



Navigating the Service's Chesapeake Bay Watershed Website

Navigating the Site

This guide is intended to serve as a navigational tool for new users of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's 'Conserving the Chesapeake's Living Resources' website. It provides an overview of the organization of the website, navigation tips and tricks, and insight into how to navigate through the interactive reports embedded in the site.

How is the site organized?

The website is organized into five major components shown below.

Home	Resources	Habitat	Education and Outreach	About FWS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - View the MPT 'Chesapeake Bay by Air' introductory clip - Read 'News Updates' - Link to Living Resources, Habitats and Education and Outreach pages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - View specific information for select priority species - View summary information on work completed by FWS - Understand Threats to the Watershed - Learn more about FWS Solutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Learn about the Habitats of the Watershed - View FWS work by Habitat for Migratory Birds, Fish and Threatened and Endangered Species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - View the FWS Events Calendar - Find ways to get involved (Visit the Bay, Volunteer, Start Conservation Efforts) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand how FWS is using Strategic Habitat Conservation - View cost and performance data by FWS office - Read about the Chesapeake Bay Restoration and Protection Executive

Within each of the sections, there are several components that you will see repeated:



The 'Click for Interactive Report' icon is displayed on the **Resources** and **About FWS** tabs. When selected, a new page including an interactive report will load. The functionality of the interactive reports is described in the next section.

Threats

Poor water quality

Poor water quality alters available habitat and can limit the success of restoration efforts. Oxygen-deprived water is considered to be the largest aquatic pollution problem in the United States and is associated with increased harmful algal blooms and large areas of "dead zones" in the Chesapeake Bay. It also causes the loss of submerged aquatic vegetation, an important habitat for a variety of Bay species. Excess nutrients imported into the Chesapeake watershed may limit the ability to address habitat issues and are an overarching concern.

To expand the definition, click on the next item in the list.

Invasive species

Contaminants

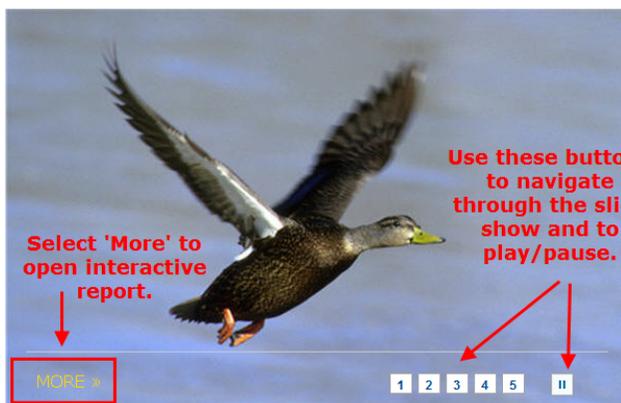
Habitat Loss

Disease and Pathogens

The grey accordion menu is displayed on each of the main pages. Click on the items in the list to expand the definitions of each of the terms.

The three main focal areas of the website – **Resources**, **Habitat and Education and Outreach** - include interactive slideshows at the top of the pages.

Living Resources of the Chesapeake Bay



In recent years, the Chesapeake Bay has become even less able to support the fish and wildlife it once did. Increasing amounts of nutrients, sediments, and toxic substances are causing serious ecological problems. Studies show alarming declines in populations of fish and wildlife and in the habitat available to them.

The Chesapeake Bay Executive Order, signed in May 2009, provides FWS a unique opportunity to take action by applying political and public will coupled with advanced technology and innovative science to address these detrimental impacts. Toward this end, FWS will focus its actions to raise the bar for habitat protection and restoration across all regions of the Chesapeake Bay watershed for the betterment of living resources. Our three objectives call for application of science and technologies to improve management decisions for habitats and living resources and the communities that depend on them, including 1) prioritizing actions that maximize ecological benefits for priority species, 2) accelerate habitat protection and restoration, and 3) better coordinate research and assessment across the watershed.

The bottom of each page includes a banner with several different options.

