

# West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Annual Report 2006–2007

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

**Kelley Goes**  
Secretary  
Department of Commerce

**Frank Jezioro**  
Director  
Division of Natural Resources





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

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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**  
Acting Chief, Parks and Recreation Section

**Hoy Murphy**  
Public Information Officer

**Joe T. Scarberry**  
Acting Chief, Real Estate Management Section

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

**Natural Resources Commissioners**

Jeffrey S. Bowers, *Sugar Grove*

Byron K. Chambers, *Romney*

David M. Milne, *Bruceton Mills*

Gus C. Svokas, *Weirton*

Twila S. Metheney, *Morgantown*

Kenneth R. Wilson, *Chapmanville*

Jan E. Riffe, *Dawson*

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Annual Report 2006-2007 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.



**Division of Natural Resources**

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Joe Manchin III  
Governor

Frank Jezioro  
Director

December 1, 2007

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, 2006, through June 30, 2007.

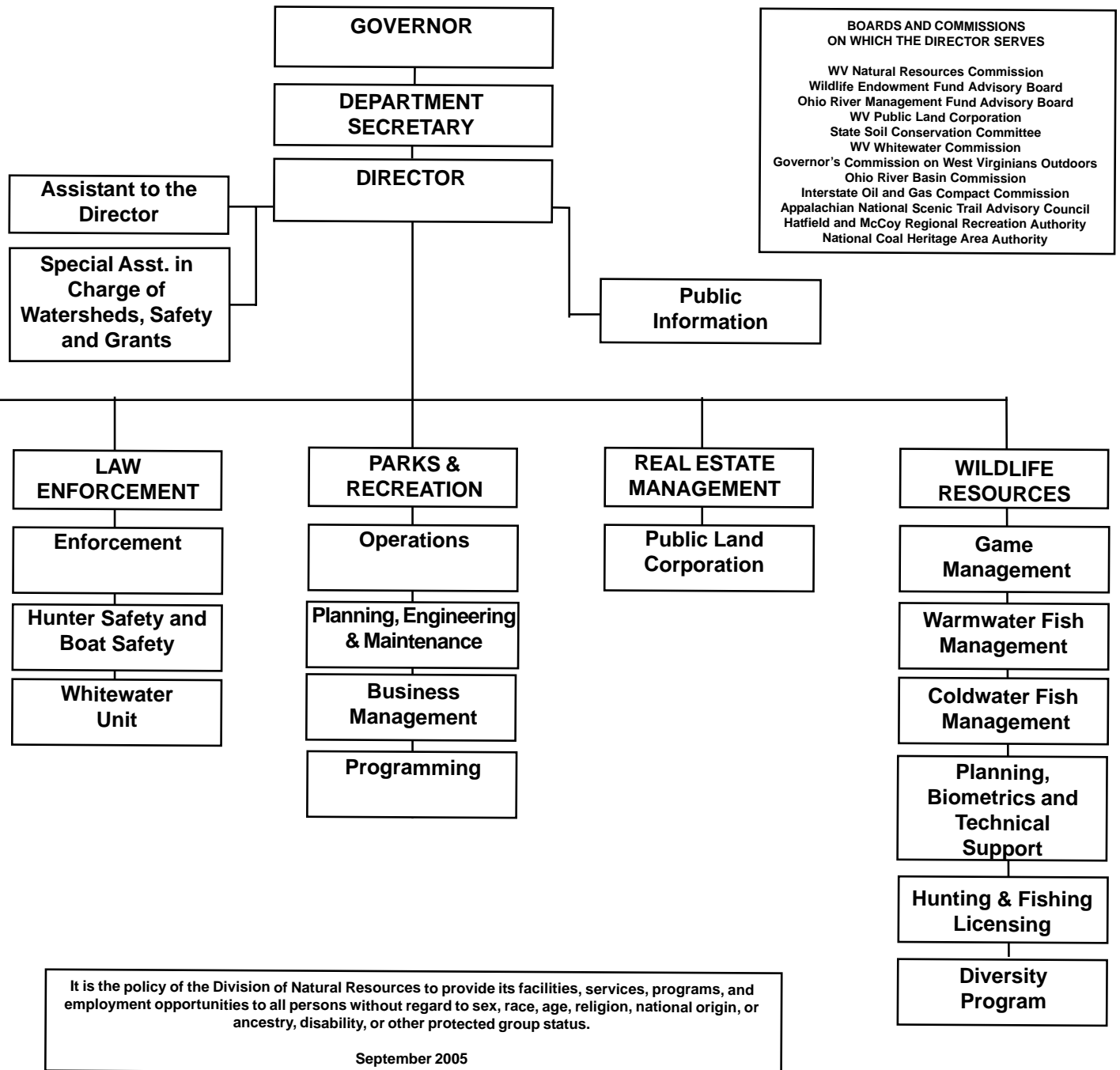
This report contains a summary of the activities and projects undertaken by the Division in the fulfillment of its legal responsibilities of managing the state's renewable natural resources.

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 cursive script that reads "Frank Jezioro".

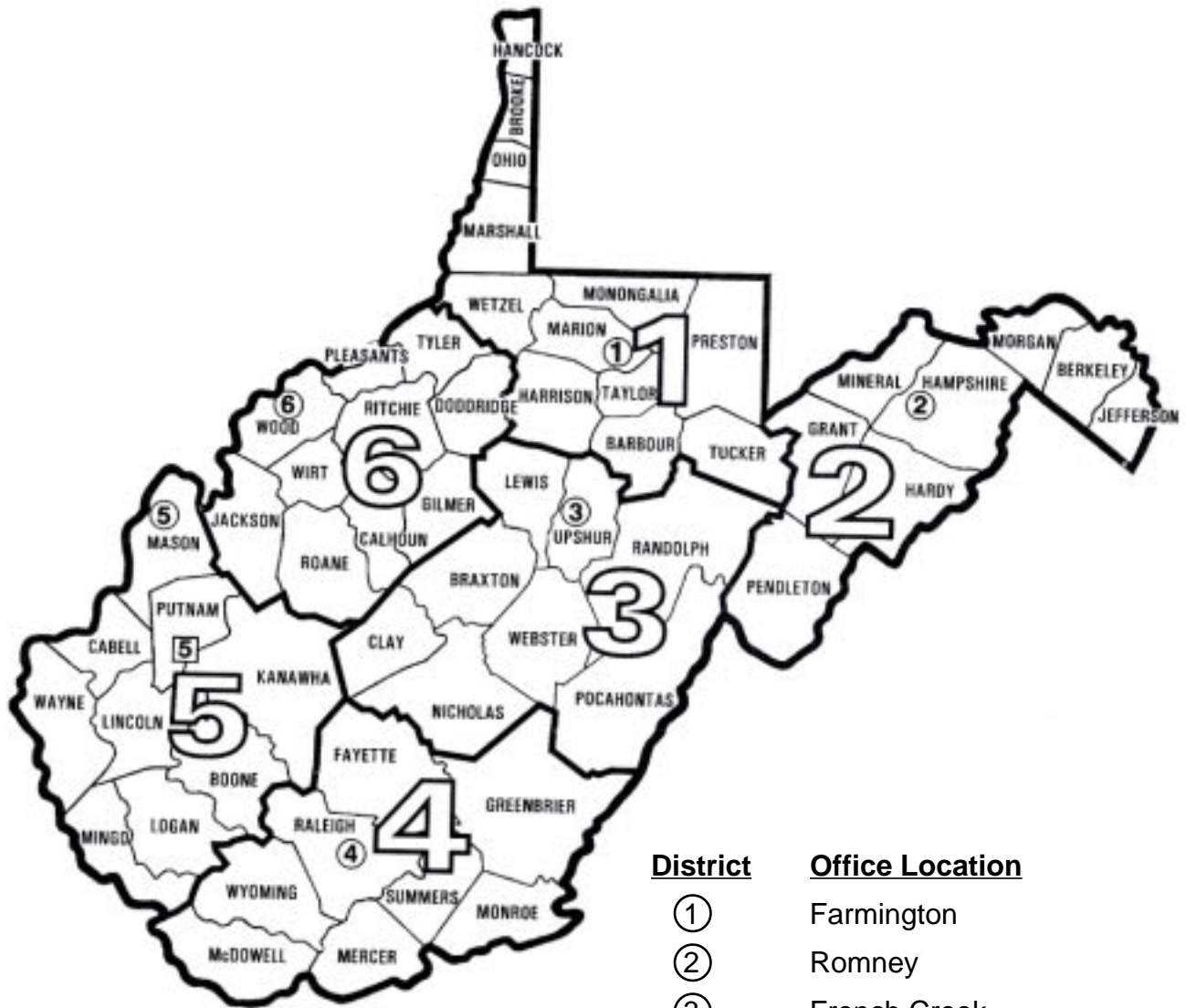
Frank Jezioro  
Director



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September 2005

# WEST VIRGINIA DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES DISTRICT MAP



<u>District</u>	<u>Office Location</u>
①	Farmington
②	Romney
③	French Creek
④	MacArthur
⑤	Pt. Pleasant (Wildlife)
⑤	Nitro (Law Enforcement)
⑥	Parkersburg

# WEST VIRGINIA STATE PARKS, FORESTS AND RECREATION AREAS



# Wildlife Management Areas



[www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov)

## District 1

(304) 825-6787

1. Bear Rocks Lake
2. Briery Mountain
3. Burches Run
4. Castlemans 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 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

## 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 Lake
39. Stonewall Jackson Lake
40. Summersville Lake
41. Valley Bend
42. Wallback

## District 4

(304) 256-6947

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

## District 5

(304) 675-0871

55. Amherst/Plymouth
56. Beech Fork Lake
57. Big Ugly
58. Chief Cornstalk
59. East Lynn Lake
60. Fork 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 Lake
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

## State Forests

(304) 558-2764

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

## National Forests

### Monongahela WMAs

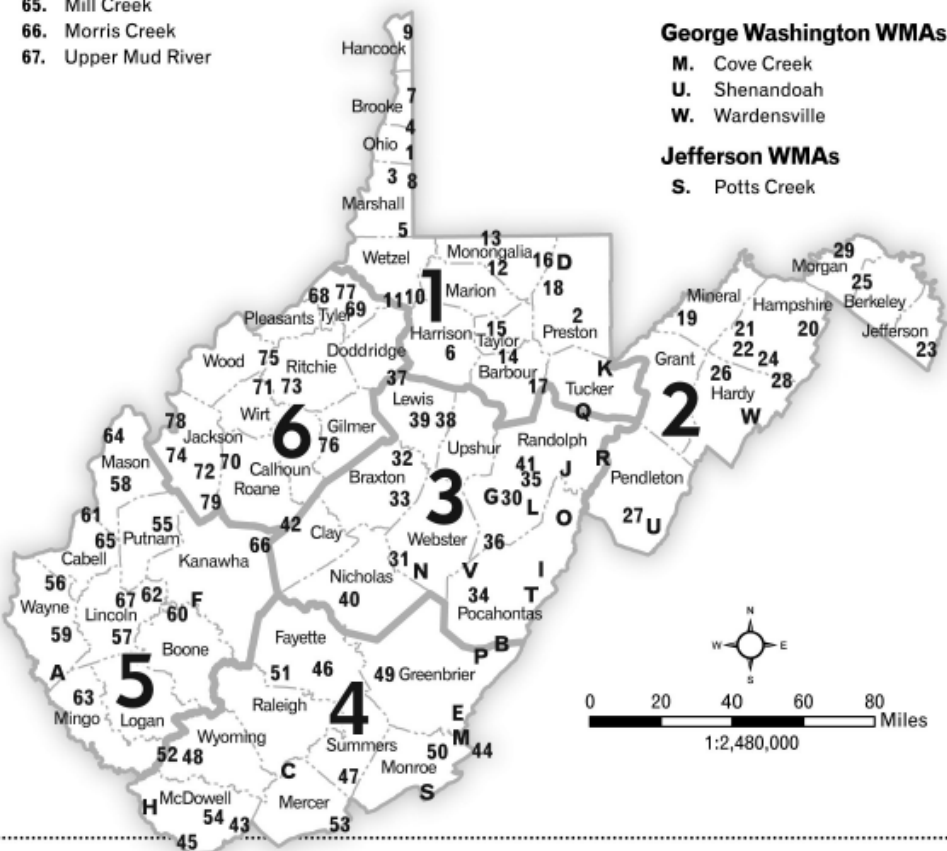
- J. Beaver Dam
- K. Blackwater
- L. Cheat
- N. Cranberry
- O. Little River
- P. Neola
- Q. Otter Creek
- R. Potomac
- T. Rimel
- V. Tea Creek

### George Washington WMAs

- M. Cove Creek
- U. Shenandoah
- W. Wardensville

### Jefferson WMAs

- S. Potts Creek



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2006 - 2007



### MISSION

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.

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# ADMINISTRATION SECTION

## Harry F. Price, Executive Secretary

*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, information technology, and publishing Wonderful West Virginia magazine.*

*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 maintaining myriad information technology functions, 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, general services, 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, 2007, the Division of Natural Resources had 775 permanent and 1,000 hourly employees employed on regular programs. The year-round work force for DNR is approximately 1,428 permanent and temporary employees with fluctuations due to seasonal programs and activities.

Work force characteristics as of June 30, 2007, are listed in the chart below.

Section	Permanent Employees	Average Age	Average Years of Education	State Service	Average Mo. Salary
Administration	43	48	13	17 yrs 5 mos	\$2,932
Executive	7	54	14	18 yrs 6 mos	\$4,111
Law Enforcement	124	47	14	17 yrs 6 mos	\$3,250
Parks & Recreation	403	48	13	14 yrs 6 mos	\$2,060
Real Estate Mgmt.	7	48	14	15 yrs 6 mos	\$3,111
Wildlife Resources	191	47	15	17 yrs 5 mos	\$2,966
<b>Division</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15 yrs 6 mos</b>	<b>\$2,550*</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 seven.

One hundred three (103) 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 13.29 percent with thirty-six (36) percent of the vacancies being attributed to retirements and thirty-five (35)

percent of the vacancies being attributed to internal promotions. Eighty-three (83) 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 thirty-nine (39).

### **Payroll and Employee Benefits**

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**

*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 40,500 copies printed of each issue.



In FY 2007 the average number of copies mailed each month to paid individual subscribers was 33,902. In addition, some 4,056 copies were distributed each month to paid bulk subscribers such as government agencies, chambers of commerce, motels, real estate firms,

etc., newsstands on state parks, and other newsstand distributors.

### **General Services**

The General Services branch includes management of a statewide two-way radio communications network, centralized purchasing and inventory control, and coordination of central mail and messenger operations. 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**

The Information Technology Services Unit manages the Charleston office local area network; provides training and support to PC and mainframe users; provides computer program analysis, coding, and documentation to other DNR sections; maintains security of all information technology (IT) resources; develops and recommends IT policies, procedures, and plans for DNR; reviews and approves any purchase of IT products and services within DNR, and maintains DNR Web pages.

### **Budget Office**

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**

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.

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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, 2007. Itemization of summarized financial data contained in this report is public record and on file.

**Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements  
And Changes in Cash Balances  
Fiscal Year 2006-2007**

**Appropriated Funds**

**GENERAL FUND (0265)**

Appropriated Fund - No Cash Balance

Disbursements

Personal Services	(8,832,259.98)
Employee Benefits	(3,721,714.16)
Current Expense	(984,779.21)
Repairs and Alterations	(20,432.51)
Equipment	3,446.50
PEIA Reserve Transfer	<u>(67,757.32)</u>

Total Disbursements

(13,623,496.68)

**SPECIAL REVENUE LICENSE FUND (3200)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006

2,983,365.15

Investment Balance July 1, 2006

2,089,562.23

Beginning Fund Balance

5,072,927.38

Receipts

Animal Replacement Costs	28,143.25
Hunting & Fishing Licenses and Stamps	12,682,156.43
Investment Earnings	232,906.71
Miscellaneous Permits and License	12,540.00
Miscellaneous Collections	23,987.63
Sand/Gravel Royalties	19,334.20
Surplus Property Sale	11,063.00
Transfer from Wildlife Endowment Fund	<u>2,075,000.00</u>

Total Receipts

15,085,131.22

Disbursements

Personal Services	(7,103,193.82)
Employee Benefits	(2,781,267.42)
Current Expense	(3,683,690.32)
Repairs and Alterations	(241,965.61)
Equipment	(1,566,854.49)
Bank Costs	(754.06)
Medical Service Payments	(532.20)
Building Improvements	(9,005.00)
Building Purchase or Construction	(4,850.00)
Point of Sale License System	(50,998.17)
2002 Capital Improvement	(329.61)
2003 Capital Improvement	(138,253.99)
2004 Capital Improvements	(131,588.13)
2005 Capital Improvement	(767,003.55)
2006 Capital Improvements	(1,445,659.73)
2007 Capital Improvements	<u>(349,637.95)</u>

Less Total Disbursements

(18,275,584.05)

Ending Fund Balance

1,882,474.55

Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007

(158,064.73)

Cash Balance June 30, 2007

1,724,409.82

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		65,451.98
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>285,713.27</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		351,165.25
Receipts		
Fish Kill Reimbursement	4,790.79	
Investment Earnings	<u>18,689.24</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		23,480.03
Disbursements		
Current Expense	<u>0.00</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>0.00</u>
Ending Fund Balance		374,645.28
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(299,552.51)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>75,092.77</u></u>

**WILDLIFE DIVERSITY FUND (3203)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		397,562.27
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>1,802,505.06</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		2,200,067.33
Receipts		
Gift Shop Sales	58.28	
Investment Earnings	120,407.61	
Miscellaneous Collections	97,004.43	
Sale of Booklets	4,696.97	
Sale of Wildlife Calendars	106,855.40	
Sale of Wildlife License Plates	373,634.00	
Special Events	12,394.25	
Surplus Property Sale	<u>1,150.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		716,200.94
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(203,343.60)	
Employee Benefits	(64,331.63)	
Current Expense	(253,768.92)	
Equipment	(39,690.00)	
Bank Costs	<u>(347.80)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(561,481.95)</u>
Ending Fund Balance		2,354,786.32
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(2,199,612.67)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>155,173.65</u></u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		395,108.47
Receipts		
Channel Changes	200.00	
Coal Annual Fees	400.00	
Docking Facilities	9,400.00	
Gas & Oil Leases	32,221.27	
Low Water Fords	3,600.00	
Low Water Level Bridges	73,500.00	
Miscellaneous Collections	42,400.00	
Pipeline Permits	156,065.00	
Sand/Gravel ATE Management	11,000.00	
Stream Restoration	1,500.00	
Structures	69,750.00	



Subterranean Cable Permit Renewal	22,875.00	
Water Intake Supply System	<u>4,700.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		427,611.27
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(143,523.72)	
Employee Benefits	(45,733.13)	
Current Expense	(49,144.42)	
Repairs and Alterations	(922.99)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	<u>(1,317.72)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(240,641.98)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>582,077.76</u></u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		87,125.32
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>53,089.54</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		140,214.86
Receipts		
Investment Earnings	7,939.72	
Study and Improvement Fees	<u>67,070.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		75,009.72
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(51,028.55)	
Employee Benefits	(19,399.78)	
Current Expense	(1,690.67)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	<u>(430.34)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(72,549.34)</u>
Ending Fund Balance		142,675.24
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(24,379.26)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>118,295.98</u></u>

**PARKS LOTTERY NET PROFITS (3267)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		799,956.51
Receipts		
Lottery Transfers	16,758,492.00	
Miscellaneous Collections	<u>3,990.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		16,762,482.00
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(1,410,576.46)	
Employee Benefits	(694,706.31)	
Current Expense	(1,244,196.27)	
Repairs and Alterations	(13,879.81)	
Equipment	(6,510.44)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(14,005.32)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(20,682.30)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(1,900.00)	
Land Improvements	(20,415.00)	
Building Purchase or Construction	(377.12)	
Medical Service Pmts	<u>(4,298.38)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(3,431,547.41)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>14,130,891.10</u></u>

**STATE PARK IMPROVEMENT FUND (3277)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		9,548,990.35
Beginning Fund Balance		
Receipts		
Lottery Transfers	<u>5,000,000.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		5,000,000.00
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(1,129,901.96)	
Employee Benefits	(521,977.12)	
Current Expense	(567,774.93)	
Repairs and Alterations	(1,770,188.03)	
Equipment	(204,932.30)	
Payment of Claims	(59,020.90)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(11,271.90)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(659,908.78)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(13,042.00)	
Building Improvements	(55,008.89)	
Reclamation of State Owned Property	(52,725.00)	
Land Improvements	(41,391.73)	
Building Purchase or Construction	(4,227.98)	
Debt Service Leases - Principle	(172,145.00)	
Debt Service Leases - Interest	<u>(30,751.24)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(5,294,267.76)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>9,254,722.59</u></u>

