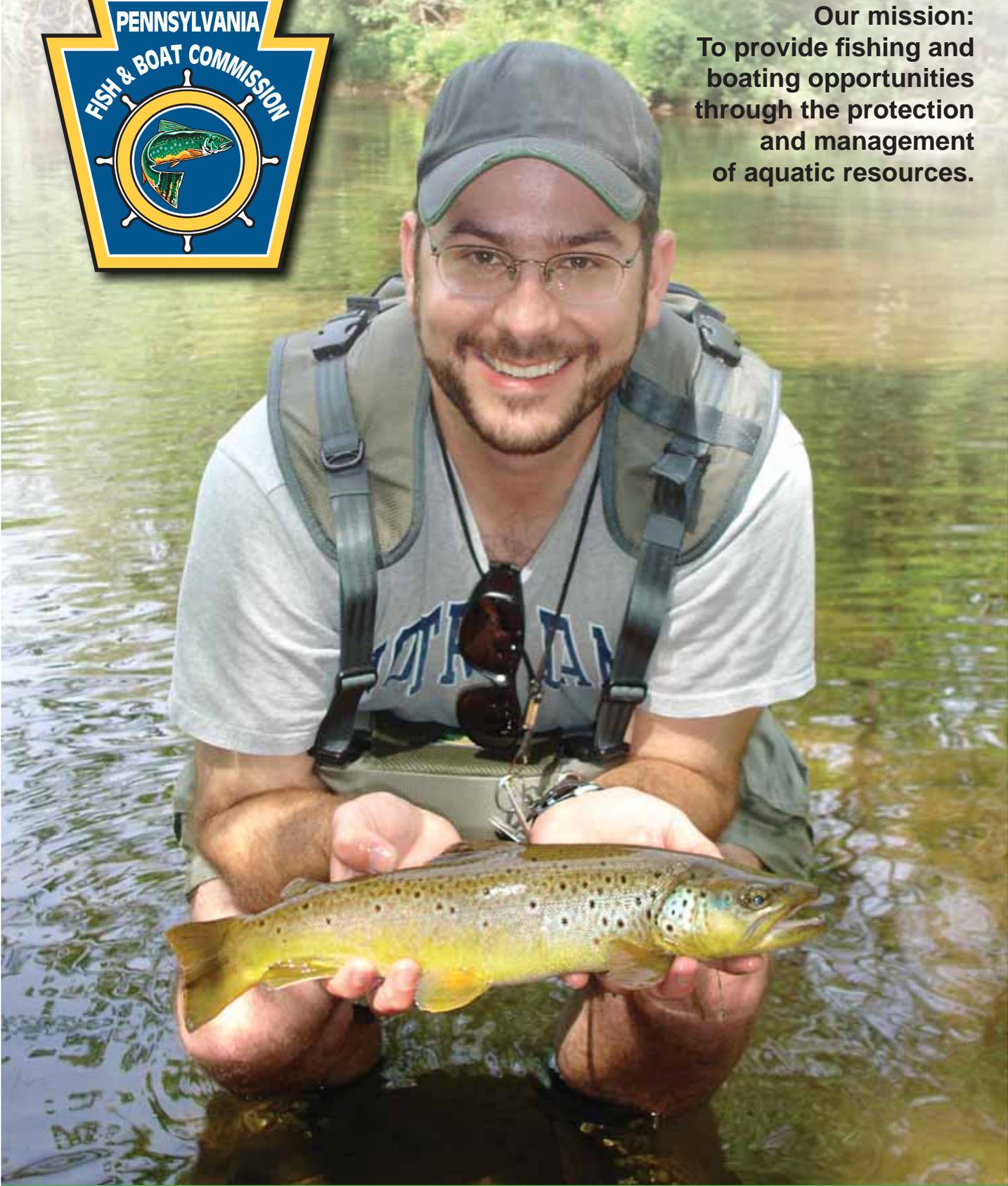
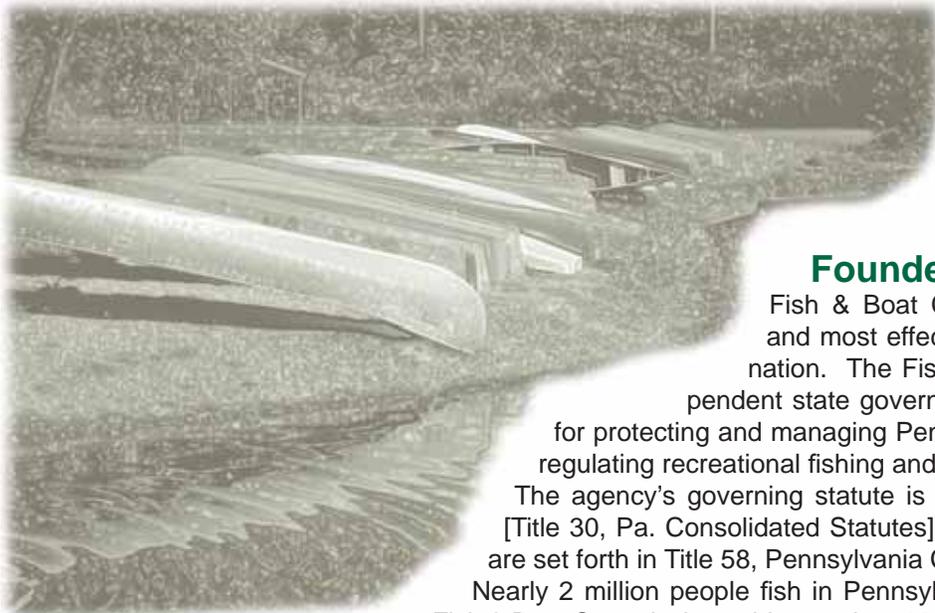


# 2006 ANNUAL REPORT



**Our mission:**  
To provide fishing and boating opportunities through the protection and management of aquatic resources.





## Introduction and Background

### Founded in 1866

the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission is one of the oldest and most effective conservation agencies in the nation. The Fish & Boat Commission is an independent state government agency with responsibilities for protecting and managing Pennsylvania's fishery resources and regulating recreational fishing and boating on Pennsylvania waters.

The agency's governing statute is the Fish and Boat Code of 1980 [Title 30, Pa. Consolidated Statutes]. Fishing and boating regulations are set forth in Title 58, Pennsylvania Code.

Nearly 2 million people fish in Pennsylvania in each year. In 2005, the Fish & Boat Commission sold more than 825,963 fishing licenses and 580,650 trout/salmon and Lake Erie fishing permits.<sup>1</sup> Fishing has a tremendous impact on

Pennsylvania's economy, generating an economic effect of over \$1.65 billion. More than 2.5 million people boat on Pennsylvania waters each year. During 2005, 350,599 boats were registered in Pennsylvania. The Fish & Boat Commission estimates that boating has a total economic impact of \$1.7 billion per year.

Members of the Fish & Boat Commission are appointed by the governor to eight-year terms with the advice and consent by the majority of the Pennsylvania Senate. Eight commissioners are selected based on districts; two at-large (statewide) commissioners represent boating interests. An executive director oversees day-to-day operations.

Douglas J. Austen, Ph.D., is the Fish & Boat Commission's ninth executive director. He is the Fish & Boat Commission's chief executive officer and chief waterways conservation officer. In 2006, the Fish & Boat Commission's complement was capped at 431 full-time employees. The wage (temporary and seasonal) complement averages about 150 employees during the peak stocking and recreational season.

The agency's mission is "To provide fishing and boating opportunities through the protection and management of aquatic resources."

**To accomplish this mission, the Fish & Boat Commission has established four agency-wide goals.**

- **To protect, conserve and enhance all aquatic resources.**
- **To provide for the protection of aquatic resource users.**
- **To address the expectations of anglers and boaters.**
- **To advocate the wise, safe use of Pennsylvania's aquatic resources.**

To accomplish these goals, the Fish & Boat Commission includes an Executive Office that coordinates the policy and programmatic direction for the agency as established by the commissioners. Five specialized bureaus support those functions.

The second half of this document reports on organizational unit-specific action that supports the Fish & Boat Commission's mission and goals. Early in 2005, the Fish & Boat Commission completed a strategic planning process that provides a road map to guiding long-term work. The first half of this annual report focuses on efforts supporting prioritized objectives established for 2006. Because these objectives encompass the entire agency, the accomplishments detailed herein were spearheaded by the Executive Office and cross organizational unit lines. The various aspects of these efforts are captured in the broad descriptions for each initiative, and they are not duplicated in the individual unit reports.



<sup>1</sup>License and trout stamp sales figures for 2005 cannot be finalized until all issuing agents have submitted reports.

## Strategic Initiatives

### Overview

At their January 2005 meeting, the commissioners adopted a new strategic plan. During 2006, the second year of this long-range strategic plan, specific operational objectives were prioritized, and actions to achieve them were undertaken to:

- Develop specific marketing and public relations initiatives targeted at key audiences.
- Develop and implement a Boating Access Improvement Program.
- Develop a systematic approach to improve streamside and shoreline angling opportunities.
- Reengineer trout fishing opportunities to improve their attractiveness to anglers.
- Increase revenue from “soft” sources (mitigation, habitat, grants, etc.).

## Strategic Initiatives

### Targeted Marketing and Public Relations

The year 2006 was the first full year for which the Fish & Boat Commission had a dedicated marketing function. A major task was finalizing various guidance documents. A marketing workgroup was formed and an 18-month marketing work plan was developed. The plan covers establishing target audiences, objectives, budgets, strategies, initiatives, long-term goals, and measurements of success. The beginning of 2006 was also the start of a more structured approach to the Fish & Boat Commission’s attendance at sports shows with the establishment of standardized practices and the implementation of evaluative measures for assessing customer trends. A formal show handbook was established, which includes the defined roles of staff and volunteers at shows, standard operating procedures, general expectations, evaluative measures, and forms.

The agency also used two focus groups to gather public perceptions of the *Summary of Fishing Laws and Regulations*, the most widely distributed Fish & Boat Commission publication. The outcomes of the meetings generated many useful ideas and confirmations of assumptions. A report was generated from Marketing and a list of recommendations was made, including organization of the regulations by both regulation and location, “micro maps” for better conceptualization of regions, an index for better navigability, a contacts page as a quick reference guide, color coding of content sections, and much more. The report and recommendations were submitted to the Bureau of Boating & Education for incorporation into the 2007 *Pennsylvania Fishing Summary*.

Throughout 2006, Marketing worked with Bureau of Boating & Education staff to focus the content, messages, and themes of *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater* magazine. Marketing also implemented an email blast promoting subscriptions to *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater*. A special banner was placed on the Fish & Boat Commission’s web site promoting *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater* subscriptions, which clicked through to a pop-up page. The content of the pop-up page included magazine articles and purchasing information for subscriptions. A 2006 fall trout fishing promotion tied in with the *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater* magazine promotion, which complemented the subject matter of each well.

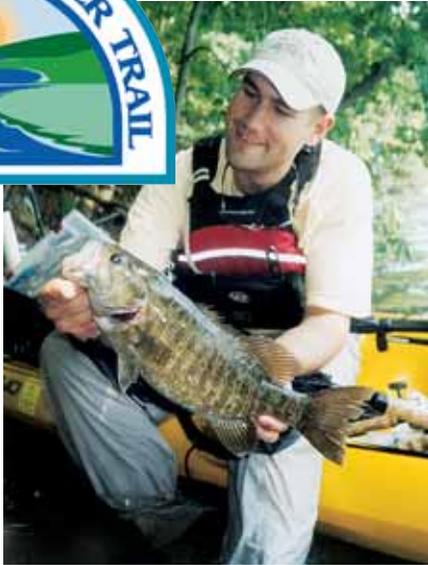


Juniata River  
Water Trail  
Lower Section





The water trails page was one of the top 20 most-viewed pages on the Commission's web site, [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us).



