

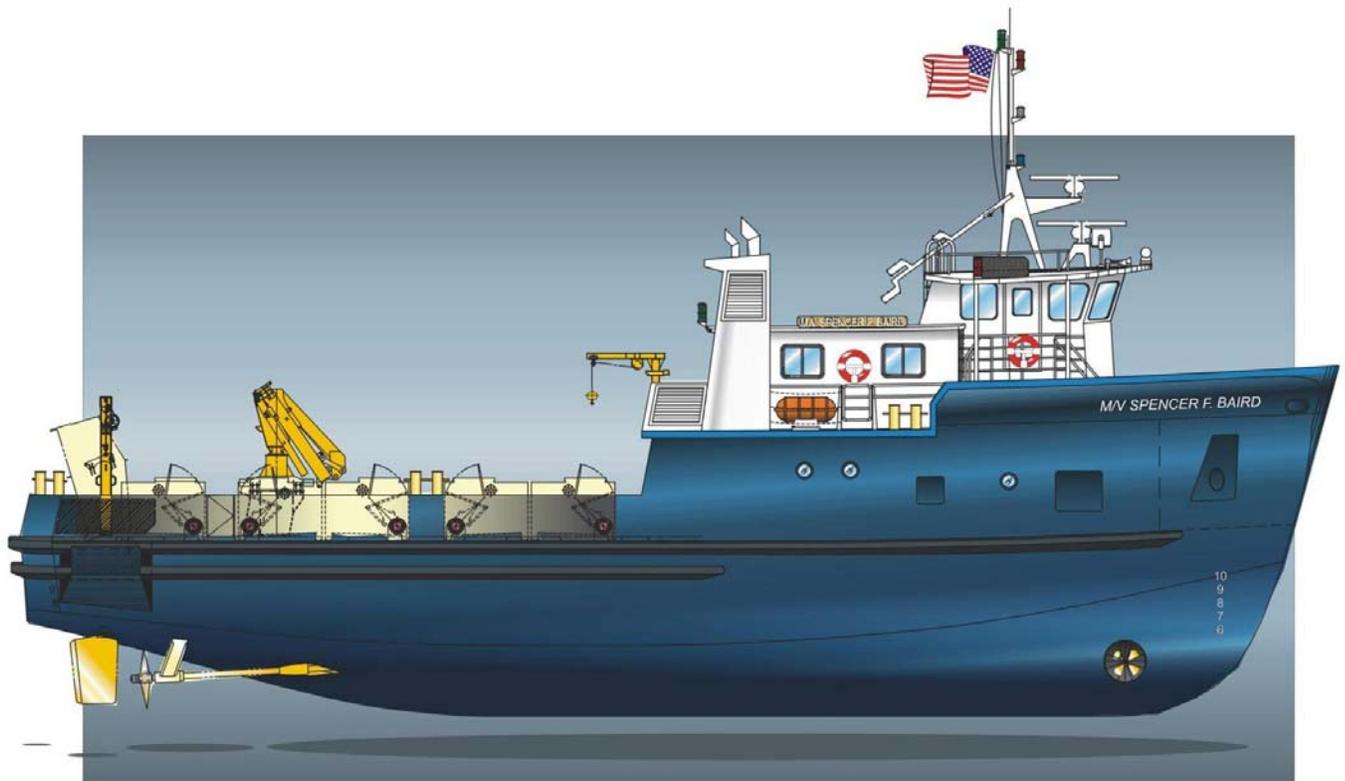


U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Great Lakes - Big Rivers Region

(Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin)

## Region 3 Fisheries Program Operational Plan Fiscal Year 2006



Construction of the Spencer F. Baird will be complete in the spring of 2006. The vessel will meet the current stocking mission and add stock assessment capabilities in the Upper Great Lakes.

# Great Lakes - Big Rivers Region

## Message from the Assistant Regional Director for Fisheries

The Fisheries Program in Region 3 (Great Lakes – Big Rivers) is committed to the conservation of our diverse aquatic resources and the maintenance of healthy, sustainable populations of fish that can be enjoyed by millions of recreational anglers. To that end, we are working with the States, Tribes, other Federal agencies and our many partners in the private sector to identify, prioritize and focus our efforts in a manner that is most complementary to their efforts, consistent with the mission of our agency, and within the funding resources available.

At the very heart of our efforts is the desire to be transparent and accountable and, to that end, we present this Region 3 Fisheries Program specific “Operational Plan” fashioned after the “Conserving America’s Fisheries Strategic Vision” developed in 2003. This plan captures what we intend to accomplish in FY 2006 arranged by focus area and station. An accomplishment report will be produced based on this operational plan.

This document cannot possibly capture the myriad of activities that are carried out by any one station in any one year, by all of the dedicated employees in the Fisheries Program, but, hopefully, it provides a clear indication of where our energy is primarily focused. This is a work in progress and we welcome your feedback on not only how to improve this document, but also on how we can better conserve all of our aquatic resources and recreational fishing opportunities. Thank you for taking the time to review this document and your efforts to help conserve our precious aquatic resources.

Gerry Jackson

Assistant Regional Director  
Fisheries

## Introduction

The Fisheries Program of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has played a vital role in conserving and managing fish and other aquatic resources since 1871. Today, the Fisheries Program is a critical partner with States, Tribes, other governments, other Service programs, private organizations, public institutions, and interested citizens in a larger effort to conserve these important resources. In 2002, working with its many partners in aquatic conservation through the Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council’s Fisheries Steering Committee, the Service completed its strategic vision for the Fisheries Program: “Conserving America’s Fisheries, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Fisheries Program, Vision for the Future.” The Vision includes goals, objectives, and action items on a national scale for the Fisheries Program.

The Great Lakes/Big Rivers Region (Region) Operational Plan is an extension of the Vision, describing more specifically the activities that the Regional Fisheries Program will implement in Fiscal Years 2004 and 2005. This accomplishment report addresses the commitments from the Operational Plan. The Fisheries Program and its partners and stakeholders recognize that responsibilities for managing and conserving many fish and other aquatic resources are shared, and overall success is contingent upon the combined knowledge, resources and commitment of each party. Therefore, the Region views this accomplishment report as a general contract between us and our partners and stakeholders. Specific species and habitat targets are identified in individual species management plans. For more information about management plans or for a listing of plans, please contact your local office or the Regional Office (612-713-5111).

# Inside the Fisheries Operational Plan

**Great Lakes - Big Rivers Region:  
Fisheries Program Operational Plan (FY 2005)**

*Message from the Assistant Regional Director for Fisheries and Introduction (Page 2)*

**Great Lakes - Big Rivers Region Fisheries Field Offices (Page 4)**



- National Fish Hatcheries
- Sea Lamprey Control Stations
- Fishery Resources Offices
- Fish Health Center

**Partnerships and Accountability (Page 6)**



*Partnerships (Pg. 6)  
Accountability (Pg. 8)  
Partners and Stakeholders (Pg. 9)  
Our Fisheries and Aquatic Resources are in Trouble! (Pg. 10)*

**Aquatic Species Conservation and Management (Page 11)**



*Native Species (Page 11)  
Interjurisdictional Species (Page 17)*

**Aquatic Invasive Species (Page 19)**



*Aquatic Invasive Species*

**Public Use (Page 22)**



*Recreational Fisheries (Page 22)  
Mitigation Fisheries (Page 26)*

**Cooperation with Native Americans (Page 27)**



*Cooperation with Native Americans (Page 27)  
Coordination with Tribal Governments (Page 30)*

**Leadership in Science and Technology (Page 32)**



*Leadership in Science and Technology*

**Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management (Page 36)**



*National Fish Habitat Initiative: A Start to a Solution (Page 36)  
Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management (Page 37)*

**Workforce Management (Page 43)**



*Workforce Management*

# Great Lakes - Big Rivers Region Fisheries Field Offices

## National Fish Hatcheries

The Region's National Fish Hatcheries primarily focus on native fish restoration/rehabilitation by stocking fish and eggs, such as pallid and lake sturgeon and by developing and maintaining brood stocks of selected fish strains, such as lake trout and brook trout. Hatcheries also provide technical assistance to other agencies, provide fish and eggs for research, stock rainbow trout in fulfillment of federal mitigation obligations and assist with recovery of native mussels and other native aquatic species.

## Sea Lamprey Control Stations

Sea Lamprey Control Stations assess and control sea lamprey populations throughout the Great Lakes. The U.S. Department of State and Canadian Department of Fisheries and Oceans fund this program through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission.

## Fishery Resources Offices

Fishery Resources Offices conduct assessments of fish populations to guide management decisions, perform key monitoring and control activities related to invasive, aquatic species; survey and evalu-

ate aquatic habitats to identify restoration/rehabilitation opportunities; play a key role in targeting and implementing native fish and habitat restoration programs; work with private land owners, states, local governments and watershed organizations to complete aquatic habitat restoration projects under the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife and the Great Lakes Coastal Programs; provide coordination and technical assistance toward the management of interjurisdictional fisheries; maintain and operate several key inter-agency fisheries databases; provide technical expertise to other Service programs addressing contaminants, endangered species, federal project review and hydro-power operation and re-licensing; evaluate and manage fisheries on Service lands; and, provide technical support to 38 Native American tribal governments and treaty authorities. In other Regions of the Service, FRO's are also referred to as Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Offices.

## Fish Health Center

The Fish Health Center provides specialized fish health evaluation and diagnostic services to federal, state, tribal and private hatcheries in the region; conducts extensive monitoring and evaluation of wild fish health throughout the region; examines and certifies the health of captive hatchery stocks; and, performs a wide range of special services helping to coordinate fishery program offices and partner organizations.

Great Lakes - Big Rivers Region Fisheries Field Offices



# Conserving America's Fisheries

## Fisheries Program Vision for the Future

### *Region 3 Focus Areas*

#### **1. Partnerships and Accountability**

Partnerships are essential for effective fisheries conservation. Many agencies, organizations, and private individuals are involved in fisheries conservation and management, but no one can do it alone. Together, these stakeholders combine efforts and expertise to tackle challenges facing fisheries conservation. The success of these partnerships will depend on strong, two-way communications and accountability.

#### **2. Aquatic Species Conservation and Management**

The Fisheries Program maintains and implements a comprehensive set of tools and activities to conserve and manage self-sustaining populations of native fish and other aquatic resources. These tools and activities are linked to management and recovery plans that help achieve restoration and recovery goals, provide recreational benefits, and address Federal trust responsibilities. Sound science, effective partnerships, and careful planning and evaluation are integral to conservation and management efforts.

#### **3. Aquatic Invasive Species**

Aquatic invasive species are one of the most significant threats to fish and wildlife and their habitats. Local and regional economies are severely affected with control costs exceeding \$123 billion annually. The Fisheries Program has focused its efforts on preventing introductions of new aquatic invasive species, detecting and monitoring new and established invasives, controlling established invasives, providing coordination and technical assistance to organizations that respond to invasive species problems, and developing comprehensive, integrated plans to fight aquatic invasive species

#### **4. Public Use**

As the population in the United States continues to grow, the potential for adverse impacts on aquatic resources, including habitat will increase. At the same time, demands for responsible, quality recreational fishing experiences will also increase. The Service has a long tradition of providing opportunities for public enjoyment of aquatic resources through recreational fishing, habitat restoration, and education programs and through mitigating impacts of Federal water projects. The Service also recognizes that some aquatic habitats have been irreversibly altered by human activity (i.e. - dam building). To compensate for these significant changes in habitat and lost fishing opportunities, managers often introduce non-native species when native species can no longer survive in the altered habitat.

#### **5. Cooperation with Native Americans**

Conserving this Nation's fish and other aquatic resources cannot be successful without the partnership of Tribes; they manage or influence some of the most important aquatic habitats both on and off reservations. In addition, the Federal government and the Service have distinct and unique obligations toward Tribes based on trust responsibility, treaty provisions, and statutory mandates. The Fisheries Program plays an important role in providing help and support to Tribes as they exercise their sovereignty in the management of their fish and wildlife resources on more than 55 million acres of Federal Indian trust land and in treaty reserved areas.

#### **6. Leadership in Science and Technology**

Science and technology form the foundation of successful fish and aquatic resource conservation and are used to structure and implement monitoring and evaluation programs that are critical to determine the success of management actions. The Service is committed to following established principles of sound science.

#### **7. Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management**

Loss and alteration of aquatic habitats are principal factors in the decline of native fish and other aquatic resources and the loss of biodiversity. Seventy percent of the Nation's rivers have altered flows, and 50 percent of waterways fail to meet minimum biological criteria.

#### **8. Workforce Management**

The Fisheries Program relies on a broad range of professionals to accomplish its mission: biologists, managers, administrators, clerks, animal caretakers, and maintenance workers. Without their skills and dedication, the Fisheries Program cannot succeed. Employees must be trained, equipped and supported in order to perform their jobs safely, often under demanding environmental conditions, and to keep current with the constantly expanding science of fish and aquatic resource management and conservation.

The vision of the Service's Fisheries Program is working with partners to restore and maintain fish and other aquatic resources at self-sustaining levels and to support Federal mitigation programs for the benefit of the American public.

Implementing this vision will help the Fisheries Program do more for aquatic resources and the people who value and depend on them through enhanced partnerships, scientific integrity, and a balanced approach to conservation.

# Partnerships and Accountability

The *Region 3 Fisheries Operational Plan – Fiscal Year 2006* is based on the *Fisheries Program Vision for the Future*. This document sets forth specific performance measures that will be used to evaluate how well the Region 3 Fisheries program accomplishes its mission. The performance measures are focused on outcomes and meaningfully reflect the purpose of the Program. The plan describes how the goals and objectives identified in the Vision will be implemented in Region 3, and provides the specific target level of accomplishment for performance measures.

Following the format of the Vision, this plan is structured to enable straightforward and realistic measurement of implementation and performance. Under each focus area, the Vision provides goals that express what the Program will strive to achieve, and each of the eleven goals is linked to “Strategic Goals,” “End Outcome Goals,” and “Intermediate Strategies” from the Department of the Interior’s (DOI) Strategic Plan to communicate the interrelationship and shared vision from the Fisheries Program level to the Department level. This document lists the Regional level “Performance Measures,” which are specific operational measures that are tracked. Planned performance measures are projected from all funding sources.

## Performance Measures (Fisheries Strategic Plan v 11)

## Regional Fisheries Goal

Number of Friends Groups (DOI)

5



-GLFC

Fish and Wildlife Service staff attended the Great Lakes lake sturgeon coordination meetings in 2005. About 100 individuals from 30 entities discussed lake sturgeon management in the Great Lakes.



-USFWS

Young-of-the-Year Lake Sturgeon  
Personnel from the Sea Lamprey Control program work with partners and stakeholders to assess the effects of lampricide applications on lake sturgeon.