**CONSOLIDATED FEDERAL FUND (8707)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		2,433,216.30
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>129,319.28</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		2,562,535.58
Receipts		
Law Enforcement		
Boating Safety	257,401.00	
Duplicate Boat Safety Cards	30.00	
Hunter Safety Replacement Cards	15,385.00	
Hunter Safety	210,184.21	<u>483,000.21</u>
Wildlife Resources		
Acid Water Studies	131,447.93	
Archery Education in Schools	21,184.21	
Biometrics	95,231.20	
Blackwater Canyon Habitat Study	127,157.22	
Boating Access Administration	203,800.71	
Boating Access Grant	4,453.39	
Camp Dawson Exotic Spc Inv	15,000.00	
Comprehensive Wildlife Conserv. Implementation	52,410.00	
Commercial Navigable Rivers	62,868.48	
District Wildlife Management	1,188,421.75	
Endangered Species	34,439.33	
EPA Geo Info Sys Development	57,574.00	
EPA Wetlands Development Grant	96,939.00	
Fish & Wildlife Coordination	104,548.84	
Interagency Coordination	201,844.19	
Investment Earnings	163,402.81	
Landowner Incentive Program	180,000.00	
Miscellaneous	732.68	
National Park Service Grant-Cass Clubhouse	16,885.38	

National Science Foundation Grant	145,613.72		
Reservoir Investigations	73,977.85		
Rivers and Streams Assessment	27,637.78		
Rudolf Conservation Easement	515,000.00		
Small Impoundment Assessment	61,052.76		
State Wildlife Grants	805,466.75		
Surplus Property Sale	31,327.38		
Trout Hatchery Operations	1,386,826.87		
USDP AG NRCS Wildlife Hbt Inc	40,800.00		
Warmwater Fish Hatcheries Grant	50,176.28		
Wildlife Conservation Management Education	8,246.68		
Wildlife Research	<u>1,040,400.38</u>	<u>6,945,016.41</u>	
Plus Total Receipts			7,428,016.62
Disbursements			
Personal Services	(3,200,200.19)		
Employee Benefits	(1,093,917.85)		
Current Expense	(1,787,827.39)		
Repairs and Alterations	(104,451.63)		
Equipment	(180,857.25)		
Building Improvements	(500,000.00)		
Land Improvements	(954.00)		
Building Purchase or Construction	<u>(456.41)</u>		
Less Total Disbursements			<u>(6,868,664.72)</u>
Ending Fund Balance			3,121,887.48
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007			<u>(168,861.09)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007			<u><u>2,953,026.39</u></u>

### Non-Appropriated Funds

#### LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM FUND (3204)

Cash Balance July 1, 2006			1,093.30
Investment Balance July 1, 2006			<u>766,503.04</u>
Beginning Fund Balance			767,596.34
Receipts			
Captive Cervid Facility License	6,125.00		
Forfeiture	1,345.00		
Donation for Hunter Education	13,431.00		
Hunter Safety Card Replacement	3,870.00		
Investment Earnings	45,632.08		
Law Enforcement Homeland Security Grant	159,015.86		
Miscellaneous Collections	30.00		
Miscellaneous Permits	4,009.00		
Motorboat Licenses	81,397.25		
Surplus Property Sale	1,225.00		
Tipping Fees	483,371.89		
Whitewater Rafting Licenses	<u>33,000.00</u>		
Plus Total Receipts			832,452.08
Disbursements			
Personal Services	(139,262.72)		
Employee Benefits	(46,146.00)		
Current Expense	(79,940.70)		
Repairs and Alterations	24,071.63		
Equipment	<u>(134,794.86)</u>		
Less Total Disbursements			<u>(376,072.65)</u>

Ending Fund Balance	1,223,975.77
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007	<u>(978,375.12)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u>245,600.65</u>

**LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACTS (3208)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	12,779.06
Receipts	
Contracts	<u>0.00</u>
Plus Total Receipts	0.00
Disbursements	
Current Expense	<u>0.00</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>0.00</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u>12,779.06</u>

**UPPER PAINT CREEK WATERSHED (GOV CIVIL CONT. FUND) (3209)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	10,181.00
Receipts	
Statutory Transfer	<u>0.00</u>
Plus Total Receipts	0.00
Disbursements	
Current Expense	<u>(10,181.00)</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>(10,181.00)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u>0.00</u>

**WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND (3224)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	3,760.00
Investment Balance July 1, 2006	<u>35,339,706.42</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	35,343,466.42
Receipts	
Gifts & Bequests	1,000.00
Investment Earnings	6,415,961.23
Lifetime Hunting & Fishing License	516,030.00
Mitigation - Wildlife	<u>1,199.97</u>
Plus Total Receipts	6,934,191.20
Disbursements	
Fund Transfer	<u>(2,310,000.00)</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>(2,310,000.00)</u>
Ending Fund Balance	39,967,657.62
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007	<u>(39,964,007.62)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u>3,650.00</u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	8,122.56
Investment Balance July 1, 2006	<u>2,381,007.52</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	2,389,130.08
Receipts	
Acid Impacted Stream Studies	17,263.19
Allegheny Power	207,746.00
Cabin Rentals	3,892.19
Campsite Rentals	16,594.59
Captive Cervid Facility License	6,125.00
Coal Royalties	7,794.98



Donation for Stream Treatment with Limestone	2,500.00	
Entrance Fees	52,411.14	
Fish Kill Reimbursement	2,338.97	
Gas Royalties	331,700.08	
Gift Shop Sales	11,549.63	
Gifts & Bequests	30,971.50	
Go-Wild Hunting & Fishing License Issuance Fee	102,749.00	
Habitat Land Inquiries	21,600.00	
Hunters Helping the Hungry	17,270.00	
Hunters Helping the Hungry DHHR Grant	75,000.00	
Information Retrieval	36,003.80	
Investment Earnings	149,220.08	
Leases	19,603.43	
Miscellaneous Collections	71,882.58	
Mitigation Wildlife	498,605.31	
National Park Service Study	2,241.00	
National Wild Turkey Federation	15,000.00	
New River Study	17,642.00	
Oil Royalties	4,433.21	
Real Estate License Fees	61,759.95	
Residence Rental	1,625.00	
Ruffed Grouse Society Gift	15,000.00	
Specialty Lifetime License Card	8,958.00	
Timber Sales	221,475.43	
Transfer from Wildlife Endowment Fund	40,000.00	
Trophy Fish Citations	4,645.00	
USDA Avian Flu Study	27,719.39	
Wildlife Contract Reimbursement	7,500.00	
Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program	<u>2,759.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		2,113,579.45
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(300,544.35)	
Employee Benefits	(110,707.11)	
Current Expense	(389,065.79)	
Repairs and Alterations	(27,554.45)	
Equipment	(139,731.99)	
Bank Costs	<u>(261.57)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(967,865.26)</u>
Ending Fund Balance		3,534,844.27
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(3,397,577.60)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>137,266.67</u></u>

**BEAR DAMAGE FUND (3228)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		469.52
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>314,358.63</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		314,828.15
Receipts		
Bear Damage Stamps	252,513.00	
Investment Earnings	<u>17,475.05</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		<u>269,988.05</u>
Disbursements		
Current Expense	(37,226.27)	
Equipment	(5,854.17)	
Payment of Claims	<u>(89,878.69)</u>	

Less Total Disbursements	<u>(132,959.13)</u>
Ending Fund Balance	451,857.07
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007	<u>(448,083.68)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u><u>3,773.39</u></u>

**WILDLIFE RESOURCES CONTRACTS FUND (3229)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	17.83
Investment Balance July 1, 2006	<u>164,973.50</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	164,991.33
Receipts	
Investment Earnings	<u>8,230.75</u>
Plus Total Receipts	8,230.75
Disbursements	
Employee Benefits	<u>445.74</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>445.74</u>
Ending Fund Balance	173,667.82
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007	<u>(168,204.25)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u><u>5,463.57</u></u>

**MIGRATORY WATERFOWL STAMP FUND (3231)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	182.64
Investment Balance July 1, 2006	<u>252,836.09</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	253,018.73
Receipts	
Investment Earnings	13,749.34
Migratory Waterfowl Stamps	<u>(5,066.00)</u>
Plus Total Receipts	8,683.34
Disbursements	
Current Expense	<u>(5,000.00)</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>(5,000.00)</u>
Ending Fund Balance	256,702.07
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007	<u>(256,485.43)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u><u>216.64</u></u>

**CONSERVATION STAMP FUND (3232)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	1,188.20
Investment Balance July 1, 2006	<u>2,920,422.27</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	2,921,610.47
Receipts	
Conservation Stamp Sales	1,621,496.00
Investment Earnings	152,943.94
National Wild Turkey Federation	<u>150,000.00</u>
Plus Total Receipts	1,924,439.94
Disbursements	
Personal Services	(115,189.65)
Employee Benefits	(15,342.22)
Current Expense	(149,016.93)
Repairs and Alterations	(1,137.59)
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(393,823.78)
Land Purchases	<u>(444,800.00)</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>(1,119,310.17)</u>
Ending Fund Balance	3,726,740.24
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007	<u>(3,554,766.21)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u><u>171,974.03</u></u>

**TROUT STAMP FUND (3233)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		1,402.60
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>1,072,050.56</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		1,073,453.16
Receipts		
Investment Earnings	50,127.23	
Miscellaneous Collections	60.00	
Trout Stamp Sales	1,128,959.00	
Transfer from Wildlife Endowment Fund	<u>195,000.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		1,374,146.23
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(680,630.92)	
Employee Benefits	(332,113.01)	
Current Expense	<u>(7,100.00)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(1,019,843.93)</u>
Ending Fund Balance		1,427,755.46
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(1,287,427.79)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>140,327.67</u></u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		5,932.10
Receipts		
Statutory Transfers	<u>0.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		0.00
Disbursements		
Current Expense	<u>(4,180.25)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(4,180.25)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>1,751.85</u></u>

**GIFTS, GRANTS & BEQUESTS (3237)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		28,404.61
Receipts		
Special Events	<u>41,203.75</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		41,203.75
Disbursements		
Current Expense	<u>(18,833.09)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(18,833.09)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>50,775.27</u></u>

**YOUNG ADULT CONSERVATION CORPS (GSYP) (3238)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		23,577.82
Receipts		
Transfers In	<u>0.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		0.00
Disbursements		
Current Expense	(2,052.19)	
Equipment	<u>(21,525.63)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(23,577.82)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>0.00</u></u>

**LAND MINERALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS (3239)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		197,450.20
Receipts		
Land Leases	4,034.06	
Miscellaneous Collections	749.57	
Real Estate Taxes	19,981.49	
Rental Fees	800.00	
Right-of-Way	11,899.00	
Royalties	<u>108,200.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		145,664.12
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(83,928.25)	
Employee Benefits	(26,454.90)	
Current Expense	(45,640.61)	
Remittance pf Taxes	(4,601.68)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	<u>(487.83)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(161,113.27)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>182,001.05</u></u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		15,583.96
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>84,690.24</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		100,274.20
Receipts		
Law Enforcement / Sports Ed. Stamps	394,778.00	
Investment Earnings	<u>3,589.93</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		398,367.93
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(237,787.61)	
Employee Benefits	<u>(96,894.10)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(334,681.71)</u>
Ending Fund Balance		163,960.42
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(126,730.17)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>37,230.25</u></u>

**MAGAZINE SALES & SUBSCRIPTIONS (3248)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		4,641.29
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>236,508.53</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		241,149.82
Receipts		
Investment Earnings	13,704.77	
Magazine Sponsorship	23,500.00	
Magazine Bookshelf Sales	11,880.12	
Magazine Sales	35,003.15	
Magazine Subscriptions	<u>563,132.92</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		647,220.96
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(38,217.14)	
Employee Benefits	(15,852.93)	
Current Expense	(568,555.71)	
Bank Costs	(2,121.15)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer	<u>(354.21)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>625,101.14)</u>



Ending Fund Balance	263,269.64
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007	<u>(256,313.30)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u>6,956.34</u>

**CLEARING ACCOUNT-EQUIPMENT (3251)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	82,170.50
Receipts	
Rental Leases	<u>22,570.96</u>
Plus Total Receipts	22,570.96
Disbursements	
Current Expense	<u>(10,091.25)</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>(10,091.25)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u>94,650.21</u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	80.71
Investment Balance July 1, 2006	<u>18,832.78</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	18,913.49
Receipts	
Class A-1 Small Arms Hunting License	95,330.00
Lifetime Small Arms Hunting License	4,584.00
Investment Earnings	<u>781.38</u>
Plus Total Receipts	100,695.38
Disbursements	
Personal Services	(50,056.21)
Employee Benefits	<u>(20,838.70)</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>(70,894.91)</u>
Ending Fund Balance	48,713.96
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007	<u>(45,114.16)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u>3,599.80</u>

**PARKS IMPROVEMENT TO FACILITIES (3260)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	0.00
Receipts	
Parks Development Grant	<u>151,816.49</u>
Plus Total Receipts	151,816.49
Disbursements	
Current Expense	(43,008.72)
Repairs and Alterations	(54,710.05)
Equipment	(12,817.66)
Land Improvements	(2,495.22)
Building Purchase or Construction	<u>(5,781.89)</u>
Less Total Disbursements	<u>(118,813.54)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007	<u>33,002.95</u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006	0.00
Investment Balance July 1, 2006	<u>77,124.71</u>
Beginning Fund Balance	77,124.71
Receipts	
Investment Earnings	<u>4,094.58</u>
Plus Total Receipts	4,094.58

Disbursements		
Equipment	<u>(5,200.00)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(5,200.00)</u>
Ending Fund Balance		76,019.29
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(76,019.29)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>0.00</u></u>

**DECOY ANIMALS ASSESSMENT FEE (3264)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		92.03
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>8,451.35</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		8,543.38
Receipts		
Decoy Animal Assessment Fee	700.00	
Investment Earnings	<u>461.49</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		1,161.49
Disbursements		
Current Expense	<u>(1,118.58)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(1,118.58)</u>
Ending Fund Balance		8,586.29
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(8,512.84)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>73.45</u></u>

**STATE PARK OPERATING FUND (3265)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		168,434.29
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>1,789,000.00</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		1,957,434.29
Receipts		
Arts and Crafts	14,022.72	
Bath / Massages	396,739.40	
Bicycle Rental	1,816.78	
Boat Rental	54,480.12	
Cabin Advance Reservation	3,587,152.10	
Cabin Rentals	1,147,810.41	
Campsite Advance Reservation	339,819.98	
Campsite Rentals	1,270,006.15	
Cass Advance Fares	334,784.61	
Coin Laundry Machines	7,486.52	
Consumers Sales Tax	42,957.78	
Cot & Crib Rental	30,412.84	
Dinner Train Advance	39,121.93	
Driving Range	19,007.46	
Entrance Fees	219,885.33	
Equipment Rental	14,743.15	
Facility Use Rental	113,810.91	
Firewood Sales	112,180.73	
Food & Snacks	152,020.07	
Games	4,395.08	
Gas Royalties	25,004.22	
Gift Certificates	34,249.22	
Gift Shop Sales	1,652,971.62	
Greens Fees	919,760.98	
Group Camps	36,646.60	
Hotel Occupancy Tax	289,989.88	
Investment Earnings	82,845.65	

Lodge Advance Reservation	2,532,485.78		
Lodge Rooms	2,398,557.48		
Lottery Collections - Net	20,805.70		
Magazine Sales	262.20		
Miniature Golf	34,889.48		
Miscellaneous Collections	(80,684.26)		
Miscellaneous Non-Taxable	50,908.26		
Miscellaneous Taxable	55,727.70		
Picnic Shelter Fees	179,807.78		
Pro Shop	187,895.47		
Railroad Charters	41,667.38		
Railroad Fares	428,695.54		
Residence Rentals	17,293.85		
Restaurants	2,069,494.85		
Roman Bath	104,457.00		
Special Events	69,143.33		
Swimming Fees	369,456.45		
Tennis	747.43		
Tram	117,146.27		
Vending Machines	<u>54,641.72</u>	<u>19,597,521.65</u>	
Receipts - Concessions			
Boat Dock Concession	14,271.01		
Canaan Concession	604,884.61		
Coin Machine Concession	15,172.74		
Food and Snacks Concession	5,693.67		
Golf Carts	296,906.14		
Landing Fees	64.39		
Marina	4,942.95		
Miscellaneous Concession	51,106.09		
Restaurant Concession	106,372.03		
Riding Stable	<u>16,020.83</u>	<u>1,115,434.46</u>	
Plus Total Receipts			<u>20,712,956.11</u>
Disbursements			
Personal Services	(7,459,813.60)		
Employee Benefits	(1,832,967.95)		
Current Expense	(9,576,935.54)		
Repairs and Alterations	23,859.73		
Equipment	(3,247.76)		
Remittance Of Taxes	(276,457.09)		
Payment of Claims	(7,019.68)		
Grants and Awards	(4,175.00)		
Bank Costs	(247,696.43)		
Fund Transfers - Canaan Maintenance Fund	(8,195.39)		
PEIA Reserve Transfer	(25,775.58)		
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(77,979.80)		
Building Purchase or Construction	(3,443.57)		
Medical Service Pmts	<u>(734.57)</u>		
Less Total Disbursements			<u>(19,500,582.23)</u>
Ending Fund Balance			3,169,808.17
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007			<u>(2,332,845.65)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007			<u><u>836,962.52</u></u>

**CANAAN MAINTENANCE FUND (3274)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		43,385.11
Receipts		
Maintenance Transfer from Operating Fund	<u>8,195.39</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		8,195.39
Disbursements		
Personal Services	(24,334.59)	
Employee Benefits	<u>(2,577.21)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(26,911.80)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>24,668.70</u></u>

**FEB '03 SNOW/FLOOD DAMAGE FUND (3279)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		0.00
Receipts		
Fund Transfer	<u>(35,547.01)</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		(35,547.01)
Disbursements		
Current Expense	<u>35,547.01</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>35,547.01</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>0.00</u></u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		4,515.88
Receipts		
Transfers In	<u>0.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		0.00
Disbursements		
Repairs and Alterations	<u>0.00</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>0.00</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>4,515.88</u></u>

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

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		32,636.08
Receipts		
Transfers In	<u>0.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		0.00
Disbursements		
Current Expense	<u>0.00</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>0.00</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>32,636.08</u></u>

**NOVEMBER '03 FLOOD DISASTER FUND (3283)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		19,651.70
Receipts		
Transfers In	<u>0.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		0.00
Disbursements		
Current Expense	(489.00)	
Contactor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	<u>(19,162.70)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(19,651.70)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>0.00</u></u>

**NOVEMBER '03 FLOOD DISASTER FUND (3284)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		3,212.22
Receipts		
Transfers In	<u>0.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		0.00
Disbursements		
Repairs and Alterations	<u>0.00</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>0.00</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>3,212.22</u></u>

**UPPER MUD RIVER GOV CIVIL CONT FUND (3290)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		28.61
Receipts		
Transfers In	<u>0.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		0.00
Disbursements		
Current Expense	<u>(28.61)</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>(28.61)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>0.00</u></u>

**DECOY ANIMALS ASSESSMENT FEE (3292)**

Cash Balance July 1, 2006		0.00
Investment Balance July 1, 2006		<u>0.00</u>
Beginning Fund Balance		0.00
Receipts		
Coyote Management Donations	528.00	
Investment Earnings	<u>0.00</u>	
Plus Total Receipts		528.00
Disbursements		
Current Expense	<u>0.00</u>	
Less Total Disbursements		<u>0.00</u>
Ending Fund Balance		528.00
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2007		<u>(500.00)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2007		<u><u>28.00</u></u>

**RECAPITULATION OF FUNDS**

	<u>Revenue</u>	<u>Disbursements</u>	<u>Investments</u>
General Fund	0.00	(13,645,295.91)	0.00
Consolidated Federal Funds	7,428,016.62	(6,868,664.72)	168,861.09
Appropriated Special Revenue Funds	38,089,915.18	(27,876,072.49)	2,681,609.17
Non-Appropriated Special Revenue Funds	<u>35,664,639.19</u>	<u>(26,826,019.29)</u>	<u>52,900,963.11</u>
<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	<b>81,182,570.99</b>	<b>(75,216,052.41)</b>	<b>55,751,433.37</b>

**STATEMENT OF DISBURSEMENTS  
FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007**

**ADMINISTRATION SECTION**

EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATIVE

Personal Services	\$ 366,811.17
Employee Benefits	95,104.13
Current Expenses	135,440.59
Repairs & Alterations	1,800.95
Equipment	848.00
Fund Transfer	<u>2,310,000.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,910,004.84</b>

FISCAL SERVICES

Personal Services	\$ 612,922.29
Employee Benefits	212,981.74
Current Expenses	553,280.01
PEIA Transfer	<u>14,099.63</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 1,393,283.67</b>

STAFFING/PAYROLL

Personal Services	\$ 236,281.71
Employee Benefits	82,513.54
Current Expenses	35,096.04
Repairs & Alterations	<u>1,527.91</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 355,419.20</b>

GENERAL SERVICES

Personal Services	\$ 460,705.64
Employee Benefits	189,533.28
Current Expenses	223,681.87
Repairs & Alterations	12,595.42
Equipment	9,688.00
Building Improvements	<u>9,005.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 905,209.21</b>

