

# U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in North Dakota

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.



*December 2014*

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# Abbreviations

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<b>FmHA</b>	<b>Farmers Home Administration</b>
<b>HAPET</b>	<b>Habitat and Population Evaluation Team</b>
<b>LCC</b>	<b>Landscape Conservation Cooperative</b>
<b>NAWCA</b>	<b>North American Wetlands Conservation Act</b>
<b>NGP</b>	<b>National Game Preserve</b>
<b>NWR</b>	<b>National Wildlife Refuge</b>
<b>NWRS</b>	<b>National Wildlife Refuge System</b>
<b>SWAP</b>	<b>Small Wetlands Acquisition Program</b>
<b>USFWS</b>	<b>United States Fish and Wildlife Service (Service)</b>
<b>WMD</b>	<b>Wetland Management District</b>
<b>WPA</b>	<b>Waterfowl Production Area</b>

# U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Presence in North Dakota

## National Wildlife Refuges

North Dakota has 63 National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) that encompass 289,777 acres.

## Wetland Management Districts

There are 11 Wetland Management Districts (WMD) with 1,288 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA) totaling 289,372 acres. More than 1.3 million acres are under perpetual wetland and grassland easements.

Visitors to NWRs and WMDs may participate in a variety of wildlife-dependent recreational activities on lands that have been opened to the public. These activities include wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing. Special regulations are in place to protect natural resources and to help ensure safe and enjoyable visits.

## Small Wetlands Acquisition Program

The Small Wetlands Acquisition Program was created by Congress in 1958. The 1934 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act (commonly referred to as the Duck Stamp Act) was amended to allow proceeds from the sale of Federal Duck Stamps to be used to protect waterfowl habitat. The habitat protected through this program consists of

small wetlands surrounded by grassland habitat, primarily in the U.S. portion of the Prairie Pothole Region. These areas, protected in perpetuity through fee-title acquisition or easement, are called WPAs, and are part of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

## Wetland Easements

A wetland easement is a legal agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and a private landowner. The landowner receives a one-time payment to permanently protect wetlands. Wetlands covered by an easement cannot be drained, filled, leveled, or burned. When these wetlands dry up naturally, they can be farmed, grazed, or hayed.

## Grassland Easements

A grassland easement is a legal agreement between the Service and a private landowner. The landowner receives a one-time payment to permanently keep the land in grass. Land covered by a grassland easement may not be cultivated. Mowing, haying, and grass seed harvesting are delayed until after July 15 in order to help grassland nesting birds complete their nesting before the grass is disturbed. Livestock grazing is not restricted in any way.

## Limited-interest National Wildlife Refuges

The North Dakota Limited-interest Refuge Program began in the 1930's, in response to the many crises of the "Dust Bowl Era." Working with states and private landowners, President Roosevelt established this program for the purpose of "drought relief, water conservation, and for migratory bird and wildlife conservation." Hundreds of landowners agreed to place their lands under this program, most perpetual, for these conservation purposes. Today, these lands encompass 58,484 acres in North Dakota.

## Partners for Fish and Wildlife

With over 90% of North Dakota lands in private ownership, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (Partners) is an important program for restoring and maintaining habitat for migratory bird populations in the Central Flyway.

The Partners program utilizes proven habitat practices that benefit wildlife and can be incorporated into an established agricultural operation. The most common types of projects include: restoration of drained wetlands, creation of new wetlands, restoration of native vegetation on cropland, and the establishment of rotational grazing systems on degraded native prairie.

### **Fisheries and Aquatic Conservation**

The Garrison Dam, Baldhill, and Valley City National Fish Hatcheries are the three federal fish hatcheries in North Dakota. Two of the three facilities are mitigation hatcheries—built to provide fish that offset, or mitigate, the impacts to the fish community resulting from the construction of dams. Valley City National Fish Hatchery pre-dated reservoir construction and played a role in the establishment of recreational and farm pond fishing in the 1940's and 1950's when fish were transported by railroad cars in Fearnow pails and cream cans. Today, in addition to mitigation, the hatcheries supplement natural reproduction by stocking a variety of fish species in lakes throughout North Dakota and Wyoming. Critical to recovery and restoration efforts, the hatcheries also participate in propagation and stocking efforts to help in the recovery efforts of threatened and endangered species such as the pallid and lake sturgeons.

The Missouri River Fish & Wildlife Conservation Office serves as the aquatic species conservation experts for the Service with capability to conduct assessments that monitor species and aquatic

habitats. Most work is focused on monitoring and recovery efforts for pallid sturgeon and other native species that are in decline. Work is also conducted with conservation partners in a collaborative approach to restore habitats where there are opportunities to improve the function of the landscape and the aquatic resources.

### **Refuge Revenue Sharing**

Lands acquired by the Service are removed from the tax rolls, but the Refuge Revenue Sharing Act, as amended, allows us to off-set the tax losses. Annual payments are made to the county or other local unit of government.

The Revenue Sharing Act requires that the revenue sharing payments to counties for our purchased land will be based on the greatest of: 1)  $\frac{3}{4}$  of 1 percent of the market value; 2) 25 percent of the net receipts; or 3) 75 cents per acre.

### **Ecological Services**

The Ecological Services Field Office (ES) coordinates with Federal, State, private, and non-governmental organizations and agencies within North Dakota, surrounding states, and Canadian provinces. ES frequently functions as planners, negotiators, coordinators, and conservation advocates in an

effort to fulfill natural resource mandates.

Primary activities include the oversight and evaluation of federally funded projects to insure compliance with, or to provide comments and recommendations relative to the Endangered Species Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and Section 404 permit evaluations as defined by the Clean Water Act. Additionally, expertise is provided on a wide array of environmental contaminant issues affecting fish and wildlife resources.

### **Landscape Conservation Cooperatives**

A Landscape Conservation Cooperative (LCC) serves as a forum for science-based partnerships including Federal, State, Tribal, local government, and non-governmental partners.

The LCCs are aligned around geographically similar landscapes and they are true cooperatives formed to identify best practices, fill information gaps, and to avoid duplicative efforts through partnership based conservation planning and design.