Contact	Tell a friend	Bay Stat	EPA
View a list of FWS contacts for questions.	Share the website with others.	View Maryland's BayStat website for additional threats and solutions.	Learn more about the Chesapeake Bay Program.

Using the interactive reports

Interactive reports load in a new page when 'More' is selected from the slide show. The screenshots below demonstrate basic functionality for the interactive reports.

American Black Duck

Navigate through Status & Trends, Threats and Solutions. Click on each word to change the page you are viewing.

Status & Trends
Threats
Solutions

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK STATUS: ●

Read more about the current status. ➤

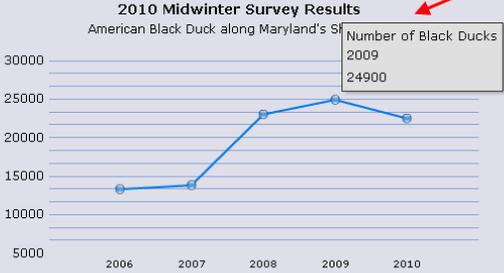
View additional information by clicking on the green arrow wherever visible. This will launch a pop up window containing additional information.

maior rivers and the Atlantic Coast to reach wintering sites in coastal marshes
fr
tul
inv.
Th
un
wil
te
va
upland. Only females incubate. Once the ducklings hatch females lead broods to rearing areas where abundant invertebrates and vegetative cover can be found.

Why It's Important:
The American black duck is a "keystone" species of eastern waterfowl. Historically the duck was harvested in eastern North America and its importance to the duck population by greater than 50%. The mid-Atlantic region is the largest proportion of the overall wintering American black duck population and is critical to the long-term sustainability.

Scroll through text using the scroll bars on each page.

Mouseover the charts to view the data points. All charts are dynamic.



Distribution of the American Black Duck. This species breeds locally South to the dashed line. Source: The Birds of North America, No. 481

American Black Duck

Specific Examples of work performed for Black Duck:

Cedar Island Coastal Wetland Protection

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) was awarded a grant for the protection of 192 acres of estuarine salt marsh located on Tangier and Pocomoke Sound, Pocomoke Sound and Cedar Island support some of the best remaining beds of submerged aquatic vegetation in Maryland and are considered to be important for breeding black duck. Partners in the project include the FWS' Chesapeake Bay Field Office Coastal Program and the Lower Shore Land Trust.

Click the Close Icon to return to the previous screen.

Somerset County, including these funds will leverage Somerset County Wildlife Management for Island Wildlife Management for Sound and Bay Islands



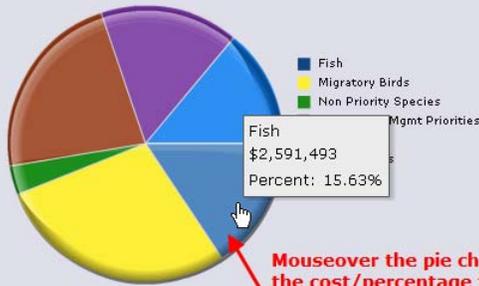
Cedar Island, Credit: Dan Murphy, FWS.

Black Duck Banding on the Chesapeake Marshlands

In winter 2009/2010, Eastern Neck and Blackwater NWRs participated in a flyway-wide effort to better understand black duck survival. With the help of dedicated volunteers, the refuges were successful in banding 118 black ducks. The American black duck was historically one of the most abundant duck species in eastern North America. Between the late 1950s and the 1980s the estimated population declined by more than 50%. With population estimates in decline, there is a great deal of interest in determining survival and other vital rates. This has traditionally been done by banding black ducks in late summer, but that only gives us a limited understanding of survival. This year's work is the first of a 5-year pilot project to band black ducks in January and February. This second season banding effort will give biologists a clearer picture of seasonal survival and information to better manage this declining species.

