

West Virginia  
*Natural Resources*



**DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES ANNUAL REPORT 2008-2009**



WEST VIRGINIA



324 4th Avenue  
South Charleston, West Virginia 25303

**Telephone:** (304) 558-2754  
**Fax:** (304) 558-2768

**Web sites:**

[www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov)  
[www.wvstateparks.com](http://www.wvstateparks.com)  
[www.wvhunt.com](http://www.wvhunt.com)  
[www.wvfish.com](http://www.wvfish.com)  
[www.wonderfulwv.com](http://www.wonderfulwv.com)

**Electronic mail:**

[parks@wvdnr.gov](mailto:parks@wvdnr.gov)  
[wildlife@wvdnr.gov](mailto:wildlife@wvdnr.gov)  
[law@wvdnr.gov](mailto:law@wvdnr.gov)  
[comments@wonderfulwv.com](mailto:comments@wonderfulwv.com)



**Joe Manchin III**  
Governor, State of West Virginia

**Kelley Goes**  
Secretary, Department of Commerce

**Frank Jezioro**  
Director, Division of Natural Resources

**Emily J. Fleming**  
Assistant to the Director / Legislative Liaison

**Harry F. Price**  
Executive Secretary, Administration Section

**David E. Murphy**  
Chief, Law Enforcement Section

**Kenneth K. Caplinger**  
Chief, Parks and Recreation Section

**Curtis I. Taylor**  
Chief, Wildlife Resources Section

**Joe T. Scarberry**  
Supervisor, Land and Streams

**Natural Resources Commissioners**

Jeffrey S. Bowers, *Sugar Grove*  
Byron K. Chambers, *Romney*  
David M. Milne, *Bruceston Mills*  
Peter L. Cuffaro, *Wheeling*  
David F. Truban, *Morgantown*  
Kenneth R. Wilson, *Chapmanville*  
Jan E. Riffe, *Dawson*

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Annual Report 2008-2009 is published by the Division of Natural Resources and the Department of Commerce Communications.

It is the policy of the Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, services, programs and employment opportunities to all persons without regard to sex, race, age, religion, national origin or ancestry, disability, or other protected group status.

# Foreword



## DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

324 4th Avenue  
Building 74, Room 328  
South Charleston, WV 25303-1228  
Telephone (304) 558-2754  
Fax (304) 558-2768  
TDD (304) 558-1439  
TDD 1-800-354-6087

Joe Manchin III  
Governor

Frank Jezioro  
Director

December 1, 2009

The Honorable Joe Manchin III  
Governor of West Virginia  
State Capitol  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Governor Manchin:

Transmitted herewith is the annual report for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources for fiscal year July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2009.

This report contains a summary of the activities and projects undertaken by the Division in the fulfillment of its legal responsibilities of managing the state's renewable natural resources.

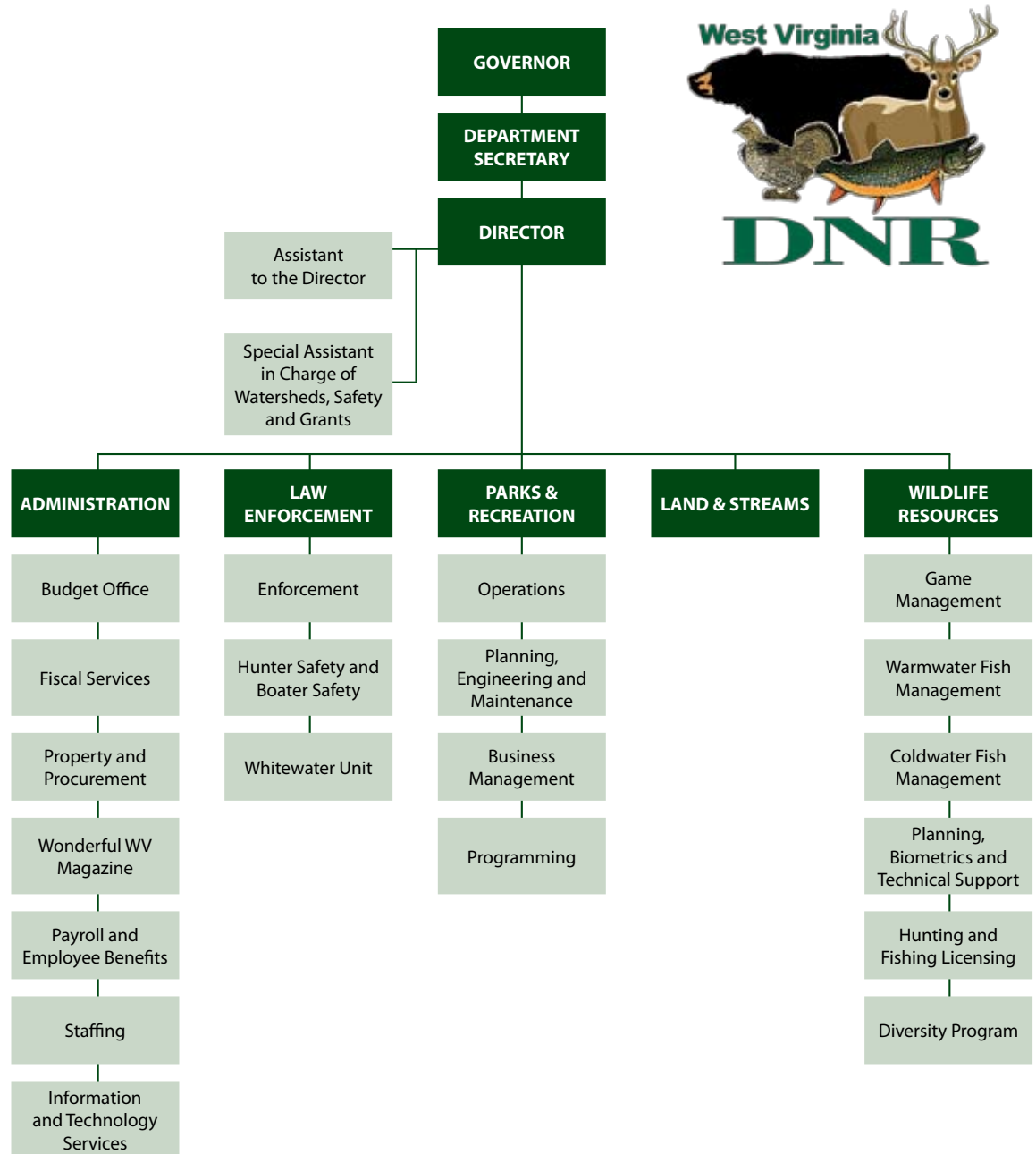
A detailed accounting of receipts and expenditures as prescribed by Chapter 20, Code of West Virginia, is also respectfully submitted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Frank Jezioro". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "F" and "J".

Frank Jezioro  
Director

## DNR ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



## **MISSION STATEMENT**

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It is the statutory mission of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources to provide and administer a long-range comprehensive program for the exploration, conservation, development, protection, enjoyment and use of the natural resources of the State of West Virginia.

## **BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ON WHICH THE DIRECTOR SERVES**

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- West Virginia Natural Resources Commission
- Wildlife Endowment Fund Advisory Board
- Ohio River Management Fund Advisory Board
- West Virginia Public Land Corporation
- State Soil Conservation Committee
- West Virginia Whitewater Commission
- Governor's Commission on West Virginians Outdoors
- Ohio River Basin Commission
- Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission
- Appalachian National Scenic Trail Advisory Council
- West Virginia Tourism Commission
- West Virginia Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund

## **EEOC STATEMENT**

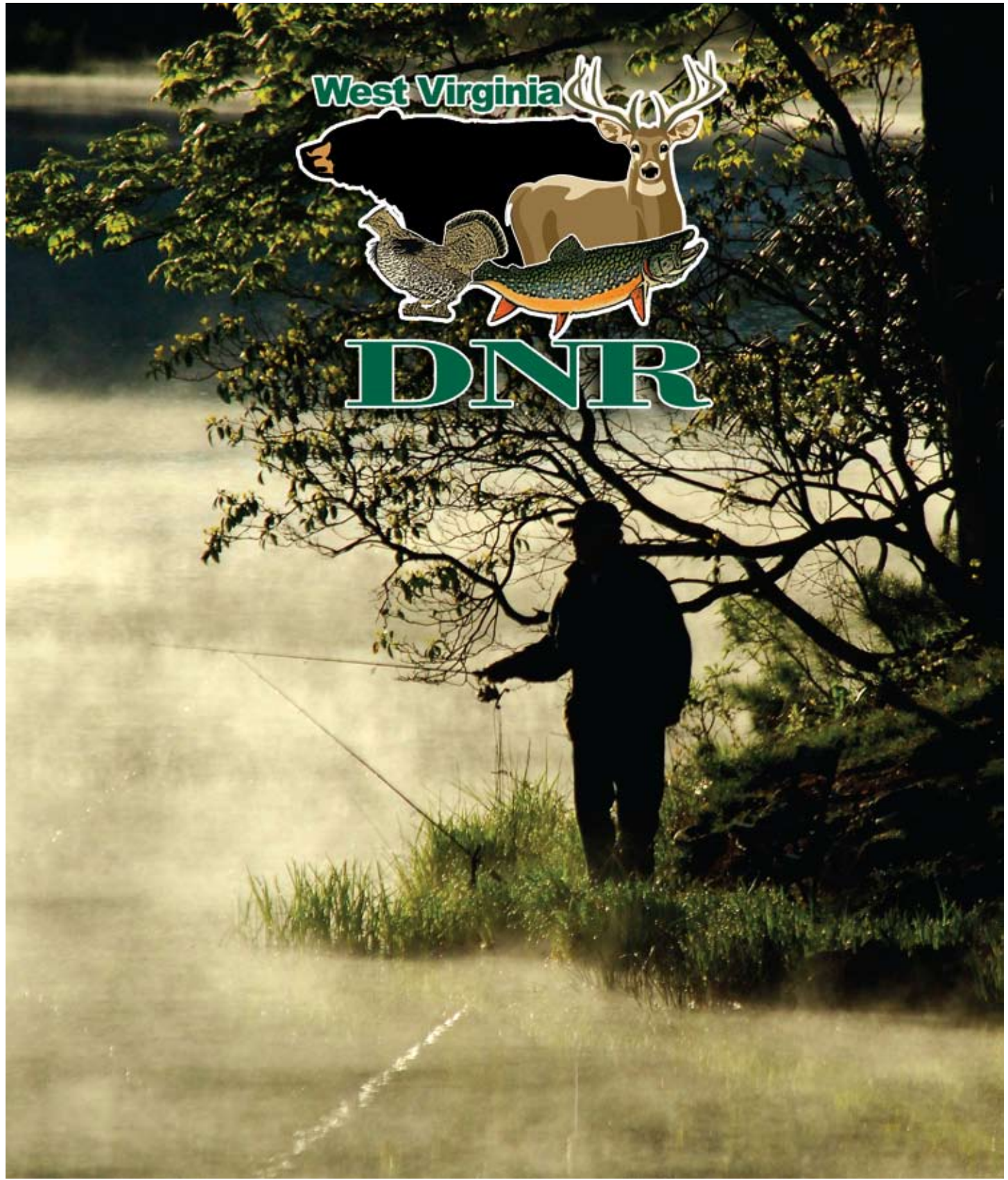
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It is the policy of the Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, services, programs, and employment opportunities to all persons without regard to sex, race, age, religion, national origin, or ancestry, disability, or other protected group status. — *September 2005*

West Virginia



DNR



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# Administration

The administrative offices provide services to all sections and offices of the Division of Natural Resources in the areas of budgeting, accounting, investments, staffing, payroll, employee benefits, procurement, property management and control, general services, computer application development and maintenance, and publishing *Wonderful West Virginia* magazine.

**Administration Section**  
Harry F. Price,  
Executive Secretary

Sectional responsibilities include developing and maintaining sound fiscal and personnel policies, coordinating purchasing procedures, maintaining active inventory and records management programs, managing a statewide radio communication system, publishing the state's premier magazine, coordinating and developing and maintaining mainframe and local network program applications, and developing administrative procedures required for the orderly correlation of divisional activities and the overall operation of the division. The services are provided by employees working in seven major branches: staffing, payroll and employee benefits, Property and procurement, fiscal services, budget, information technology, and *Wonderful West Virginia* magazine.

## STAFFING

The Staffing branch acts as liaison between sections of the division and the West Virginia Division of Personnel in order to secure qualified applicants and to ensure fair and equitable treatment for employees. This office also maintains personnel files and leave records for all employees of the Division of Natural Resources.

On June 30, 2009, the Division of Natural Resources had 866 permanent and 987 hourly employees. The year-round work force for DNR is approximately 1,777 permanent and temporary employees with fluctuations due to seasonal programs and activities.

Work force characteristics as of June 30, 2009, are listed in the chart below.

Section	Permanent Employees	Average Age	Average Years of Education	State Service	Average Monthly Salary
Administration	52	47	13	16 yrs 5 mos	\$2,873
Executive	6	57	13	21 yrs 6 mos	\$4,319
Law Enforcement	143	47	14	16 yrs 6 mos	\$3,346
Parks & Recreation	449	49	12	14 yrs 6 mos	\$2,165
Land & Streams	6	48	11	16 yrs 5 mos	\$3,138
Wildlife Resources	210	47	14	17 yrs 5 mos	\$3,048
<b>Division</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>15 yrs 5 mos</b>	<b>\$2,638*</b>

### FOOTNOTE:

\* Please note that the Average Monthly Salary listed for the agency is calculated by totaling individual monthly salaries and dividing by the number of employees, not by adding the section average monthly salaries and dividing by six.

Eighty-four (84) vacancy announcements were posted and distributed throughout the agency for employee bulletin boards and mailed to other state agencies. This number produces a turnover rate for the agency of 9.70 percent with thirty-seven (37) percent of the vacancies being attributed to retirements and twenty (20) percent of the vacancies being attributed to internal promotions. Seventy-four (74) job vacancies were filled by transfer/promotion of current state employees or new hires. The average age of newly hired employees for the agency was forty (40).

## **PAYROLL AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

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The Payroll and Employee Benefits branch electronically processes and approves data concerning payrolls and administers employee benefit programs and other related items for the Division of Natural Resources through the statewide Employee Payroll Information Control System (EPICS), acting as liaison between the agency and the Auditor's Office. The benefit programs include unemployment, workers' compensation, retirement, and insurance. Other responsibilities include WVFIMS processing for DNR payrolls, fund transfers pertaining to payrolls, retirement, insurance programs, and maintaining personnel, activity, and payroll related information on all seasonal and temporary hourly employees on state parks.

## **WONDERFUL WEST VIRGINIA MAGAZINE**

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*Wonderful West Virginia* is an official publication of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources and is the state's premier publication. Published monthly, there are about 38,417 copies printed of each issue.

In FY 2009, the average number of copies mailed each month to paid individual subscribers was 32,447. In addition, some 3,430 copies were distributed each month to paid bulk subscribers such as government agencies, chambers of commerce, motels, real estate firms, newsstands on state parks, and other newsstand distributors.

## **PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND PROCUREMENT**

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The Property and Procurement branch includes management of a statewide two-way radio communications network, centralized purchasing, and inventory control. Management of district level administrative activities is also a function of this branch. Property and Procurement handles all purchasing transactions, inventory control, records management programs, and property and liability insurance for the division.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES**

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The Information Technology Services Unit provides computer program analysis, coding, and documentation to all DNR sections and maintains DNR Web pages.

## **BUDGET OFFICE**

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The Budget Office prepares the division's appropriation requests, expenditure schedules and amendments and monitors all budgeting processes for compliance with generally accepted accounting and auditing practices. The office manages the division's budgeting system consisting of the state budget and federal cost accounting, reporting and automated clearing house payment systems. It establishes and ensures adherence to budgetary policies and standards and serves as a liaison for negotiation and preparation of the division's indirect cost allocation plan. The office prepares, coordinates and processes legislative fiscal notes that affect rules and regulations relating to the division. In addition, the office has assumed responsibility for the budgeting and accounting functions of the agency's Law Enforcement Section.

## **FISCAL SERVICES**

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Centralized accounting and auditing services are the primary functions of this operational unit. The Fiscal Services Office is responsible for preparing financial statements for the division. Various analytical, budgetary and management reports are originated and distributed. Receipting, investing and billing are the major daily functions of the fiscal office. Auditing and payment processing of all division obligations occur in these offices. The unit is the liaison with the Travel Management Office for travel approval and seeks reimbursement from the Auditor's Office for employees. This unit now provides the coordination of central mail and messenger operations.

## **STATEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS**

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The following report is limited to a presentation of the fiscal operations of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources for the year ending June 30, 2009. Itemization of summarized financial data contained in this report is public record and on file.

# Statement of Disbursements

## ADMINISTRATION SECTION

### EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATIVE

Personal Services	\$	405,268.72
Employee Benefits		112,723.98
Current Expenses		179,292.93
Repairs & Alterations		4,168.51
Equipment		260.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>701,714.14</b>

### FISCAL SERVICES

Personal Services	\$	653,861.79
Employee Benefits		214,184.40
Current Expenses		568,435.54
Repairs & Alterations		9,178.55
PEIA Transfer		18,293.84
Debt Service Leases – Principle		5,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,468,954.12</b>

### STAFFING/PAYROLL

Personal Services	\$	257,978.73
Employee Benefits		93,890.83
Current Expenses		26,900.27
Repairs & Alterations		80.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>378,849.83</b>

### GENERAL SERVICES

Personal Services	\$	381,366.47
Employee Benefits		151,614.91
Current Expenses		218,673.59
Repairs & Alterations		16,531.96
Equipment		2,450.00
Building Improvements		39,690.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>810,326.93</b>

### WONDERFUL WEST VIRGINIA MAGAZINE

Personal Services	\$	76,006.07
Employee Benefits		27,238.29
Current Expenses		605,389.75
PEIA Transfer		320.88
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>708,954.99</b>

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	2,523,222.38
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		699,464.78
Special Revenue Appropriated		767,899.90
Federal Revenue Appropriated		78,212.95
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,068,800.01</b>

## LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

Personal Services	\$	5,685,322.02
Employee Benefits		2,113,310.55
Current Expenses		1,787,436.36
Repairs & Alterations		34,942.52
Equipment		203,474.47
PEIA Transfer		21,096.83
Medical Service Payments		7,501.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,853,083.75</b>

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	3,089,915.20
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		1,360,122.80
Special Revenue Appropriated		4,795,480.45
Federal Revenue Appropriated		607,565.30
<b>TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,853,083.75</b>

## WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION

### GAME MANAGEMENT

Personal Services	\$	2,848,647.64
Employee Benefits		1,049,825.56
Current Expenses		897,660.91
Repairs & Alterations		105,030.33
Equipment		328,422.53
Payment of Claims		103,690.14
PEIA Transfer		532.32
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,333,809.43</b>

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Personal Services	\$	265,913.21
Employee Benefits		59,266.36
Current Expenses		323,064.18
Repairs & Alterations		143,831.58
Equipment		20,000.00
Building Improvements		744.94
Land Improvements		175,401.58
Land Purchases		1,922,623.00
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		218,288.00
Leasehold Improvements		11,964.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>3,141,096.85</b>

### COLD WATER FISH MANAGEMENT

Personal Services	\$	1,139,887.16
Employee Benefits		495,572.49
Current Expenses		882,917.34
Repairs & Alterations		57,815.08
Equipment		107,332.00
Medical Service Payments		35.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,683,559.07</b>

# Statement of Disbursements

## WILDLIFE - ADMINISTRATION

Personal Services	\$	488,390.53
Employee Benefits		162,005.58
Current Expenses		1,198,113.32
Repairs & Alterations		4,085.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,852,595.27</b>

## WARM WATER FISH MANAGEMENT

Personal Services	\$	1,005,371.73
Employee Benefits		363,522.41
Current Expenses		453,173.44
Repairs & Alterations		31,937.21
Equipment		105,464.00
Land Improvements		30,283.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,989,751.79</b>

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Personal Services	\$	588,612.07
Employee Benefits		211,940.35
Current Expenses		92,863.09
Repairs & Alterations		1,618.49
Equipment		21,403.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>916,437.00</b>

## SPECIAL PROJECTS

Personal Services	\$	326,936.50
Employee Benefits		114,569.63
Current Expenses		224,477.22
Repairs & Alterations		4,089.53
Equipment		14,975.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>685,047.88</b>

## WILDLIFE DIVERSITY

Personal Services	\$	634,187.69
Employee Benefits		245,606.09
Current Expenses		400,667.58
Repairs & Alterations		5,136.72
Equipment		128,713.10
PEIA Transfer		1,322.76
Medical Service Payments		2,708.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,418,341.94</b>

## HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE UNIT

Personal Services	\$	174,910.40
Employee Benefits		65,840.40
Current Expenses		191,679.00
Repairs & Alterations		363.43
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>432,793.23</b>

**ELKINS OPERATIONS CENTER**

Personal Services	\$	107,020.78
Employee Benefits		47,135.96
Current Expenses		134,483.10
Repairs & Alterations		18,592.31
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>307,232.15</b>

**WEST VIRGINIA WILDLIFE CENTER**

Personal Services	\$	195,139.36
Employee Benefits		62,491.72
Current Expenses		57,730.81
Repairs & Alterations		14,179.86
Equipment		26,051.12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>355,592.87</b>

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	220,206.41
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		4,790,290.47
Special Revenue Appropriated		7,769,726.61
Federal Revenue Appropriated		6,336,033.99
<b>TOTAL WILDLIFE RESOURCES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>19,116,257.48</b>

**PARKS & RECREATION SECTION****PARKS & RECREATION**

Personal Services	\$	17,450,794.58
Employee Benefits		5,940,769.73
Current Expenses		12,481,552.79
Repairs & Alterations		3,693,080.92
Equipment		1,032,121.15
Grants and Awards		6,869.00
Capital Improvements/Land Purchases		1,688,110.07
Fund Transfer		7,374.13
PEIA Transfer		101,771.26
Debt Service Leases - Principle		191,694.60
Debt Service Leases - Interest		16,762.80
Building Improvements		154,594.44
Building Purchase or Construction		118,878.57
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		643,304.48
Medical Service Payments		3,008.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>43,530,686.52</b>

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	11,859,738.98
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		21,160,833.92
Special Revenue Appropriated		10,510,113.62
<b>TOTAL PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>43,530,686.52</b>

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES SECTION**

**OFFICE OF LAND & STREAMS**

Personal Services	\$	235,499.00
Employee Benefits		64,819.42
Current Expenses		108,876.92
Equipment		5,177.70
PEIA Transfer		1,365.12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>415,738.16</b>

Special Revenue Non-Appropriated	\$	126,785.35
Special Revenue Appropriated		288,952.81
<b>TOTAL SPECIAL PROGRAMS &amp; SERVICES</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>415,738.16</b>

Grand Total General Revenue Appropriated	\$	17,693,082.97
Grand Total Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		28,137,497.32
Grand Total Special Revenue Appropriated		24,132,173.39
Grand Total Federal Revenue Appropriated		7,021,812.24
<b>GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>76,984,565.92</b>



# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

## COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

### APPROPRIATED FUNDS

#### GENERAL FUND (0265)

Appropriated Fund - No Cash Balance

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Personal Services	(12,396,969.98)	
Employee Benefits	(4,734,576.11)	
Current Expense	(445,929.47)	
Repairs and Alterations	(8,597.88)	
Equipment	3,358.34	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(110,367.87)	
<b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(17,693,082.97)</b>

#### SPECIAL REVENUE LICENSE FUND (3200)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008	1,495,617.55
Investment Balance July 1, 2008	1,446,315.22
Beginning Fund Balance	2,941,932.77

#### RECEIPTS

Animal Replacement Costs	27,110.66	
Hunting & Fishing Licenses and Stamps	12,896,855.03	
Investment Earnings	37,246.24	
Miscellaneous Permits and License	8,489.50	
Miscellaneous Collections	(33,863.04)	
NRA	25,000.00	
Surplus Property Sale	2,125.00	
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>12,962,963.39</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Personal Services	(5,329,977.92)	
Employee Benefits	(2,085,517.48)	
Current Expense	(1,942,437.25)	
Repairs and Alterations	(143,189.27)	
Equipment	(689,407.24)	
Debt Service Leases - Principle	(5,026.99)	
Building Improvements	(39,690.00)	
2007 Capital Improvement	(217,817.42)	
2008 Capital Improvement	(679,128.10)	
2009 Capital Improvement	(448,762.53)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(11,580,954.20)</b>

Ending Fund Balance	4,323,941.96
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009	(2,026,247.34)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>	<b>2,297,694.62</b>

# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

## GAME, FISH AND AQUATIC LIFE FUND (3202)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		65,709.84
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		341,122.67
Beginning Fund Balance		406,832.51
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Fish Kill Reimbursement	1,315.72	
Investment Earnings	5,344.73	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		6,660.45
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	(72,580.30)	
Repairs and Alterations	(1,709.37)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(74,289.67)
Ending Fund Balance		339,203.29
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(328,843.40)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		10,359.89

## WILDLIFE DIVERSITY FUND (3203)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		304,295.70
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		1,983,736.94
Beginning Fund Balance		2,288,032.64
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Gauley River Vegetation Mapping Study	100,000.00	
Gift Shop Sales	45.00	
Investment Earnings	29,925.62	
Miscellaneous Collections	533.63	
Sale of Booklets	1,141.84	
Sale of Wildlife Calendars	121,585.52	
Sale of Wildlife License Plates	358,570.00	
Scientific Data Collection Permits	450.00	
Special Events	3,350.82	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		615,602.43
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(571,678.69)	
Employee Benefits	(212,135.23)	
Current Expense	(115,072.43)	
Repairs and Alterations	695.80	
Equipment	(68,958.00)	
Bank Costs	(312.70)	
Medical Service Payments	(2,105.00)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(969,566.25)
Ending Fund Balance		1,934,068.82
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(1,738,162.56)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		195,906.26

**USE & DEVELOPMENT FUND - PUBLIC LAND CORPORATION (3205)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		844,473.50
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Channel Changes	100.00	
Coal Annual Fees	600.00	
Docking Facilities	10,900.00	
Gas & Oil Leases	39,287.90	
Low Water Fords	5,100.00	
Low Water Level Bridges	95,099.98	
Miscellaneous Collections	63,400.00	
Pipeline Permits	168,265.00	
Sand/Gravel ATE Management	8,200.00	
Sand and Gravel Royalties	119,517.25	
Stream Restoration	4,400.00	
Structures	96,924.50	
Subterranean Cable Permit Renewal	13,275.00	
Water Intake Supply System	5,200.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>630,269.63</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(89,213.83)	
Employee Benefits	(26,423.21)	
Current Expense	(53,807.12)	
Equipment	(5,177.70)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(845.88)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(175,467.74)</b>
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>1,299,275.39</b>

**WHITewater STUDY AND IMPROVEMENT FUND (3253)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		107,593.94
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		2,871.49
Beginning Fund Balance		110,465.43
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Investment Earnings	1,620.50	
Study and Improvement Fees	44,805.54	
Whitewater Stocking Study Fee-Gauley River	29,065.32	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>75,491.36</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(49,309.92)	
Employee Benefits	(19,391.47)	
Current Expense	(8,564.80)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(412.70)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(77,678.89)</b>
Ending Fund Balance		108,277.90
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(33,271.64)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>75,006.26</b>

# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

## PARKS LOTTERY NET PROFITS (3267)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		25,735,985.79
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Lottery Transfers	3,492,245.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		3,492,245.00
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(1,522,505.32)	
Employee Benefits	(670,051.61)	
Current Expense	(1,082,483.51)	
Repairs and Alterations	(58,000.68)	
Equipment	(230,728.18)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(14,359.92)	
Building Improvements	(49,500.00)	
Building Purchase or Construction	(1,104,333.11)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(520,614.43)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(507,335.00)	
Medical Service Pmts	(603.00)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(5,760,514.76)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		23,467,716.03

## STATE PARK IMPROVEMENT FUND (3277)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		8,330,741.74
Beginning Fund Balance		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Lottery Transfers	5,000,000.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		5,000,000.00
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	(529,900.92)	
Repairs and Alterations	(2,014,721.78)	
Equipment	(787,732.44)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(1,106,161.04)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(135,969.48)	
Building Improvements	(101,684.00)	
Building Purchase or Construction	(609,074.82)	
Debt Service Leases - Principle	(191,694.60)	
Debt Service Leases - Interest	(16,762.80)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(5,493,701.88)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		7,837,039.86

## CONSOLIDATED FEDERAL FUND (8707)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		2,226,058.66
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		2,800,525.20
Beginning Fund Balance		5,026,583.86
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
<b>Law Enforcement</b>		
Boating Safety	405,830.00	
Duplicate Boat Safety Cards	50.00	
Hunter Safety Replacement Cards	19,042.59	

Hunter Safety	351,230.66	
Law Homeland Security	168,609.94	944,763.19
<b>Wildlife Resources</b>		
Acid Water Studies	189,917.47	
Archery Education in Schools	160,983.88	
Avian Flu Research-USDA	6,266.84	
Biometrics	323,998.97	
Blackwater Canyon Habitat Study	5,769.47	
Boating Access Administration	145,325.00	
Boating Access Grant	14,722.17	
Commercial Navigable Rivers	69,259.89	
Chronic Wasting Disease Research-USDA	306,523.56	
District Wildlife Management	1,736,363.67	
Endangered Species	64,000.00	
EPA Wetlands Development Grant	42,650.00	
Fish & Wildlife Coordination	313,075.70	
Interagency Coordination	385,780.84	
Insurance Payments	11,148.95	
Investment Earnings	76,355.81	
Landowner Incentive Program	94,338.74	
Miscellaneous	3,027.67	
Reservoir Investigations	90,194.59	
Rivers and Streams Assessment	26,714.75	
Small Impoundment Assessment	32,993.35	
State Wildlife Grants	167,978.72	
Surplus Property Sale	13,976.48	
Trout Hatchery Operations	1,551,535.98	
USDP AG NRCS Wildlife Hbt Inc	50,599.36	
Warmwater Fish Hatcheries Grant	297,237.57	
Wildlife Research	660,491.28	6,841,230.71
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>7,785,993.90</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(2,965,936.63)	
Employee Benefits	(1,019,043.73)	
Current Expense	(2,642,818.69)	
Repairs and Alterations	(91,381.13)	
Equipment	(211,091.00)	
Bank Costs	(91,541.06)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(7,021,812.24)</b>
Ending Fund Balance		5,790,765.52
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(4,159,881.01)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>1,630,884.51</b>

# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

## NON-APPROPRIATED FUNDS

### LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM FUND (3204)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008	312,256.55
Investment Balance July 1, 2008	866,531.67
Beginning Fund Balance	1,178,788.22

#### RECEIPTS

Captive Cervid Facility License	2,875.00
Hunter Safety Card Replacement	100.00
Investment Earnings	17,376.54
Law Enforcement Homeland Security Grant	413,250.00
Miscellaneous Collections	1,866.95
Miscellaneous Permits	13,880.00
Motorboat Licenses	202,876.50
NRA Hunter Education Grant	3,500.00
Tipping Fees	452,261.94
Whitewater Rafting Licenses	19,020.00
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>1,127,006.93</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Personal Services	(235,819.53)
Employee Benefits	(83,035.10)
Current Expense	(901,514.59)
Repairs and Alterations	(29,561.74)
Equipment	293,899.10
Medical Service Payments	(7,501.00)
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>(963,532.86)</b>

Ending Fund Balance	1,342,262.29
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009	(1,289,008.21)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>	<b>53,254.08</b>

### LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACTS (3208)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008	5,185.06
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#### RECEIPTS

Contracts	0.00
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>0.00</b>

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Equipment	0.00
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>0.00</b>

<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>	<b>5,185.06</b>
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**WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND (3224)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008	875.00
Investment Balance July 1, 2008	36,824,572.32
Beginning Fund Balance	36,825,447.32
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
Gifts & Bequests	1,000.00
Investment Earnings	(7,585,870.43)
Lifetime Hunting & Fishing License	567,555.00
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>(7,017,315.43)</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>	
Fund Transfer	0.00
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>	<b>0.00</b>
Ending Fund Balance	29,808,131.89
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009	(29,803,456.89)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>	<b>4,675.00</b>

**WILDLIFE RESOURCES-RECREATION FUND (3227)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008	306,660.13
Investment Balance July 1, 2008	4,200,276.39
Beginning Fund Balance	4,506,936.52
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	
Acid Impacted Stream Studies	19,448.61
Allegheny Power	19,500.00
Bluestone WMA Agricultural Practices Study	2,937.00
Cabin Rentals	4,440.38
Campsite Rentals	31,358.39
Captive Cervid Facility License	2,875.00
Donation for Stream Treatment with Limestone	24,462.57
Entrance Fees	56,853.51
Fish Kill Reimbursement	141,457.19
Gas Royalties	497,119.84
Gift Shop Sales	16,623.44
Gifts & Bequests	37,110.46
Go-Wild Hunting & Fishing License Issuance Fee	147,331.80
Habitat Land Inquiries	27,375.00
Hunters Helping the Hungry	21,407.00
Hunters Helping the Hungry DHHR Grant	75,000.00
Information Retrieval	24,203.42
Insurance Payments	65,023.65
Investment Earnings	62,063.74
Leases	24,000.00
Miscellaneous Collections	83,057.10
Mitigation Wildlife	46,246.00
National Park Services Gauley River Study	27,912.65
National Wild Turkey Federation	6,642.22
Picnic Shelter Fees	1,153.68
Real Estate License Fees	392,336.12
Reimbursement	15,000.00
Residence Rentals	1,375.00

# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

Scientific Collection Permit	18,325.00	
Specialty Lifetime License Card	154.00	
Timber Sales	24,991.72	
Trophy Fish Citations	3,895.00	
Wildlife Special Events	23,631.25	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		1,945,310.74
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(615,092.12)	
Employee Benefits	(153,111.64)	
Current Expense	(465,574.52)	
Repairs and Alterations	(84,482.46)	
Equipment	(218,111.75)	
Land Improvements	(30,283.00)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(1,566,655.49)
Ending Fund Balance		4,885,591.77
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(4,866,339.13)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		19,252.64

## BEAR DAMAGE FUND (3228)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		3,926.79
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		387,627.75
Beginning Fund Balance		391,554.54
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Bear Damage Stamps	268,712.00	
Investment Earnings	5,313.61	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		274,025.61
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(35,988.00)	
Employee Benefits	(10,886.72)	
Current Expense	(36,177.20)	
Repairs and Alterations	(454.86)	
Equipment	(12,950.00)	
Payment of Claims	(103,690.14)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(200,146.92)
Ending Fund Balance		465,433.23
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(460,891.36)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		4,541.87

## WILDLIFE RESOURCES CONTRACTS FUND (3229)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		435.39
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		316,610.11
Beginning Fund Balance		317,045.50
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Golden Winged Warbler	6,000.00	
Investment Earnings	4,315.04	
Miscellaneous Collections	76.81	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		10,391.85



**DISBURSEMENTS**

Current Expense	(66.70)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(66.70)</b>
Ending Fund Balance		327,370.65
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(327,325.15)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>45.50</b>

**MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP FUND (3231)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		16.64
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		263,068.67
Beginning Fund Balance		263,085.31
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Investment Earnings	3,505.64	
Miscellaneous Collections	393.30	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>3,898.94</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	(22,500.74)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(22,500.74)</b>
Ending Fund Balance		244,483.51
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(244,474.31)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>9.20</b>

**CONSERVATION STAMP FUND (3232)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		150,692.95
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		1,691,639.06
Beginning Fund Balance		1,842,332.01
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Conservation Stamp Sales	1,541,781.00	
Investment Earnings	9,110.43	
National Wild Turkey Federation	20,000.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>1,570,891.43</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(103,609.46)	
Employee Benefits	(14,086.06)	
Current Expense	(142,832.14)	
Repairs and Alterations	(883.20)	
Land Purchases	(1,607,470.00)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(1,868,880.86)</b>
Ending Fund Balance		1,544,342.58
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(1,394,099.49)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>150,243.09</b>

# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

## TROUT STAMP FUND (3233)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		131,579.57
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		1,810,507.75
Beginning Fund Balance		1,942,087.32
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Investment Earnings	23,666.24	
Miscellaneous Collections	53.34	
Trout Stamp Sales	1,303,128.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		1,326,847.58
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(779,157.61)	
Employee Benefits	(352,382.15)	
Current Expense	(500.00)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(1,132,039.76)
Ending Fund Balance		2,136,895.14
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(2,014,173.99)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		122,721.15

## OUTDOOR SKILLS (GOV CIVIL CONT. FUND) (3236)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		352.10
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Statutory Transfers	0.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		0.00
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	(352.10)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(352.10)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		0.00

## GIFTS, GRANTS & BEQUESTS (3237)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		26,939.16
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Special Events	45,774.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		45,774.00
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	(46,159.94)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(46,159.94)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		26,553.22

## LAND MINERALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS (3239)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		219,299.72
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Easements	3,600.00	
Land Leases	5,073.00	
Miscellaneous Collections	1,889.39	
Real Estate Taxes	575.14	
Rental Fees	5,150.00	
Rental Leases	1,200.00	
Right-of-Way	75,581.50	
Royalties	108,200.00	

<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		201,269.03
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(54,473.17)	
Employee Benefits	(16,728.45)	
Current Expense	(43,790.65)	
Remittance of Taxes	(14,286.00)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(519.24)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(129,797.51)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		290,771.24

#### **PAYROLL CLEARING ACCOUNT (3245)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		0.00
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		
Beginning Fund Balance		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Law Enforcement / Sports Ed. Stamps	0.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		0.00
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Employee Benefits	757.59	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		757.59
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		757.59

#### **LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SPORTS EDUCATION STAMPS (3247)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		33,284.87
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		485,426.67
Beginning Fund Balance		518,711.54
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Law Enforcement / Sports Ed. Stamps	381,186.00	
Investment Earnings	4,329.93	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		385,515.93
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(246,625.83)	
Employee Benefits	(101,018.32)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(347,644.15)
Ending Fund Balance		556,583.32
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(524,706.60)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		31,876.72

#### **MAGAZINE SALES & SUBSCRIPTIONS (3248)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		5,817.66
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		243,251.50
Beginning Fund Balance		249,069.16
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Investment Earnings	3,271.68	
Magazine Sponsorship	40,000.00	
Magazine Bookshelf Sales	6,062.20	
Magazine Sales	48,588.25	
Magazine Subscriptions	563,414.48	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		661,336.61

# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

## DISBURSEMENTS

Personal Services	(34,726.07)	
Employee Benefits	(15,205.67)	
Current Expense	(597,857.36)	
Bank Costs	(2,074.88)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(320.88)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(650,184.86)
Ending Fund Balance		260,220.91
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(252,223.18)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>7,997.73</b>

## CLEARING ACCOUNT-EQUIPMENT (3251)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		110,127.18
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Rental Leases	33,694.34	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		33,694.34
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	(506.00)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(506.00)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>143,315.52</b>

## CLASS A-1 SMALL ARMS HUNTING LICENSE (3259)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		3,533.18
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		121,164.49
Beginning Fund Balance		124,697.67
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Class A-1 Small Arms Hunting License	95,420.00	
Lifetime Small Arms Hunting License	4,950.00	
Investment Earnings	1,537.33	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		101,907.33
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(34,167.67)	
Employee Benefits	(14,630.19)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(48,797.86)
Ending Fund Balance		177,807.14
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(174,751.82)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>3,055.32</b>

## PARKS IMPROVEMENT TO FACILITIES (3260)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		10,698.63
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Parks Development Grant	0.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		0.00
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	(2,202.50)	
Repairs and Alterations	(298.63)	
Building Purchase or Construction	(8,197.50)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(10,698.63)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>0.00</b>

**WATTERS SMITH MEMORIAL STATE PARK (3261)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		0.00
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		79,391.97
Beginning Fund Balance		79,391.97
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Investment Earnings	1,075.13	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		1,075.13
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Equipment	0.00	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		0.00
Ending Fund Balance		80,467.10
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(80,467.10)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		0.00

**DECOY ANIMALS ASSESSMENT FEE (3264)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		141.64
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		8,890.70
Beginning Fund Balance		9,032.34
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Decoy Animal Assessment Fee	300.00	
Investment Earnings	121.11	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		421.11
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	(147.93)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		(147.93)
Ending Fund Balance		9,305.52
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(9,261.81)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		43.71

**STATE PARK OPERATING FUND (3265)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		524,782.57
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		3,956,122.61
Beginning Fund Balance		4,480,905.18
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Arts and Crafts	11,588.81	
Bath / Massages	377,877.00	
Bicycle Rental	3,269.15	
Boat Rental	65,766.62	
Cabin Advance Reservation	3,603,541.81	
Cabin Rentals	1,162,369.76	
Campsite Advance Reservation	392,235.88	
Campsite Rentals	1,466,080.46	
Cass Advance Fares	397,725.50	
Coin Laundry Machines	8,321.39	
Consumers Sales Tax	(11,930.17)	
Cot & Crib Rental	29,100.79	
Dinner Train Advance	27,443.25	
Driving Range	19,986.95	
Entrance Fees	246,656.86	

# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

Equipment Rental	10,936.84	
Facility Use Rental	149,580.12	
Firewood Sales	136,627.83	
Food & Snacks	172,008.57	
Games	3,281.35	
Gas Royalties	27,881.65	
Gift Cards	19,490.15	
Gift Shop Sales	1,697,107.41	
Greens Fees	888,315.02	
Group Camps	40,729.83	
Hotel Occupancy Tax	541,943.01	
Investment Earnings	60,708.16	
Lodge Advance Reservation	2,644,403.74	
Lodge Rooms	3,160,746.30	
Lottery Collections - Net	18,545.92	
Magazine Sales	220.75	
Miniature Golf	29,089.57	
Miscellaneous Collections	4,553.08	
Miscellaneous Non-Taxable	252,830.79	
Miscellaneous Taxable	69,731.83	
Park Foundation Activity Building	65,000.00	
Picnic Shelter Fees	189,261.05	
Pro Shop	166,469.75	
Railfan Weekend Tickets	40,261.28	
Railroad Charters	37,993.64	
Railroad Fares	410,591.02	
Residence Rentals	26,841.00	
Restaurants	2,108,216.30	
Roman Bath	119,073.00	
Shooting Ranges	22,158.70	
Special Events	43,206.04	
Swimming Fees	299,561.24	
Tram	147,603.42	
Vending Machines	52,083.71	21,457,086.13
<b>RECEIPTS - CONCESSIONS</b>		
Boat Dock Concession	31,318.22	
Canaan Concession	584,353.00	
Coin Machine Concession	21,895.43	
Food and Snacks Concession	6,976.18	
Golf Carts	319,171.51	
Marina	6,895.60	
Miscellaneous Concession	26,242.27	
Restaurant Concession	92,692.26	
Riding Stable	17,235.22	1,106,779.69
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>22,563,865.82</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	(7,635,314.70)	
Employee Benefits	(1,949,816.55)	
Current Expense	(10,601,352.19)	

Repairs and Alterations	1,215.96	
Equipment	(2,143.74)	
Remittance Of Taxes	(544,536.22)	
Grants and Awards	(6,869.00)	
Bank Costs	(282,757.07)	
Fund Transfers - Canaan Maintenance Fund	(7,374.13)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(17,876.52)	
Building Improvements	(3,410.44)	
Building Purchase or Construction	(96,900.00)	
Medical Service Pmts	(3,008.00)	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>(21,150,142.60)</b>
Ending Fund Balance		5,894,628.40
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(5,157,830.77)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>736,797.63</b>

#### **CANAAN MAINTENANCE FUND (3274)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		29,774.80
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Maintenance Transfer from Operating Fund	7,374.13	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>7,374.13</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Personal Services	0.00	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>37,148.93</b>

#### **JUNE '03 FLOOD DISASTER FUND (3281)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		4,515.88
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Transfers In	0.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Repairs and Alterations	0.00	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>4,515.88</b>

#### **NOVEMBER '03 FLOOD DISASTER FUND (3282)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		32,636.08
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Transfers In	0.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	0.00	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		<b>0.00</b>
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		<b>32,636.08</b>

# Statement of Revenues/Disbursements

## MAY '04 FLOOD DISASTER FUND (3284)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		3,212.22
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Transfers In	0.00	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		0.00
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Repairs and Alterations	0.00	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		0.00
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		3,212.22

## COYOTE MANAGEMENT FUND (3292)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		16.00
Investment Balance July 1, 2008		1,028.06
Beginning Fund Balance		1,044.06
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Coyote Management Donations	636.00	
Investment Earnings	14.59	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		650.59
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Current Expense	0.00	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		0.00
Ending Fund Balance		1,694.65
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2009		(1,642.65)
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		52.00

## JUNE '08 FLOOD DISASTER FUND (3293)

Cash Balance July 1, 2008		0.00
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Transfers In	7,209.38	
<b>PLUS TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		7,209.38
<b>DISBURSEMENTS</b>		
Repairs and Alterations	0.00	
<b>LESS TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>		0.00
<b>CASH BALANCE JUNE 30, 2009</b>		7,209.38

## RECAPITULATION OF FUNDS

	Revenue	Disbursements	Investments
General Fund	0.00	(17,693,082.97)	0.00
Consolidated Federal Funds	7,785,993.90	(7,021,812.24)	4,159,881.01
Appropriated Special Revenue Funds	22,783,232.26	(24,132,173.39)	4,126,524.94
Non-Appropriated Special Revenue Funds	23,251,151.05	(28,137,497.32)	46,600,652.46
<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>53,820,377.21</b>	<b>(76,984,565.92)</b>	<b>54,887,058.41</b>





# Office of Land and Streams

**Office of Land  
and Streams**  
Joe T. Scarberry,  
*Supervisor*

The Office of Land and Streams serves the division in many capacities. Two primary responsibilities are: the supervision and administration of the division's land acquisition and real estate title documents program and the administration of the state's rivers and streams. These main functions involve the acquisition, exchange, and leasing of land and improvements and exercising control over the various activities in the state's rivers and streams. They include organizing and archiving of the real estate title documents for the division and the everyday administration of the real estate title once lands are acquired, and the issuance of various rights-of-entry and license agreements on the state's rivers and streams.

## **LAND ACQUISITION**

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The acquisition function is accomplished by purchase, lease, condemnation, donations, bequests, and exchanges. It involves various procedures such as the collection of legal data from county courthouse records; negotiations with property owners to obtain leases and/or options to purchase; detailed physical inspections of all types of real estate; obtaining appraisal reports of fair market value; the holding of public hearings; and the preparation of various real estate title documents and real estate quantitative and status reports.

The Office of Land and Streams is responsible for procedures dealing with the preparation, execution, and recording of legal documents such as deeds, leases, license agreements, rights-of-way, joint interagency agreements, easements, and land purchase invoices. It also prepares numerous other types of documents for state and federal agencies, including permits, applications, agreements, and contracts.

This Office maintains a close liaison with the attorneys assigned by the State Attorney General's Office to projects such as land acquisitions, court cases, and other required real estate legal work. This Office also handles all contract boundary survey work and contract consultants for engineering services relating to oil, gas and coal resources owned or leased by the Division of Natural Resources.

The primary land acquisition program and the real estate related activities are conducted on behalf of the West Virginia Department of Commerce, the Parks and Recreation and Wildlife Resources sections of the Division of Natural Resources, and the Division of Forestry.

## **RIVERS AND STREAM MANAGEMENT**

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The Division of Natural Resources holds for the state the title to the beds of the state's rivers, creeks and streams totaling some 34,000 miles or some 5,000 named waterways. In the past year, 529 right-of-entry letters were granted to governmental agencies, companies and/or individuals to conduct construction activities in the state's rivers, creeks, and streams, 1,051 rights-of-way licenses were granted for pipelines, underground or underwater cables, and overhead power and telephone lines crossing the state's waterways. Additionally, 257 large stream structure agreements were granted for bridges and culverts in the state's streams.

## OTHER FUNCTIONS

This Office is also responsible for the up-to-date inventory of all lands owned or leased by the West Virginia Department of Commerce, Division of Natural Resources. At the end of this fiscal year, the Division of Natural Resources owned or long-term leased and operated 512,371 acres of land with partial mineral rights and held title to 34,000 miles of the state's river and creek beds. The Division of Natural Resources lands are broken down into 298,384 acres owned and 213,987 acres leased. This acreage encompasses some 342 separate areas such as wildlife management areas, public access sites, wetlands, and state park and forest lands. These lands provide recreation and are of great natural and/or historical significance and are managed for the use and benefit of the citizens of West Virginia and its visitors.

## PROPERTIES ACQUIRED

AREA	ACREAGE
<b>Beury Mountain Wildlife Management Area</b>	
The Nature Conservancy	2300.00
Jack Earl Meadows	107.54
<b>Little Indian Creek Wildlife Management Area</b>	
Sennett Triplett Coal, Inc.	10.00

## LAND LICENSED OR LEASED TO DNR

AREA	ACREAGE
<b>Beech Fork Lake Wildlife Management Area</b>	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	7,531.00 *
<b>Burnsville Lake Wildlife Management Area</b>	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	12,452.00 *
<b>East Lynn Lake Wildlife Management Area</b>	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	22,928.00 *
<b>Mount Storm Lake Public Access Site</b>	
Virginia Electric Power	4.18 *
<b>Sand Hill Wildlife Management Area</b>	
Wood County Parks & Recreation Commission	1,020.00
<b>Second Creek Fly Fishing Area</b>	
Rockwell R. Ward	0.21 *
Tieche Angus Farm	1.00 *

\*Renewals not included in summary of new acreages

	ACREAGE
3 parcels acquired	1,567.54
7 parcels licensed or leased	1,020.00
<b>Net increase for FY 2008-2009</b>	<b>+2,587.54</b>

## OPTIONS TO PURCHASE OBTAINED

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AREA	ACREAGE
<b>Beury Mountain Wildlife Management Area</b> The Nature Conservancy	837.03
<b>Castleman Run Lake Wildlife Management Area</b> Bethany College	350.17
<b>Panther Wildlife Management Area</b> Murvel Lester	25.00
Ruby Powell	44.00
<b>Pinnacle Rock State Park</b> John & Mona Cuddy (1/7th interest)	15.00

## PARCELS IN PROCESS OF ACQUISITION

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AREA	ACREAGE
<b>Beury Mountain Wildlife Management Area</b> The Nature Conservancy	837.03
<b>Cass Scenic Railroad State Park</b> Mountain State Logging & Railroad Association	1.00
<b>Castleman Run Lake Wildlife Management Area</b> Bethany College	350.17
<b>Lewis Wetzel Wildlife Management Area</b> Trans Energy Inc.	2.00
<b>Panther Wildlife Management Area</b> Murvel Lester	25.00
Ruby Powell	44.00
<b>Pinnacle Rock State Park</b> John & Mona Cuddy (1/7th interest)	15.00
<b>PARCELS IN PROCESS OF ACQUISITION:</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>TOTAL ACREAGE</b>	<b>1,274.2</b>

## ENGINEERING AND SURVEY CONSULTANTS

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The Office of Land and Streams prepared and processed the required agreements and purchasing forms for engineering and survey services on two (2) projects. These projects included boundary surveys, drafting/mapping, mineral analysis, and other related services.

## PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

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The Office of Land and Streams prepared and processed, through various stages of completion, 87 documents relating to the use of the Division of Natural Resources' real estate holdings. These documents included lease agreements, license agreements, easements, mitigation agreements, and amendments and supplements to other existing agreements. Land rights covered by these agreements included road rights-of-way, power line, cable line, water line, sewage line, and gas and oil line rights-of-way.

The processing of these agreements required close communication with various field and central office personnel in other sections of the Division of Natural Resources and with the Department of Commerce, Division of Forestry, and other state, county and local governmental offices.

## RIVERS AND STREAM MANAGEMENT

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Another function of the Division of Natural Resources is to hold title to the beds of the streams within the state of West Virginia, and the Office of Land and Streams exercises control over the following activities involving these real estate resources:

- Dredging and/or pumping of sand, gravel, and derelict coal from the beds of the streams in the state.
- Leasing areas of the beds and under the beds of the streams for the purpose of exploring for oil, gas, and other minerals.
- Utilizing the beds of the streams for the purpose of crossing or placing in the streams pipelines, fords, submarine cables, culverts, bridges, low water bridges, dams, dikes, commercial docking, loading and mooring facilities, recreational marinas and other structures.

During FY 2008-2009, 772 rights-of-entry were issued for various types of in-stream construction activities that were approved were channel changes, bridge construction, culvert construction, gravel removal, ford preparation, stream bank protection, water impoundments, fills, and pipeline construction.

During FY 2008-2009, 1,065 rights-of-way or license agreements were issued for gas, water and sewer pipelines, underground and overhead telephone, power and fiber optic cables and loading, docking and mooring agreements.

Licensed commercial sand, gravel and coal dredging and/or pumping operations produced 175,353 tons of sand and gravel from the beds of the streams in 2007-2008, as reflected below:

## 2008-2009 COMMERCIAL DREDGERS REPORT

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Total Tonnage Used

COMPANY	RIVER/CREEK	TYPE	TONS
Tri-State River Products	Ohio River	Sand & Gravel	343,984

# Law Enforcement Section



## Law Enforcement Section

David E. Murphy, *Chief*

The Law Enforcement Section is responsible for the prompt, orderly and effective enforcement of all laws of Chapter 20, Code of West Virginia, and rules promulgated under that authority. Of primary importance is the protection of West Virginia's wildlife to the degree that they are not endangered by unlawful activities. A highly visible, uniformed conservation officer patrol is the only viable way to accomplish this mission. Prevention and apprehension are crucial to the enforcement goal, and the conservation officer is meeting that goal. In West Virginia, no species of wildlife is jeopardized because of illegal taking.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

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The Law Enforcement Section normally has a staffing level of 126 conservation officers and 11 support personnel. The section currently has 111 conservation officers. Three conservation officers retired, and two new officers were employed during FY 2009. Seven conservation officers were activated for military service.

The Law Enforcement Section has been actively seeking new and innovative methods for the accomplishment of our overall mission. The following are just some of the highlights of this past fiscal year:

- Participated in numerous public meetings to provide for a better understanding of the Law Enforcement Section's goals and objectives.
- Monitored various trout stockings to ensure compliance.
- Utilized deer and turkey decoys in an effort to curtail "road hunting" violations.
- Increased boating and fishing patrols on all major Corps of Engineer lakes.
- Provided watercraft support to various regattas and other major river events.
- Participated in the overall planning and coordination of the National Hunting and Fishing Day Expo at Stonewall Resort State Park.
- Increased ATV patrols on wildlife management areas in an effort to deter unlawful entry.
- West Virginia participated in a nation-wide program, Operation Dry Water, in an effort to reduce alcohol-related boating incidents.