Water trails and boating safety were also important topics in 2006. Marketing worked with the Pennsylvania Organization for Watersheds and Rivers (POWR) and the Bureau of Boating & Education to distribute water trail guides and safety information at all river sojourns in 2006. Information was also distributed by POWR and the Fish & Boat Commission at all festivals and shows attended by the two groups throughout the year. In line with disseminating information about water trails, the agency purchased a full-page advertisement in *Paddler Magazine* to promote water trails in the magazine's summer fishing edition. This effort resulted in the Fish & Boat Commission's receiving information requests from all over the world. Coinciding with the advertisement placement, Marketing placed a water trails banner on the home page of the Fish & Boat Commission web site, which produced thousands of click-throughs and interest in the water trail system. During this period, the water trails page was one of the top 20 most-viewed pages.

To promote the opening of bass season on Father's Day weekend, Marketing created a multimedia advertising campaign promoting fishing for bass as a great family time. The campaign was targeted specifically to subscribers of outdoor-oriented magazines in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh areas. Media used in the campaign included direct mail, radio, email blasts, web banners, and a promotional page. The call to action for the campaign was a contest to win fishing kits. The two-week campaign produced over 7,000 contacts who entered a promotional contest on the Fish & Boat Commission's web site. The Fish & Boat Commission's web pages used to promote the contest received record-breaking visitation numbers. The direct mail, which included a flier about the contest and a regional fishing and boating guide, received an 18 percent response rate.

To insert the idea of fishing license gift-giving for Valentine's Day into the minds of married women living in the Pittsburgh and Philadelphia areas, Marketing carried out an email blast campaign. Marketing also executed a gift license campaign for the holidays. This included a radio campaign promoting "gift licenses for the holidays available at a sporting goods store near you," a holiday email blast promoting online gift license buying, and a web banner and pop-up page on the Fish & Boat Commission's web site promoting license gift-giving and winter fishing opportunities. At the end of December 2006, internet sales were up almost 100 percent over the same period in 2005, and issuing agent license sales were up 35 percent.

Establishing stronger bonds between the Fish & Boat Commission and the tourism industry was a major point of emphasis in 2006. Among the efforts successfully executed was the agency placing an advertisement about close-to-home fishing opportunities in *PA Pursuits*, a Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) subscription-based tourism publication, for which the Fish & Boat Commission received a free blurb in the publication and on VisitPA.com about the upcoming trout season. The Fish & Boat Commission also made revisions to regional fishing and boating guides in 2006 to incorporate the DCED tourism branding. Arrangements were also made for the distribution of Fish & Boat Commission publications at state welcome centers, turnpike plazas, and rest areas. DCED also placed a full-page advertisement about fishing in Pennsylvania in *Field & Stream* magazine during the summer of 2006, and a flier about fishing in Pennsylvania was created and distributed at strategic rest areas, turnpike plazas, and welcome centers in Pennsylvania. In addition to working with DCED, the Marketing Department also created relationships and accom-



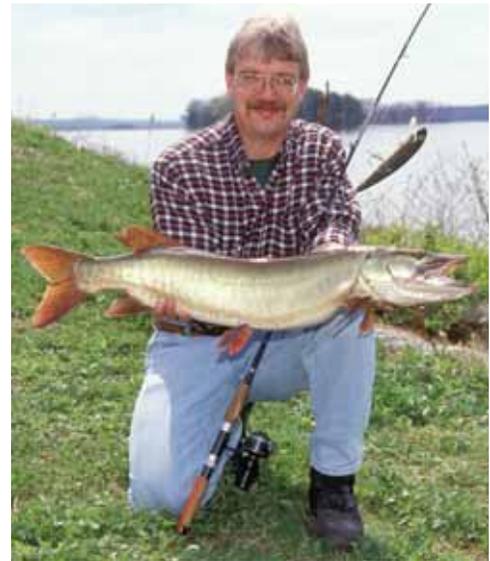
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plished projects with regional tourism groups including a fishing brochure with the PA Wilds group and incorporating fishing and boating information into various visitors guides across Pennsylvania.

The Bureau of Fisheries spearheaded another example of the application of marketing principles. As part of efforts to enhance muskellunge and tiger muskellunge fishing opportunities in Pennsylvania, Fisheries Management staff relied heavily on research/customer input. Muskellunge and tiger muskellunge management enhancements were initiated in 2005 when the Fish & Boat Commission assembled a Musky Management Workgroup to better understand the desires of musky anglers. The work group was comprised of representatives of musky angling sportsmen's clubs, other sportsmen's clubs, PA BASS, non-affiliated anglers, and Fish & Boat Commission staff. Formal opinion-gathering techniques were used to identify program features important to work group members. In addition, in 2005 and continuing in 2006, a broad web-based survey was developed to assess more comprehensively the desires of muskellunge and tiger muskellunge anglers.

As a result of this customer-oriented approach to managing a specifically targeted fishery, the Fish & Boat Commission adopted new regulations in 2006 that include a year-round season for muskellunge and tiger muskellunge, a statewide 40-inch size limit, and a 1 fish creel limit. In addition, an Enhanced Muskellunge Program was approved, which will result in a 45-inch size limit for any waterway that would be placed in the program in the future. These changes go into effect in 2007.

In late 2006, a broad web-based survey was developed to assess opinions associated with changes made to the Fish & Boat Commission's muskellunge stocking program. In 2006, Fish & Boat Commission fishery managers identified some 29 waterways that were removed from the muskellunge/tiger muskellunge stocking program and some 10 waterways in which muskellunge/tiger muskellunge stocking levels were increased. Additional waterways are slated for increase in 2007. Waterways removed from the program were those in which directed angler use was low and/or relative survival of stocked muskellunge/tiger muskellunge was below average. Waterways in which additional muskellunge/tiger muskellunge were to be stocked were those where angler use was good and/or where it was anticipated that increases were compatible with current fisheries and



Tiger muskellunge fry

## Strategic Initiatives

### Boating Access Improvement

Pennsylvania provides nearly unlimited potential for recreational boaters. The Commonwealth has 83,000 miles of rivers and streams ranging from headwaters to major river systems. Also within the state's borders are 76 natural lakes that provide more than 5,200 flatwater acres. An additional 2,300 constructed impoundments provide another 200,000 acres of boatable waters. Lake Erie has more than 63 shoreline miles and 735 square miles of water in Pennsylvania boundaries. The Delaware River provides 56 miles of tidal water in Pennsylvania, providing access to the Atlantic Ocean. However, to take advantage of the recreational boating opportunities that this vast aquatic resource offers, users must be able to access the water.

To facilitate access, the Fish & Boat Commission, through state ownership, manages about 250 boating access areas and launch ramps that it has developed for free public use. The Fish & Boat Commission also works with local governments to develop and improve access sites. In



The Commonwealth has 83,000 miles of rivers and streams ranging from headwaters to major river systems. Also within the state's borders are 76 natural lakes that provide more than 5,200 flatwater acres.



Pymatuning Reservoir, Crawford County.

2004, the Fish & Boat Commission began a focused effort to rehabilitate and improve many access areas, an endeavor that continued and expanded in 2006.

Fish & Boat Commission crews made improvements to existing boat access sites throughout the year, including:

- Bessemer Lake Access Area, Lawrence County - Replaced concrete launch ramp.
- Danville Access Area, Montour County - Replaced concrete launch ramp, paved parking lot.
- Great Bend Access Area, Susquehanna County - Replaced concrete launch ramp, expanded parking lot, resurfaced with stone.
- Northumberland Access Area, Northumberland County - Replaced concrete launch ramp, ADA walkway, bulkhead.
- Whites Ferry Access Area, Wyoming County - Constructed new launch ramp.
- Winola Lake Access Area, Wyoming County - Replaced concrete launch ramp.
- Belmont Lake Access Area, Wayne County - Removed deteriorated paving, graded with stone, and repaved road and parking.
- Rose Valley Lake Access Area, Lycoming County - Paved parking lot.
- Balls Eddy Access Area, Wayne County - Flood damage, replaced damaged ramp, cleanup.
- Damascus Access Area, Wayne County - Flood damage, replaced damaged ramp, cleanup.
- Shehawken Access Area, Wayne County - Flood damage repairs, cleanup.
- Cowanshannock Access Area, Armstrong County - Flood damage, replaced ramp, major site cleanup.
- Conneaut Lake Access Area, Crawford County - Repaired launch ramp.
- Cleaned and repaired 70 access areas across the state that were damaged from the severe flooding in June 2006.



In January 2005, the Fish & Boat Commission established the Boating Facility Grant Program to help ensure that Pennsylvania's recreational boaters are provided with the highest quality boating facilities on all navigable waters of the state. The program is designed for public entities that have or will have the capability to provide boat access facilities that are open and available for general public use. Applicants can seek grants for site acquisition, project design and engineering, development, expansion and rehabilitation of public recreational boat access facilities. Successful applicants must provide a 25 percent grant match, and they must be willing to enter into a long-term agreement to keep the facility open to free public use for its useful life. Program grant funds are available in each annual state fiscal period as authorized and allocated by the Fish & Boat Commission. Boating Facility Grant Program funds are derived from boat registration fees, state fuel taxes collected on motorboat fuels, and in some cases, taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat fuel from the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Program.

During the first two rounds of grant funding, the Fish & Boat Commission approved funding for 28 projects for the development or improvement of Commonwealth public recreational boating facilities. Currently, 23 projects are under construction. Five of the projects have been completed. The total cost for these projects exceeded \$4.25 million. The Fish & Boat Commission has provided some \$2.6 million, or 61 percent, of the funding for

these projects. The applicants have provided matching funds and have found other grant sources that contributed more than \$1.66 million, or 39 percent, toward these projects.

In 2006, the Fish & Boat Commission awarded more than \$1 million in grants to nine municipalities to develop, improve or rehabilitate public recreational boat launches.

Grant recipients for the second round of funding are:

- Washington County Planning Commission, Washington County, Cross Creek Lake - \$90,000.
- Borough of Sewickley, Allegheny County, Ohio River - \$150,000.
- City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Monongahela River - \$125,000.
- Lower Allen Township, Cumberland County, Yellow Breeches Creek - \$25,000.
- East Penn Township, Carbon County, Lehigh River - \$160,000.
- East Donegal Township, Lancaster County, Susquehanna River - \$230,000.
- Borough of Norwood, Delaware County, Darby Creek - \$33,000.
- City of Sunbury, Northumberland County, Susquehanna River - \$150,000.

## **Strategic Initiatives**

### **Improve Streamside and Shoreline Angling**

The Fish & Boat Commission recognizes the important role access plays in anglers' ability to pursue their sport. Unfortunately, Pennsylvania, even with its wealth of public lands, is very susceptible to privatization. Of our stocked trout waters, 83 percent are on private lands. About 70 percent of our wild trout waters are on private lands and 59 percent of our Class A trout waters are also on private lands. The scarcity of legal walk-in access to the Susquehanna River north of Harrisburg and to the Juniata River in the Lewistown Narrows severely restricts angling opportunities on roughly 30 miles of some of the best smallmouth bass waters on the East Coast.