## Partnerships

**Partnership Goal:** Open, interactive communication between the Fisheries Program and its partners.

*Our primary focus is on developing and improving relationships with our stakeholders and partners and to strengthen government, Tribal, and non-governmental relationships in the Great Lakes-Big Rivers Region to promote collaborative conservation strategies for conserving aquatic resources.*

**Objective** - Develop and improve long-term partnerships with States, Tribes, other Federal agencies, non-governmental organizations, and other Service Programs to develop collaborative conservation strategies for aquatic resources.

### Our Commitment

#### – The Fisheries Program will:

- Initiate frequent informal communications with state, tribal, Federal, non-governmental organizations, partners, and other programs of the Service to identify and resolve aquatic resource management problems, explore new opportunities for cooperative conservation, prepare interagency fish and wildlife management plans, and maintain productive working relationships.

## Partnerships and Accountability

- Participate in meetings held by partners to broaden the Fisheries program's perspective and appreciation of the range of issues collectively faced by resource managers.
- Work with the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resources Association (MICRA), the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee, and the Missouri River Natural Resources Committee to conserve native species and fish communities.
- Work with the Great Lakes Commission in monitoring the state of the Great Lakes and restoring environmental conditions that will support healthy fish and wildlife populations and habitats, participate in the preparation and revision of Lakewide Management Plans (LaMP) through the Binational Program, and participate in the State of the Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC) in November, 2006.
- Support Executive Order 13340 and the Great Lakes Collaboration of National Significance, through field activities and participation in the Great Lakes Strategy Teams, with special emphasis on the Habitat and Species Team and the Aquatic Invasive Species Team.
- Work with various task forces and committees to restore aquatic resources in the Midwest.
- Provide a Coordinator for the Upper Mississippi River Conservation Committee (UMRCC) from the La Crosse FRO.

### Spotlight on Partnerships

Successful international partnerships in the Great Lakes have included restored fish populations, protected habitats, and enhanced recreational fisheries.

Partners in the Great Lakes include 8 states, 10 tribes, the Province of Ontario, Federal agencies in the U.S. and Canada, non-governmental organizations, industry, and international organizations like the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. Since its formation in 1954, the Commission has looked to the Service as a partner in controlling the invasive sea lamprey and supporting the restoration and maintenance of the \$4 billion Great Lakes sport fishery. These partnerships restored lake trout in Lake Superior, one of the world's largest bodies of freshwater.

Through the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act, the Fisheries Program has funded nearly \$3.3 million in state and tribal projects to restore Great Lakes fishery resources. Projects focus on 32 fisheries restoration recommendations submitted in a 1995 report to Congress, as well as priorities of the Lake Committees, articulated in Fish Community Objectives for each of the Great Lakes.

The U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) released a report in April, 2003, describing 148 Federal and 51 state programs that fund environmental restoration activities in the Great Lakes Basin. Among the findings, the GAO report indicated that only eight of those federal or state programs report outcome information. Of the eight programs, the GAO report cites two Service programs, sea lamprey control and stocking depleted lake trout populations, as examples. The Service conducts sea lamprey control operations as the U.S. agent in partnership with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and the U. S. Geological Survey.

# Partnerships and Accountability



-USFWS

A pair of scaup take a leisurely swim at the Whittlesey Creek NWR. Biologist Ted Koehler of the Ashland FRO conducts migratory waterfowl surveys at the Refuge.



-USFWS

Representative Ron Kind cuts the first ribbon to dedicate the new lake sturgeon culture facility at the Genoa NFH in 2005. Assistant Director for Fisheries and Habitat Conservation Mamie Parker, Deputy Regional Director Charlie Wooley, and Assistant Regional Director for Fisheries Gerry Jackson assisted with the dedication.



-USFWS

(Lt. to Rt.) Project Leader Dale Bast, State Assemblyman Gary Sherman, Karen Graaf representing Senator Feingold, and Assistant Regional Director for Fisheries Gerry Jackson cut the ribbon to dedicate the new production and brood stock buildings at the Iron River NFH in 2005.

## Accountability

**Accountability Goal:** Effective measuring and reporting of the Fisheries Program's progress toward meeting short-term and long-term fish and other aquatic resource conservation goals and objectives.

*Our primary focus is on developing effective accountability measurements and reporting.*

**Objective** - Develop and implement performance measures to determine the efficiency and effectiveness of Fisheries Program resource activities and financial accountability.

**Objective** - Manage Fisheries Program funding to maximize Program performance and to allocate and spend Program funds in a timely and responsible manner.

### Our Commitment

#### - The Fisheries Program will:

- Meet regularly with State and Tribal fish and wildlife agency representatives and non-governmental organizations to coordinate activities.
- Prepare an annual report on the Fisheries program's accomplishments.
- Manage our funds to maximize Fisheries program performance.
- Develop accomplishment reports and provide summaries to State and Tribal partners and stakeholders.
- Participate in the PART reviews of Fisheries program activities during FY 2006.
- Communicate regularly with our partners and stakeholders through *Fish Lines*, a monthly account of performance highlights.
- Develop regular station reports for inclusion in *Fish Lines* and also submit articles through the Accomplishment Reporting System.
- Maintain an informative website on the Internet at: <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/Fisheries/>.
- Develop station websites and provide regular updated materials

#### - All National Fish Hatcheries will:

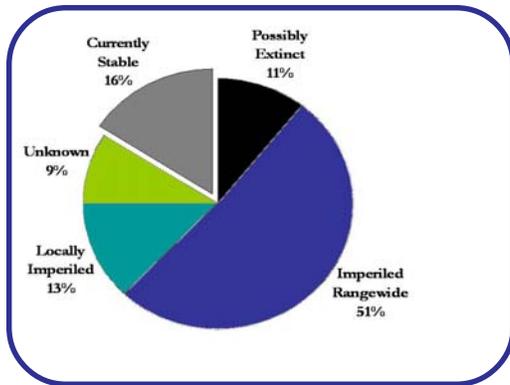
- Implement the Service Asset Maintenance Management Systems (SAMMS) to track all operational and maintenance costs for real property assets and maintenance at the station.

## some of our **Partners and Stakeholders**

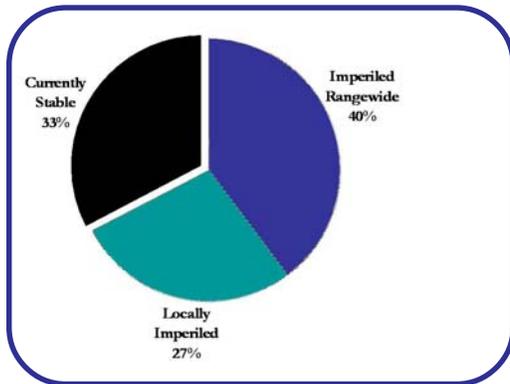
1854 Authority  
 Alpena Bass Club  
 American Fisheries Society  
 American Sportfishing Association  
 Audubon Society  
 Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
 Badger Fly Fishers  
 BASS Federation  
 Bass Pro Shops  
 Bay Mills Indian Community  
 Bois Forte (Nett Lake) Lake Superior Band of Chippewa Indians  
 Brice Prairie Foundation  
 Bureau of Indian Affairs  
 Cabela's  
 Cheboygan Sportsmans Club  
 Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA)  
 Cleveland Museum of Natural History  
 Crawford County Land Conservation Department  
 Department of Defense  
 Department of Fisheries and Oceans - Canada  
 DTE Energy  
 Falling Rock Walleye Club  
 Federal Emergency Management Authority  
 Fond du Lac (Lake Superior) Band of Chippewa Indians  
 Forest County Potawatomi Community  
 Friends of Pendills Creek Hatchery  
 Friends of the Big Muddy  
 Friends of the Jordan River Valley  
 Friends of the Neosho National Fish Hatchery  
 Friends of the Upper Mississippi River Fishery Services  
 Friends of the Upper Mississippi River Refuges  
 Grand Portage (Lake Superior) Band of Chippewa Indians  
 Grand River Partners Inc. (Ohio)  
 Grand Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians  
 Great Lakes Fishery Commission  
 Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission  
 Great Lakes Sportfishing Council  
 Hannahville Indian Community  
 Hawkeye Fly Fishing Association  
 Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin  
 Hungry Canyons Alliance  
 Illinois Department of Natural Resources  
 Indiana Department of Natural Resources  
 Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
 Iowa State University  
 Izaak Walton League  
 Keweenaw Bay Indian Community  
 Kickapoo Valley Resource Management Board  
 Lac Courte Oreilles Band  
 Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians  
 Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians  
 LaCrosse County Conservation Alliance  
 LaCrosse County Dept. of Land Conservation  
 Lake Metro Parks (Ohio)  
 Lake Michigan Fisheries Forum-17 members  
 Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  
 Legend Lake Property Owners Association  
 Little Manistee River Watershed Conservation Council  
 Little River Band of Ottawa Indians  
 Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
 Living Lands and Waters  
 Lower Sioux Indian Community in Minnesota  
 Lower Sioux Mdewakanton Indian Community  
 M.A.K.O. Fly Fisher's Association  
 Mancelona Rotary  
 Manistique Papers Inc.  
 Manitou Bluffs Conservation Group (Missouri)  
 Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians of MI  
 Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin  
 Michigan Association of RC&Ds  
 Michigan Charterboat Association  
 Michigan Conservation Districts  
 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality  
 Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
 Michigan Department of Transportation  
 Michigan Inland Lakes and Stream Association  
 Michigan State University  
 Michigan United Conservation Clubs  
 Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe  
 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources  
 Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Assoc.  
 Mississippi Valley Conservancy  
 Mississippi Valley Partners  
 Mississippi Walleye Club  
 Missouri Department of Conservation  
 Missouri River Communities Network  
 Missouri River Relief  
 Missouri Smallmouth Alliance  
 Mohican Nation Stockbridge-Munsee Band  
 National Fish and Wildlife Foundation  
 National Park Service  
 Natural Heritage Foundation  
 Natural Resource Conservation Service  
 Nebraska Game & Parks Commission  
 Nature Conservancy  
 New York Depart. of Environmental Conservation  
 North American Native Fishes Association  
 Northland Sportmans Club  
 Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi  
 Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
 Ohio Environmental Protection Agency  
 Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin  
 Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources  
 Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge Association  
 Overton-Woodridge Levee and Drainage Dist.  
 Pennsylvania Depart. of Environmental Protection  
 Pere Marquette Watershed Council  
 Peshawbestown Community Center  
 Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians  
 Prairie Island Indian Community  
 Pure Fishing  
 Rainy River First Nation  
 Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians  
 Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians  
 River Alliance of Wisconsin  
 River Relief/Missouri River Relief  
 Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa  
 Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan  
 Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
 Sea Grant  
 Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community  
 Sierra Club  
 Sakaogon Chippewa (Mole Lake) Community of Wisconsin  
 Soo Area Sportsman's Club  
 South Dakota Department of Game, Fish & Parks  
 Sport Fishing and Boating Partnership Council  
 St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin  
 Sturgeon for Tomorrow  
 The Nature Conservancy  
 Thunder Bay Brown Trout Committee  
 Thunder Bay Walleye Club  
 Tip of the Mitt Watershed  
 Trout Unlimited  
 U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 U.S. Department of Agriculture  
 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
 U. S. Forest Service  
 U. S. Geological Survey  
 Upper Black River Restoration Committee  
 Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota  
 Vernon County Land/Water Conservancy  
 West Fork Sports Club  
 White Earth Band of Chippewa  
 Wisconsin Association of Lakes  
 Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
 Wisconsin Hunting and Fishing Alliance

# Our Fisheries and Aquatic Resources are in Trouble!

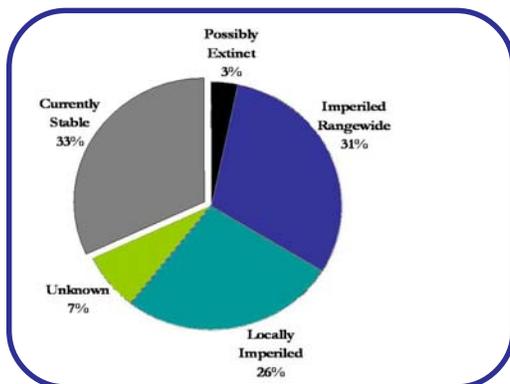
## Conservation Status of Aquatic Species in Region 3



Invertebrates-Freshwater Mussels



Invertebrates-Crayfish



Vertebrates-Fish



“Federal and state imperiled species lists were used as a primary source to identify imperiled aquatic species. The conservation status of these species was determined using scientific literature, available anecdotal information and NatureServe.org, an online resource providing scientific information on species biology, distribution, management and conservation status. Using this background information, Fisheries Program Conservation Status Categories were assigned for all native freshwater mussels, fish and crayfish that occur or are known to have historically occurred in Region 3.”

### Region 3 Fisheries Program Conservation Status Categories for Fish, Crayfish and Mussels

**Possibly Extinct:** Species determined to be possibly (in some cases probably) extinct.

**Imperiled Range-wide:** Species which are federally-listed Endangered, Threatened, Candidate and Species of Concern, as well as species State-listed across most of their range.

**Locally Imperiled:** Species determined to be widespread and common with imperiled local populations, or species which are widespread with sporadic distribution.

**Unknown:** Species which have unknown conservation statuses or for which more information is needed.

**Currently Stable:** Species determined to be widespread, common and stable in range.

# Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

Performance Measures (Fisheries Strategic Plan v 11)	Regional Fisheries Goal
Number of population assessments completed	166
Number of marking and tagging targets met, as prescribed by Recovery plans	1
Recovery Plan production tasks implemented for T&E populations (PART)	6
Number of post-stocking survival tasks met, as prescribed by Recovery plans for hatchery propagated listed species. (PART)	0
Number of other Recovery Plan tasks implemented	TBD (to be determined)
Number of Fishery Management Plan production tasks implemented (PART)	60
Number of post stocking survival tasks met as prescribed by Fishery Management Plans, for hatchery propagated depleted species (PART)	8
Number of marking and tagging targets met, as prescribed by Fishery management plans. (PART)	18
Number of other Fishery Management Plan tasks implemented for populations of management concern.	TBD
Number of post stocking survival tasks met as prescribed by management plans, for hatchery propagated candidate populations. (Fisheries)	TBD
Number of management plan production tasks implemented that involve NFHS production activities for candidate populations. (Fisheries)	TBD
Number of marking and tagging targets met, as prescribed by approved management plans, for candidate populations. (Fisheries)	TBD
Number of other approved management plan tasks implemented for candidate populations. (Fisheries)	TBD
Number of DOI watershed units (8 digit HUC) sampled under the Wild Fish Health Survey (DOI)	37



-USFWS

John Whitney takes samples from northern pike as part of the Wild Fish Health Survey while Jan Beitlich records length/weight data. Samples were taken from 15 different species for a total of over 360 fish examined in 2005 for the assessment on Pool 9 of the Mississippi River.