## National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) in North Dakota

NWR	Total Acres	Fee Title Acres	Limited-interest Easement Acres	Managing Field Station	Complex
Appert Lake	908		908	Long Lake	Long Lake
Ardoch	2,697	308	2,389	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Arrowwood	15,934	15,934		Arrowwood	Arrowwood
Audubon	14,735	14,735		Audubon	Audubon
Bone Hill	640		640	Kulm	Kulm
Brumba	1,977		1,977	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Buffalo Lake	1,564	24	1,540	J. Clark Salyer	Souris River Basin
Camp Lake	585		585	Audubon	Audubon
Canfield Lake	313	3	310	Long Lake	Long Lake
Chase Lake	4,449	4,449		Chase Lake	Arrowwood
Cottonwood Lake	1,013		1,013	J. Clark Salyer	Souris River Basin
Dakota Lake	2,800		2,800	Kulm	Kulm
Des Lacs	19,500	19,500		Des Lacs	Lostwood
Florence Lake	1,888	1,468	420	Long Lake	Long Lake
Half Way Lake	160		160	Chase Lake	Arrowwood
Hiddenwood	568		568	Audubon	Audubon
Hobart Lake	2,077	246	1,831	Valley City	Arrowwood
Hutchinson Lake	479		479	Long Lake	Long Lake
J. Clark Salyer	58,700	58,700		J. Clark Salyer	Souris River Basin
Johnson Lake	2,007	4	2,003	Arrowwood	Arrowwood
Kellys Slough	1,270	680	590	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Lake Alice	12,096	8,512	3,584	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Lake George	3,119	29	3,090	Long Lake	Long Lake
Lake Ilo	4,033	3,197	836	Lake Ilo	Audubon
Lake Nettie	3,055	2,421	634	Audubon	Audubon
Lake Otis	320		320	Audubon	Audubon
Lake Patricia	800		800	Audubon	Audubon
Lake Zahl	3,822	3,218	604	Crosby	Lostwood
Lambs Lake	1,207		1,207	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Little Goose	288		288	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Long Lake	22,310	22,310		Long Lake	Long Lake
Lords Lake	1,915		1,915	J. Clark Salyer	Souris River Basin
Lost Lake	960		960	Audubon	Audubon
Lostwood	27,589	27,589		Lostwood	Lostwood
Maple River	712		712	Kulm	Kulm
McLean	760	344	416	Audubon	Audubon
Pleasant Lake	898		898	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Pretty Rock	800		800	Lake Ilo	Audubon
Rabb Lake	261		261	J. Clark Salyer	Souris River Basin
Rock Lake	5,506		5,506	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Rose Lake	839		839	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
School Section Lake	297		297	J. Clark Salyer	Souris River Basin
Shell Lake	1,835	785	1,050	Lostwood	Lostwood
Sheyenne Lake	797		797	Audubon	Audubon
Sibley Lake	1,077		1,077	Valley City	Arrowwood
Silver Lake	3,348		3,348	Devils Lake	Devils Lake

NWR	Total Acres	Fee Title Acres	Limited-interest Easement Acres	Managing Field Station	Complex
Slade	3,000	3,000		Long Lake	Long Lake
Snyder Lake	1,550		1,550	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Springwater	640		640	Long Lake	Long Lake
Stewart Lake	2,230	640	1,590	Lake Ilo	Audubon
Storm Lake	686		686	Tewaukon	Tewaukon
Stoney Slough	880		880	Valley City	Arrowwood
Stump Lake	27	27		Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Sullys Hill	1,675	1,675		Devils Lake	Devils Lake
Sunburst Lake	328		328	Long Lake	Long Lake
Tewaukon	8,363	8,363		Tewaukon	Tewaukon
Tomahawk	440		440	Valley City	Arrowwood
Upper Souris	32,092	32,092		Upper Souris	Souris River Basin
White Lake	1,040	1,040		Lake Ilo	Audubon
Wild Rice Lake	779		779	Tewaukon	Tewaukon
Willow Lake	2,620		2,620	J. Clark Salyer	Souris River Basin
Wintering River	239		239	J. Clark Salyer	Souris River Basin
Wood Lake	280		280	Devils Lake	Devils Lake
<b>TOTAL - 63</b>	<b>289,777</b>	<b>231,293</b>	<b>58,484</b>		

# North Dakota Wetland Management Districts



## Wetland Management Districts (WMD) in North Dakota

WETLAND MANAGEMENT DISTRICT	WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREAS (NUMBER)	WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREAS (ACRES)	WETLAND EASEMENT (ACRES)	GRASSLAND EASEMENT (ACRES)	FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION (FmHA) (ACRES)
Arrowwood	28	6,144	18,757	0	416
Audubon	120	31,433	102,054	76,572	7,768
Chase Lake	136	43,344	123,000	48,000	3,325
Crosby	99	18,760	71,533	42,559	720
Devils Lake	257	48,885	150,182	4,264	4,606
J. Clark Salyer	127	27,339	140,276	42,201	6,973
Kulm	232	45,379	126,000	67,000	4,130
Long Lake	88	23,723	107,384	98,806	3,713
Lostwood	56	12,506	35,000	39,052	605
Tewaukon	63	14,378	27,000	11,000	2,000
Valley City	82	17,481	45,918	282	8,320
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>289,372</b>	<b>947,104</b>	<b>429,736</b>	<b>42,576</b>

# Arrowwood

## *National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District*

Contact: Project Leader  
WMD Manager

Address: 7780 10<sup>th</sup> St. SE  
Pingree, ND 58476

Phone: 701 / 285 3341  
Email: [arrowwood@fws.gov](mailto:arrowwood@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/arrowwood](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/arrowwood)

### Complex Facts

Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Wetland Management District (WMD) are all managed as part of the Arrowwood NWR Complex.

### Arrowwood NWR

- Established in 1935
- 15,934 acres
- Foster and Stutsman Counties

### Refuge Purpose

Arrowwood NWR was established for the following:

- a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife
- use by migratory birds, with emphasis on waterfowl and other waterbirds
- the conservation of fish and wildlife resources
- use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds

### Arrowwood WMD

- Established in 1961
- Foster and Eddy Counties

- 28 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 6,144 acres
- Wetland easements: 18,757 acres
- Grassland easements: 0 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 416 acres
- Limited-interest NWR - Johnson Lake (2,007 acres)

### WMD Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### Objectives include:

- Wetland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities on areas

that have been opened for these uses. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor center
- Auto tour route
- Wildlife observation deck
- Sharp-tailed grouse viewing blind
- Warbler Woodland Watchable Wildlife Area
- Primitive boat launches

### Highlights

The refuge includes 14 miles of the James River Valley.

Thirteen species of waterfowl breed and raise young here.

Exposed mudflats provide feeding areas for thousands of migrating shorebirds, including dowitchers, sandpipers, godwits, yellowlegs, and plovers.

Sharp-tailed grouse congregate on their dancing grounds each year for courtship and breeding rituals.

# Audubon

## *National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District*

Contact: Project Leader  
WMD Manager

Address: 3275 11<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Coleharbor, ND 58531

Phone: 701 / 442 5474  
Email: [audubon@fws.gov](mailto:audubon@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/audubon](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/audubon)

### Complex Facts

Audubon, Lake Nettie and McLean National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) and the Audubon Wetland Management District (WMD) are managed as part of the Audubon NWR Complex.

### *Audubon NWR*

- Established in 1956
- 14,735 acres
- McLean County

### *Lake Nettie NWR*

- Established in 1935
- 3,055 acres
- McLean County

### *McLean NWR*

- Established in 1939
- 760 acres
- McLean County

### Refuge Purpose

Audubon NWR was established for the following:

- Mitigate for habitat that was inundated with water when Garrison Dam flooded Missouri River bottomlands
- Provide habitat for threatened and endangered species
- Provide waterfowl production and migration habitat

- manage habitat for migratory non-game birds
- Protect and enhance natural ecological communities
- Provide opportunities for quality wildlife-dependent recreation
- Protect cultural resources

### *Audubon WMD*

- Established in 1962
- McLean, Sheridan, and Ward Counties
- 120 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 31,433 acres
- Wetland easements: 102,054 acres
- Grassland easements: 76,572 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 7,768 acres
- 6 Limited-interest NWRs
  - Camp Lake (585 acres)
  - Hiddenwood (568 acres)
  - Lake Otis (320 acres)
  - Lake Patricia (800 acres)
  - Lost Lake (960 acres)
  - Sheyenne Lake (797 acres)

### WMD Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### *Objectives include:*

- Wetland preservation

- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities on areas that have been opened for these uses. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor center
- South Shore auto tour route – 8 ½ miles
- Prairie nature trail – 1 mile
- Wildlife observation blind

### Highlights

The piping plover, a small shorebird listed as threatened on the Endangered Species List, nests on shorelines of Lake Audubon and alkaline wetlands in the WMD.