WONDERFUL WEST VIRGINIA MAGAZINE

Personal Services	\$ 72,784.47
Employee Benefits	26,856.16
Current Expenses	590,332.06
PEIA Transfer	<u>354.21</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 690,326.90</b>

General Revenue Appropriated	\$ 2,468,787.57	
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated	2,972,657.91	
Special Revenue Appropriated	739,629.64	
Federal Revenue Appropriated	<u>73,168.70</u>	
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATION</b>		<b>\$ <u>6,254,243.82</u></b>

**LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION**

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Personal Services	\$ 5,977,148.02
Employee Benefits	2,199,798.54
Current Expenses	1,510,617.99
Repairs & Alterations	40,557.78

Equipment	856,893.85
Payment of Claims	1,284.74
PEIA Transfer	<u>6,646.38</u>
TOTAL	\$ 10,592,947.30

General Revenue Appropriated	\$ 1,896,550.66	
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated	782,767.85	
Special Revenue Appropriated	7,787,465.29	
Federal Revenue Appropriated	<u>126,163.50</u>	
TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT		\$ <u>10,592,947.30</u>

## WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION

GAME MANAGEMENT	
Personal Services	\$ 2,756,163.78
Employee Benefits	1,100,721.28
Current Expenses	1,058,834.43
Repairs & Alterations	135,011.54
Equipment	581,139.15
Payment of Claims	89,878.69
PEIA Transfer	238.56
Medical Service Payments	<u>532.20</u>
TOTAL	\$ 5,722,519.63

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS	
Personal Services	\$ 253,715.65
Employee Benefits	55,387.89
Current Expenses	451,494.81
Repairs & Alterations	2,387,111.37
Building Improvements	139,642.00
Land Improvements	189,929.61
Land Purchases	444,800.00
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	<u>86,196.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 4,008,277.33

COLD WATER FISH MANAGEMENT	
Personal Services	\$ 1,091,149.42
Employee Benefits	486,801.24
Current Expenses	646,363.73
Repairs & Alterations	64,987.42
Equipment	235,806.00
Land Improvements	<u>954.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,526,061.81

WILDLIFE - ADMINISTRATION	
Personal Services	\$ 530,434.45
Employee Benefits	183,036.92
Current Expenses	1,224,353.37
Repairs & Alterations	6,568.78
Equipment	<u>64,733.63</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,009,127.15

WARM WATER FISH MANAGEMENT	
Personal Services	\$ 987,549.30
Employee Benefits	377,087.34



Current Expenses	515,055.38
Repairs & Alterations	61,616.65
Equipment	263,111.00
Capital Improvements/Land Purchases	<u>4,850.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 2,209,269.67
TECHNICAL SUPPORT	
Personal Services	\$ 657,071.83
Employee Benefits	233,574.91
Current Expenses	177,121.47
Repairs & Alterations	3,676.93
Equipment	<u>5,332.26</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,076,777.40
SPECIAL PROJECTS	
Personal Services	\$ 396,503.12
Employee Benefits	109,894.56
Current Expenses	193,666.87
Repairs & Alterations	11,827.50
Equipment	8,775.00
Land Purchases	<u>500,000.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,220,667.05
WILDLIFE DIVERSITY	
Personal Services	\$ 556,063.00
Employee Benefits	203,324.89
Current Expenses	629,881.13
Repairs & Alterations	5,144.04
Equipment	39,690.00
PEIA Transfer	948.72
Land Improvements	20,415.00
Medical Service Payments	<u>4,298.38</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,459,765.16
HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE UNIT	
Personal Services	\$ 170,341.91
Employee Benefits	62,491.65
Current Expenses	162,057.05
Repairs & Alterations	<u>223.60</u>
TOTAL	\$ 395,114.21
POINT OF SALE LICENSE SYSTEM	
Employee Benefits	\$ 1,480.00
Current Expenses	<u>49,519.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 50,999.00
ELKINS OPERATIONS CENTER	
Personal Services	\$ 111,174.00
Employee Benefits	50,645.08
Current Expenses	142,901.25
Repairs & Alterations	11,211.55
Equipment	<u>19,845.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 335,776.88
WEST VIRGINIA WILDLIFE CENTER	
Personal Services	\$ 181,362.78
Employee Benefits	63,050.43

Current Expenses	67,062.44
Repairs & Alterations	13,594.69
Capital Improvements/Land Purchases	<u>456.41</u>
TOTAL	\$ 325,526.75

General Revenue Appropriated	\$ 320,805.01	
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated	3,278,809.18	
Special Revenue Appropriated	11,070,935.33	
Federal Revenue Appropriated	<u>6,669,332.52</u>	
TOTAL WILDLIFE RESOURCES		\$ <u>21,339,882.04</u>

**PARKS & RECREATION SECTION**

<b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b>	
Personal Services	\$ 15,717,580.73
Employee Benefits	5,632,586.76
Current Expenses	11,792,484.05
Repairs & Alterations	2,587,507.70
Equipment	243,138.74
Payment of Claims	66,040.58
Grants and Awards	4,175.00
Capital Improvements/Land Purchases	377.12
Fund Transfer	8,195.39
PEIA Transfer	97,307.17
Debt Service Leases - Principle	172,145.00
Debt Service Leases - Interest	30,751.24
Building Improvements	55,008.89
Land Improvements	43,886.95
Building Purchase or Construction	3,022.86
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	14,942.00
Medical Service Payments	909.57
Reclamation of State Owned Property	<u>52,725.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 36,522,784.75

General Revenue Appropriated	\$ 8,959,152.67	
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated	19,635,079.87	
Special Revenue Appropriated	<u>7,928,552.21</u>	
TOTAL PARKS & RECREATION		\$ <u>36,522,784.75</u>

**SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES SECTION**

<b>REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT</b>	
Personal Services	\$ 309,994.35
Employee Benefits	94,084.90
Current Expenses	99,386.71
Repairs & Alterations	922.99
PEIA Transfer	<u>1,805.55</u>
TOTAL	\$ 506,194.50

Special Revenue Non-Appropriated	\$ 156,704.48	
Special Revenue Appropriated	<u>349,490.02</u>	
TOTAL SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES		\$ <u>506,194.50</u>

Grand Total General Revenue Appropriated	\$ 13,645,295.91	
Grand Total Special Revenue Non-Appropriated	26,826,019.29	
Grand Total Special Revenue Appropriated	27,876,072.49	
Grand Total Federal Revenue Appropriated	<u>6,868,664.72</u>	
GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		\$ <u>75,216,052.41</u>

# 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

Lt. Colonel David E. Murphy was promoted to Colonel, Chief of the Law Enforcement Section, January 1, 2007. The Law Enforcement Section normally has a staffing level of 125 conservation officers and 11 support personnel. Three conservation officers and two support personnel retired, and three new officers were employed during fiscal year 2007. Six 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:

- Received a \$3,421 grant from the National Rifle Association. The monies were used to benefit the Hunter Education Program.
- Coordinated with local 911 Centers throughout the state to provide for a better response time to public complaints.
- 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.
- Placed all senior staff members in Chevy Impala vehicles, thus reducing the overall fuel and maintenance cost.
- Enhanced officer safety through the installation of new blue light systems, front and rear, on all newly purchased vehicles.



- 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.
- Purchased two mini-snout boats for the purpose of swift water rescue.



- Increased ATV patrols on wildlife management areas in an effort to deter unlawful entry.

## Officer Training

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.

This fiscal year, a physical fitness evaluation for mid-career and above officers was conducted to assess future training needs. Several Defensive Tactics Instructors attended classes to observe a new concept of training older

officers to defend themselves. These new techniques will be implemented during the upcoming training year.

In a cooperative effort between the Law Enforcement Section and the Division of Personnel, an audit of training was completed to ensure the Law Enforcement Section was in compliance with Division of Personnel standards. Training for “A Drug Free Workplace” and “Employee Performance Appraisal” was conducted and the Law Enforcement Section has now met Division of Personnel standards.

In a continuing effort to be prepared for the worst in Homeland Security, officers received training in the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Officers continue to attend training on Weapons of Mass Destruction and other 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. Officers in the Law Enforcement Section continually exceed these minimum 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.

Several out-of-state seminars were attended by officers. These included: The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators Conference, The National Water Safety Conference, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Hunter Education Region 5 Training. Four officers attended the National Marine Patrol Officer Course conducted at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center in Charleston, SC.

## Hunter Education Program

The mandatory Hunter Education Program in West Virginia continues to be a success. During fiscal year 2007, a total of 7,327 graduated from 315 statewide classes. Volunteer instructors remain the backbone of the Hunter Education Program. In FY 2007, 282 volunteers participated in the Program, driving over 41,000 miles and donating over 7,700 hours. Although the number of active volunteers remained the same, the number of hours and miles donated by this dedicated group of individuals increased, indicating a renewed support for the Program.

Ninety conservation officers participated in the Program, logging 2,500 hours and driving 18,800 miles. Six Regional Training Officers, who coordinate the Program on a district level, dedicated 728 hours and traveled 9,600 miles. Although the Program is deemed a success, the Law Enforcement Section is making every effort to purchase new and updated materials for the hunter education students.



Continuing with the Hunter Education Program alternative audience philosophy, the Law Enforcement Section conducted several successful hunts for the disabled at Snowshoe Mountain, Jennings Randolph Lake, and at a private hunting club in Tyler County.

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).

During fiscal year 2007, West Virginia experienced seven Class A hunting incidents, resulting in no fatalities. There were 15 Class B hunting incidents, resulting in six fatalities. All six fatalities were from heart attacks. Of the 15 Class B hunting incidents, six were tree-stand related. 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 a hunting related injury.



Officers across the state have participated in numerous sporting and hunting shows, attended summer camps and other special events such as the Governor's Youth Challenge, JAKES Day, and 4-H activities to promote the Hunter Education Program.



The Law Enforcement Section has worked with the media to spread the safe hunting message through TV and radio interviews.

The State Hunter Education Coordinator attended training in Connecticut, conducted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 5, on administering the Federal Aid Grant for Hunter Education. At the request of the International Hunter Education Association, the State Coordinator also conducted a New Administrators Academy for new state administrators of the Hunter Education Program. In keeping with tradition, West Virginia was represented at the International Hunter Education Association Conference.

### **Boating Safety/Education Program**

West Virginia has more than 53,000 boats registered, representing more than 100,000 residents and many non-residents who take advantage of the recreational activities on the waters of this state. Operator inexperience and lack of training contribute to the number of accidents that occur each year on the state waterways. Also contributing to the accident rate, was the number of persons operating water craft under the influence of drugs or alcohol. During fiscal year 2007, West Virginia experienced 25 boating accidents resulting in 17 injuries and 10 fatalities.

Each year, a boating safety class is offered in each of the 55 counties; however, few take advantage of them. The mandatory boating safety education course took effect January 1, 2001. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadrons, and the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) have approved on-line courses. The WVDNR Law Enforcement Section officers assist in teaching these classes. In fiscal year 2007, 36 classes were taught and 286 students successfully completed the course. These statistics do not include the efforts of 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.

The Section utilizes the media to get the message out on mandatory education, but the public is slow to enroll in the class.

West Virginia was represented at the NASBLA Conference, National Water Safety Summit, the U.S. Coast Guard Boating Law Administrators Training, and the Southern States Association of Boating Law Administrators meeting. The Section participated in National Safe Boating Week and National Recreational Boating Week with news releases and various TV and radio interviews.

A renewed emphasis on boating patrols and boating safety was undertaken this spring to address the increasing accident rate. Four conservation officers attended the National Marine Patrol Officer Course in Charleston, South Carolina.



### **Whitewater Enforcement Program**

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 in West Virginia patrol rivers in whitewater areas to ensure compliance with state law and regulations. Chapter 20 of the State Code allows for five study rivers in West Virginia, the New, Gauley, Cheat, Tygart, and Shenandoah. Commercial whitewater rafting companies must have a commercial license to raft customers on these rivers or any other river in the state. Periodically, officers will conduct counts on these study rivers to report to the Whitewater Commission as to the number of customers utilizing these areas. Officers also make random checks on whitewater areas to ensure that outfitters have all required safety equipment, and that guides have all necessary training requirements. Conservation officers also investigate all major accidents concerning commercial whitewater rafting companies. In West Vir-

ginia, there are 38 licensed commercial whitewater outfitters. In fiscal year 2007, approximately 200,000 customers were hosted on whitewater rivers in West Virginia.



During fiscal year 2007, the Law Enforcement Section made a decision to eliminate the whitewater sergeant position and move whitewater enforcement activities to the districts. This decision greatly reduced the mileage and other expenses needed to accomplish the task of assuring the public's safety while engaged in whitewater related recreational activity.

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.

In fiscal year 2007, the Law Enforcement Section obtained two mini-snout inflatable pontoon motorboats. This highly stable boat allows officers to respond to flood situations and other water-related emergencies. Officers in Districts 1 and 4 received training on this craft in May.

### LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY JULY 1, 2006 - JUNE 29, 2007

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	40490	40490	3994	212	2633	831	143	190	296	133	92	159	17110	1865	239	1111
TWO	0	28903	28903	2897	336	2010	627	84	75	197	75	43	81	4114	1521	430	1094
THREE	0	32988	32988	3411	1362	2925	661	124	135	302	146	106	85	9777	1144	392	760
FOUR	0	35294	35294	2986	766	2623	620	165	180	327	180	82	52	11722	1493	275	1193
FIVE	75	28460	28535	2167	352	1596	854	113	45	727	229	43	96	30223	1125	117	973
SIX	65	27038	27103	2893	986	2230	523	116	134	109	237	25	178	11375	871	116	752
<b>TOTALS:</b>	140	193173	193313	18348	4014	14017	4116	745	759	1958	1000	391	651	84321	8019	1569	5883

**REPORT OF PROSECUTIONS BY CHARGE FY 2006 - 2007**

HEADING AND CHARGE	DISTRICT						TOTAL
	ONE	TWO	THREE	FOUR	FIVE	SIX	
<b>LITTERING</b>							
LITTERING, HIGHWAY	30	22	18	17	14	18	119
LITTERING, STREAM	8	5	12	11	23	19	78
LITTERING, PRIVATE PROPERTY	47	25	31	31	24	21	179
LITTERING, PARK OR PUBLIC PROPERTY	1	2	7	7	3	2	22
OTHER LITTERING VIOLATIONS	0	2	12	3	4	3	24
<b>TOTAL LITTERING</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>422</b>
<b>LICENSE</b>							
RESIDENT HUNTING WITHOUT LICENSE	30	12	13	25	35	21	136
RESIDENT FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	76	47	43	44	130	37	377
IMPROPER HUNTING LICENSE	2	3	0	0	2	0	7
MAKING FALSE APPLICATION - HUNTING LICENSE	1	0	1	1	3	0	6
HUNTING WITHOUT CLASS A-1 LICENSE	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
HUNTING DEER WITHOUT CLASS N LICENSE	15	5	1	2	4	1	28
FISHING PARAPHERNALIA IN POSSESSION WITHOUT LICENSE	16	16	13	10	9	1	65
HUNTING PARAPHERNALIA IN POSSESSION WITHOUT LICENSE	3	3	0	5	3	0	14
HUNTING BEAR WITHOUT BEAR DAMAGE STAMP	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
HUNTING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
FISHING WHILE LICENSE REVOKED	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
HUNTING MIGRATORY BIRDS WITHOUT FEDERAL STAMP	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
TRAPPING WITHOUT LICENSE	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
MAKING FALSE APPLICATION - HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE	1	2	1	1	0	0	5
NON-RESIDENT HUNTING WITHOUT LICENSE	12	11	7	10	4	10	54
NON-RESIDENT FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE	11	73	9	4	8	6	111
IMPROPER FISHING LICENSE	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
MAKING FALSE APPLICATION - FISHING LICENSE	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
OTHER LICENSE VIOLATIONS	26	4	5	6	7	2	50
<b>TOTAL LICENSE</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>866</b>
<b>HUNTING</b>							
LOADED GUN IN VEHICLE	75	43	59	54	56	52	339
UNCASED GUN IN VEHICLE AT NIGHT	0	1	10	9	8	4	32
SPOTLIGHTING	0	1	2	1	0	0	4
SPOTLIGHTING WITH FIREARM OR IMPLEMENT IN POSSESSION	6	3	16	6	15	4	50
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF WILDLIFE OR PARTS THEREOF - GAME	54	24	46	61	95	55	335
HUNTING CLOSED SEASON	5	10	21	16	37	13	102
EXCEEDING DAILY BAG LIMIT	4	4	0	2	7	0	17
UNCASED GUN, CLOSED SEASON	0	2	0	0	1	0	3
FAILURE TO FIELD TAG GAME	43	21	8	12	18	20	122
FAILURE TO CHECK GAME	23	9	6	13	35	11	97
NEGLIGENT SHOOTING	5	0	2	0	2	0	9
SHOOTING FROM OR ACROSS HIGHWAY	10	0	9	3	1	8	31
SHOOTING WITHIN 500 FEET OF DWELLING; 400 CHURCH/SCHOOL	16	7	5	7	2	6	43
HUNTING WITHOUT PERMISSION	56	10	34	22	17	8	147
ILLEGAL TRAPPING	0	2	7	4	9	0	22
HUNTING MIGRATORY BIRDS WITH UNPLUGGED GUN	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
ILLEGAL METHOD OF HUNTING - (MUST BE IN 20-2-5)	3	3	2	3	0	4	15
HUNTING AFTER KILLING LEGAL DEER	16	12	7	2	3	8	48
KILLING PROTECTED BIRD	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
FAILURE TO STOP FOR GAME CHECK	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
ILLEGAL SALE OF WILDLIFE (INCLUDING BEAR)	0	0	0	0	0	4	4
ILLEGAL TRANSPORTATION OF WILDLIFE OUT OF STATE	0	0	2	0	0	1	3
ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF WILDLIFE	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
VIOLATION OF BEAR LAW OR RULES	0	1	1	4	1	0	7
ILLEGAL KILLING OR TAKING OF DEER, TURKEY OR BOAR	11	9	28	29	14	19	110
INSUFFICIENT OR NO BLAZE ORANGE	16	21	10	8	3	13	71
HUNTING ON SUNDAY	4	1	3	4	3	4	19
HUNTING DEER 1/2 HR AFTER SUNSET OR BEFORE SUNRISE	6	7	10	15	6	8	52
SHOOTING AT GAME NOT PLAINLY VISIBLE	1	1	2	1	1	0	6
SHOOTING/HUNTING FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE	24	20	39	25	38	22	168
ILLEGAL KILLING OR TAKING OF BEAR	0	0	1	1	3	0	5
HUNTING WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE	1	0	1	1	0	3	6
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF BEAR	0	0	1	4	1	0	6
HUNTING BEAR CLOSED SEASON	0	2	1	0	1	0	4
FAILURE TO FIELD TAG BEAR	0	1	0	0	0	1	2
FAILURE TO CHECK BEAR	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
OTHER GAME LAW VIOLATIONS	20	19	10	14	30	12	105
<b>TOTAL HUNTING</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>322</b>	<b>409</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>1992</b>