## Native Species

**Native Species Goal:** Self-sustaining populations of native fish and other aquatic resources that maintain species diversity, provide recreational opportunities for the American public, and meet the needs of tribal communities.

### (Self-sustaining Species)

*Our primary focus for this objective is on management activities that help maintain species at self-sustaining levels. Specifically, we work with lake whitefish, walleye, and shovelnose sturgeon.*

**Objective** - Maintain diverse, self-sustaining fish and other aquatic resource populations.

### Our Commitment

- **Regional Office will:**
  - Work through the Council of Lake Committees of the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to conserve native fish and fisheries consistent with the Joint Strategic Plan for Management of Great Lakes Fisheries (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Work through the Habitat and Species Strategy Team under the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration to conserve native fish and fisheries (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Conduct fishery-independent assessments to monitor the status of lake whitefish populations in the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Huron (MI).



-USFWS

Northland College students along with Ashland FRO staff volunteered to help the Wisconsin DNR monitor the spearing harvest of lake sturgeon from Lake Winnebago.

# Aquatic Species Conservation and Management



-USFWS

Tessa Hovland (La Crosse District, Refuges) helps Eric Leis from the La Crosse FHC collect spleen and kidney samples from lake sturgeon. The La Crosse FHC along with partners monitor the health of the Lake Winnebago-Wolf River system population which provides a very popular sport fishery.



-USFWS photo by James Boase

Working with biologists from Michigan DNR, Environment Canada, Walpole Island First Nation, U. S. Geological Survey's Great Lakes Science Center, and Belle Isle Aquarium, Biologist James Boase from the Alpena FRO helped conduct native mussel surveys in the St. Clair River delta.



-USFWS

This large lake sturgeon was captured by the Columbia FRO at the confluence of Osage and Missouri rivers.

- Work with Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA), Michigan DNR, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Bruce Power, and the First Nations to conduct a lake-wide lake whitefish tagging study to determine stock delineation in Northern Lake Huron and serve in the lead role for database management (MI).
- Work with the Michigan DNR, CORA, and the five 1836 Treaty Tribes to identify, assess, and reduce threats to lake whitefish, walleye, and other stocks targeted by fisheries in the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Huron (MI).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Work with the Michigan DNR, CORA and the five 1836 Treaty Tribes to identify, assess, and reduce threats to lake whitefish, lake trout, walleye, and other stocks targeted by fisheries in the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Superior (MI).
  - Work with partners to monitor the status of and identify potential threats to lake trout populations in Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
  - Conduct fishery-independent assessments to monitor the status of lake whitefish populations in the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Superior (MI).
  - Work with the Wisconsin DNR and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission to monitor the status of and identify threats to walleye populations targeted by fisheries in the 1837 and 1842 Treaty waters (WI).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Collect and provide biological data on shovelnose sturgeon to the Missouri Department of Conservation for stock assessment (MO).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Conduct fishery-independent assessments and monitor the status of lake whitefish populations in Northern Lake Michigan (MI, WI).
  - Work cooperatively with the Wisconsin DNR to assess the status of yellow perch populations in Green Bay, Lake Michigan, using models and data analysis (WI).
  - Work with the Michigan DNR, CORA and the five 1836 Treaty Tribes to identify, assess, and reduce threats to lake whitefish, walleye, and other stocks targeted in fisheries of the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Michigan (MI).
- **La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Support the La Crosse FHC to conduct the annual Wild Fish Health Survey (MN, WI).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Conduct the Wild Fish Health Survey (Region 3 states).
  - Investigate disease outbreaks for wild and hatchery raised fish (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI).
  - Conduct pathogen screening for wild fish brought onto the Service's NFH's (IA, MO, WI).
  - Verify findings from other agencies' fish pathologists (Region 3 states).

# Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

## *(Aquatic Species of Concern)*

**Objective** - Restore declining fish and other aquatic resource populations before they require listing under the *Endangered Species Act*.

*Our primary focus for this objective is on restoration activities that will help prevent the need to list species under the ESA. Specifically, we work with lake sturgeon, paddlefish, and native mussels in the Mississippi, Missouri, and Ohio river basins and lake trout, coaster brook trout, lake sturgeon, and lake herring in the Great Lakes.*

### **Our Commitment**

- **Regional Office will:**
  - Work with partners through the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Proposal Review Committee to identify and fund native fish restoration activities addressing recommendations of the Great Lakes Fishery Resources Restoration Study (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Work through our position as observer on the Council of Lake Committees to pursue native fish rehabilitation on a Great Lakes wide scale consistent with fish community objectives for each lake (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Work with the Ecological Services program in responding to the petition to list the American eel (IA, IL, IN, MI, MN, MO, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Work with the Ecological Services program in responding to the petition to list the Lake Superior coaster brook trout (MI, MN, WI).
- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office:**
  - Work with partners to monitor the status of lake trout and to restore populations and habitat through interagency plans for Lake Huron, and lead efforts for the fourth revision of the Lake Huron Lake Trout Study Plan (MI).
  - Work with partners to monitor the status of lake sturgeon and to restore populations and habitat through interagency plans for Lake Huron, Lake Erie, and connecting waters (MI, OH).
  - Work with partners to monitor the status of lake herring and develop interagency restoration plans for Lake Huron (MI).
  - Work with partners to identify the status of and develop interagency restoration plans for freshwater mussels in the St. Clair River Delta and participate on the Region 3 Mussel Group (MI).
  - Work with the Michigan DNR, East Lansing Field Office, and others to assess the status of Eastern sand darter (MI).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office:**
  - Work with partners to monitor the status of brook trout and to restore populations and habitat through interagency plans for Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
  - Work with partners to monitor the status of lake sturgeon and to restore populations and habitat through interagency plans for Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
  - Work cooperatively with the Endangered Species program and the U.S. Geological Survey to assess the status of shortjaw cisco in Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
  - Work cooperatively with the Regional Office and Ecological Services Field Offices in responding to the petition to list Lake Superior coaster brook trout (MI, MN, WI).
- **Carterville Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Collect 150-200 adult shovelnose sturgeon from the Ohio River (extirpated from portions of Ohio waters) to support Ohio DNR's reintroduction program (IL, OH).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Collect and provide biological data on lake sturgeon to the Missouri Department of Conservation for stock assessment (MO).

# Aquatic Species Conservation and Management



-USFWS

Biologists from the Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Geological Survey survey predatory fish populations in Lake Michigan on the R/V Siscowet.



-USFWS

Displayed are the adult and juvenile native mussels found at one site during a quantitative survey of Fish Creek. The metal instrument near the center of the image is used to measure specimens.



-USFWS

A brook trout is being spawned at the Iron River National Fish Hatchery. Each brook trout can have between 1,000 to 3,000 eggs, depending on the size of the fish.

- Collect and provide biological data on paddlefish in the Lower Missouri River to the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association Paddlefish/Sturgeon Committee for stock assessments (MO).
- Provide technical assistance to Missouri Department of Conservation to help re-write a 10-year paddlefish management plan (MO).
- Provide technical assistance to help write a comprehensive, multi-state paddlefish plan for the Lower Missouri River (SD, NE, KS, IA, MO).

## - Green Bay Fishery Resources Office

- Work with partners to monitor the status of lake trout in Lake Michigan, revise the lake trout rehabilitation plan and restore populations and habitat through coordinated inter-agency actions (MI, IL, IN, WI).
- Work with partners to monitor the status of lake sturgeon in Lake Michigan, develop a rehabilitation plan and restore populations and habitat through coordinated interagency actions (MI, IL, IN, WI).
- Work with partners to identify the status of spotted musky and develop and implement interagency rehabilitation plans for Green Bay (MI, WI).

## - Genoa National Fish Hatchery will:

- Identify the host fish for various imperiled mussels species in the Upper Mississippi River Basin (IL, IA, MN, WI) (**Fully funded by FONS project # 2002-001**).
- Culture 1,000 coaster brook trout of the Siskiwit strain in the isolation unit for future brood stock at Iron River NFH under interagency restoration programs for the Great Lakes (MI, WI).
- Culture 25,000 lake sturgeon (3 strains) for stocking under interagency restoration programs on the Menominee Indian Reservation (e.g. Menominee Indian Tribe and Wisconsin DNR), Red River of the North Basin (e.g. First Nations of Canada, White Earth Band of Chippewa, and Minnesota DNR), and the Missouri River Basin (e.g. Missouri Department of Conservation) (MN, MO, WI). (**Partially funded by FONS project # 2003-001**).
- Culture 7,500 yearling brook trout and 20,000 fingerling brook trout for stocking under an interagency restoration program in Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
- Work with partners to collect and isolate future lake trout brood stock from wild Lake Superior, Seneca Lake, and Cayuga Lake donor populations, and future coaster brook trout brood stocks from Isle Royale National Park as needed (MI, NY, WI).

## - Iron River National Fish Hatchery will:

- Work cooperatively with the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community and other partners to collect and isolate future lake trout and brook trout brood stock from wild Lake Superior donor populations (MI, WI) (**FONS project # 2001-001**).

# Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

- Maintain strains of lake trout (Klondike Reef, Apostle Island, Green Lake, Traverse Island, and Isle Royale) and brook trout (Siskiwit Bay and Tobin Harbor) brood stock, as defined by restoration plans for lakes Superior, Huron, Michigan, Erie and Ontario, to support interagency restoration programs in the Upper Great Lakes (MI, MN, IL, IN, NY, PA, WI).
  - Produce lake trout (3-5 million eggs; 1.2 million yearlings; 400,000 fingerlings) and brook trout (300,000-500,000 eggs; 50,000 fry; 50,000 fingerlings; 50 adults) for stocking under interagency restoration programs in lakes Superior, Huron, and Michigan (MI, MN, IL, IN, WI).
  - Work with partners through the Lake Michigan Technical Committee and the Lake Huron Technical Committee to update and implement interagency lake trout rehabilitation plans (MI, IL, IN, WI).
  - Reduce lake trout brood stock strains/lines per advice from the Regional office, reflecting changes to rehabilitation programs for Lake Huron and Lake Michigan (MI).
- **Jordan River National Fish Hatchery will:**
- Produce 1.8 million lake trout yearlings for stocking under interagency rehabilitation programs in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan (MI, IL, IN, WI).
  - Operate the M/V Togue to stock 3 million lake trout yearlings from Iron River, Pendills Creek and Jordan River NFHs at offshore reefs in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron (MI, IL, IN, WI).
  - Conduct field testing of lake trout holding and stocking capabilities of the M/V Baird during summer, 2006, in preparation for taking on the full stocking mission in 2007 (IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Provide 700,000-1,000,000 lake trout fry to Pendills Creek NFH for rearing to yearling stage in the 2006-2007 cycle (MI, IL, IN, WI).
  - Work with partners through the Lake Michigan Technical Committee and the Lake Huron Technical Committee to update and implement interagency lake trout rehabilitation plans (MI, IL, IN, WI).
- **Neosho National Fish Hatchery will:**
- Hold 300 freshwater drum as host fish for Southwest Missouri State University's efforts to culture the Neosho mucket, a candidate species for listing under the *ESA* (MO).
  - Experiment with culturing freshwater drum to provide a continuous supply for Neosho mucket culturing efforts (MO).
- **Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery will:**
- Produce 750,000 lake trout yearlings for stocking under interagency rehabilitation programs in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan (IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Complete the installation of water filtration and liquid oxygen systems and bring them into full operation in preparation for use during the 2006-2007 cycle (MI).
  - Work with partners through the Lake Michigan Technical Committee and the Lake Huron Technical Committee to update and implement interagency lake trout rehabilitation plans (MI, IL, IN, WI).
- **Sullivan Creek National Fish Hatchery will:**
- Work with partners to collect and isolate future lake trout brood stock from wild Lake Superior, Lake Huron, Seneca Lake, and Cayuga Lake donor populations (MI, NY, WI).
  - Maintain strains of lake trout brood stock (Seneca Lake, Lewis Lake, Traverse Island, and Apostle Island) as defined by rehabilitation plans to provide five million eggs for interagency rehabilitation programs in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan (MI, IL, IN, WI).
  - Maintain Lake Superior Klondike strain lake trout brood stock and provide 200,000 eggs to Allegheny NFH for rearing to the yearling stage and stocking under interagency rehabilitation programs in Lake Erie and Lake Ontario (MI, NY).
  - Reduce lake trout brood stock strains/lines per advice from the Regional office, reflecting changes to rehabilitation programs for Lake Huron and Lake Michigan (MI).

# Aquatic Species Conservation and Management



-GLFC  
Marquette Biological Station employees Mary Wilson and Michael Blohm monitor invasive sea lamprey trap catch in a Great Lakes tributary stream.

- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Conduct fish health pathogen screening and diagnostic services for the Service's Great Lakes brook trout and lake trout restoration stocking activities (MI, WI).
  - Increase the number of watersheds with current wild fish health surveys to 37 out of 363 watersheds in Region 3 (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI).
- **Marquette and Ludington Biological Stations will:**
  - Conduct sea lamprey control operations, in coordination with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and other partners, to minimize potential impacts to non-target organisms including lake sturgeon, chestnut lamprey, northern brook lamprey, American brook lamprey, and silver lamprey (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, PA, OH, WI).

## (Endangered and Threatened Species)

**Objective** - Recover fish and other aquatic resource populations protected under the *Endangered Species Act*.

*Our primary focus for this objective is on implementing recovery activities that: 1) prevent the extinction of threatened and endangered species, and; 2) lead to down-listing or de-listing species listed under the ESA. Specifically, we work with pallid sturgeon, Higgins eye pearl mussel, winged mapleleaf, Topeka shiner and Niangua darter.*

## Our Commitment

- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office:**
  - Work with partners to monitor status of and threats to endangered northern riffleshell mussel in the St. Clair River Delta (MI).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office:**
  - Serve as the Lower Missouri River Pallid Sturgeon Recovery Work Group Leader and coordinate endangered pallid sturgeon recovery efforts, including management, propagation, and stocking in the Lower Missouri River (IA, KS, MO, NE).
  - Monitor the status of the pallid sturgeon population and associated fish community in the Lower Missouri River (IA, KS, MO, NE).
  - Monitor the effectiveness of the pallid sturgeon shallow water habitat created by U. S. Army Corps of Engineers (CORPS) activities in Lower Missouri River (IA, KS, MO, NE).
  - Monitor pallid sturgeon behavior and response to the Spring Rise in the Lower Missouri River (IA, KS, MO, NE).
  - Provide technical assistance to the Niangua Darter Recovery Team to recover darters in the Sage River basin (MO).
  - Provide technical assistance to complete the Pallid Sturgeon Propagation and Stocking Plans for the Missouri River (IA, KS, MO, MT, NE, ND, SD).