More than 100 islands provide nesting habitat on Lake Audubon.

Audubon NWR is owned by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Lake

Audubon water levels are managed by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

# Chase Lake

## *National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District*

Contact: Refuge Manager  
WMD Manager

Address: 5924 19<sup>th</sup> Street SE  
Woodworth, ND 58496

Phone: 701 / 752 4218  
Email: [chaselake@fws.gov](mailto:chaselake@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/chase\\_lake](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/chase_lake)

### Complex Facts

Chase Lake National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Chase Lake Wetland Management District (WMD) are managed as part of the Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge Complex.

### Chase Lake NWR

- Established in 1908
- 4,449 acres
- Stutsman County

### Refuge Purpose

Chase Lake NWR was established as a reserve and breeding area for native birds.

### Chase Lake WMD

- Established in 1992
- Stutsman and Wells Counties
- 136 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 43,344 acres
- 930 Wetland easements: 123,000 acres
- 173 Grassland easements: 48,000 acres
- 13 Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 3,325 acres
- Limited-interest NWR -Half Way Lake (160 acres)

### WMD Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### Objectives include:

- Wetland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities on areas that have been opened for these uses. Special regulations apply.

- Access to Chase Lake NWR is limited to walking
- Special use permits are required prior to entering the refuge from April through September

### Visitor Facilities

- Chase Lake NWR has interpretive panels and a scope for wildlife viewing
- Visitor center is located at Chase Lake headquarters office
- Auto-tour route with interpretive panels and scopes is

located near the Chase Lake headquarters

### Highlights

Chase Lake NWR was the second refuge established in North Dakota.

Chase Lake NWR contains a 4,155-acre National Wilderness Area.

The refuge and surrounding area provide breeding and resting habitat for more than 293 bird species, including the largest breeding colony of white pelicans in North America.

The American Bird Conservancy has designated the refuge as one of America's top 100 globally important bird areas.

The Chase Lake Prairie Project is a national flagship project of the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, encompassing 5.5 million acres in 11 counties.

The Chase Lake headquarters hosts the National Ecological Observatory Network's (NEON) Northern Plains Core Site.

# Crosby

## *Wetland Management District*

Contact: WMD Manager

Address: 10100 Highway 42 NW  
Crosby, ND 58730

Phone: 701 / 965 6488  
Email: [crosbywetlands@fws.gov](mailto:crosbywetlands@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/crosby\\_wmd](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/crosby_wmd)

### **Station Facts**

Crosby Wetland Management District (WMD) and Lake Zahl National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) are managed as part of the Lostwood WMD Complex.

### **Crosby WMD**

- Established in 1962
- Divide, Burke, and Williams Counties
- 99 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 18,760 acres
- Wetland easements: 71,533 acres
- Grassland easements: 42,559 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 720 acres

### **Lake Zahl NWR**

- Established in 1939
- 3,822 acres
- Williams County

### **WMD Purpose**

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### **Objectives include:**

- Wetland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### **Visitor Opportunities**

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities on areas that have been opened to the public. Special regulations apply.

# Des Lacs

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

Contact: Refuge Manager

Address: 42000 520<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Kenmare, ND 58746

Phone: 701 / 385 4046  
Email: [deslacs@fws.gov](mailto:deslacs@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/des\\_lacs](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/des_lacs)

### Complex Facts

Des Lacs National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is managed as part of the Lostwood WMD Complex.

### *Des Lacs NWR*

- Established in 1935
- 19,500 acres
- Burke and Ward Counties

### Refuge Purpose

Des Lacs NWR was established as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife.

### *Objectives include:*

- Preserve, restore, and enhance threatened and endangered species and their habitats
- Provide habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds
- Promote diversity and abundance of native flora and fauna
- Protect, preserve, and interpret cultural resources

### Visitor Opportunities

#### *Hunting*

- deer, turkey, pheasant, gray partridge, sharp-tailed grouse, cottontail, snowshoe hare, and fox

### *Wildlife Observation and Photography*

• From April through November, the Des Lacs auto tour route offers 14 miles of scenic views along Upper, Middle, and Lower Des Lacs Lakes. Thirteen interpretive panels are located along the auto tour route and overlooks are available at Middle Des Lacs and Lower Des Lacs Lakes.

• *Canada Goose Nature Trail* – 7.5 mile nature trail is open to hiking, bicycling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and one-way vehicle traffic for 17 days in mid-September

• *Munch's Coulee Hiking Trail* – 1 mile nature trail loop is open to hiking and snowshoeing

• *Tasker's Coulee* - has mowed nature trails

• Tasker's Coulee day use area has a unique wooded area consisting of mowed grass nature trails and opportunities for wildlife observation, hiking, or group events. A historic Civilian Conservation Corps shelter with tables is located

near the parking area. A restroom is available at the site.

- The boat dock day use area has a boat ramp, tables, and vault toilets. Non-motorized boats are allowed.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor center
- Observation deck
- Auto tour route
- Nature trails
- Tasker's Coulee Day Use Area

### Highlights

The Refuge extends south from the Canadian border along 28 miles of the Des Lacs River.

Attracts up to 500,000 snow geese each fall.

The National Audubon Society recognizes the refuge as a Globally Important Bird Area.

The Des Lacs auto tour route is designated as an official ND scenic backway in North Dakota.

# Devils Lake

## *Wetland Management District Complex*

Contact: Project Leader

Address: 221 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NW, Suite 2  
Devils Lake, ND 58301

Phone: 701 / 662 8611

Email: [devilslake@fws.gov](mailto:devilslake@fws.gov)

Website: [www.fws.gov/devils\\_lake\\_wmd](http://www.fws.gov/devils_lake_wmd)

### Complex Facts

Devils Lake Wetland Management District (WMD), Kellys Slough National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), Lake Alice NWR, and Stump Lake NWR are all managed as part of the Devils Lake WMD Complex.

### *Devils Lake WMD*

- Established in 1962
- Benson, Cavalier, Grand Forks, Nelson, Pembina, Ramsey, Towner, and Walsh counties
- 257 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs): 48,885 acres
- Wetland easements: 150,182 acres
- Grassland easements: 4,264 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 4,606 acres
- 10 Limited-interest NWRs
  - Ardoch (2,697 acres)
  - Brumba (1,977 acres)
  - Lambs Lake (1,207 acres)
  - Little Goose (288 acres)
  - Pleasant Lake (898 acres)
  - Rock Lake (5,506 acres)
  - Rose Lake (839 acres)
  - Silver Lake (3,348 acres)
  - Snyder Lake (1,550 acres)
  - Wood Lake (280 acres)

### *Kellys Slough NWR*

- Established in 1936

- 1,270 acres
- Grand Forks County

### *Lake Alice NWR*

- Established in 1935
- 12,096 acres
- Ramsey and Towner Counties

### *Stump Lake NWR*

- Established in 1905
- 27 acres
- Nelson County

### Complex Purpose

The WMD Complex provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's refuges and small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### *Objectives include:*

- Wetland preservation and improvement
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography,

environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities on areas that have been opened to the public. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Overlooks and trails at Kellys Slough NWR provide excellent bird watching opportunities, especially during spring and fall migration
- Kiosks, vault toilets, and parking lots are maintained at Kellys Slough NWR, and Nikolaison WPA

### Complex Highlights

Stump Lake was the third NWR to be established in the nation and the first NWR in North Dakota.