## OFFICER TRAINING

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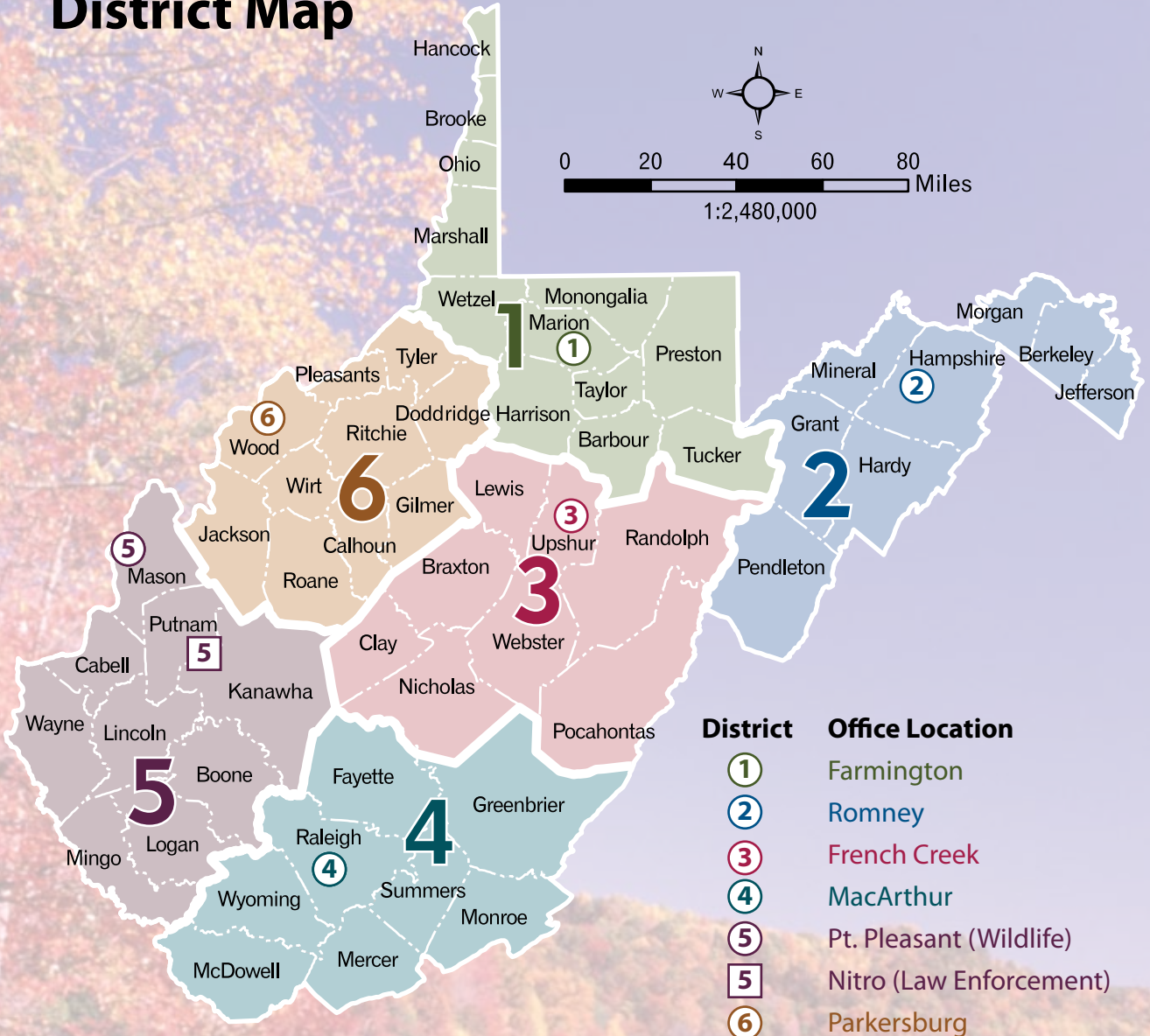
The Law Enforcement Section takes pride in the amount and quality of training provided to conservation officers. Officers log thousands of hours each year sharpening their skills and preparing for the worst.

Several Defensive Tactics classes were held to train officers to defend themselves. In a continuing effort to be prepared for the worst in Homeland Security, officers received training on various Homeland Security topics.

Law enforcement officers must complete a minimum of 16 hours training annually in order to meet the Law Enforcement Training Committee Standards. In addition, all six districts conduct four regional training sessions annually, consisting of one unit of Defensive Tactics and three units of Firearm instruction. The section continues to provide instructors to other law enforcement agencies to assist them in meeting their Law Enforcement Training Committee standards.

Six officers attended the National Marine Patrol Officer Course conducted at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center in Charleston, South Carolina.

# West Virginia Division of Natural Resources District Map



## **HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM**

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The mandatory Hunter Education Program in West Virginia continues to be a success. During FY 2009, approximately 7,700 students graduated from 437 statewide classes. Volunteer instructors continue to provide a great service to the Hunter Education Program. More than 260 instructors drove 34,765 miles and donated in excess of 7,800 hours to the program. Conservation officers logged 4,098 hours and drove 32,133 miles.

The Law Enforcement Section dedicates six regional training sergeants and one state coordinator to this program. Plans are to purchase more laptop computers and software that will enhance the Hunter Education training.

The Law Enforcement Section maintains a toll-free Hunter Education Hotline (1-800-243-9968) which provides class schedules to anyone interested in attending a class. In addition, class information and registration can be accessed on the DNR Web site, [www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov).

The Law Enforcement Section is now offering on-line courses that utilize animated graphics and narration ([www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov)). A student can receive his/her basic knowledge online at his/her own pace, and then make arrangements to attend a practical exercise day that includes hands-on gun exercises and a written final exam.

During FY 2009, West Virginia experienced 16 Class A hunting incidents, resulting in one fatality. There were five Class B hunting incidents resulting in one fatality. A Class A hunting incident is defined as a hunting related injury resulting from the discharge of a firearm or bow. A Class B incident is defined as any other hunting related injury.

Officers across the state have participated in several sporting and hunting shows, and attended summer camps and other special events such as JAKES Day and BOW (Becoming an Outdoors-Woman) programs.

The Law Enforcement Section has conducted numerous interviews for TV, radio and magazines promoting safe hunting and boating.

## **BOATING SAFETY/EDUCATION PROGRAM**

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West Virginia has approximately 50,000 registered boats. The owners, as well as their families and friends, have the opportunity to enjoy the activities our waters provide. Unfortunately, the state had 21 boating accidents in FY 2009, resulting in five fatalities. Alcohol, operator inexperience and lack of training account for these tragedies.

Boating safety classes are offered in all of the counties in West Virginia. Few take advantage of this training. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadrons, and the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) have approved courses. Classes are also available online at [www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov). The Law Enforcement Section is directly involved in either teaching or assisting



in these courses. In FY 2009, 27 traditional style classes were taught and 339 students successfully completed the course. Statistics are not available for the Auxiliary, Power Squadrons or Web-based NASBLA approved courses. Anyone born after December 31, 1986, is required to successfully complete a NASBLA approved course before operating a motorboat. Several news releases and interviews have been conducted to get this message out to the public.

Officers from this Section have participated in boating events and patrols around the state in an effort to promote water safety and reduce the number of incidents.

Operation Dry Water, a national campaign to reduce boating accidents, was conducted June 20-21. Increased patrols with emphasis on enforcement of drunk boating and reckless operation of a motorboat were conducted across West Virginia and the United States.

## **WHITEWATER ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM**

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The Division of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section has the responsibility of regulating the commercial whitewater industry in West Virginia. This includes issuing all licenses, collecting all fees, maintaining all records of outfitters, and investigating new license applications.

Conservation officers patrol rivers, conduct compliance checks on guides and equipment and investigate whitewater accidents. In FY 2009, there were 28 licensed commercial whitewater outfitters.

The Law Enforcement Section has trained all conservation officers in swift water rescue. Additional classes are planned to train new hires and provide enhanced training to all officers.

## LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

JULY 5, 2008 – JUNE 26, 2009

DISTRICT	CLASSIFICATION OF HOURS			LEAVE			ARRESTS			WARNINGS			PUBLIC MEETINGS		COMPLAINTS		
	SPECIAL DETAIL HOURS	REGULAR WORK HOURS	TOTAL HOURS	ANNUAL	SICK	OTHER	CHAPTER 20 ARRESTS	CHAPTER 22 ARRESTS	OTHER ARRESTS	CHAPTER 20 WARNINGS	CHAPTER 22 WARNINGS	OTHER WARNINGS	NUMBER	CONTACTS	RECEIVED	WILDLIFE DAMAGE INVEST.	OTHERS INVESTIGATED
ONE	0	35133	35133	3263	807	2348	640	158	105	252	115	35	119	11795	1745	297	1473
TWO	0	26401	26401	2518	381	3368	655	104	52	269	111	50	80	6427	1521	497	1029
THREE	20	30394	30414	3588	725	3009	674	146	79	289	176	68	84	15217	1503	491	997
FOUR	39	31807	31846	2821	491	2755	549	146	245	241	157	79	75	9380	1310	330	948
FIVE	147	32817	32964	2980	296	2028	786	123	56	431	110	46	383	14188	1003	124	827
SIX	14	23426	23440	3395	1074	2111	497	65	153	216	169	72	128	10197	1016	190	817
Charleston*	0	6653	6653	784	1223	392	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	6	4	3
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>186631</b>	<b>186851</b>	<b>19349</b>	<b>4997</b>	<b>16011</b>	<b>3802</b>	<b>742</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>1700</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>869</b>	<b>67204</b>	<b>8104</b>	<b>1933</b>	<b>6094</b>

\*Includes hours of new officers while attending State Police Academy.

## REPORT OF PROSECUTIONS BY CHARGE

FY 2008–2009

HEADING AND CHARGE	DISTRICT						TOTAL
	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	FIVE	SIX	
<b>LITTERING</b>							
LITTERING, HIGHWAY	55	23	21	32	9	14	154
LITTERING, STREAM	16	3	8	1	15	5	48
LITTERING, PRIVATE PROPERTY	29	26	31	10	25	13	134
LITTERING, PARK OR PUBLIC PROPERTY	3	4	1	2	4	2	16
OTHER LITTERING VIOLATIONS	0	12	6	6	3	3	30
<b>TOTAL LITTERING</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>382</b>
<b>LICENSE</b>							
RESIDENT HUNTING WITHOUT LICENSE	23	15	19	18	43	12	130
RESIDENT FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	56	64	50	40	164	27	401
IMPROPER HUNTING LICENSE	0	0	1	0	1	1	3
MAKING FALSE APPLICATION - HUNTING LICENSE	0	0	0	1	0	2	3
HUNTING DEER WITHOUT CLASS N LICENSE	1	0	4	3	3	1	12
FISHING PARAPHERNALIA IN POSSESSION WITHOUT LICENSE	7	35	5	8	4	3	62
HUNTING PARAPHERNALIA IN POSSESSION WITHOUT LICENSE	1	6	2	0	5	0	14
HUNTING BEAR WITHOUT BEAR DAMAGE STAMP	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
HUNTING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
FISHING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
HUNTING MIGRATORY BIRDS WITHOUT FEDERAL STAMP	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
MAKING FALSE APPLICATION - HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
NON-RESIDENT HUNTING WITHOUT LICENSE	4	4	7	8	11	3	37
NON-RESIDENT FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	12	101	7	3	11	2	136
ALTERING FISHING LICENSE	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
MAKING FALSE APPLICATION - FISHING LICENSE	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
OTHER LICENSE VIOLATIONS	9	0	1	6	22	2	40
<b>TOTAL LICENSE</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>848</b>

HEADING AND CHARGE	DISTRICT						TOTAL
	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	FIVE	SIX	
<b>HUNTING</b>							
LOADED GUN IN VEHICLE	32	43	54	31	37	28	225
UNCASED GUN IN VEHICLE AT NIGHT	1	3	7	4	3	2	20
SPOTLIGHTING	0	1	1	1	0	0	3
SPOTLIGHTING WITH FIREARM OR IMPLEMENT IN POSSESSION	3	14	11	5	4	25	62
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF WILDLIFE OR PARTS THEREOF - GAME	65	55	50	45	73	56	344
HUNTING CLOSED SEASON	27	14	13	21	43	22	140
EXCEEDING DAILY BAG LIMIT	2	1	0	1	4	0	8
UNCASED GUN, CLOSED SEASON	0	0	0	3	2	0	5
FAILURE TO FIELD TAG GAME	32	16	7	8	27	11	101
FAILURE TO CHECK GAME	23	7	16	18	22	16	102
NEGLIGENT SHOOTING	0	1	0	1	1	1	4
SHOOTING FROM OR ACROSS HIGHWAY	8	3	3	7	3	6	30
SHOOTING WITHIN 500 FEET OF DWELLING; 400 CHURCH/SCHOOL	15	9	5	7	4	4	44
HUNTING WITHOUT PERMISSION	34	25	23	36	34	17	169
POSSESSION OF ILLEGAL HUNTING PARAPHERNALIA	0	0	1	1	0	0	2
ILLEGAL TRAPPING	0	1	2	0	2	0	5
HUNTING MIGRATORY BIRDS WITH UNPLUGGED GUN	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
ILLEGAL METHOD OF HUNTING - (MUST BE IN 20-2-5)	2	2	15	7	0	3	29
HUNTING AFTER KILLING LEGAL DEER	11	5	6	0	8	7	37
ILLEGAL SALE OF WILDLIFE (INCLUDING BEAR)	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF WILDLIFE	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
VIOLATION OF BEAR LAW OR RULES	3	1	5	1	4	0	14
ILLEGAL KILLING OR TAKING OF DEER, TURKEY OR BOAR	16	18	29	20	18	2	103
INSUFFICIENT OR NO BLAZE ORANGE	13	21	6	10	6	2	58
HUNTING ON SUNDAY	1	2	5	2	1	8	19
HUNTING DEER 1/2 HR AFTER SUNSET OR BEFORE SUNRISE	1	6	2	19	4	10	42
SHOOTING AT GAME NOT PLAINLY VISIBLE	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
SHOOTING/HUNTING FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	14	16	22	31	37	19	139
ILLEGAL KILLING OR TAKING OF BEAR	1	1	1	3	0	0	6
HUNTING WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
OTHER GAME LAW VIOLATIONS	5	7	8	17	23	10	70
<b>TOTAL HUNTING</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>1788</b>

HEADING AND CHARGE	DISTRICT						TOTAL
	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	FIVE	SIX	
<b>FISHING</b>							
TAKING FISH BY ILLEGAL METHOD	1	3	4	4	2	0	14
EXCEEDING DAILY CREEL LIMIT	2	6	18	6	4	2	38
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FISH, MINNOWS AND AQUATIC LIFE	0	2	6	1	2	1	12
USING PROHIBITED BAIT IN RESTRICTED AREA	0	2	16	16	0	0	34
FISHING WITHOUT PERMISSION	5	4	1	1	1	1	13
OTHER FISHING VIOLATIONS	0	7	7	3	25	5	47
<b>TOTAL FISHING</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>158</b>

### BOATING

OPERATING UNREGISTERED WATERCRAFT	7	4	13	0	18	5	47
OPERATING WATERCRAFT WITHOUT PROPER EQUIPMENT	1	0	3	0	4	2	10
INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF LIFE PRESERVERS	37	40	17	14	12	17	137
OVERLOADING A WATERCRAFT	0	0	2	0	0	2	4
IMPROPER LOCATION OR SPACING OF NUMBERS ON WATERCRAFT	1	0	2	0	0	1	4
RECKLESS OPERATION OF WATERCRAFT	3	0	4	0	1	0	8
CREATING A WAKE IN A NO-WAKE ZONE	2	0	15	1	3	0	21
PULLING SKIER WITHOUT OBSERVER OR MIRROR	2	0	1	0	4	5	12
SKIING WITHOUT A LIFE PRESERVER	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
NONE OR NO APPROVED EQUIPMENT	1	0	1	3	0	2	7
OPERATING A WATERCRAFT IN RESTRICTED AREA	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
FAILURE TO REPORT A BOATING ACCIDENT, IF REQUIRED	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
OPERATING WATERCRAFT WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
OTHER BOATING VIOLATIONS	3	5	17	2	6	6	39
<b>TOTAL BOATING</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>297</b>

### WASTE MANAGEMENT

OTHER HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
CONTRIBUTING TO AN OPEN DUMP	4	2	5	8	9	8	36
ENDANGERMENT BY WASTE DISPOSAL	2	0	0	0	0	2	4
OTHER SOLID WASTE VIOLATIONS	52	39	55	78	43	22	289
<b>TOTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>330</b>

### POLLUTION

STREAM POLLUTION	0	1	0	0	2	0	3
<b>TOTAL POLLUTION</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>

HEADING AND CHARGE	DISTRICT						TOTAL
	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	FIVE	SIX	
<b>FORESTRY</b>							
ILLEGAL BURNING	30	24	13	17	18	12	114
ABANDONING A FIRE	1	3	5	1	4	4	18
PERMITTING A FIRE TO ESCAPE	4	13	3	1	9	4	34
VIOLATING STATE FOREST REGULATIONS	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
FAILING OR REFUSING TO FIGHT FIRE	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
VIOLATIONS OF GINSENG REGULATIONS	0	0	0	12	1	0	13
OTHER FORESTRY VIOLATIONS	9	4	1	3	8	2	27
<b>TOTAL FORESTRY</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>213</b>
<b>GENERAL</b>							
VIOLATION OF PARK REGULATIONS	40	65	20	36	34	16	211
WITHHOLDING INFORMATION	3	4	2	7	5	1	22
OBSTRUCTING, HINDERING, OR INTERFERING WITH OFFICER	7	2	5	2	2	1	19
CONSPIRING IN A VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 20	35	13	20	25	24	11	128
OFFENSE OUTSIDE CHAPTER 20	66	39	15	37	35	39	231
VIOLATION OF NATIONAL FOREST REGULATIONS	1	0	9	0	0	0	10
DRUG RELATED VIOLATION	7	1	0	16	8	1	33
CONSPIRING IN A FISHING VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 20	1	1	2	1	2	0	7
MISCELLANEOUS VIOLATIONS	9	3	3	14	12	1	42
<b>TOTAL GENERAL</b>	<b>169</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>703</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL PROSECUTIONS</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>856</b>	<b>747</b>	<b>748</b>	<b>984</b>	<b>515</b>	<b>4718</b>

## PROSECUTION PROGRAM

FY 2008–2009

COUNTY	NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS	Amounts Assessed		Dispositions of Prosecutions			
		FINES	COSTS	CONVICTED	DISMISSED	ACQUITTED	FAILED TO APPEAR
Barbour	93	\$2,365.47	\$12,695.84	81	10	0	2
Berkeley	187	\$7,923.83	\$24,124.21	150	12	0	25
Boone	63	\$1,775.00	\$8,496.55	52	10	0	1
Braxton	72	\$1,196.61	\$8,677.59	58	12	0	2
Brooke	35	\$1,310.81	\$5,524.02	35	0	0	0
Cabell	72	\$1,000.00	\$3,509.65	22	26	0	24
Calhoun	24	\$550.47	\$3,099.27	19	5	0	0
Clay	48	\$1,920.00	\$6,700.26	41	6	0	1
Doddridge	6	\$120.00	\$493.59	4	2	0	0
Fayette	96	\$1,675.47	\$9,252.74	58	15	0	23
Gilmer	20	\$380.00	\$2,549.48	17	3	0	0
Grant	92	\$7,480.08	\$14,357.70	90	1	0	1
Greenbrier	140	\$6,675.47	\$20,263.22	128	12	0	0
Hampshire	156	\$5,865.00	\$21,855.61	138	11	0	7
Hancock	30	\$1,270.00	\$4,672.22	28	2	0	0
Hardy	87	\$5,675.34	\$11,642.40	70	10	0	7
Harrison	168	\$5,345.00	\$25,339.27	161	7	0	0
Jackson	123	\$3,020.00	\$11,766.49	70	48	0	5
Jefferson	206	\$6,553.30	\$21,843.42	137	17	0	52
Kanawha	214	\$3,405.53	\$11,988.42	79	84	0	51
Lewis	122	\$2,950.00	\$16,878.53	105	5	0	12
Lincoln	45	\$1,060.79	\$5,264.49	33	6	0	6
Logan	143	\$2,765.00	\$12,661.72	79	63	0	1
McDowell	142	\$3,347.43	\$18,910.80	116	25	0	1
Marion	12	\$215.00	\$1,435.77	9	3	0	0
Marshall	149	\$4,666.11	\$18,855.95	115	23	0	11
Mason	55	\$1,285.00	\$6,262.91	34	21	0	0
Mercer	63	\$3,092.05	\$7,895.32	48	9	0	6
Mineral	44	\$1,193.81	\$5,264.49	41	2	0	1
Mingo	84	\$1,295.20	\$9,730.77	61	23	0	0
Monongalia	81	\$2,475.61	\$12,009.07	73	6	0	2
Monroe	89	\$3,885.00	\$13,765.56	86	3	0	0
Morgan	39	\$1,264.11	\$5,848.99	37	1	0	1

COUNTY	NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS	Amounts Assessed		Dispositions of Prosecutions			
		FINES	COSTS	CONVICTED	DISMISSED	ACQUITTED	FAILED TO APPEAR
Nicholas	115	\$8,060.00	\$15,252.29	95	11	0	9
Ohio	10	\$125.00	\$957.18	6	4	0	0
Pendleton	49	\$2,800.47	\$7,019.32	45	3	0	1
Pleasants	16	\$205.47	\$1,754.83	11	4	0	1
Pocahontas	44	\$1,435.97	\$7,021.26	44	0	0	0
Preston	133	\$9,356.00	\$18,187.36	114	19	0	0
Putnam	105	\$2,061.49	\$12,280.55	77	20	0	8
Raleigh	84	\$1,835.00	\$7,814.85	54	14	0	16
Randolph	113	\$4,650.00	\$15,477.78	95	10	2	6
Ritchie	79	\$2,400.00	\$8,920.62	55	15	5	4
Roane	32	\$843.03	\$3,667.30	28	4	0	0
Summers	116	\$10,922.00	\$17,832.54	107	6	0	3
Taylor	82	\$3,290.00	\$11,209.01	70	12	0	0
Tucker	42	\$1,605.47	\$3,273.54	20	22	0	0
Tyler	61	\$1,650.94	\$5,258.41	33	28	0	0
Upshur	83	\$3,440.00	\$13,411.40	80	3	0	0
Wayne	103	\$735.00	\$5,524.02	34	46	0	23
Webster	143	\$8,221.47	\$21,079.56	133	10	0	0
Wetzel	40	\$1,645.00	\$4,625.37	31	9	0	0
Wirt	34	\$1,331.05	\$5,045.43	31	3	0	0
Wood	133	\$3,100.00	\$18,177.42	115	13	0	5
Wyoming	101	\$4,025.00	\$11,372.53	77	22	0	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>4,718</b>	<b>\$168,740.85</b>	<b>\$578,798.89</b>	<b>3,630</b>	<b>761</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>320</b>





# Parks and Recreation Section



## Parks and Recreation Section

Kenneth Caplinger,  
Chief

## INTRODUCTION

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This report provides a review of the major programs, policy actions, and challenges being addressed as of June 30, 2009.

### Overview

The purpose of the DNR Parks and Recreation Section is to “promote conservation by preserving and protecting natural areas of unique or exceptional scenic, scientific, cultural, archaeological, or historical significance and to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for the citizens of this state and its visitors.” This mission statement is embodied in state law and has been the guiding principal for operating the state park system since its inception. Additionally, units of the system serve as major tourist attractions which bolster the image and economy of the state.

The system is composed of 35 state parks, seven state forests, five wildlife management areas, the Greenbrier River Trail, and the North Bend Rail Trail. From rustic Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)-era facilities with limited development to modern resorts, from restored logging railroads and company towns to Civil War battlefields, from natural areas with national significance to areas that are primarily day-use local recreational facilities, the system offers tremendous variety and fills a number of roles. To the average West Virginian, they are sources of employment and recreation that might not otherwise be available especially in rural areas. To the state citizen-at-large, they are a valuable regional source of high-quality reasonably priced vacation and outdoor recreational experiences. Non-resident tourists find them to be among the nation’s finest state park vacation destinations. State parks and forests play host to numerous church picnics, retreats, and get-togethers; provide a safe environment for senior citizens to recreate; provide areas where children can safely learn how to swim; and promote family values by giving families the chance to re-create the body and spirit that comes with quality time spent together. In addition to recreation, environmental values are modeled within and encouraged by the park system. State parks and state forests protect watershed, provide quality wildlife habitat, prevent soil erosion, provide hunting and fishing opportunities, and numerous other environmental benefits.

As referenced above, they also serve a valuable role as a cornerstone of tourism in West Virginia. Past Division of Tourism surveys of out-of-state tourists have revealed state and national parks as the single biggest attraction that brought these individuals to our state. Given that there are only two national park units in West Virginia, these results are telling. For the investment of tax dollars that the park system receives each year to support the system, dividends are repaid several times over in economic benefits.

## SYSTEM-WIDE GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND CHALLENGES

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### Self-sufficiency

Park managers endeavor to make the system as fiscally self sufficient as possible while at the same time protecting the overall mission and resources associated with the system. Despite certain inherent challenges that keep the system from full self sufficiency, the West Virginia state park system has traditionally been and continues to be one of the most operationally self sufficient in the nation even though it is one of the few systems in the nation not charging entry fees.

Operational self sufficiency figures have been at 60 percent the past two years. This mark has been maintained despite very large increases in operating expenses that were beyond the control of system managers, including utilities, gasoline and minimum wage changes. It is estimated that these factors have driven operating expenses up more than \$2 million over FY08 and FY09.

# West Virginia Division of Natural Resources State Parks, Forests and Recreation Areas



Fiscal Year 2009 was another record year for total revenues. Collections totaled \$22,034,929 without benefit of significant rate increases. Revenues as recently as FY06 were at only \$19.6 million. The opening of a lodge at Chief Logan contributed significantly to this, but nice gains have also been realized elsewhere. Current plans call for major expansion of Cacapon, Blackwater, and Twin Falls revenue producing facilities, which should have a major revenue and self-sufficiency impact when complete. In fact, 13 new Blackwater cabins and 28 additional guest rooms and indoor pool at Twin Falls are already under construction. The Cacapon improvements are in a conceptual and design stage. Further, a major renovation of the Berkeley Springs Main Bathhouse is underway.

Of course, direct revenues do not measure the full economic benefit of the park system. An economic impact study conducted several years ago by the Marshall University Center for Business and Economic Research very conservatively concluded that state park visitor spending had a total direct and indirect impact of \$127 million on the economy of West Virginia. This study needs to be updated.

### **Lodge Sales**

An ongoing effort is made to maximize occupancy in all state park lodges, especially in the off-season. A group sales staffer working from Pipestem Resort State Park markets that park in particular as well as the system at large to various organizations throughout the state and country. Efforts include sales and telemarketing calls to corporations, state and federal government agencies, travel agencies, tour groups, and the like. Direct mailings and travel shows are also used frequently. The challenge is to attract off-season, mid-week business to supplement already brisk business at other times. The system's Chief Naturalist/Activity Programmer, who works from Charleston, is also heavily involved in sales and promotions.

### **Infrastructure Improvements**

Major projects completed this fiscal year included replacement of the Beech Fork campground lift station, replacement of the Cacapon lodge roof, demolition of the dangerously decrepit Cass School House, construction of a fireplace in the Cedar Creek activities building, bridge repairs on the Greenbrier River Trail, Pipestem ADA lift and lodge kitchen improvements, construction of a maintenance garage at Prickett's Fort and extensive renovations to the pool at Tomlinson Run. Projects still underway at the end of the fiscal year included the replacement of the campground wastewater treatment plant at Babcock, renovations to the Berkeley Springs Main Bathhouse, re-roofing Blackwater Lodge and cabin construction at Blackwater Falls, construction of the Chief Logan recreation center, renovations to the pool bathhouse at Laurel Lake, Pipestem tram repairs, replacement of Pipestem's Mountain Creek Lodge wastewater treatment plant and expansion of the lodge at Twin Falls.