-USFWS photo  
Roderick May puts the finishing touches on a brine shrimp hatching unit. Brine shrimp are used as food for newly hatched pallid sturgeon at the Neosho NFH.



-USFWS  
Biologist Colby Wrasse sets a fyke net in Swan Lake on the Two Rivers National Wildlife Refuge. The Carterville Fishery Resources Office is sampling the lake to provide data on long term trends of the fish community.

# Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

- **La Crosse Fishery Resources Office:**
  - Work with partners to collect, re-distribute, and monitor endangered Higgins' eye pearl mussels for recovery efforts in the Upper Mississippi River basin (IL, IA, MN, WI).
  - Work with partners to collect and aggregate endangered winged mapleleaf for recovery efforts in the Upper Mississippi River basin (MN, WI).
  - Serve on the Topeka Shiner Recovery Team (IA, MN, MO).
- **Genoa National Fish Hatchery:**
  - Culture winged mapleleaf juveniles for reintroductions and stocking under an interagency recovery program in the Upper Mississippi River basin (MN, WI).
  - Develop and maintain a disease free source of channel catfish to use as host fish for winged mapleleaf recovery efforts (MN, WI).
  - Culture Higgins' eye pearl mussels for stocking under an interagency recovery program in the Upper Mississippi River basin (IL, IA, MN, WI).
  - Culture approximately 10,000 yearling host fish of various species for endangered Higgins' eye pearl mussel recovery efforts (IL, IA, MN, WI).
- **Neosho National Fish Hatchery:**
  - Culture and tag 5,000 endangered pallid sturgeon (9 inch) for stocking under an interagency (e.g. Missouri Department of Conservation, Iowa DNR, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) recovery program in the Missouri River (MO, IA, KS, NE) (**Partially funded by FONS Project # 2002-007**).
  - Provide technical assistance to complete the Pallid Sturgeon Propagation and Stocking Plans for the Missouri River (IA, KS, MO, MT, NE, ND, SD).
  - Protect the water source for the threatened Ozark cavefish on a portion of the hatchery (MO) (**Fully funded by FONS Project 2002-004**).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center:**
  - Complete one fish health assessment per year on pallid sturgeon cultured at the Neosho NFH (MO).
  - Complete at least one fish health assessment per year at Genoa NFH on host fish used for freshwater mussel culture (WI).
  - Provide technical assistance on pallid sturgeon fish health for Region 3 (IA, MO).
- **Marquette and Ludington Biological Stations will:**
  - Complete a programmatic Endangered Species Act Section 7 consultation with the Ecological Services program to ensure the conservation of all listed Great Lakes species during sea lamprey control operations. (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, PA, OH, WI).

## Interjurisdictional Species

**Interjurisdictional Fisheries Goal:** Interjurisdictional fish populations are managed at self-sustaining levels.

*Our primary focus is on supporting, facilitating, and/or leading collaborative approaches to conserve and restore sustainable interjurisdictional fish populations.*

**Objective** – Co-manage interjurisdictional fisheries.

**Objective** - Support, facilitate, and/or lead collaborative approaches to manage interjurisdictional fisheries.

# Aquatic Species Conservation and Management

## Our Commitment

- **Regional Office will:**
  - Work with partners through the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Proposal Review Committee to identify and fund activities supporting collaborative approaches to managing interjurisdictional fisheries (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Work through the Council of Lake Committees to pursue collaborative approaches to managing interjurisdictional fisheries (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Participate through the Lake Huron Technical Committee to conserve, restore, and manage interjurisdictional fish stocks in Lake Huron (MI).
  - Assist Michigan, CORA and tribal parties to the Consent Decree in managing interjurisdictional fisheries in the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Huron through the Technical Fisheries Committee, Modeling Subcommittee, and Executive Council (MI).
  - Process lake trout heads recovered from CORA assessment and commercial fisheries, Michigan DNR sport fishery, and Service assessment operations, for coded-wire tag data recovery (MI).
  - Provide data input to U.S. Geological Survey for the Lake Huron coded-wire tag database for use in managing interjurisdictional fisheries in Lake Huron (MI).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Participate through the Lake Superior Technical Committee to conserve, restore, and manage interjurisdictional fish stocks in Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
  - Assist Michigan, CORA, and tribal parties to the Consent Decree in managing interjurisdictional fisheries in the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Superior through the Technical Fisheries Committee (MI).
  - Assist Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, and member tribes in managing interjurisdictional fisheries in the 1837 and 1842 Treaty ceded waters (MI, MN, WI).
- **Cartersville Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide fisheries technical assistance to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for mitigation planning as part of the Ohio River Main Stem Studies (IL, IN, OH).
  - Participate in the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Agency - Paddlefish/Sturgeon Subcommittee to improve and coordinate management activities (IL, IN, IA, MN, MO, OH, WI).
  - Work with Missouri Department of Conservation, Columbia Fishery Resources Office, and other partners to maintain a shovelnose and lake sturgeon tag database to foster communication between the Service and its partners (IL, MO).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Participate in the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Agency Paddlefish/Sturgeon Subcommittee to improve and coordinate management activities (IL, IN, IA, MN, MO, OH, WI).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Participate through the Lake Michigan Technical Committee to conserve, restore, and manage interjurisdictional fish stocks in Lake Michigan (IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Assist Michigan, CORA, and tribal parties to the Consent Decree in managing interjurisdictional fisheries in the 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Michigan through the Technical Fisheries Committee, Modeling Subcommittee, and the Executive Council (MI).
  - Maintain the following interagency databases: Great Lakes Fish Stocking Database, Lake Michigan Creel Summary, and Lake Michigan Coded-Wire Tag Return Data (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Work with States and Tribes and other Federal agencies to coordinate regional responses and actions to new fish diseases, such as the Spring Viremia of Carp Virus, Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia, and the Largemouth Bass Virus (IL, IN, IA, MI MN, MO, OH WI).

# Aquatic Invasive Species

Performance Measures (Fisheries Strategic Plan v 11)	Regional Fisheries Goal
Number ANS related of outreach/education activities conducted	22
Number of surveys conducted for early detection	8
Number of aquatic invasive species populations controlled / managed	8
Number of state/interstate ANS plans supported	7
Number of activities conducted to address priority pathways	7
Number of activities conducted to support the management/control of aquatic invasive species	3
Number of public awareness campaigns conducted and supported	0
Number of partnerships	6
Number of technical assistance/coordination activities conducted	15
Number of surveys conducted for aquatic invasive species baseline/trend information	14
Number of activities conducted for rapid response	1



-photo by Chris Young - State Journal Register  
**An invasive Asian carp leaps out of a boat's wake in the Illinois River. During the mid-August 2005 Asian carp surveillance in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal and the Des Plaines River, no Asian carp were detected in the study area.**

**Aquatic Nuisance Species Goal: Risks of aquatic nuisance species invasions are substantially reduced, and their economic, ecological, and human health impacts are minimized.**

*Our primary focus is on education, preventing new introductions of aquatic invasive species (AIS), and working with others to reduce the impacts from Asian carp, zebra mussels, round gobies, sea lamprey, rusty crayfish, Eurasian water milfoil, spiny water fleas, and Eurasian ruffe.*

**Objective** – Prevent new introductions of aquatic nuisance species.

**Our Commitment**

– **Regional Office will:**

- Work with partners through the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Proposal Review Committee to identify and fund activities reducing the risk of a AIS introductions (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI, and Ontario).
- Work through the Aquatic Invasive Species Strategy Team under the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration to identify and prioritize activities reducing the risk of aquatic invasive species introductions (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- Provide technical assistance to the States of Minnesota and Missouri to assist development of their State Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) Management Plans (MN, MO).
- Work through the Aquatic Invasive Species Strategy Team under the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration to identify and prioritize activities reducing the risk of aquatic invasive species introductions (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- Support all approved State and the St. Croix Interstate ANS Management Plans (IL, IA, MI, MN, OH, WI).
- Support the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Basin ANS Regional Panels (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI, and others within the Basins).



-photo by Susan Crispin

**Pitcher's Thistle**

**Sea Lamprey program staff work closely with the East Lansing Field Office to minimize disturbance to habitats of several listed species including the Pitcher's thistle during sea lamprey assessments on the Carp Lake River in Emmet County, Michigan.**

## Aquatic Invasive Species

- Work with the Cabela's store in Owatonna, Minnesota, and Minnesota DNR to complete a kiosk to help educate the 2 million store visitors about AIS, their impacts, agency activities, and what people can do to prevent the spread and minimize impacts (MN).
- Work with Babe Winkel Productions, Wildlife Forever, U.S. Forest Service, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to produce a 30-second commercial that will be aired the second quarter of 2006 (60 episodes per week, for 13 weeks; total of 780 commercial showings), on Winkelman's "Good Fishing" television show. The commercial will focus on how anglers and boaters can help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species.
- **All Fishery Resources Offices will:**
  - Complete Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plans for each discrete activity (e.g., gill netting, seining, electrofishing, stocking) with risk of spreading AIS. Those plans will be collated, and submitted to the RO by the end of FY06. HACCP plans will be implemented, updated, and modified as needed in the future. Information on HACCP training, example plans, a wizard to help in plan development, and other resource materials on HACCP are available at: <http://haccp-nrm.org/> (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI).
  - Deliver educational programs and materials to the public and news media about the threat of AIS and actions the public can take to prevent introduction and range expansion (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI).
  - Provide technical assistance and information exchange to agencies and researchers investigating potential control and prevention measures for new AIS (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI).
- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Conduct surveillance for Eurasian ruffe and other AIS in areas of probable invasion in order to detect early presence and initiate control actions in Lake Huron (MI).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Conduct surveillance for Eurasian ruffe and other AIS in areas of probable invasion in order to detect new populations and initiate control actions in Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
- **Carterville Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Inspect and certify shipments of triploid grass carp from private producers to reduce risk of expanding diploid populations in the wild (IN, OH, IL).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Conduct surveillance for Eurasian ruffe and other AIS in areas of probable invasion in order to detect early presence and initiate control actions in Lake Michigan (MI, WI).
- **Genoa National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Adhere to the station's zebra mussel prevention plan and station's HACCP plans to avoid aquatic invasive species introductions and reduce risks of aquatic invasive species introductions through existing stocking programs (WI).

**Objective** – Minimize range expansion and population growth of established AIS.

### Our Commitment

- **Regional Office will:**
  - Work through the Aquatic Invasive Species Strategy Team under the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration to identify and prioritize activities to minimize range expansion and population growth of established aquatic nuisance species (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Work through membership on the Sea Lamprey Integration Committee Core Group to provide planning and recommendations guiding the control of sea lamprey to the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Work with the City of Chicago, State of Illinois, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago to stop Asian carp from establishing self-sustaining populations in the Great Lakes (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI).

# Aquatic Invasive Species

- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Conduct Eurasian ruffe and round goby monitoring activities to determine status, population trends and impacts on native fishes in Lake Huron and the St. Marys River (MI).
  - Conduct round goby surveillance activities to monitor the status and trends of populations at Shiawassee NWR (MI).
  - Coordinate with state, tribal and Federal partners, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Great Lakes Carriers Association and others to detect and control AIS in Lake Huron and Lake Erie (MI, OH).
  - Serve as lead author for the AIS section of the State of the Lake Huron Fish Community Report and present the update at the Lake Huron Committee meeting in Windsor, ON, March, 2006 (MI).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Coordinate monitoring and surveillance programs for Eurasian ruffe Great Lakes-wide through position as Chair of the Ruffe Control Committee (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Conduct Eurasian ruffe and round goby monitoring activities to determine status, population trends, and impacts on native fishes in Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
  - Coordinate with state, tribal, and Federal partners, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Great Lakes Carriers Association and others to detect and control AIS in Lake Superior (MI, MN, WI).
- **Carterville Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Lead the development and implementation of the National Asian Carp Management and Control Plan (IL, IN, IA, OH, MI, MN, MO, WI).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Complete a preliminary assessment using new sampling gears to begin assessing the population of Asian carp in the Missouri River (MO).
  - Develop techniques to age Asian carp and improve population estimates in the Missouri River (MO).
  - Work with Missouri Department of Conservation, University of Columbia, St. Louis Zoo, and U.S. Geological Survey to determine the feasibility of utilizing Asian Carp as a food supply for zoo animals (MO).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Conduct Eurasian ruffe and round goby monitoring activities to determine the status and trends of populations in Northern Lake Michigan (MI, WI).
  - Coordinate with state, tribal, and Federal partners, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Great Lakes Carriers Association and others to detect and control AIS in Lake Michigan (MI, IL, IN, WI).
- **La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Monitor the range expansion of zebra mussels on the St. Croix River and Upper Mississippi River (MN, WI).
  - Lead the Service's effort to coordinate and monitor the range expansion and changes in abundance of round gobies and Asian carp in the Illinois River and Waterway (IL).
  - Work with the City of Chicago, State of Illinois, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and others to develop a rapid response capability in case Asian carp make it past the electric barrier (IL).
  - Work with partners to monitor the Asian carp population in the Illinois River and Waterway (IL).
- **Marquette and Ludington Biological Stations will:**
  - Plan and conduct sea lamprey assessment and control operations in coordination with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, U.S. Geological Survey along with state, tribal, and university partners (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI, Ontario).
  - Meet the species-specific international treaty obligation to control sea lamprey populations (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI) (**FY05 Department of the Interior Performance Measure**).

# Public Use

Performance Measures (Fisheries Strategic Plan v 11)	Regional Fisheries Goal
Number of visitors to service facilities.	103,409
Number of aquatic outreach and education events.	153
Number of mitigation tasks implemented as prescribed in approved plans. (PART) (Fisheries)	3
Number of mitigation production tasks implemented as prescribed in approved plans. (Fisheries)	3
Number of mitigation marking & tagging tasks implemented as prescribed in approved plans. (Fisheries)	0
Number of mitigation post-stocking survival tasks implemented as prescribed in approved plans. (Fisheries)	0



-USFWS

**Nate Caswell removes a scale sample from a walleye captured in Lake Greenwood on the Crane Naval Weapons Support Center. Data night electrofishing surveys help determine management needs.**



-USFWS

**Rick Riley from Northland Sportsman's Club displays turkey hunting items and fields questions at Jordan River NFH's Hatchery Fest.**

## Recreational Fishing

**Recreational Fishing Goal: Quality opportunities for responsible fishing and other related recreational enjoyment of aquatic resources on Service lands, on Tribal and military lands, and on other waters where the Service has a role.**

*Our primary focus is on enhancing recreational fishing opportunities on Service, Tribal, and Department of Defense lands.*

**Objective** - Enhance recreational fishing opportunities on Service and Department of Defense lands.

### Our Commitment

- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Host National Fishing Day events and organize additional aquatic education and fishing clinics in Michigan (MI).
  - Assist Shiawassee NWR, Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge and Ottawa NWR in evaluating and managing sport fish populations and providing recreational fishing opportunities (MI, OH).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Host National Fishing Day events and organize additional aquatic education and fishing clinics in partnership with Whittlesey Creek NWR and Iron River NFH (WI).
  - Assist Whittlesey Creek NWR in evaluating and managing sport fish populations and providing recreational fishing opportunities (WI).
- **Carterville Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Participate in a National Fishing Day event in partnership with the Crab Orchard NWR (IL).
  - Assess recreational fisheries and develop management recommendations on:
    - Crab Orchard NWR in conjunction with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IL).
    - Scott Air Force Base and Crane Naval Weapons Support Center (IL, IN).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Participate in a National Fishing Day event held by a partner (MO).