The WMD protects and restores wetlands in the Devils Lake Basin to help reduce Devils Lake flooding.

The Complex serves as a partner in developing comprehensive watershed management plans in the Devils Lake Basin and Red River Valley.

# J. Clark Salyer

## *National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District*

Contact: Project Leader  
WMD Manager

Address: 681 Salyer Road  
Upham, ND 58789

Phone: 701 / 768 2548  
Email: [jclarksalyer@fws.gov](mailto:jclarksalyer@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/j\\_clark\\_salyer](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/j_clark_salyer)

### Complex Facts

J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Wetland Management District (WMD) are managed as part of the Souris River Basin NWR Complex.

### *J. Clark Salyer NWR*

- Established in 1935
- 58,700 acres
- Bottineau and McHenry Counties

### *J. Clark Salyer WMD*

- Established in 1959
- Bottineau, McHenry, Pierce, Renville, and Rolette Counties
- 127 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 27,339 acres
- Wetland easements: 140,276 acres
- Grassland easements: 42,201 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 6,973 acres
- 7 Limited-interest NWRs
  - Buffalo Lake (1,564 acres)
  - Cottonwood Lake (1,013 acres)
  - Lords Lake (1,915 acres)
  - Rabb Lake (261 acres)
  - School Section Lake (297 acres)

- Willow Lake (2,620 acres)
- Wintering River (239 acres)

### Refuge Purpose

J. Clark Salyer NWR was established to provide habitat for waterfowl, migratory birds, and other wildlife.

### WMD Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### *Objectives include:*

- Wetland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities and Facilities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and

fishing opportunities on areas that have been opened to the public. Special regulations apply.

- Two auto tour routes
- Two hiking trails
- Two canoe trails

### Complex Highlights

J. Clark Salyer is the largest NWR in North Dakota, extending south from the Canadian border for 45 miles.

Five main dikes with water control structures impound over 23,000 acres of wetlands.

The refuge is designated as a Globally Important Bird Area and is part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network.

The ND Natural Heritage Inventory lists the refuge as one of only two intact ecological landscapes remaining in ND.

# Kulm

## *Wetland Management District*

Contact: Project Leader

Address: PO Box E  
1 First Street SW  
Kulm, ND 58456

Phone: 701 / 647 2866  
Email: [kulmwetlands@fws.gov](mailto:kulmwetlands@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/kulm\\_wmd](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/kulm_wmd)

### Station Facts

- Established in 1971
- Dickey, LaMoure, Logan, and McIntosh Counties
- 232 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 45,379 acres
- Wetland easements: 126,000 acres
- Grassland easements: 67,000 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 4,130 acres
- 3 Limited-interest NWRs
  - Bone Hill (640 acres)
  - Dakota Lake (2,800 acres)
  - Maple River (712 acres)

### WMD Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

#### *Objectives include:*

- Wetland and grassland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education,

interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Boat ramp and fishing pier on Mundt Lake WPA in Logan County
- Boat Ramp on Olson WPA (Diamond Lake) in LaMoure County

### Highlights

The James River runs southward through LaMoure and eastern Dickey counties. It joins the Missouri River System near Yankton, SD, forming a valuable migration route for migratory birds.

# Lake Ilo

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

Contact: Refuge Manager

Address: 489 102<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW  
Dunn Center, ND 58626

Phone: 701 / 548 8110  
Email: lakeilo@fws.gov  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/lake\\_ilo](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/lake_ilo)

### Complex Facts

Lake Ilo National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is managed as part of the Audubon NWR Complex.

The Lake Ilo office oversees lands located west of the Missouri River, including 3 NWRs, one Limited-interest NWR, and one Waterfowl Production Area (WPA).

### *Lake Ilo NWR*

- Established in 1939
- 4,033 acres
- Dunn County

### *Stewart Lake NWR*

- Established in 1941
- 2,230 acres
- Slope County

### *White Lake NWR*

- Established in 1941
- 1,040 acres
- Slope County

### *Pretty Rock NWR*

- Limited-interest NWR
- Established in 1941
- 800 acres
- Grant County

### *Hillview WPA*

- 1,214 acres
- Hettinger County

### Refuge Purpose

Lake Ilo NWR was established for the following purposes:

- As a breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife
- Fish and wildlife-oriented recreation
- Conservation of endangered species
- Protection of cultural and natural resources

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, and fishing

opportunities on areas that have been opened to the public. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Lake Ilo Park (Day Use Area)
- North Shore Nature trail – 1 mile
- Wildlife Observation Point

### Highlights

The Lake Ilo dam was built as a water conservation project by the Works Progress Administration during the dry Depression years.

Archeological sites studied on the refuge revealed sites from some of the earliest pre-historic visitors - Folsom period Paleo-Indians 10,500 years ago.

Cultural resources indicate 11,000 years of continuous occupation.

# Long Lake

## *National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District*

Contact: Project Leader  
WMD Manager

Address: 12000 353<sup>rd</sup> Street SE  
Moffit, ND 58560

Phone: 701 / 387 4397  
Email: [longlake@fws.gov](mailto:longlake@fws.gov)  
Website: [ww.fws.gov/refuge/long\\_lake](http://ww.fws.gov/refuge/long_lake)

### Complex Facts

Long Lake, Florence Lake, and Slade National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) and Long Lake Wetland Management District (WMD) are managed as part of the Long Lake NWR Complex.

### Long Lake NWR

- Established in 1932
- 22,310 acres
- Burleigh and Kidder Counties

### Florence Lake NWR

- Established in 1939
- 1,888 acres
- Burleigh County

### Slade NWR

- Established in 1940
- 3,000 acres
- Kidder County

### Long Lake WMD

- Established in 1961
- Burleigh, Emmons, and Kidder Counties
- 88 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 23,723 acres
- Wetland easements: 107,384 acres
- Grassland easements: 98,806 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 3,713 acres
- 6 Limited-interest NWRs

- Appert Lake (908 acres)
- Canfield Lake (313 acres)
- Lake George (3,119 acres)
- Hutchinson Lake (479 acres)
- Springwater (640 acres)
- Sunburst Lake (328 acres)

### Refuge Purpose

Long Lake NWR was established as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife.

Use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose, for migratory birds.

Preserve, restore, and enhance federally listed threatened and endangered species and their habitats.

Provide the life requirements of waterfowl, other migratory birds, and resident wildlife species.

Provide opportunities for high quality wildlife-dependent recreation.

Protect and preserve cultural resources.

### WMD Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### Objectives include:

- Wetland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities on areas that have been opened to the public. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- The Butte Viewing Area
- Public Fishing Area
- Sharp-tailed grouse viewing blind

**Highlights**

An important staging area for migrating sandhill cranes, Canada geese, and other waterfowl and shorebirds.

Endangered whooping cranes often use refuge marshes during spring and fall migration periods.

Colonial birds, shorebirds, and other water birds use Long Lake NWR as a breeding and nesting ground. Species include: black-crowned night herons, cattle egrets, common and black terns, western and eared grebes, Franklin's gulls, double-crested cormorants, and Federally threatened piping plovers.

Long Lake NWR was designated as a Globally Important Bird Area and a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network site due to its importance as both a breeding and migratory stop-over site for more than 20,000 shorebirds annually.