FY 2009 Total Amount Invested in the Watershed: \$16,580,588

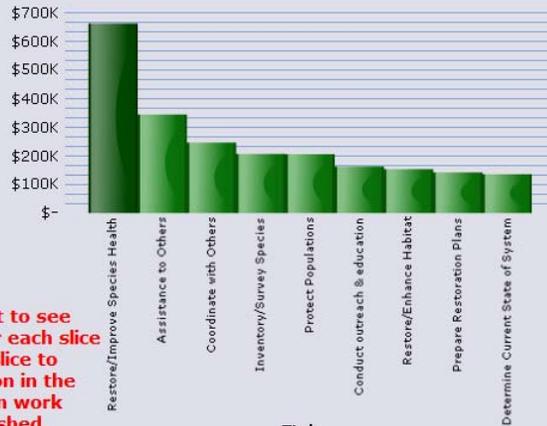
FY 2009 Cost for Species, Public Use and Other Land Management Priorities



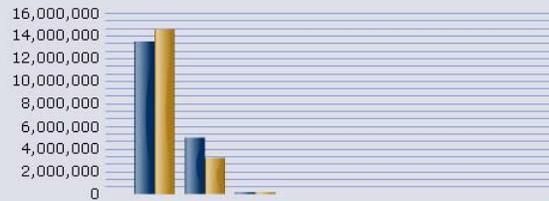
Mouseover the pie chart to see the cost/percentage for each slice of the pie. Click on the slice to view detailed information in the bar graph to the right on work completed in the Watershed.

The information on this page is a summary of the work completed by FWS in FY 2009. Click on the pie chart to select Fish, Migratory Birds, Non Priority Species, T&E Species, Public Use or Other Land Management Priorities. The graphs on the right side of the report will reflect the selection and update accordingly. The chart in the upper right provides summary level cost information. The chart in the lower right shows the performance for FY 2009. When you select a bar on the green bar chart, the lower chart will update with corresponding performance information.

FY 2009 Annual Work in the Watershed

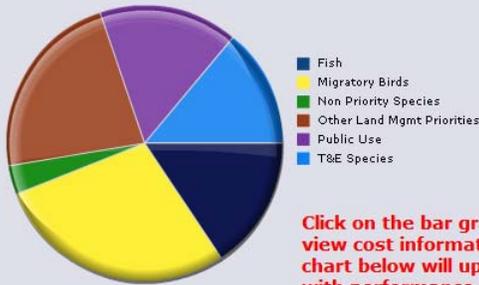


Fish
Restore/Improve Species Health



FY 2009 Total Amount Invested in the Watershed: \$16,580,588

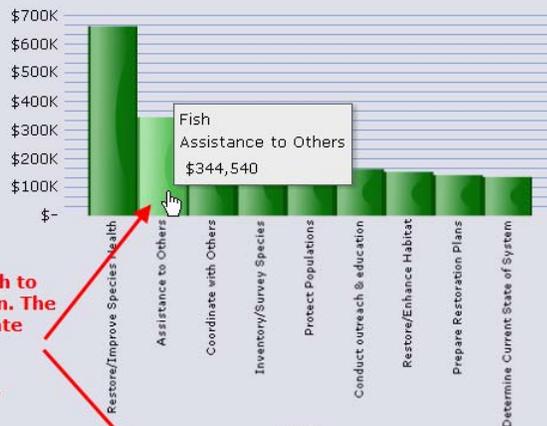
FY 2009 Cost for Species, Public Use and Other Land Management Priorities



Click on the bar graph to view cost information. The chart below will update with performance information for that particular work area.

The information on this page is a summary of the work completed by FWS in FY 2009. Click on the pie chart to select Fish, Migratory Birds, Non Priority Species, T&E Species, Public Use or Other Land Management Priorities. The graphs on the right side of the report will reflect the selection and update accordingly. The chart in the upper right provides summary level cost information. The chart in the lower right shows the performance for FY 2009. When you select a bar on the green bar chart, the lower chart will update with corresponding performance information.

FY 2009 Annual Work in the Watershed



Fish
Assistance to Others