## Public Use

- Assess recreational fisheries and develop management recommendations on DeSoto NWR (IA).
- Assess recreational fisheries and develop management recommendations on Big Muddy National Fish and Wildlife Refuge (NF&WR) (MO).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Host National Fishing Day events and organize additional aquatic education and fishing clinics (WI).
  - Assist Seney NWR in evaluating and managing sport fish populations and providing recreational fishing opportunities (MI).
- **La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Co-host Fishing Day events at Tomah Veterans Administration Hospital and participate in Fishing Day events at Minnesota Valley NWR, Necedah NWR, Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge (NW&FR), and Genoa NFH (MN, WI).
  - Assess recreational fisheries and develop management recommendations on Horicon, Necedah, and Tamarac, Minnesota Valley, and Big Stone NWR's on a rotational basis (MN, WI).
- **Genoa National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Co-host Fishing Day events at Tomah Veterans Administration Hospital and the hatchery (MN, IA, and WI).
  - Participate in Fishing Day events as requested at the Upper Mississippi River NW&FR (IA, MN, and WI).
  - Culture 15,000 rainbow trout (8-10 inch) for recreational fishing at Fort McCoy and Tomah Veterans Administration Hospital; and Red Lake, Grand Portage, Lac Vieux Desert, and Oneida Indian Reservations (WI, MN).
  - Culture walleye for recreational fishing on Desoto NWR, Upper Mississippi River NW&FR, Crane Naval Base, and Fort McCoy (IA, IN, MN, WI).
  - Culture fish of various species for recreational fishing objectives on Horicon NWR and Upper Mississippi River NW&FR (IA, MN, WI).
  - Culture trout for recreational fishing objectives at a Wisconsin Boy Scout camp (WI).
  - Culture largemouth bass for recreational fishing objectives on Desoto NWR, Crab Orchard NWR, and Crane Naval Base (IA, IN, WI).
- **Iron River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Host National Fishing Day events and organize additional aquatic education and fishing clinics in partnership with the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center, Whittlesey Creek NWR, and Ashland FRO (WI).
- **Jordan River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Host National Fishing Day events and organize additional aquatic education and fishing clinics in partnership with the Ludington Biological Station, Pendills Creek NFH, and Alpena FRO (MI).
- **Neosho National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Host an "Annual Fishing Outing" for the physically challenged and elderly in nursing homes in the area (MO).
  - Culture 1,500 rainbow trout (9 inch) for the Iowa Veterans Administration Hospital (IA).
  - Culture 3,000 rainbow trout (9 inch) for Hickory Creek in the City of Neosho (MO).
  - Culture 1,000 rainbow trout (17 inch) for the Neosho NFH Annual Kids Fishing Clinic/Derby (MO).
  - Culture 4,000 rainbow trout (9 inch) for Missouri Department of Conservation (Capps Creek) (MO).
- **Pendills Creek and Sullivan Creek National Fish Hatcheries will:**
  - Host National Fishing Day events and organize additional aquatic education and fishing clinics in partnership with Seney NWR, Jordan River NFH, Alpena FRO, and the Soo Area Sportsmen's Club (MI).

## Public Use



-USFWS

**Biologist James Anderson speaks to a visitor to the Fish and Wildlife Service booth at Maritime Days held in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.**



-USFWS photo by Nick Frohnauer

**Jennifer Johnson from the Columbia FRO oversees children exploring a net boat at Columbia Missouri's "A Day with Wildlife" celebration.**



-USFWS

**Technician James Anderson shows students the female spawning station where eggs from female lake trout are gently removed. Enough adult fish are held at the Sullivan Creek National Fish Hatchery to provide millions of fertilized eggs for high priority rehabilitation programs in the Great Lakes.**

### - La Crosse Fish Health Center will:

- Co-host Fishing Day events at Tomah Veterans Administration Hospital.
- Participate in Fishing Day events at the Upper Mississippi River NW&FR and Genoa NFH (MN, WI).

**Objective** - Provide support to States, Tribes, and other partners to identify and meet shared or complementary recreational fishing and aquatic education and outreach objectives.

**Objective** - Recognize and promote the value and importance of recreational fishery objectives in implementation of other Service responsibilities.

### Our Commitment

#### - All Field Stations will:

- Host station tours and participate in/or organize other public education events for local schools, environmental groups, and interested organizations (IL, MI, MO, IA, WI).

#### - Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:

- Participate in the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival and other public events to provide information on aquatic recreation opportunities and restoration activities of the Service (MI).

#### - Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:

- Work with the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center partners to enhance educational displays and conduct public education events (WI).

#### - Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:

- Participate in Missouri Department of Conservation recreational fishing education courses (MO).

#### - Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:

- Work with the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin and Wisconsin DNR to organize and hold an annual youth and elders fishing day (WI).

#### - La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:

- Conduct environmental education activities and provide displays for various events, such as Earth Day and River Fest in La Crosse, Trempleau, and Lynxville, Wisconsin (WI).

#### - Ludington and Marquette Biological Stations will:

- Participate in the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival and other public events to provide information on aquatic recreation opportunities and restoration activities of the Service (MI).

#### - Genoa National Fish Hatchery will:

- Collect and/or propagate northern pike (300,000 fry) and walleye (12-20 million eggs; 1-2 million fry; 100,000 two-inch fingerlings; 15,000 six-inch advanced fingerlings) for other state and tribal resource agencies' management efforts (AZ, IL, OK, TX, and WI).

## Public Use



-USFWS

**Biologist Steve Redman releases coaster brook trout into Lake Wanoka, Wisconsin. The three pound fish were used as a source of eggs and milt for the brood stock program at the Iron River NFH before being replaced with younger fish.**



-USFWS

**Bob Peterson of the Jordan River National Fish Hatchery educates a future fisherman.**

- Culture 5,000 (6 inch) walleye for recreational fishing objectives on Legend Lake, Wisconsin (WI).
- Collect sauger eggs for the State of Nebraska's recreational fishing objectives (NE).
- Provide fish in excess of NWR fish needs to the state of Iowa to assist in meeting fish community objectives stated in current fish management plans (IA).
- **Iron River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Work with the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center (U.S. Forest Service) to enhance educational displays and conduct public education and fishing events (WI).
  - Work with the Wisconsin DNR to provide surplus brook trout for stocking into public waters to enhance recreational fishing (WI).
  - Work with the Friends of Iron River Hatchery to help sponsor public education in conservation in the Iron River, Wisconsin, area (WI).
- **Jordan River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Participate in the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival, Mancelona Bass Festival, Kalkaska Trout Festival, Traverse City Sports Show, the Northland Hunting and Fishing Expo and other public events to provide information on aquatic recreation opportunities and restoration activities of the Service (MI).
  - Hold an annual Jordan River Hatchery Festival to educate children about natural resources, in coordination with Seney NWR, Alpena FRO, and Pendills Creek NFH, Michigan DNR, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and local non-governmental organizations (MI).
  - Work with the Friends of Jordan River Hatchery to help sponsor public education in conservation in the Gaylord, Michigan, area (MI).

## Water Works Wonders Campaign



*-photos courtesy of the Water Works Wonders Campaign*

**The Fish and Wildlife Service supports the national campaign to increase participation in recreational angling and boating. The Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation sponsors the *Water Works Wonders* advertising campaign and highlights National Boating and Fishing Week events.**

## Public Use

- **Neosho National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Host an Annual Open House to educate the public about the hatchery, the Service and the natural resources of Missouri (MO).
- **Pendills Creek and Sullivan Creek National Fish Hatcheries will:**
  - Participate in the Great Lakes Lighthouse Festival, Traverse City Sports Show, the Northland Hunting and Fishing Expo and other public events to provide information on aquatic recreation opportunities and restoration activities of the Service (MI).
  - Work with the Friends of Pendills Creek Hatchery to help sponsor public education in conservation in the Brimley, Michigan area (MI).

### Mitigation Fisheries

**Mitigation Fisheries Goal:** The federal government meets its responsibilities to mitigate for the impacts of federal water projects, including restoring habitat and/or providing fish and associated technical support to compensate for lost fishing opportunities.

*Our primary focus is on meeting our mitigation responsibilities associated with Lake Taneycomo (Table Rock Dam), Missouri.*

**Objective** – Identify the mitigation responsibilities of Federal agencies related to water projects.

**Objective** - Meet the Service's responsibilities for mitigating fisheries.

**Objective** – Achieve full cost recovery from water project sponsors.

#### Our Commitment

- **Neosho National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Culture 225,000 rainbow trout (nine to ten inches) to meet the Federal mitigation responsibilities for the Federally funded water project at Lake Taneycomo (MO).
  - Meet the mitigation production target (MO). (**FY06 Department of the Interior Performance Measure**).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Provide annual fish health services to the mitigation program at Neosho NFH (MO)



-USFWS photo by George Gentry



-USFWS

**Historic photo of the Neosho NFH. Neosho NFH was built in 1888 but was renovated in 1961 to produce rainbow trout.**

Neosho NFH, one of the oldest hatcheries still operating, was retrofitted in 1961 to raise rainbow trout to help compensate for the impacts of Federal dams built on the White River in Missouri. Today, Lake Taneycomo is one of the most popular trout fishing locations in the state.

# Cooperation with Native Americans

Performance Measures (Fisheries Strategic Plan v 11)	Regional Fisheries Goal
Number of technical assistance requests fulfilled to support Tribal fish and wildlife conservation	146
Number of training sessions to support Tribal fish & wildlife conservation.	7
Number of consultations conducted to support Tribal fish & wildlife conservation.	1

**Native American Goal:** Assistance is provided to Tribes that results in the management, protection, and conservation of their treaty-reserved or statutorily defined trust natural resources, which helps Tribes develop their own capabilities.

*Our primary focus is on respecting and promoting Tribal self-government, self-determination, and sovereignty of Federally recognized Tribes relating to fish and wildlife resource, as defined by the Service's Native American Policy.*

**Objective** - Provide technical assistance to Tribes.

**Objective** – Identify sources of funds to enhance Tribal resource management.

**Objective** – Recognize and promote the Service's distinct obligations toward Tribes within the Fisheries Program.

## Our Commitment

### – Regional Office will:

- Work with partners through the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Proposal Review Committee to identify and fund native fish and aquatic habitat restoration activities led by tribal governments (MI, MN, NY, WI).
- Support enhancement of capabilities of tribal natural resource departments through functions of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (MI, MN, WI).
- Support enhancement of tribal natural resource department capabilities and conservation programs through the Tribal Wildlife and Tribal Land Owner Incentive grant programs (MI, MN, WI, IA).
- Develop policy, briefings, and positions to address 1836 Treaty fishery issues raised by the tribal parties to the Executive Council or through the dispute resolution process of the Consent Decree (MI).

### – Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:

- Provide technical assistance to tribes in Michigan according to Federal trust responsibilities, reserved rights, tribal management authority, and Regional tribal liaison assignments (MI).
- Provide technical assistance to Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority for walleye recruitment surveys in the St. Marys River (MI).
- Participate with the Technical Fisheries Committee, Modeling Subcommittee and Executive Council, under the August 7, 2000, U.S. District Court Consent Decree, generating annual harvest limits for tribal fisheries in 1836 Treaty waters (MI).
- Process coded-wire tags from lake trout captured in tribal commercial, subsistence, and assessment to recover data beneficial to lake trout rehabilitation in 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Huron (MI).

### – Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:

- Provide technical assistance to tribes in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan according to Federal trust responsibilities, reserved rights, tribal management authority, and Regional tribal liaison assignments (MI, MN, WI).
- Provide technical assistance to the Red Lake Band in monitoring the status of walleye populations in Red Lake (MN).

## Cooperation with Native Americans



-USFWS photo by Aaron Woldt

**Alpena Fishery Resources Office conducts whitefish assessments as part of a data set which is used to determine safe lake whitefish harvest levels in management units where fisheries are shared between the five Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority tribes and Michigan.**



-USFWS

**This radio-tagged lake sturgeon is part of the St. Louis River lake sturgeon telemetry study in cooperation with the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and the 1854 Tribal Authority.**



-USFWS

**Personnel from the Keweenaw Bay Tribal Resources Department stock fingerling coaster brook trout that were provided by the Iron River NFH. Three Lake Superior tributary streams were stocked with 22,500 fish in 2005 as part of a rehabilitation plan for the Tribe.**

- Provide technical assistance to the Mille Lacs Band in monitoring the status of walleye populations in Mille Lacs Lake (MN).
- Provide technical assistance to the 1854 Authority in enhancing fisheries management programs and developing new fisheries modeling capability (MN).
- Provide technical assistance to the parties to the 1836 Treaty Waters Consent Decree by aging lake trout captured in assessment fisheries (MI).
- Provide technical assistance to the Bad River Band in assessing lake sturgeon in the Bad River (WI).
- Provide technical assistance to the Bad River Band in assessing brook trout in Graveyard Creek (WI).
- Coordinate and publish the Midwest Tribal Aquaculture Network newsletter (MI, MN, WI).
- Assist the Region 3 Native American Program Coordinator in administering the Tribal Wildlife Grants Program and the Tribal Landowner Incentive Grants Program (MN, MI, WI).

### - Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:

- Provide technical assistance to tribes in Wisconsin and Michigan (in the Lake Michigan watershed) according to Federal trust responsibilities, reserved rights, tribal management authority, and Regional tribal liaison assignments (MI, WI).
- Participate with the Technical Fisheries Committee, Modeling Subcommittee, and Executive Council, under the August 7, 2000, U.S. District Court Consent Decree, generating annual harvest limits for tribal fisheries in 1836 Treaty waters (MI).
- Process coded-wire tags from lake trout captured in tribal commercial, subsistence, and assessment to recover data beneficial to lake trout rehabilitation in 1836 Treaty waters of Lake Michigan (MI).
- Provide technical assistance to the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin in assessing the fisheries of Quarry Lake and implementing habitat restoration in Trout Creek (WI).

