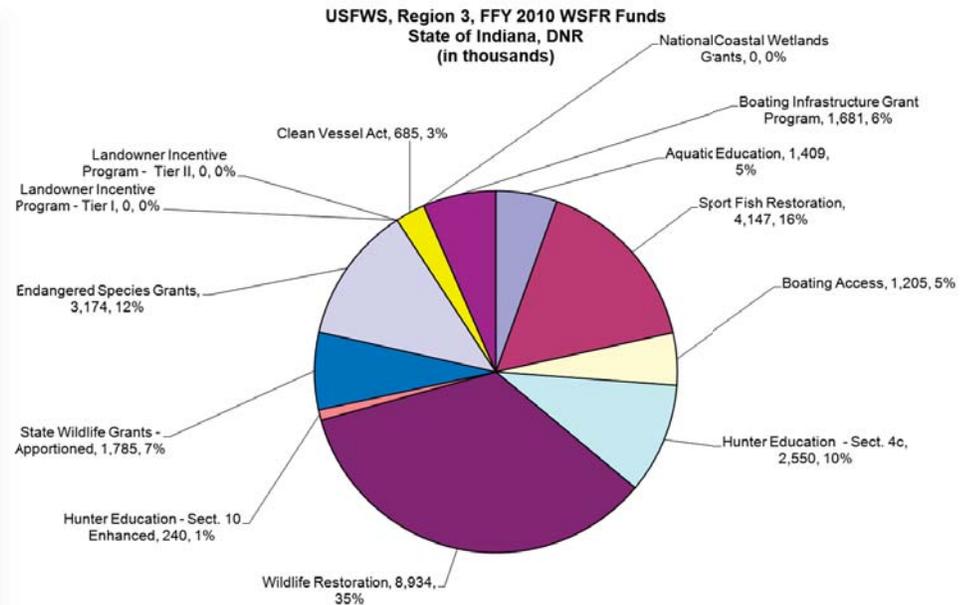


### Contact Information

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Mr. Robert Carter Jr., Director  
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### Example Project - A portion of Atterbury Fish & Wildlife Area land exchanged for a new F&W Area

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) approved the Camp Atterbury-Putnamville Land Exchange in October 2010. The land exchange between the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) and Military Department of Indiana (MDI) transferred 1,990 acres of excess Indiana Department of Correction land near Putnamville to the IDNR and 1,250 acres IDNR land at Atterbury Fish and Wildlife Area (FWA) to MDI. MDI will use the new land for troops housing, administration buildings and improved rail loading and unloading. This added capability allows Camp Atterbury to become a nationally important training and staging

facility for troops, bringing an infusion of additional funding and staffing. The remaining 4,956 acres of Atterbury FWA will continue to be open to the public for hunting, fishing and wildlife watching. The site near Putnamville is named Deer Creek Fish and Wildlife Area and will open to fishing, hunting, and wildlife related activities in late 2010 or early 2011.

The new Deer Creek FWA opens nearly 2,000 acres of prime wildlife land to the public near Putnamville, easily accessible to Indianapolis and Terre Haute citizens. The new site includes a small-mouth bass stream, two lakes, and excellent forest and field hunting, wildlife watching and wildlife habitat. Deer Creek FWA will be managed by the Indiana DNR and enjoyed by Indiana's citizens.

### Successes and opportunities:

- Acquire 43,000 acres from willing sellers in the Wabash River's flood plain in west central Indiana that will benefit wildlife and recreation. The state will use \$21.5 million from the Lifetime License Trust Fund, a state trust fund dedicated to conservation purposes, and \$10 million from FWS. This will leverage millions of dollars in private and federal funding for the protection and restoration of the corridor.
- Michigan City and Indiana Department of Environmental Management received a competitive Tier 2 Boating Infrastructure Grant Tier 2 to build a new transient boating facility. This is the first successful Tier 2 Boating Infrastructure Grant in the State of Indiana.

# Indiana Private Lands Office



## Quick Facts

- The Indiana Private Lands Office (PLO) serves as the primary coordinator for Partners for Fish and Wildlife program in Indiana
- The office provides technical and financial assistance to landowners and partners to restore and enhance fish and wildlife habitat on private lands
- The PLO serves as the liaison between all Service project leaders within the state and their supervisors, and the Division of Partners for Fish and Wildlife for all aspects of private lands activity
- The office reviews and recommends actions on all Service involvement with USDA “Farm Bill” legislation, and serves as the Service representative on the USDA State Technical Committee
- The North Judson and NE Indiana Habitat Restoration Offices (HRO) operate administratively out of the Indiana PLO, and provide private lands habitat assistance locally through Service private lands biologists stationed in the offices of other state and federal partner agencies
- Develops partnerships and joint ventures with the DNR, state and federal agencies including the NRCS and FSA, conservation organizations, and private landowners, to restore and enhance habitat on private lands

## Program Benefits

- Increased wildlife abundance and protection of endangered species.
- Enhanced wildlife diversity.
- Invasive species control.
- Improved soil, water and air quality.
- Increased recreational opportunities.
- Broad coalition of partnerships supporting voluntary habitat restoration on private lands.