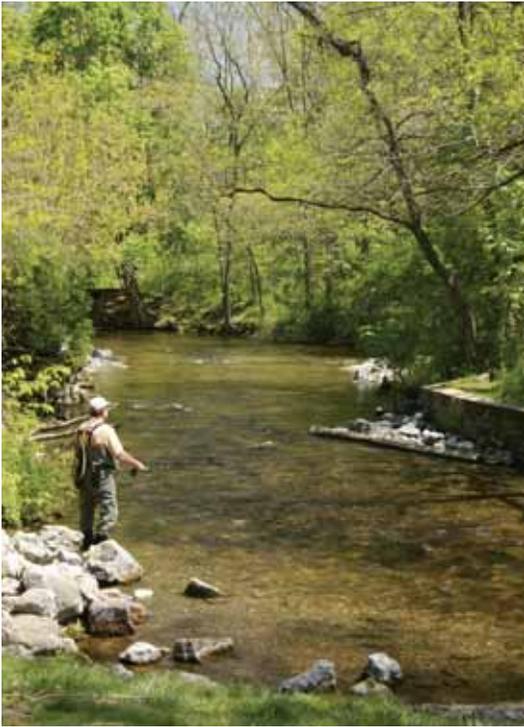
To address threats to continued public access to fishable water, the Commission in 2006 worked with a variety of partners in beginning the development of a statewide fishing access strategy. The agency will be compiling access information from a wide variety of sources, analyzing the distribution, identifying the access improvement needs and developing strategies to address these needs.

One example of a strategy to address streamside and shoreline angling access is already being implemented in Erie County. In 2005, the Fish & Boat Commission created the Erie Access Improvement Program to provide grants to county and municipal governments and non-profit organizations so that they could improve public fishing access on Commonwealth waters in the Lake Erie Watershed. The goal of the Erie Access Program is to ensure quality public angler access in the Lake Erie Watershed, a mission that was advanced in 2006.

Eligible projects include fee-simple acquisition of property, acquisition of public fishing easements and site development. Funding for this program comes from the sale of Lake Erie Fishing Permits and \$6 of the fees from each combination trout/salmon/Lake Erie fishing permit. During the first two years of the Erie Stamp permit requirement, over \$1 million has been collected. The fees are deposited into a restricted account in the Fish



Steelhead at the mouth of Trout Run where it enters Lake Erie.



Fund for five years and are limited to providing public fishing access on or at Lake Erie and the Lake Erie Watershed.

Throughout 2006, the Fish & Boat Commission worked with a number of partners on potential property acquisitions, easements, and development projects that will benefit anglers and boaters in the Lake Erie Watershed. The partners include state and local governments, conservancies, and sportsmen's groups. The other partners have provided additional resources that have been essential to the successful implementation of the Erie Access Improvement Program.

In 2006, the Fish & Boat Commission approved the acquisition of five parcels of property, and it is pursuing two additional properties in the Lake Erie Watershed. The total cost for these acquisitions will exceed \$1.76 million, of which the Fish & Boat Commission will contribute almost \$600,000 toward the purchase of these properties. The properties will provide about 11,232 linear feet, or 2.1 miles, of access on Lake Erie and the tributary streams.

In addition, the Fish & Boat Commission continued efforts to acquire public fishing easements in the Lake Erie Watershed. Public fishing easements are a voluntary and permanent legal contract between a landowner and the Fish & Boat Commission. Easements will provide corridors along streams that will allow anglers to wade in and walk along the stream banks for fishing. The sizes and shapes of easements may vary, but generally each encompasses 25 feet of land from the stream bank on either side of the stream. The landowner continues to own and control the land. In return for payment, the landowner agrees to allow access for public fishing and Fish & Boat Commission management activities along the stream corridor.



Entering into a public fishing easement preserves landowner rights and provides additional benefits. Landowners may still use their property for farming, grazing, water supply, fishing, and other activities. Landowners are not required to allow access for activities such as hunting, trapping, camping or hiking.

Public fishing easements are beneficial for landowners and for anglers. They ensure good fishing for everyone through the continuation of formal fisheries management. The Fish & Boat Commission will be able to direct anglers better to areas open for fishing, spreading out fishing pressure. The Fish & Boat

Commission views this cooperative approach, applied with the Erie Access Improvement Program, as a model for the rest of the Commonwealth.

### ***Strategic Initiatives***

## **Reengineer Trout Fishing Opportunities**

During the course of 2006, continuing efforts to reengineer trout fishing opportunities to improve their attractiveness to anglers took the form of regulatory, policy and operational actions.

In 2003, the Fish & Boat Commission approved a program change to increase the size of adult stocked trout to be stocked beginning in spring 2007. The production changes needed to meet this objective were fully implemented during 2006. The total pounds produced in the hatchery system will be the same, but with the overall larger individual trout size, the total number will decrease somewhat. At the end of 2006, trout hatcheries were on target to provide trout at just less than 2/3-pound for the 2007 season.



Matt Goetz of Greencastle, PA, caught this 21-inch brown trout in the Delayed-Harvest, Artificial-Lures-Only section of Falling Spring Branch in Chambersburg, Franklin County.

Opening day will become opening days, thanks to Fish & Boat Commission action during its July 18 meeting. Beginning with the 2007 season, an earlier opening day of trout season will apply to waters in an 18-county area in southeastern and southcentral Pennsylvania.

Based on weather patterns, the air temperatures in this area tend to be warmer earlier in the spring as compared with other regions of the state. These warmer temperatures provide conditions better suited for trout angling to begin earlier in the spring. Conversely, these warmer temperatures can also limit trout angling opportunities by mid-spring on many stocked waters in this region. The combination of a mid-April opening day and the potential for these waters to become too warm for trout angling by mid-May reduces the amount of time that trout angling can be provided.



Thus, the Fish & Boat Commission established an earlier opening day to take advantage of the conditions that provide optimum trout angling in this area of the state. In 2007, the opening day of trout season will be March 31 for waters in the 18-county area. The earlier opening day will also help to address growing concerns with the movement of stocked trout before opening day. The regional opening day will allow trout stocking to be conducted earlier in the 18-county area and later in the other regions of the state where the later opening day applies. This strategy will effectively reduce the amount of time between stocking and opening day throughout the state.

To investigate further the movement of stocked trout between the time of preseason stocking and the opening of season, Fisheries Management staff conducted sampling at 266 sites distributed among 135 stocked trout stream sections between March 20 and April 14, 2006. Electrofishing examinations were conducted at stocking point locations between 10 and 20 days after stocking. The results recorded poor recapture rates of stocked trout (less than 40 percent of stocked trout remaining) at 11 percent of the stream sections examined. The study did not allow the causes of movement to be identified. In 2007, trout movement will be further evaluated on those streams rated as "poor." In addition, sampling will be expanded to evaluate other streams that are currently stocked to understand more thoroughly where the problem is occurring, the extent, and if possible, the causes. Possible management changes to address movement could include elimination of stocking on some streams, stocking closer to opening day, and stocking streams in which significant movement is documented only during inseason.

Beginning with the 2006 season, the former Heritage Trout Angling and Delayed-Harvest, Fly-Fishing-Only programs were dissolved. Waters formerly managed under these options were placed in a new Catch-and-Release, Fly-Fishing-Only program. In addition, sections of Spring Creek and Valley Creek, previously managed under Miscellaneous Waters with Special Regulations, as well as sections of the Little Juniata River and the Clarion River, which were formerly managed under the All-Tackle Trophy Trout program, became managed as part of the new Catch-and-Release, All-Tackle program. Other changes for 2006 included the removal of the barbless hook requirement from the special regulations programs where it applied.



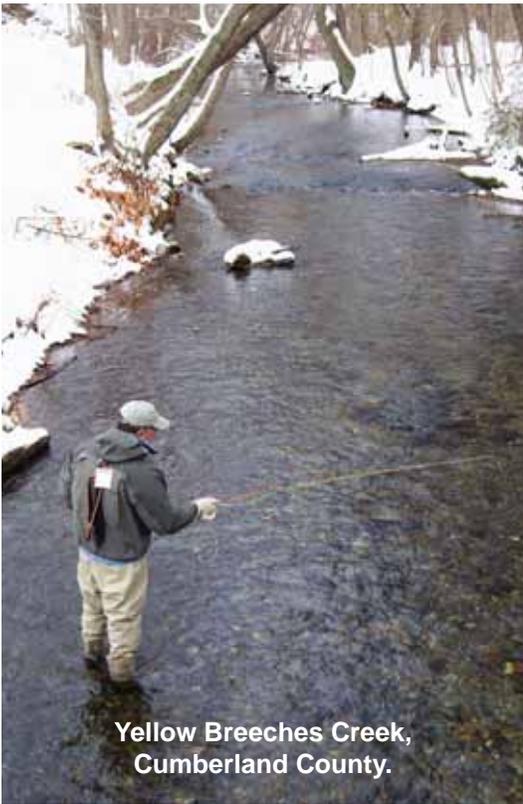
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## Strategic Initiatives

### Increase Revenue from “Soft” Sources

In recent years the Fish & Boat Commission has been actively involved in securing non-traditional funding sources for many mission-directed goals. One of the most successful efforts has been the dam removal and fish passage initiative. The Consultation and Grant Program for Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration advanced the completion of 18 dam removals and a fishway project resulting in the reopening and restoration of nearly 185 miles of stream habitat for migratory and riverine fishes. The program also obtained some \$700,000 of grant funding to support project design and implementation. More than 75 additional dam removal and several fishway projects are targeted for completion in upcoming years, and more than \$1.5 million of funding assistance has been obtained to support the completion of these projects.

The Fish & Boat Commission's ability to obtain “soft” funding sources was greatly enhanced with the hiring of additional staff whose primary focus is securing grant funding support for land conservation and habitat improvement projects. Four habitat biologists in the Division of Habitat Management were hired in 2006 with an additional two to be hired in the upcoming year. These biologists are assigned to specific geographic regions in the state and charged with identifying, coordinating and obtaining funds to implement projects that benefit the conservation, enhancement and restoration of habitat that support Pennsylvania's fish, amphibian and reptile fauna.



Yellow Breeches Creek,  
Cumberland County.

### Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission Sponsored Dam Removal/Fishway Projects in 2006

<i>Blockage Name</i>	<i>Passage Type</i>	<i>Water</i>	<i>County</i>	<i>Watershed</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Mohnton Pump Station Dam	Dam Removal	Wyomissing Creek	Berks	Delaware	\$100,000
Lochner Dam	Dam Removal	Trib. Delaware River	Bucks	Delaware	\$26,000
Unnamed (Ward) Dam	Dam Removal	Trib. Delaware River	Bucks	Delaware	\$27,000
Diversion (Palmerton) Dam	Dam Removal	Lehigh River	Carbon	Delaware	\$95,000
Rhawn Street Dam	Partial Removal	Pennypack Creek	Philadelphia	Delaware	\$30,000
Frankford Avenue Dam	Partial Removal	Pennypack Creek	Philadelphia	Delaware	\$30,000
Graceland Dam	Dam Removal	Trib. Neshannock Creek	Lawrence	Ohio	\$30,000
Wolf Lake Dam	Dam Removal	Conococheague Creek	Franklin	Potomac	\$37,000
Sharrer Dam	Dam Removal	Conewago Creek	Adams	Susquehanna	\$65,000
Hoffman Mill Dam	Dam Removal	Yellow Breeches Creek	Cumberland	Susquehanna	\$26,000
Silver Spring Mill Dam	Dam Removal	Trindle Spring	Cumberland	Susquehanna	\$40,000
Iron Mine Run Dam	Dam Removal	Swatara Creek	Dauphin	Susquehanna	\$45,000
Old Furnace	Dam Removal	Black Log Creek	Huntingdon	Susquehanna	\$36,000
Ford Dam	Dam Removal	Pequea Creek	Lancaster	Susquehanna	\$40,000
Unnamed	Notch	Swatara Creek	Lebanon	Susquehanna	\$18,000
Filter Dam	Dam Removal	Huntsville Creek	Luzerne	Susquehanna	\$20,000
Huntsville Intake	Dam Removal	Huntsville Creek	Luzerne	Susquehanna	\$3,000
Millmont Dam	Dam Removal	Penns Creek	Union	Susquehanna	\$30,000
<b>Total: 19 Projects</b>					<b>\$718,000</b>

The Fish & Boat Commission has also been focusing attention on non-game species and their habitats. For about five years, the Fish & Boat Commission has been receiving funds from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service through the State Wildlife Grants Program (SWG) and more recently through the Landowner Incentive Program (LIP). To help with these programs and to assist with the diversity of additional needs, including the identification and acquisition of funding for these programs, the Fish & Boat Commission developed the position of conservation coordinator. With this position, the Fish & Boat Commission will expand its capacity to pursue these additional funds to protect and manage these important species and their habitats.