### - La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:

- Provide technical assistance to tribes in Wisconsin and Minnesota according to Federal trust responsibilities, reserved rights, tribal management authority, and Regional tribal liaison assignments (MN, WI).
- Continue efforts to restore lake sturgeon to the White Earth and Menominee Indian Reservations and evaluate stocking success (MN, WI).
- Harvest walleye at Rydell NWR for stocking on the White Earth Indian Reservation if there are excess fish (MN).

## Cooperation with Native Americans

- **Ludington and Marquette Biological Stations will:**
  - Work cooperatively with the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority, Bad River Band, Red Cliff Band, Grand Traverse Bay Band, and Little Traverse Bay Band to implement sea lamprey control activities (MI, WI).
- **Iron River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Work cooperatively with the Red Cliff Band to provide technical support for brook trout propagation programs and rehabilitation plans in Lake Superior (WI).
  - Work cooperatively with the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community to provide technical support for the Jumbo River brook trout rehabilitation program (MI).
- **Jordan River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to the Little Traverse Bay Band in the development of a lake trout propagation program (MI).
  - Provide technical assistance to the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority Nunn's Creek Fish Hatchery in enhancing propagation programs (MI).
- **Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Work with the Bay Mills Indian Community, Sault Ste. Marie Band, and the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority to provide technical assistance in fish propagation and develop cooperative natural resource programs (MI).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Provide technical assistance by hosting workshops, conferences, training opportunities, and fish health services for Tribal governments (MI, MN, WI).

**Objective** - Provide fish for Tribal resource management.

### Our Commitment

- **Genoa National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Culture 1,500 lake sturgeon yearlings for stocking under an interagency restoration program for the Menominee Indian Reservation (WI).
  - Culture 13,000 Rainy River strain lake sturgeon for stocking under interagency restoration plans for White Earth Indian Reservation and the Red River of the North (MN).
  - Culture 600 brook trout (10 inches) for stocking under interagency restoration programs at the Red Lake Indian Reservation (MN).
  - Culture six-inch walleye fingerlings for stocking under interagency restoration programs at the Menominee, Stockbridge Munsee, Red Lake, and White Earth Indian Reservations (MN, WI).
  - Culture bluegills, brook trout, largemouth bass, rainbow trout, and walleye, as requested, for recreational fishing on Tribal lands (MI, MN, WI).
- **Iron River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Enhance programs and facilities to produce additional lake trout above current goal of 1.2 million yearlings to help meet requirements of the August 7, 2000, Consent Decree (MI,WI).
- **Jordan River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Enhance programs and facilities to produce additional lake trout above the current goal of 1.8 million yearlings to help meet requirements of the August 7, 2000, Consent Decree (MI).
- **Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Enhance programs and existing facilities to produce additional lake trout above the current goal of 750,000 yearlings to help meet the requirements of the August 7, 2000, Consent Decree (MI).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Conduct fish health assessments as part of interagency lake sturgeon restoration efforts on the Menominee Indian Reservation and the White Earth Indian Reservation (MN, WI).

## Coordination with Tribal Governments

The area of the United States encompassed by the Great Lakes – Big Rivers Region of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service is home to 36 federally recognized tribes, bands, and communities, and 3 intertribal organizations. The fish, wildlife and natural resource interests of Native Americans in our Region cover large areas included under the Treaties of 1836, 1837, 1842 and 1854. These lands and waters contain a great diversity of plant and animal life managed under authorities of tribal governments and states.

The Federal Government, Department of Interior, and Fish and Wildlife Service, have trust responsibilities to assist Native Americans in protecting, conserving and utilizing their reserved, treaty guaranteed, or statutorily identified trust assets. The Service adopted a Native American Policy in 1994 with the express purpose to articulate the general principles that will guide the service's government-to-government relationship to Native American governments in the conservation of fish and wildlife resources.

For the Service's Region 3 Fisheries Program, the most important aspects of fulfilling trust responsibilities to tribes are to provide consultation, technical assistance, cooperative partnerships and training opportunities to Native American fish and wildlife professionals, consistent with the principles of tribal self-determination and self-governance.

Effective and efficient coordination with tribal natural resource programs is therefore one of our most important goals. We will hold regular coordination meetings with tribes and continue the more frequent communication that occurs between tribes, our Fishery Resources Offices, and National Fish Hatcheries, in planning and implementing conservation activities.

In order to establish the most direct and efficient lines of communication between tribes and the Service's Fishery Program in this Region, we have assigned each of our Fishery Resources Offices the lead responsibility for supporting the needs of several recognized Native American groups in the Great Lakes – Big Rivers Region, as outlined here.



### The Alpena FRO is responsible for working with:

Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority

Bay Mills Indian Community

Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan

Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan

Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians

Nottawaseppi Huron Band of Potawatomi

*-USFWS photo by Aaron Woldt*

**Staff from the Alpena FRO set a gill net as part of the fishery independent lake whitefish survey in Northern Lake Huron.**

# Coordination with Tribal Governments



-USFWS

Frank Stone (left) and crew prepare their boat for a night of electrofishing for walleyes. Information gathered from these surveys will be used to set walleye harvest quotas in Northern Wisconsin. The Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) requested assistance from the La Crosse and Ashland FRO's for the survey.



-USFWS

Walleye sampling in Northern Wisconsin is a critical component to estimate adult populations, determine recruitment, and establish harvest levels.



-Menominee Nation News

Ann Runstrom presents Fish and Wildlife Biologist Don Reiter, from the Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, with a special recognition for his efforts to restore lake sturgeon on the Menominee Reservation.

## The Ashland FRO is responsible for working with:

Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission  
1854 Authority

Bois Forte (Nett Lake) Lake Superior Band of Chippewa Indians  
Fond du Lac (Lake Superior) Band of Chippewa Indians  
Grand Portage (Lake Superior) Band of Chippewa Indians  
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe  
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians  
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe  
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community  
Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians  
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
Lac Courte Oreilles Band  
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians  
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians  
Sokaogon Chippewa (Mole Lake) Community of Wisconsin  
St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin

## The Green Bay FRO is responsible for working with:

Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin  
Mohican Nation Stockbridge-Munsee Band  
Hannahville Indian Community  
Forest County Potawatomi Community  
Grand Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians  
Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
Little River Band of Ottawa Indians

## The LaCrosse FRO is responsible for working with:

White Earth Band of Chippewa  
Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin  
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community  
Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota  
Lower Sioux Indian Community in Minnesota  
Prairie Island Indian Community  
Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa  
Stockbridge Munsee Community  
Ho-Chunk Nation

# Leadership in Science and Technology

Performance Measures (Fisheries Strategic Plan v 11)	Regional Fisheries Goal
Number of applied aquatic scientific and technologic tools shared with partners.	19
Number of technical sections of animal drug applications submitted for fish and aquatic populations.	1
Number of techniques and culture technology tools developed.	12
Number of applied science and technology tasks implemented as prescribed by Recovery Plans. (PART) (Fisheries)	2
Number of applied science and technology tasks implemented as prescribed by Fishery Management Plans (Fisheries)	15
Number of mitigation applied sci & tech tasks implemented as prescribed in approved plans. (Fisheries)	0

**Leadership in Science and Technology Goal:** Science developed and used by Service employees for aquatic resource restoration and management is state-of-the-art, scientifically sound and legally defensible. Technological advances in fisheries science developed by Service employees are available to partners.

*Our primary focus is on developing, applying, and disseminating state-of-the-art science and technology to conserve and manage aquatic resources.*

**Objective** - Develop and share applied aquatic scientific and technologic tools with partners.

## Our Commitment

### – Regional Office will:

- Work with partners through the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Proposal Review Committee to identify and fund state-of-the-art science to enhance conservation of Great Lakes fishery resources (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- Work with other Service programs to identify research priorities for U.S. Geological Survey under the Science Support Program.
- Work with partners and stakeholders to establish an Aquatic Resource Technology Center, enhancing science capabilities in the Region.

### – Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:

- Investigate the use of mass marking technology for use in conducting studies of hatchery lake trout life history in Lake Huron (MI).

### – Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:

- Develop and transfer expertise in state-of-the-art techniques in riparian and hydrology restoration and analysis for fish habitat (MI, MN, WI).

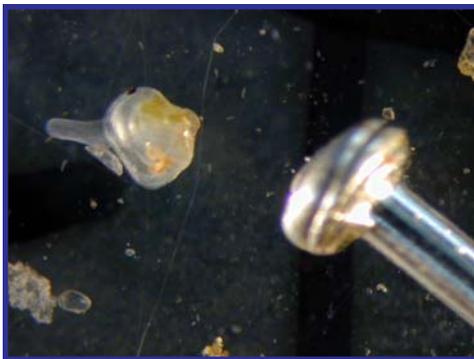
### – Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:

- Work with the U.S. Geological Survey to determine the highest priority needs for research on the Missouri River, specifically related to endangered pallid sturgeon (IA, MO).
- Develop large river trawling technology and techniques for application on the Missouri River (IA, MO).



-USFWS photo by Jeff Finley

Master Net Designer Greg Faulkner from Innovative Net Systems discusses the finer points of tuning otter boards for stern trawling on the Missouri River. Columbia FRO worked with the company to develop trawling techniques for pallid sturgeon.



-USFWS

A juvenile mussel shown next to the head of a pin. Genoa National Fish Hatchery staff works with scientists to detect genetic markers in tiny juvenile mussels.

# Leadership in Science and Technology

- Provide support to the U.S. Geological Survey pallid sturgeon telemetry project for determining the life history and habitat use in the Lower Missouri River (IA, KS, MO, NE).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Investigate the use of mass marking technology for use in conducting studies of hatchery lake trout life history in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron (IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Work cooperatively with the Wisconsin DNR to develop population models for lake whitefish and yellow perch in Lake Michigan and lake trout in Lake Superior (WI).
  - Provide technical leadership in the final stages of construction, including sea trials and assessment gear testing, and operation, of the Spencer F. Baird, to enhance lake trout restoration in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Continue work with the U.S. Geological Survey to develop laboratory methods to define life history characteristics and for propagating the endangered winged mapleleaf mussel (MN, WI).
- **Ludington and Marquette Biological Stations will:**
  - Analyze and implement results of the larval assessment and sterile male release technique peer reviews as part of sea lamprey control operations (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Participate in the development of experimental pheromone release technique as an alternative sea lamprey control measure (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- **Genoa National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Culture largemouth bass, northern pike, rainbow trout, smallmouth bass, walleye, and yellow perch and other fish species as requested for U.S. Geological Survey and university research (WI).
  - Continue to assist in ongoing Science Support Program project with Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center in studies to eliminate Bacterial Kidney Disease in captive populations of coaster brook trout and lake trout using the antibiotic Baytril (WI).
  - Perform wild fish collection tasks/trials necessary to determine the fish host of the sheepnose mussel, a candidate species on the Endangered Species list (WI, MN, IA).
  - Work with commercial fishermen to collect wild freshwater drum brood stock and determine culture techniques to establish a small disease free captive population of host fish to use for native mussel restoration (WI, IA).
- **Iron River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Continue to investigate the use of mass marking technology for use in conducting studies of hatchery lake trout life history in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **Jordan River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Provide technical leadership in the construction, sea trials, field testing, and operation of the Spencer F. Baird, to enhance lake trout rehabilitation in Lake Huron and Lake Michigan (IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Continue to investigate the use of mass marking technology for use in conducting studies of hatchery lake trout life history in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **Neosho National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Experiment with live and dry diets for pallid sturgeon culture as part of the Pallid Sturgeon Recovery effort (MO, KS, IA, NE).
- **Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Continue to investigate the use of mass marking technology for use in conducting studies of hatchery lake trout life history in Lake Michigan and Lake Huron (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Teach a fish health management short course in Region 3.
  - Work with research labs to field test new procedures and techniques (IL, IN, IA, OH, MI, MN, MO, WI).

## Leadership in Science and Technology



-USGS photo by Bruce Manny  
A lake sturgeon is gently released after capture in a trammel net in the St. Clair River. This type of net is being tested since captured fish are unharmed.



-photo from the Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon Web Site

Great Lakes Fishery Resources Offices are heavily involved with lake sturgeon management in the Great Lakes.



-USFWS  
This is the start of a new fish culture building at the Neosho NFH to rear Federally endangered pallid sturgeon.

- Continue to refine the Service's Fish Health Policies and Guidelines (IL, IN, IA, OH, MI, MN, MO, WI).
- **Marquette and Ludington Biological Stations will:**
  - Work in partnership with the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, US Geological Survey, and sea lamprey program researchers to conduct field trials for the use of migratory and reproductive pheromones as alternative means for sea lamprey control (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, PA, OH, WI).

**Objective** - Utilize appropriate scientific and technologic tools in formulating and executing fishery management plans and policies.

### Our Commitment

- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Participate in the development and use of Geographic Information Systems capability to support aquatic habitat conservation activities for Lake Huron and Lake Erie (MI, OH).
  - Contribute to lake-wide assessment plans and fish community and environmental objectives for lakes Huron and Erie, through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (MI, OH).
  - Evaluate and define genetic characteristics of lake sturgeon and contribute to restoration planning and workshops on these stocks (MI, OH).
  - Conduct statistical catch-at-age modeling of lake trout and lake whitefish populations in Northern Lake Huron to produce safe harvest limits for state recreational and tribal commercial fisheries (MI).
  - Provide leadership to U. S. Geological Survey and the Lake Huron Technical Committee for lakewide burbot aging to assist in efforts to quantify age and growth of Lake Huron populations (MI).
  - Lead the planning, organization, and conduct of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Great Lakes Lake Sturgeon Coordination Meeting which is scheduled to be held in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, November 29-30, 2006 (IL, IN, IA, OH, MI, MN, MO, WI).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Contribute to lake-wide assessment plans and fish community objectives for Lake Superior through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (MI, MN, WI).
  - Contribute to interagency efforts to evaluate and define genetic characteristics of migratory Lake Superior brook trout and to restoration planning and workshops on these stocks (MI, MN, WI).
  - Contribute to interagency efforts to evaluate and define genetic characteristics of lake sturgeon and restoration planning and workshops on these stocks (MI, MN, WI).