# Lostwood

## *National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District*

Contact: Project Leader  
WMD Manager

Address: 8315 Highway 8  
Kenmare, ND 58746

Phone: 701 / 848 2722  
Email: [lostwood@fws.gov](mailto:lostwood@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/lostwood](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/lostwood)

### Complex Facts

Lostwood and Shell Lake National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) and Lostwood Wetland Management District (WMD) are managed as part of the Lostwood WMD Complex.

#### **Lostwood NWR**

- Established in 1935
- 27,589 acres
- Burke and Mountrail County

#### **Shell Lake NWR**

- Established in 1939
- 1,835 acres
- Mountrail County

### Refuge Purpose

Lostwood NWR was established to serve as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife.

#### **Objectives Include:**

- Preservation of native grasslands
- Conservation of wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come
- Manage wilderness with equal consideration in management decisions

### Lostwood WMD

- Established in 1962
- Mountrail and a portion of Ward County
- 56 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 12,506 acres.
- Wetland easements: 35,000 acres
- Grassland easements: 39,052 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 605 acres

### WMD Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

#### **Objectives include:**

- Wetland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education,

interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities in areas that have been opened to the public. The Lostwood Wilderness Area is open for birding, hiking, and photography. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor Center
- Auto tour route
- Hiking Trail
- Viewing Tower

### Complex Highlights

The 5,577 acre Lostwood Wilderness Area was established in 1975.

Lostwood NWR is a 'Globally Important Bird Area' designated by the American Bird Conservancy.

Lostwood Complex provides breeding habitat for the federally threatened piping plover as well as many declining grassland bird species such as Baird's sparrow and Sprague's pipit.

# Sullys Hill

## *National Game Preserve*

Contact: Visitor Services Manager

Address: 2107 Park Drive  
Fort Totten, ND 58335

Phone: 701 / 766-4272

Email: [sullyshill@fws.gov](mailto:sullyshill@fws.gov)

Website:

[www.fws.gov/refuge/sullys\\_hill\\_national\\_game\\_preserve/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/sullys_hill_national_game_preserve/)

### Station Facts

Sullys Hill National Game Preserve (NGP) is managed as part of the Devils Lake Wetland Management District Complex.

### Sullys Hill NGP

- Established in 1921
- 1,675 acres
- Benson County

### Station Purpose

Sullys Hill NGP was established for the following:

- As a big game preserve, refuge, and breeding ground for wild animals and birds. The NGP is to be made available to the public for recreational purposes that are consistent with the use of this area as a game preserve.

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor center
- Auto tour route – 4 miles
- Nature trail – 1 ½ miles
- Accessible nature trail – ¼ mile
- 4 Observation decks

### Highlights

- One of four U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service preserves that were established for national bison conservation.
- Sullys Hill was first established as a National Park in 1904. In 1921, the unit was transferred to the U.S. Fish and

Wildlife Service to be managed as a NGP.

- Supports a unique community of habitats including an oak, ash, basswood, and aspen woodland and mixed grass prairie interspersed with natural and created wetlands.
- Provides habitat for over 250 species of migratory birds, plains bison, Rocky Mountain elk, white-tailed deer, and prairie dogs.
- Serves as a regional conservation learning center, promoting the conservation role of the National Wildlife Refuge System while educating visitors about the functions and benefits of the NGP and the surrounding prairie wetlands and grasslands.

# Tewaukon

## *National Wildlife Refuge and Wetland Management District*

Contact: Project Leader  
WMD Manager

Address: 9754 143-½ Avenue SE  
Cayuga, ND 58013

Phone: 701 / 724 3598  
Email: [tewaukon@fws.gov](mailto:tewaukon@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/tewaukon](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/tewaukon)

### Complex Facts

Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) and Wetland Management District (WMD) are managed as part of the Tewaukon NWR Complex.

### *Tewaukon NWR*

- Established in 1934
- 8,363 acres
- Sargent County

### *Tewaukon WMD*

- Ransom, Richland, and Sargent Counties
- 63 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 14,378 acres
- Wetland easements: 27,000 acres
- Grassland easements: 11,000 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 2,000 acres
- Limited-interest NWRs:
  - Storm Lake (686 acres)
  - Wild Rice Lake (779 acres)

### Refuge Purpose

Tewaukon NWR was established for the following:

- As a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife

- For use as an inviolate sanctuary, or for any other management purpose for migratory birds

### WMD Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### Objectives include

- Wetland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education,

interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities on areas that have been opened to the public. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor center
- Auto tour route
- Nature trail
- Day use area
- Fishing dock
- Boat ramp

### Highlights

Tewaukon NWR is located along the Wild Rice River and is managed as a part of the tallgrass prairie ecosystem.

The Refuge and WMD are implementing a prairie restoration program where former croplands are seeded to native prairie grasses and forbs.

Lake Tewaukon supports tens of thousands of migrating snow geese and other waterfowl species each spring.

# Upper Souris

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

Contact: Refuge Manager

Address: 17705 212<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW  
Foxholm, ND 58718

Phone: 701 / 468 5467  
Email: [uppersouris@fws.gov](mailto:uppersouris@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/refuge/upper\\_souris](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/upper_souris)

### Complex Facts

Upper Souris National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is managed as part of the Souris River Basin NWR Complex.

### Station Facts

- Established in 1935
- 32,092 acres
- Ward and Renville County

### Refuge Purpose

Upper Souris NWR was established for the following:

- As a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife
- To protect, restore, and manage habitat for migratory birds and threatened and endangered species
- Protect and manage Souris River water to benefit fish and wildlife on Upper Souris and J. Clark Salyer NWRs

- Provide opportunities for quality wildlife-dependent recreation

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities on areas that have been opened to the public. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor center
- Auto tour route
- Nature trail
- Canoe trail
- Day use area
- Fishing dock
- Boat ramps

### Highlights

Lake Darling, a 9,600 acre lake, is the largest of several water impoundments on the refuge. The lake's primary purpose is to furnish a regulated water supply to smaller marshes downstream and especially to the larger marshes on the J. Clark Salyer NWR, 110 miles downstream.

In 1998, the dam became an integral part of the Souris River Flood Control Project that assists in providing 100-year flood protection for the city of Minot.

The refuge has been designated as a Globally Important Bird Area by the American Bird Conservancy, and Lake Darling is listed as a critical habitat for the threatened piping plover.

# Valley City

## *Wetland Management District*

Contact: WMD Manager

Address: 11515 River Road  
Valley City, ND 58072

Phone: 701 / 845 3466  
Email: [valleycitywetlands@fws.gov](mailto:valleycitywetlands@fws.gov)  
Website:  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/valley\\_city\\_wmd](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/valley_city_wmd)

### Complex Facts

Valley City Wetland Management District (WMD) is managed as part of the Arrowwood National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) Complex.

### Valley City WMD

- Established in 1971
- Griggs, Steele, Traill, Barnes, and Cass Counties
- 82 Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA): 17,481 acres
- Wetland easements: 45,918 acres
- Grassland easements: 282 acres
- Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements: 8,320 acres
- 4 Limited-interest NWRs include:
  - Hobart Lake (2,077 acres)
  - Sibley Lake (1,077 acres)
  - Stoney Slough (880 acres)
  - Tomahawk (440 acres)

### Purpose

The WMD provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's small land tracts in a multi-county area.