In 2006, the Fish & Boat Commission either initiated or approved nine SWG Program projects. The scope of these projects characterizes the diversity of species and habitats encompassed by the Fish & Boat Commission's jurisdiction. These projects include work on deepwater fishes of large rivers, turtles, American eels and habitat improvement. The duration of these projects ranges from one to five years with more than \$1.7 million of federal funds provided by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. These federal funds are matched with \$633,782 provided by partners and the Fish & Boat Commission. SWG projects help address critical species and habitat concerns of Pennsylvania and provide for a healthier environment for both wildlife and people.

### ***Three Rivers Ecological Research Center***

The Ohio River Watershed, including the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers, is of regional ecological importance for much of the eastern and midwestern U.S. because it supports significant and fragile populations of many aquatic species and their habitats. The Pennsylvania portion of the watershed contains 80 percent of state-listed fish species, and many imperiled mussel species. Despite the diversity of the rivers' animals and plants, many problems affect these large river systems, including human-induced impacts as well as interactions with animals and plants, especially non-native organisms. Continuing monitoring and research efforts exemplify the intense interest in the ecology of the Ohio River Watershed. The biodiversity in the watershed, coupled with current and potential threats to these significant Pennsylvania rivers, requires a holistic approach to understand adequately the distribution, population dynamics and habitat requirements of the watershed's aquatic species. With support from a SWG grant, the Fish & Boat Commission established the Three Rivers Ecological Research Center (3RERC) in Pittsburgh as a new unit of the Bureau of Fisheries. 3RERC will work with governmental and non-governmental partners to expand more fully the Fish & Boat Commission's understanding and capacity to protect these rivers, enhance recreational opportunities, conserve aquatic resources, and promote river-based economic development.

### ***Conservation of Rare Herpetofauna & Other High-Priority Species***

The Fish & Boat Commission develops recommendations to avoid adverse effects on rare and endangered species. Initially approved by the Fish & Boat Commission in 2005, because of increasing demands for this work, in 2006 this project was extended four more years to ensure that management and protection efforts will be available for Pennsylvania's



Red-bellied turtle



Northern riffleshell

**The Fish & Boat Commission develops recommendations to avoid adverse effects on rare and endangered species. Initially approved by the Fish & Boat Commission in 2005, because of increasing demands for this work, in 2006 this project was extended four more years to ensure that management and protection efforts will be available for Pennsylvania's rare snakes, turtles and other herpetofauna.**



Timber rattlesnake

**Conservation and management plans will be created for the timber rattlesnake and other prioritized species of special concern, including high-priority species such as the bog turtle. Records for special-concern species (rare, threatened, endangered and candidate species) will be collected and processed and conveyed to the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory data management staff.**



Bog turtle

rare snakes, turtles and other herptofauna. Project reviews and consultations will focus mainly on high-profile herptofauna, including the bog turtle, eastern massasauga, red-bellied turtle and timber rattlesnake. An inventory of extant and historic occurrences will be developed. In addition, conservation and management plans will be created for the timber rattlesnake and other prioritized species of special concern, including high-priority species such as the bog turtle. Records for special-concern species (rare, threatened, endangered and candidate species) will be collected and processed and conveyed to the Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory data management staff. The benefits of this study include development of conservation/management plans to guide Fish & Boat Commission activities and justify approaches.

### ***Biodiversity of Riverine Fish Assemblages of the Lower Allegheny River***

Using benthic (bottom) trawls, this two-year project by California University of Pennsylvania will survey non-game fish species including the gravel chub, spotted darter, bluebreast darter, gilt darter, tippecanoe darter, high-fin carpsucker and mooneye. These species have historically occurred in Pennsylvania but their present-day range in the lower Allegheny River is unknown. The selected river reach, from Pittsburgh to Lock and Dam #9, has been under-represented or completely ignored in both historical and contemporary surveys. The data obtained from this survey will provide a comprehensive inventory of riverine fishes and a baseline for future monitoring, and it will complement companion sampling in the Ohio and Allegheny rivers proposed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection, the Fish & Boat Commission and Pennsylvania State University.

### ***Survey of the Fishes of Deep Waters of the Ohio River***

During the next year, Penn State University researchers will be plying the waters of the Ohio River in Pennsylvania to acquire data on the distribution and habitat use of fishes, including information on species presence and absence in relation to habitat types, and quantifiable disturbance activities, primarily dredging. For this project, comprehensive fish survey data will be collected using a combination of boat-mounted electrofishers, benthic (bottom) trawl and gill nets. Findings from this sampling will be critical in reviewing the state's listing of threatened, endangered and candidate species known or expected to exist in the rivers. This project will also provide information on species-specific habitat use with special emphasis on sites before and after dredging.

### ***Development of Conservation Planning Materials for Species of Greatest Conservation Need in Pennsylvania***

For this three-year project, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy will develop a statewide conservation planning polygon specifications database and conservation polygon geodatabase for environmental assessment, conservation planning and protection of species of greatest conservation need. By the end of this project, there will be a standardized database containing documented criteria for delineation of core habitat and supporting landscapes for Pennsylvania priority species, application of habitat delineation criteria to priority species and occurrences of those species, and creation of a conservation polygon geodatabase housing that information.

## **The Pennsylvania Mussel Database: Mussel Sampling Protocol Development and Database Enhancements**

This two-year project is a companion project to a current Western Pennsylvania Conservancy mussel sampling in the Allegheny River. This database project will use current sampling protocols or recommendations of mussel experts to develop a common data recording format, to enhance the structure, data entry, outputs and analytical functions for mussels in the existing Aquatic Community Classification database, and to provide training for Fish & Boat Commission staff in using this updated system. The project will provide a mussel database with customized user queries, data entry forms, standardized outputs (spreadsheets and graphs) and documentation information.



Spike (freshwater mussel)

## **Status of American Eel in the Delaware River Watershed**

Pennsylvania provides significant habitat for American eels. During this two-year project, using historic data and new collections, the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia will assess current blockages to yellow stage American eels (*Anguilla rostrata*) in streams of the Delaware River Watershed. The findings of this study will greatly advance the understanding of eels in this watershed and provide: 1) tangible information on current and historical eel status (that is, distribution and abundance); 2) direct information on current blocks to upstream eel passage by dams; 3) identification of dam characteristics that affect eel passage, allowing prediction of potential blockages where direct information is unavailable (for dams upstream of existing barriers); 4) assessment of other factors affecting eel abundance in streams, which can be used in habitat restoration and other management activities; and 5) determination of temporal trends in yellow phase eel abundance.



American eel

## **Expanded Range Determination and Inventory of the Threatened Red-Bellied Turtle and Invasive Red-Eared Slider in Southeastern Pennsylvania**

It is generally believed by resource managers that native turtle populations in the southeastern part of Pennsylvania are now stressed by expanding populations of red-eared sliders (RES) released from captivity, mainly as a result of the pet trade. Similar food, nesting site, habitat preferences and sizes at maturity of the red-bellied turtles (RBT) and (RES) make exploitative and interference competition very likely between these species. The purpose of this three-year project, to be conducted by Drexel University, is to assess the Pennsylvania geographical distribution of RBT and RES across the historic range of the RBT. This study will also assess the status of RBT and slider colonies by measuring relative abundance and by estimating RES age-classes compared with RBT and other native aquatic turtle species. A significant benefit of this project will be the establishment of baseline databases containing distribution, relative abundance and other ecological data relevant to habitat requirements for RBT and RES, for future comparison to future surveys.



Red-eared slider

## ***Planning, Coordination, and Management of Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission Habitat Initiatives***



This five-year project, to be conducted by the Fish & Boat Commission, will develop and implement an effective program for planning, coordination and management of aquatic habitat protection, restoration and enhancement activities that improve habitat for a wide array of fish, wildlife and species of greatest conservation need in Pennsylvania. This project will result in a substantial increase in our understanding of the type, quantity, quality and distribution of aquatic habitats throughout the Commonwealth. This project will also provide oversight of habitat restoration work as well as the identification and mapping of these diverse habitat restoration projects, which may include: Instream, riparian, fish passage, dam removal and other activities and threats that may affect aquatic life.

### ***Organizational Unit Report***

## **Executive Office**

The Executive Office administers the operations and activities of the entire Fish & Boat Commission. The executive director serves as the chief waterways conservation officer of the Fish & Boat Commission and as an ex officio member of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, the Environmental Quality Board, the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council and the Boating Advisory Board. The executive director is supported by a variety of staff including the Office of Chief Counsel, Legislative Liaison, Press Secretary, Director of Policy, Planning & Operations, and Human Resources Office.

Among many other activities in 2006, the Fish & Boat Commission worked on extending the capital funds it received under Growing Greener II by developing partnerships to address lake improvement needs. The Fish & Boat Commission continues to allocate its proceeds carefully from Growing Greener II to the highest priority projects. The hatchery improvement projects remain the highest priority for the agency with five projects underway or completed. To leverage the Fish & Boat Commission's limited Growing Greener funds, the executive director was able successfully to develop and solidify an arrangement under which the Fish & Boat Commission will bear about one-third of the cost to rebuild Leaser Lake Dam and partners will provide two-thirds of more than \$5 million in project funding needs. The Fish & Boat Commission is also working with local entities and other partners on five other impoundment projects (Dutch Fork, Cansonsburg, Hereford Manor, Mauch Chunk and Opossum). The Fish & Boat Commission is optimistic that at least one additional funding partnership will be secured to reconstruct another dam in 2007.

The agency's legislative agenda included a wide variety of issues and was active throughout most of the 2005-2006 sessions. Legislative topics pertinent to the Fish & Boat Commission included Growing Greener II, use of social security numbers, in-lieu of taxes for public lands, capital budget, constitutional amendment related to hunting and fishing, eminent domain, early retirement, powers of waterways conservation officers, point of sale for fishing licenses, good Samaritan civil immunity related to boating mishaps, reduced fee and license exemptions for certain individuals, youth education/license, lemon law improvements for new boats, terms of commissioners, non-native injurious fish, boating under the influence and aggravated assault with a boat, boat and marine forfeiture, use of lasers, and land transfers.



**The Fish & Boat Commission worked on extending the capital funds it received under Growing Greener II by developing partnerships to address lake improvement needs.**



**Douglas J. Austen, Ph.D.**  
Executive Director

Among the relevant items of legislation that became law during the two-year session that ended in 2006 were:

- Act 1 of 2005 Growing Greener II (ballot question).
- Act 15 Of 2005 Fish & Boat Commission land transfer in Cumberland County.
- Act 45 of 2005 Growing Greener II.
- Act 21 of 2005 Reduced fee fishing license for deployed military personnel.
- Act 54 of 2005 One-day tourist fishing license.
- Act 11 of 2006 Reduced fee fishing license for former POWs.
- Act 60 of 2006 Confidentiality of social security numbers.
- Act 75 of 2006 Non-native injurious fish.
- Act 79 of 2006 Boat and marine forfeiture.
- Act 83 of 2006 Capital Budget.
- Act 102 of 2006 Forest Reserves Municipal Relief Law.
- Act 149 of 2006 Boating under the influence and aggravated assault by boat.
- Act 160 of 2006 Confidentiality of social security numbers.

The Commission's Executive Office facilitated the development of the agency's first research agenda—the culmination of a process involving internal staff and scientific experts outside the agency. By building partnerships outside the agency, the Fish & Boat Commission hopes to enhance its protection and enhancement of the resources under its management jurisdiction. The agency is also working on building a coalition and support for enhanced funding for conservation and management of PA's nongame wildlife. Through a series of discussions and in partnership with a variety of other entities, a new movement has started that might culminate in a new source of wildlife funding in PA.

On the Geographic Information System (GIS) front, staff finalized an agency GIS plan, developed key Fish & Boat Commission data layers, executed multiple training sessions for staff—rolling out the technology to more than 40 staff, and continued to provide support to the whole agency and all its program areas. One key highlight from this year's effort is the finalization of the new Paddle PA coverage showing all formal and informal access points (as well as other information) for all 19 Pennsylvania water trails.

During 2006, the Office of Chief Counsel continued to provide advice and guidance to commissioners and agency staff on many issues. The office represented the Fish & Boat Commission in litigation before Pennsylvania's courts and administrative tribunals, such as the Environmental Hearing Board. The office also assisted with the development of the point-of-sale contract through final negotiations, which culminated in the execution of the contract in May. Throughout the year, the office provided legal support for implementation of the point-of-sale system.

The Office of Chief Counsel also assisted in drafting key legislation and regulations on issues of importance to the Fish & Boat Commission. The office worked with staff to draft legislation pertaining to the youth fishing license, implementation of point of sale (the Pennsylvania Automated Licensing Service, or PALS) and boating under the influence. On the regulatory front, the office drafted or assisted with the drafting of updated regulations pertaining to reptiles and amphibians; muskellunge, pike and pickerel regulations; regulations for the new regional opening day of trout season; Catch-and-Release Lakes and Brood-Stock Lakes programs; and regulations governing the operation of issuing agents under PALS.

The Office of Chief Counsel further provided support in the development and implementation of grant programs, such as the Erie Access Improvement Program and sportfishing and aquatic resource education, and



Eastern American toad





Through the Cooperative Nursery Grant Program, Fishing Creek Sportsmen's Association, Columbia County, has received several cooperative nursery grants for raceway retaining wall repair, belt feeders and nets.

the continued success of grant programs such as the Statewide Grant Program for Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration, the State Wildlife Grant Program, the Boating Facility Grant Program, the Cooperative Nursery Grant Program and the Landowner Incentive Program. The office drafted and assisted with the drafting of real estate documents, contracts for the procurement of goods and services, interagency agreements, memoranda of understanding, and grant agreements.

One of the greatest challenges facing recreational fishing relates to the privatization of public waters. Throughout the Commonwealth, on many waterways private landowners have asserted ownership and control while the Commonwealth has maintained their navigable status. In 2003, the Fish & Boat Commission, along with the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, filed suit in Huntingdon County asking the court to declare the Little Juniata River navigable and to enjoin certain riparian landowners and their lessees from interfering with public fishing, boating and other recreation. The agencies continued to defend the public's rights in the Little Juniata River in 2006, while the litigation continued. During the week of June 12, the Honorable Stewart Kurtz presided over the trial in this matter. Judge Kurtz also presided over oral arguments on December 13. It is expected that Judge Kurtz will render an opinion in this case in early 2007.

A total of 83 press releases was issued through the Fish & Boat Commission's press office in 2006. Release subject materials ranged from administrative matters (appointment of new commissioners, meeting and event notices) to general public information (boating safety tips, fishing season openers) to substantial issue-oriented announcements (Eastern Brook Trout Initiative, funding for youth education).

The Commission's web site, [www.fish.state.pa.us](http://www.fish.state.pa.us), is administered by the Executive Office and continues to solidify its position as the agency's primary mechanism for the distribution of public information. A tracked total of 12,251,204 web pages were accessed in 2006, a 13 percent increase of usage in 2005. This usage equates to more than 1 million Fish & Boat Commission web documents read each month.

The Fish & Boat Commission made several notable improvements and upgrades to the agency web site during the calendar year. Foremost, a major site redesign was undertaken. From an aesthetics perspective, this effort unified the appearance and functionality of major Fish & Boat Commission documents available through the web site. More importantly, the redesign's objective was to enhance end-user experience through improved navigability. A major component of this effort was to place increased emphasis on development and display of information areas for which tracking records demonstrated high demand. Enhancements also included clustering of like information and implementation of a new site search engine.

A self-subscribe email alert feature was also introduced to the Fish & Boat Commission web site in 2006. This function allows users to join a bulk email list and automatically receive updated information on subjects of their choosing. Available selections included news releases, legal notices, regional fishing and boating field reports, technical reports and job vacancy announcements. Some 250,000 individual emails were sent via this channel during the course of the year.

Online survey administration capacity was also a new addition to the Fish & Boat Commission web site in 2006. This functionality was used as a research tool in a variety of ways, including a survey of muskellunge anglers to gauge the impact and effectiveness of select marketing efforts and to enroll participants in a smallmouth bass symposium.



## **Bureau of Fisheries**

The Bureau of Fisheries directs the management, production, protection, propagation and distribution of fish, fisheries, habitat, reptiles, amphibians and certain threatened and endangered/non-game species in the Commonwealth. The bureau also directs the operation of all state fish hatcheries operated by the Fish & Boat Commission. The Bureau of Fisheries represents the executive director and the Fish & Boat Commission at various partner meetings, including the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the In-stream Flow Council. The bureau also develops and provides briefings and presentations, and relays policy statements. The bureau addresses many environmentally, legally and politically sensitive issues related to the major permitting and permit review functions of the Division of Environmental Services; serves as the Fish & Boat Commission's Lake Erie manager on the International and Interstate Lake Erie Committee; and coordinates with the Bureau of Engineering and Development on infrastructure and renovations of the facilities under management of the Bureau of Fisheries.

The Fish & Boat Commission is committed to strengthening the agency's role as a leader in habitat protection and restoration of aquatic ecosystem functions. This increased "agency wide" focus has been initiated in response to the recognized need and increased public demand to conserve and improve aquatic habitat throughout Pennsylvania. It is also intended to fulfill objectives outlined in the National Fish Habitat Initiative, specifically to "protect, restore, and enhance the nation's fish and aquatic communities through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation and improve the quality of life for the American people." In fulfillment of this commitment, the Fish & Boat Commission's board of commissioners approved the establishment of the Division of Habitat Management (DHM) in the Bureau of Fisheries during its July 2006 meeting.

The DHM is comprised of multiple sections that provide technical assistance in several programmatic areas. These include the Lake Habitat Section, Stream Habitat Section, Fish Passage Section and the Regional Habitat Section. In 2006, the Lake Habitat Section's Adopt-a-Lake Program worked with 40 cooperators and completed 35 lake habitat enhancement projects including the installation of over 1,000 habitat structures. The section also began a cooperative project with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources that would target four state park lakes for extensive habitat enhancement with associated public outreach. These projects would be well beyond the traditional scope of those completed under the Adopt-a-Lake Program.

The Adopt-a-Stream Program in the Stream Habitat Section worked with 85 cooperators and completed 38 stream habitat enhancement projects including the installation of some 135 habitat structures. The Fish Passage Section's Consultation and Grant Program for Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration Program advanced the completion of 18 dam removal and fishway construction projects resulting in the reopening and restoration of nearly 185 miles of stream habitat for migratory and riverine fishes. Some additional 75 dam removal and several fishway projects continue, and more than \$1.5 million of funding assistance has been obtained in the last year to support the completion of these projects. Also in 2006, four of the proposed six habitat biologists in the Regional Habitat Section were hired and began advancing habitat initiatives in their geographically



**The Adopt-a-Stream Program in the Stream Habitat Section worked with 85 cooperators and completed 38 stream habitat enhancement projects including the installation of some 135 habitat structures. The Fish Passage Section's Consultation and Grant Program for Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration Program advanced the completion of 18 dam removal and fishway construction projects resulting in the reopening and restoration of nearly 185 miles of stream habitat for migratory and riverine fishes.**



defined work areas. Habitat biologists are currently assigned to the lower Ohio, upper western Susquehanna, lower Susquehanna and Delaware River watersheds. The upper Ohio/Erie and eastern upper Susquehanna positions will be filled in 2007. They are charged with identifying, coordinating and obtaining funds to implement projects that benefit the conservation, enhancement and restoration of habitat that supports Pennsylvania's fish, amphibians and reptiles.

Fisheries Management Division biologists and technicians spent considerable field time in 2006 sampling various aspects of fisheries on 50 river, 29 warmwater stream, 103 transitional stream, and 139 trout stream sections and 42 lakes.

Documenting the quality and quantity of fish populations is important not only for developing and updating fisheries management plans (stocking, regulations, etc.), but also for establishing the basis for reviewing applications for various types of permits such as encroachment, water allocation and mining. In addition, sampling included work to evaluate the effects of wild brook trout enhancement regulations, panfish enhancement regulations, and walleye population fluctuations in Pymatuning Lake.

Sampling in 2006 included both young-of-year smallmouth bass sampling at 108 locations and adult smallmouth bass sampling at 28 sites statewide. Year class abundance was below average statewide in 2006, while adult population sizes were generally normal compared to previous years. Staff spent significant time planning for a major creel survey to be conducted on the Big Bass regulation management areas of the Susquehanna and Juniata rivers from April through October 2008. This effort will assess angler use, catch and harvest, and the economic value of angling for smallmouth bass and other major sport fish on these waters.

A creel survey was conducted on the Lehigh River in 2006 in the area downstream of F.E. Walter Reservoir. The information from that survey will be useful in guiding future management plans on that river, where cooperation among the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Fish & Boat Commission to manage releases better from the reservoir has opened up new opportunities for fisheries management and whitewater boating.

Annual sampling to monitor the condition of the spawning striped bass population in the lower Delaware River and Estuary continued. A total of 366 striped bass were collected ranging from 4 to 41 inches in total length. The total catch rate in 2006 was not statistically different from the average catch rate of the previous 11-year period.

Monitoring of American shad on the Lehigh River documented the passage of 2,023 shad at the Easton fishway. This number was an increase from the totals recorded in 2003 (422), 2004 (754) and 2005 (675). A total of 588 shad, or 29 percent of those that passed Easton, passed the Chain Dam fishway. There were 358 American shad and 2.3 million eggs collected from the Delaware River in 2006. These eggs are used to supply the Van Dyke hatchery shad culture program.

Fisheries Management staff managed a contract for a study conducted by the Academy of Natural Sciences to document the use of various tributaries to the Delaware River by the juvenile glass eel and yellow eel phases of a American eel. The academy also evaluated various techniques for effective sampling of young eels. This species has been the focus of heightened interest on the East Coast because some index sampling has suggested that stocks are declining. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is currently evaluating this species for listing as a federally threatened or endangered species.

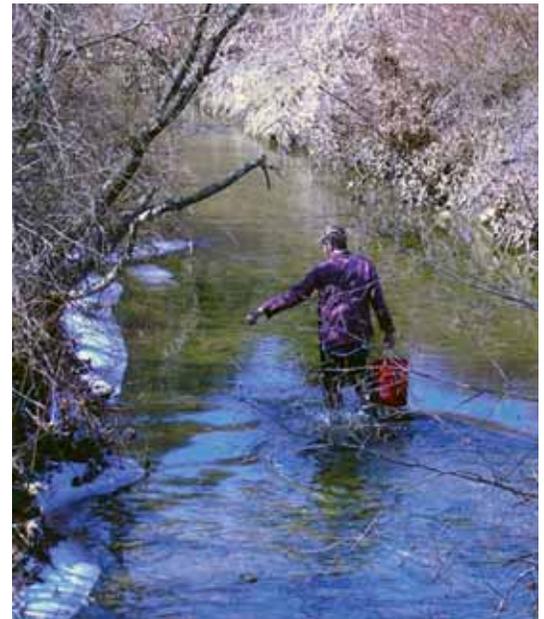
Reorganized during 2005, the fish production organization now includes Northern Regional State Fish Hatcheries, Southern Regional State Fish Hatcheries and Fish Production Services. Operations continue during 2006 under the direction of the bureau director with regional fish produc-



tion managers providing administration to southern and northern hatcheries. An effort was made by the Bureau of Fisheries director, director of Human Resources and the State Civil Service Commission to develop

### 2006 Calendar Year Trout Stocking Statistics

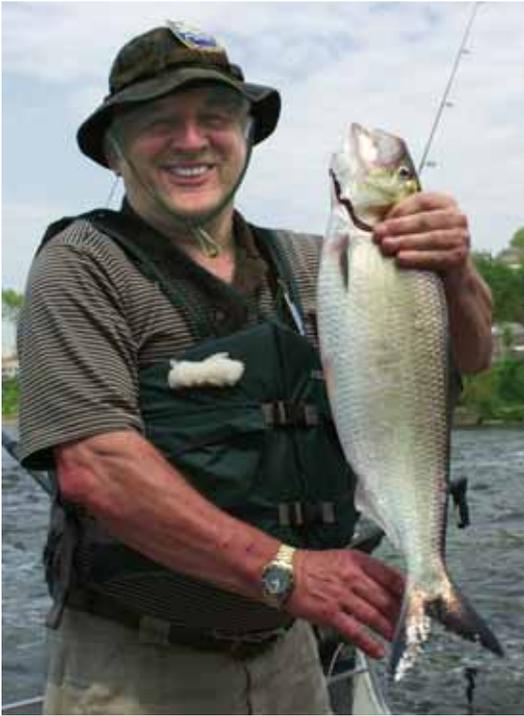
<i>Species</i>	<i>Live stage</i>	<i># Stocked</i>	<i>Pounds Stocked</i>
Brook	Adult	739,515	388,422
	Fingerling	139,600	2,706
Brown	Adult	1,832,493	938,964
	Fingerling	1,325,336	21,287
Rainbow	Adult	1,674,194	883,315
	Fingerling	768,774	65,440
Golden Rainbow	Adult	9,143	20,041
	Fingerling	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>Adult</b>	<b>4,255,345</b>	<b>2,230,742</b>
	<b>Fingerling</b>	<b>2,233,710</b>	<b>89,433</b>
Tellico Rainbow	Adult	113,000	55,170



### 2006 Warmwater/Coolwater Fish Production & Stocking

<i>Species</i>	<i>Life stage</i>	<i>Number Stocked</i>
American Shad	Fry	4,490,184
Black Crappie	Fingerling	270,373
Bluegill	Fingerling	25,123
Bluegill	Adult	50
Chain Pickerel	Fingerling	3,448
Channel Catfish	Fingerling	156,146
Golden Shiner	Adult	8,778
Hickory Shad	Fry	9,104,914
Lake Trout	Fingerling	21,461
Lake Trout	Yearling	59,194
Largemouth Bass	Fingerling	3,158
Largemouth Bass	Adult	26
Muskellunge	Fingerling	111,376
Muskellunge	Yearling	2,864
Northern Pike	Fingerling	6,530
Paddlefish	Fingerling	2,706
Rainbow Trout -Steelhead	Yearling	1,064,983
Redear Sunfish	Fingerling	19,500
Sauger	Phase-1	62,858
Saugeye	Phase-1	18,505
Striped Bass	Fry	6,880,000
Striped Bass	Phase-1	352,922
Tiger Muskellunge	Fingerling	91,993
Walleye	Fry	92,147,950
Walleye	Frya	244,382
Walleye	Phase-1	1,434,541
White Crappie	Fingerling	1,958
White X-Striped Bass	Fingerling	50,670
Yellow Perch	Fry	944,600
Yellow Perch	Fingerling	106





The Anadromous Fish Restoration Unit hatched, reared and stocked 4.9 million American shad into the Susquehanna, Delaware, Lehigh and Schuylkill rivers and their tributaries.



The Alma Lee Thornton Trout Nursery is a cooperative nursery operated by the Yellow Breeches Anglers & Conservation Association.

The Anadromous Fish Restoration Unit hatched, reared and stocked 4.9 million American shad into the Susquehanna, Delaware, Lehigh and Schuylkill rivers and their tributaries. A total of 9.1 million hickory shad fry were released into the Susquehanna and Delaware river tributaries. For the first time, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service conducted egg collection services on the Hudson and Potomac rivers. American shad passage efforts on the Susquehanna River hydroelectric dams continued. During the spring run of 2006, a total of 56,899 American shad passed the fish lift at Conowingo Dam, 35,968 at Holtwood, 24,929 at Safe Harbor, and 1,913 passed at York Haven. Staff has been heavily engaged in project planning and negotiations for the redevelopment of the Holtwood Hydroelectric Plant and fish passage facility upgrades.

Following the retirement of the former Fish Culture Research Unit leader, the position description of the unit leader was revised to become the Aquaculture Technology Unit leader. New initiatives include development of planning processes to draft integrated hatchery management plans and provide direct transfer of technical materials and concepts to day-to-day hatchery operations. Annual monitoring of PCBs in hatchery trout that were stocked in 2006 revealed that no hatchery trout exceeded the blanket statewide one meal per week consumption advisory.

The Fish Health Unit continued to provide diagnostic and disease treatment services to the state fish hatchery system. The INAD (Investigational New Animal Drug) program continues to provide opportunities to use needed chemicals and drugs to maintain fish health and meet FDA regulations. There was continued involvement in the Great Lakes Fish Health Committee and effort expended addressing issues related to the appearance and federal order regarding viral hemorrhagic septicemia.

The Water Quality Unit filled its vacant technician position and developed a laboratory manual and quality assurance/quality control protocols. The lab became certified by DEP in 2006. The unit performed more than 4,500 water tests in 2006 to meet NPDES permit monitoring requirements. Staff provided guidance in permit renewal, review of drafts, and in setting up monitoring approaches to meet sampling requirements.

The Cooperative Nursery Unit continued its work with volunteer sportsmen's groups to assist them in rearing trout, steelhead, perch, bass, and walleye for stocking in publicly accessible waters. Over 170 sites were visited at least twice annually to provide technical guidance to the sponsors. Eleven prospective new sites were evaluated, and cooperative nursery grant agreements were developed for 32 sponsors.

Administrative functions included review and comment on the proposed Wilkes-Barre inflatable dam, dredging permit appeal interrogatories, revision of the Susquehanna River Management Plan, Holtwood Redevelopment, NPDES permit renewals and implementation, participation in the Penn Aqua conference with PA Department of Agriculture staff, development of several cooperative agreements, and oversight of the Blue Valley mine water treatment and fish-rearing facility contract.

The Environmental Services Division staff continued to provide technical advice to Fish & Boat Commission programs as well as other state and federal regulatory and natural resource agencies. Staff specialists predict risks and assess damages to our Commonwealth's aquatic resources and fishing and boating activities. The division includes three sections—the Watershed Analysis Section, the Aquatic Resources Section and the Natural Diversity Section with a total of 18 professional, clerical and seasonal staff.

In 2006, staff reviewed 4,476 permit applications that threatened fish, reptiles or amphibians and their associated habitats. Environmental Services staff assisted law enforcement agents in the investigation of 12 water

pollution and watershed disturbance cases. The Environmental Services Division issued 158 permits for drawing down ponds and lakes, 28 permits for using explosives in Commonwealth waters, 1,160 permits for applying aquatic herbicides, 256 permits for stocking grass carp, 1,080 permits for hunting timber rattlesnakes, and 520 permits for scientific data collection.

## Organizational Unit Report

### Bureau of Administration

The Bureau of Administration provides administrative support services for all Fish & Boat Commission programs and operations, including issuance of and accounting for fishing licenses, stamps and permits; purchasing and procurement of supplies, equipment and services; fixed asset accounting services; issuance of boat registrations and titles; fiscal planning, budget preparation and expenditure, and revenue review; vehicle fleet management; insurance; warehousing and inventory; surplus property management; issuance of special permits; mail and messenger services; federal grants administration; purchasing and travel card management; sale of surplus property; development and management of information systems; and forms and records retention.

License sales in 2006 rose by about 1.2 percent from 2005 levels. License and trout stamp sales figures for 2006 will not be finalized until the spring of 2007 when all outstanding license issuing agents have submitted final reports. Nevertheless, sales figures at the end of December 2006 totaled 825,963 licenses. That compares to 816,510 licenses for the same period in 2005. Similarly, trout stamps also showed a net increase of a little less than 1 percent. At this point, it appears that sales in every major license category except the 3-Day Tourist License and the Non-Resident License increased in 2006. As a result, revenue from license and stamp sales was up \$348,292 to \$23,888,482.

Total boat registration and titling transaction activity fell by less than 1 percent in 2006 to 215,522 transactions. This figure compares with 217,632 transactions completed through the same period last year. While registration renewal transactions were off by less than 1 percent, new registrations fell by 2.7 percent and new title transactions decreased by 6 percent.

The Commission's new Charter Boat/Fishing Guide Permit program was established during 2005 and went into effect on January 1, 2006. Bureau of Administration staff issued 193 resident and 36 non-resident guide permits during 2006.

Governor Rendell signed Act 79 of 2006 into law during 2006, which provides a mechanism for entities designated as a marine business to transfer all rights, title and interest in a watercraft and/or related equipment by operation of law. Act 79 of 2006 will allow a marine business to recover its financial investment for the repair, restoration and storage of a watercraft when a customer fails to meet the obligation to pay for these and other contracted services. Administration staff developed the appropriate administrative procedures and computer program for application handling, record keeping and transaction processing within the time specified by this new law.

During 2006, the Fish & Boat Commission managed approximately 45 federally funded projects, which returned more than \$10.1 million in revenue. While the majority of federal funds (\$8.3 million) were received from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, other federal agencies provided the



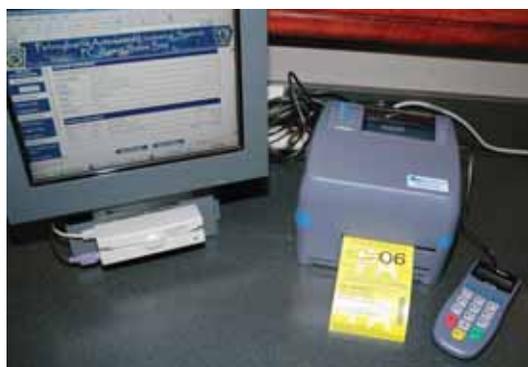
<i>Fishing License &amp; Permit Types</i>	<i>Units Sold</i>
Resident	723,544
Senior Resident	16,072
Senior Lifetime	9,441
1-Day Resident	2,717
PA Resident National Guard/Reserve	679
Non-Resident	38,384
1-Day Tourist	5,299
3-Day Tourist	23,236
7-Day Tourist	6,302
Lake Erie Permit	19,167
Combination Lake Erie & Trout/ Salmon Stamp Permit	72,335
Trout/Salmon Stamp	498,561
<b>Total Licenses &amp; Stamps:</b>	<b>1,415,737</b>

<i>Boat Transactions</i>	<i>Totals</i>
Registration Renewal	135,645
Registration Transfer	13,947
Registration New	28,172
Registration Change	1,673
Registration Duplicate	3,888
Title New	18,542
Title Transfer	11,786
Title Correction	1,155
Title Duplicate	744
<b>Total All Boat Transactions</b>	<b>215,552</b>

**Bureau of Administration staff coordinated the recovery of federal and state funds for Fish & Boat Commission property damaged or lost by the flooding that occurred during June of 2006 in eastern Pennsylvania.**



Upper Black Eddy, Bucks County, flood damage to launch ramp.



During the latter part of 2006, the Pennsylvania Automated License Service (PALS) project entered the pilot phase in which several commercial fishing license issuing agents and Fish & Boat Commission offices began to sell electronically issued fishing licenses and permits.

Fish & Boat Commission with financial support. They include the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service; the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration; and U.S. Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Coast Guard. The combined total of all federal revenue comprised about 21 percent of the Commission's revenue in the state fiscal year, which ended June 30, 2006. Since 1986, federal revenue has averaged nearly 20 percent of the Commission's total revenue.

Bureau of Administration staff also coordinated the recovery of federal and state funds for Fish & Boat Commission property damaged or lost by the flooding that occurred during June of 2006 in eastern Pennsylvania. Twenty-nine Fish & Boat Commission facilities were damaged during this storm with damages estimated to be valued at nearly \$185,000. Bureau of Administration staff also coordinated the annual accounting and administration of the sand and gravel royalties program. Royalties in excess of \$900,000 are collected annually from five companies that dredge Pennsylvania waters.

Another exciting project that started late in 2004 and continued throughout 2005 and 2006, with the business rules development, information gathering, request for proposal writing, regulation change and commercial license issuing agent recruitment phases, is the process to implement the Pennsylvania Automated License Service (PALS). This program will greatly change the way the Fish & Boat Commission sells fishing licenses and perhaps renews boat registrations. During the latter part of 2006, the project entered the pilot phase in which several commercial fishing license issuing agents and Fish & Boat Commission offices began to sell electronically issued fishing licenses and permits successfully through the system. In addition to aiding and expediting the issuance of fishing licenses and permits, PALS will assist the Fish & Boat Commission in marketing efforts and with sharing information between the Fish & Boat Commission and its fishing license customers. This project was developed and implemented in partnership with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and is expected to be completed during 2007.

Bureau of Administration staff worked with Bureau of Fisheries staff to develop an improved system that will be used to capture information collected by permitted scientific collectors authorized to pursue scientific collections of aquatic and herpetological specimens, and to provide input and retrieval methods in a consistent geo-referenced database. Full implementation is scheduled for 2007. Bureau of Administration information technology staff also purchased and implemented a newer and faster computer for use with the Boat Registration and Titling System. Improvements and changes were made to the Fish & Boat Commission's online sales site, known as The Outdoor Shop, and enhancements and changes were made to the Administration Application System, which is a series of computer programs designed to handle a variety of Fish & Boat Commission administrative systems.

Throughout 2006, staff engaged in many smaller, yet essential projects, which provided the Fish & Boat Commission with increased revenue, cost savings and program efficiencies. For example, staff initiated and oversaw the development of an electronic records storage and retrieval system for all boat registration and titling applications, the creation and refinement of a voluntary "prestige" and "conservationist" donation program, the successful training of key Fish & Boat Commission staff on the use of the Commonwealth's new purchasing software and training for key personnel

on budget and fiscal reporting, the introduction of administrative grants management assistance for Fish & Boat Commission employees responsible for the management of federal grants and state contracts associated with the State Wildlife Grant program, and the continued streamlining of the Fish & Boat Commission's annual budget preparation and fiscal reporting processes.

## Organizational Unit Report

# Bureau of Boating & Education

The Bureau of Boating & Education is responsible for the development and implementation of fisheries, boating and conservation education and information and public involvement programs geared to enhance fishing and boating opportunities, the aquatic environment and recreational boating safety in the Commonwealth. In support of these activities, it develops diverse educational media capabilities; designs and produces brochures, booklets, maps and pamphlets; provides color lithographic, duplicating and bindery services and publishes the Fish & Boat Commission's *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater* magazine. The bureau administers the agency's aids-to-navigation activities, the certification of passenger-for-hire boat operations, the operation of the North East and Walnut Creek marinas, and the planning and development of a comprehensive boating access and facilities program. The director serves as the Commonwealth's boating law administrator.

In spring 2006 the Fish & Boat Commission initiated the Sportfishing and Aquatic Resource Education Grant program. In this program, the Fish & Boat Commission awards grants up to \$5,000 to providers of education programming. More than 65 applications were received by the May 1 deadline. The Fish & Boat Commission was able to fund 14 programs. Programs ranged from providing aquariums for school students to incubating and raising young trout in the classroom, to middle school fishing programs and fishing field trips for elementary school students. In October 2006 the Fish & Boat Commission announced that it was accepting applications for another round of grants for FY 2007-08. The deadline for submission was December 31, 2006.

More than 78 Family Fishing Programs (FFP) were scheduled in 2006. Family Fishing Programs provide a family-friendly opportunity through fishing to learn a new skill and improve existing skills. Nine of the scheduled events were cancelled because of weather (lack of ice). The 55 FFP conducted in 2006 reached 1,628 people. Nearly half of these participants were under the age of 16. Additional programs will be offered and a formal program evaluation will be conducted in 2007.

Some 342 teachers participated in resource education training workshops led by bureau staff in 2006. The majority of these workshops were offered for graduate-level credit or for professional development hours. More than 1,000 classrooms received the Pennsylvania League of Angling Youth newsletter.

Fish & Boat Commission partners and instructors trained by the agency offered angler education programs in 2006 reaching more than 700 participants.

The Fish & Boat Commission conducted a survey of education program providers in early 2006. This survey provided insight into the





nature and extent of programs offered, use of Fish & Boat Commission resources, and the unmet needs of providers.

A survey of youth anglers and their parents was also conducted in 2006. The survey was done to provide more information on the program preferences of youth and families as well as information on fishing participation and other outdoor activities.

At the end of 2006, there were 41 fishing tackle loaner sites. These sites, most of which are located at state parks, offer fishing rods and reels and terminal tackle for loan. The loans are made to individual park visitors and to groups conducting fishing programs.

The bureau received more than 600 requests for the Fish & Boat Commission to present educational/information programs in 2006. The Fish & Boat Commission provided a speaker or instructor for more than 400 of these requests.

The Fish & Boat Commission certified 14,029 students in National Association of State Boating Law Administrators approved boating courses in 2006, of which 12,609 took Fish & Boat Commission courses. Not everyone who takes a course applies for a boating safety education certificate. Many people are not required to have one and take a boating course for fun or enrichment. The agency and its volunteers taught 133 PA Basic Boating courses with 2,276 students who successfully completed the course. Volunteers and staff also taught 53 Fish & Boat Commission Boating and Water Safety Awareness courses, certifying an additional 2,161 students. Even more successful were the Fish & Boat Commission's Boat Pennsylvania Internet and correspondence courses. In 2006, 12,139 individuals took one of these fine long-distance learning courses (11,094 passed).

In 2006 the number of fatal boating accidents spiked at 25 fatalities. Although 2006 was a very bad year for recreational boating fatalities, only 66 boating accidents with 65 injuries were reported, the third best year since 1988. The downward trend in the number of fatalities per 100,000 registered boats since 1968 illustrates the success of the Fish & Boat Commission's boating law enforcement and boating safety education programs.

The Fish & Boat Commission's unique and highly successful Water Rescue Program had its best year ever in 2006. The Fish & Boat Commission certified 1,590 students through 100 courses in the Water Rescue Program in 2006. The Fish & Boat Commission has a trained volunteer instructor corps of 159 individuals who provided more than 5,400 hours of training this past year. Our new 2.5-hour Water Rescue for the First Responder (Awareness) Course had a huge first year. More than 62 courses were taught with a total student enrollment of more than 2,000. The Fish & Boat Commission has the largest program of its kind in the United States.

The Fish & Boat Commission designates official Pennsylvania water trails. The goal of establishing water trails is to improve recreational opportunities on Commonwealth waterways by completing a statewide water trail system. The Fish & Boat Commission launched its first formal water trail partnership program in 1998. Since then, 19 trails have been "built" or are "under construction." In 2006, two trails were completed, including the Juniata River (two sections) and the Delaware River. The Fish & Boat Commission now produces and prints free of charge water trail guides for 10 separate water trails, some in multiple sections. In this effort, the Fish & Boat Commission partners with the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, the Chesapeake Gateways System, and several local groups.

The Fish & Boat Commission operates an extensive Aids-to-Navigation Program. Efforts over the years have resulted in the location and permitting of all private aid/floating structures on state waters. Currently there



are 3,362 permitted structures. We have begun to gather latitude and longitude information for each aid. GPS units are used to help accurately set and chart aids to navigation on Commonwealth waters.

The Educational Media Services Section completed more than 445 work orders in an efficient, timely and cost-effective manner. This on-demand production includes constant inventory replenishment of the Fish & Boat Commission's publications suite. These mainstay products include the *Pennsylvania Fishing Summary*, *Boating Handbook*, fishing and boating maps, region guides, water trail guides and the Fish & Boat Commission's flagship publication, *Pennsylvania Angler & Boater* magazine. Site administration and supporting product development for the Fish & Boat Commission's online store, The Outdoor Shop, is also an important revenue lead to offering various specialty products and soft-bound publications to the fishing and boating public.

## Organizational Unit Report

### Bureau of Law Enforcement

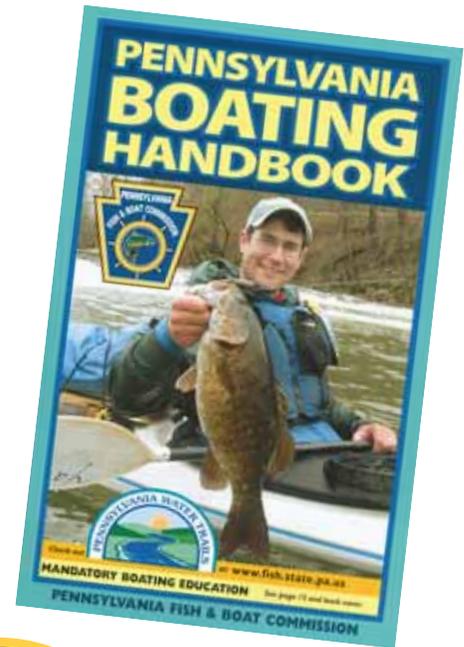
The Bureau of Law Enforcement directs the enforcement of Commonwealth fishing and boating laws and regulations and certain water pollution laws. Its corps of waterways conservation officers also provides conservation education programs, reviews permits for mine drainage and stream encroachments, administers the Fish & Boat Commission's special activities permits, and participates in fish stocking operations. Officers worked agency displays at more than 20 outdoor sports shows held throughout the Commonwealth. The bureau also operates the Fish & Boat Commission's most active volunteer program, using a force of more than 180 deputy waterways conservation officers.

The bureau operated during most of the year with many vacant districts as a result of retirements and resignations. Several officers were either activated for or continued to meet extended military obligations. Neighboring officers, deputies and regional office staff performed additional work to provide coverage in areas without an assigned district officer. The vacant position of assistant director in the Harrisburg office was filled in late 2006.

By December 31, 2006, conservation officers issued and the courts adjudicated 4,748 summary citations for fishing violations and 3,061 summary citations for boating violations. An additional 1,674 summary fish and boat violation citations were filed with district courts in 2006 and are awaiting final resolution. Officers also issued 31,437 warnings for fishing and boating violations and conducted safety boardings on 27,603 recreational boats. The bureau issued 2,530 special activities permits for fishing tournaments and regattas. Officers issued 156 crimes code summary citations that were directly related to fishing and boating activities. Disorderly conduct, underage drinking and violations of state park regulations comprised the majority of these citations.

Officers conducted 319 investigations involving pollution or encroachments in or along Commonwealth waters. Several Northcentral Region officers spent considerable time investigating a high-profile pollution involving a Norfolk Southern train derailment and subsequent pollution that resulted in the loss of tens of thousands of fish.

Total boating-under-the-influence (BUI) arrests for 2006 were 60 with the earliest made February 16 and the latest, September 9. The Southcentral Region led the state in BUI arrests with a total of 22. Specialized





Officers assisted the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency by conducting search and rescue operations for stranded residents as a result of severe flooding along waterways in eastern Pennsylvania.



The Bureau of Law Enforcement held a basic Deputy Waterways Conservation Officer Training Class in 2006 and added 20 new deputies to the current force.

BUI enforcement details were conducted throughout the state on waterways with the highest recreational boating use, including Presque Isle Bay, Three Rivers, Lake Wallenpaupack, Raystown Lake, Delaware River, Blue Marsh Lake, and several Susquehanna River boating pools. Officers generally observed reduced levels of boating activity during the late summer, more than likely a result of rising fuel costs. Officers investigated several high-profile boating accidents that involved multiple fatalities on Lake Erie, the Three Rivers area, Raystown Lake and the Delaware River.

During the later part of June, officers assisted the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency by conducting search and rescue operations for stranded residents as a result of severe flooding along waterways in eastern Pennsylvania. Officers provided a quick response and used patrol boats to reach residents stranded in houses and transport them to safe areas.

The Northwest Region conducted specialized enforcement involving the return of steelhead to the Lake Erie tributaries during the final three months of 2006 using officers from all over the Commonwealth. Enforcement details focused on popular steelhead fishing locations such as Elk Creek, Walnut Creek, Twelve-Mile Creek, Sixteen-Mile Creek, Twenty-Mile Creek and the nursery waters of Trout Run. The most common violations were snag-fishing, littering, over the limits, fishing in nursery waters or other prohibited areas, and the use of illegal devices. The entire specialized enforcement operation resulted in the issuance of 155 citations for violations and 395 warnings. Officers encountered an individual snagging steelhead who was wanted on felony warrants in New York and Vermont. This individual was turned over to the State Police. Officers also encountered an illegal foreign national in violation of the Fish and Boat Code who was subsequently turned over to the U.S. Border Patrol in Erie.

The bureau continued to replace aging patrol vehicles and boats within the limits of available funding. Several new law enforcement patrol boats were placed into service.

The agency's deputy force continues to maintain its current level. The Bureau of Law Enforcement held a basic Deputy Waterways Conservation Officer Training Class in 2006 and added 20 new deputies to the current force.

Training is an integral part of operating a professional workforce, and the Bureau of Law Enforcement presented in-service update training to all salaried officers and deputies during 2006 at a region level. Training presented to the veteran officers included Fish and Boat Code and regulation changes and updates, Act 120 legal updates regarding Title 18 (Crimes Code) and Title 75 (Vehicle Code), policy changes, fisheries management issues and legislative issues. Annual recertification update training at regional levels continued throughout the year to all officers regarding CPR, first aid, firearms day fire, and tactical and dim-light qualifications. Bureau firearms instructors convened for a training and skills assessment workshop in July.

Members of the Bureau of Law Enforcement actively participated in the development and implementation of the new point-of-sale license-issuing system. Other members participated in a working group tasked with updating and revising the reptile and amphibian regulations and permitting processes for Pennsylvania native species.

The bureau completed the process of selecting a new class of conservation officer trainees in May 2006. The Fish & Boat Commission hired 10 applicants to become part of the 18th WCO Class in July. The new cadet class began training in July 2006 by attending the municipal police offi-

cer training course at the Pennsylvania State Police training academy in Meadville. All 10 cadets successfully completed this portion of the training in late December. The cadets will return in mid-January 2007 to complete the waterways conservation officer portion of the training program.

The cadets and their hometowns are Jeremiah Allen, Washington, PA; John Hopkins, Clymer, PA; David Hurst, New Cumberland, PA; Darrin Kephart, Newport, PA; Gregory Kraynak, N. Cambria, PA; Douglas Kunkle, Apollo, PA; Robert Plumb, Orrstown, PA; Brendan Ryan, Landenberg, PA; Jeffrey Sabo, Allentown, PA; and Jeffrey Schmidt, Millersville, PA.

## Organizational Unit Report

### Bureau of Engineering & Development

The Bureau of Engineering & Development directs the planning, survey, design, construction and maintenance of fishing and boating facilities and property; plans and designs site-engineered structures including roadways and bridges, ponds, raceways and impoundments, wells and pumps, fishways, shoring, piling, docks, wharfs and boat launch ramps; plans and designs buildings for Fish & Boat Commission use; plans, designs and inspects the construction, renovation and major maintenance of dams and impoundments; directs the acquisition, leasing and management of Fish & Boat Commission owned or controlled property; and constructs, renovates and maintains buildings, structures, utilities, dams, impoundments, docks, wharfs, weirs, boat ramps, piers, access areas, roads, parking areas and other Fish & Boat Commission facilities.

The bureau's Property Services Division, which provides real estate and surveying services, engaged in several significant projects including:

- PennDOT Acquisition of +0.1-acre fee title area and +0.8-acre temporary construction easement at the Oswayo State Fish Hatchery, Potter County.
- Implemented a cutting agreement to remove FAA-required flight obstacles (trees) at Hereford Manor Lake, Beaver County.
- Participated in the processing and negotiation of the Rick Road property acquisition of a +4.2-acre parcel along Elk Creek at the Rick Road Bridge in McKean Township, Erie County.
- Falling Spring Greenway, Inc., property donation of +1.5 acres along Falling Spring Branch in Guilford Township, Franklin County.
- Property rights acquisition project along Unami Creek in Marlborough Township, Montgomery County.
- Prepared and executed the lease for the Glassworks Access, Greene County.
- Initiated negotiations to resolve encroachment at Young Woman's Creek, Clinton County.
- Performed courthouse research, recon, property survey, deed plots, and mapping to resolve a land rights issue at Quaker Lake Access, Susquehanna County.
- Performed a topographic survey for waterline replacement at the Pleasant Mount State Fish Hatchery, Wayne County.
- Administered current gas and oil activity agreements at Somerset Lake, Somerset County; Oswayo State Fish Hatchery, Potter County; and Hemlock Lake, Indiana County.



Walnut Creek Marina,  
Lake Erie, Erie County



Tylersville State Fish Hatchery



Tylersville State Fish Hatchery  
Effluent Filtration Project



Pleasant Gap State Fish Hatchery



Linesville State Fish Hatchery

- Met with prospective driller at Cloe Lake and researched gas exploration and production potential at Kyle Lake.
- Researched timber projects at Kyle Lake, Jefferson County; Hunters Lake, Sullivan County; and Hereford Manor Lake, Beaver County. The bureau's Engineering Division improved hatchery upgrades and provided administrative support to other bureaus including:
  - Completed the design and implementation of the Growing Greener II Tylersville State Fish Hatchery Effluent Filtration Project.
  - Completed the design and supervised the implementation of the Growing Greener II Pleasant Gap Effluent Filtration Project.
  - Began the design phase (currently nearing completion) of the Growing Greener II Huntsdale Effluent Filtration Project.
  - Began the design phase of the Growing Greener II Benner Spring Effluent Filtration Project and the Bellefonte Effluent Filtration Project.
  - Submitted requests to the Department of General Services to manage the design and construct the Growing Greener II Reynoldsdale Effluent Filtration Project, Linesville Effluent Filtration Project, and Union City Effluent Filtration Project.
- Conducted 40 dam safety inspections as part of the Commonwealth's dam safety program.
- Conducted underwater inspections of four dam outlet structures for Tamarack "A" and "B," Kaercher Creek Lake and Speedwell Forge Lake.
- Submitted 17 emergency action plan drafts to their respective counties for approval.
- Completed the first phase of the Mauch Chunk Lake tower gate project. The bureau's Construction Division engaged in several significant improvements at Fish & Boat Commission facilities:
  - Crews used the dredging barge to clear Walnut Creek to allow safe passage of boats from the marina to Lake Erie.
  - Crews also used the dredging barge to dredge both Walnut Creek and North East marinas.
  - At the North East Marina crews transferred some 15,500 cubic yards of sand for beach replenishment.
  - Crews constructed a bird predation system at Oswayo State Fish Hatchery.
  - Crews completed flood-damage repairs at Pleasant Mount State Fish Hatchery.
  - Crews constructed a new feed storage building at the Pleasant Gap State Fish Hatchery.
  - Crews constructed a new sand filtration system and building at Union City State Fish Hatchery.
  - Crews constructed a new generator building at Corry State Fish Hatchery.
  - Crews dredged the ponds and repaired bulkheads at Linesville State Fish Hatchery.
  - Crews completed the site preparation for the boat storage building at Fairview State Fish Hatchery.

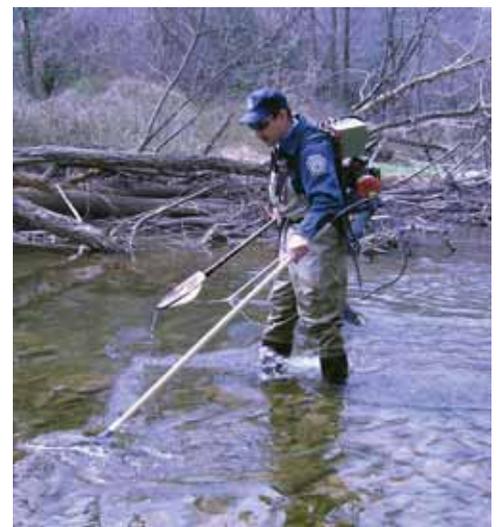
**Fiscal 2005-2006 Year Report:  
Expenditures July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006**

**Expenditures**

<i>Fish Fund</i>		
Personnel	19,786,110.00	68%
Operating	7,148,345.00	24%
Fixed Assets	1,239,228.00	4%
Grants	940,017.00	3%
Payment to State Agencies	238,041.00	1%
<b>Fish Fund Total</b>	<u>29,351,741.00</u>	<b>100%</b>

<i>Boat Fund</i>		
Personnel	7,411,069.00	67%
Operating	2,509,569.00	23%
Fixed Assets	904,185.00	8%
Grants	222,769.00	2%
Payments to State Agencies	397.00	0%
<b>Boat Fund Total</b>	<u>11,047,989.00</u>	<b>100%</b>

<i>Fish/Boat Total</i>		
Personnel	27,197,179.00	67%
Operating	9,657,914.00	24%
Fixed Assets	2,143,413.00	5%
Grants	1,162,786.00	3%
Payments to State Agencies	238,438.00	1%
<b>Fish/Boat Fund Total</b>	<u>40,399,730.00</u>	<b>100%</b>



**Fiscal 2005-2006 Year Report:  
Revenue July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006**

**Revenue**

<i>Fish Total</i>		
Licenses & Fees	24,187,124.00	69%
Fines and Penalties	445,921.00	1%
Miscellaneous	3,056,618.00	9%
Augmentations	7,559,120.00	21%
<b>Fish Fund Total</b>	<u>35,248,783.00</u>	<b>100%</b>

<i>Boat Total</i>		
Licenses & Fees	6,957,590.00	50%
Fines and Penalties	270,143.00	2%
Miscellaneous	3,649,646.00	27%
Augmentations	2,806,170.00	21%
<b>Boat Total</b>	<u>13,683,549.00</u>	<b>100%</b>

<i>Fish/Boat Total</i>		
Licenses & Fees	31,144,714.00	66%
Fines and Penalties	716,064.00	2%
Miscellaneous	6,706,264.00	14%
Augmentations	10,365,290.00	21%
<b>Fish/Boat Fund Total</b>	<u>48,932,332.00</u>	<b>100%</b>



Locust Lake State Park,  
Schuylkill County



**Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission**  
**P.O. Box 67000**  
**Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000**

January 2007