HEADING AND CHARGE	DISTRICT						TOTAL
<b>FISHING</b>							
TAKING FISH BY ILLEGAL METHOD	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
EXCEEDING DAILY CREEL LIMIT	4	6	5	7	2	0	24
ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FISH, MINNOWS AND AQUATIC LIFE	0	0	1	0	2	0	3
TAKING FROGS DURING CLOSED SEASON	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
USING PROHIBITED BAIT IN RESTRICTED AREA	0	8	10	23	1	0	42
FISHING WITHOUT PERMISSION	0	4	2	4	1	1	12
TAKING FISH BY POISON OR EXPLOSIVES	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
OTHER FISHING VIOLATIONS	5	0	7	8	6	0	26
<b>TOTAL FISHING</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>BOATING</b>							
OPERATING UNREGISTERED WATERCRAFT	16	3	7	1	12	5	44
OPERATING WATERCRAFT WITHOUT PROPER EQUIPMENT	2	0	6	0	0	17	25
INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF LIFE PRESERVERS	34	45	30	6	20	27	162
OVERLOADING A WATERCRAFT	2	0	9	0	0	12	23
IMPROPER LOCATION OR SPACING OF NUMBERS ON WATERCRAFT	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
RECKLESS OPERATION OF WATERCRAFT	9	0	1	1	0	2	13
CREATING A WAKE IN A NO-WAKE ZONE	3	0	19	1	1	0	24
PULLING SKIER WITHOUT OBSERVER OR MIRROR	6	0	1	0	1	3	11
SKIING WITHOUT A LIFE PRESERVER	2	0	1	0	0	0	3
NONE OR NO APPROVED EQUIPMENT	1	0	0	0	1	3	5
OPERATING A WATERCRAFT IN RESTRICTED AREA	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
FAILURE TO REPORT A BOATING ACCIDENT, IF REQUIRED	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
OPERATING WATERCRAFT WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
OTHER BOATING VIOLATIONS	7	0	6	0	2	13	28
<b>TOTAL BOATING</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>347</b>
<b>WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>							
OTHER HAZARDOUS WASTE VIOLATIONS	2	0	0	0	0	1	3
CONTRIBUTING TO AN OPEN DUMP	11	7	9	18	9	20	74
UNPERMITTED SOLID WASTE FACILITY	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
ENDANGERMENT BY WASTE DISPOSAL	0	1	0	0	0	8	9
OTHER SOLID WASTE VIOLATIONS	33	17	33	58	41	25	207
<b>TOTAL WASTE MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>294</b>
<b>POLLUTION</b>							
STREAM POLLUTION	0	0	0	3	0	1	4
CONSTRUCTION WITHOUT A PERMIT	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
OTHER POLLUTION VIOLATIONS	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
<b>TOTAL POLLUTION</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>FORESTRY</b>							
ILLEGAL BURNING	42	25	12	29	9	13	130
ABANDONING A FIRE	6	2	1	1	3	4	17
STARTING FIRE ON LANDS OF ANOTHER	0	0	0	0	11	2	13
PERMITTING A FIRE TO ESCAPE	1	9	1	0	10	2	23
FAILURE OF RR COMPANY TO CLEAR RIGHT-OF-WAY	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
VIOLATING STATE FOREST REGULATIONS	14	0	0	0	8	0	22
VIOLATIONS OF GINSENG REGULATIONS	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
OTHER FORESTRY VIOLATIONS	12	0	17	8	6	2	45
<b>TOTAL FORESTRY</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>253</b>
<b>GENERAL</b>							
VIOLATION OF PARK REGULATIONS	4	20	21	38	68	15	166
WITHHOLDING INFORMATION	6	3	9	9	11	1	39
OBSTRUCTING, HINDERING, OR INTERFERING WITH OFFICER	9	1	3	5	7	2	27
CONSPIRING IN A VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 20	18	9	31	29	50	23	160
OFFENSE OUTSIDE CHAPTER 20	116	45	49	79	28	110	427
VIOLATION OF FUR DEALERS REGULATIONS	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
VIOLATION OF NATIONAL FOREST REGULATIONS	0	2	5	3	0	0	10
DRUG RELATED VIOLATION	20	10	8	30	8	6	82
CONSPIRING IN A FISHING VIOLATION OF CHAPTER 20	3	0	1	4	0	3	11
MISCELLANEOUS VIOLATIONS	40	16	8	17	21	9	111
<b>TOTAL GENERAL</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>214</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>1035</b>
<b>TOTAL ALL PROSECUTIONS</b>	<b>1121</b>	<b>702</b>	<b>834</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>1030</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>5326</b>

PROSECUTION PROGRAM

COUNTY	NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS	Amounts Assessed		Dispositions of Prosecutions			
		FINES	COSTS	CONVICTED	DISMISSED	ACQUITTED	FAILED TO APPEAR
Barbour	73	\$2,854.00	\$7,990.00	71	2	0	0
Berkeley	167	\$6,058.50	\$18,042.00	141	11	1	14
Boone	85	\$1,965.00	\$7,101.50	69	15	0	1
Braxton	68	\$1,898.10	\$7,498.50	53	15	0	0
Brooke	72	\$2,276.00	\$10,262.50	70	2	0	0
Cabell	29	\$640.00	\$2,568.00	20	9	0	0
Calhoun	34	\$6,851.60	\$3,595.50	27	4	0	3
Clay	46	\$3,180.00	\$5,178.40	35	11	0	0
Doddridge	18	\$635.00	\$2,568.00	18	0	0	0
Fayette	155	\$4,665.90	\$13,184.21	111	17	0	27
Gilmer	12	\$204.50	\$802.50	7	5	0	0
Grant	77	\$4,710.00	\$9,679.00	75	2	0	0
Greenbrier	188	\$10,297.75	\$21,562.46	181	7	0	0
Hampshire	118	\$5,865.00	\$16,429.50	112	2	0	4
Hancock	36	\$1,286.00	\$4,209.50	30	6	0	0
Hardy	50	\$2,134.50	\$5,275.50	37	13	0	0
Harrison	170	\$6,785.02	\$21,195.50	165	5	0	0
Jackson	106	\$2,575.00	\$6,639.50	53	37	0	16
Jefferson	162	\$5,682.10	\$17,340.61	118	17	0	27
Kanawha	181	\$5,604.50	\$11,381.00	93	67	0	21
Lewis	165	\$5,375.50	\$16,193.50	153	6	0	6
Lincoln	87	\$2,180.00	\$7,222.00	68	11	0	8
Logan	254	\$4,467.00	\$18,466.50	149	105	0	0
McDowell	144	\$4,666.00	\$16,768.70	117	27	0	0
Marion	94	\$2,316.00	\$10,178.50	79	15	0	0
Marshall	109	\$4,974.80	\$10,272.00	91	6	0	12
Mason	155	\$4,741.40	\$14,207.61	105	43	1	6
Mercer	44	\$1,792.20	\$4,876.27	41	3	0	0
Mineral	43	\$2,570.50	\$6,264.50	42	0	0	1
Mingo	150	\$2,175.00	\$10,909.00	104	45	0	1
Monongalia	182	\$5,965.00	\$22,299.00	166	13	2	1
Monroe	45	\$1,380.25	\$5,312.50	44	1	0	0
Morgan	39	\$1,595.00	\$5,140.00	32	7	0	0
Nicholas	169	\$18,234.70	\$17,842.61	138	27	0	4
Ohio	25	\$845.00	\$2,561.00	17	8	0	0
Pendleton	53	\$1,375.00	\$6,573.50	52	1	0	0
Pleasants	56	\$1,335.00	\$5,457.00	53	2	0	1
Pocahontas	60	\$1,355.00	\$6,904.50	53	4	0	3
Preston	149	\$6,780.50	\$16,635.00	134	14	1	0
Putnam	70	\$1,576.00	\$7,704.00	54	7	1	8
Raleigh	132	\$6,493.20	\$12,141.01	95	25	0	12
Randolph	99	\$5,115.00	\$11,702.00	86	4	1	8
Ritchie	107	\$3,235.00	\$10,586.00	86	18	0	3
Roane	74	\$1,378.00	\$5,782.00	47	20	0	7
Summers	108	\$8,276.20	\$12,813.11	94	11	0	3
Taylor	57	\$1,963.00	\$7,024.50	51	6	0	0
Tucker	67	\$1,288.00	\$6,161.50	48	19	0	0
Tyler	78	\$1,861.00	\$7,062.00	74	4	0	0
Upshur	97	\$6,740.00	\$12,002.50	94	3	0	0
Wayne	62	\$747.50	\$3,533.00	26	34	0	2
Webster	133	\$4,449.50	\$13,483.11	115	18	0	0
Wetzel	43	\$3,401.00	\$4,831.50	42	1	0	0
Wirt	46	\$2,410.00	\$4,494.00	39	6	0	1
Wood	226	\$6,670.00	\$26,040.00	195	26	1	4
Wyoming	56	\$1,951.30	\$4,537.21	40	16	0	0
TOTALS	5,325	\$207,847.02	\$546,484.81	4,310	803	8	204

# PARKS AND RECREATION SECTION

Kenneth Caplinger, Acting Chief

*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 in the late 1920s. Additionally, state parks and state forests serve as major tourist attractions to bolster the fame and economy of the state.*

## Overview

The system is comprised of 35 state parks, nine state forests, four 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 massive 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. And to the out-of-state tourist, they are among the nation’s finest state park vacation destinations. State parks and forests, for example, 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 a chance to re-create the body and spirit that comes with quality time spent together.

In addition to recreation, what is often times overlooked is this system’s contribution to enhancing and protecting environmental values, which in turn contribute to the overall quality of life, found in West Virginia. State parks and state forests protect watersheds, provide quality wildlife habitat, prevent soil erosion, provide hunting and fishing opportunities, and numerous other environmental benefits.

Lastly, and most importantly, state parks serve a valuable role as a cornerstone of tourism in West Virginia. In fact, the Division of Tourism surveys from out-of-state tourists constantly reveal state and national parks as the single biggest attraction that brought these individuals to our state. 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. Just one example would be the numerous “mom and pop” stores throughout the state (and the taxes they in turn pay) which are dependent upon the tourist dollars they receive incidental to a visit from a nearby state park system area.

## System-wide Goals, Objectives, and Challenges

### Self-sufficiency

Park managers endeavor to make the system as self-sufficient as possible while at the same time protecting the overall mission and resources associated with the system. Despite the remote location of some areas; inherent design inefficiencies at some areas dating back to periods when maximizing local employment was a paramount goal; the very low revenue production of some day use, historical, wildlife, and forest areas; public resistance to rate increases and entrance fees; addition to the system over the years of several “loss leader” local recreation areas and greatly increased “cost shifts” and increases of employee benefit costs of the past few years across all of state government, the West Virginia state park system has

traditionally been and continues to be one of the most operationally self sufficient in the nation.

The FY 2007 operational self sufficiency figure was 59 percent, compared to 58 percent the prior year. The last half of the fiscal year saw good revenues despite increased gasoline prices.

Fiscal Year 2007 revenues increased by 3 percent or \$787,948 over FY 2006 making FY 2007 the best total revenue year in system history. Cacapon in particular has performed very well revenue-wise the last two fiscal years. Current plans call for major expansion of Cacapon, Blackwater Falls, and Twin Falls revenue producing facilities, which should have a major revenue and self-sufficiency impact when complete.

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 at that time of \$127 million on the economy of West Virginia.

### **Lodge Sales**

An ongoing effort to maximize occupancy in all state park lodges, especially in the off-season, is the task of the two group sales staffers (one in Charleston, one at Pipestem Resort State Park) who market lodges and resort parks to various organizations throughout the state and country. The sales staffers are paid a base salary plus incentives for increases in lodge occupancy. 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 also are used frequently. These employees work particularly hard to attract off-season, mid-week business, which is the most difficult lodging sales challenges facing the park system. With the recent promotion of the Charleston-based sales staffer to another position, the program is being reviewed for continuation versus alternate approaches.

### **Infrastructure Improvements**

Major projects completed this fiscal year included the new 75-room Chief Logan Lodge, replacement of the Camp Creek water reservoir, restoration of the Putnam-Houser House on Blennerhassett Island and boiler replacement at McKee Lodge. Construction began on a new sewage treatment plant at Beech Fork State Park, a new rest room building at Carnifex Ferry, and the platform building at Canaan Valley. One of the biggest challenges facing Parks at this time is the lack of adequate funding for major repairs. At minimum, some \$4 to \$5 million per

year is needed versus the approximate \$1 million plus currently available.

### **Administrative Management**

To support the 49 units that comprise the system in FY 2007, there were some 430 full-time employees, 1,000 hourly employees at the peak of seasonal employment, and several major park concessionaires. To meet administrative demands, Parks used six statewide general administrative personnel. These are a Chief (vacant since 01/03/2006), a Deputy Chief who is in charge of operations, 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 card 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 overwhelmingly positive guest comment cards.



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

Most of the items identified in the system-wide assessment of several years ago are complete while smaller additional and ever evolving needs remain.

### **Minority Employment**

The Parks Section desires to increase the representation of minority groups in the work force. There is a commitment to add protected classes 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 had declared dams on several areas, including Blackwater Falls, Cacapon Resort and Tomlinson Run state parks, as being hazardous structures. Funding is being sought to remedy this. 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 which 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 which threaten state-owned forests. Routine trail and boundary maintenance are carried on throughout the year.

## Individual Area and Section Activity Reports

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 con-

stant challenge. This section of the annual report will focus mainly on repair issues since the common themes of self-sufficiency, compliance programs, and similar management challenges are described elsewhere.

## Audra State Park

Renovations were done to the snack bar and included a new floor, new equipment and an exterior face lift. The main campground bathhouse was renovated with interior painting, floor paint and a laundry room upgrade. The park office exterior was painted and repairs were made to the superintendent's residence fireplace. A new ATV utility vehicle was purchased this year.

## Babcock State Park

New windows were installed in two cabins and the gift shop in the administration building. This will greatly help conserve propane and reduce costs in heating the administration building and will help keep down insect infestation in the cabins. A new linen/laundry agreement was put into place starting in April 2007 with Hawks Nest State Park. Babcock purchased linens for the cabins and Hawks Nest took on the responsibility of laundering them. New sign replacement has continued throughout the park with approximately 65 percent of the signs being replaced with the new plastic version. Sign posts were replaced or repainted as needed. This makes for a well groomed look and should make the constant sign repainting process of the past obsolete for many years. Several standard cabins were re-roofed in the continuing cabin maintenance program. Security gates were installed at the campground enhancing off-season security for the fuel house area. New cable gates were installed at the pool parking lot which prevent access to the pool in off-season and allow Sugar Camp picnic area to remain open longer in the fall.

## Beartown State Park

Operations were routine for the summer and fall, but in December a severe storm blew down about two dozen hemlock trees already weakened by the wooly adelgid. Several large tangles of fallen trees were removed and damaged sections of the boardwalk were repaired. Most wooden signs on the area were replaced with new laminated plastic ones. WCHS-TV did a short Traveling West Virginia feature on the park. The hemlock trees affected by the wooly adelgid continue to weaken and die and some areas along the boardwalk have already seeded in with young birch trees.

## Beech Fork State Park

ADA renovations and upgrades were made to the Lakeview bathhouse. Interior renovations to cabin #5 were completed. Two cabins were stained. New mattresses were installed to all cabin beds. A security system was installed

to the park office and maintenance shop. The majority of the fitness trail grant project, which included paving a one mile trail, was completed. A self-registration camping system was put into effect during the off season. More than 150 wood signs were painted. All park supply and maintenance buildings were reorganized. Routine repairs to water and sewer, pool, buildings, campsites, and equipment were completed.

### **Berkeley Springs State Park**

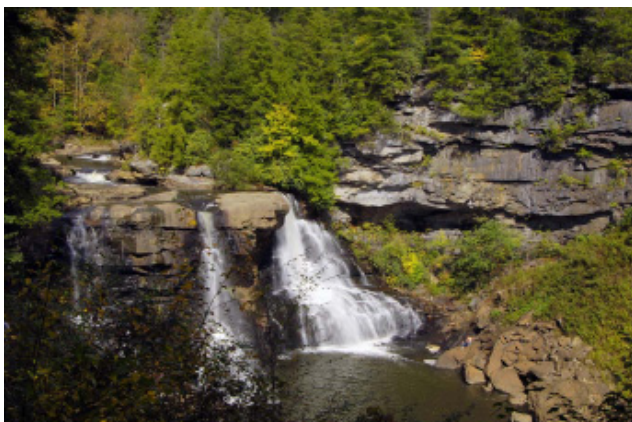
Planning and meetings continued throughout the year concerning the major renovation of the main bathhouse. Unfortunately, the project was put on hold when bids came in far over the construction budget. Numerous boiler repairs were made throughout the year to the main bathhouse boilers including two major leaks that had to be welded by specially certified contractors. The women's steam cabinet was reconditioned and leaks in the lobby heating registers were repaired. The swimming pool main water line was repaired, new cabinets and sinks were installed in the concession area and new light fixtures were installed. A new chlorine feeder was installed in the filter room. Major painting projects included the Old Roman Bathhouse interior and all handrails throughout the park. Flooding of the Old Roman Bathhouse occurred on three occasions and repairs were made as needed.

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

Renovations to the swimming pool began and are expected to be completed by the opening of the 2008 season. The eighth annual Kids Fishing Day was held this year. Improvements included painting buildings and gates and clearing roadside ditches. Campground occupancy increased for the second year in a row.

### **Blackwater Falls State Park**

Blackwater Falls had a celebration in 2007 commemorating the Lodge's 50th anniversary. During the celebration year extensive repairs and remodeling were accomplished including remodeling the registration desk, refinishing of all the tables and chairs in the restaurant and



Davis Conference Room, ongoing lodge bathroom remodeling, painting the exterior of the lodge and the Harr Center and completing the boiler stack stonework. A new 24-hour International Coffee Bar was installed and wireless internet extenders were placed throughout the lodge providing better service to guests. All mattresses, box springs, and bed frames in the lodge and cabins were replaced. Ongoing cabin renovations continued and included replacing hardwood flooring in two cabins, building new decks on three cabins, constructing a new handicapped accessible ramp on one cabin, re-upholstering furniture and painting. The laundry building and residences were painted as well. The assistant superintendent's residence bathroom and kitchen were renovated. All the trails received new reflective blazes to improve low light/night time visibility, several new benches were constructed and placed throughout the park, and the sled run received a new tow motor.

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

The park began leasing a new sternwheeler, the Spirit of South Charleston, for transportation to the island. The savings from the new operation should run to over



\$200,000 annually. Several new evening programs were developed including Island Frolic, Family Fireworks Cruise, and the Sunday Sundae Cruise. Two deer drives were held on the island and the estimated count was 131 deer, a level that was high enough to schedule a second controlled hunt on the island. The Blennerhassett Foundation continued restoration work on the Putnam-Houser house on the island with completion of the hallway and parlor and addition of heating and cooling units. Repair work was completed on the Blennerhassett Mansion and painting was scheduled for the fall of 2007. Volunteer hours for the year were in excess of 15,000.

### **Bluestone State Park**

The cabin renovation project continued with the addition of new queen size mattresses to all cabins. Three cabins received new furnaces. The ADA cabin kitchen



and bathroom floors were replaced and the ceilings were painted in 15 cabins. The park received and installed many new plastic laminate signs. Two boat docks were replaced at the East Shore Campground.

### **Bluestone Wildlife Management Area**

Revenue was nearly \$40,000 for the year and attendance was over 100,000. Volunteers performed more than 1,400 hours of labor on the area during the fiscal year. Maintenance included mowing and other routine work. Improvements were made to the Red Sulfur Turnpike Trail to allow trout stocking vehicles to use it for access to Indian Creek.

### **Cabwaylingo State Forest**

Electric and lighting upgrades were made to the pool bathhouse, office, and maintenance shop. New environmentally sensitive compact fluorescent light bulbs were used throughout. The group camp and swimming pool pump house was rewired. Four cabins were painted and all cabin furniture was refinished and reupholstered by Prison Industries. All signs on the area were replaced with the new polymer signs installed on new posts. The hillside adjacent to the group camp was cleared of trees and brush. Tick Ridge Shelter was painted and chinking was repaired.

### **Cacapon Resort State Park**

The park foundation completed construction of a new picnic shelter and donated 50 picnic tables. Staff repaired or rebuilt stone walls throughout the park. Two cabins were re-roofed and new porches were built. New safety railing was installed on the dam. A new laundry facility was put into operation and the bathhouse floors were sandblasted and painted. Consultants were retained for construction and feasibility plans for the lodge expansion.



### **Camp Creek State Park**

A new law enforcement training area was constructed on the state forest side to provide a permanent training and qualification range for special conservation officers.

The bathhouse at the equestrian campground was remodeled with new mold-resistant coating, new ceiling, paint, and fiberglass shower stalls. Fire rings were replaced in the Blue Jay campground. A new security camera system was installed in the park office gift shop area. The park hosted the annual Bluegrass Day and Fall Festival special events. The park foundation began raising funds for construction of an amphitheater.

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

The Harr Barn, a long standing landmark at Canaan Valley, partially collapsed and was demolished. A new



ADA compliant parking area was constructed at the tennis court area to comply with LWCF requirements. The entrance to the main lodge and adjacent parking areas were resurfaced. The water plant facility received a new roof and the ranger residence was renovated inside. A paint crew was utilized to paint all buildings on the park, significantly improving the appearance of the area. A consulting firm was retained to conduct a financial feasibility study on the construction of new lodging accommodations using private investment.

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

A new rest room building was completed in the picnic area. The maintenance shop, museum, residence and other buildings all received a new coat of stain. All signs in the park were replaced with new plastic signs. The museum was remodeled to convert a small room into a gift shop and a new flat screen TV was purchased to accommodate larger groups watching the video of the park history.

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

Houses 135, 139, 227, 231, 334, 260, 262, and the caretaker's house were given major renovations. Foundation repairs and drainage, new skirting and guttering, new porch decks, railings, stairs, and boardwalks, window repairs, sheetrock repairs and repainting, new trim and hardwood flooring and refinishing of old flooring,





kitchen and bathroom redecoration including new cabinets were typical of work undertaken. Some furnishings were constructed in house. A program to upgrade the storm doors on all rental houses was completed. The Doctor's House was further stabilized with installation of guttering and foundation drains. The number of rental houses is now up to 18, with two more virtually ready and awaiting furnishings. The exteriors of 18 houses were prepped, primed and painted, as were about 30 percent of the town's picket fences. The railroad crosswalks were painted as well. The mill ruins observation platform was rebuilt.

For the first time a panoramic orientation and interpretive sign was designed and installed at the Bald Knob overlook platform. The history of house #236 was thoroughly researched in accordance with the park's Master Plan for future reference in its use as a model mill worker's house. One entire block's water main and service connections were replaced due to deterioration. As part of this project a fire hydrant was installed in the town for the first time. Repairs and improvements were made to the failed storm drain system under the company store building and front parking area. Three of the park's older pickup trucks, dating to 1990, received bodywork and new paint. High speed internet and networking of administrative computers was achieved in the headquarters.