## Leadership in Science and Technology

- Participate in the development and use of Geographic Information Systems capability to support aquatic habitat conservation activities for Lake Superior, with initial focus on Whittlesey Creek NWR and Isle Royale National Park (MI, WI).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Manage and analyze data in the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association Paddlefish Stock Assessment Database to help develop inter-jurisdictional management plans (IL, IN, IA, MN, MO, OH, WI).
  - Evaluate the effectiveness of a push trawl for sampling shallow water habitats in the Missouri River (IA, KS, MO, NE).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to the other Service's Great Lakes fisheries stations through the Great Lakes Fishery Analyst (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
  - Provide technical leadership by chairing the Lake Michigan Lake Trout Task Group and Lake Sturgeon Task Group (IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Contribute to lake-wide assessment plans and fish community objectives for Lake Michigan through the Great Lakes Fishery Commission (IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Evaluate and define genetic characteristics of lake sturgeon and contribute to restoration planning and workshops on these stocks (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **Iron River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Refine fish culture and husbandry techniques in order to produce the highest quality lake trout possible (IL, IN, MI, MN, WI).
  - Develop methods to manipulate lake trout brood stock spawning cycles and incubation periods by delaying maturation and chilling eggs, to better meet production requirements (IL, IN, MI, NY, WI).
- **Jordan River National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Refine fish culture and husbandry techniques in order to produce the highest quality lake trout possible (MN, IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Prepare a comprehensive lake trout rehabilitation plan for the Service's Great Lakes operations covering all aspects of propagation and stocking (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **Neosho National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Continue to refine density requirements for culturing pallid sturgeon (IA, KS, MO, NE).
  - Continue to refine diet requirements for pallid sturgeon production (IA, KS, MO, NE).
- **Pendills Creek National Fish Hatchery will:**
  - Refine fish culture and husbandry techniques in order to produce the highest quality lake trout possible (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **Pendills Creek and Sullivan Creek National Fish Hatcheries will:**
  - Develop methods to manipulate lake trout brood stock spawning cycles and incubation periods by delaying maturation and chilling eggs, to better meet production requirements (IL, IN, MI, NY, WI).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Provide fish health services to states, tribes, other Federal agencies, and private aquaculturists during any fish health emergency (IL, IN, IA, OH, MI, MN, MO, WI).
  - Maintain a modern, operational laboratory able to conduct highly technical laboratory procedures (IL, IN, IA, OH, MI, MN, MO, WI).

## National Fish Habitat Initiative

The **National Fish Habitat Initiative** (NFHI) fosters geographically-focused, locally driven, scientifically based solutions, and strong partnerships that focus attention and resources on common priorities to protect, restore and enhance aquatic habitat and reverse the decline of fish and other aquatic species in the United States.

Aquatic habitat is one of seven focus areas in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service **Fisheries Program Vision for the Future**. The Service Fisheries Program is working with the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, states, and other key natural resource interests to develop the National Fish Habitat Initiative Plan.

The **Midwest Driftless Area Restoration Effort** is a geographically-focused, locally-driven, consensus-based effort to protect, restore, and enhance riparian and aquatic habitat throughout the Driftless Area. The Midwest Driftless Area Restoration Effort includes a broad partnership of Federal, state, and local government, landowners, academic institutions, conservation organizations, sportsmen's groups, and other interested parties. This coalition of partners will work together to identify threats to brook trout and other aquatic species and seek potential solutions, prioritize watershed focus areas and projects, implement actions with measurable successes, build new partnerships and strengthen existing ones, leverage additional funds, and produce outreach and educational programs to raise public awareness and ensure future support.

*Aquatic resources in the United States are in decline, and habitat destruction is a principal culprit. Habitat alteration is a contributing factor to 75 percent of all fish extinctions during the past 75 years and 91 percent of fish listings under the Endangered Species Act.*

### Current Fish Passage Program Projects Funded in Region 3 through FY 2006

State	Project Title	Project Type	Year Funded	Lead FRO
MI	N. Lower MI Watershed	culvert renovation	2003	Alpena
WI	Bad River Watershed Fish Passage	culvert renovation	2003	Ashland
MN	Heiberg Dam	rock ramp below dam	2004	La Crosse
MO	Replace Hickory Rd. Low water crossing	low water crossing replacement	2004	Columbia
MI	Gimlet Creek	culvert renovation	2004	Alpena
MI	Greasey Creek	culvert renovation	2004	Alpena
MI	Adair Creek	culvert renovation	2004	Alpena
MI	Carp River	culvert renovation	2004	Green Bay
IL	Brewster Creek Dam Removal	dam removal	2005	Cartersville
MI	Oxbow Road on Oxbow Creek Fish Passage Restoration	culvert renovation	2005	Alpena
MI	Kisser road Crossing on Gillis Creek	culvert renovation	2005	Alpena
MI	Anderson Creek/Big Manistee River	culvert renovation	2005	Green Bay
WI	Trout Brook in the Bad River Watershed	fish passage structure installation	2005	Ashland
WI	Four Hill Flowage Removal	dam removal	2005	La Crosse
WI	Silver Creek in the Bad River Watershed	fish passage structure installation	2005	Ashland
WI	Vaughan Creek	culvert renovation	2005	Ashland
MI	Butterfly Creek-Little Manistee River	culvert	2005	Green Bay
IA	Mod. of an Erosion Cont. Weir for FP Seven Mile Creek	grade control structure modification	2005	Columbia
MI	Hersey Dam Removal	dam removal	2006	Green Bay
OH	Euclid Creek Dam Removal	dam removal	2006	Alpena
MI	Culvert Replacement on Houghton Creek Road	culvert restoration	2006	Alpena
MI	Rem. of Dawson Dam on the W. Branch Lac qui Parle R.	dam removal	2006	La Crosse
WI	Messenger Creek Bridge Replacement Project	bridge renovation	2006	Green Bay
WI	Fish Passage Gin Creek	culvert renovation	2006	Ashland
WI	Fish Passage Remediation on 18 Mile Creek	culvert renovation	2006	Ashland
WI	Fish Passage Remediation on Wildcat Creek	culvert renovation	2006	Ashland

# Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

Performance Measures (Fisheries Strategic Plan v 11)	Regional Fisheries Goal
Number of acres re-opened to fish passage	34
Number of miles re-opened to fish passage	275
Fish passage barriers removed or bypassed	20
Number of habitat assessments completed	144
Number of acres of wetland habitat assessed	1,106
Number of acres of upland habitat assessed	3,604
Number of miles of in-stream habitat assessed	598
Number of miles of riparian habitat assessed	61
Wetland acres restored/enhanced	1,227
Upland acres restored/enhanced	322
Number of instream miles restored/enhanced	46
Number of riparian miles restored/enhanced	59

**Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management Goal: America's streams, lakes, estuaries, and wetlands are functional ecosystems that support self-sustaining communities of fish and other aquatic resources.**

*Our primary focus is on collaborating with partners to conserve and restore habitats for sturgeon, trout, darters, and other native fish species.*

**Objective** - Facilitate management of aquatic habitats on national and regional scales.

### Our Commitment

– **Regional Office will:**

- Work with partners and stakeholders through the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Restoration Act Proposal Review Committee to identify and fund aquatic habitat enhancement proposals (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- Work through the Habitat and Species Strategy Team under the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration to conserve and restore habitat for native fish and fisheries (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, OH, PA, WI).
- Work with partners and stakeholders to support and develop the National Fisheries Habitat Initiative (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI).
- Work with partners and stakeholders to develop watershed-scale Fish Passage program initiatives (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI).

– **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**

- Employ a systematic aquatic habitat information and evaluation approach for use in prioritizing habitat restoration activities in the Lake Huron and Lake Erie watersheds, in coordination with the Michigan and Ohio DNR's and other partners (MI, OH).



-USFWS photo by Heather Rawlings

**Partners for Fish and Wildlife Coordinator Heather Rawlings of the Alpena Fishery Resources Office is involved in dozens of habitat restoration projects in Northern Michigan watersheds.**



-USFWS

**Approximately 951 acres of coastal fish and wildlife habitat in the Upper Great Lakes will be enhanced, restored, or protected from 2005 funds that were provided through the Coastal program.**

# Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management



-USFWS

The addition of a series of engineered log jams, which restored and enhanced 700 feet of native brook trout habitat on Lenawee Creek in Bayfield County, Wisconsin, was accomplished with only horse power and strong backs.



-USFWS

This project is part of the Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Mitigation program.



-USFWS

A helicopter was used to place 170 trees into the Manistee River, Michigan, to improve fish habitat. The project was intended to replicate historical habitat which has not existed since before the logging era.

- Work with partners to propose, implement, and monitor results of habitat restoration projects through the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, Fish Passage Program and Coastal Program in Northern Michigan (MI).
- Lead the Service's implementation of the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program habitat restoration projects in 20 counties of Michigan's Northern Lower Peninsula (MI).
- Work with the Michigan and Ohio DNR's and U.S. Geological Survey to identify and describe juvenile rearing and adult spawning habitat for lake sturgeon in the Saginaw River, St. Clair River, and Maumee River (MI, OH).
- Work with U. S. Geological Survey, Michigan DNR, and other partners to develop a National Fish Habitat joint venture focusing on the Huron-Erie Corridor (MI, OH).
- Increase involvement in the Michigan Stream Team to develop regional curves for improved outcomes of watershed restoration efforts in Michigan (MI).

## - Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:

- Employ a systematic aquatic habitat information and evaluation approach in prioritizing habitat restoration activities in the Lake Superior watershed, in coordination with the Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin DNR's and other partners (MI, MN, WI).
- Work with partners to develop, prioritize and monitor habitat improvement projects through the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, Great Lakes Coastal Program, and Fish Passage Program, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Binational Program and Superior Coastal Initiative under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (MI, MN, WI).
- Work with the appropriate agencies and organizations to help with the restoration of the Bad River Watershed and the five priority Bayfield Peninsula streams: Whittlesey Creek, Sioux River, Raspberry River, Bark River, and Cranberry River (WI).
- Co-lead the Service's implementation of Coastal Program supported aquatic habitat conservation and restoration activities in the Upper Great Lakes with East Lansing Field Office (IL, IN, MI, MN, WI).
- Assist Federal resource managers with aquatic habitat management on National Forests, National Parks, and military lands (MN, MI, WI).
- Participate in the Lake Superior Binational Program through the Lake Superior LaMP Terrestrial Committee and the Lake Superior Work Group, and advocate for aquatic and terrestrial habitat restoration projects.
- Work with the Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin DNR's to develop a National Fish Habitat joint venture focusing on Lake Superior coaster brook trout restoration (MN, MI, WI).

# Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

- Work with the Minnesota DNR and other partners to develop a National Fish Habitat joint venture focusing on Lake Superior North Shore tributaries and the North Shore Highlands (MN).
- Work with the Minnesota and Wisconsin DNR's, St. Louis River Citizens Action Committee, and other partners involved in the Lower St. Louis River Habitat Plan, to develop a National Fish Habitat joint venture (MN, WI).
- **Carterville Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Serve on interagency teams to develop, prioritize, and monitor habitat improvement projects as part of the Upper Mississippi River Environmental Management Program (IL, MO).
  - Serve on interagency teams to develop, prioritize, and monitor habitat improvement projects as part of the Navigation and Ecosystem Sustainability Program (IL, MO).
  - Work with the Illinois River Coordinating Council to establish the group as a recognized partnership under the National Fish Habitat Initiative and to complete habitat restoration in the Illinois River Watershed (IL, WI, IN).
  - Work with the Region 3 Fisheries Program Fish Habitat Team to develop and/or refine approaches to habitat restoration within Region 3 (IL, IN, IA, MI, MN, MO, OH, WI).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Coordinate and evaluate Missouri River habitat projects with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DeSoto NWR, Big Muddy NF&WR, and basin states (IA, KS, MO, NE).
  - Provide technical assistance for Missouri River habitat projects as part of the Missouri River Mitigation Project Team (IA, KS, MO, NE).
  - Monitor and assess fish communities in portions of the Missouri River to determine fish response to habitat modifications (MO).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Work with the Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin DNR's to employ a systematic approach to evaluate and prioritize aquatic habitat restoration activities in the Lake Michigan watershed (IL, IN, MI, WI).
  - Propose, implement, and monitor the results of aquatic habitat improvement projects in the Lake Michigan watershed through the Service's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, Fish Passage Program, and Coastal Program, working with the Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin DNR's and other partners (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Work with Service programs, states, and other partners as part of the National Fish Habitat Initiative's Driftless Area Restoration Effort partnership to prioritize and develop aquatic habitat restoration projects in the Driftless Area. (IL, IA, MN, WI).
  - Participate in planning ecosystem restoration projects implemented as part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway System Navigation Study (IL, IA, MN, WI).
  - Serve on interagency teams to develop, prioritize, and monitor habitat improvement projects constructed as part of the Upper Mississippi River Environmental Management Program (IL, IA, MN, WI).
  - Participate in planning and evaluation of fish passage improvements at locks and dams as part of the Upper Mississippi River Navigation Project (IL, IA, MN, WI).
  - Work with the appropriate agencies and organizations to help with the restoration of the Red River watershed (MN).
- **Iron River NFH will:**
  - Monitor the status of Schacte Creek and Middle Creek watersheds and take action as needed, in coordination with the Wisconsin DNR, to conserve aquatic habitat quality (WI).
  - Monitor the Orienta Falls site on the Iron River and continue to advise the Regional Office on the status of fish passage and actions needed to protect programs at Iron River NFH from impacts through feral fish in the basin (WI).

# Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management



-USFWS

Tim Yager from National Wildlife Refuges (left) and Scott Yess from the La Crosse FRO remove fish from a fyke net. The Fish and Wildlife Service is evaluating the fishery around wing dams in Pool 2 of the Mississippi River as part of a study to determine if dam notching improves fishery habitat.



-USFWS

This is an aerial view of the Lower Hamburg Bend chute on the Missouri River. It was constructed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as part of the Missouri River Mitigation Program.



-USFWS photo by Heather Enterline

Alpena Fishery Resources Office staff and partners will be replacing this aging bridge at the Lovells Road/Crapo Creek crossing in Otsego County, Michigan with an aluminum bottomless culvert.

- **Jordan River NFH will:**
  - Work with the Friends of the Jordan River, Marquette Biological Station, Trout Unlimited, and Michigan DNR to monitor the status of the Jordan River watershed and take action as needed to conserve aquatic habitat and water quality (MI).
  - Work with Delta College and the Friends of the Jordan River to develop a project to monitor water quality above and below the Jordan River NFH, and write a proposal to fund the project (MI).
- **Marquette and Ludington Biological Stations will:**
  - Work with Service field stations in Fisheries and Ecological Services, and with our partners, to ensure that fish passage activities effectively resolve the need to pass priority species of native fish while continuing to provide barriers to sea lamprey spawning and nursery areas in Great Lakes tributaries (IL, IN, MI, MN, NY, PA, OH, WI).
- **Pendills Creek and Sullivan Creek NFH's will:**
  - Work with the U.S. Forest Service, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, and Michigan DNR to monitor the status of the Videos Creek, Pendills Creek, and Sullivan Creek watersheds and take action as needed to conserve aquatic habitat and water quality (MI).
  - Work with the Hiawatha National Forest and the Michigan DNR to develop and implement a plan for population control of beaver in the Pendills Creek watershed, to reduce associated impacts to water quality (MI).

