Northeast Region Fact Sheet

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Northeast Region (Region 5) encompasses 13 states from Maine to Virginia. Nearly a quarter of the nation's population lives within this area.

Resource Facts and Figures

72 refuges, encompassing nearly 535,000 acres, with 5.9 million visitors annually

12 national fish hatcheries

15 fishery resources offices

92 threatened and endangered species and 11 candidates for protection

877 employees

Regional Demographics

13 states

26 U.S. Senators

107 U.S. congressional districts

18 federally recognized tribes

Population (2010 U.S. census): 72,444,467

Key Habitats and Ecosystems

Atlantic northern forest, Appalachian Mountains, big rivers, freshwater and salt marshes, coastal plains, estuaries, barrier beaches, coastal islands, Great Lakes, Chesapeake Bay.

Conservation Successes and Challenges

Partnerships

The North Atlantic and the Appalachian Landscape Conservation Cooperatives have engaged and enthusiastic partners who agree on the emerging science needs and are committed to coordinate approaches across the regional landscape toward common conservation outcomes.

The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture and the Atlantic Coastal National Fish Habitat Partnership are actively involved in restoring fish habitat, and annually create thousands of jobs and provide millions of dollars of direct and indirect benefits to the economy of the Northeast.

Fish passage

The Service has expanded its fish passage engineering expertise, and initiated a graduate-level fish passage engineering program with the University of Massachusetts to meet demands nationwide.

Conservation grant programs – State and tribal grant funds support high-priority projects that address state and regional conservation needs.

Land acquisition

During 2010, the Service acquired more than 41 properties from willing sellers, protecting 3,100 acres on 13 national wildlife refuges. Nearly half of the acres are on refuges in the Chesapeake

Bay watershed and nearly a third are in the Northern Forest, two nationally significant ecosystems.

White-nose syndrome

Caused by a non-native fungus, white-nose syndrome is decimating hibernating bat populations across eastern North America, with more than 1 million bats already dead; in four years it has spread from a cave in New York to 16 states and four Canadian provinces. The Service leads a cooperative international effort of more than 100 governmental and non-governmental organizations to address the disease and conserve North American bat species.

Stressors on coastal areas

Sea level rise, coastal erosion, salt water intrusion –all intensified by climate change– continue to threaten coastal beaches, islands and salt marsh habitat.

Impacts on fish and wildlife resources

Conservation of habitat and resources is a challenge in this area of dense human population, continued development pressure, spreading invasive species, obstructions to fish passage, and energy development impacts.

Regional website address http://www.fws.gov/northeast/