Shay #4 was reassembled, repainted, and returned to service after nine years of inactivity due to major repairs. Shay #5 was re-flued, and Shay #11's crown and pinion gears were welded up and machined to reverse decades of wear. Passenger car #2 was completely reconstructed from the frame up due to deterioration. This presented the opportunity to provide a reservable seating option for guests. The seating was reconfigured, the car interior was insulated and fitted with oak paneling and flooring, a flexible rubber roof and double hung windows were installed. It was dubbed the "Leatherbark Creek" and tickets are selling at a premium.

A track maintenance car was remodeled into a dump bed for more easily laying off ballast for repairs. Motor-

car #2's engine and transmission were rebuilt, and motor-cars 1 and 2 were repainted. A filtration system for the locomotive water supply was researched, purchased and installed to reduce wear to internal parts. Remediation of a century of oil contamination of the railroad and yard was undertaken by contractor. Contaminated ballast was removed, and remaining ballast was successfully treated with microbes to reduce contamination. In conjunction with this effort, full implementation of an environmentally friendly soy-based gear lubricant was achieved without undo wear to the park's historic locomotives. Another vista was cleared at Whittaker Station for guests' enjoyment. Electronic defibrillators and an EMS radio were installed on the trains for public safety, and staff was acquainted with their use.

### **Cathedral State Park**

A new sign for the National Natural Landmark designation was installed at the beginning of the trail system along with a new interpretive sign paid for by a grant from the group Frontiers to Mountaineers. The playground equipment was upgraded, the maintenance garage was painted and major renovations were done to the residence including a new roof, remodeled kitchen and bathroom, and new carpet.



### **Cedar Creek State Park**

A new parking area was constructed at Shelter 1 along with drainage improvements and a new accessible grill and water fountain. Work continued on the interior of the swimming pool bathhouse with the installation of a ceiling. The exterior of the equipment shed was renovated. Staff assisted Allegheny Power with installation of 1,700 feet of underground power line at the campground. New concrete pads were poured on four campsites and two additional sites received fire ring pads.

### **Chief Logan State Park**

The new Chief Logan Lodge opened at the beginning of FY 2007. The recreation center is still in the planning stages. The water slide was upgraded with new stair railings and the high dive was lowered two feet for safety purposes. New outdoor lighting was installed at the pool.

A new entrance sign, new sidewalk, and handrails were installed at the amphitheater. The park hosted the annual Sue Browning Wildflower Hike, Civil War Re-enactment, Shawnee Living History Trail, and Christmas in the Park.

### **Coopers Rock State Forest**

Staff assisted the Coopers Rock Foundation with construction of a three mile hiking trail that parallels the main road. Several culverts were installed and gravel was spread on 1,100 feet of the trail surface. Several new fire rings and grills were installed in the picnic area. A large bridge was built on the Mount Chateau hiking trail. Four memorial benches were placed along the walkway to the scenic overlook, funded by family members of frequent Coopers Rock visitors. Tree contractors trimmed and widened the electric right of way from the office to the pond.

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



The bi-annual Civil War reenactment was well attended and included a gathering of descendants of men who fought in the November 6, 1863, battle. The Discovery Channel filmed a short segment of Droop ghost stories for their program Mystery Hunters. Numerous school and senior citizen groups were guided around the battlefield and several off area presentations were made for school and Civil War roundtable groups. The south picnic shelter was painted and new electric service installed. New swing sets were installed at the playgrounds. Fallen trees were cleared throughout the year and the main road through the park was improved by grading shoulders and clearing ditches

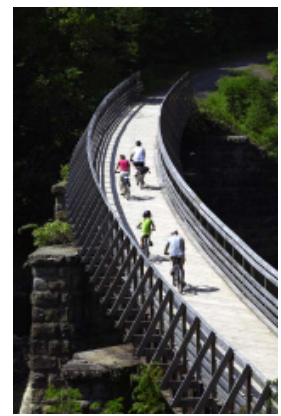
### **Greenbrier River Trail**

Improvements in the Marlinton section included two bike racks, six park benches, and 500 feet of split rail fencing. Parking areas were built at Renick, Anthony and Buckeye. Five miles of trail were resurfaced with limestone sand. The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection removed five tons of scrap metal and household trash from a site on trail property in Marlinton. The trail website and brochure were revised and upgraded.

A new trail adoption program was devised and implemented to organize volunteer labor on the trail.

### **Greenbrier State Forest**

One campsite received modifications and improvements to make it ADA compliant. Other improvements in the campground included a coat of paint for the bathhouse interior, installation of a new fiberglass shower stall in the women's room at the bathhouse and replacement of the conventional tank water heater with a tankless water heater. Bathrooms of four cabins were remodeled with new floor tile, ceilings over the shower stalls and heater units. Additional electrical circuits and outlets were added in the kitchens of three cabins. The exteriors of three cabins were stained and sewer lines serving two cabins were replaced. The swimming pool bathhouse and filter building received a coat of paint. Ceiling fans were installed in the pool bathhouse. The pump house serving the swimming pool was re-plumbed. The Annual Show-Me Hike (spring wildflower hike), Greenbrier County Boy Scout/Girl Scout Day Camp, and the Civil War Re-enactment of the Battle of White Sulphur Springs were hosted by the forest.



### **Hawks Nest State Park**

The lodge received much attention this year by way of a facelift to rooms and HVAC repairs. Staff completed replacement of the fourth floor guest room air handler and repaired plaster damaged by water leaks. Room upgrades included a new paint color scheme, replacing televisions, upgrading bathrooms, new carpet in some rooms, and some rewiring to accommodate refrigerator and microwaves in suites. The aerial tramway continued to be unreliable with mechanical and electrical service failures. Many of the malfunctions appear to be related to faulty old switches and circuit boards. Finding replacement parts proved very difficult due to the existing equipment being overtaken by new technology. The tramway contractor replaced cliff tower walking arm pins and also rebuilt main axles on two towers. A certified electrician was contracted to provide technical assistance with electrical faults and to determine future operation repair or upgrade costs. A new commercial in-house laundry was developed to clean the lodge linens as well as summer Babcock cabin linens. The laundry replaces the rental linen service which was providing product not of the quality required in the hospitality industry. Winter Dinner Theater special events continued to draw sell-out crowds, which increased room occupancy as well as restaurant business during off season.





The restaurant continues to perform well with the food service concessionaire. Replacement of pressure treated boardwalk decking was completed as the first phase of the very popular Lovers Leap hiking trail. Golf course play improved this season with incentive rates during evenings. The incentive rate was developed in effort to promote play and attract players at 18-hole golf courses in the surrounding areas. Comments from golfers have been excellent this year, many stating that the course is in the best ever shape.

### **Holly River State Park**

Cabin renovations included replacing several logs in Cabins 1 and 6. The Balli shelter was rebuilt after being crushed by a falling tree. Flagstone walkway repairs were made at the Old Pavilion. The Klee Farm residence was painted. Renovations to the linen building included enclosing the walls, painting, installing new light fixtures and baseboard heating. A shuffleboard court was installed by the park foundation in the game court area near the swimming pool. The foundation also funded construction of a new ADA accessible paved half mile loop trail. Park benches and canopy swings were placed at four areas along the trail and handicap parking was paved at the trailhead.

### **Kanawha State Forest**

The large bathhouse in the campground received a major renovation with new fixtures, plumbing, wiring, paint and new washing machines. New benches, curtains and wall panels were installed in the shower stalls. A new metal roof was installed on Shelter 3. All forest signs were either repainted or replaced. The forest office was rewired to accommodate the demands of the phone and computer systems. Volunteers continued to expand the Middle Ridge Trail system.

### **Kumbrabow State Forest**

The superintendent's residence and garage were re-roofed. Logs were removed and replaced in two cabins. All of the cots in the four cabins were replaced with new

beds and improved bedding and all cabins received new bedspreads. A new snowplow was secured just in time for winter. Two of the bays in the maintenance building were gutted and transformed over the winter months into a useful maintenance shop with proper lighting, wiring, and heat. The old shop was converted to equipment storage.

### **Laurel Lake Wildlife Management Area**

Due to the superintendent vacancy for much of the year, no major projects were undertaken. Routine maintenance was performed by staff.

### **Little Beaver State Park**

The museum area in the park office building was re-organized and consolidated. An ADA accessible boat dock was constructed and eight new paddle boats were purchased. Entrance gates were installed, which helped cut down on criminal activity and vandalism. All of the trails were blazed with plastic trail markers and a new trail map was produced. The sewer line from the campground was connected into the main sewer line. The tanks for the sanitary dump station were installed and connected to the sewer line.

### **Lost River State Park**

New decks were constructed on two cabins while two additional cabins received renovations to the bathrooms. The recreation building was heavily damaged by a falling tree and repairs were made. New windows were installed in the maintenance building and residence. More than 1,000 feet of water line was replaced from the reservoir to the stables.

### **Moncove Lake State Park**

The old campground check-in station was completely remodeled with funds and materials donated by the park foundation. The upgrades included expanded floor space, a new public entrance, interior rebuild from floor to ceiling, new roof, new windows, a new porch and steps, a new woodshed and new parking area. A riding mower was purchased and an addition was built on the maintenance shop to store it. The West Virginia Division of Highways made improvements to the roadsides throughout the park. The park hosted the Moncove Lake Kid's Fishing Derby after a two-year absence due to the lake draining.

### **North Bend Rail Trail**

To address the drainage problems on sections of the trail, additional ditching was done in several areas. Staff continued replacing access gates, repairing barricades, placing culverts, and cutting back rights-of-way along the entire trail. New interpretive signs were installed on the tunnels. A monument was placed on the trail at West Union

by the Order of the E Clampus Vitus honoring Ephraim Bee, founder of the Order.

### North Bend State Park



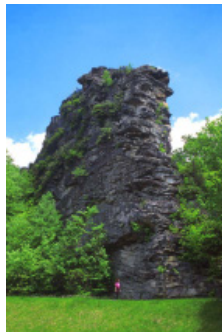
The Natural Resource Conservation Service began construction of a 28-site campground as part of the North Fork Hughes River Watershed Project. The project is scheduled for completion by the spring of 2008. The campground will have one bathhouse along with water and electricity on each of the sites. A road resurfacing project was begun with paving completed on approximately 2.5 miles of road. An additional three miles are scheduled to be paved in fiscal year 2008. The Lake Trail Foundation and Little Kanawha Resource Conservation District continued with the construction of the Lake Trail, with approximately 10 miles completed. The park held the first annual Lake & Park Clean Up, which removed more than three tons of trash from the area. Maintenance work included replacing the roof on two park buildings, cleaning and treating the outside of all the cabins, remodeling six more lodge guest rooms and refinishing all the dining room tables.

### Panther State Forest

The superintendent's new modular residence was delivered and secured to the foundation. The group camp dining hall interior was painted along with the bedrooms. New bunk beds and mattresses were installed in the barracks building of the group camp. A new large grill was installed outside the dining hall building.

### Pinnacle Rock State Park

Three additional displays were added in the interpretive room. New metal doors were installed on the two handicap accessible outhouses. More brush was removed along Route 52 to enhance the view of Pinnacle Rock. An Emergency Action Plan was completed for Jimmy Lewis Lake.



### Pipestem Resort State Park

Room upgrades continued through the off season with 14 rooms receiving new bathrooms and upgraded heating/air conditioning units. One cottage was re-roofed. The park laundry received two new washers and dryers. Structural repairs were made to the outdoor pool and the recreation building and new rubber membrane and deck carpeting were installed on the pool deck. A major cleanup of surplus property, scrap metal and waste oil and paint products was done to comply with WV Department of Environmental Protection regulations. Tower arm replacement was again performed on the aerial tram. Both golf course pro shops were painted and deteriorated windows and decking were replaced. Work began to replace all keyed guest room doors with new card lock systems. The park foundation purchased a playground set that was installed by staff at Shelter B.

### Plum Orchard Wildlife Management Area

Major improvements were made to the campsites which included new grills and pads, enlarged and leveled parking areas, tent pads, additional landscaping for privacy and drainage improvements. A trail was constructed from Beech Bottom Campground to the boat launch area. New signs were installed throughout the area. A retaining wall was built behind the storage building to alleviate erosion problems. The Wildlife Section treated aquatic growth in the lake.

### Prickett's Fort State Park

The old visitor's center was converted into an educational annex. Construction began on the Blacksmith's Shop. Improvements at the amphitheater included new railing and lighting system repairs. The boat launch rest room exterior was painted. Painting and floor replacement was done in the residence.



The boat launch rest room exterior was painted. Painting and floor replacement was done in the residence.

### Seneca State Forest

A thorough renovation of the downstairs rooms in Cabin 4 was undertaken. The rooms were gutted, and sagging ceiling supports and headers were jacked up and reinforced, new gas lighting was installed and the doorway separating the kitchen and dining areas was enlarged. The walls were insulated for the first time. New kitchen cabinets and pine paneling were installed, the walls and ceilings were varnished and the floors were refinished. Oak trim was installed and varnished. The refrigerator was



given a facelift, including a paint job, and the wood cook stove was replaced. The floors in Cabin 2 were refinished. Four steel liners for the campground's stone fireplaces were constructed and installed. The water plant piping and valves were replaced. Gates throughout the forest were repainted. New mattresses were installed in all cabins.

### **Stonewall Jackson Lake State Park**

The resort operator, now in the fifth year of operation, continues to operate the resort with a high level of guest satisfaction. Unfortunately, project revenues continue to be insufficient to cover bond debt repayment and the project is in technical bond default. Guest comments continue to reveal satisfaction with quality experiences in lodging, camping, dining and other recreational amenities. Sales and marketing staff are diligently seeking business from both conferences and vacationers. For the third 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 certified this year as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary from Audubon International by demonstrating a commitment to the environment in management practices. The park was awarded a \$358,720 Transportation Enhancement Grant for the construction of two pedestrian/biking bridges and a boardwalk which will connect the day use area with the lodge.

### **Tomlinson Run State Park**

Both bathhouses at the campground were painted inside and out. New plastic signs were installed in the campground area replacing the old wooden signs. Both rest rooms in the campground check-in building were painted. A concrete pad was poured at the campground shelter.

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

Two diseased pine trees were removed from the Kanawha River side of the park. Landscaping was improved and mulch was spread. All signs were painted or replaced as needed. A flood in March 2007 left a tremendous amount of debris on the Ohio River side of the park which took months to remove.



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

A new water heater system was installed at the swimming pool. The main playground and cottage area playgrounds received protective surfaces under the equipment.

The old campground lift station was replaced. New firewood storage was built for cottages. The lodge lobby was remodeled, two lodge room bathrooms were renovated and three cottages were stained. Two cottages received new parking areas and the front decks were extended on two additional cottages. The pro shop landscaping was upgraded and 50 American Chestnut trees were planted on the park. New directional and trail signs were installed throughout the area. Architectural and engineering work continued on the lodge expansion project.



### **Tygart Lake State Park**

A second room in the lodge was upgraded to Executive Suite standards with a sliding door opening onto a deck overlooking the lake, big screen television with VCR/DVD player, small refrigerator and microwave and two queen size beds. All cabin driveways and walkways were re-graveled. The park foundation funded a new 20' x 24' picnic shelter. A new parking lot was built at Shelter 3 to relieve parking problems associated with large groups. The West Virginia Division of Highways built a new retaining wall along the lodge parking lot. Wireless Internet service was added to the lodge and the kitchen fire suppression system was upgraded. Two overlooks were cleared providing a view of the lake.

### **Valley Falls State Park**

A new Trail Cruiser vehicle was purchased for trail maintenance, night searches and routine work. One and one-half miles of Deer Trail was widened to ten feet, culverts were installed and the surface was graveled to allow it to be used by emergency vehicles and to provide a fire break from the railroad. New lights were installed in the shop and the soffit and fascia were repaired on the residence. Materials were purchased for an expansion of the maintenance building.



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

Cabin improvements included refinishing the floors of all but two of the 34 cabins. Three cabins received kitchen and bathroom renovations. Water and sewer line replacement was done as needed. The recreation hall, office and other smaller buildings were re-roofed and a new metal roof was installed on the Jarvis/Workman cabin. Major renovations to eight cabin crawl spaces were done by contractors and included jacking up the cabins to replace rotted foundation sills, floor joists and main girders. The West Virginia Division of Highways paved two miles of the park road, cleared all ditches, replaced a culvert in the Pine Run cabin area and constructed a new box culvert to replace the old wooden bridge to the recreation hall, thereby making the area ADA accessible. Plans were developed to convert the old airstrip area into an equestrian camping area with riding trails. On Calvin Price, the second half of the Fort Lewis timber sale was awarded.

## **Watters Smith Memorial State Park**

All buildings in the historical area received maintenance including roof, siding and door repairs. This included the barns, hog house, smoke house and carpenter shop. New picnic tables were constructed and installed throughout the park. An air conditioner was installed at the Old House Museum and the museum was painted as well. New fencing was installed at the stables, the baby pool concrete was repaired and painted, and smoke alarms were installed in the gift shop.

## **Planning/Engineering/Maintenance Section**

The following projects were completed or well underway between July 1, 2006 and June 30, 2007:

- Berwind Lake – Pool Repairs (currently under way)
- Blennerhassett Island – Putnam Houser House Renovation (currently underway)
- Cacapon – Wobble Clay Shooting Range (nearing completion)
- Canaan Valley – Platform Building
- Carnifex Ferry – Picnic Area Rest Room
- Chief Logan – Amphitheater Seating Replacement (nearing completion)
- Kanawha – Dunlap Hollow Rest Room
- Little Beaver – Campground (under construction but temporarily halted awaiting funding to complete)
- Panther – Superintendent’s Residence
- Tomlinson Run – Stream Bank Flood Damage Repairs
- Twin Falls – Campground Lift Station Replacement

- Twin Falls – Recreation Building Structural Repairs (partially completed in-house)
- Tygart Lake – Lodge Parking Retaining Wall
- Watoga – Cabin Substructure Improvements

## **Community Work Experience Program (CWEP)**

In calendar year 2006, this program provided the following benefits:

- 15 participants for 6 state recreation areas
- 1,688 hours of maintenance, crafts and general service work
- \$9,874.80 of federal funds

## **Programming Section**

The state park programming staff consists of an administrator who serves as a resource for park personnel in the area of event planning and nature/recreation programs, marketing and interpretation. A part-time clerk assists with statewide programs such as the Very Important Parks Person (VIPP) program, the Hiking West Virginia program, and gift card sales.

## **Programs**

Through the nature and recreation programs held at state parks and forests, guests and visitors are stimulated to develop an appreciation and awareness of the natural environment. This understanding of natural resources and their importance in our daily lives leads to a commitment to the management and conservation of those resources. Education through weekly programs is a key element in the motivation to protect and support West Virginia’s state parks and natural areas. Nature and recreation programs also provide opportunities for recreational activities and entertainment in state park or forest settings. These dynamic programs are evaluated and adjusted so that they may always meet the goals of the nature and recreation program. By hosting special events and entertainment, the mission to satisfy guests and to promote a positive image is fulfilled. There are typically more than 200 special events held each year. Total attendance for all programs and special events typically exceeds 120,000.

## **Volunteers**

Volunteers play an important role in West Virginia State Parks. They may act as campground hosts, golf course starters, hike leaders, work at a museum or be a member of a park foundation. Volunteers usually record more than 45,000 hours annually in West Virginia State Parks.

# PUBLIC INFORMATION

## Hoy Murphy, Public Information Officer

*The DNR Public Information Office was established in 1986 to provide a strong, unified public voice for the Division of Natural Resources to the public and to facilitate improved communications within the Division. In 2007, the public information officer (PIO) was consolidated into the Department of Commerce Office of Communications. Duties include coordinating communications with DNR's sections and acting as the official DNR spokesperson for news media inquiries. The PIO also works with the governor's office to coordinate announcements relating to DNR projects.*

### **Media Contacts**

The PIO serves as the central point for media inquiries about DNR's many activities. Information for the general public is made available through news releases distributed through fax transmissions to news organizations throughout the state and interested news organizations in surrounding states. Copies of the releases also are mailed to an extensive list of free-lance outdoors writers and magazines targeted towards hunters, anglers, and outdoors recreationists. They also go to an extensive e-mail list of subscribers interested in DNR activities.

These news releases also are posted on the DNR Web site ([www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov)), where they are archived and remain available for review. In addition, numerous personal contacts are made with individual reporters in the promotion of events such as Hunters Helping the Hungry and the West Virginia Celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day.

### **Publications**

The PIO is responsible for compiling information for and designing the DNR Annual Report.

The PIO is responsible for writing, designing and publishing the twice-monthly *DNR Employee News*, which is included in each agency paycheck envelope. The newsletter also is available online at [www.wvdnr.biz](http://www.wvdnr.biz).

### **"Your DNR" Television Program**

Since March 1993, the Public Information Office has been in a partnership with the Video Services department of the West Virginia Library Commission to produce a weekly half-hour program titled "Your DNR," which features interviews with division personnel to

promote and explain DNR activities and policies. The program is seen three times each Wednesday on cable systems throughout West Virginia, Ohio, Kentucky, and Virginia.

