

# West Virginia

## Field Office

### Fact Sheet for Members of Congress

#### Represented by the following Members of Congress:

Senator Robert C. Byrd (D)  
Senator John D. Rockefeller IV (D)  
Rep. Alan B. Mollohan (D-1st)  
Rep. Shelly Moore Capito (R-2nd)  
Rep. Nick Rahall (D-3rd)

#### Contact

Thomas R. Chapman, Project Leader  
West Virginia Field Office  
694 Beverly Pike  
Elkins, West Virginia 26241  
Phone: 304/636 6586  
Fax: 304/636 7824  
TDD: 800/877 8339  
E-mail: tom\_chapman@fws.gov

#### Profile

Established: 1975  
Staff: 6  
FY 2003 budget:

#### Purpose

The West Virginia Field Office works with private landowners, state and federal agencies and other members of the public to maintain, restore and enhance important fish and wildlife resources. The Fish and Wildlife Service has statutory authority or coordination rights under the following federal statutes:

*Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act*  
*Endangered Species Act*  
*Migratory Bird Treaty Act*  
*Federal Power Act*  
*National Environmental Policy Act*  
*Clean Water Act*  
*Water Resources Development Act*  
*CERCLA (Superfund)*

#### Management Activities

- Protect federally listed threatened and endangered species
- Investigate the sources and extent of environmental contaminants
- Protect wetlands and other sensitive habitats
- Serve as the federal government's expert on fish and wildlife for federal water resource projects and permits
- Establish partnerships for habitat protection and restoration

#### Highlights

The WVFO coordinates with and provides critical wildlife resource information to a number of federal, state and local agencies regarding the impacts and enhancement opportunities of a wide variety of proposed projects.

The Ohio River Islands NWR and the Canaan Valley NWR were established, in part, due to the leadership and participation of the WVFO.

Private landowners and government agencies worked with the Service to restore 146.6 acres of wetlands, 266.9 acres of upland forests and 14.6 miles of stream riparian habitat.

The Service, in partnership with private, state and other federal agencies, constructed 11 cave gates in Pendleton County and Tucker County caves that provide habitat for two federally listed bats.



#### Issues

The mountain top removal mining issue presents many resource impact, interagency coordination and workload challenges.

*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>**

**May 2003**