**Objective** - Expand the use of Fisheries program expertise to avoid, minimize, or mitigate impacts of habitat alteration on fish and other aquatic species.

## Our Commitment

- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to Thunder Bay Power and Michigan DNR to achieve compliance with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license on the Thunder Bay River (MI).
  - Provide technical assistance to the Saginaw Bay Natural Resource Damage Assessment for restoration planning and implement aquatic habitat rehabilitation projects (MI).
  - Provide technical support to the East Lansing Field Office and the Reynoldsburg Field Office in reviewing permits, licenses, Federal projects, and other actions proposed for the Lake Huron and Lake Erie basins (MI, OH).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical support to the East Lansing Field Office and the Twin Cities Field Office in reviewing permits, licenses, Federal projects, and other actions proposed for the Lake Superior Basin (MI, MN, WI).

# Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

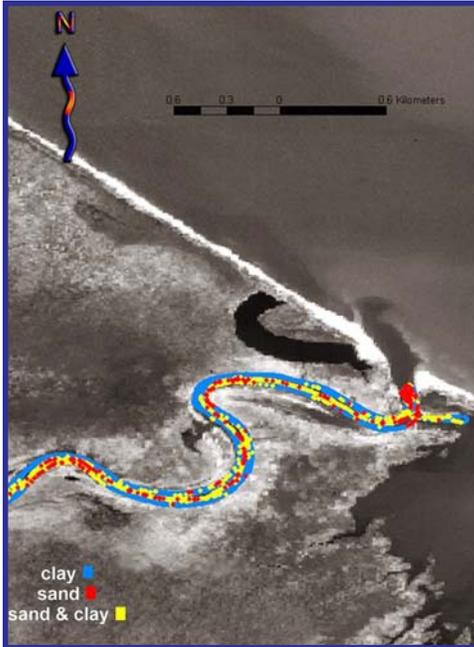
- **Cartersville Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to the Illinois DNR with ramping projects to restore fish passage at dams within the Upper Illinois River watershed (IL).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Work with the Service's Ecological Services and National Wildlife Refuge programs to monitor and evaluate aquatic habitat restoration efforts in the Illinois, Mississippi, and Ohio rivers associated with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers activities (IL, IN, IA, MN, MO, OH, WI).
  - Implement aquatic habitat restoration projects for Niangua darters in the Osage River watershed in Missouri and for Topeka shiners in Western Iowa (IA, MO).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to the Lower Green Bay/Fox River Natural Resource Damage Assessment for restoration planning and implement aquatic habitat rehabilitation projects (WI).
  - Monitor the effectiveness of the fish barrier net at the Ludington Pumped Storage Hydroelectric plant and determine the annual fish damages as mitigation for the operation of the plant (MI).
  - Propose and implement aquatic habitat rehabilitation projects through the Great Lakes Fishery Trust (MI).
  - Provide technical assistance to the Green Bay Field Office to achieve fisheries habitat goals for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licensed facilities in tributaries to Green Bay (MI, WI).
  - Provide technical support to the Green Bay Field Office, East Lansing Field Office, and Chicago Field Office in reviewing permits, licenses, Federal projects, and other actions proposed for the Lake Michigan basin (IL, IN, MI, WI).
- **La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide fish passage technical assistance for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission relicensing of the Prairie du Sac dam (WI).
  - Implement aquatic habitat restoration projects for sturgeon in the Red River of the North watershed in Minnesota (IA, WI).
- **La Crosse Fish Health Center will:**
  - Work with the Service's National Wildlife Refuge Program and other fisheries offices to help assess various water habitats on Service lands to address concerns of fish health and species identification (IL, IN, IA, OH, MI, MN, MO, WI).

# Aquatic Habitat Conservation and Management

**Objective** – Increase the quantity and improve the quality of aquatic and riparian habitat on Service lands.

## Our Commitment

- **Alpena Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to Shiawassee and Ottawa NWR's and the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge to plan, design, and implement aquatic habitat restoration projects (MI, OH).
- **Ashland Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to Whittlesey Creek and Rice Lake NWR's to plan, design, and implement aquatic habitat restoration projects (MN, WI).
- **Carterville Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Conduct post-project biological monitoring to evaluate fisheries age structure response to the Swan Lake Habitat Rehabilitation and Enhancement Project at Two Rivers NWR (IL).
  - Provide technical assistance to Two Rivers, Crab Orchard, Cypress Creek, Mingo, Mark Twain, Illinois River, Big Oaks, and Patoka NWR's to plan, design, and implement aquatic habitat restoration projects (IL, IN, MO).
- **Columbia Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to the Big Muddy NF&WR, DeSoto NWR, and Swan Lake NWR to plan, design, and implement aquatic habitat restoration projects (IA, MO).
- **Green Bay Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to Seney NWR to plan, design, and implement projects to enhance brook trout habitat in the Upper Dregs River (MI).
- **La Crosse Fishery Resources Office will:**
  - Provide technical assistance to the Upper Mississippi River NW&FR, and Minnesota Valley, Necedah, Horicon, and Tamarac NWR's to plan, design, and implement aquatic habitat restoration projects (MN, WI).
- **Iron River NFH will:**
  - Work with the Service's National Wildlife Refuge and Ecological Services Programs and other partners to manage 1,200 acres of Service land at the Iron River NFH (WI).
  - Assist Ashland FRO in implementing aquatic habitat evaluation and restoration projects at Whittlesey Creek NWR (WI).
- **Pendills Creek and Sullivan Creek NFHs will:**
  - Assist Green Bay FRO in implementing aquatic habitat evaluation and restoration projects at Seney NWR (MI).
- **Neosho NFH will:**
  - Work with the Service's National Wildlife Refuge and Ecological Services programs and other partners to manage 244 acres of Service land under management of the Neosho NFH (MO).



-U.S. Geological Survey

This image displays the substrate composition of the Lower Bad River. Geo-referenced juvenile lake sturgeon data is being integrated into the mapping to show the type of habitat used by native lake sturgeon.



Fish Passage funding contributed to modifications on Turkey Creek in Cass County, Iowa. The above weir has a 4:1 slope. The below photo is the reconstructed water control wier with a 15:1 slope which approximates natural stream gradients.



-USFWS

# Workforce Management

Performance Measures (Fisheries Strategic Plan v 11)

Regional Fisheries Goal

Number of volunteer participation hours

28,510

**Workforce Management Goal: Maintain and support an adequately-sized, strategically positioned workforce with state-of-the-art training, equipment, and technologies in their career fields.**

*Our primary focus is on recruiting, supporting, and positioning an effective and motivated workforce capable of meeting the expectations of employees and partners in fish and other aquatic resource conservation.*

**Objective** - Staff Fisheries program field stations at levels adequate to effectively meet the Service's goals and objectives in fish and other aquatic resource conservation.

**Objective** - Provide employees with opportunities to maintain competencies in the expanding knowledge and technologies needed to improve opportunities for professional achievement, advancement, and recognition.

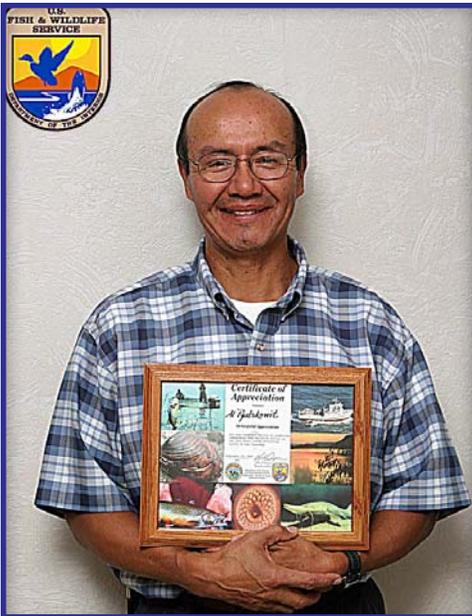
**Objective** - Provide employees with access to facilities and equipment needed to effectively, efficiently, and safely perform their jobs.

## Our Commitment

- Ensure staffing levels are adequate to meet mission critical goals.
- Initiate recommendations from the Workforce Planning Team for the Fish and Wildlife Management Assistance Program.
- Identify core competencies required for our employees and work with the National Conservation Training Center to develop training opportunities for employees to meet competency levels.
- Ensure that supervisors maintain current Individual Development Plans for their employees and ensure that employees complete individual developmental activities.
- Identify and implement operational, structural, and geographic changes that will help maximize effectiveness and efficiency at field stations.



-USFWS  
The Youth Conservation Corps work crew at the Iron River NFH worked hard to clear hiking trails at the hatchery.



-USFWS  
Ashland FRO's "Volunteer of the Year" was Al Pyatskowitz who provided 62 hours in 2004 and 44 hours in 2005.

## List of Acronyms

ANS - Aquatic Nuisance Species or AIS - Aquatic Invasive Species  
 Commission - Great Lakes Fishery Commission  
 Consent Decree - U.S. District Court Consent Decree  
 CORA - Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority  
 CORPS - U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 DNR – Department of Natural Resources  
 ESA – Endangered Species Act  
 FERC – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
 FHC - Fish Health Center  
 FONS - Fishery Operational Needs System  
 FRO - Fishery Resources Office  
 GAO - Government Accounting Office  
 GIS - Geographical Information System  
 GLIFWC – Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission  
 HACCP - Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point  
 MDC – Missouri Department of Conservation  
 MICRA – Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association  
 M/V - Motor Vessel  
 NF&WR - National Fish and Wildlife Refuge  
 NFH - National Fish Hatchery  
 NRCS - Natural Resource Conservation Service  
 NRDA – Natural Resources Damage Assessment  
 NW&FR - National Wildlife and Fish Refuge  
 NWR – National Wildlife Refuge  
 NWRS - National Wildlife Refuge System  
 PIT - Passive Integrated Transponder  
 Region - Great Lakes-Big Rivers Region  
 Service - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

## List of State Acronyms

IA – Iowa  
 IL – Illinois  
 IN – Indiana  
 KS – Kansas  
 MI – Michigan  
 MN – Minnesota  
 MO – Missouri  
 NE – Nebraska  
 NY – New York  
 OH – Ohio  
 PA – Pennsylvania  
 SD – South Dakota  
 WI – Wisconsin

# Great Lakes - Big Rivers Regional Fisheries Offices

Regional Office, 1 Federal Drive, Fort Snelling, MN 55111-4056; 612/713-5111  
Gerry Jackson ([gerry\\_jackson@fws.gov](mailto:gerry_jackson@fws.gov))

## Michigan

Alpena Fishery Resources Office  
Federal Building; 145 Water Street  
Alpena, MI 49707  
Jerry McClain ([jerry\\_mcclain@fws.gov](mailto:jerry_mcclain@fws.gov))  
989/356-3052

Jordan River National Fish Hatchery  
6623 Turner Road  
Elmira, MI 49730  
Rick Westerhof ([rick\\_westerhof@fws.gov](mailto:rick_westerhof@fws.gov))  
231/584-2461

Ludington Biological Station  
229 South Jebavy Drive  
Ludington, MI 49431  
Dennis Lavis ([dennis\\_lavis@fws.gov](mailto:dennis_lavis@fws.gov))  
231/845-6205

Marquette Biological Station  
1924 Industrial Parkway  
Marquette, MI 49855  
Gary Klar ([gerald\\_klar@fws.gov](mailto:gerald_klar@fws.gov))  
906/226-6571

Pendills Creek/Sullivan Creek  
National Fish Hatchery  
21990 West Trout Lane  
Brimley, MI 49715  
Curt Friez ([curt\\_friez@fws.gov](mailto:curt_friez@fws.gov))  
906/437-5231

## Missouri

Columbia Fishery Resources Office  
101 Park Deville Drive; Suite A  
Columbia, MO 65203  
Tracy Hill ([tracy\\_hill@fws.gov](mailto:tracy_hill@fws.gov))  
573/234-2132

Neosho National Fish Hatchery  
East Park Street  
Neosho, MO 64850  
David Hendrix ([david\\_hendrix@fws.gov](mailto:david_hendrix@fws.gov))  
417/451-0554

## Illinois

Carterville Fishery Resources Office  
9053 Route 148, Suite A  
Marion, Illinois 62959  
Rob Simmonds ([rob\\_simmonds@fws.gov](mailto:rob_simmonds@fws.gov))  
618/997-6869

## Wisconsin

Ashland Fishery Resources Office  
2800 Lake Shore Drive East  
Ashland, WI 54806  
Mark Dryer ([mark\\_dryer@fws.gov](mailto:mark_dryer@fws.gov))  
715/682-6185

Genoa National Fish Hatchery  
S5689 State Road 35  
Genoa, WI 54632-8836  
Doug Aloisi ([doug\\_aloisi@fws.gov](mailto:doug_aloisi@fws.gov))  
608/689-2605

Green Bay Fishery Resources Office  
2661 Scott Tower Drive  
New Franklin, WI 54229  
Mark Holey ([mark\\_holey@fws.gov](mailto:mark_holey@fws.gov))  
920/866-1717

Iron River National Fish Hatchery  
10325 Fairview Road  
Iron River, WI 54847  
Dale Bast ([dale\\_bast@fws.gov](mailto:dale_bast@fws.gov))  
715/372-8510

LaCrosse Fish Health Center  
555 Lester Avenue  
Onalaska, WI 54650  
Richard Nelson ([rick\\_nelson@fws.gov](mailto:rick_nelson@fws.gov))  
608/783-8441

LaCrosse Fishery Resources Office  
555 Lester Avenue  
Onalaska, WI 54650  
Pamella Thiel ([pam\\_thiel@fws.gov](mailto:pam_thiel@fws.gov))  
608/783-8431



**Fisheries Program Operational Plan; Fiscal Year 2006  
Region 3, Great Lakes - Big Rivers  
Fiscal Year 2005**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
Region 3  
Division of Fisheries  
1 Federal Drive  
Ft. Snelling, MN 55111**

**Phone: 612/713-5111**



Printed on 30% Recycled  
by Fiber Weight Paper

*The Fisheries Operational Plan Accomplishment Report - FY 2005* was produced by the Fisheries Program, Region 3, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ft. Snelling, Minn. Photos included are used by permission and may be copyrighted.

Questions or comments concerning the report should be addressed to Dave Radloff, 612/713-5158 or email at [david\\_radloff@fws.gov](mailto:david_radloff@fws.gov)

Equal opportunity to participate in, and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, religion, sexual orientation, status as a parent and genetic information. For information contact the U.S. Department of Interior, Office for Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street N.W., Washington, DC 20240