### **Association for Conservation Information**

In 2007 the PIO completed a three-year term on the board of directors of the Association for Conservation Information (ACI). About 100 conservation information representatives from state, federal and private wildlife organizations attended for five days of workshops, seminars, and the awards ceremony for excellence in conservation communications during the 2006 conference, held in Orlando, Florida.

### **The State Fair of West Virginia**

The PIO heads DNR's State Fair of West Virginia committee, comprised of representatives from each section, which plans and implements the agency's display at the State Fair held each August in Lewisburg, West Virginia.

In 2006, the DNR display won first place in the category of "Best West Virginia Building Exhibit," designing its presentation for the fair theme of "Traditions You Treasure." Thousands of copies of DNR brochures and promotional items were distributed.

### **DNR Web Pages**

Information about hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, state parks, law enforcement and all news releases are available on the DNR Web page at [www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov), and that information is updated frequently.

A calendar of all DNR public events is updated weekly on the front page of the Web site.



Trout stocking reports are posted daily during the stocking season in the late winter and spring months, and these postings receive the second highest number of views on the State Government Internet server.

Each Wednesday a report on the fishing and hunting conditions from around the state is posted .

Other agency Web sites include State Parks at [www.wvparks.com](http://www.wvparks.com) and *Wonderful West Virginia* magazine at [www.wonderfulwv.com](http://www.wonderfulwv.com), both of which provide information and opportunities to purchase merchandise and subscriptions online. Hunting and fish-

ing licenses can be purchased through a secure server at [www.wvhunt.com](http://www.wvhunt.com) and [www.wvfish.com](http://www.wvfish.com), and they can be printed out on the purchasers home computer printer, providing exceptional customer service.

#### **Other Responsibilities**

The PIO represents DNR as a member of the national Association for Conservation Information. The PIO is part of DNR's legislative team, collecting and tracking bills relevant to DNR on a daily basis and distributing them to each section during the legislative session each year.

# REAL ESTATE MANAGEMENT SECTION

Joe T. Scarberry, Acting Chief

*The Real Estate Management Section serves the Division and the State 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 Public Land Corporation. These main functions involve the acquisition, exchange, transfer or disposal of land and improvements. They include organizing and archiving of the real estate title documents for the Division and many other state agencies, and the everyday administration of the real estate title once lands are acquired.*

## Land Acquisition

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; the preparation of analytical narrative 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 Real Estate Management Section is responsible for procedures dealing with the preparation, execution, and recordation 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 Section 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 Section also handles all contract boundary survey work; contract fee appraisal 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 for the Division of Forestry. In addition, many other state, county and local governments are provided real estate services through the Public Land Corporation.

## Public Land Corporation

The Public Land Corporation 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 state. In the past year, 542 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. A total of 615 right-of-way licenses were granted for pipelines, underground or underwater cables, and overhead power and telephone lines crossing the State's waterways. Additionally, 200 large stream structure agreements were granted for bridges and culverts in the State's streams.

## Other Functions

This Section 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, and the Public Land Corporation. At the end of this fiscal year, the Division of Natural Resources owned or long-term leased and operated 508,811 acres of land with partial mineral rights and held title to 34,000 miles of the State's river and creek beds. Division of Natural Resources lands are broken down into 295,979 acres owned and 212,832 acres leased. This acreage encompasses some 342 separate areas such as: wildlife management areas, public access sites, wetlands, 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**

	<b>Acreage</b>
<b>Center Branch Wildlife Management Area</b>	
Maxwell Foster .....	1.07
<b>Elk River Public Access Site</b>	
David R. Beech .....	4.76
<b>Little Indian Creek Wildlife Management Area</b>	
The Conservation Fund .....	1036.00
<b>Meadow River Wetland Wildlife Management Area</b>	
William Miller .....	51.000
Go Mart, Inc. ....	1.250

**LAND LICENSED OR LEASED TO DNR**

	<b>Acreage</b>
<b>Creston Bridge Public Access Site</b>	
WV Division of Highways .....	0.4
<b>Elk River Public Access Site</b>	
WV State Rail Authority .....	10.00
<b>Hanging Rock Public Access Site</b>	
Charles Harriott .....	1.00*
<b>Jodie Bridge Public Access Site</b>	
WV Division of Highways .....	5*
<b>Sandstone Public Access Site</b>	
Charles W. Boyd .....	0.500*
<b>St. Albans Public Access Site</b>	
First Charleston, LLC .....	0.164*
<b>Shenandoah River Public Access Site</b>	
Allegheny Energy Supply .....	1.00
<b>Tuscarora Creek SBPA</b>	
Ralph Olean .....	1.00*

**\*Renewals not included in summary of new acreages**

	<b>Acreage</b>
4 parcels acquired .....	1094.00
0 releases; reverters; exchanges or transfers .....	0.00
8 parcels licensed or leased .....	11.00

Net increase for FY 2006-2007   +1105.00

**OPTIONS TO PURCHASE OBTAINED**

	<b>Acreage</b>
<b>Center Branch Wildlife Management Area</b>	
Maxwell Foster -----	1.07
<b>Elk River Public Access Site</b>	
David Beech -----	4.76
<b>Lewis Wetzel Wildlife Management Area</b>	
Sharon Neff -----	293.25
<b>Underwood Wildlife Management Area</b>	
Mark Spurlock -----	14.00
<b>Valley Falls State Park</b>	
Lura Watkins (mineral interests only) -----	397.8

**PARCELS IN PROCESS OF ACQUISITION**

	<b>Acreage</b>
<b>Lewis Wetzel Wildlife Management Area</b>	
Sharon Neff -----	293.25
<b>Underwood Wildlife Management Area</b>	
Mark Spurlock -----	14.00
<b>Valley Falls State Park</b>	
Lura Watkins (mineral interests only) -----	397.8
<b>PARCELS IN PROCESS OF ACQUISITION:</b> -----	2
<b>TOTAL ACREAGE</b> -----	307.25

**Engineering and Survey Consultants**

The Section 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.

**Appraisals**

The staff appraiser completed eight (8) appraisals on nine (9) tracts of land and completed five (5) appraisal reviews.

**Property Management**

The Real Estate Management Section prepared and processed, through various stages of completion, 125 docu-

ments 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 with various other sections of the Division of Natural Resources and with the Department of Commerce, Division of Agriculture, Division of Tourism, Division of Forestry, and other state, county and local governmental offices.

## PUBLIC LAND CORPORATION

The main function of the Public Land Corporation is to hold title to the beds of the streams within the state of West Virginia, and, therefore, to exercise 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.

The Public Land Corporation also holds title to all state

lands to which the title is not specifically by law vested in any other state agency, institution, or department.

During FY 2006-2007, the 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 2006-2007, right-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 500 tons of sand and gravel from the beds of the streams in 2006-2007, as reflected below:

<b>2006-2007 Commercial Dredgers Report Total Tonnage Used</b>			
<b>Company</b>	<b>River/Creek</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Tons</b>
C. B. Lyons	Bells Creek	Sand & Gravel	500

### Public Land Corporation Land Sales/Transfers

- (1) Purchased the W.P Rastle property on behalf of the State Armory Board for an addition to the Coonskin Armory, Kanawha County. 1.42 acres, m/l.
- (2) Purchased the David S. Wheeler property on behalf of the State Armory Board for an addition to the Coonskin Armory, Kanawha County. .90 acres, m/l.
- (3) Purchased the David S. and Charles D. Wheeler property on behalf of the State Armory Board for an addition to the Coonskin Armory, Kanawha County. 6.12 acres, m/l.
- (4) Purchased the T. F. Ellis and D. J. Ellis property on behalf of the State Armory Board for an addition to the Coonskin Armory, Kanawha County. .607 acres, m/l.
- (5) Purchased the James and Naomi Skiles property on behalf of the State Armory Board for an addition to the Coonskin Armory, Kanawha County. 3.36 acres, m/l.
- (6) Purchased the Syble Rastle property on behalf of the State Armory Board for an addition to the Coonskin Armory, Kanawha County. .5 acres, m/l.
- (7) Purchased the Charles and Mabel Rastle property on behalf of the State Armory Board for an addition to the Coonskin Armory, Kanawha County. .5 acres, m/l.

# WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION

Curtis I. Taylor, Chief

*The Wildlife Resources Section 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.*

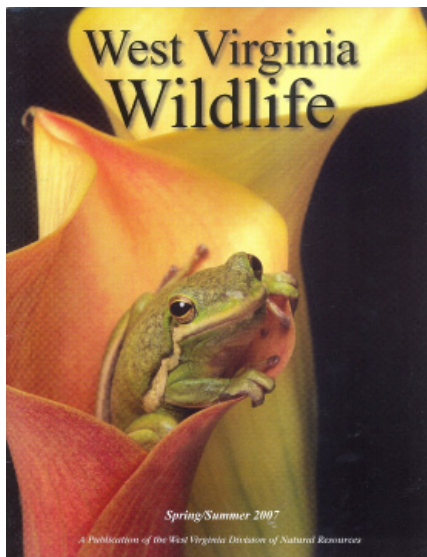
## Administration

### Promotion and Outreach

Project WILD provides training for formal and nonformal educators across the state. In the past year, 119 educators attended eight Project WILD related workshops in the state.

Information and Education staff gave 19 presentations to approximately 1,020 people. Staff also participated in youth education activities including Junior Conservation Camp and West Virginia Envirothon. Personnel spent many hours updating the hunting and fishing regulations in printed format and on the Web. In addition, they also wrote legislative rules.

Lottery proceeds were used to publish and distribute the quarterly *West Virginia Wildlife* magazine. The 28-page publication is mailed to 33,000 subscribers with the remaining 2,000 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.

Section personnel staffed a hunting/fishing show in Pittsburgh in addition to 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. A one-day outdoor skills event for women, held in July at Kanawha State Forest, was co-sponsored by the National Wild Turkey Federation.

National Hunting and Fishing Days is like no other event held in West Virginia with hands-on learning opportunities for young-



sters 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. 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 opportunities to sit in on several wildlife demonstrations or visit one of the hundred-plus vendors on hand.



### West Virginia Wildlife Endowment Fund

The Wildlife Endowment Fund received \$1,000 in donations. The total market value of the fund at the close of 2007 fiscal year was \$39,541,553.59. In calendar year 2006 there were 2,038 Lifetime Licenses sold for \$685,369.

### Hunting and Fishing License Unit

The Hunting and Fishing License Unit is responsible for administering all aspects of the hunting and fishing license system. The unit processed 968,954 transactions and collected \$16,228,476 in license revenue in calendar year 2006.

The goWILD! online system generated over 2.5 million dollars in sales and the APS point-of-sale proved successful in completing 182,950 transactions for a total of over three million in revenue collected. The goal for the License Unit in 2007 will be to add the Wal-Mart and K-Mart stores to the APS system.



### 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, \$4,381,703 was spent on capital improvements from all funding sources. The largest expenditures were for fish hatchery improvements -- \$2,161,925, and for the construction and repair of dams -- \$1,007,868.

The year's major projects were:

1. The construction of water treatment facilities for Spring Run Fish Hatchery.
2. Repair of leaks and concrete raceways at Reeds Creek Fish Hatchery.
3. Purchased 1,036 acres to establish the new Indian Creek Wildlife Management Area in Monongalia County.
4. Completed repairs to Mason and Dixon dams, formerly Bailey and Lemley dams, at Pedlar Wildlife Management Area.
5. Construction of a shooting range at Pedlar Wildlife Management Area.
6. Construction of a new public boat launching area on the Greenbrier River at Fort Springs.
7. Purchased property for a public boat launching area on the Elk River near Clendenin.
8. Completed a physically challenged walkway and parking area at Bear Rocks Lake Wildlife Management Area.
9. Started the design of new public boat launching area at Nitro on the Kanawha River.
10. Started the design of new public boat launching area near Morgantown on the Monongahela River.

### Hunters Helping the Hungry

The Hunters Helping the Hungry Program (HHH) 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 850,000 meals to the state's hungry. In 2006, generous hunters donated a total of 1,030 deer (43,046 pounds of nutritious meat providing 64,569 meals). Deer processing costs for the HHH Program in 2006 was \$54,889.90, which was offset largely in part with donations from the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Share the Harvest Sunday, wildlife organizations and the generosity of private individuals. Federal and State Law prohibits 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.

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

When the Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources Section (DNR) began the West Virginia Archery in the Schools Program in the fall of 2004 with 19 schools, the agency knew it was going to be successful. In fact, this interest has allowed DNR to host trainings in



every region of the state, reaching 256 teachers from 130 schools. Because of the success of this program, DNR has hosted two State Archery Tournaments (with this year's tournament located at Braxton County High School), and Ripley Middle School became the first school to represent the state at the National Archery Tournament in Louisville, Kentucky, in June of 2007.

The Archery in the Schools Program has become one of DNR's largest and fastest growing educational pro-

grams, reaching nearly 25,000 students within the first three years. Working with the Department of Education, wildlife organizations, and teachers, the WRS has been able to bring an activity into the physical education class that anyone can participate in and teach a skill that can be enjoyed throughout a lifetime.

West Virginia is one of 43 states participating in this national program, with similar success being experienced by state wildlife agencies throughout the country. The West Virginia 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. In fact, WVSDB had a team consisting of sight impaired students participate in this year's tournament, marking the first time in the nation that a team of blind students participated in an archery tournament.



Considerable effort has allowed WRS to reach this point and a lot of credit needs to be given to the teachers and volunteers who believe in this program. Special thanks also need to be given to wildlife organizations such as the West Virginia Bowhunters Association, the National Wild Turkey Federation and the West Virginia Trophy Hunters Association for their financial donations; without them the DNR would not have been able to reach as many schools.

Teachers interested in participating in this program, or wildlife organizations wanting to make a donation are encouraged to visit DNR's Web site at [www.wvdnr.gov](http://www.wvdnr.gov) or call (304) 558-2771.



**Hunting and Fishing License Sales  
By Residency and Class  
Calendar Year 2006**

**Total License Sales**

<b>Resident</b>				
<b>Class</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
A	Hunting and Trapping	\$ 18.00	30,611	\$ 550,998.00
B	Fishing	18.00	82,282	\$ 1,481,076.00
N	Antlerless Deer Hunting	10.00	61,544	\$ 615,440.00
BG	Big Game	10.00	4,321	\$ 43,210.00
RG	Additional Deer - Firearms	20.00	33,697	\$ 673,940.00
RB	Additional Deer - Archery	20.00	20,560	\$ 411,200.00
RM	Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	15.00	2,062	\$ 30,930.00
X*	Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	28.00	115,266	\$ 3,227,448.00
XJ**	Junior Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	10.00	8,886	\$ 88,860.00
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	8.00	10,238	\$ 81,904.00
DS	Bear Damage Stamp	10.00	21,871	\$ 218,710.00
O	Trout Fishing	10.00	104,633	\$ 1,046,330.00
CS***	Conservation Stamp	5.00	232,555	\$ 1,162,775.00
<b>Resident Subtotal</b>			<b>728,526</b>	<b>\$ 9,632,821.00</b>

\*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.

<b>Non-resident</b>				
<b>Class</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Amount</b>
I	National Forest Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 2.00	17,724	\$ 35,448.00
E	Non-resident Hunting/Trapping	110.00	32,389	\$ 3,562,790.00
EE	Non-resident Bear Hunting	150.00	715	\$ 107,250.00
F	Non-resident Fishing	35.00	12,000	\$ 420,000.00
H	Non-resident Small Game Hunting - 6 day	25.00	1,013	\$ 25,325.00
LL	Non-resident Fishing - 1 day	3.00	49,827	\$ 149,481.00
NN	Non-resident Antlerless Deer	25.00	13,483	\$ 337,075.00
RRG	Non-resident Additional Deer - Firearms	40.00	7,739	\$ 309,560.00
RRB	Non-resident Additional Deer - Archery	35.00	2,494	\$ 87,290.00
RRM	Non-resident Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	35.00	376	\$ 13,160.00
UU	Non-resident Archery Deer	30.00	7,184	\$ 215,520.00
VV	Non-resident Muzzleloader Deer	30.00	3,262	\$ 97,860.00
WW	Non-resident Turkey	30.00	4,989	\$ 149,670.00
XXJ	Non-resident Junior Sportsman	15.00	2,226	\$ 33,390.00
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	8.00	2,351	\$ 18,808.00
DS	Bear Damage Stamp	10.00	1,512	\$ 15,120.00
OO	Trout Fishing	15.00	15,226	\$ 228,390.00
J ****	Small Game Shooting Preserve Hunting - 6 day	10.00	749	\$ 7,490.00
CS/LE	Non-resident Conservation / Law Enforcement	12.00	65,169	\$ 782,028.00
<b>Non-resident Subtotal</b>			<b>240,428</b>	<b>\$ 6,595,655.00</b>

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

**Grand Total Resident + Non-resident Sales**

**968,954**

**\$ 16,228,476.00**



Management on the 76 WMAs is directed toward improving wildlife habitat. Timber management was conducted on 276 acres with additional acreages in the planning stage.

Management activities on state and national forest lands included planting 2,265 trees and shrubs for food and cover, and pruning, releasing and/or grafting over 777 individual trees and shrubs.

More than 2,817 acres of wildlife clearings were mowed and 17 acres of new clearings were established. Lime and/or fertilizer were applied to 146 acres and 241 acres were seeded to herbaceous vegetation. Prescribed burning was used to retard vegetation succession and improve the diversity and abundance of desirable plants on 122 acres. Sharecropping agreements with local farmers were signed on 1,156 acres to maintain open land. Sixty-two waterholes were maintained to provide a year-round water supply for wildlife.

Water levels on 221 acres of wetlands were manipulated to encourage waterfowl utilization. DNR personnel maintained 415 waterfowl nest structures and 102 nest structures for other wildlife species.

More than 587 miles of roads and trails and 21 bridges were maintained. Road closures were installed or maintained at 550 sites to prevent disturbance to wildlife and protect habitat.

Numerous information and regulation signs were erected or maintained. Four hundred eighty campsites, 22 boat ramps, 23 shooting ranges, 29 physically challenged hunter access roads, five fisherman access sites, and 133 parking areas were maintained. Five parking lots, a shooting range, a boat dock, a boat ramp and two fishing access sites were 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 Transplant Program**

Thirty-four nuisance bears were trapped and relocated to more remote areas. Several additional nuisance bears were trapped and released on site and 44 were destroyed.

Other numerous animal damage complaints were investigated and many of these animals were trapped and relocated.

## **Environmental Reviews**

Wildlife biologists reviewed numerous projects that impact on wildlife and its respective habitat. Primary concerns are road construction, stream alteration, hydro-power projects, gas line construction, 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 (20) 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. Personnel banded 600 doves and 548 Canada geese.

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 frequently contacted 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 2006-07. Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) plans were prepared for nine properties totaling approximately 1,124 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 Days activities. Cooperation was given to universities and colleges by serving as guest lecturers. More than 150 classes and lectures on conservation were presented and over 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 and sportswomen. These meetings also provide the public an opportunity to make recommendations and ask questions.

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.

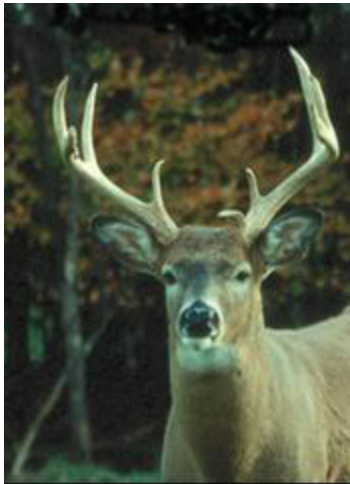
The WV State Wildlife Center continues to excel as an educational facility. More than 37,309 visitors and 60 group tours utilized the area's facilities and enjoyed viewing West Virginia wildlife.



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, 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 2006, hunters bagged 137,392 deer. These included 65,923 bucks, a 16 percent decrease from the 2005 harvest; 39,360 antlerless deer, a decrease of 17 percent; 25,219 archery deer, an increase of 15 percent; and 6,890 muzzleloader deer, a decrease of 24 percent. In the special youth and Class Q deer season, 1,798 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 2006, hunters took 256 deer in the special urban deer season and 85 on other special hunts. Special hunts were held in four cities, two homeowners associations, the National Radio Astronomy Observatory, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Conservation Training Center.

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 more than 2,500 deer tested for the disease in two years of sampling. Only 13 of the tests were positive for the disease, indicating the disease is not widespread or is at a low prevalence. Management efforts to reduce the prevalence and/or slow the rate of spread of the disease have been initiated.

### Black Bear

In 2006, 1,704 bear were harvested, a 2 percent increase from 2006 and the second highest harvest on record. Bowhunters harvested 516 bears which is a 12 percent decrease over 2005. Firearms hunters harvested 1,188 bears, the highest firearms harvest on record. During the special November seasons held in Boone, Fayette, Kanawha and Raleigh counties, 149 bears were harvested in the early November one-week dog season and the late November season without dogs. The good hard mast crops during the year likely increased the number of bears killed in December.