## Contact Information

Project Leader: Jeff Kiefer  
620 S. Walker Street  
Bloomington, IN 47403

Phone: 812-334-4261 x 212  
FAX 812-334-4273  
Email: Jeffrey\_kiefer@fws.gov

## Directions

From Indianapolis Airport – Take I-465 S to SR 37 S (Exit 4) toward Martinsville/Bloomington. Once in Bloomington on SR 37, take 2nd St/Bloomfield Rd./SR 45 Exit. Turn left (east) at stop light onto 2nd St./Bloomfield Rd. and travel approx. 1.5 miles to stop light at Walker St. Turn right (south) onto Walker St., then turn into the first drive on right.



# Bloomington Ecological Services Field Office



## Quick Facts

- The Bloomington Ecological Services Field Office was established in 1979
- Eleven permanent staff in the Bloomington Office and one permanent employee is stationed in the Northern Indiana Sub-office

## Goals and Services Provided

The Bloomington ESFO:

- Completes habitat restoration projects through the Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program, aids Federal agencies in complying with Federal wildlife laws through the Habitat Conservation Program, prevents new occurrences of and restores past events of environmental pollution through the Contaminants Program, and completes recovery actions for endangered species in the Endangered Species Program.

- Works closely with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to modify their programs to benefit habitat restoration and preservation efforts for the copperbelly water snake.

- The ESFO has built local support with private individuals and non-government agencies to further Service efforts to recover the copperbelly water snake.

- Staff associated with the Contaminants Program have facilitated many Natural Resource Damage Assessment claims resulting in millions of dollars

being spent to restore Indiana's natural resources.

- The Bloomington ESFO has the national lead for recovery of the endangered Indiana bat. A draft Recovery Plan was recently completed that directs recovery efforts for that species over its 20 state range.

- Works closely with numerous State and Federal agencies to develop landscape scale policies to ensure conservation of the bat is maintained while forest management, mining, energy development, and other land disturbing development occurs.



## Contact Information

Project Leader: Scott Pruitt  
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Email: [Scott\\_Pruitt@fws.gov](mailto:Scott_Pruitt@fws.gov)  
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## Directions

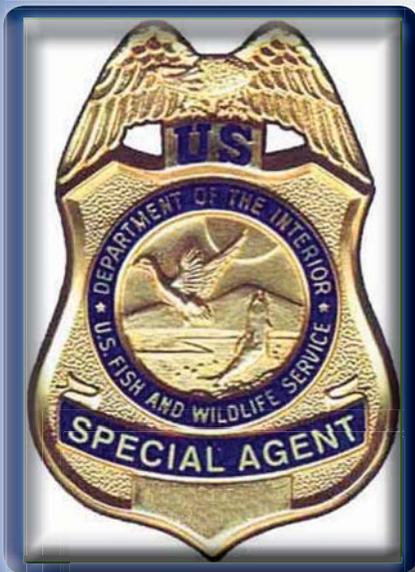
From SR37 go east on 2nd Street (Bloomfield Road) to Walker Street. Turn right (south) onto South Walker Street and the Bloomington Office is the first turn on the right.

# Indianapolis Law Enforcement Field Office



## Quick Facts

- Established in 1977
- Staff: Two Special Agents
- The Indianapolis Field Office is administered by the Ann Arbor, Michigan, Resident Agent in Charge Office



## Goals and Services Provided

- Protect and conserve native and foreign wildlife through the enforcement of federal laws.
- Promote and encourage voluntary compliance with federal wildlife laws through public education and the creation of a deterrent effect.
- Investigate violations that have a significant impact on wild

populations of federally protected species, such as those violations involving commercial exploitation and/or habitat destruction and modification

- Investigate violations that involve wild populations of species protected by state, Federal or foreign laws, with emphasis on interstate and foreign commercial exploitation
- Provide support and assistance to

enforcement activities on Service lands, such as National Wildlife Refuges, and to other federal agencies on lands they manage

- Promote awareness of, and support for, federal wildlife laws and the role of law enforcement in protecting the nation's wildlife resources and heritage

## Contact Information

171 Commerce Drive, Suite D  
Franklin, Indiana, 46131

Phone: 317-346-7014  
Phone: 317-346-7016  
FAX 317-346-7015

## Directions

Take Exit 90 on I-65  
Go west on IN-44 to US-31 north  
Turn right on Commerce Drive  
Office on right near Enterprise Rental Car



# Indiana Office Directory

## Big Oaks National Wildlife Refuge

Joseph Robb, Project Leader  
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## Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge

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**2011 State Briefing Book**

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