### *Objectives include:*

- Wetland preservation
- Waterfowl and wildlife production
- Maintenance of nesting habitat for migratory birds
- Provide a staging area and habitat for migration
- Work with private landowners to restore and enhance wetland and grassland habitats for migratory birds

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may enjoy wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, interpretation, hunting, and fishing opportunities. Special regulations apply.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor Center

### Highlights

Valley City WMD headquarters is co-located with the National Fish Hatchery.

The eastern one-third of the WMD is located in the Red River Valley, characterized by flat, intensively farmed lands, which were once the lake bed of Glacial Lake Agassiz.

The eastern two-thirds of the District is part of the glaciated prairie pothole region known as the drift prairie.

The Sheyenne River meanders southward through the drift prairie, creating an important migration pathway and riparian zone.

# Garrison Dam

## *National Fish Hatchery*

Contact: Project Leader

Address: Box 530  
Riverdale, ND 58565

Phone: 701 / 654 7451  
Email: [garrisondam@fws.gov](mailto:garrisondam@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/garrisondam](http://www.fws.gov/garrisondam)

### Station Facts

The Garrison Dam National Fish Hatchery (NFH) was established in 1957 to provide mitigation for the Upper Missouri River Development (Pick Sloan) Plan. The hatchery is located downstream of Garrison Dam on 209 acres of land acquired in fee title for the Garrison Project by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Construction of the hatchery was complete by the fall of 1962 and fish production began in 1963.

The authorizing legislation for Garrison Dam NFH is found in the *Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1934 (48 Stat. 401)*. An amendment to the Act in 1946 established provisions to assess fishery resource impacts due to impoundments and authorized other Federal agencies to transfer funds to the Fish and Wildlife Service for the propagation of fish to mitigate damages. Hatchery funding was established by Congress in 1957 under Public Law 85-77 (71Stat.264).

The hatchery has evolved over the years to its current capacity in response to changing fisheries needs. The original

hatchery was comprised of twelve raceways and twenty-four 1 ½ acre ponds totaling 37.5 acres. The North Dakota Game and Fish Department invested in a two million dollar facility located on the station in 1988. With the growing fishery needs across the state another 2.5 million dollars was committed the following year toward a 40 pond expansion project bringing the total acres of production ponds to 97.5 acres. Garrison Dam NFH is the largest Fish and Wildlife Service's pond production hatchery. Its annual distribution of 25-35 tons of trout and salmon positions this facility in the top ten rainbow trout stations nationwide.

The hatchery produces walleye, sauger, northern pike, chinook salmon, rainbow trout, brown trout, cutthroat trout, burbot shovelnose sturgeon, pallid sturgeon and paddlefish.

The Garrison Dam NFH Complex is operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service with cooperative funding through the North Dakota Game and Fish Department and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

### Station Objectives

- Propagate native fish and salmonids to maintain quality recreational fisheries in North Dakota and Wyoming
- Provide mitigation stocking in Corps of Engineer's reservoirs
- Assist in the recovery of the pallid sturgeon, an endangered species
- Assists with restoration of shovelnose sturgeon in the Bighorn River of Wyoming
- Assists with restoration of sauger on the Wind River of Wyoming
- Development of spawning and propagation techniques for burbot and other native imperiled species

### Visitor Opportunities

Visitors may observe fish in the large visitor center aquariums and hatchery tanks, hiking on the hatchery's trails, biking, cross country skiing, photography, viewing of returning spawning salmon in the hatchery creek, environmental education, guided tours and interpretation.

### Visitor Facilities

- Visitor center with aquariums, slideshow, and an interactive touch screen computer
- Hatchery tours

- Wildlife observation trails with viewing blind
- Fishing pond
- Groomed cross country ski trails

**Activity Highlights**

Annually stocks more than 10 million fish for restoration and recovery of native fish and helps sustain sport fishing in more than 200 lakes and rivers in North Dakota and Wyoming.

Annually produces more than 25 tons of trout and salmon for stocking in North Dakota waters.

Is the largest producer of the endangered pallid sturgeon, contributing significantly to the recovery of this species.

The hatchery is operated in cooperation with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department with funding provided by the Department and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for recreational and mitigation fish stockings.

Annual fishing derbies held for children with disabilities and long term care residents.

# Valley City

## *National Fish Hatchery*

Contact: Assistant Project Leader

Address: 11515 River Road  
Valley City, ND 58072

Phone: 701 / 845 3464  
Email: [valleycity@fws.gov](mailto:valleycity@fws.gov)  
Website: [www.fws.gov/valleycity](http://www.fws.gov/valleycity)

### Station Facts

Valley City National Fish Hatchery (NFH) is located in south-eastern North Dakota three miles northwest of Valley City. The hatchery site encompasses 71.5 acres on the banks of the Sheyenne River. The hatchery is comprised of 14 rearing ponds totaling 25.8 acres and an intensive fish culture facility.

Construction of Valley City NFH was authorized by Congress in 1930 under the White Act (46 Stat. 372) for the United States Bureau of Sport Fisheries. The Act specified the establishment of a fish-cultural substation in North Dakota. Construction began in 1938 and was complete in 1940 with labor provided by the Work Projects Administration.

Baldhill Dam NFH is located in south-eastern North Dakota twelve miles north of Valley City. The hatchery site encompasses 38.5 acres and is located directly below Lake Ashtabula. The hatchery is comprised of 20 fish rearing ponds totaling 15.2 acres and an intensive culture facility. A cooperative agreement was

drafted with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers June 7, 1950 for use of the land and installation of the water supply line. Construction of the hatchery began in 1949 and was completed in 1951.

Baldhill Dam NFH, a substation of the Valley City NFH was authorized by Congress under Public Law #350 on October 12, 1949 (63 Stat. 795). The Law authorized funding for operation of fish-cultural stations for the propagation and distribution of food fishes. The facility was completed in 1951.

Valley City NFH and Baldhill Dam NFH are substations of the Garrison Dam Complex and the only Fish and Wildlife Service hatcheries in the Hudson Bay Drainage. These hatcheries are critical for continued and future work on aquatic species in this watershed.

The hatcheries produce walleye, northern pike, crappie, tiger muskellunge, bluegill, largemouth bass, yellow perch, and lake sturgeon.

### Station Objectives

- Propagate native fish to maintain quality recreational fisheries in North Dakota and Wyoming
- Assists with restoration of lake sturgeon to the Red River
- Provide mitigation stocking in Corps of Engineer's reservoirs
- Develop mussel propagation capabilities to assist in restoration activities on the Sheyenne and other Red River tributaries

### Visitor Opportunities and Facilities

- Visitor center
- Hiking
- Wildlife observation
- Photography
- Environmental education
- Canoeing

### Highlights

- Propagation of native mussels and fish for recreational fishing, restoration of threatened species and research
- Pollinator gardens, kids fishing pond, and interpretive day use area
- Outreach education for the Valley City public school system and state university

# Ecological Services Field Office

Contact: Field Supervisor

Address: 3425 Miriam Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701 / 250 4481  
Email: [ndfieldoffice@fws.gov](mailto:ndfieldoffice@fws.gov)  
Website:  
[www.fws.gov/northdakotafieldoffice/](http://www.fws.gov/northdakotafieldoffice/)

## Station Facts

The North Dakota Ecological Services (ES) Field Office manages U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) programs for the conservation, protection, and enhancement of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats within North Dakota.

This Field Office was established in 1972 and is one of 78 ES field stations across the United States.