A total of 115 nonseasonal bear deaths occurred in 2006, which is slightly up from the 105 recorded in 2005. Road kills continue as the leading cause of nonseasonal mortalities with 61.

The southern 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 579 bears 1,118 times during the study. DNR personnel observed 235 cubs during winter den checks and a mean litter size of 2.81 cubs. There were 106 bears tagged in the study area and considered available for harvest in 2006. Six of the 66 females (11 percent) and 4 of the 40 males (10 percent) were reported dead during the hunting season.

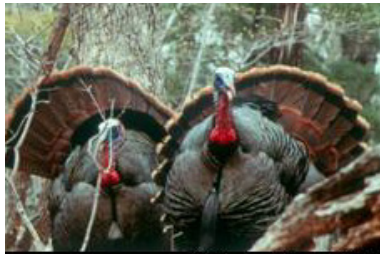


Bear damage claims decreased from 201 in 2005 to 145 in 2006. Landowners in 28 counties were paid \$98,089 in 2006--a decrease from \$109,147 in 2005.

### **Wild Turkey**

The 2006 spring gobbler harvest (11,735) was 7.1 percent higher than the 2005 harvest of 10,957 birds. There was a total of 21 counties open to fall hunting in 2006. The harvest of 1,186 was 5 percent higher than the 2005 total of 1,130.

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 2006, the count (296) by Wildlife Resources personnel was 12 percent higher than the 2005 count and 2 percent higher than our 5-year average.



The third and final year of the Mid-Appalachian Gobbler Study resulted in 89 gobblers being trapped and monitored with radio telemetry. In the traditional fall hunted counties, harvest rates of adult and juvenile gobblers were 14 percent. In the western and southern counties the adult harvest rate was 24 percent and 8 percent of the jakes were killed.

The 2006 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 2006, results were compiled from 267 hunters. Cooperators took 2,291 hunting trips and heard 4,983 gobblers. The gobbling rate (55 gobblers heard per 100 hours) was 31 percent higher than 2005 (42), and was similar to our 22-year average (55).

### **Wild Boar**

Hunters killed 14 wild boar during the 2006 season. Bowhunters took four and firearms hunters killed 10. The single firearm season initiated in 2003 in late October was designed to reduce the harvest and provide an increased number of boar the additional time needed to occupy more productive habitat. An extensive wild boar survey in February 2004 confirmed low populations of boar confined to one general area.

### **Annual Mast Survey**

Annually during August, cooperating personnel in the

Division of Forestry and 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.

Mast abundance in 2006 was slightly above average for the second year in a row. Scrub, red and black oak produced good acorn crops in 2006 but were down slightly from last year, and beech again had a good year. The oaks as a group were near average in 2006 acorn production. The good acorn production was a contributing factor in the black bear harvests because this big game species was more available in December than in previous years.

### **Ruffed Grouse**

Ruffed grouse hunters experienced fair hunting for grouse during the 2006-2007 season. Hunters average about one flush per hour when hunting for grouse. Brood counts were down 18 percent from last year. Most of the brood reports were in the mountain counties.

The field work for the six-year Appalachian Cooperative Grouse Research Project was completed in September 2002. The study examined the effects of late season hunting on grouse as well as many habitat and environmental factors. This multi-state cooperative project is producing a wealth of grouse research information in the form of dissertations, theses, scientific articles, popular publications, and presentations. A Wildlife Society Monograph on ruffed grouse population dynamics is almost complete and a book on the ruffed grouse in Appalachia is planned as a follow up to the project.

### **Warmwater Fish Management**

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 the 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**

Personnel stocked 8,751 fingerling muskies in nine streams and six lakes in 2006. Advanced fingerling muskies were stocked in 2006, with Coal River, Fishing Creek, North Bend, Stonewall Jackson, Upper Mud, and Woodrum lakes receiving 1,602 fish. West Virginia's musky fishery is primarily sustained by this annual stocking program. More than 70 percent of the reported musky catches and those qualifying for trophy citations were caught from stocked streams or lakes in 2006.

### **Tiger Musky**

More than 1,061 tiger musky fingerlings were stocked in Castleman's Run, Charles Fork, Dog Run, Dunkard Fork, Middle Wheeling Creek, Mountwood and Tomlinson Run lakes.

### **Walleye**

More than 196,000 walleye fingerlings were stocked in seven lakes in 2007. Additionally, more than 5,000 walleye fingerlings were stocked in the New River as part of a restoration effort of a native strain of this species. These fish were spawned and reared at WRS hatcheries. 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 204,000 channel catfish fingerlings reared at Palestine and Apple Grove hatcheries were stocked in 78 waters in 2006. Fishable populations are established in the majority of these waters with excellent catfishing

found in Beech Fork, Burnsville, East Lynn, New Creek, Plum Orchard, Stephens, Stonecoal, Stonewall Jackson, and Warden lakes.

Twelve other lakes were stocked with 8,200 pounds of adult channel catfish in June 2007. The adult catfish were purchased with funds provided from reimbursements for pollution caused fish kills.

### **Hybrid Striped Bass**

More than 62,000 hybrid striped bass fingerlings were released in the Ohio and Monongahela rivers in 2007. More than 17,000 hybrid striped bass were stocked in four 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.

### **Paddlefish**

Efforts to restore the paddlefish in West Virginia continued in 2006 with the successful collection and spawning of Ohio River paddlefish. Paddlefish were hatched and raised at Palestine Hatchery and more than 1,800 advanced paddlefish fingerlings were stocked in the Kanawha, Little Kanawha and Ohio rivers.

### **Black Bass**

More than 98,000 largemouth bass fingerlings were stocked in the Belleville, Racine, and Willow Island pools of the Ohio River; and more than 13,000 smallmouth bass were stocked in the Hannibal Pool in 2006. These stockings represented one component of a five-year fisheries management plan for the Ohio River. Additionally, more than 24,000 largemouth bass were stocked into three small impoundments.

### **Sauger**

More than 52,000 sauger fingerlings were stocked into the Kanawha River in 2006.

### **Blue Catfish**

More than 42,000 blue catfish were stocked in the Kanawha and Ohio rivers as part of restoration efforts of this native species in 2006.

### **Shovelnose Sturgeon**

More than 27,000 shovelnose sturgeon were stocked in the Little Kanawha and Kanawha rivers during 2007 restoration efforts.

### **Reservoir Management**

Fishery surveys were conducted at all 13 large reservoirs in the state. Surveys focused on black bass and open

water species such as walleye and hybrid striped bass. These inventories provide the basis for determining management needs and evaluating management measures.

Annual operational changes by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and owners of other large reservoirs require coordination between the Wildlife Resources Section 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 2006 with emphasis on new research efforts. Smallmouth bass population assessments were conducted on the New and South Branch of the Potomac rivers. Muskellunge population assessments continued on the Buckhannon River and Middle Island Creek. Assessment of black bass and channel catfish population characteristics continued on small impoundments in 2006.

Fish restoration, and aquatic habitat and fishing access improvements continue in conjunction with the Marmet Locks expansion project on the Kanawha River. Sauger, walleye, paddlefish, shovelnose sturgeon, and blue catfish were stocked in the Kanawha River as part of fishery enhancement and restoration efforts associated with Marmet Locks and Dam mitigation.

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 2006. The agency continued the long-running and successful fish attractor project in large lakes. Recycled Christmas trees were placed as attractor structures in Burnsville, East Lynn, Summersville, Sutton, Stonecoal and Tygart lakes.

Native aquatic vegetation plantings were conducted at East Lynn and Beech Fork lakes. Anglers from B.A.S.S. provided assistance during the planting and both

organizations provided financial support for this new endeavor. Staff are also conducting assessments of fish spawning and nursery habitat structures in selected small impoundments and the Ohio River.

### **Stream and Lake Access**

Public boating and fishing access facility planning continued for the Kanawha River at Nitro and the Monongahela River at Morgantown. The Wildlife Resources Section coordinated acquisition of stream access sites on the Coal and Elk rivers.

### **Fishing Tournament Coordination**

Data on 2006 catch rates and fishing effort during 545 organized fishing tournaments were collected from 41 bass clubs and 61 open tournament sponsors. Tournaments were held at 36 West Virginia sites, including 392 on lakes, 73 on the Ohio River, 39 on the Kanawha River, and 38 on the Monongahela River. Tournament fishing pressure at 110,788 angler hours, decreased by 4.1 percent from 2005. When comparing 2005 results to 2006, average tournament catch rate increased from 0.15 to 0.16 fish per angler hour in lakes and from 0.06 to 0.17 in rivers.

### **Trophy Fish Citation Program**

The Trophy Fish Citation program recognized anglers who caught 1,025 fish, representing 28 species that qualified as trophies in 2006. Of 26 waters (private lakes are counted as one water) yielding 10 or more fish citations, 66 percent were from streams and rivers, 12 percent from small public fishing lakes, 13 percent from private lakes and ponds, and 9 percent from large public lakes. The trophy citation program began in 1976 and has recognized 53,428 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 2006 -- 279 length only citations were issued.

### **Fish Kills**

The Division of Natural Resources requested financial reimbursement from responsible agents for two fish kills in 2006 (see table on following page).

### **Coldwater Fish Management**

In 2006-07 selected waters in West Virginia were stocked with 1,171,895 trout weighing 706,964 pounds. Major renovations, including the construction of a wastewater treatment system and new raceways, began in Sep-

## Fish Kills – 2006

Stream or Lake	Date	Cause	Fish Killed		Severity	
			Number	%Game	Miles	Degree
Pecks Run Upshur County	8/7/06	High pH treatment pond discharge	11,457	60	3.00	Heavy
Carpenter Run Wood County	10/10/06	Truck accident and High pH spill	209	5	.25	Total

### 2006-2007 WARMWATER STOCKINGS

Species and Hatchery/Source	Number	Size	Location
Muskellunge (A) (B)(E)	8,751	Fg	Burnsville, North Bend, Stonecoal, Stonewall Jackson, Upper Mud and Woodrum lakes; Bluestone, Coal, Kanawha, Meadow and Mud and West Fork rivers; Fishing and Mill creeks
Tiger Musky (P)	1,061	Fg	Castleman Run, Charles Fork, Dog Run, Dunkard Fork, Middle Wheeling Creek, Mountwood and Tomlinson Run lakes
Channel Catfish (C)	8,200 lbs.	ad	Anawalt, Barboursville, Bear Rocks, Berwind, Cacapon, Castleman Run, Chief Logan, Coopers Rock, French Creek, Laurel, Little Beaver, Pipestem, South Mill Creek, Teter Creek, Tomlinson Run, Tygart Backwater, Wallback, and Watoga lakes; Cedar Creek, Coonskin and North Bend ponds
Channel Catfish (A)	204,730	fg	Bear Rocks, Berwind, Big Ditch, Brandywine, Brushy Fork, Burnsville, Cacapon, Charles Fork, Chief Cornstalk, Chief Logan, Conaway Run, Dixon, Elk Fork, Fort Ashby, Handley, Kee, Kimsey Run, Krodel, Larenim, Little Beaver, Logan Airport, Moncove, Mountwood, New Creek, Newburg, O'Brien, Pendleton, Pennsboro, Plum Orchard, Poorhouse, Rockcliff, Rockhouse, Sherwood, Sleepy Creek, South Mill Creek, Stephens, Teter Creek, Tracy, Tuckahoe, Tygart Backwaters, Upper Cove,

Blue Catfish (P)	42,826	fg	Kanawha and Ohio rivers
Paddlefish (P)(A)	1,803	fg	Kanawha, Little Kanawha, and Ohio rivers
Walleye (P)(A)	201,966	fg	Beech Fork, Burnsville, Cheat, East Lynn, Stonecoal, Stonewall Jackson, and Sutton lakes; New River
Hybrid Striped Bass (A)	80,920	fg	Bluestone, Dixon, Dunkard Fork, and Mason lakes; Monongahela and Ohio rivers
Smallmouth Bass (P)	13,348	fg	Ohio River
Largemouth Bass (A)	125,295	fg	Moncove, Wallback, and Woodrum lakes; Ohio River
Shovelnose Sturgeon (A)	27,673	fg	Kanawha and Little Kanawha rivers
Sauger (P)(E)	52,249	fg	Kanawha River

(A) Apple Grove Hatchery  
 (B) Bowden Hatchery  
 (BP) Burnsville Rearing Ponds  
 (C) Commercial Source  
 (E) Elk River Rearing Pond  
 (P) Palestine Hatchery  
 (S) Other States

fy = fry  
 fg = fingerlings  
 ad = adults

tember 2006 at Spring Run Hatchery. As a result of ongoing construction activities throughout the remainder of the fiscal year, trout production had to be reduced at Spring Run Hatchery by approximately 50,000 pounds. The overall size of trout stocked was 1.4 fish per pound, a result of good growth due to adequate rainfall and relatively mild winter weather until mid-February. A breakdown of trout production by facility follows.

The seven state-owned hatcheries produced 703,330 pounds of trout in 2006-07. 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 3,634 pounds of trout during 2006-07. This is the only federal hatchery remaining in West Virginia. The poundage of trout provided this past year is less than last year and represents a significant reduction compared to previous years, but is representative of expected trout poundage because of changes in hatchery operations at White Sulphur Springs.

The 2006 fall stocking totaled 41,479 pounds. This was slightly higher than the poundage stocked in 2005, but is still representative of normal fall stockings. Thirty-six 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 2006-07, personnel stocked 330,425 trout fingerlings, primarily brown trout, in 71 waters. This program has resulted in considerable expansion of wild trout populations in West Virginia, particularly in southern West Virginia 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.

#### 2006-07 YEAR TROUT STOCKING

Hatchery & Time Period	<u>Rainbow Trout</u>		<u>Golden Trout</u>		<u>Brook Trout</u>		<u>Brown Trout</u>		<u>Total</u>		No./Lb
	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	Weight	Number	
<b>Fall 2006</b>											
Spring Run	7,797	14,032							7,797	14,032	1.8
Petersburg	10,110	12,147	783	228					10,893	12,375	1.1
Bowden	9,820	10,377	949	992					10,769	11,369	1.1
Reeds Creek	6,400	5,154							6,400	5,154	0.8
Tate Lohr	3,600	7,286	400	936					4,000	8,222	2.1
Edray			20	20			1,600	202	1,620	222	0.1
Sub-Total	37,727	48,996	2,152	2,176			1,600	202	41,479	51,374	1.2
<b>Spring 2007</b>											
Spring Run	90,902	120,396	13,997	18,647					104,899	139,043	1.3
Petersburg	24,849	25,912	2,523	2,071					27,372	27,983	1.0
Edray	89,396	134,167	4,208	6,397	2,307	1,420	14,142	35,519	110,053	177,503	1.6
Ridge	24,582	39,385	2,841	4,496	31,062	49,086			58,485	92,967	1.6
Tate Lohr	23,687	32,389	2,482	3,549	822	822	822	822	27,813	37,582	1.4
Reeds Creek	124,913	166,044	8,275	12,867	17,601	25,667	9,107	12,561	159,896	217,139	1.4
*White Sulphur	3,634	1,204							3,634	1,204	.3
Bowden	125,889	162,463	8,734	11,826	18,303	18,990	18,787	28,480	173,333	224,157	1.3
Sub-total	507,852	681,960	43,060	59,853	70,095	95,985	42,858	77,382	665,485	917,578	1.4
Total	545,579	730,956	45,212	62,029	70,095	95,985	44,458	77,584	706,964	968,952	1.4

\*Federal Hatchery

## Wildlife Diversity Program

### Coordination

The Fiscal Year 2007 state budget included \$236,160 of lottery revenue funds for the Wildlife Resources Section's Wildlife Diversity Program. License plates (rose-breasted grosbeak and white-tailed deer) generated \$224,220 for one-year plate sales, and \$150,540 for two-year plate sales, for a total of \$374,760. This represents 5,018 plates sold or renewed for the fiscal year. A portion of these funds were used to match federal funding (see below).

The West Virginia Wildlife Conservation Action Plan (WVWCAP) was approved by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

In addition to normal State Wildlife Grant funding, \$180,000 in federal Landowner Incentive Program funding was received. The funding allowed:

- the development of protocols for annual work plans that prioritize manpower and funding to implement the strategies outlined in the West Virginia Wildlife Conservation Action Plan;
- continuing ongoing survey, inventory and assessment work leading to conservation of species and habitats; and
- support for the Atlantic Joint Venture initiative to study the relationship of migratory bats to windpower generation as well as a multi-state study of the cerulean warbler response to various timber harvest regimes.

Two new Outdoor Wildlife Learning Sites (OWLS) schools were added this year, bringing the total to 105 schools in 39 counties. Thirty-two Wild Yards were added to the growing list of participants. The total is now 138 sites statewide.

The West Virginia Master Naturalist Program continued growing. The program seeks to engage interested citizens in natural history and conservation activities by offering 64 hours of high level education and requiring 30 hours of conservation volunteer activity to achieve certification as a WV Master Naturalist. Currently there are nine local Master Naturalist chapters, three seeking to be chartered and 35 certified teachers. The Wildlife Diversity Program maintains a list of over 300 individuals interested in participating in the program. The Program is designed to provide trained individuals for a statewide speaker's bureau, watchable wildlife trail development and maintenance at state Wild-



life Management Areas and parks, assistance with various field projects, interpretive programs at state parks, and many other activities.

Planning continued for the West Virginia Master Naturalist Program and several county classes were taught by staff. Interested individuals take a specified number of core courses and electives, and contribute volunteer hours to be certified as a Master Naturalist. The final DNR sponsored weekends were held in early November, March and late April. Assistance was provided and classes were taught to seven new local chapters. Another five chapters are in the process of being organized.

Twelve cooperative research grants, totaling \$60,947, and one small cooperative education project grant were awarded this year.

Work continued on the completion of a statewide reptile and amphibian atlas, focusing on species for which little data exists.

Staff prepared feature articles for *West Virginia Wildlife* magazine, which has a circulation of about 33,000. Included in each issue are four pages devoted to the Wildlife Diversity Program, as well as two special sections "A Sense of Wonder" and "Nature Notes." Through the reporting period, 15,687 2007 WV Wildlife Calendars were sold generating \$106,855.40 in gross income for the program. Numerous magazine articles, press releases and radio and TV spots to inform the public about program activities and nongame wildlife in general were produced. Brochures were updated and printed as needed. The Bat Brochure is being revised. A dragonfly newsletter was published.

Staff judged at local and regional science fairs, facilitated the state Partners in Flight program, conducted bird surveys along Point Count Survey routes, and monitored loggerhead shrike nesting sites.

Eight Breeding Bird Survey routes were run, as well as the establishment and monitoring of new point count routes throughout the state. Survey routes were coordinated for wetland birds and winter bird surveys were conducted. Surveys were conducted for grassland birds and Christmas Bird Counts were coordinated. Nest boxes were placed in suitable habitat for saw-whet owls and monitored. Surveys were also conducted for bald eagle and peregrine falcons. Data are being collected for barn owl nests, and some threatened nests are being relocated. A staff member continues to serve as secretary to the state's Bird Records Committee. Information was compiled on the annual winter backyard bird survey.



Additional surveys conducted throughout the state included: frog call routes; surveys for dragonflies and damselflies, salamanders, wood turtles, cave invertebrates, woodrats, small mammals, butterflies, running buffalo clover, Virginia spirea, northeastern bulrush, harperella, shale barren rock cress, and mast. Assistance was provided for surveys for federally endangered bats, (in both the summer and winter), mussels, and flat-spined three-toothed land snails. Assistance was also provided to the Purple Loosestrife Task Force in Berkeley County that is dedicated to the eradication of this exotic invasive plant species.

Assistance was provided to Game Management and Fish Management for such projects as nuisance bear removal and relocation, prescribed burns, deer check stations, tag collections, sample collections, locating goose nesting structures, trapping and banding geese, water level management at waterfowl marshes, and fish surveys. Calls were answered regarding injured and orphaned wildlife and nuisance wildlife. In addition, many requests for information concerning all aspects of nongame wildlife and botanical resources were answered.

### Endangered Species

The peregrine falcon was removed from the federal list of endangered species in 1999, but this rare bird is still monitored closely by Wildlife Diversity Program personnel. Cliffs were monitored in early spring 2007 for returning falcons. A single bird was observed at a cliff on North Fork Mountain, but no nesting pairs were observed. However, reports of adult and young peregrine falcons perching on a bridge over the Ohio River suggest that falcons may have successfully nested on the structure. This site will be monitored in spring 2008. Peregrine falcon reintroduction efforts continued in 2007 with 24 young falcons released at a hack site in the New River Gorge. The National Park Service installed cameras to monitor the sites and images of the birds were available on the Park's Web page. Six of the young birds released in 2007 were fitted with radio transmitters and their movements will be monitored via satellite.

Spring 2006 saw more nesting pairs of bald eagles (26 pairs) than have ever been recorded in West Virginia. However, snow and high winds in early April caused several nests to fail. All nests were in the Eastern Panhandle except for one nest near the Ohio River in the Northern Panhandle. A nest



was reported in Marshall County, but this was not confirmed.