One of the challenges facing Parks the past several years has been the lack of adequate funding for major repairs and equipment replacement. However, the 2008 Legislative Session provided enough additional general revenue to allow the amount available for this to increase from \$1.2 million to some \$3 million annually. In addition, \$2 million annually is typically available for routine repairs and improvements. In addition, in 2008 there was a one-time appropriation of \$12 million that is still being spent on a variety of major repair, improvement and equipment replacement needs including almost total replacement of playground equipment throughout the system.

## **Administrative Management**

To support the 49 units that comprised the system in FY09, there were some 440 full-time employees, some 950 hourly employees at the peak of seasonal employment, and several major park concessionaires. To meet administrative demands, Parks used five statewide general administrative personnel. These are a chief, a business manager, and three district administrators. In addition, there are two technical program administrators in the form of an assistant chief in charge of Planning, Engineering, and Maintenance (PEM), and a coordinator in charge of programming, interpretive services, special events, gift certificate sales, youth programs, and various other special functions. Field-based park superintendents and assistants are particularly important since they play a variety of roles that are vital to the success of park operations. As general managers, they must direct natural resources, business personnel, public relations, law enforcement, maintenance, guest and employee safety, and other programs essential to their areas of assignment. These individuals are a key factor in assuring a high level of customer satisfaction as evidenced by very positive guest comment cards.

## **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance**

Most of the items identified in the original system-wide assessment are complete while smaller additional and ever evolving needs remain. A major wheelchair access project was completed in FY09 to allow wheelchair access to the Black Bear Snack Bar at Pipestem's McKeever Lodge.

## **Minority Employment**

Parks desires to increase the representation of minority groups in the work force. There is a commitment to add employment minorities within the Division of Personnel framework that governs the selections for the classified service.

## **Hazardous Dams**

The Dam Control Office of the Department of Environmental Protection has declared dams on several areas, including Blackwater Falls, Cacapon Resort, and Tomlinson Run State Parks, as being potentially hazardous structures. These are being remedied as funding allows. As a state statutory requirement, a monitoring and evacuation plan is kept current for each major dam.

## **Resource Management**

Many individuals are surprised to learn that state park and forest superintendents and assistant superintendents are commissioned as special conservation officers and possess full law enforcement authority on the areas they manage. Consequently, game and fish law enforcement, littering violations, and enforcement of other environmental laws are routinely conducted. All superintendents, assistants, and key supervisory personnel are required to attend the West Virginia Division of Forestry's annual Wildfire Control Training School and suppression action is taken on any forest fires that occur or threaten state lands. The Parks and Recreation Section cooperates with the State Department of Agriculture and the Division of Forestry in controlling gypsy moths, hemlock wooly adelgid, and other insects and diseases that threaten state-owned forests. Routine trail and boundary maintenance is carried on throughout the year.

## INDIVIDUAL AREA AND SECTION ACTIVITY REPORTS

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West Virginia parks, forests, and wildlife management areas differ from those in most other states because of their added role in filling a local recreational niche occupied elsewhere by local government. Local communities in West Virginia often cannot afford to provide the recreational opportunities such as tennis courts, swimming pools, picnic areas and similar items that are a primary responsibility of city and county government in other states; so over the years this function has come to be expected from state government.

Because of this and other factors, requirements for maintaining the individual parks, forests, and wildlife management areas are quite varied. Facilities range from the modern development at parks like Canaan, Pipestem and Stonewall to historical structures dating from the CCC days. Replacement and upkeep of aging infrastructure at various areas is a constant challenge. This section of the annual report will focus mainly on repair and improvement items since the common themes of self-sufficiency, compliance programs, and similar management challenges are described elsewhere.



*New playground equipment at Audra State Park.*

### **Audra State Park**

New playground equipment was installed by park staff and volunteer labor at the campground and picnic shelter. Renovations to the park office included new windows and painting. Eight new benches were built for the campground and 50 new picnic tables were built and placed on the area. All trails were cleared and reblazed by staff and volunteers.

### **Babcock State Park**

A new steel handrail was constructed and installed, for safety and convenience, on two sets of the stone steps at Boley Lake. A new VHF two-way radio repeater system, complete with a new mast and antenna, was installed and put into operation. This addition has greatly enhanced the efficiency of communication and operations at Babcock State Park. The

Island-In-The-Sky Picnic Shelter roof was replaced and the structure was repainted. The floor tile was replaced in both the kitchen and the bathroom of Cabin 14. New fascia boards were installed along with seamless aluminum gutter on the swimming pool bathhouse. The swimming pool and the wading pool drain covers were replaced with approved drain covers, to meet the requirements of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act. A section of the siding boards on the Glade Creek Grist Mill were replaced with original type siding boards. This will help to preserve the structure's historic style and character for many more years to come.

### **Beartown State Park**

A new entrance sign was installed and roadside brush was cleared. Group tours and individual visitation was strong all season. There was minimal damage from falling trees this year but many of the larger hemlocks are dying due to wooly adelgid damage. Recorders were placed in the Ice Hole to gather temperature and ambient light data for climate studies. An overhanging oak was removed to give a six inch American Chestnut tree a better chance of survival.

### **Beech Fork State Park**

A new wastewater treatment operations contract was awarded. A footbridge crossing a narrow section of the lake and connecting two hiking trails was completed. Thirty-five (35) roadside posts were replaced in the Day-Use area. Ice-storm-damaged trees along roadsides were cleaned up. Two cabins received new dishwashers, flat screen TVs, interior and exterior furniture, and floor refinishing. Nearly 100 fire rings and 40 picnic tables were installed at campsites. The swimming pool was repainted, new federally mandated pool main drain covers were installed and the fire suppression system in the pool

concession stand was brought into compliance with new shunt trip wiring and breakers. A new camper dump station hydrant was installed. Beech Fork State Park management assumed control over the swimming pool concession stand for the 2009 season. The Heron Fest in October 2008 filled all 275 campsites.

### **Berkeley Springs State Park**

The Main Bathhouse renovation project began in the spring of 2009. A total reclamation of the facility is underway. A new energy efficient propane boiler and gas lines were installed in the Main Bathhouse in the fall of 2008. All interior steel doors to the baths at the Old Roman Bathhouse were painted. A new compliant swimming pool drain cover was installed and the pool filter was reconditioned and repaired. The 1929 gazebo was painted, the steel handrails were repaired and painted and the framing and entrance door to the crawl space beneath were replaced. Public restrooms received new fixtures and were painted. Repairs were made to the Spring House handrails and stone wall repairs were made above the ladies spring reservoir.

### **Berwind Lake Wildlife Management Area**

Lumber processed from trees cut for an electric line right-of-way was used to repair shelters and build an addition to the superintendent's residence. Several loads of fill dirt were hauled to widen the roads in some areas and fill low spots around buildings. The maintenance building and picnic shelters were painted. Hiking trails were cleared of fallen trees.

### **Blackwater Falls State Park**

Construction was completed on the new wastewater treatment plant near the lodge. A hiking trail bridge over Tank Run was installed on River Road Trail between the Park and the Town of Davis in cooperation with the Friends of Blackwater and Tucker County Trails. Another bridge was constructed on Red Spruce Ski Trail. A petting zoo was opened by the park concessionaire at the old horse stable. Three cabins and one residence had thermopane windows installed as part of an energy savings project. Due to a severe cold snap, the wet sprinkler system in the lodge conference center froze and ruptured, leaking several thousand gallons of water. Repairs were made to the conference center with additional insulation and venting of warm room air to prevent a recurrence of the problem. This spring, bids were put out for re-roofing of the lodge and the addition of 13 new cabins. Special events included Wildflower Pilgrimage, Septemberfest, Astronomy Weekend, Halloween Party, and Easter Egg Hunt.

### **Blennerhassett Island Historical State Park**

The island again escaped major flooding, although some high water events were experienced. A 149 passenger sternwheeler was purchased and arrived at Blennerhassett in late March, 2009. A contest was held with local schools to rename the sternwheeler with the name "Island Belle" selected. The third year of evening programs continued, including Island Frolic, Family Fireworks Cruise and the Sunday Sundae Cruise. A deer drive was held on the island with 100 deer counted. The Blennerhassett Foundation completed work on the restoration of the Putnam-Houser house and it was opened to the public. Friends of Blennerhassett volunteered more than 16,000 hours during the fiscal year.

### **Bluestone State Park**

Upgrades completed in the cabins included new mattresses, appliances, rocking chairs, plasma TVs, pedestal grills, picnic tables, china, upgraded linens, and a dishwasher in Cabin 26. Maintenance projects included new plastic signs, cabin staining, cabin floor resurfacing, kitchen remodeling, new campground grills, new campground pedestals, repairing numerous water line breaks, and remodeling of the office bathrooms. New additions to the park include playground equipment at the cabin and pool areas, a basketball court, and an interpretive/nature trail.

### **Bluestone Wildlife Management Area**

The area suffered flash flood damage in April that required some cleanup and repairs. Two culverts damaged in the flooding were to be replaced by the WVDOH. The playground equipment was upgraded to meet ADA standards. Attendance was in excess of 110,000 and revenue was up by 17 percent compared to the previous year.

### **Cabwaylingo State Forest**

The Crum/Morgan picnic shelter restroom stall walls were replaced. All pit toilets and woodsheds received new shingles, 17 buildings in all. New ceiling fans were installed in all but one cabin. New exhaust fans were installed at the maintenance shop. Special events this year included the annual Stream Clean, which drew 67 participants, and the Park Foundation Spring Fest Show of Wheels.

### **Cacapon Resort State Park**

A major roofing repair project was completed this year with the lodge and nine cabins re-roofed. The lighting in the lodge game room was replaced, new shelving was installed in the lodge gift shop storage and a new ticket area was built at the beach snack bar. Historical improvements included restoring the small CCC log display cabin, restoring a CCC era incinerator and reconstructing the CCC ice house for interpretation purposes. The early log cabin on the golf course at hole 15 was restored. A new heat exchanger was installed in the lodge. New carpet was installed in the conference center. A painting project began that will eventually see all park buildings repainted.

### **Camp Creek State Park**

Work continued on the new amphitheater, with construction 90 percent complete. The park trail system received maintenance and clearing. A new woodshed was built at the Mash Fork campground. The park office was upgraded with new lighting, wiring, storage cabinets and countertops. Several park buildings including the office and residence were painted. Extensive repairs were made to the backhoe and tractor. Special events included the annual Bluegrass Day and Appalachian Heritage Festival.

### **Canaan Valley Resort State Park**

A 'Turtle Slide' installed at Ski Area for summer tubing use has proven wildly popular; however, some outstanding issues remain with the lift that was to be installed for moving users up the hillside. Overnight lodging units were painted in 2008 and 2009, including guest room doors, privacy screening, ski area buildings, guest cabins and concession leased residences. Staff took over the operation and maintenance of fire alarm panel systems throughout the resort. The sole proposal for investment dollars for major lodge and ski area solicitations was largely ignored due to the state of the economy, except for one which was deemed inadequate to meet the needs of the resort and was rejected as such. Other ways of funding park expansion/infrastructure development are being considered. Work started on the replacement of a culvert over Mill Run on the roadway from Canaan Valley Lodge to the golf course and took five months to complete. A promising ski season that started with heavy November snowfalls quickly turned around with warmer than normal temperatures and a lack of snow during the Christmas holiday and January and the resultant lower ski numbers. Several cuts to staffing and service have become apparent as the concessionaire has publicly asked the state for relief from contract requirements for concession fees.

### **Carnifex Ferry Battlefield State Park**

A new playground has been constructed in the picnic area and all landscaping around the equipment has been completed. An additional water fountain and a frost free spigot were installed in the picnic area to better serve guests. Structural repairs were made to the snack stand and the back door was reinforced with steel to deter breaking and entering. All parking lots and roads throughout the park were graveled. A ground drainage system was installed in the side lot at the maintenance building to keep water out of the building. A new engine was installed on the wood splitter. The museum display



cases were renovated with new felt and display cards. Eight hundred picnic tables and 1,901 signs were made and distributed throughout the park system.

### **Cass Scenic Railroad State Park**

Again this year, much time was put into renovation and equipment replacement in the Last Run Restaurant. In the Switchback Room, the old cabinets and counters were removed. New flooring was installed in about 35 percent of this dining area, and a dividing wall was constructed to partition off a storage pantry and office for the restaurant. Two new walk-in coolers and a walk-in freezer were installed in the restaurant's kitchen. In preparation for installation of new units, staff reinforced and replaced the underlying floors. The old counters and soda fountain were removed from the company store, and new tiled counters and basswood cabinetry were constructed. A new ice cream cooler was installed after the floor was repaired. The company store building received minor exterior repairs, and it was prepped and painted. The porch was re-roofed. A drainage system was installed at the north end of the building to keep water from infiltrating the foundation. Timber bracing was procured and installed under the gift shop to arrest deterioration and subsidence.

The Kane's Store building was prepped and painted. New skirting was installed and painted as well. New guttering and flashing was installed at the Shay Railroad Gift Shop.

The kitchen in House #220 was renovated, complete with new cabinets. House #227 received a full interior renovation, including much new flooring and trim. Wainscoting was installed on the hallway and stair walls. New light fixtures were put in. New kitchen cabinets, a sink, and counters were installed, and the house was painted throughout. House #234, which had been vacant for a few years after its last use as a small concession operation, was given a minor facelift and put into use as a volunteer dormitory. The interior was cleaned up and partially repainted, and the upstairs floors were sanded and polyurethaned. Plumbing repairs were made, and a new linoleum bathroom floor was installed. A new accessible bathroom was built in the downstairs of House #346.

Phase three of the waterline replacement project was completed. This phase included new lines, meters and service connections for the houses on Front Street and the even-numbered houses on Main Street, as well as installation of one fire hydrant.

Other maintenance included painting two houses, painting and a new steel door at the water plant, construction of two sizable retaining walls near the company store building, a volleyball court in the picnic area, and replacement of all five of the loading platforms at Whittaker Station.

The park's foundation, Mountain State Railroad and Logging Historical Association (MSRLHA), arranged work on the wilderness cabin and Bald Knob access roads, enlarged the clear perimeters surrounding the cabin and the Bald Knob observation platform, and poured new piers to better secure the fire tower to its foundation.

Much preparation and planning went into July's special excursion, sponsored by the park's foundation, for the 100th anniversary celebration of the Elkins Depot. It all paid off as the trip went off nearly problem free, and was quite successful, selling out on both legs of the journey and providing the park with a bounty of media coverage and good will. To facilitate this and any such long distance trips in the future, our staff and MSRLHA set to work to modify and perform minor repairs to the water tank rail car. New plumbing connections and a pump were installed for easier transfers of water, and the car was attractively painted.

MSRLHA purchased a used General Electric diesel locomotive for use by the park in switching and occasional special event duty. After initial reassembly following transport, and then the rebuilding of

one of its diesel engines along with several other minor repairs, it was put into service. It will greatly reduce manpower and wear and tear on the historic steam locomotives when used for off-season switching duty. A used ballast regulator and used tie inserter were purchased to reduce long-term costs associated with track maintenance. These were put into immediate use installing 300 new ties in the railroad yard. A new 200-foot rail siding for storing track maintenance equipment was constructed near the repair shops.

Renovation of passenger car #12 into a car with reservable seating was completed, giving Cass the ability to offer reserved seating on all regularly scheduled trains for the first time. Brass railings and bench style seats were installed. Decorative woodwork was put in and the car was completely repainted and given the name "Greenbrier River." Four other passenger car interiors were repainted as well.

Two of the park's special events deserve notice. The new Photography Workshop was very successful, selling out well in advance. The Spring Volunteer Cleanup Weekend was once again so popular that it filled up many months in advance. Thirty-three people worked eight hours each for 264 hours of labor on numerous projects.

### **Cathedral State Park**

This year Cathedral State Park celebrated Arbor Day by planting 50 Red Spruce saplings throughout the forest. Staff repaired and/or replaced old picnic tables with new ones. The trail system was updated by replacing painted trail blazes with reflective markers. Staff built boardwalks over areas of the Cathedral Trail damaged due to the uprooting of a large Hemlock tree. Several cosmetic repairs were made to the buildings to enhance park appearance. These repairs included roof repair, painting, fixing doors and windows, and replacing trim work on the office/residence buildings.

### **Cedar Creek State Park**

Staff constructed a 22' x 28' addition to the existing recreation building. The new addition includes a fully equipped kitchen and storage area. As part of this project, a traditional wood burning fireplace was also constructed in the main activity room. Two new stone structures were built for the main park signs and dusk to dawn lighting was installed as well. Nearly half of the park signs have now been replaced with the new plastic laminate material. A concrete pad was poured at one campsite and 25 new picnic tables were placed throughout the park.

### **Chief Logan Lodge**

This facility reached an occupancy rate of 60 percent and generated a profit of more than \$500,000 during the third year of operation. An agreement with a third party provider was also implemented last year with commercial marketing travel agents. This provides real time Web-based reservations which significantly increased sales and brought needed Internet awareness. The easement that was granted for a cell phone tower was completed and now provides AT&T services. Other providers will be added to the tower in the near future. Construction began on a five million dollar recreation center beside the lodge with completion scheduled for November 2009. This will provide additional activities for lodge and park guests. Construction of a courtyard facing balcony rooms has begun and will include playground equipment, a fire pit, picnic tables, and covered benches. The Foggy Bottom Trail was added and connects the lodge to the recreation center. Wild Turkey Trail was extended to include the bottom portion of the cell tower road which will connect to Foggy Bottom trail at the foot of the mountain. These trail additions will allow for a nice two-and-a-half hour evening walk for guests and conference goers that will begin and end at the lodge, forming a complete circle of the lodge and recreation facilities.

### **Chief Logan State Park**

Several important projects were completed during the fiscal year, including a major painting project that encompassed all buildings, some shelters and most restroom interiors. The main breaker at the pool was replaced and upgraded to meet electric codes. The activity building was remodeled and opened for Pickin' in the Park. Several major water leaks were repaired and a new meter was installed by the local PSD. The C&O train engine was dedicated and is one of only two locomotives placed on the National Registry of Historic Places. The park hosted an Airstream trailer owners rally and the usual annual events including the Sue Browning Wildflower Hike, Civil War Reenactment, Shawnee Living History Trail and Christmas in the Park.

### **Coopers Rock State Forest**

A new office and a public accessible restroom were added to the old office building. Sidewalks were poured to the assistant superintendent's residence. A site was prepared in the main picnic area for new playground equipment. Eleven sections of railing were replaced around the scenic overlook. New gutters and a concrete pad in front of the kitchen were installed at the concession stand. The power line right-of-way was trimmed and widened. The 1976 Ford tractor was overhauled.

### **Droop Mountain Battlefield State Park**

New interpretive panels, displays and labels were developed and installed in the museum, several dozen shell fragments were added to the collection. New park entrance signs were installed. The park hosted many family reunions, weddings, picnics and church gatherings as well as school groups, senior groups and bus tours. The Civil War reenactment was held during peak fall colors in 2008. Several problems with the water supply system and damage from lightning strikes were overcome during the course of the year. Building security measures were improved after the workshop building was broken into and many power tools stolen. Some were later recovered and a suspect was prosecuted.

### **Greenbrier River Trail**

Five new picnic sites were created and 450 feet of split rail fencing was installed at two campsites. Contractors repaired a major erosion problem in Greenbrier County by dredging the creek bed and placing riprap stone along the shoreline. Three interpretive kiosks were built and installed at locations along the trail. A 144 square foot storage shed was completed at the maintenance area. Seven miles of trail were surfaced with fine limestone and pedestrian crosswalks were painted on all paved road crossings.

### **Greenbrier State Forest**

Decks were built at three cabins and the exterior of three cabins received a coat of stain. An accessible drinking fountain was built beside picnic shelter #1. Doors were added to all of the cabin woodsheds and each shed received a coat of stain. The assistant superintendent's residence was remodeled, prior to the arrival of the new assistant superintendent. New carpet and bathroom fixtures were installed, the interior was repainted and the exterior was stained. The exteriors of the swimming pool bathhouse and the pool filter building were painted. The forest hosted the 46th Annual Show-Me Hike (spring wildflower hike), always a popular event. The Greenbrier County Boy Scout/Girl Scout Day Camp and the Civil War Re-enactment of the Battle of White Sulphur Springs were also held at the forest again this year.

### **Hawks Nest State Park**

Lodge repairs and alterations continued this year with improvements to guest amenities. Electric fireplaces have been installed in corner suites and new laminate wood flooring has been laid in a suite. The entire lodge now has free wireless Internet service as well as a lodge guest business computer center in lodge lobby. The lodge officially became completely smoke free, including all guest rooms and the dining room. The transition was very successful and came in response to guest requests. The aerial tramway continued to experience electrical and mechanical service failures. The malfunctions appeared to be related to faulty old switches and circuit boards which are obsolete technology, making finding parts for repairs a continual problem. A certified electrician continued to be on-call for technical service and assistance with phantom errors. Dinner theaters during off-season continued to attract near sell-out crowds, impacting both lodge occupancy and the restaurant. The golf course continued to have poor numbers, even with deep discount rates and incentive pricing, despite the course being in good condition. Co-op work continued with National Park Service and our trails grant for a hiking connector trail to the New River Bridge Visitor Center. The proposed trail will provide hiker access from Hawks Nest Lodge to the Canyon Rim Visitor Center and possibly in the future to Sandstone Falls. A second trail grant project was being pursued for asphalt resurfacing of the main overlook pathway with ADA pullouts. Hawks Nest Foundation sponsored the annual "Lights Along the Midland Trail" holiday lighting event.

### **Holly River State Park**

Renovations of the softball field, funded by the park foundation, were completed. The restaurant concessionaire remodeled the restrooms in the restaurant/gift shop. Extensive cleanup was required after a February storm downed trees. The footbridge on Nature's Rock Garden Trail was replaced. Crushed stone was spread on several campsites and all reservable sites received new posts and signs.

### **Kanawha State Forest**

Renovations began on the old "P&D" building in Rattlesnake Hollow. Chinking in CCC residence was replaced. The entire water system in the campground was replaced. The swimming pool underwent major renovations to address soil subsidence and washouts beneath the pool deck, plumbing leaks and other problems. The pool was reopened for the first time in several years.

### **Kumbrabow State Forest**

A 20' x 40' storage shed was constructed in the maintenance area. The project was done completely in-house and without additional funding beyond the operating budget. The same shed was damaged by a falling cherry tree later in the season; consequently, the roof required repair. The forest suffered damage from a flash flood in September. Guests were stranded in different areas. The campground bridge, the Meat Box Picnic area and sections of the main road were all under water for a period of time. Campers were able to return to the area by the next morning. Staff cleaned up all areas as needed and the WVDOH quickly repaired the roads. Sites were prepared for the delivery of the long awaited playground equipment. WVDOH provided equipment to prepare the sites for the equipment, which was installed in September 2008 in the cabin area and campground.

Renovations to the cabin kitchens included new hickory sink bases, counter tops, and stainless steel double bowl sinks. In addition to the new items, staff constructed shelving above and below the counter tops, bread boxes and paper towel holders, for each cabin. The shelving, bread boxes and towel holders were constructed from saw mill lumber cut from blown down cherry and hemlock trees from the forest. Though the project was time consuming, the end result is very attractive and expenses were approximately \$500 per cabin in materials. The cabins were also fitted with new curtains, sewn in-house to reduce expenses. The forest received around 12 feet of snowfall during the winter, with resulting power outages occurring regularly.

## **Laurel Lake Wildlife Management Area**

Activities at Laurel Lake WMA included the demolition of the swimming pool bathhouse in preparation for contractors to begin renovation of the pool. The access road and handicap fishing area were repaired with donated rock from Triad Coal Company. The road had become close to impassable for vehicles and the much needed work has improved accessibility. A volunteer litter pickup was held in May with the students of Southern Community College from Logan with 10 volunteers picking up litter throughout the area. Pigeon Creek Coon Club held their annual hunt here. The hunt was a qualifier for the World Hunt Championships and about 60 hunters were registered to hunt.

## **Little Beaver State Park**

A split rail fence was installed along country club road, which borders the park next to the maintenance shop. A gate was installed on the access road to the shop as well to prevent anyone from entering the park from the backside and to provide security for the shop. Old, deteriorated wooden steps next to the park office were removed. The biannual dam safety inspection was conducted, with no safety issues to address and only minor maintenance issues noted. Several culverts were removed and replaced with new ones and concrete wing walls were constructed to increase the life and effectiveness of the culverts. Additional trash cans were placed in the parking area along Route 307 outside of the main park and a set of steps leading from this parking lot down to the lake were constructed to make access for fisherman easier. Two new heaters were installed in the maintenance shop, and one new heater in the public restrooms. The campground project was renewed and, by the end of the fiscal year, the existing site was resurveyed and the as-built work checked out. Construction is to begin in late 2009.

## **Lost River State Park**

A new office area was completed, which includes a wrap-around style front desk and separate offices for the superintendent staff. New furnaces were installed in nine modern cabins and air conditioners were installed in 11 cabins. The process of replacing the old wooden signs with new plastic laminate signs continued. Thirty-three new picnic tables were placed in the shelters and picnic areas. Repairs to the Lee Cabin included replacing cedar shakes and water damaged wood. Two cabin decks were enlarged.

## **Moncove Lake State Park**

All wooden park signs in the park were replaced with new plastic signs. Twelve new campfire grills were installed in the campground as well as 17 new picnic tables. New playground equipment was purchased and installed in two areas of the park, replacing the old playground equipment. A foot bridge was constructed on the Grouse Knoll trail and the road through the picnic area was graveled. Expansion of sales areas in the campground office and swimming pool were also completed. A suppression program began this year to reduce the amount of lily pads on the lake in order to improve fishing and boating access to the lake.

## **North Bend Rail Trail**

In order to address drainage concerns along the trail, extensive ditching was completed, particularly at the Silver Run Tunnel and at Tunnel 6 in West Union. Other improvements included replacing old barriers, installing culverts and installing gates at West Union. A slip was repaired at Cornwallis, requiring hauling 65 dump truckloads of material. Normal maintenance included cutting back rights-of-way and seasonal mowing.

### **North Bend State Park**

Fiscal year 2009 was a good year at North Bend. Revenue was up by more than 7 percent compared to FY 08 and more than 5 percent compared to the five-year average. The North Bend State Park Foundation is off to a good start. They held a fundraiser, completed their first project, and have begun work on the second. For their first project they extended the Extra Mile trail and built a deck overlooking a small stream at the end of it. The Extra Mile trail is designed to serve people who have mobility and vision impairments. Their second project will be purchasing and installing playground equipment. Building, grounds and infrastructure maintenance requires a constant effort. In addition to smaller and routine tasks, several larger projects were accomplished. The roofs on three of the park's buildings were replaced; four buildings were painted, including the lodge, and five more lodge guest rooms were remodeled. A 90-foot long pedestrian bridge was demolished and replaced with a culvert. We built up the ends with cut stone retaining walls, filled it in with soil and stone then installed a gravel walking path surface. Road work included the paving of Cokeley campground and rebuilding and resurfacing the bridge to the cabins. The third annual Lake & Park Clean Up was held.

### **Panther Wildlife Management Area**

A new residence for the assistant superintendent was purchased and installed on the area. A deck and a staircase were built by park staff. New, energy efficient, tankless hot water heaters were purchased for the Group Camp barracks building. A massive park cleanup was held in late summer. More than three tons of garbage, debris, and junk were hauled to the landfill. Several instances of high water and flooding caused moderate damage to roadsides, unimproved roads and hiking trails. Although federal assistance was pending, the majority of clean-up was completed by park staff.

### **Pinnacle Rock State Park**

Jimmy Lewis Lake was drained during the year to repair a leak in the underlying rock strata. This draining allowed for the removal of several undesirable fish species in the lake. While the lake recovered to full elevation and received the spring trout stockings, it is awaiting restocking of other fish species after completion of a major project on the drain gate and overflow area to comply with DEP regulations. Approximately two and one-half surface acres of the shallow end of Jimmy Lewis Lake were dredged of silt that had made the area unusable for recreational purposes. A small pond was constructed in the main stream feeding the lake to filter silt and dramatically slow the back end of the lake from filling with sediments. Gravel was spread on the boat docking area to correct an erosion problem and provide a gentler grade for boats to access the lake. Siding was installed on the park's storage building. Pinnacle Rock State Park's trail system, along with all other trails in the county, were mapped by GPS coordinates and put on an interactive Web site of the Mercer County Convention and Visitors Bureau's site. This program will be used to upgrade the park's own Web site in the near future.

### **Pipestem Resort State Park**

Lodge room renovations continued at McKeever, with an additional nine rooms completed, bringing the total to 83 of the 113 rooms. Work included renovations to the bathrooms, replacing air handlers and new Internet connections. At Mountain Creek Lodge, six bathrooms were renovated with new tile flooring. The Bluestone Dining room had a new buffet line installed with new tile flooring around it. The outdoor deck at Mulligans Restaurant was restored back to wooden decking. A new wooden dance floor was installed in the Falconer Meeting Room at McKeever Lodge. Upgrades to the fire system included a new fire alarm panel at the park headquarters, new emergency lighting in various structures and sprinkler upgrades. Roof repairs were done to both lodges and four cottages. Air conditioner compressors were replaced in two cottages, a McKeever meeting room, the Canyon Rim Center and Mountain Creek Dining Room. A new handicap lift was installed at McKeever Lodge to allow access to the Black Bear Snack Bar and Dogwood Meeting Room.

## **Plum Orchard Wildlife Management Area**

A new playground was constructed in the main picnic area and work began on site preparation for an additional playground in the Beech Bottom campground area. The dam was cleared of vegetation for safety reasons.

## **Prickett's Fort State Park**

A new two-bay garage and maintenance building was built with assistance from the PEM section. The restroom interiors were repainted, picnic tables were repaired and a new gate was installed at the visitor's center parking lot. The existing gates at the fort and boat launch area were replaced. Pump replacement and other repairs were made to the sewage treatment plant. The amphitheater hosted several performances and two theatrical presentations by Fairmont State University.

## **Seneca State Forest**

Grounds maintenance dominated the bulk of the maintenance staff's time this year. An overlook on the Cabin Road was cleared, providing Seneca for the first time a view that is accessible by vehicle. Tent pads in the campground were resurfaced. Bear-proof trash cans and holders were installed throughout the cabin, camping, and picnic areas. The boundary marking program moved ahead, and with the Michael Mountain and Deputy Tracts being completed this year, the boundary is now about 90 percent complete. Planning and site preparation for the new sewage system was completed. All trail surface work, signing and blazing were completed on the 3.5 mile Michael Mountain trail system. Site preparation was carried out for the Rich Patch Loop's swinging bridge site and walk-in campsites. Design and procurement for the bridge and toilets was completed. Supports and anchors were installed for the bridge. The toilet pit was excavated and the vault footers were poured. A new culvert was installed to carry the Little Jim Trail and trail construction vehicles over Thomas Creek. A new trail one-fourth mile in length and dubbed Hickory Path was constructed, signed, and blazed, and it will connect the campground to the Loop Road. New vinyl flooring and trim were installed in the residence kitchen. The renovation of Cabin 4 continued with the installation of new wall and ceiling paneling in the second upstairs bedroom. A closet was enlarged and this bedroom's floor was refinished.

## **Stonewall Resort State Park**

The resort operator continues to operate the resort with a high level of guest satisfaction. For the sixth year in a row, The American Automobile Association awarded Stonewall Resort the prestigious Four Diamond Award for service excellence, quality facilities, and memorable guest experiences. The golf course was ranked #86 nationwide for "Best Resort Golf Courses" by Golf Digest Magazine and the third best in the state, behind the Greenbrier and Pete Dye, making it the top ranked public course in West Virginia. Guest comments continue to reveal satisfaction with quality experiences in lodging, camping, dining, and other recreational amenities. Unfortunately, project revenues continue to be insufficient to cover bond debt repayment and the project is in technical bond default. The park received a \$271,020 Transportation Enhancement Grant for the completion of a pedestrian and bicycle pathway from the park day use area, along the road past the lodge and ending at the cottage area.

A number of stone structures were discovered on the park, which match characteristics of Native American stoneworks in other areas of the Eastern United States. An extensive inventory, survey and mapping project of the stoneworks was completed and submitted to the State Archaeologist and other archaeologists for opinion and interpretation. Currently, the origin is still undetermined; however, the structures are unique and worth further research, preservation and interpretation.

Because of the high deer population density on the park, a public controlled deer hunt was held. This was the first deer hunt on an open and operating state park in more than 50 years. The hunt was successful in harvesting 70 deer with just over 100 hunters participating. A second public controlled deer hunt has been scheduled for November 2009 to continue the deer population reduction program

on the park. Stonewall Resort again hosted the second annual One Shot Deer Hunt, which was successful in raising funds over \$10,000 for the Hunters Helping the Hungry Program. The event was conducted by the division with the assistance of a number of hunting and outdoor organizations and volunteers.

### **Tomlinson Run State Park**

The swimming pool underwent a complete renovation, which included all new plumbing and pump, filters, stainless steel gutters, steps, a complete new liner, and a new handicap accessible ramp. The baby pool was also renovated. Two new hot water tanks were installed in the bathhouse. New lighting was installed in the Group Camp dining hall and new exhaust fans also were installed. The transition from wood to plastic laminate signs continued with only a few original wood signs left to be replaced. New carpet was installed on seven of the miniature golf course holes with the remaining holes to be completed next year.

### **Tu-Endie-Wei State Park (Point Pleasant Battle Monument)**

Cleaning and refinishing of all monument plaques continued in preparation for the 100th anniversary of the Monument. The exterior of the restroom building was painted and three rooms of the Mansion House Museum were painted. Security was improved with the installation of surveillance cameras in the Mansion House and restroom areas. A new zero-turn mower was purchased.



### **Twin Falls Resort State Park**

Construction on the new lodge expansion was started, which includes 27 lodge rooms, indoor swimming pool, conference room, front desk area, and gift shop. Renovations were done on two guest rooms on the Monarch wing. Improvements at the golf course included repairing and replacing several drains, repairing two bridges and replacing the 200 amp service box at the golf course maintenance building. At the swimming pool area, main drain screens were installed in the pool that made it compliant with the new Baker Act. Other maintenance included replacing the 200 amp service box and renovating the women's bathroom. The backwash holding tank and chlorine system were replaced. Three cottages were stained and 10 wooden firewood boxes were built. Renovations to restrooms in the picnic areas included replacing roofs, repairing siding and staining.



*Work on new lodge expansion at Twin Falls Resort State Park.*



## **Tygart Lake State Park**

Phase 1 of a multi-phase marina update included building a 35-vehicle parking area and adding a new houseboat dock. Electric, water and sewer hookups to the dock, a floating office, additional boat slips and a courtesy dock are all part of future phases. The walls, floors and ceilings of five cabins were refinished and restored to their original condition. Shower stalls, heating units and damaged bathroom walls and wallpaper were replaced in three lodge rooms. Clearing began for a new accessible trail funded in part by a grant from the Federal Highway Administration Recreational Trails program administered by the WV Department of Transportation. Severe weather downed numerous trees in the spring, taking out large sections of the park-owned power lines and poles. New poles were installed and lines were repaired. All damaged trees were cut for firewood by staff and stocked by an inmate work crew. The enormous amount of wood is being used by Tygart and other state parks for cabin and campground firewood.

## **Valley Falls State Park**

A 15,000 gallon water tank was removed and the picnic area was connected to the PSD water system. Three new culverts were installed on the road to the picnic area. Severe weather downed approximately 150 trees over the course of the year, requiring much effort to clean up. A flood washed out sections of the berm along the picnic area road and undercut the road itself in one place. A new wedding gazebo was donated and installed near the overlook rock. Most of the park signs were replaced with the new plastic laminate signs. The park office was moved into the old maintenance shop, which is better insulated and easier to heat.

## **Watoga State Park (includes Calvin Price State Forest)**

Campground improvements included painting all bathhouse interiors at both Riverside and Beaver Creek and removing dangerous trees from Riverside Campground. Improvements continued to cabin woodsheds and several cabins were re-roofed. Bathrooms were painted in 12 cabins, floors were varnished in 13 cabins and pads were constructed for seven playground apparatus. A parking area was built for the Monongaseneka Trail. Repairs were made to lift stations at Riverside Campground. All water reservoirs were cleaned and the deep well pump was replaced on the Cabin Fork system. On Calvin Price State Forest, the Fort Lewis timber sale was completed and plans were made for a small timber sale in the vicinity of the Bond place.

## **Watters Smith Memorial State Park**

Major roof repairs were made to buildings in the historic area. The museum/gift shop was painted, rail fencing was replaced along Duck Creek Road and a footbridge was built on the Dogwood Trail. New bathroom fixtures were installed in the picnic shelter restrooms. New grills were installed at the Pioneer Picnic Shelter and gutters were installed on the Activity Building.



*New marina parking area Tygart Lake State Park.*



*Replacing power lines at Tygart Lake State Park.*



*Storm-damaged trees cut for firewood at Tygart Lake State Park.*

## **PLANNING/ENGINEERING/MAINTENANCE SECTION**

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Projects completed between July 1, 2008, and June 30, 2009.

### **Construction Projects Completed or Assisted**

- Cass School House Demolition
- Tygart Lake Cabin Fireplaces Rebuilt
- Beech Fork Campground Lift Station Replacement
- Prickett's Fort Maintenance Garage
- Blackwater Falls Lodge WWTP
- Blennerhassett Mansion Stone Steps Replacement
- Cedar Creek Activities Building Fireplace
- Greenbrier River Trail Ben's Run Bridge Repairs
- Pipestem Lodge Kitchen Improvements
- Pipestem Lodge ADA Lift
- Cacapon Lodge Roof Replacement
- Cass Clubhouse Museum
- Panther Assistant Superintendent's Residence
- Tomlinson Run Pool Renovations

### **Design Projects Completed and Construction Projects in Progress**

- Babcock Campground Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement
- Babcock Administration Bldg Treatment Plant Replacement
- Berkeley Springs Bathhouse Renovation
- Blackwater Falls Cabin Project
- Blackwater Falls Lodge Roof Replacement
- Canaan Valley Golf Course Drainage Repair
- Cass Gym Demolition
- Chief Logan Recreation Center
- Coppers Rock Dam Spillway Repairs
- Holly River Activities Building Addition
- Laurel Lake Pool Bathhouse
- Little Beaver Campground
- Pipestem Tram Gear Box Rebuilt
- Pipestem Tram Lower Bull Wheel Bearing Replacement
- Pipestem Mt. Creek Lodge Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement
- Twin Falls Lodge Expansion

### **Design Projects Completed and Construction Pending Funding**

- Watters Smith Pool Renovations
- Pinnacle Rock State Park Jimmy Lewis Dam Repairs

## Current Design Projects in Process

- Berwind Dam Repairs
- Blackwater Falls Dining Hall HVAC
- Bluestone Water Line Replacement
- Bluestone Pool Bathhouse
- Cacapon Lodge Addition
- Camp Creek Wastewater Treatment and Collection System
- Canaan Valley Wastewater Facilities Improvements
- Cass Country Store Heating System
- Pipestem Dam Repairs
- Seneca Sewage Treatment System

## Community Work Experience Program (CWEP)

In calendar year 2008, this program provided the following benefits:

- 12 participants for five state recreation areas
- 1,155.25 hours of maintenance, crafts and general service work
- \$7,328.09 of federal funds

## PROGRAMMING SECTION

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The state park programming staff oversees special event planning, nature-based activities, interpretive efforts, special programs, and collateral public awareness information and resources, including, but not limited to, Web sites, brochures, trail maps, trade shows, etc. A part-time clerk is the front line contact for daily maintenance of statewide programs including the VIPP (Very Important Parks Persons) program, the Hiking West Virginia State Parks program, and the WV State Parks Gift Card program and sales. Secretarial support is shared with the Lodge/Resort district administrator and this staffer provides background administration for the Geocaching program, Adopt-A-Trail program and volunteer agreements/work hours, in addition to other support duties.

### Programs

Park and forest programming focuses on the natural environment and history of the specific areas and of the state in general, as well as providing events that attract visitors, overnight use, or ridership/admission to unique settings.

Summer activities and events began a renewed concentration on interpretation of flora, fauna and natural history in FY 08 and again in FY 09. Seventeen programmers and naturalists were charged with implementing and/or increasing the daily activities of summer programs to include hikes, water study, etc., and to engage visitors in interpretive programs. Energizing families (children and adults) to get outside and explore has and will continue to be a priority. Year-round programmers/naturalists include nature based activities through hikes, nature center visitation and special weekends that are interpretation based. Special summer programs also included contracted entertainers or presenters scheduled at state parks to increase awareness of parks through fee-free programming.

Special events and entertainment also attract attention to parks with unique qualities. Examples include Mansion by Candlelight and Island Frolic Evening Cruises at Blennerhassett Island; Murder Mystery Trains at Cass Scenic Railroad, Guitar Workshop at Twin Falls Resort, Women's Getaway at North Bend, eagle surveys at Pipestem, artisan workshops at Hawks Nest, dinner theaters, road races, car shows, etc. Events that attract a specific audience may or may not have a lodging package associated. Most special events are scheduled on weekends and in the shoulder or winter months to attract visitation.

Program/activities attendance in FY 09 was about the same as the prior year. Through nature-based and special events programs, the state park system appeals to a broad interest base. During FY 09, total attendance for all events was around 120,000 participants.

### **Statewide Programs**

The Hiking program, VIPP program, and Geocaching continue to have good enrollment. The 2008 Annual VIPP Picnic was held at Hawks Nest State Park and had well over 100 attendees. The VIPP program enrollment is now more than 5,000. The WV State Park Hiking Program features a special hikes list, hiking plateau cane shields and mileage log cards. This program has an enrollment fee of \$10 and numbers almost 900 participants. Geocaching has become a very popular nationwide outdoor activity. The placement of caches on state parks and forests operates on a permit system that requires the area superintendent's approval of all cache sites prior to placement. This approval system takes into account safety issues, environmental impact and non-geocaching visitor concerns. The number of caches varies at any given time but has been as high as 90. Adopt-A-Trail volunteer maintenance programs at state parks and forests remains in effect and attracts service organizations, special interest groups, companies, and youth groups as a way to give back to their state areas.

### **Volunteers**

Volunteers play an important role in WV State Parks. Campground hosts and docents at historical areas are our largest workforce followed by golf course starters, hike leaders, and trail maintenance. Volunteer hours typically approach 40,000 with between 200 and 300 individuals registering as volunteers. The campground host volunteers are important at many parks, doing valuable support work in exchange for camping privileges.

### **Exhibits and Trade Shows**

In-state shows focusing on business, women's and men's expos, wellness days, tour operators, etc., continue to be part of the programming mission of distribution of information on events, activities and packages in addition to the 10 parks with conference facilities. West Virginia State Park traveling exhibits provide a great amount of information and exposure and continue to be very popular at any given exhibition regardless of show focus or demographic area.

### **Conference Sales**

Maximizing occupancy through group services occurs predominantly at the 10 lodge parks. Continued efforts to create visibility of these facilities include distribution of a meeting planners resource guide via direct mail; a strong online presence; distribution of information at welcome centers, exhibits, shows, and parks; in-state and surrounding state advertising efforts in meeting planner publications; press releases; and calling on government agencies and businesses. Tour operator trade shows are attended to increase exposure of state parks as a cost-effective attraction in tour planning. Development of group services information continues in printed material as well as Web content. Pipestem Resort has a dedicated employee concentrating on park sales and package promotion. The meeting planner's resource guide on the state park Web site has been a valuable resource.

Promotion of conference opportunities at state park lodges is driven by Web content, press coverage, response to direct mail and e-mail requests, paid advertising, and, most importantly, word of mouth by groups satisfied with the service received. Group services and conference sales/planning staff take calls and e-mails and convert these efforts into a sale. Conference business continued to remain an important segment of lodging sales in FY 09, but budget tightening by public agencies/companies/businesses in the depressed economy did cause some downturn in group sales at some areas. There appears to be a trend for smaller group gatherings and resurgence in family reunions and tours.



# Wildlife Resources Section



**Wildlife Resources  
Section**  
Curtis I. Taylor, *Chief*

The Wildlife Resources Section (WRS) is responsible for the management of the state's wildlife resources for the use and enjoyment of its citizens. The primary objective of the section is to maintain and perpetuate fish and wildlife at levels compatible with the available habitat, while providing maximum opportunities for recreation, research and education.

## ADMINISTRATION

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### Promotion and Outreach

Information and Education staff gave 20 presentations to approximately 950 people. Staff also worked at Junior Conservation Camp and wrote and administered the Wildlife Exam for the West Virginia Envirothon. Staff attended the WV Environmental Education Association annual conference. Personnel edited, proofed and updated the hunting and fishing regulations in printed format and on the Web. Staff reviewed and coordinated Web updates for the Wildlife Resources Section. Staff helped with writing, editing and proofing the WV Wildlife Calendar. In addition, legislative rules were written. Staff edited, approved, and coordinated with Department of Commerce Marketing and Communications publication of various brochures.

Lottery proceeds were used to publish and distribute the quarterly West Virginia Wildlife magazine. The 28-page publication is mailed to 35,000 subscribers with the remaining 5,000 copies distributed at fairs, schools and upon request. The articles are written by DNR employees about the state's wildlife and plants, and the programs used to manage them wisely. Lottery proceeds were also used to place advertisements in both electronic media (TV, radio) and print media (direct mail cards, magazines and newspapers). The ads promoted hunting, fishing, special events, the goWILD! online licensing system, and the State Wildlife Center.

The WRS sponsored and provided technical assistance and interviews for West Virginia Wildlife, a weekly, 90-second TV segment shown on six newscasts on two stations in the Charleston-Huntington-Beckley market. The West Virginia Outdoors and DNR Report radio programs were broadcast over 17 MetroNews affiliated stations located throughout the state.

Project WILD provides training for formal and nonformal educators across the state. In the past year, 62 educators attended four Project WILD related workshops in the state.

Wildlife Resources Section personnel staffed an exhibit at the West Virginia State Fair and the Hunting and Fishing Show in Charleston.

The WV Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) program is continuing to introduce women to outdoor activities. Participants in the fall and spring weekend workshops attended hands-on classes in hunting, fishing, backpacking, canoeing and other outdoor-related skills. Also, the Beyond BOW program is growing to provide women more in-depth weekend experiences on a specific topic. Events such as a fly fishing weekend and women's deer hunt have received excellent reviews.

West Virginia's Celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Days is like no other event held in West Virginia with hands-on learning opportunities for youngsters and families in the area of wildlife and outdoor recreation. In fact, the objective of the event is to educate the non-hunting/fishing public on the benefits of these recreational activities and how they support the DNR's efforts in wildlife conservation. The DNR teams with the West Virginia Wildlife Federation to promote this important event. Nearly 20,000 wildlife enthusiasts are in attendance to try their hand at everything from archery, shooting, fly-fishing, and kids fishing derby, to list only a few. In addition, attendees also have the opportunities to sit in on several wildlife demonstrations or visit one of the hundred-plus vendors on hand.

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources

# Wildlife Management Areas

## District 1

(304) 825-6787

1. Bear Rocks Lake
2. Briery Mountain
3. Burches Run
4. Castleman's Run Lake
5. Cecil H. Underwood
6. Center Branch
7. Cross Creek
8. Dunkard Fork
9. Hillcrest
10. Lantz Farm and Nature Preserve
11. Lewis Wetzel
12. Little Indian Creek
13. Pedlar
14. Pleasant Creek
15. Pruntytown State Farm
16. Snake Hill
17. Teter Creek
18. Upper Deckers Creek

## District 3

(304) 924-6211

30. Becky Creek
31. Big Ditch
32. Burnsville Lake
33. Elk River
34. Handley
35. Huttonsville
36. Slatyfork
37. Smoke Camp
38. Stonewall Jackson Lake
39. Stonewall Jackson Lake
40. Summersville Lake
41. Valley Bend
42. Wallback

## District 5

(304) 675-0871

55. Amherst/Plymouth
56. Beech Fork Lake
57. Big Ugly
58. Chief Cornstalk
59. East Lynn Lake
60. Elk Creek
61. Green Bottom
62. Hilbert
63. Laurel Lake
64. McClintic
65. Mill Creek
66. Morris Creek
67. Upper Mud River

## District 6

(304) 420-4550

68. Buffalo Run
69. Conaway Run Lake
70. Frozen Camp
71. Hughes River
72. O'Brien Lake
73. Ritchie Mines
74. Rollins Lake
75. Sand Hill
76. Stumptown
77. The Jug
78. Turkey Run
79. Woodrum Lake

## National Forests

- I. Beaver Dam
- J. Blackwater
- K. Cheat
- L. Cove Creek
- M. Cranberry
- N. Little River
- O. Neola
- P. Otter Creek
- Q. Potomac
- R. Potts Creek
- S. Rimel
- T. Shenandoah
- U. Tea Creek
- V. Wardensville

## District 4

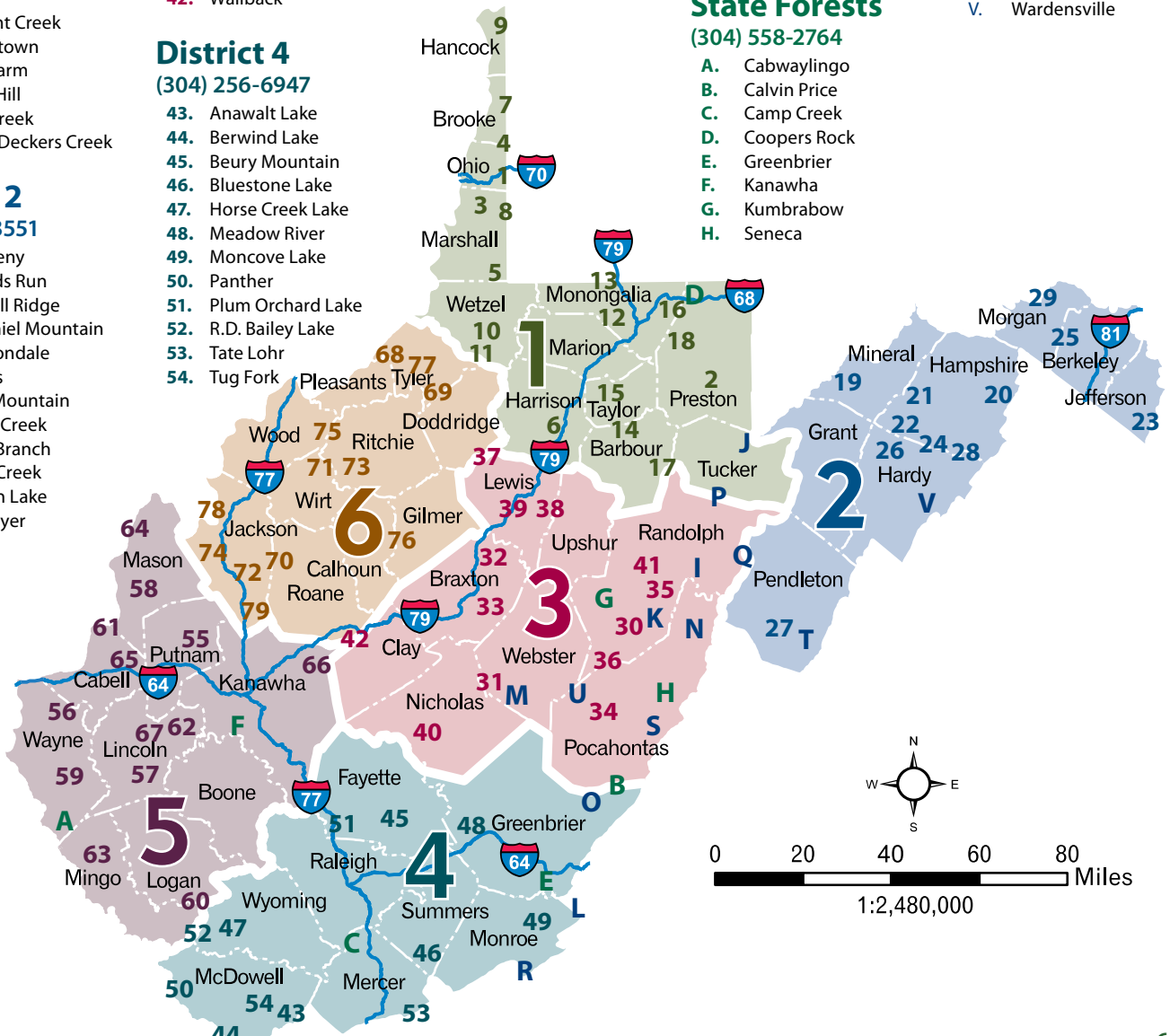
(304) 256-6947

43. Anawalt Lake
44. Berwind Lake
45. Beury Mountain
46. Bluestone Lake
47. Horse Creek Lake
48. Meadow River
49. Moncove Lake
50. Panther
51. Plum Orchard Lake
52. R.D. Bailey Lake
53. Tate Lohr
54. Tug Fork

## District 2

(304) 822-3551

19. Allegheny
20. Edwards Run
21. Fort Mill Ridge
22. Nathaniel Mountain
23. Shannondale Springs
24. Short Mountain
25. Sleepy Creek
26. South Branch
27. Thorn Creek
28. Warden Lake
29. Widmeyer



## State Forests

(304) 558-2764

- A. Cabwaylingo
- B. Calvin Price
- C. Camp Creek
- D. Coopers Rock
- E. Greenbrier
- F. Kanawha
- G. Kumbrabow
- H. Seneca

West Virginia's 2009 Celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Days will be held September 26 and 27 at Stonewall Resort State Park. The park is located in Roanoke (near Weston) in Lewis County and is easily accessible via Interstate 79 (Exit 91). For more information on this event and for a schedule of activities visit the Web page at: [www.wvdnr.gov/hunting/nathuntfish.shtm](http://www.wvdnr.gov/hunting/nathuntfish.shtm).

### West Virginia Wildlife Endowment Fund

The Wildlife Endowment Fund received \$1,000 in donations in Fiscal Year 2009. The total market value of the fund at the close of FY 2009 was \$30,069,375.43. During calendar year 2008 there were 406 Adult Lifetime Licenses and 1,175 Infant Lifetime Licenses sold for a total dollar amount of \$607,150.

### Hunting and Fishing License Unit

The Hunting and Fishing License Unit is responsible for administering all aspects of the hunting and fishing license system. In 2008, the unit processed 983,544 transactions which resulted in license revenue of \$16,242,737.00. This is approximately a 10 percent increase from 2007.



The goWILD! online license system continues to grow in popularity, resulting in more than \$3.2 million in sales. With larger corporations, such as K-mart and Walmart, joining the electronic point-of-sale system, transactions and revenue have doubled since 2007. Revenue of more than \$6 million from 372,636 transactions with the point-of-sale system was collected in 2008.

### Hunting and Fishing License Sales By Class—Calendar Year 2008

#### Lifetime Agent License Sales

ADULT				
Class	Description	Price	Number	Amount
	Adult			
A-L	Hunting and Trapping	\$760.00	—	\$ —
AB-L	Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing	\$760.00	283	\$215,080.00
A-1-L	Small Arms Hunting	\$75.00	27	\$2,025.00
B-L	Fishing	\$530.00	14	\$7,420.00
O-L	Trout	\$230.00	82	\$18,860.00
	Adult Subtotal		406	\$243,385.00
INFANT				
Class	Description	Price	Number	Amount
	Infant			
A-L-I	Hunting and Trapping	\$380.00	—	\$ —
AB-L-I	Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing	\$380.00	856	\$325,280.00
B-L-I	Fishing	\$265.00	12	\$3,180.00
O-L-I	Trout	\$115.00	307	\$35,305.00
	Infant Subtotal		1,175	\$363,765.00
	<b>Grand Total Lifetime Sales</b>		<b>1,581</b>	<b>\$607,150.00</b>



## Hunting and Fishing License Sales By Residency and Class—Calendar Year 2008

### Total License Sales

<b>RESIDENT</b>				
Class	Description	Price	Number	Amount
A	Hunting and Trapping	\$18.00	27,943	\$502,974.00
B	Fishing	18.00	82,704	\$1,488,672.00
N	Antlerless Deer Hunting	10.00	79,013	\$790,130.00
BG	Big Game	10.00	3,225	\$32,250.00
RG	Additional Deer - Firearms	20.00	32,158	\$643,160.00
RB	Additional Deer - Archery	20.00	23,072	\$461,440.00
RM	Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	15.00	2,052	\$30,780.00
X*	Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	28.00	115,430	\$3,232,040.00
XJ**	Junior Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/ Fishing	10.00	8,998	\$89,980.00
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	8.00	10,268	\$82,144.00
DS	Bear Damage Stamp	10.00	25,291	\$252,910.00
O	Trout Fishing	10.00	105,290	\$1,052,900.00
CS***	Conservation Stamp	5.00	231,289	\$1,156,445.00
	<b>Resident Subtotal</b>		746,733	\$9,815,825.00

\*The listed price of X (\$28) does not include the price of the CS (\$5). Total price of X is \$33.

\*\*The listed price of XJ (\$10) does not include the price of the CS (\$5). Total price of XJ is \$15.

\*\*\*CS includes the CS stamps sold on X and XJ licenses.

### NON-RESIDENT

Class	Description	Price	Number	Amount
I	National Forest Hunting/Trapping/ Fishing	\$2.00	16,637	\$33,274.00
E	Non-resident Hunting/Trapping	110.00	30,580	\$3,363,800.00
EE	Non-resident Bear Hunting	150.00	1,088	\$163,200.00
F	Non-resident Fishing	35.00	12,010	\$420,350.00
H	Non-resident Small Game Hunting - 6 day	25.00	863	\$21,575.00
LL	Non-resident Fishing - 1 day	3.00	50,327	\$150,981.00
NN	Non-resident Antlerless Deer	25.00	16,227	\$405,675.00
RRG	Non-resident Additional Deer - Firearms	40.00	6,792	\$271,680.00
RRB	Non-resident Additional Deer - Archery	35.00	2,704	\$94,640.00
RRM	Non-resident Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	35.00	345	\$12,075.00
UU	Non-resident Archery Deer	30.00	7,118	\$213,540.00
VV	Non-resident Muzzleloader Deer	30.00	2,880	\$86,400.00
WW	Non-resident Turkey	30.00	4,446	\$133,380.00
XXJ	Non-resident Junior Sportsman	15.00	2,408	\$36,120.00
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	8.00	2,039	\$16,312.00
DS	Bear Damage Stamp	10.00	1,189	\$11,890.00
OO	Trout Fishing	15.00	14,504	\$217,560.00
J *****	Small Game Shooting Preserve Hunting - 6 day	10.00	694	\$6,940.00
CS/LE	Non-resident Conservation / Law Enforcement	12.00	63,960	\$767,520.00
<b>Non-resident Subtotal</b>			<b>236,811</b>	<b>\$6,426,912.00</b>

\*\*\*\*\* Available through goWILD! Online only

<b>Grand Total Resident + Non-resident Sales</b>			<b>983,544</b>	<b>\$16,242,737.00</b>
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## Capital Improvements

The Wildlife Resources Section continued an aggressive capital improvements program to meet the needs of hunters, anglers and other wildlife recreationists. Funds for capital improvements are derived from 10 percent of the hunting and fishing license revenues and from the Conservation Stamp that all licensed hunters and anglers are required to purchase. This program remains one of the most visible efforts of the Division of Natural Resources, providing such facilities as wildlife management areas, shooting ranges, fishing and boating access sites, areas for physically challenged sportspersons, and small impoundments.

During the fiscal year, \$2,765,826 was spent on capital improvements. This number includes both the Conservation Stamp and the 10 percent capital improvement account. The largest expenditures were for land acquisition, \$1,607,470, and for the construction of new boat launching areas, \$349,469.

The year's major projects were:

1. The purchase of 1,557 acres to increase the size of the Beury Mountain Wildlife Management Area in Fayette County.
2. Completed a study of the complete fish hatchery system that identified approximately \$39,000,000 in improvements needed to modernize the hatchery system.
3. Completed construction of a new public boat launching ramp and renovated an existing boat launching ramp on the Buckhannon River near Buckhannon in Upshur County.
4. Started construction of a new public launching ramp at Fort Martin on the Monongahela River just north of Morgantown in Monongalia County.
5. Repaired the physically challenged fishing area and parking area at Handley Wildlife Management Area in Pocahontas County.

## Hunters Helping the Hungry

The Hunters Helping the Hungry (HHH) Program is a cooperative effort involving the DNR, the Mountaineer and Huntington Area Food Banks, and a network of local food pantries, shelters, churches, and children's homes. Since its inception in 1992, the HHH Program has provided more than 925,000 meals to the state's hungry. In 2008, generous hunters donated a total of 1,149 deer (45,505 pounds of nutritious meat providing 60,673 meals). Deer processing costs for the HHH Program in 2008 were \$64,058.20, which was offset largely in part with donations from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation, Share the Harvest Sunday, wildlife organizations, and the generosity of private individuals. Federal and state laws prohibit the use of license revenue to fund this program and the DNR must rely upon the generosity of others through donations to continue this program. For information concerning the HHH Program, or to make a monetary donation, go to the Web page at: [www.wvdnr.gov/Hunting/HHH.shtm](http://www.wvdnr.gov/Hunting/HHH.shtm).

## **West Virginia's Archery in the Schools Program**

When the school year begins in the fall of 2009, students from 198 schools around the state will be participating in the DNR West Virginia Archery in the Schools (AIS) Program. When the DNR began the pilot program in the fall of 2004 with 19 schools, the agency expected this program to become the success that it is. In fact, this interest has allowed DNR to host trainings in every region of the state, reaching 362 physical education teachers. Because of the success of this program, the DNR has hosted four state archery tournaments. Because of the rapid growth of the tournaments, negotiations are now being made with the Charleston Civic Center to hold next year's tournament at this larger venue.

The AIS Program has become one of DNR's largest and fastest growing educational programs – reaching nearly 35-40,000 thousand students within the first five years. Working with the Department of Education, wildlife organizations, and teachers, the WRS has been able to bring an activity into state physical education classes allowing all students to participate (no matter their size or ability) and teaching them a skill that can be enjoyed throughout a lifetime.

West Virginia is one of 48 states participating in this national program, with similar success being experienced by state wildlife agencies throughout the country. West Virginia's DNR received national attention when the West Virginia Schools for the Deaf and Blind (WVSDB) became the first school in the nation for the hearing and sight impaired to participate in this program.

Considerable work has gone into reaching this point and a lot of credit needs to be given to the teachers and volunteers who believe in the AIS Program. Special thanks also need to be given to wildlife organizations such as the West Virginia Bowhunters Association, West Virginia Trophy Hunters Association, and Beyond the Backyard. Without them, the DNR would not have been able to reach as many schools.

Teachers interested in participating in the AIS Program or wildlife organizations wanting to make a donation are encouraged to visit DNR's AIS Web page at [www.wvdnr.gov/archery](http://www.wvdnr.gov/archery) or call the Program Coordinator, Jerry Westfall, at 304-558-2771.

## **GAME MANAGEMENT**

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The Wildlife Resources Section, Game Management Unit, conducts management activities on 76 Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and eight state forests totaling 415,837 acres. Acquisition of public land and wetlands is a high priority of the Section.

An extensive wildlife management program is conducted on nearly 1.1 million acres of national forest land located in West Virginia through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service and the DNR. State wildlife biologists devote a significant portion of their time reviewing national forest opportunity areas, timber sales, and provide technical input in the development of national forest plans. Management issues are closely reviewed to ensure that fish and wildlife resources receive the maximum possible benefit.

Management on the 76 WMAs is directed toward improving wildlife habitat. Timber management was conducted on 89 acres with additional timber sales in the planning stage. Mitigation for oil and gas exploration on WMAs consumed a large amount of personnel time.

Management activities on state and national forest lands included planting 948 trees and shrubs for food and cover, and pruning, releasing and/or grafting more than 540 individual trees and shrubs.

More than 3,129 acres of wildlife clearings were mowed and 24 acres of new clearings were established. Lime and/or fertilizer were applied to 115 acres and 385 acres were seeded to herbaceous vegetation including dove fields. Prescribed burning was used to retard vegetation succession and improve the diversity and abundance of desirable plants on 359 acres. Herbicide was used on 98 acres to control undesirable/invasive vegetation (56 acres) and for forest thinning (42 acres). Sharecropping agreements with local farmers were signed on 1,208 acres to maintain open land. Seventy-one waterholes were maintained to provide a year-round water supply for wildlife.

Water levels on 215 acres of wetlands were manipulated to encourage waterfowl utilization. Three hundred ninety-seven waterfowl nest structures were maintained. Forty-eight nest structures were maintained for other wildlife species.

More than 525 miles of roads and trails and 14 bridges were maintained. Road closures were installed or maintained at 586 sites to prevent disturbance to wildlife and to protect wildlife habitat.

Numerous information and regulation signs were erected or maintained. Four hundred forty-nine campsites, 22 boat ramps, 24 shooting ranges, 29 physically challenged hunter access roads, eight fisherman access sites, and 149 parking areas were maintained. One parking lot was developed. The highly successful controlled waterfowl hunting program at McClintic Wildlife Management Area continued to provide quality waterfowl hunting for West Virginia hunters. Approximately 41 waterfowl ponds and 22 waterfowl blinds are maintained on the area, including two waterfowl blinds for the physically challenged.

### **Wildlife Damage and Nuisance Activities**

Thirty-three nuisance bears were destroyed, 25 were relocated and three were trapped and released on site. Hundreds of other bear complaints were resolved with harassment measures and/or removal of edible attractions.

Literally thousands of additional calls regarding sick, injured or nuisance wildlife are handled annually. Calls about nuisance wildlife are often resolved by providing technical advice and recommendations but many require capture and relocation or euthanasia of the offending animal.

### **Environmental Reviews**

Wildlife biologists reviewed numerous projects that potentially impact wildlife and its respective habitat. Primary concerns are road construction, stream alteration, hydropower projects, gas line construction, oil/gas well sites, surface mines, and other construction projects. In numerous cases, recommendations have been made to alter projects, thus reducing detrimental impacts on wildlife.

### **Wildlife Population Surveys and Research**

Waterfowl surveys (7) and census routes for woodcock (24) and mourning doves (10) were conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Surveys were also conducted for bald eagles (7), and song birds. Three hundred forty-eight doves (348) and 629 Canada geese were banded.

Harvest and biological data were compiled for hunter-killed turkey, beaver, bobcat, fisher, deer, bear, and wild boar.

### **Technical Assistance**

Interest in managing private lands for wildlife continues to increase and biologists are contacted frequently for technical assistance. Assistance ranges from general advice over the telephone to providing specific management recommendations to actually completing detailed site specific management plans. Approximately 1,000 work days were spent providing technical assistance to private individuals and landowners in 2008-09. A Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) plan was prepared for one property owner totaling approximately 4.5 acres.

### **Information and Education**

Wildlife biologists devoted considerable time assisting conservation clubs, schools, community and civic clubs, Boy Scouts, 4-H clubs, sportsmen's clubs, nature tours, fairs, training schools, and National Hunting and Fishing Day activities. Cooperation was given to universities and colleges by serving as guest lecturers. More than 150 classes and lectures on conservation were presented and more than 100 sportsmen's groups meetings were attended. Numerous interviews were given to the TV, radio, and print media.

"Sectional" meetings were conducted at 12 sites around the state in March to present proposed regulation changes to sportsmen. These meetings also provide the public an opportunity to make recommendations and ask questions relating to our regulation proposals and our agency's programs.

Special youth hunting opportunities were conducted for waterfowl, squirrel, turkey, and white-tailed deer. The special youth hunts provide an excellent opportunity to introduce young people to the outdoors and the hunting tradition.

The WV State Wildlife Center continues to excel as an outdoor educational facility. More than 40,678 visitors and 104 group tours utilized the area's facilities and enjoyed viewing West Virginia wildlife.

### **Regional, National and International Coordination**

Many of the challenges and issues facing the Wildlife Resources Section's Game Management and Game Management Services Units are shared by other states and agencies. A number of regional, national, and international organizations exist to promote information exchange and multi-jurisdictional coordination. The Wildlife Resources Section is an active member/participant in many of these organizations and their various committees. Notable organizations include: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Resources Agencies, The Wildlife Society, Atlantic Flyway Council and Technical Sections, Southeast Deer Study group, Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, and Eastern Management Unit Dove Technical Committee.

### **White-tailed Deer**

West Virginia continues to be one of the favorite deer hunting grounds in the eastern United States. In 2008, hunters bagged 163,603 deer. These included 63,873 bucks, an increase of less than one percent from the 2007 season; 56,221 antlerless deer, an increase of 29 percent; 31,408 archery deer, an increase of 14.5 percent; and 8,609 muzzleloader deer, an increase of 12 percent. In the special youth and Class Q deer season, 3,669 antlerless deer were reported harvested.

A bowhunter survey has been conducted annually since 1995. This cooperative venture with the West Virginia Bowhunters Association is an excellent means of monitoring populations of game animals and furbearers as well as providing a method for bowhunters to report their observations. The wild turkey fall harvest has been measured accurately by the survey.

In 2008, hunters took 404 deer in the special urban deer seasons available to incorporated cities and homeowner associations. Special hunts were held in six cities, three homeowners associations, and Stonewall Resort State Park.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy of cervids, was discovered in Hampshire County in September 2005. The Wildlife Resources Section initiated a response plan to address the disease and conducted extensive sampling efforts which have included 1,355 hunter-harvested samples tested for the disease in 2008. Five tests were positive for the disease indicating the disease is not wide spread or is at a low prevalence. CWD has now been detected in a total of 37 deer in Hampshire County: two vehicle-killed deer, four deer collected by DNR in 2005, five deer collected by DNR in 2006, one hunter-harvested deer during the 2006 deer season, three deer collected by DNR in 2007, six hunter-harvested deer during the 2007 deer season, 11 deer collected by DNR in 2008, and five hunter-harvested deer during the 2008 deer season. More than 3,500 samples collected by the DNR elsewhere in the state since 2002, primarily from vehicle collisions, have not detected the abnormal protein of CWD in any county other than Hampshire. Management efforts to reduce the prevalence and/or slow the rate of spread of the disease are continuing.

### **Black Bear**

In 2008, hunters harvested a record 2,069 black bears in West Virginia during the combined archery and firearms seasons. This is the first time the kill topped 2,000 and is a 14 percent increase over the previous record established last year. Gun hunters took 1,590 bears during the combined firearms seasons in 2008. Hunters killed 670 in the new September season, 109 during the concurrent buck gun season, and 811 during the traditional December season. Hunters took 479 during the traditional archery season. Numerous factors contributed to this record bear harvest. The tremendous bear population in West Virginia allows for a variety of different hunting opportunities. In addition, the expansion and increase in the bear population has led to the extension of hunting seasons designed to keep counties in line with their management objectives.

A total of 81 non-hunting bear deaths occurred in 2008, which is down dramatically from the 228 recorded in 2007. Road kills continue as the leading cause of non-hunting mortalities with 38. The West Virginia black bear research study was designed to gather information on reproduction and the status of bears captured as nuisance animals. Wildlife managers have handled 714 adult bears 1,416 times on the southern study area since 1999 and 386 adult bears 2,926 times on the northern study area since the project began. Wildlife managers handled 30 newborn cubs (17M: 13F: 0U) in 13 litters ( $\bar{x}$  = 2.3) during 2008 on the southern area. DNR personnel observed 312 (154M: 131F: 27U) cubs during winter den checks during the study period. Mean total litter size was 2.66 cubs (range 1-5,  $n$  = 117). One hundred twenty-seven of 131 (97 percent) available females produced cubs. On the northern study area wildlife managers worked 10 dens with 21 (8M: 6F: 7U) newborn cubs ( $\bar{x}$  = 2.1) during 2008. Managers worked 14 dens with 34 yearlings present ( $\bar{x}$  = 2.4) and were able to capture and tag 22 yearlings. Wildlife managers have worked a total of 52 dens containing 129 cubs ( $\bar{x}$  = 2.48) since 2004.

The DNR has also conducted two important surveys that pertain to bear management. The first survey focused on residents' opinions of black bear populations and hunting in different regions of the state and on a statewide basis. Game Management Services also conducted a survey of bear hunters to determine hunting pressure, primary methods of hunting, the economic impact of bear hunting, and to evaluate the effectiveness of early hunting seasons. These projects were completed in 2008 and the first has been accepted for publication in the next issue of *Ursus*. Data from this project were also presented in April 2009 at the Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference. The second survey will be submitted for publication consideration in August 2009. One of the highlights garnered from these studies is the significant impact (\$51 million) bear hunting contributes to the West Virginia economy.

One of the new, exciting aspects of the bear project started in August 2007 with the purchase of 23 GPS (Global Positioning System) radio collars for our southern study area. Wildlife managers and biologists in Districts 4 and 5 were able to capture 49 black bears in 10 days and place 21 GPS collars on female bears. They also placed the remaining two collars and two from harvested bears on additional bears during the 2008 den season. The collars are designed with a VHF radio beacon (the method typically used to track bears), a GPS unit to record locations, and a drop-off device. The GPS unit is set to record one location every 19 hours from January 1 through April 30, and one location every four hours from May 1 through December 31. A built-in computer system records the locations along with air temperature, activity patterns, and other important data. The drop-off unit, counting on an internal clock, is designed to break apart in 100 weeks if the collar is not removed by managers, thus ensuring that the data will be collected if the managers were unable to change the collar in the winter den. Wildlife Resources Section personnel hope that the data from these collars will help supply information on home ranges, habitat selection, and activity patterns of female bears. In addition, the project was designed to evaluate movements of bears in hunted versus non-hunted areas. Wildlife managers have removed 17 of the 23 GPS transmitters as of July 1, 2009. The remaining collars are scheduled to drop off in August 2009.

In addition to the population monitoring and research project, DNR has cooperated in a project at Virginia Tech to evaluate the retention time of telazol in black bears. It was discovered that telazol metabolizes sooner in black bears than original estimates, allowing biologists to immobilize nuisance and research bears closer to hunting season openings. This project was published in the February 2009 issue of the *Journal of Wildlife Management*.

The number of bear damage claims was down 36 percent from 221 in 2007 to 142 in 2008. Total payments of \$92,837 were 51 percent lower than the \$188,004 paid out in 2007. Claims were reported in 32 counties in 2008 and 29 counties in 2007.

### **Wild Turkey**

The 2008 spring gobbler harvest (9,929) was less than one percent lower than the 2007 harvest of 9,965 birds. There was a total of 26 counties open to fall hunting in 2008. The harvest of 1,206 was 21 percent lower than the 2007 total of 1,511.

The survey of wild turkey broods is an important aid in forecasting the statewide harvests and changes in the wild turkey population. During the summer of 2008, the count (299) by Wildlife Resources personnel was less than one percent lower than the 2007 count.

Field work for the Mid-Appalachian Gobbler Study was finalized in 2008. In the traditional fall hunted counties, harvest rates of adult gobblers was 15.8 percent. Further, in-depth analysis will be performed by Game Management Services biologists in 2009.

The 2008 Gobbler Survey was conducted jointly by the Wildlife Resources Section and the West Virginia Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation. The survey serves as a means for hunters to report their observations and opinions about wild turkey management. During 2008, results were compiled from 202 hunters. Cooperators took 1,747 hunting trips and heard 3,097 gobblers. The gobbling rate (45 gobblers heard per 100 hours) was six percent lower than 2007 (48), and down 17 percent from the 26-year average (54).



## **Wild Boar**

Boar were introduced in 1971 to supplement big game populations and did well enough to accommodate a hunting season in 1979. Harvests have ranged from three that year to 158 in 1995. The decline in the population since the late 1990s led to the removal of the December season in 2003. The single October firearms season is designed to reduce the harvest and allow numbers to improve and move into unoccupied habitats. Traditionally, hunters have been less successful during October when weather conditions are warm and dry and leaf fall makes boar sign more difficult to find.

Hunters killed 14 boar during the 2008 season. This is down from the harvest of 22 in 2007. Firearms hunters took nine (five in Logan County and four in Boone County) and archers killed five (two in Logan County and three in Boone County). Wyoming and Raleigh counties had no reported kills. The bulk of the harvest came from near the original release site in the Spruce-Laurel Fork of the Little Coal River. Wildlife and Law Enforcement personnel patrolling during the firearms season observed lower hunting pressure than in previous years, a likely contributor to the low harvest.

## **Annual Mast Survey**

Annually during August, cooperating personnel in the Division of Natural Resources rate the abundance of mast produced by selected tree and shrub species. Mast indices are then formulated for each species on a statewide and ecological region basis. This survey has been conducted annually since 1970 and is important information often requested by hunters. Mast abundance is also an important tool to forecast the annual big game harvests.

The combined average of all mast species in 2008 increased substantially from 2007, and was also up from the long term average. Most of this increase came from abundant food production from soft mast species, particularly hawthorn and crabapple. Greenbrier and grape were essentially the same as 2007. Acorn yield declined from last year's survey, and involved all oak species. A big increase was observed in beechnut production, and even black cherry, which had a big yield in 2007. Observers noted that black and red oak production and black cherry crops fared better at higher elevations. Best acorn and beech production occurred in the Southern and Southwestern regions of the state, while the Eastern Panhandle and Mountains areas had best black cherry output.

## **Ruffed Grouse**

A total of 34 cooperators sent in envelopes for the 2007-2008 grouse season. They reported on 404 hunting trips, which is a decrease of 10 percent from the 449 hunts recorded in 2006-2007. Effort per hunt decreased slightly, with 3.50 hours per hunt in 2007-2008 compared to 3.82 per hunt the prior season. The statewide flushing average decreased 7.5 percent, from 1.20 per hour in 2006-2007 to 1.11 flushes per hour in 2007-2008. This is the second highest rate in the last five years and the fifth highest in the last 10 years. Brood counts were down 40 percent from last year.

## **River Otter**

DNR's 2009 bridge surveys for river otter sign was conducted from January–April. A 600 meter stretch, both upstream and/or downstream at 105 bridge locations across the state, was surveyed. Although otter sign was detected at almost twice the number of bridges as reported in 2004, this year's surveys revealed otter sign at 32 percent of the bridge locations which was a similar percentage in comparison to 2008.

## WARMWATER FISH MANAGEMENT

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The Warmwater Fish Management Unit is responsible for providing maximum fishing opportunity to meet increasing recreational demand and for protecting and managing approximately 98,000 acres of warmwater streams and more than 22,000 acres of public impoundments.

To meet this challenge, the warmwater program is divided into five areas:

- 1) surveys and inventories of existing fishery resources, providing essential data to assess and develop management programs;
- 2) protection of fish habitat, placing intensive efforts toward review and comment on various state and federal permits for proposed activities that could possibly impact public fishing waters;
- 3) enhancement and development of fisheries, increasing production and use of fisheries through stream and lake improvements, and providing additional opportunities by stocking desirable fish species;
- 4) development of public access to fishery resources, ensuring adequate public access to existing streams and lakes, and acquisition and/or development of new lakes; and
- 5) outreach and information development, providing the public with material concerning fishing and fish management programs.



*Muskellunge caught in Tygart River.*



*Walleye caught in Elk River.*

### Muskellunge

Personnel stocked more than 5,000 fingerling muskies in 11 streams and ten lakes. More than 4,700 advanced fingerling muskies were stocked in six streams and 12 lakes. West Virginia's musky fishery is primarily sustained by this annual stocking program. More than 60 percent of the reported musky catches and those qualifying for trophy citations were caught from stocked streams or lakes in 2008.

### Walleye

More than 160,000 walleye fingerlings were stocked in eight lakes and three rivers. The walleye stocking program is designed to establish reproducing populations of this fine sport species in suitable waters throughout the state. Approximately 40 percent of all trophy catches since 1976 were from stocked waters.

### Channel Catfish

More than 85,000 channel catfish fingerlings reared at Palestine and Apple Grove hatcheries were stocked in 43 waters. Fishable populations are established in the majority of these waters with excellent catfishing found in Anawalt, Barboursville, Bear Rocks, Berwind, Castleman Run, Cedar Creek, Chief Logan, French Creek, Laurel, Little Beaver, North Bend, Pendleton, Pipestem, Tomlinson Run, Wallback, and Watoga lakes.

Twenty-two small impoundments were stocked with more than 5,000 adult channel catfish in 2009. The adult catfish were purchased with funds provided from reimbursements for pollution caused fish kills.

### **Hybrid Striped Bass**

More than 160,000 hybrid striped bass fingerlings were released in the Ohio River. More than 30,000 hybrid striped bass advanced fingerlings were stocked in five lakes. Hybrids over five pounds, with some up to 12 pounds, are regularly being caught from stocked waters. The New and Kanawha rivers also are providing excellent opportunities to land trophy hybrids.

### **Striped Bass**

More than 50,000 striped bass fingerlings were stocked into Bluestone and Mount Storm lakes and the Ohio River.

### **Paddlefish**

Efforts to restore the paddlefish in West Virginia continued in 2008 and more than 12,000 paddlefish fingerlings were stocked in the Kanawha, Monongahela and Ohio rivers.

### **Black Bass**

More than 74,000 largemouth bass fingerlings were stocked in the Belleville, Racine, and Willow Island pools of the Ohio River; and more than 22,000 smallmouth bass were stocked in the Hannibal Pool of the Ohio River. These stockings represented one component of a five-year fisheries management plan for the Ohio River. More than 10,000 largemouth bass were stocked into the Kanawha River.

### **Blue Catfish**

More than 93,000 blue catfish were stocked in the Kanawha and Ohio rivers as part of restoration efforts of this native species.

### **Hatchery Study**

Apple Grove and Palestine hatchery staff participated in a statewide hatchery study conducted for the DNR by HDR/FishPro to assess current hatchery facilities and develop strategies for enhanced fish production.



*Smallmouth bass caught in Tygart River.*

## **WARMWATER PROJECTS**

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### **Reservoir Management**

Fishery surveys were conducted at seven large reservoirs in the state. Surveys focused on black bass, walleye and crappie. These inventories provide the basis for determining management needs and evaluating management measures.

Annual operational changes by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACOE) and owners of other large reservoirs require coordination between the WRS and agencies responsible for these reservoir projects to minimize impacts to fish and wildlife and recreational opportunities during such operational changes. Information upon which to base these fish and wildlife considerations is available as a result of the section's reservoir monitoring program.

## **River, Stream and Lake Research and Surveys**

Stream and lake fisheries management activities continued in 2008. Smallmouth bass population assessments were conducted on the New and the South Branch of the Potomac rivers. Muskellunge population assessments continued on the Buckhannon and Elk rivers. Assessment of black bass and channel catfish population characteristics continued on the Little Kanawha River and selected small impoundments. Walleye populations were surveyed on the Cheat and New rivers.

Fish restoration, and aquatic habitat and fishing access improvements continued in 2008 in conjunction with the Winfield Locks expansion project on the Kanawha River. Walleye, paddlefish, shovelnose sturgeon, and blue catfish were stocked in the Kanawha and Ohio rivers as part of fishery enhancement and restoration efforts.

Fisheries management staff is coordinating fisheries research and management activities on the Ohio River. These efforts include habitat and fish population assessments through the interstate Ohio River Fish Management Team. Fisheries biologists are also participating in the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association's aquatic nuisance species planning efforts to minimize impacts upon West Virginia's aquatic resources.

## **Habitat Enhancement**

Fisheries management staff continued habitat enhancement projects in 2008. The agency continued the long-running and successful fish attractor project in large lakes. Recycled Christmas trees were placed as attractor structures in East Lynn, Summersville and Stonecoal lakes.

Maintenance of native aquatic vegetation planting sites was conducted at Beech Fork, Burnsville, East Lynn, Stonewall Jackson and Sutton lakes. Staff are also conducting assessments of fish spawning and nursery habitat structures in selected small impoundments.

## **Stream and Lake Access**

Public boating and fishing access facilities were completed on the Monongahela and Buckhannon rivers. Public access improvements were completed on the Buckhannon River and at the Handley WMA Pond physically challenged accessible site. Access facility planning continued for the Kanawha River at Nitro.

## **Fishing Tournament Coordination**

Data on 2008 catch rates and fishing effort during 525 organized fishing tournaments were collected from 31 bass clubs and 65 open tournament sponsors. Tournaments were held at 34 West Virginia access sites, including 349 on lakes, 109 on the Ohio River, 35 on the Kanawha River, and 28 on the Monongahela River. Tournament fishing pressure, at 117,273 angler hours, increased by two percent from 2007. When comparing 2008 results to 2007, average tournament catch rate increased from 0.15 to 0.19 fish per angler hour in lakes and from 0.13 to 0.16 in rivers. The combined catch rate, 0.17 bass per hour, was the highest in 34 years of tournament record keeping.

## **Trophy Fish Citation Program**

The Trophy Fish Citation program recognized anglers who caught 843 fish, representing 25 species that qualified as trophies in 2008. Of 19 waters (private lakes are counted as one water) yielding 10 or more fish citations, 71 percent were from streams and rivers, eight percent from small public fishing lakes, 15 percent from private lakes and ponds, and six percent from large public lakes. The trophy citation program began in 1976 and has recognized 55,130 anglers for their outstanding catches. The 2004 trophy citation program marked the first year of issuing length only citations in addition to the certified weight citation. This allows anglers to practice catch-and-release and still receive a trophy citation. In 2008, 280 length only citations were issued.

The First Fish Certificate program was established in 2008 to recognize young anglers' first catches. The online certificate is a colorful, tangible way to record a youngster's first fish. The certificate can be completed with the angler's name, species of fish, and date and place of catch. The certificate can then be printed at home at no cost. The First Fish Certificate can be found online at [www.wvdnr.gov/Fishing/First\\_Fish.shtm](http://www.wvdnr.gov/Fishing/First_Fish.shtm).

### Outreach

Fisheries management staff conducted or assisted in 15 fishing education events involving more than 2,500 participants. These events included Outdoor Classrooms, National Fishing and Boating Week, National Hunting and Fishing Days, Conservation Camps, Becoming an Outdoors Woman, and Boy Scout Trailblazer Adventure.

### Fish Kills

The DNR requested financial reimbursement from responsible agents for three fish kills in 2008 (see following table).

Stream or Lake	Date	Cause	Fish Killed		Severity	
			Number	%Game	Miles	Degree
Bunnell Run Ritchie County	3/12/08	Gasoline	779	0	1.0	Total
Robinson Fork Doddridge County	6/28/08	Gas Well Drilling	1,764	4	1.0	Total
Sycamore Fork Doddridge County	8/18/08	Gas Well Drilling	546	4	0.75	Total

## 2007-2008 Warmwater Stockings

Species and Hatchery/Source	Number	Size	Location
Muskellunge	5,399	fg	Burnsville, Castleman Run, Charles Fork, Dog Run, East Lynn, Middle Wheeling Creek, North Bend, Stonecoal, Stonewall Jackson, Upper Mud and Woodrum lakes; Bluestone, Coal, Gauley, Meadow Monongahela, Mud, New, Tygart backwaters and West Fork rivers; Fishing and Mill creeks
Channel Catfish	5,171	ad	Anawalt, Barboursville, Berwind, Cacapon, Cedar Creek, Chief Logan, Conaway Run, Coopers Rock, Hurricane, Krodel, Laurel, Little Beaver, Parker Hollow, Pendleton, Pipestem, Tomlinson Run, Wallback, and Watoga lakes; French Creek, Handley, North Bend and Wirt Co. ponds
Channel Catfish	85,295	fg	Barboursville, Bear Rocks, Brushy Fork, Burnsville, Cacapon, Castleman Run, Castleman Run, Conaway Run, Dunkard Fork, Fort Ashby, Hurricane, James P. Bailey, Kimsey Run, Krodel, Larenim #1, Larenim #2, Little Beaver, Logan Co. Airport, Middle Wheeling Creek, Millers Fork, Moncove, Parker Hollow, Poorhouse, Seneca, Sherwood, Sleepy Creek, South Mill Creek, Summit, Tomlinson Run, Tracy, Tuckahoe, Upper Cove, Wallback, Warden, and Woodrum lakes; Coonskin, Elk Two Mile 12, Elk Two Mile 13, Elk Two Mile 14, Handley, Kanawha S.F., Lick Creek, Underwood and Wirt Co. ponds
Blue Catfish	115,360	fg	Kanawha and Ohio rivers
Paddlefish	12,494	fg	Kanawha, Monongahela, and Ohio rivers
Walleye	164,540	fg	Burnsville, Charles Fork, Cheat, East Lynn, R.D. Bailey, Stephens, Stonecoal and Sutton lakes; Cheat, Kanawha, New and Ohio rivers
Hybrid Striped Bass	168,242	fg	Big Run, Curtisville, Dixon, Mason, and Rollins lakes; Ohio River
Smallmouth Bass	11,482	fg	Ohio River
Largemouth Bass	84,936	fg	Kanawha and Ohio rivers
Striped Bass	50,487	fg	Bluestone and Mount Storm lakes; Ohio River

fy = fry  
fg = fingerlings  
ad = adults

## **COLDWATER FISH MANAGEMENT**

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In 2008-09, selected waters in West Virginia were stocked with 989,116 trout weighing 694,665 pounds. Extremely dry conditions during fall 2007 prevented normal transfers from Reeds Creek and Spring Run Hatcheries, causing their fish to be overcrowded, resulting in reduced growth rates. However, a mild winter period allowed fish to grow better than normal. As a result, the overall size of trout stocked in 2008-09 was 1.4 fish per pound. A breakdown of trout production by facility follows.

A Statewide Fish Hatchery Study of West Virginia's cold and warmwater hatcheries was completed in March 2009 by HDR/Fish Pro. The comprehensive infrastructure analysis included the evaluation of current and future fish production needs which were used to develop a statewide hatchery infrastructure improvements plan. The future fish production goal was to increase trout production from 750,000 to 1,000,000 pounds. The report provides overviews of fish production, system infrastructure condition, proposed improvements, operational costs, staffing, opinions of probable cost for all recommended improvements, and overall findings and recommendations.

The seven state-owned hatcheries produced 686,715 pounds of trout in 2008-09. Except in years when production is affected by conditions such as drought and disease outbreaks, normal production averages 750,000 pounds per year. Given the present state of hatchery facilities available, this level of production is considered near capacity. Production greater or lesser than this reflects unusual situations.

The federal hatchery at White Sulphur Springs provided 7,950 pounds of trout during 2008-09. This is the only federal hatchery remaining in West Virginia. The poundage of trout provided this past year is less than has been provided historically from this facility, but is representative of expected trout poundage because of changes in hatchery operations at White Sulphur Springs. Other anticipated operational changes at the hatchery may further reduce the poundage available for stocking.

The 2008 fall stocking totaled 44,091 pounds. This represents a 24 percent increase in the poundage stocked in 2007 and is within the targeted poundage range of normal fall stockings. Thirty-five waters received two stockings each during a two-week period in October. The fall trout stockings are very popular and provide fishing opportunities through the fall and winter months until the regular spring stocking schedule begins.

Wild trout management continues to receive special attention in West Virginia. The two major parts of this program involve protecting and enhancing native brook trout populations and stocking fingerling trout to establish and maintain wild trout populations in streams that will not support stream reproduction. In 2008-09, personnel stocked 377,630 trout fingerlings, primarily brown trout, in 60 waters. This program has resulted in considerable expansion of wild trout populations in West Virginia, particularly in southern waters, where traditional trout waters are not present. Many of these southern trout fisheries are dependent on cold, unpolluted discharges from abandoned mines. The wild trout program provides thousands of anglers with year-round recreational opportunities in areas of West Virginia previously lacking such angling opportunities.

## 2008-09 Year Trout Stocking

Time Period & Hatchery	Rainbow Trout		Golden Trout		Brook Trout		Brown Trout		Total	
	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number
<b>Fall 2008</b>										
Spring Run	7,500	14,995							7,500	14,995
Petersburg	15,754	21,426	487	254					16,241	21,680
Bowden	9,130	5,156	520	293					9,650	5,449
Reeds Creek	6,100	4,955							6,100	4,955
Tate Lohr	2,000	1,000							2,000	1,000
*White Sulphur	2,600	1,040							2,600	1,040

Sub-Total	43,084	48,572	1,007	547					44,091	49,119
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Spring 2009	Rainbow Trout		Golden Trout		Brook Trout		Brown Trout		Total	
	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number
Spring Run	142,414	168,208	11,730	13,871					154,144	182,079
Petersburg	23,026	23,333	2,150	1,728	1,451	2,016			26,627	27,077
Edray	4,799	15,443	515	1,789	13,383	25,444	4,323	8,337	23,020	51,013
Ridge	22,610	38,571	2,487	4,256	30,038	45,590			55,135	88,417
Tate Lohr	15,720	33,619	382	686					16,102	34,305
Reeds Creek	134,998	203,730	5,261	9,310	30,493	52,114	9,496	13,847	180,248	279,001
Bowden	145,448	210,091	6,478	10,747	22,038	33,421	15,984	21,861	189,948	276,120
*White Sulphur	5,350	1,985							5,350	1,985

Sub-Total	494,365	694,980	29,003	42,387	97,403	158,585	29,803	44,045	650,574	939,997
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<b>TOTAL</b>	537,449	743,552	30,010	42,934	97,403	158,585	29,803	44,045	694,665	989,116
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\*Federal Hatchery



## WILDLIFE DIVERSITY PROGRAM

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### Endangered Species Program

Although the peregrine falcon was removed from the federal list of endangered species in 1999, this species is still monitored closely by Wildlife Diversity Unit personnel. Cliffs were monitored in early spring 2009 for returning falcons. Only a single bird was observed at one cliff on North Fork Mountain. A pair nested in the New River Gorge near the 2008 hack site in the area known as the Endless Wall; although chicks hatched, the nest failed and no young fledged. The only successful nest in the state was on a bridge over the Ohio River. Peregrine falcon reintroduction efforts continued in 2009 with 17 young falcons successfully released at a hack site in Grandview Park in the New River Gorge.

In 2008, 20 successful bald eagle nests fledged at least 31 eaglets. The number of young fledged at some of the active nests was not determined, so it is likely that the number of young fledged exceeded 31 in 2008. In 2009, Wildlife Diversity Unit biologists again monitored several active bald eagle nests including the first nest documented along the Cheat River.

West Virginia northern flying squirrel nest boxes were monitored by biologists at 16 sites to obtain data on the distribution and population trends of this rare mammal. Tissue samples for genetic analyses (blood samples preserved on FTA cards) were collected from several of the animals handled this year. All capture data on this species, including captures by other state and federal agencies and other researchers, were entered into the database and map files. During this fiscal year, 24 squirrels were captured. This squirrel was removed from the federal list of threatened and endangered species in September 2008, and WVDNR biologists worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to develop and implement a post-delisting monitoring plan for this species. As part of this effort, northern flying squirrel nest boxes were placed by DNR biologists at five sites where the squirrel was known to occur, but where monitoring had not taken place for more than 10 years. These boxes will be monitored biannually in future years to determine if the species still persists at these sites.



*Active bald eagle nest.*

Surveys for hibernating endangered bats were conducted to examine population trends and to look for new hibernation sites. Winter surveys were conducted at 18 caves. More than 9,750 bats of eight species were tallied. Populations of endangered Indiana bats and Virginia big-eared bats in these caves increased since these caves were last surveyed two years ago. In June 2009, female Virginia big-eared bats were censused at 10 known maternity colonies. Night vision equipment was used to count these cave-dwelling bats as they left their roost to feed in the evening. The number of bats counted this June, a little over 7,000 individuals, was the highest count since these censuses began in 1983. DNR biologists continued to work with private landowners and land management agencies to protect important bat caves. Gates constructed at the entrances of important bat caves were repaired and maintained as needed. The two entrances of Trout Cave were gated in September 2008 to protect the bats, including endangered Indiana bats that hibernate in the cave each winter.

White-nose Syndrome (WNS), a condition that has killed approximately 1,000,000 cave bats in the Northeast, was first observed in West Virginia in January 2009. Affected bats were collected and sent to labs where the syndrome was confirmed. During winter 2008/09, WNS was found in four caves, all in Pendleton County. Because WNS can possibly be spread by people visiting caves, biologists conducting bat surveys followed disinfection protocols for gear and clothing between caves trips. In addition, Hellhole (the state's most significant bat hibernaculum) was not entered this winter even though it was scheduled to be surveyed, cavers were advised not to visit important bat caves, cavers were asked to

clean and disinfect clothing and gear between caving trips, and caves on National Forest lands were closed to human traffic. Program personnel participated in numerous conference calls and meetings dealing with WNS. The DNR assisted the USFWS and The National Zoo in preparing a grant application requesting funds to establish a captive colony of Virginia big-eared bats to help prevent the extinction of this bat now that WNS has been found within the range of this species.

To gather baseline data on the distribution and abundance of bats across the state in anticipation of large-scale bat mortalities usually associated with WNS, the WVDNR and USFS began establishing bat monitoring routes across the state. These routes are driven in a vehicle while recording the ultra-sound echolocation calls of bats and GPS location information. These routes will be repeated in future years to assess the impacts of WNS on bat populations.

DNR and USFWS personnel worked with Greer Limestone, Inc. to establish a monitoring plan to ensure that quarry expansion in Germany Valley will not negatively impact important bat caves. Temperature and barometric pressure monitors were placed in Hellhole and Schoolhouse Cave, and a weekly report of the results of the monitoring is sent to the DNR and USFWS. A meeting was held in early 2009 to review data collected and to revise reporting criteria.

Additional projects focused on acquiring data on species of concern that are not on the federal threatened and endangered species list. A radio telemetry study of the small-footed bat was conducted to provide information on the roost sites and foraging habitats used by the species; four bats were radio-tagged and tracked in 2008. Long-term monitoring of Allegheny woodrat populations allows biologists to look at population trends for this species of concern; live-trapping surveys were conducted at three sites this year and additional data on woodrats in caves were gathered while conducting bat surveys in caves. A maternity colony of Rafinesque's big-eared bat was discovered in an abandoned building near Cabwaylingo State Forest in Wayne County; DNR biologists are working with the Division of Forestry, a private consultant, and Bat Conservation International to construct artificial roosts for this bat on the state forest.

Numerous information requests from the public were answered, and popular articles were written on the state's threatened and endangered animal species. Program personnel reviewed DNR projects to assure compliance with the federal Endangered Species Act. Private landowners were assisted with the management and conservation of rare species on their lands. Educational materials were prepared for the DNR magazine and Web site and program personnel assisted with the development of several television spots highlighting program activities.

## **Ornithology**

### **Breeding Bird Survey Routes**

Staff conducted eleven Breeding Bird Survey routes in nine counties (Barbour, Braxton, Grant, Greenbrier, Nicholas, Preston, Pocahontas, Randolph and Taylor).

### **Point Count Survey Routes**

Staff conducted 15 Point Count Survey Routes on wildlife management areas and 24 additional routes were conducted by volunteers and a cooperative grant recipient at various locations. Two new Point Count Routes were established.

### **Golden Eagle Project**

Wildlife Diversity and Game Management staff assisted the National Aviary and the Powdermill Nature Reserve in a cooperative golden eagle baiting, trapping and telemetry project. Eight bait sites were established on four wildlife management areas and four privately owned areas. Eight golden eagles were captured at four sites and outfitted with cellular telemetry units. Additionally, a significant population of wintering golden eagles were documented (>100 individuals) using motion activated cameras at bait sites.

A Ph.D. candidate at the Pennsylvania State University is monitoring the radioed birds and reporting locations/results to Wildlife Resources staff. This project is planned to continue in the upcoming year.

### **WV Breeding Bird Atlas II**

The second statewide breeding bird atlas project was designed and data collection has begun. An informational Web site was developed by Technical Support staff (<http://martes.dnr.state.wv.us/BreedingBirdsAtlas/default.aspx>) and a data entry and visualization Web site was designed and maintained through a contract with the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology (<http://bird.atlasing.org/Atlas/WV/Main?cmd=Start>). Wildlife Resources staff designed protocols and established data collection parameters and serve as Regional Coordinators and the Project Director. To date, data have been submitted for 250 atlas blocks.

This project will document the distribution of breeding bird species in the state. Additionally, the WVBBA II will accomplish a variety of goals. The WVBBA II will:

1. Document the current distribution of breeding birds in West Virginia.
2. Compare data to and access changes in the distributions of West Virginia's breeding birds since the first Atlas.
3. Collect information on Species of Statewide Conservation Interest or Rarity.
4. Identify priority habitats that support species of concern and/or a high diversity of species.
5. Provide an accurate measure of abundance for breeding birds in West Virginia.
6. Provide data for use in environmental assessments.
7. Bring together birders, bird conservation groups and recruit new birders statewide.

Staff conducted several informational presentations throughout the state and answered many questions in recruiting volunteers for this project.

### **Golden-winged Warbler Activities**

A staff member served as an advisor and graduate committee member to a Cooperative Grant funded WVU Master's student on a Golden-winged Warbler study conducted on Monongahela National Forest grazing allotments. This study is focusing on nest site characteristics and playback response of this species.

The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology contracted Wildlife Diversity staff to conduct Golden-winged Warbler surveys as part of the development of a range-wide, spatially balanced sampling design for this species. Surveys were conducted at 122 sites in 16 counties.

### **Christmas Bird Counts**

Staff coordinated three CBCs in the state (Elkins, Pocahontas County and Moorefield) and participated in three others.

### **Northern Saw-whet and Barn Owl Monitoring**

Pocahontas and Randolph Staff supervised volunteer nest box monitoring at two Northern Saw-whet owl sites in counties and conducted monitoring at four barn owl sites in Greenbrier, Hardy and Hampshire counties. Staff mist netted for migrating Northern Saw-whet owls at a site near Barton Knob in Randolph County. Four individuals were captured, including one banded in Maryland in 2007.

### **WV Bird Records Committee**

A new staff member was appointed to the WV Bird Records committee for a four-year term, to replace a member who retired as secretary of the committee after 12 years of service.

### **Winter Backyard Bird Survey**

Information was compiled on the 20th annual winter backyard bird survey.

### **September 29th Bird Strike at Tucker County High School**

Early on the morning of September 29, 2008, a large bird kill at the Tucker County High School near Hambleton was reported to the Division of Natural Resources Elkins Operations Center. DNR Wildlife Resources biologists, along with conservation officers, representatives from the Tucker County Health Department, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service responded to the report and found evidence of a large bird strike at the school.

Five hundred one(501) birds representing 31 species were recovered at the site; seven individuals were released and the remaining 494 specimens were collected and identified by DNR biologists.

Officials from the DNR Wildlife Resources Section and from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service worked with the Tucker County School Board and Allegheny Power to remedy the situation at the Tucker County High School by modifying the existing lighting to make the site less attractive to migratory birds and minimize these events. The site was monitored for additional mortality for the remaining 2008 migratory period. Monitoring is planned to continue into future years.

### **Interagency Coordination**

Wildlife Diversity staff, in cooperation with Game Management, assisted Monongahela National Forest biologists increase early successional habitat on reclaimed strip mines located on Cheat Mountain in an area known as the Mower Tract. Recommendations were made regarding habitat requirements for early successional songbirds and ruffed grouse. Root and seed collections were conducted and provided to the NRCS Appalachian Plant Materials Center for propagation and 400 big-tooth aspen seedlings and several hundred elderberry and bee-balm stems have been planted.

## **NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM**

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### **Ecology**

As part of their statewide habitat work, the ecology staff within Natural Heritage focused this year on high elevation ridge tops, red spruce forests, limestone communities, and wetlands. A major contract for the National Park Service was continued, producing products for the Bluestone National Scenic River and Gauley River National Recreation Area. Consideration of climate change and its impact on natural communities and rare species were added to the assessment approach.

High elevation ridge tops are being developed rapidly in West Virginia. It is important to assess these communities and document the range of biodiversity they support. Wind-battered oak and pine forests typically cover ridgelines in the eastern portion of the state, interrupted by boulder fields and cliffs. Staff sampled 131 vegetation plots in this habitat type during the year. An additional 17 plots in pitch pine communities were contributed by Dr. Lauren Howard. Site visit reports were provided to cooperating landowners, including private individuals, The Nature Conservancy, the Potomac Valley Audubon Society, Cacapon State Park, and Lost River State Park. Plot data were entered into the Natural Heritage Plots database and quality controlled. A few rare species ranks will be re-evaluated as a result of greater-than-expected abundances that were documented during fieldwork.

Red spruce forests continue to be a focus of conservation interest in the state, with efforts by many organizations and agencies coordinated through the High Elevation Conservation Working Group. Statistical analysis and classification work with data from 182 vegetation plots were completed this year, and five upland red spruce types for West Virginia were formally approved as part of the National

Vegetation Classification. Results of the red spruce project were presented at the 2009 Conference on Ecology and Management of High-Elevation Forests of the Central and Southern Appalachian Mountains in Snowshoe. Significant staff time was spent ensuring that the new knowledge of red spruce ecosystems was understood and applied by land managers working in these special habitats. To date, the results have been directly used to guide commercial logging activities, inform forest management, enhance spruce restoration, choose the best sites for tree-planting initiatives, restore abandoned strip mines, delineate bird conservation areas, direct soil sampling, and create an educational garden.

Staff sampled 22 vegetation plots in limestone habitats this year as part of an on-going classification and conservation assessment. Information from these plots assisted The Nature Conservancy in making conservation decisions at several sites.

Wetland plot data was augmented by 156 new plots. Staff presented the results of wetland community analysis at the NatureServe Conservation Conference, at a wetland delineation training course, and at the Brooks Bird Club Foray. Wetland plot data were used to inform management decisions and research efforts during the year, including wetland and stream restoration projects, statewide wetland rapid assessment, conservation easements and rare species management. A number of national or regional metrics benefited from expert input based on plot data, including revision of National Wetlands Inventory Indicator Codes, revision of regional NRCS hydric soil indicators, updating the state list of invasive species, and inputs to a regional Floristic Quality Assessment. Plot data were used to recommend sampling sites for the WV Odonata Atlas and wetland mitigation research sites. Photographs and text were also contributed to the WV Wildlife Diversity Calendar and WV Wildlife Magazine.

The final report and data products for the Bluestone National Scenic River were completed and reside on the National Park Service Web site. Plot sampling for vegetation mapping of Gauley River National Recreation was finished, culminating three years of field work. Plot data has been classified using multivariate statistics, a key to vegetation types prepared and vegetation mapping has been completed. Floristic inventory work for this project continues. An article on natural resource assessment in National Parks was co-authored by staff and published in the journal *Environmental Management*. Project expertise was used to review regional National Park and NatureServe reports that include these habitats.

Ecology staff incorporated climate change considerations into their work plan, highlighting habitat types that are particularly threatened and serving on a national NatureServe team to develop a Climate Change Vulnerability Index. Climate change impacts on biodiversity were highlighted in more than a dozen public or inter-agency presentations during the year.

Terrestrial wildlife habitat mapping for the northeastern USA was undertaken by NatureServe this year with technical support from staff. Staff also contributed to a significant revision of the hierarchy of the National Vegetation Classification, ensuring that West Virginia's habitats will be represented in the national system. Information on rare species, natural communities, and biodiversity-friendly management strategies was provided at the request of Federal partners including USFWS, USFS, NRCS and EPA. Staff expertise was called on at the state and local levels to connect biodiversity science with management strategies to aid in habitat mapping, county water resource planning, stream bank restoration, hardwood forest management, conservation easements, wildlife food propagation, city park landscaping and invasive species control. The importance of West Virginia as a national biodiversity hotspot was communicated in presentations to educators, land managers and the public, and summarized for the national Landscape Web site.

**Data Management, Scientific Collecting Permits, and Environmental Review:** Personnel issued 218 Scientific Collecting Permits for a variety of projects including T&E monitoring/surveys, graduate student research, and stream surveys. Four permits for falconry were issued. Three scientific collecting permits were denied. Fees for collecting permits during the fiscal year totaled \$17,925. Charges in reporting requirements for environmental consultants were initiated and training was provided to ensure compliance. Changes were well received and should increase the value of data to DNR and state and federal partners.

**Data Requests:** Personnel responded in writing to 940 requests (table following) and many other requests by e-mail and telephone.

Type of request	Number
Mining Lands inquiries	189
Abandoned Mine Land reviews	132
Wind turbine projects	1
Division of Highways	392
Other	226
<b>Total</b>	<b>940</b>

Staff attended several meetings regarding transmission lines, gas lines, hydropower and wind turbine projects.

**Rare Species Database:** Staff attended several meetings and site visits with the U.S. Forest Service and private consultants regarding prescribed burns, transmission lines and hydropower projects.

**Miscellaneous:** Staff attended the NatureServe Northeast Heritage and Conservation conferences in Gettysburg in April 2008. Staff also attended several inter-agency meetings, the George Washington National Forest plan meeting, the U.S. Forest Service / Wildlife Resources Stamp Meeting, and the Ecology and Management of High-Elevation Forests of the Central and Southern Appalachian Mountains Conference.

Personnel assisted with rattlesnake monitoring, bat mistnetting, checking flying squirrel boxes, tending the DNR booth at the 2008 State Fair, the 2009 Bowden Fishing Derby and CWD sampling in Hampshire County during the first two days of the 2008 buck season.

### Botany

- Monitored federally endangered plant species with financial support from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) under the Endangered Species Act, Section 6. Species surveys were conducted for running buffalo clover (*Trifolium stoloniferum*), shale barren rockcress (*Arabis serotina*), Northeastern bulrush (*Scirpus ancistrochaetus*), harperella (*Ptilimnium nodosum*) and Virginia spiraea (*Spiraea virginiana*).
- Conducted a survey for Virginia spiraea for the WVDEP on Ugly Branch near Eccles in Raleigh County and investigated the bulldozing of a Virginia spiraea site in Glen Daniel, also in Raleigh County.

- Coordinated with George Washington University to develop a cooperative grant to reintroduce harperella on Sleepy Creek and the Cacapon River. Staff collected seeds of the federally listed plant species, harperella, then forwarded them for cultivation and use in the reintroduction studies.
- Met with the George Washington-Jefferson National Forest (GWJNF) forest botanist, the TES program manager, the GWJNF Lee District Ranger, and the Old Dominion 100 Trail Riders Group to devise a plan to protect the Pond Run northeastern bulrush site in Hardy County. It was agreed that a fence would be constructed around the pond.
- Held a fall meeting in the field with GWJNF personnel, including the GWJNF fire ecologist and fire behavior officer, to set up a monitoring protocol for shale barren burns and to discuss the potential impact of controlled burning on barrens and rock cress. In April, staff met with the USFWS and GWJNF personnel to discuss the controlled burns on the GWJNF. They were given two alternatives for burns: either conduct pre- and post-burn monitoring or enter into formal consultation with the USFWS.
- Met with Power Engineering staff to familiarize them with the federally listed plant species running buffalo clover.
- Met with Hawk's Nest Hydro Superintendent in October 2008 and conducted a light thinning of the forest canopy at the Cotton Hill running buffalo clover (RBC) site in Fayette County to improve the site conditions. Both groups combined to conduct annual monitoring of the Cotton Hills site of RBC for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).
- Replied to numerous requests from state and regional botanists and conservationists regarding the status, distribution and systematics of vascular plant species of West Virginia. Staff serves on the Invasive Species Working Group, meeting twice a year with state and federal biologists, consultants, and others to exchange information regarding the status of invasive species and their threats to natural areas in West Virginia.
- Served on the planning committee for the Blackwater Falls Wildflower Pilgrimage, a joint program of the DNR and the WV Garden Clubs, Inc.
- Consulted with the USFS, Monongahela National Forest concerning federally listed plant species on the forest. Staff also met with various staff of the Monongahela National Forest and numerous other organizations and agencies to form the Potomac Highlands Weed and Pest Management Area.
- Trained Master Naturalist volunteers to process herbarium specimens in the Natural Heritage reference herbarium.
- Conducted numerous outreach and education programs regarding natural history topics, especially vascular plants. Programs included National Hunting and Fishing Days, Blackwater Falls Wildflower Pilgrimage, Wildlife Diversity Day at the Capitol Rotunda, programs regarding appreciation of snakes, WV State Forest Festival, interview for television news spot regarding mistletoe, and more. Articles regarding botanical topics were written for West Virginia Wildlife Magazine.

- Work continued on a long-term conservation action plan for rare, threatened and endangered plant species of greatest concern. This plan will compliment the strategic conservation action plan for animal species. Accordingly, a revised list of G1, G2, and G3, plus S1, S2 and S3 plant species was assembled as a base-line data set towards developing a list of species of greatest concern for conservation action measures.
- Updated rare plant element occurrence records and entered new ones into the Natural Heritage database. Most noted were updates regarding federally listed threatened and endangered plant species.
- Met with and did a field review with staff from Arcadia University regarding the ecology of pitch pine communities in West Virginia.

## Zoology

- Fourteen cooperative research grants, totaling \$86,119, were awarded this year. These grants included new projects, planned extensions and continuations, and solicited analyses. Projects focused on captive propagation of the Diamond Darer, nest site characteristics of the Golden-winged Warbler, genetic variation within different populations of WV northern flying squirrels and Allegheny woodrats, development of a recovery plan for the Grizzled Skipper, and determining the conservation status of high-elevation pitch pine communities. Other research focusing on life history and distribution information included surveys of breeding bird assemblages, dragonflies and damselflies, freshwater mussels, crayfish and salamanders. A project was also initiated to catalog, geo-reference, and create an electronic database for approximately 800 collections of West Virginia crayfish currently housed at the Ohio State University Museum of Biological Diversity.
- Three cooperative education grants, totaling \$5,373, were awarded this year supporting projects to increase the effective range of Master Naturalist classes offered in Tucker County, to expand an established watershed education module into more classrooms in the eastern panhandle, and to provide material support for taxidermied collections in the developing WV Natural History Museum.
- Staff provided species status and distribution data, professional input and guidance for three major projects this year:
  - 1) A Proposed Rule that is being developed by USFWS to include the Ozark Hellbender in the Federal Endangered Species List. Information is being included on the Eastern Hellbender in this Rule because of similarity of appearance with the species in question.
  - 2) A Candidate Assessment, also being undertaken by USFWS, to determine if the Eastern Hellbender itself should be included in the Endangered Species List.
  - 3) A multi-state habitat conservation plan initiative being undertaken by USFWS, The Conservation Fund, and the natural gas and utility conglomerate NiSource. Additionally, staff responded to many requests for similar information for smaller scale projects and proposals.
- Represented West Virginia at the annual Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation (NEPARC) conference in Rector, PA, as well as attending the annual meeting of the West Virginia chapter of The Wildlife Society in Morgantown. Staff were hosted at a meeting at the Oglebay Good Zoo in Wheeling to discuss progress toward developing a statewide surveillance and response protocol for the emerging amphibian disease *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, or “chytrid fungus.”



- Initiated a trial project to determine species composition and habitat use by migrating raptors along the Allegheny Front in Mineral County.
- Taught classes and led field trips for the West Virginia Master Naturalist Program in Tucker County, and provided outreach at the Freshwater Folk Festival at the USFWS National Fish Hatchery in White Sulphur Springs. Staff served on the coordinating committee for the 3rd annual Southern Boreal Birding Festival in Canaan Valley, as well as leading walks and giving presentations during the festival itself.
- Received training and certification in all-terrain vehicle use and whitewater canoe skills.
- Numerous information requests from the public were answered. Calls were responded to regarding identification and disposition of nuisance, injured and orphaned wildlife.

**Stream Classification Project:** A project to assess and inventory West Virginia's fish fauna, classify streams, and restore aquatic habitats and fish populations continued. The project specifically collects fish, invertebrate, physical habitat, water quality, and temperature data that will be used to predict the current and past distribution of state fishes, and evaluate the health of state streams.

In 2008, a crew of six personnel visited 198 streams statewide collecting various data. Fish surveys were completed at 112 new project locations with detailed habitat data collected on 60 of those streams as they met the appropriate size to match the project protocol. Fish were collected by both quantitative and qualitative methods with assistance at various times by DNR Wildlife Resources district and Coldwater Fisheries personnel and individuals from the Department of Environmental Protection. Other agencies cooperating included U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and U.S. Geological Survey. In addition to the new stream visits in 2008, stream temperature data loggers were placed in 64 sites where fish and physical habitat data had been collected. Benthic macroinvertebrate samples were also collected at 77 locations that had been previously studied.

## Mussels

Two biologists attended the biannual symposium of the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society where a presentation on the 2005 loss of the Belleville Pool of the Ohio River due to dam blockage was presented. A biologist attended the mussel subgroup meeting of the Ohio River Valley Ecosystem Team. One biologist attended a structured decision making workshop for the endangered northern riffleshell hosted by the USFWS and the PA Fish and Boat Commission. One biologist received Rosgen Level I training on Applied Fluvial Geomorphology. Three biologists attended the annual COE maintenance dredging meeting.

Numerous office reviews were conducted for bridge replacement, pipeline crossings, industry dredging and public stream projects. Assessments of dredge material disposal sites on the Ohio and Kanawha Rivers for the COE were conducted in cooperation with the USFWS.

Two permanent mussel monitoring stations were established, one on the Kanawha River at Watson's Island within the Marmet Pool and one on the New River at Thurmond. Additional qualitative mussel surveys were conducted on the New River, Greenbrier River, West Fork Greenbrier River, Spring Creek (New River), and Indian Creek (New River). Biologists also assisted the USFWS with endangered mussel surveys on the Elk River.

In August 2008, a heavy fuel oil release was reported by Degussa Engineered Carbons facility in Belpre, OH. This facility is located just upstream of Parkersburg and adjacent to Neal Island. The oil made its way to the Ohio River via a drainage ditch where it sank to the river bottom. Due to drought conditions and extremely low river velocities, the oil did not migrate far downstream, and most of the oil was eventually recovered. The company agreed to make restitution for the mussels that were killed by the spill based on an assessment of the mussel population in the nearby area. Wildlife Diversity Staff, assisted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge staff, conducted an assessment of the mussel population along the right descending bank just upstream of the Degussa plant.

Restoration of mussels was begun for the Ohio River Restoration Project, which resulted from settlement of litigation for the 1999 mussel and fish kill allegedly caused by the Eramet/Elkem chemical spill near Parkersburg. In cooperation with the USFWS, much time was spent collecting mussel broodstock for propagation activities. The Wildlife Resources Section of the DNR is propagating mussels by inoculating host fish with larval mussels and placing fish into cages suspended under the docks at the Stonewall Jackson Lake Marina. The juvenile mussels then fall off and can be harvested from the bottoms of the cages. In May 2009, the first juveniles were harvested from the propagation facility. During this fiscal year, propagation of five mussel species was attempted. A permanent monitoring site for mussels was surveyed at the head of Blennerhassett Island to monitor natural recovery of an area without active recovery efforts.

The Elkins Operations Center hosted an Emergency First Responder course with six personnel participating along with six USFWS employees. Annual SCUBA diver training was also hosted by the EOC with staff members participating along with USFWS employees. One biologist is also working on recertification of Divemaster training. Training and certification were provided to WVDOH Environmental Staff on search techniques for mussels.

### **WV Odonata Atlas Annual Report 2008/2009**

Volunteers and cooperators for the WV Odonata Atlas collected 988 specimens in 2008. They comprised 91 species from all 10 families of odonates. This topped the previous high of 84 species in 2006. One reason for this increase is that collectors looked early and late in the season and so were able to nab several vernal (spring flying) and austral (fall flying) species. This type of dedication, for example, tripled the counties from which the Vesper Bluet is now known. They also looked in less-sampled areas like very small streams and trickles, habitat that spiketails prefer, resulting in the collection of the state's five species, two of which were county records.

Records were also set in the geographic area covered. Out of West Virginia's 55 counties, 44 were sampled, resulting in 148 county records. State and county records are at the heart of the Atlas project – expanding the known ranges of species into and within the state. Although we had no state records this year, the 148 county records represent another significant step in understanding the distribution of odonates within West Virginia. Those specimens were examined by Dr. Nick Donnelly, professor emeritus (geology – SUNY Binghamton) and odonate expert. Dr. Donnelly has graciously volunteered since the 2006 season to verify identifications of state and county records.

Several priority counties were profitably visited by volunteers and cooperators. Two of the highest priority counties – McDowell and Roane – yielded 15 and 10 county records respectively from 26 and 15 species collected. Wyoming County yielded 17 county records from 28 species netted, and of the 22 species collected in Wirt County, eight were county records.

Each year seems to highlight another rare species that, for whatever reason, we are able to significantly improve documentation for. This year it was the Vesper Bluet (*Enallagma vesperum*). Previous to the Atlas (2005), it hadn't been documented since 1976, and previous to this year it was only known from four sites in three counties. But with a bit of effort at the right time (September) and place (older, well vegetated ponds and lakes), we have documented this species in an additional six counties, and it is likely at many more. This year we'll try the same strategy with similar "Odonate Alerts" to direct volunteers and cooperators to various habitats at specific times to target under-collected species.

Some of the more significant county records include an Arrow Spiketail (*Cordulegaster obliqua*) and Sweetflag Spreadwing (*Lestes forcipatus*) collected in Wyoming County, a Russet-tipped Snaketail (*Ophiogomphus rupinsulensis*) collected in Mineral County, a Tiger Spiketail (*Cordulegaster erronea*) collected in Mercer County, a Cobra Clubtail (*Gomphus vastus*) from Upshur County, and an Elegant Spreadwing (*Lestes inaequalis*) from Barbour County.

Of the 82 rare odonate species in West Virginia (those with fewer than 100 documented occurrences at the start of the Atlas); participants were able to collect 34 in 2008. Twenty-nine of those are ones that are tracked by the West Virginia Natural Heritage Program as imperiled, of limited distribution in the state, or in need of further study. Documentation of these individuals is vital to piece together these species' natural history within the state.

### **WV Odonata Web site**

After a year and a half of work, the WV Odonata Web site launched its beta version. The address is: <http://martes.dnr.state.wv.us/odonata>. It is not in its final form and will likely undergo fairly significant revisions here and there, but it is good place for several resources regarding the Atlas. Volunteers have online access to the Odonate Atlas Manual, printable data sheets and instructions, and tips for collecting and processing. Also included are collecting priorities, state lists, county lists, possible and under collected species and more. The bulk of the site is the species description pages that illustrate and describe every species found in West Virginia (photos for a couple of species are still being located). Distribution maps for each species are the next major element that will hopefully be added sometime this year.

### **2009 Collection Priorities and Field Work through June 2009**

The priorities for the 2009 field season remain generally the same as last year. Streams, rivers, seeps, and less typical habitat remains under sampled (although improved). Effort needs to be spent early and late in the season (April – May and August – frost). Some counties remain virtually untouched – Boone, Putnam, Roane, and Wayne are some of the highest priority counties this year. Counties needing increased effort remain in the south and along the Ohio River.

The WDP funded two grants through the Cooperative Grants program to support odonate sampling efforts in underrepresented counties. Grantees will sampled during the early flight period (scheduled for May) in Wayne, Lincoln, and Putnam counties, and during the early and late flight periods (April-June and mid-August – October) in Calhoun, Wirt, Roane, Clay, Nicholas, and Fayette counties. Although the weather for the early sampling was quite poor (rain and flooding), grantees were able to document some significant county records including a Green-faced Clubtail (*Gomphus viridifrons*) and Turquoise Blurt (*Enallagma divigans*) in Wayne County and Aurora Damsel (*Chromagrion conditum*) and Sweetflag Spreadwing (*Lestes forcipatus*) in Putnam County. Additional county records are anticipated when data analysis is completed.

## **TECHNICAL SUPPORT UNIT**

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### **Aquatic Habitat Conservation**

Personnel from the Technical Support Unit were very active during the year coordinating and participating in efforts to assess and restore aquatic habitats in the state. Staff attended training courses in natural stream channel design, participated in the field reconnaissance of degraded streams, developed and submitted grant applications for inventory and research projects, and coordinated the implementation of such projects.

### **Acid Stream Restoration Program**

Management of the Division's Acid Stream Restoration Program continued. This nationally recognized, publicly visible and highly popular program has restored and now annually maintains water quality and sport fisheries in more than 250 miles of 51 streams and four lakes impacted by acid precipitation. Restoration has been accomplished through annual, direct application of limestone sand to acid-impacted streams and through the operation of two, self-feeding limestone drum stations. The total program budget is approximately \$350,000 annually. Seventy-five percent (\$262,500) of program support accrues from the Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The remaining 25 percent (\$87,500) accrues from nonfederal sources, including investment income from the West Virginia Wildlife Endowment Fund administered by the DNR and additional financial support from Trout Unlimited, Plum Creek Timber Company, and MeadWestvaco Corporation. Without the Acid Stream Restoration Program, sport fisheries would be lost in these waters. Public fisheries in these restored waters sustain an additional 220,000 days of sportfishing and \$15.3 million of associated economic impact annually.

### **Planning Program**

The fish and wildlife planner coordinated with the other members of the Division's budget team to monitor the status of the Hunting and Fishing License Fund and the Wildlife Endowment Fund. Significant assistance was provided in developing the Division's annual Budget Narrative. Fiscal notes were prepared and submitted during the 2009 legislative session. Legislative rules were developed and submitted for an inflation-indexed adjustment to hunting and fishing license fees. Major issues management activities included wilderness designation, state land conservation legislation, and major land acquisition projects.

### **Coordination Program**

Field and/or office coordination continued on the following U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' (COE) projects: Winfield Locks and Dam Rehabilitation Mitigation Project, Marmet Locks and Dam Rehabilitation and the Bluestone Dam Hydropower Development Study.

Continued action (e.g., compliance coordination with currently licensed hydropower projects; impact analysis, development of mitigation and plan and document review associated with relicensing activities) was taken on each of the following proposed or licensed hydropower projects at reservoirs or river locks and dams: R.C. Byrd, Willow Island, Pike Island and New Cumberland locks and dams on the Ohio River; Summersville Dam on the Gauley River; Sutton Dam on the Elk River; Dam Sites 4 and 5 and Jennings Randolph Dam on the Potomac River; Millville Dam on the Shenandoah River; Hawks Nest Dam, Bluestone Dam and Claytor Lake Dam on the New River; Lake Lynn Dam on the Cheat River; R. D. Bailey Dam on the Guyandotte River; Opekiska, Hildebrand and Morgantown lock and dams on the Monongahela River; and Tygart Dam on the Tygart Valley River. New preliminary permit applications were reviewed for the "Big Sandy Water Power Project" on the Big Sandy River. Preliminary permit applications were reviewed for hydrokinetic projects proposed at Robert C. Byrd, Racine, Belleville and Willow Island locks and dams on the Ohio River; and Winfield and Marmet locks and dams on the Kanawha River.

West Virginia has received inquiries for approximately 12 separate wind projects located in seven counties with as many as 2,000 turbines. Presently, this industry in West Virginia continues to have a limited and somewhat undefined permitting process. In addition, the permitting process required by the State's Public Service Commission is time consuming and lengthy which continues to make it difficult to protect our charge resources. We continue to work with limited success to achieve this objective. Presently, we have two projects completed and operating. The Mount Storm project was completed in this segment and has a wildlife monitoring requirement but, if impacts are found, the permit does not require adaptive management at the facility. Several other projects are in the final stages of permit completion.

The Coordination Program continued participation in the National Environmental Policy Act mitigation process for several major highway projects and numerous smaller highway, bridge and culvert improvement projects. Adoption of tighter design standards for culvert sizing and installation will significantly reduce the impacts of road crossings on West Virginia streams. As a result of continuing mitigation resulting from the U.S. Route 35 upgrade, wetlands were developed on Chief Cornstalk WMA and on adjacent land that will come under management of the Game Management Unit. The first stream mitigation portion of this upgrade was implemented and the second monitoring report was submitted for review. Coordination continues on wetland mitigation construction sites.

State Clean Water Act (CWA) certifications continue to be reviewed under the MOU with WV Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP). Additional reviews were conducted and comments provided relative to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Considerable mitigation in the form of avoidance, reduction, re-creation, enhancement and compensation has been secured as a result of these efforts. Approximately 44 CWA, Section 404/10 permit actions were coordinated. They include highway reviews; wetland and stream permit reviews; and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and WV Conservancy Agency (WVCA) project reviews. Several restoration projects were reviewed under NWP#27 which are not included in the forementioned number. Additionally, compensatory wetland creation projects have been started on two of our wildlife management areas (WMA). The 2.5-acre tree and shrub planting on Frozencamp WMA was augmented with stock from the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. Monitoring of some mitigation sites may result in improvements to those projects.

Significant time has been spent working with the WVDEP and the COE developing a science-based assessment protocol for stream disturbance activities and an In-Lieu Fee Mitigation Program for the state. The In-Lieu program agreement was signed by the COE in the spring of 2006 and is currently a viable mitigation option. Staff were involved in field testing and review of a "Functional Assessment Approach for High Gradient Streams" developed by the COE. Staff continues coordination with the COE and EPA on a final assessment model for high gradient streams. In addition, staff was requested to help develop a similar model being proposed by the USEPA.

HEP modeling was completed in cooperation with the USFWS for the Lower Mud River Flood Protection project at Milton.

Staff responded to requests from the WV Division of Highways (WVDOH) and numerous watershed groups for information on permitting issues relating to wetland disturbance, mitigation obligations, permit compliance, Natural Stream Design and other issues.

The Lower Cove Run Dam site #16 Flood Control and Water Supply Project was reviewed. Staff continues to coordinate with the NRCS on mitigation for the Elkwater Fork Water Supply project in Randolph County which is near completion. WRS involvement with a cooperative Natural Stream Restoration project on Horseshoe Run in Tucker County (final construction of phase three was completed fall of 2008) and Knapps Creek in Pocahontas County (repair of site 16 completed in summer 2009) continued. Work continued with NRCS on Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program Plans for private farms as requested by the districts. The NRCS' Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program seems to be in decline. Staff attended a few farm visits this year and monitoring continued on 15 farms. Assistance was provided NRCS staff in jurisdictional determinations on three farms. Coordination continues on proposed flood control/water supply impoundments in Hardy and Randolph counties.

Significant time was spent implementing the Clean Water Act Regional Permit to assist landowners with small stream restoration and management activities. Approximately 215 landowner stream plans have been received and reviewed during this reporting period.

Significant time was spent working with WVDEP, WVDOH, WVCA and others to develop a set of Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Natural Channel Design Projects, these BMPs have been added to the NPDES Manual.

Significant time was spent reviewing Nationwide Permits and submitting comments, when appropriate.

WRS staff is working with the NRCS on three dam removals on the West Fork. It is the goal to return approximately 25 miles of the river to a free-flowing state.

Staff coordinated with the WVCA on a natural stream restoration project for the Island Creek watershed in Logan County. The first phase of this project involving partial flood plain restoration was completed. Environmental assessment was completed on a COE flood protection project for the lower Island Creek drainage.

Technical assistance relative to fish and wildlife continues to be provided to the WVDEP's mitigation development program and biologists continue to review surface mine permit applications and develop wildlife management plans. Wildlife habitat development plans were completed for 4,754.92 acres and 195 mine pre-plans were reviewed.

Significant time was spent working on stream restoration plans and coordinating mitigation plans for mine impacts to aquatic ecosystems. Assistance was provided to WVDEP in locating potential aquatic improvement projects that could be completed by mining companies' in-lieu of administrative penalties for violations. A comprehensive plan for habitat restoration of the Little Coal River from Madison to its confluence with the Big Coal River has been completed. The first phase of this work was completed on a six mile length of the river by Coal River Energy as mitigation for its Boone County Complex. Legal agreements have been completed with Massey Energy for the installation of an additional 18 habitat structures in the fall of 2009 and a legal settlement with AEP has earmarked 1.4 million dollars to this project. Coordination has begun with WVDEP on a plan to use mitigation money to remove the old dam on the Coal River near Tornado.

Coordination work has begun on an EIS for a possible mining project involving the public land surrounding East Lynn Lake. A MOU has been signed with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management making the WVDNR a cooperating agency in this study development. The EIS for possible mining leases has been completed and is now in final publication in the National Register.

Staff continues to monitor the stream and wetland mitigation sites on the new Wallback Lake.

Significant time was spent working on mitigation banking. The state currently has one operational bank with several others in various stages of development.

Numerous opportunities to teach school children about wetlands, riparian zones and streams were realized this year. Likewise, the stream table was set up and adults were provided with instruction on the functioning of streams. These outreach efforts will ultimately result in providing conservation information about West Virginia wetlands and streams.

Work continued to increase the agency's capacity to protect the state's wetland resources. USEPA grants are directed toward refining wetland distribution information, assessing wetland ecological integrity and functional value and planning for long-term wetland monitoring that will be required beginning in 2011. Work continued on the WV wetland program in cooperation with USEPA and WVDEP. A wetland index of biotic integrity was developed and reported on as a MS Thesis from WVU. Current work is focusing on a statewide wetland assessment to be conducted at the landscape level and the development of a rapid assessment protocol. The TSU has been working on a grant application through NOAA to establish a WV Stream Habitat Enhancement Program.

Project personnel continue participating in various USFWS projects with principle focus being on the Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP). As a Core Planning Team member, we have participated in numerous meetings to discuss the array of alternatives for this plan. We have even walked proposed trail alignments to assist with developing avoidance alternatives for rare plant communities. Numerous public, focus group and topic specific meetings have been attended to support this role. Considerable staff time was expended reviewing and commenting on the internal draft of the CCP. Points of contention will be negotiated within the next quarter. Completion of the CCP, which will last for 15 years, is expected later this year or early 2010. Early successional stage habitat management continues to be developed on adjacent land as a demonstration site. Coordination continues with minor projects requiring NEPA review for the USFS, Monongahela National Forest. Staff engaged with the FS and the Wildlife Management Institute to develop early successional stage habitat on the forest as part of the American Woodcock Initiative.

Staff assisted in the surveying of deer and collecting of biological samples for the monitoring and management of Chronic Wasting Disease.

Staff assisted with surveying for fish and mussels in support of game and nongame management activities.

Staff attended a wetland/vernal pool construction workshop hosted by the USFS.

### **Biometrics/Geographic Information System (GIS) Program**

Technical Support Unit staff provided routine installation, maintenance and support of computer hardware, software and peripherals for the Wildlife Resources Section funded by traditional sources including grants and contracts (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency).

Staff continued assisting with new and ongoing section projects and activities. Activities included performing data processing, project design and analysis consulting, conducting data analysis, preparing paper and electronic map products, technical training, computer maintenance and support for section budget, personnel and inventory.

Annual routine projects supported included managing the section's work report system, producing game harvest and trout stocking summaries, summarizing spring gobbler survey results, summarizing responses from the grouse cooperator survey, summarizing bow hunter survey results, processing antlerless deer applications for eligibility, summarizing statewide hunter prospects and mast surveys, summarizing accomplishments for game management, and preparing federal aid vouchers and monthly summaries for all projects. Time and cost reporting services were also provided to the Law Enforcement Section.

GIS staff provided training and technical assistance to WRS staff on GIS and Global Positioning Systems (GPS) data acquisition and dataset development, GPS data management, GIS application use, cartography, and spatial data analysis. Existing GPS collection, processing and organization procedures were further refined to streamline the tracking of GPS data collection activities. These geospatial services were provided for section projects operating statewide to ensure the collection of well-documented and accurate locations of field survey data. GIS staff have deployed GIS capabilities in several district offices and cooperating agencies and provided ongoing instruction as requested.

GIS staff maintained a central database server to store and share information for West Virginia's natural resource management projects for use in its evolving GIS program. Database management and development continued as needed. Programs to access data were developed and expanded to incorporate tabular and GIS data stored in MS SQL Server 2005/ESRI ArcSDE 9.3 databases. This database server is now available to agency staff and cooperating agencies that can use databases centrally stored and maintained. This year, a new ArcGIS Server 9.3 was developed to provide staff and the public with better access to natural resources data on the web.

A new trout stocking Web mapping application was announced this year (URL: <http://www.mapwv.gov/website/dnr/viewer.htm>) providing anglers with an interactive way to find trout fishing locations. GIS staff continued development of spatial databases for mapping Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and producing maps for the public. A project was started this year to map all of the WMA wildlife openings, beginning with the Monongahela National Forest openings, to assist with Game Management planning and analysis. Data analysis and mapping services supported the ongoing Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) monitoring efforts in Hampshire County. To monitor the impacts of White-Nose Syndrome (WNS), GIS staff assisted Wildlife Diversity staff with the planning and implementation of a statewide bat road survey. GIS staff refined Stonewall Resort maps for National Hunting and Fishing Days planning, brochures and displays. Species distribution models were developed from known occurrence data to estimate the statewide distribution of 250 species in the State Conservation Action Plan.

The GIS staff has amassed more than 3 TB of natural resource base mapping information ranging from statewide aerial photography, satellite imagery, topographic maps, soil surveys, geology, elevation models for visualization and watershed modeling, streams, wetlands, public fishing lakes, demographics, political boundaries, land use/land cover and other miscellaneous datasets. Use of these GIS datasets by agency staff continues to grow and become incorporated into the basic analysis of project data and management of state lands.



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324 4th Avenue  
South Charleston, West Virginia 25303

(304) 558-2754  
Fax: (304) 558-2768  
[www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov)