

New England *Ecological Services Field Office in Massachusetts Fact Sheet for Members of Congress*

Represented by the following Members of Congress:

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Senator John F. Kerry (D)
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Rep. Richard E. Neal (D-2nd)
Rep. James P. McGovern (D-3rd)
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Rep. Stephen F. Lynch (D-9th)
Rep. William D. Delahunt (D-10th)

Contact

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Profile

Established: 1957
Staff: 27*
FY 2003 budget: \$2,100,000
*Headquarters located in Concord, NH with satellites in Sunderland, MA, Old Town, ME and Charlestown, RI.

Purpose

Field office biologists work with landowners, private organizations, government agencies and other partners to conserve fish and wildlife resources in New England. Their work is guided by the following laws:

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

Cooperative Assistance Activities

- Conduct outreach activities to inform media, legislators, interest groups and the public of Service activities.
- In partnership with other agencies and organizations, restore populations of plants and animals on the federal List of Threatened and Endangered Species.
- Provide technical assistance to the Army Corps of Engineers to avoid or minimize the environmental impacts of wetland development projects.
- With public and private partners, develop ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate harmful effects of hydropower projects.
- Assess effects of contaminants on fish and wildlife resources, obtain compensation for and restore wildlife injured by contaminants, and resolve contaminant problems on existing and proposed Service lands.
- Carry out the Department of the Interior's responsibilities on oil and chemical spill response teams.
- In partnership with other agencies and non-government conservation organizations, restore degraded habitat and remove barriers to fish passage.

Highlights

Service biologists participated in the removal of the Old Berkshire Mill Dam on the Housatonic River, restoring four miles of the river and benefitting the trout fishery. The office continues to participate on a task force focused on removing other dams in Massachusetts.

Service biologists continue to work with the Federal Furnace Company in Carver, which owns a pond that is home to half of the state's federally endangered northern red-belly cooter, a freshwater turtle.



Service biologists worked to ensure that endangered roseate terns did not settle onto their nesting colony at Ram Island until oil from the April 23, 2003 Bouchard oil spill had been removed.

The Service is actively assessing injury and associated monetary damages for the Bouchard oil spill in Buzzards Bay.

Issues

The Service works with other agencies on flow issues in the Ipswich River where municipal water withdrawals and groundwater pumping dry up a 44-square-mile section of the river during certain times of the year.

The Service is reviewing an application to place 170 wind turbine generators on a 25-square-mile section of Nantucket.

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
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<http://www.fws.gov>
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