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 Program's database and map files. During this fiscal year, 26 squirrels were captured at 10 sites. WRS biologists assisted the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) with the development of a post-delisting monitoring plan that will be implemented if the species is "delisted" as the USFWS proposes to do. Biologists continue to work with Allegheny Wood Products, Inc. and the West Virginia Division of Forestry to develop conservation plans for this species and its habitat.

Surveys for hibernating endangered bats were conducted to examine population trends and to look for new hibernation sites. Winter surveys were conducted at 24 caves (including Hellhole, the state's most important bat hibernaculum) in six counties. More than 123,500 bats of seven species were tallied.



Populations of Indiana bats in the caves surveyed showed a 9.1 percent increase over the results of the last winter surveys conducted in winter 2004/2005, and endangered Virginia big-eared bats exhibited an increase of 1.8 percent. In June 2007, female Virginia big-eared bats were censused at known maternity colonies. Night vision equipment was used to count these cave-dwelling bats as they left their roost to feed in the evening. A total of 6,264 bats was tallied at 10 maternity caves. This represents a decrease of 0.7 percent over the number of bats counted at these caves in June 2006, suggesting that the population is relatively stable. WRS 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. Program biologists are currently working with two landowners to develop plans to gate two additional caves which harbor endangered bats in the winter.

Mist netting surveys were conducted to provide information on the distribution of bats, especially the Indiana bat, during the summer months. In July and August 2006, WRS biologists conducted or assisted with surveys on Bluestone WMA, Chief Cornstalk WMA, and Coopers Rock State Forest. No endangered bats were captured. Biologists monitored an Indiana bat roost on private land in Pendleton County in late July 2006. Thirty bats emerged from the roost, and nine Indiana bats (all males) were captured in mist nets set near the roost tree. Data from bat surveys conducted by WRS personnel and others were entered into the Program's databases.

WRS 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 caves, and a weekly report of the results of the monitoring is sent to the WRS and USFWS. A meeting was held in early 2007 to review data collected and to revise reporting criteria.

Five new locations were found for the federally threatened flat-spined three-toothed land snail, but all new sites were within the known range for this species. WRS contracted to develop a survey protocol for this species. Field work was conducted spring through fall 2006, and the final report has been received and distributed. In addition, personnel monitored the snail population at Coopers Rock Overlook on a weekly basis. WRS and USFWS personnel met with Allegheny Wood Products, Inc. (AWP) personnel to develop a protocol to delineate and buffer potential habitat for this snail on Snakehill Wildlife Management Area where AWP owns timber rights. Prior to logging, potential habitat and buffers were marked on the ground by AWP and checked by WRS staff.

Additional projects focused on acquiring data on species of concern that are not on the federal threatened and endangered species list. A statewide survey of cave invertebrate species continued with additional collections in summer and fall 2006; a publication on the cave invertebrate fauna of West Virginia is scheduled for publication in August 2007. Another study provided data on the distribution and nesting success of the loggerhead shrike. Long-term monitoring of Allegheny woodrat population allows biologists to look at population trends for the species of concern. Allegheny woodrat populations are declining in many part of the Northeast, but appear to be stable in much of West Virginia.

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 WVDNR 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.

## **Natural Heritage Program**

### **■ Ecology**

#### **EPA High Elevation Wetlands Contract:**

The classification and conservation assessment of high elevation wetlands in the Allegheny Mountains is nearing completion. Negotiations with NatureServe are complete and all 41 vegetation types have been peer-reviewed and integrated into the National Vegetation Classification (NVC). Ten of these represent wetland types that are new to the national system, and 18 of the types have been assigned high global conservation priority. A new Ecological System, High Allegheny Wetlands, has been added to the NVC to describe and map these wetlands.

Detailed descriptions of the wetland types are available and have been shared with Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, Canaan Valley Institute, EPA (Mid-Atlantic Wetlands Work Group), NatureServe, U.S. Forest Service, West Virginia University, West Liberty College, private timber companies, and landowners. Occurrence data for globally rare wetland sites have been entered into the Biotics conservation database. A dichotomous key to the high elevation wetland communities has been developed. Using the new classification system, additional wetland sites have been identified in the field and added to the Biotics database.

The final report will be completed in 2007. The project leader has communicated results to the public through WV Public Radio, WV Wildlife Magazine, WV Native Plant Society, DNR Master Naturalist program, Randolph County Outdoor Program, Appalachian Forest Heritage Association, Joint Botanical Field Meeting, and Oglebay Institute. The project leader is currently participating in a national committee coordinated by NatureServe and EPA to develop standard indicators of ecological integrity for wetlands.

#### **National Park Service Contracts:**

A floristic inventory for Bluestone National Scenic River has been completed except for final revisions to the report. The documented vascular flora of the park now consists of 802 taxa including 41 taxa tracked as rare by the Natural Heritage Program. All occurrences of rare plants were entered in the Biotics database.

All final products for vegetation classification and mapping for New River Gorge are completed except for a few edits to the final products to be made in response to reviewer comments. Personnel identified and mapped 41 vegetation community types in the park. These types were assigned to 39 associations in the U.S. National Vegetation Classification. North Carolina State University determined estimated overall accuracy of the digital vegetation map to be 96.2 percent.

Vegetation classification and mapping for Bluestone National Scenic River were completed and the map was submitted to North Carolina State University for accuracy assessment. Personnel classified and mapped 26 vegetation community types. Overall estimated accuracy for the vegetation map was estimated to be 92 percent. The report for this project will be written this coming winter.

Fieldwork for vegetation mapping and floristic inventory of Gauley River National Recreation Area included sampling 100 vegetation plots and collecting over 800 plant specimens.

Two small contracts were completed: 1) to lead field trips to observe riparian communities along the New, Bluestone, and Gauley rivers to help inform ecological process modeling in these systems, and 2) to assist NPS with establishment of permanent vegetation monitoring plots in the three river parks.

### **Red Spruce Project:**

In 2006, WRS initiated a red spruce ecosystem assessment project. The red spruce forest habitat type has been given a high conservation priority in the West Virginia State Wildlife Conservation Plan. Red spruce forest restoration is also a newly established management priority for the Monongahela National Forest, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and The Nature Conservancy. The coincidence of these institutional priorities represents an opportunity to build a strong program for red spruce forest habitat conservation in West Virginia.

Plot data was entered in the WV Natural Heritage plots database and quality control was completed. Vegetation has been classified into eight spruce forest/woodland types, using multivariate statistical analysis. One hundred ninety plots were used in the analysis. A dichotomous key to upland red spruce communities in West Virginia is available in draft form. Preliminary results have been shared with WVU, Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, private timber companies, and landowners.

Habitat occurrences will be incorporated into the Biotics database to inform future conservation decisions.

Management opportunities will be identified to increase quality of habitat, with special attention to species in greatest need of conservation that rely on the red spruce ecosystem.

### **Miscellaneous:**

Ecology staff continued to increase their capacity to use the powerful new Biotics software through intermediate Biotics training and peer-to-peer tutoring. New reporting and querying skills have allowed staff easier access to critical conservation data. The Plots2-WV database continues to be improved and maintained, and now holds 2,933 plots. More than half of these plots have been assigned a conservation rank and integrated into the National Vegetation Classification.

During the winter months, ecology staff organized seven brown bag talks at WRS to build shared knowledge among biologists and their partners. Staff also supported other DNR programs through participation in planning meetings, assistance with wetlands planning on a WHIP project, provision of ecoregional maps to Game Management, and wetlands assessment in support of WRS cooperative research grants. Comments were provided for five USFS forest management and prescribed burn projects. Staff participated in a regional LANDFIRE workshop to delineate vegetation mapping units for West Virginia and surrounding states.

Ecology staff participated as field trip leaders for the Wildflower Pilgrimage held in Blackwater Falls State Park in May and for the Joint Field Meeting of the Philadelphia Botanical Club, The Torrey Botanical Society, and the Botanical Society of America held in Elkins in June.

### **■ *Data Management, Scientific Collecting Permits, and Environmental Review***

Scientific Collecting Permits:

Personnel issued 258 permits for a variety of projects including T&E surveys, graduate student research, and stream surveys. Survey work conducted under one of these permits resulted in the possible rediscovery of the endangered orange-foot pimpleback (*Plethobasus striatus*). Two permits for falconry were issued. Two scientific collecting permits were denied.

Legislation was passed to allow fees to be assessed for the processing of Scientific Collecting Permits. A \$200 fee will be charged to consultants, \$25 to out-of-state researchers and \$25 to falconers. In-state academics and students, state and federal agencies, and non-profit groups will not be charged.

#### Data Requests:

Personnel responded in writing to 654 requests (table following) and over 200 more by e-mail and telephone.

Mining Lands inquiries	149
Abandoned Mine Land reviews	18
Division of Highways	244
Other	243
Total	654

#### Rare Species Database:

Rare species data continue to be entered into the Biotics database, with records for threatened and endangered species being the priority. All available data for threatened and endangered (T&E) species from the 2006 field season have been entered.

The annual data exchange with NatureServe to update the global data in Biotics took place in December 2006.

Staff attended Advanced Biotics training at the NatureServe offices in October 2006.

#### ■ *Botany*

Over the period of March 2006 through February 2007 (continuing currently), federally endangered plant species were monitored with partial financial support from the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service 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*), small whorled pogonia (*Isotria medeoloides*), and Virginia spiraea (*Spiraea virginiana*).

Staff continued coordination with representatives from the Ecological Services Office of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Monongahela National Forest (MNF) regarding the conservation of the federally listed endangered species, Running Buffalo Clover (RBC) on the Monongahela National Forest in anticipation of developing a management plan for RBC on the MNF.

Staff monitored the federally endangered plant species, *Harperella* (*Ptilimnium fluviatile*) along three rivers in Morgan County, West Virginia, and responded to various requests for consultation from the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Nature Serve and The Nature Conservancy concerning the status of *Harperella* in West Virginia, and landowner actions along those rivers that potentially threatened the *Harperella* population. Staff has been working closely with state and regional biologists

and conservationists to better coordinate the national recovery of *Harperella*.

Consultations were conducted with the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service Endangered Species Specialist, the acting Ecologist/Botanist of the Monongahela National Forest, the hydrologist with Canaan Valley Institute, and staff of The Nature Conservancy Central Appalachian Highlands office regarding the status of T&E plant species in West Virginia, and specific concerns regarding perceived threats to populations. This information was used to evaluate the status of T&E plant species in West Virginia, as well as to draft a one-year plan (March 2007 – February 2008) for the monitoring of and conducting conservation action for the recovery of federally listed T&E plant species. Currently, a six-year plan is being drafted (March 2008 – February 2014), and a more thorough evaluation of the status of the T&E plant species is being conducted.

Personnel 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 continued to serve on the Flora of West Virginia Committee and promoted the distribution of the Checklist and Atlas of the Vascular Flora 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.

Work continued on a long-term conservation plan for rare, threatened and endangered plant species of greatest concern. This plan will parallel or be incorporated into the conservation action plan recently written for animal species of West Virginia.

#### ■ *Zoology*

Gathering information for an Odonate (Dragonflies and Damselflies) atlas project continued. Many collectors assisted with documenting 984 specimens from 28 counties around the state. More than 25,000 records from Dr. Linda Butler's moth collections have been entered into a database. These historical data are valuable in determining which of these species may need conservation.

Research projects that assist in determining the life history, status and other useful conservation information were entered into for the following projects: Kanawha River mussels, Kanawha/Ohio river Odonata, Hellbender, Redbelly turtle, Genetics of the Blackbelly salamander, Ohio River floodplain crayfish, Candy and Varigate darter hybridization, Upper Greenbrier fish diversity, Ohio River Islands landsnails, Eastern panhandle/Kanawha River

crayfish, Patterson Creek mussel, fish, and stream morphology, *Ambystoma* salamander study, post-fledging bird movements, and Coopers Rock woodrats.

#### ■ ***Data Mining Grant***

Staff conducted a literature review of fish articles and scientific publications relative to the National Park Service's New River National River and its associated areas (including the Gauley and Bluestone river recreational areas). Approximately 230 documents were secured, organized, and summarized for the NPS in this endeavor.

#### ■ ***Stream Classification Project***

A project to classify West Virginia streams continued. The Stream Classification Survey collects fish, physical habitat information, water quality and atlas data that will be used to predict the current and past distribution of state fishes, and evaluate the health of state streams.

In 2006, detailed data were collected on approximately 55 streams. Several large rivers were also surveyed.

#### ■ ***Land Conservation Program***

The Land Conservation Program is an initiative to conserve plant and animal species at risk on private lands. Several areas of the state have been identified as having concentrations of at-risk species and were the initial focus for the program.

The infrastructure of the Program is now in place and many land parcels have been identified that support rare or at-risk species. This information will be shared with conservation partners so that actions can be taken with willing landowners once resources are identified. We continue to seek funds to implement management actions and to enter into conservation easements to conserve habitat on private lands.

### **Mussels**

Two biologists attended the biannual symposium of the Freshwater Mollusk Conservation Society. A biologist attended the mussel subgroup meeting of the Ohio River Valley Ecosystem Team.

Numerous office reviews were conducted for bridge replacement, pipeline crossings, industry dredging, and tait assessment and mapping.

The New River below Hawks Nest Dam was surveyed for freshwater mussels. This section was historically known as the "Drys."

As part of the Corps of Engineers Mitigation Project, a systematic survey of mussel populations within the Marmet Pool of the Kanawha River continued. Mussel brood stock was collected from the Elk River for White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery for propagation of mussels for the Marmet Pool. Propagated mussels were stocked into the Marmet Pool, and with assistance from the Warmwater Fish Management Section, fish were inoculated with larval mussels for release into the Marmet Pool.

Litigation for the mussel and fish kill caused by the Eramet/Elkem chemical spill on the Ohio River near Parkersburg was settled. Restoration planning was initiated in cooperation with the USFWS and Ohio EPA.

Litigation for the mussel and fish kill resulting from the loss of the Belleville Pool on the Ohio River was also settled and restoration planning was initiated.

Two biologists assisted the USFWS with mussel salvage on the Allegheny River in Pennsylvania. In cooperation with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, salvaged mussels were used to establish two small core populations on the Monongahela River, one below Opekiska Lock and Dam and one below Hildebrand Lock and Dam. These populations will supply broodstock for restoring mussels in the Monongahela which were lost due to historic acid mine drainage. Another species, the Rayed Bean, was brought from the Allegheny River to establish a core breeding population for re-introduction of this species on the Elk River. This species was believed to be extirpated from West Virginia over the last 20 years.

Biologists assisted the USFWS with endangered mussel surveys on the Elk River and South Fork Potts Creek.

### **Technical Support Unit**

#### **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.

Coordination continued on an expanded state effort to restore streams damaged by acid precipitation and acid mine drainage. Work continued on the selection of addi-



tional streams and limestone application sites as well as procedures for monitoring the restoration of water quality and fisheries in streams that will receive limestone applications.

### **Planning**

The West Virginia Wildlife Conservation Action Plan, which was coordinated by the planning supervisor, received formal approval from the USFWS and its review team. The plan is required to receive expanded federal reimbursement for fish and wildlife management activities and required substantial coordination with staff from the Wildlife Diversity Program. Overall financial planning for the Division and annual work planning for selected units was another area of significant emphasis during the year.

### **Coordination**

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

Continued action (e.g., impact analysis, development of mitigation, appeals, litigation, relicensing) was taken on each of the following proposed or licensed hydropower projects at reservoirs or locks and dams: R. C. Byrd and Willow Island on the Ohio River; Summersville on the Gauley River; Dam Sites 4 and 5 and Jennings Randolph Dam on the Potomac River; Millville on the Shenandoah River; Hawks Nest, Bluestone Dam and Claytor Lake Dam on the New River; Lake Lynn on the Cheat River; R. D. Bailey Dam on the Guyandotte River; near Glen Ferris on the Kanawha River; and Tygart Dam on the Tygart Valley River.

Staff has been involved with the development of the wind power industry. Presently there are 11 proposed projects located in eight counties. If these projects are developed, West Virginia will have approximately 1,200 wind turbines producing power in the state.

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.

State CWA certifications continue to be reviewed under the MOU with 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. Personnel worked very closely with DEP to develop new state regulations regarding the issuance of State 401 Water Quality Certification. These regulations codified and legitimized mitigation for environmental disturbances. Significant time was spent developing mitigation guidance, which conforms to these regulations. Personnel worked very closely with DEP and the Army Corps of Engineers on the re-certification of the new Nationwide Permits for the state of West Virginia.

Significant time has been spent working with the WVDEP and the Corps of Engineers 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 Corps of Engineers in the Spring of 2006 and is currently a viable mitigation option. Staff was involved in field testing and review of a "Functional Assessment Approach for High Gradient Streams" developed by the COE.

Staff has completed training in the use of RiverMorph, a specialized software application used in Natural Stream Design, and uses this knowledge in the evaluation of mitigation projects. The use of "Natural Stream Design" for stream compensatory mitigation is routinely required as a condition for 401 certifications.

Staff has responded to requests from the WV Division of Highways and numerous watershed groups to inform them 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 Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on mitigation for the Elkwater Fork Water Supply project in Randolph County. WRS involvement with a cooperative Natural Stream Restoration project on Horseshoe Run in Tucker County and Knapps Creek in Pocahontas County continued. Significant time continued to be spent coordinating, reviewing and monitoring the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) with state and federal agencies. This program is paying landowners to fence livestock out of the stream and create and protect riparian areas. Significant time was spent coordinating with the WV Conservation Agency (WVCA) on post-flood stream restoration efforts in the state.

Significant time was spent implementing the Clean Water Act Regional Permit to assist landowners with small

stream restoration and management activities. Approximately 187 landowner stream plans have been received and reviewed during this reporting period.

Work continued with NRCS on Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program Plans for private farms as requested by the districts. Assistance has been provided in developing a fact sheet for barn owls to assist private landowners with their management. The CREP program continues to slowly expand. Only six new farm visits were attended this year and 14 of 157 farms were photo monitored. Coordination continues on several proposed flood control/water supply impoundments in Hardy and Randolph counties.

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.

Work continues on mitigation resulting from the U.S. Route 35 upgrade that will develop wetlands 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 first monitoring report was submitted for review.

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 6,292.25 acres and 167 mine pre-plans were reviewed.

Significant time was spent working on stream restoration plans and coordinating mitigation plans for mine impacts to aquatic ecosystems. A 53-acre wetland addition was added onto the Meadow River WMA as a result of local mining impacts. Assistance was provided to WVDEP in locating potential aquatic improvement projects that could be completed by mining company's in-lieu of administrative penalties for violations. To date, this includes four stream sites totaling nearly 30 miles of stream and two small wildlife habitat impoundment sites at Chief Logan State Park to be built by a mining company. In-stream restoration projects were completed on Pond Fork in Boone County and Spruce River, Cow Creek and Toney Fork in Logan County.

Coordination work has begun on an EIS for a possible mining project involving the public land surrounding East Lynn Lake. An MOU has been signed with the

U.S. Bureau of Land Management making the DNR a cooperating agency in this study development.

Approximately 214 Clean Water Act, Section 404/10 permit actions were coordinated. They include highway reviews; wetland and stream permit reviews; and NRCS and WVCA project reviews. Additionally, compensatory wetland creation projects have been started on two of our Wildlife Management areas. The 2.5-acre project on Frozencamp WMA was recently completed. Monitoring of some mitigation sites may result in improvements to those projects.

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

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.

### **Biometrics/GIS**

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 and from grants and contracts (U.S. Forest Service, 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 maps, 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. Work time and cost reporting services were also provided to the Law Enforcement Section.

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 2000/ESRI ArcSDE 9.0 databases. The

database schema was expanded to link future datasets to a database warehouse compliant with FGDC standards. This database server is now open to the Internet so agency staff and cooperating agencies can use databases centrally stored and maintained.

The WVDNR Intranet Web site was restructured and new functionality was added. The Intranet site now provides selected users with access to agency administrative data, work report system materials, publications and various project proposals, reports and other data.

Geographic Information System (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 further refined Stonewall Lake State Park maps and other promotional materials, with cooperation from the WVDNR State Parks, for future National Hunting and Fishing Days planning, brochures and displays. Technical assistance and staffing was also provided to support the Trophy Buck Contest program.

GIS staff continued the development of spatial and tabular data sets for selected wildlife management areas. GIS mapping was continued on a number of wildlife management areas. GIS/GPS consultation and database development services were provided to various federally assisted rare, threatened and endangered species studies and chronic wasting disease studies. GPS training was provided to Game Management Unit staff and other biologists and common data libraries were maintained.

GIS staff has developed and refined a fully functional central database server to store and share information for West Virginia's natural resource management projects through the use of its evolving GIS program. GIS personnel have deployed GIS capabilities in several district offices and cooperating agencies and provided ongoing instruction as needed.

The GIS staff has amassed over 800 GB of natural resource base mapping information ranging from statewide aerial photography, satellite imagery, topographic maps, soil surveys, 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.

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