Primary activities include coordination on Federal projects, the Endangered Species Act, environmental contaminants, permits, and licenses.

## Station Objectives

- Provide oversight of Endangered Species Act

compliance, particularly on federal actions

- Conduct activities necessary to meet the Fish and Wildlife coordination Act responsibilities
- Participate in the environmental review of federally funded projects that may affect fish and wildlife
- Address potential contaminant impacts on natural resources
- Contribute to wetlands conservation through review of proposed work plans

## Highlights

Provide Service lead on the Corps of Engineers' Missouri River Master Manual and associated operational activities.

Develop and implement replacement mitigation measures for the Garrison Diversion Unit.

Lead recovery activities for the western prairie-fringed orchid in southeastern North Dakota.

Coordinate fish and wildlife issues relative to use of agricultural chemicals.

Implement recovery of the least tern and piping plover on the Missouri River and Prairie Coteau wetlands.

Promote public awareness of endangered species, environmental contaminants, and prairie issues.

Conserve wetlands through coordination, project review, and alternative development.

# Fire Management

*Contact: Fire Management Officer  
Arrowwood NWR Complex  
Address: 7780 10<sup>th</sup> St SE  
Pingree, ND 58476  
Phone: 701/285-3341*

*Contact: ND Interagency Dispatch  
Center, Lead Dispatcher  
Dakota Prairie Grasslands Office  
Address: 1200 Missouri Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58504  
Phone: 701/333-0262*

## Fire Management Facts

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been using and managing fire safely and cost-effectively since the 1930's, leading to lands being in healthier ecological condition overall, with lower risk of damaging fire. This long-term, balanced approach to fire management benefits both people and wildlife.

In order to use fire to achieve resource management objectives, certain environmental factors including fuel, moisture, wind, relative humidity, and managerial constraints such as adequate staffing and contingency planning must be met. These conditions are known as a "prescription."

## Activity Highlights

Prescribed fire is used to manage habitat for migratory birds, endangered plants and animals, and resident wildlife. Fire is also used to manage and control noxious weeds or other undesirable plant species.

Fire management and refuge officials work with federal, state, and local fire managers to control wildland fires and accomplish other common objectives.

## North Dakota Interagency Dispatch Center

The Center dispatches resources from Federal, State, and local agencies to wildland fire incidents, prescribed fires, and all-hazard incidents within North Dakota and across the country.

The Center serves all agencies within the North Dakota Zone:

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Forest Service, U.S. Department of Interior – Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, as well as State agencies – North Dakota Forest Service, Game and Fish Department, Parks and Recreation, as well as County and Local Fire Departments.

## Partners

North Dakota Forest Service

North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Various Tribes in North and South Dakota

Bureau of Indian Affairs

USDA Forest Service

National Park Service

# Habitat and Population Evaluation Team

## *Division of Refuges and Wildlife*

Contact: Project Leader

Address: 3425 Miriam Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701 / 250 4413

### Station Facts

The Habitat and Population Evaluation Team (HAPET) was established in 1989. HAPET's primary mission is to coordinate the four square mile breeding waterfowl survey and develop landscape-scale models to inform waterfowl and other migratory bird conservation efforts in the Prairie Pothole Region.

HAPET supports the conservation mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by integrating scientific data and landscape-scale conservation planning with a focus on migratory birds.

HAPET serves multi-agency partners of the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture, North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

Three HAPET branch offices are located in Great Falls, Montana, Hartford, Kansas, and Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

### Station Objectives

- Prioritize areas for conservation efforts to benefit wildlife populations
- Support the development and application of models to identify and prioritize areas for conservation efforts
- Guide strategic habitat conservation by monitoring migratory bird populations
- Provide science support for Service programs as well as other governmental and non-governmental partners
- Enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of land and wildlife conservation by developing computer applications to be used by the National Wildlife Refuge System
- Evaluate effects of stressors such as wind energy development, oil and gas extraction, habitat conversion, and climate change on migratory bird populations

### Activity Highlights

Developed first wetland maps displaying 3.3 million wetlands in the U.S. Prairie Pothole Region.

Developed duck breeding pair distribution maps for the U.S. Prairie Pothole Region.

Developed density and distribution maps for a variety of grassland birds, shorebirds, and waterbirds across much of the U.S. Prairie Pothole Region.

Demonstrated the benefits of the U.S. Department of Agriculture Conservation Reserve Program for waterfowl and grassland birds.

Annual waterfowl surveys use state-of-the-art, remotely-gathered aerial photography and field study to monitor water conditions in the Prairie Pothole Region of ND, SD, MT, MN, and Iowa.

Developed and maintain digital files of Service lands in the Mountain-Prairie Region.

# Law Enforcement

*Contact: Resident Agent in Charge  
Address: 3425 Miriam Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
Phone: 701 / 255 0593*

*Contact: Special Agent  
Address: 3425 Miriam Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58501  
Phone: 701 / 255 0593*

*Contact: Wildlife Inspector  
Address: U.S. Hwy 281 @ Canadian  
Border – RR 1 Box 115  
Dunseith, ND 58329  
Phone: 701 / 263 4462*

*Contact: Wildlife Inspector  
Address: 10980 I-29 N., Suite 1  
Pembina, ND 58271  
Phone: 701/825-6366*

## Law Enforcement Facts

Special Agents are criminal investigators who enforce the treaties, statutes, and regulations administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Special Agents conduct both overt and covert investigations using a variety of techniques including interviewing, gathering of evidence, conducting surveillance, using forensics techniques, executing search and arrest warrants, training other law enforcement agencies in wildlife law enforcement, and teaching in educational facilities about wildlife conservation.

## Activity Highlights

Protect endangered species and their habitats.

Investigate illegal take and commercialization of wildlife.

Ensure compliance with migratory bird hunting regulations.

Protect bald and golden eagles.

Ensure compliance with wildlife import/export regulations and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES).

Assist in furthering the mission of the Service's wetland easement program.

Assist tribes in wildlife management.

## Partners

North Dakota Game and Fish Department

Various tribes in North Dakota

Various international agencies and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies in North Dakota and throughout the United States.

# Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office

Contact: Project Leader

Address: 3425 Miriam Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701 / 250 4419  
Website: [www.fws.gov/moriver](http://www.fws.gov/moriver)

## Station Facts

The Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office was established in 1990.

Headquarters is in Bismarck, North Dakota, and most work is conducted in North Dakota and eastern Montana.

## Station Objectives

Conserve, manage, restore, and enhance imperiled native aquatic resources of the Missouri River and its major tributaries, focusing primarily on the endangered pallid sturgeon and other priority species to preclude listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Implement pallid sturgeon recovery effort in North Dakota through spawning, augmentation, monitoring, conducting research on life

history and habitat requirements, protection, and close coordination with numerous state, federal, and private organizations.

Work collaboratively with our partners to develop strategies that protect, restore, and enhance aquatic habitats utilizing the National Fish Passage Program and the National Fish Habitat Partnership.

Provide expertise for management of aquatic resources on National Wildlife Refuges including Tewaukon, Upper Souris, and Lake Ilo.

Provide technical assistance to the Native American Tribes and Air Force Bases of North Dakota for their natural resources.

Implement measures that minimize the risk of spreading aquatic invasive species.

Increase awareness and promote conservation of imperiled native fish stocks.

Promote recreational fishing and other public uses that increase the enjoyment and education of aquatic resources by engaging the public and our partners.

## Highlights

Work with the endangered pallid sturgeon recovery effort in North Dakota and throughout the species' range from Montana to Louisiana through planning, research on life history, species response, habitat requirements, protection, and close collaboration with numerous state, federal, and private organizations.

# Partners for Fish and Wildlife

Contact: State Coordinator

Address: 3425 Miriam Avenue  
Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701 / 250 4403

Website:

[www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/pfw/nd](http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/pfw/nd)

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## Program Facts

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program (Partners) was established in 1987, and works to achieve voluntary habitat restoration on private lands.

The Partners program provides financial and technical assistance to private landowners to restore, enhance, and establish habitat that benefits migratory birds, threatened and endangered species, and other declining species.

Staff provides coordination and oversight for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service role and

responsibility at the State and local levels as identified in the Farm Bill and associated U.S. Department of Agriculture's policies and programs.

## Program Objectives

- Increase wetland habitat through restoration of drained wetlands, creation of new wetlands, and enhancement of existing wetlands.

- Restore and enhance grasslands through grassland restoration and rotational grazing systems that increase livestock production and

provide habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife.

- Restore and enhance riparian habitat through improved livestock management.

## Activity Highlights

North American Wetland Conservation Act grants have been written and administered through the Partners Program. These grants provide valuable funding for the Partners program, as well as the wetland and grassland easement programs.

# Wetland Acquisition Office

## *Bismarck and Minot*

*Contact: Supervisory Realty Specialist*  
*Address: 3425 Miriam Avenue*  
*Bismarck, ND 58501*  
*Phone: 701 / 250 4415*  
*Website: [www.fws.gov/refuges/realty](http://www.fws.gov/refuges/realty)*

*Contact: Senior Realty Specialist*  
*Address: 2001 6<sup>th</sup> Street, SE, Suite #5*  
*Minot, ND 58701*  
*Phone: 701 / 852 0318*

### **Station Facts**

Established in 1961 to manage the Small Wetland Acquisition Program with offices in Minot and Bismarck.

### **Acquisition Program**

The Service acquires wildlife habitat using fee title acquisition and conservation easements.

Conservation easements include wetland easements and grassland easements.

Easements protect the habitat, and surface ownership and property taxes remain the responsibility of the landowner.

Waterfowl Production Areas are acquired in fee title. They provide essential nesting cover for waterfowl and are open to hunting, fishing, and trapping.

Most acquisitions are made under the authority of the Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp Act of 1934. Waterfowl production is the primary purpose and benefit of the acquisition.

### **Fund Source for Habitat Acquisition**

The Migratory Bird Conservation Fund provides funding for acquisition.

Revenues from "Duck Stamps," import fees on firearms and ammunition, and some National Wildlife Refuge entrance fees contribute to this fund.

Over \$170 million has been spent on habitat acquisition and protection since this program began in 1961.

### **Refuge Revenue Sharing Payment**

For fee properties owned by the Service, annual refuge revenue sharing payments are made to the counties to offset loss of property taxes.

Payments are based upon 3/4 of 1 percent of the market value of the property owned in fee title. North Dakota State law requires counties to use refuge revenue sharing funds for roads and schools.

# Glossary

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**Farmers Home Administration Conservation Easement (FmHA)** – easements developed by the U.S. Congress under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act of 1985 to establish easements for conservation, recreation, and wildlife purposes on properties that were foreclosed on by the Federal government.

**Fee Title** – acquisition of most or all of the rights to a tract of land.

**Grassland Easement** – perpetual agreement entered into by a landowner and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) by which a landowner gives up or sells one or more of the rights on their property for conservation purposes, with terms set by the Service. In return for a single lump-sum payment, the landowner agrees not to cultivate the grassland. Mowing, haying, and grass seed harvesting are delayed until after July 15 each year.

**Habitat** – suite of existing environmental conditions required by an organism for survival and reproduction; the place where an organism typically lives and grows.

**Habitat Conservation** – protection of animal or plant habitat to ensure that the use of that habitat by the animal or plant is not altered or reduced.

**Limited-interest Easement Refuge** – the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has limited capabilities on these refuges. Most agreements include the right to manage water uses, hunting, and trapping on the refuges.

**Migration** – regular, extensive, seasonal movements of birds between their breeding regions and their wintering regions.

**Migratory Bird** – bird species that follow a seasonal movement from their breeding grounds to their wintering grounds. Waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, and songbirds are all migratory birds.

**National Wildlife Refuge System (NWRS)** – designated area of land, water, or an interest in land or water within the National Wildlife Refuge System.

**North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP)** – signed in 1986, and recognizes that the recovery and perpetuation of waterfowl populations depends on restoring wetlands and associated ecosystems throughout the United States and Canada. It established cooperative international efforts and joint ventures comprised of individuals; corporations; conservation organizations; and local, state, provincial, and federal agencies drawn together by common conservation objectives.

**Prescribed Fire** – skillful application of fire to natural fuels under conditions such as weather, fuel moisture, and soil moisture that allow confinement of the fire to a pre-determined area and produces the intensity of heat and rate of spread to accomplish planned benefits to one or more objectives of habitat management, wildlife management, or hazard reduction.

**Private Land** – land that is owned by a private individual, a group of individuals, or a non-governmental organization.

**Refuge Purpose** – purpose specified in or derived from the law, proclamation, executive order, agreement, public land order, donation document, or administrative memorandum establishing authorization or expanding a refuge or district sub-unit.

**Refuge Revenue Sharing** – annual payment made to the county or other local unit of government to off-set the tax losses on lands acquired by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Region 6** – Mountain-Prairie Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), which administers Service programs in Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, and Utah.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS, Service)** – principal federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service manages the National Wildlife Refuge System which is comprised of national wildlife refuges and waterfowl production areas. It also operates national fish hatcheries and ecological service field stations, the agency enforces federal wildlife laws, manages migratory bird populations, restores national significant fisheries, conserves and restores wildlife habitat such as wetlands, administers the Endangered Species Act, and helps foreign governments with their conservation efforts. It also oversees the federal aid program that distributes millions of dollars in excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to state wildlife agencies.

**Waterfowl** – category of birds that includes ducks, geese, and swans.

**Waterfowl Production Area (WPA)** – public lands purchased by the Federal government for increasing the production of migratory birds, especially waterfowl. The purchase of land is also known as “ownership in fee title” where the Federal government holds ownership of land on behalf of the American public. Money to buy WPA lands generally comes from the public purchase of a Federal Duck Stamp. This program is important to ensure the long-term protection of waterfowl and other migratory bird breeding habitat that is located primarily in the Prairie Pothole Region of the northern Great Plains. All WPAs are within Wetland Management Districts managed by Service staff. WPAs are open to the public for hunting, fishing, trapping, and other wildlife dependent recreational opportunities.

**Wetland** – land transition between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water.

**Wetland Easement** – perpetual agreement entered into by a landowner and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) by which a landowner gives up or sells one or more of the rights on their property for conservation purposes, with terms set by the Service. In return for a single lump-sum payment, the landowner agrees not to drain, burn, level, or fill wetlands covered by the easement. When wetlands dry up naturally, they can be farmed, grazed, or hayed.

**Wetland Management District (WMD)** – administrative unit that provides oversight for all of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s small land tracts in a multi-county area. Eleven WMDs in North Dakota manage waterfowl production areas, wetland easements, grassland easements, and Farmers Home Administration conservation easements. These WMD lands are part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands set aside to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitat.