

Eastern Pennsylvania

Field Office

Fact Sheet for Members of Congress

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Arlen Specter (R)
Senator Rick Santorum (R)
19 Congressional Districts

Contact

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Profile

Established: 1992
Staff: 4
FY 2001 budget: \$250,000

Purpose

Eastern Pennsylvania Field Office biologists work with landowners, private and community organizations, government agencies and partners to protect, restore and conserve biological resources in eastern Pennsylvania.

Their work is guided by the following laws and other related legislative authorities:

Clean Water Act
Endangered Species Act
Federal Power Act
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
Food Security Act
Migratory Bird Treaty Act
National Environment Policy Act
Emergency Wetlands Resources Act
Oil Pollution Act
Superfund (CERCLA)
Water Resources Development Act

The work of the Eastern Pennsylvania Field Office benefits the entire Delaware River basin.

Management Activities

- Advising and providing comments on wetland permit applications and recommending ways to avoid and minimize impacts to wetlands and wildlife habitat
- Assisting landowners in voluntary stream and wetland restoration activities through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program
- Assisting the staff of Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation and owners of reclaimed coal strip pits to improve their land for wildlife
- Assisting private conservation groups in land acquisition activities
- Seeking voluntary restoration of U.S. waters, including wetlands, that have been filled without authorization

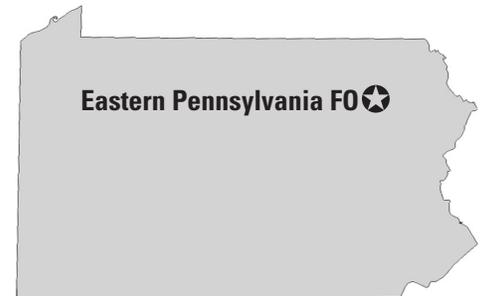
Highlights

The Delaware River is on the List of National Scenic Rivers.

The upper Delaware River was recently ranked by a popular sporting magazine as the number two trout stream in the country.

Ducks Unlimited recently started the Upper Delaware Initiative to target water quality and habitat related issues.

The above, in combination with a large population of federally listed mussels, extensive use by bald eagles and importance to anadromous fishes, leads the Service to classify the Delaware as a high priority area.



Issues

Northeastern Pennsylvania is home to the three fastest-growing counties in the state. The demands for new housing, bigger schools, more roads and more jobs to increase the area's tax base have put great strain on the natural resources of the area.

The largest functional population of the federally listed bog turtle, within its range, has been found in northeastern Pennsylvania. The biggest threat to bog turtle is loss of habitat. Efforts to protect the newly discovered population are underway.

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

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>

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