

Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

# 2019 ANNUAL REPORT



photos-Michael Kepner, Pennsylvania Great Outdoors Visitor Bureau VisitPAGO.com, PFBC archives, and Terry Malloy

*The mission of the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission is to protect, conserve, and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources, and provide fishing and boating opportunities.*

[www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)



# STATEWIDE INITIATIVES



## STATEWIDE INITIATIVES

### Message from Executive Director Tim Schaeffer

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission (PFBC), I am delighted to share the agency's 2019 annual report. It was a great year for the PFBC, filled with accomplishments and new opportunities that span the entire organization. Fishing license sales increased for the first time since 2015, including record participation in our mentored youth fishing programs. We made significant reinvestments in critical infrastructure and equipment. A new class of Waterways Conservation Officers (WCOs) began their year-long training and will be in the field this summer. Perhaps most importantly, our staff continued to work tirelessly in support of our mission "to protect, conserve, and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources, and provide fishing and boating opportunities." This is just a small sample of what you will find in this report.

You may notice a new look to the annual report this year, as we have created a new format that aligns with the geography of our Board of Commissioner districts. We hope this will help readers see a sampling of the projects that made a big impact in their local communities. It also gives our Board the recognition they deserve in helping the organization navigate the many opportunities and challenges that face natural resource agencies in the 21st century.

A day did not go by in 2019 during which our staff, volunteers, and partners were not making Pennsylvania a better, safer place to fish and boat and taking the proactive steps needed to ensure the long-term health of the species we are entrusted with protecting. They are the ones who deserve credit for everything contained in this report and the countless other achievements throughout the year. If there is one thing you take from the following pages, it should be a sense of pride in the people who reinvest fishing license

and boat registration dollars into the natural resources, infrastructure, opportunities, and programs that make Pennsylvania such a great place to fish and boat.

At a meeting earlier this week, I was with an extremely talented group of young fisheries biologists and told them what a pleasure it is to be working with them. That theme applies throughout our agency. We have an incredible team doing important and timely work, often unnoticed and with little fanfare. It is a privilege to be able to share this exciting time with them.

Finally, please accept this as an invitation to everyone reading this report to join our staff and get a first-hand look at the work we do for Pennsylvania's anglers and boaters. In 2019, we saw unprecedented attendance by legislators and others at trout and musky stockings, ride-a-longs with WCOs, and visits to our state fish hatcheries and other facilities, and we are gearing up for another big year in 2020!

Thank you again for your interest, support, and enthusiasm in 2019 and for your role in helping us continue that momentum into the future!



*Our partners in 2019 included this group of students from Wallenpaupack High School who assisted Area 4 Fisheries Manager Aaron Frey (far left), Commissioner Bill Gibney (second from left), Delaware River Biologist Daryl Pierce (back row), and Executive Director Tim Schaeffer (far right) with American Shad sampling along the Delaware River.*

### Charting a New Course

In 2019, PFBC began developing a new three-year strategic plan that will guide our efforts to protect, conserve, and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources, and provide fishing and boating opportunities.

The PFBC began the strategic planning process in April 2019 by gathering feedback through surveys. With this valuable input in mind, PFBC staff and commissioners convened workgroup sessions throughout 2019 to develop a new strategic plan.

The strategic plan will cover recruiting, retaining, and reactivating a diversity of anglers, boaters, and conservationists; explaining the relevance of our work; managing the Commonwealth's wide diversity of aquatic resources in the face of threats like climate change and aquatic invasive species; providing access to fishing and boating opportunities;

managing the growing popularity of non-powered watercraft; and other issues.

### Fishing Summary

For fishing license year 2020, beginning December 1, 2019, the 2020 *Pennsylvania Fishing Summary* is available to the public free of charge. The Commission ordered a sufficient supply (based at 60% of 2018 sales) for anglers wanting to pick up a copy of the book. While hard copies are available at more than 700 license-issuing agents, the summary book remains available in electronic format at [www.fishinpa.com](http://www.fishinpa.com).



## 2020 License Button

In September 2019, the PFBC conducted an online survey of Facebook users to choose the design of the collectible 2020 fishing license button. Sixty-six percent of voters selected the Pumpkinseed pattern over a solid-colored green button. Fishing license buttons cost \$10 each and can be ordered in addition to a fishing license.



## Water Rescue Training

The PFBC certified 5,443 students through the Pennsylvania Water Rescue Program. The Commission also conducted four Instructor Trainer Courses, which certify individuals to deliver the PFBC’s water rescue curriculum. The Commission has a trained in-state volunteer instructor corps of 196 individuals who provided more than 13,200 hours of training in 2019. The Pennsylvania Water Rescue Program is the largest of its kind in the United States.

The PFBC conducted 14 Swiftwater Volunteer Service Recognition Inspections in partnership with the Pennsylvania State Fire Academy and Pennsylvania Department of Health for Team Typing, bringing the total number of credentialed swiftwater teams in the Commonwealth to 48.

## PA-HART: Operation Hurricane

In August 2019, the Pennsylvania Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team (PA-HART) conducted a full-scale Hurricane Search and Rescue exercise on the Susquehanna River, Dauphin County. The exercise consisted of an activation of the PFBC’s Swiftwater Emergency Response Team (SWERT), Special Medical Response Team, and Volunteer Rescue Service Recognition (VRSR) Swiftwater Teams to be moved to an area impacted by a significant natural disaster.

PA-HART is a partnership between the PFBC, Pennsylvania Army National Guard, and Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) along with civilian rescue specialists. This highly specialized aerial search and rescue team provides an air asset for Pennsylvania and the nation to respond to natural and manmade disasters.



photo-Jennifer Keaton

## Higgins & Langley Awards

PFBC SWERT and PA-HART were recipients of prestigious Higgins and Langley Memorial Awards. These awards, presented annually in several categories, are recognized internationally as the highest achievable honor in the fields of swiftwater and flood rescue. Award recipients were announced on June 2, 2019 during the International Association of Water Rescue Professionals Symposium in South Bend, Indiana.

PFBC SWERT received the Higgins and Langley Program Development Award, recognizing agencies or individuals that

commit time, resources, and training for successful swiftwater rescue program development.

PA-HART received the Higgins and Langley Incident Award, recognizing a specific incident in which a team demonstrated outstanding skill and preparedness in a swiftwater rescue.

## Special Investigations

The Special Investigations Unit conducted a wide array of investigations during 2019, most involving individuals looking to illegally profit from aquatic resources. Twenty-nine investigations resulted in 13 individuals being charged with 27 violations under Title 30.

## Waterways Conservation Class

On December 20, 2019, members of the 22nd WCO Trainees completed Municipal Police Officers Basic Training (ACT 120) conducted by Pennsylvania State Police at its Northwest Training Center, Crawford County.



22nd WCO Class

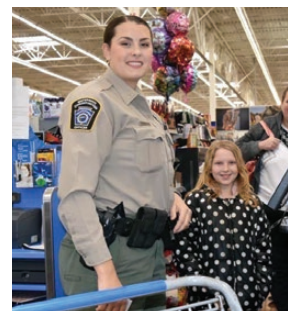
## Steelhead Enforcement

The PFBC’s world-class steelhead stocking program in Lake Erie’s tributaries attracts thousands of anglers annually from October to April. Incidents of poaching and other illegal fishing practices occur regularly and require enforcement.

The steelhead enforcement detail for the 2019 season included officers making more than 600 angler contacts, resulting in more than 100 citations and 619 warnings. Violations were witnessed by officers conducting surveillance operations in the field, and individuals were given warnings or monetary fines.

## WCOs in the Community

WCOs participate in educational programs and volunteer their time at community events within their districts. PFBC WCO Rachael Thurner-Diaz recently assisted the Cumberland County police departments with their “Shop with a Cop” event. Programs like this help area children have a better Christmas and view officers in a positive light.



## Mentored Youth Trout Fishing Days

The 2019 trout season opened on Saturday, March 23 for the Regional Mentored Youth Trout Fishing Day in 18 southeastern counties. A second statewide Mentored Youth Day was held on April 6.

This was the sixth year for the popular program. Again in 2019, only kids could keep up to two trout on the Mentored Youth Trout Fishing Days. Mentors could fish but were required to return all trout to the water unharmed. For more information, visit [www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com).



## Mentored Youth Catfish Opportunities

The Commission provided two Mentored Youth Catfish opportunities in 2019. The first was July 20 and 21, North Park, Allegheny County. The second was August 3 and 4, Children's Pond, Nockamixon State Park. Catfish were stocked for each opportunity, and a Catfish Expo was held at each location.



## Spring Family Fishing Festivals

The PFBC held three Family Fishing Festivals in May and three in June. These were educational events designed for families with little or no fishing experience. Participants learned basic fishing skills and practiced those skills during the program. The PFBC waived the fishing license requirement during the program for registered Family Fishing Festival participants ages 16 and older. The programs were open to all ages including children ages 5 and older.

## Voluntary Youth Fishing License Sales

Over 34,000 Voluntary Youth Fishing Licenses and Mentored Youth Permits were issued in 2019, a nearly 20% increase over the previous year. For every Voluntary Youth Fishing License sold, the PFBC receives approximately \$5 in federal revenue from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service Sport Fish Restoration Act, which provides funds to states based on a formula that includes the number of licenses a state sells. All revenues earned from Voluntary Youth Fishing Licenses are dedicated to youth fishing programs.

The Commission has issued over 154,000 Voluntary Youth Fishing Licenses and Mentored Youth Permits since 2014.

## Fish-for-Free Days

The popular annual Fish-for-Free Days were offered again in 2019 on May 26 and July 4. The Fish and Boat Code permits the PFBC to offer two free fishing days a year. The 2018 dates were picked to coincide with Memorial Day and Independence Day weekends.

Fish-for-Free Days allow anyone—residents and non-residents—to legally fish in Pennsylvania without a fishing license. From 12:01 a.m. to 11:59 p.m. on both days, no fishing license is needed to fish in Pennsylvania's waterways. All other fishing regulations apply.

## Fishing Tackle Loaner Program

As part of the Commission's effort to increase access to fishing and make the sport more convenient and enjoyable, anglers may borrow equipment from numerous locations across Pennsylvania. The Fishing Tackle Loaner Program (FTLP) provides partner organizations fishing rods, reels, and equipped tackle boxes. The partners loan this equipment to individuals or groups, enabling them to enjoy fishing without having to buy gear. The PFBC purchases the equipment directly from manufacturers at discount pricing.

At the end of 2019, there were 83 FTLP sites located in 43 counties. Current partner organizations include community libraries, state, county, and local parks. A map of FTLP sites is available at [www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com).



## Trout In the Classroom

Trout In the Classroom (TIC) introduces coldwater conservation education in Pennsylvania schools by raising Rainbow Trout from eggs to fingerlings. It is a partnership between the PFBC, Pennsylvania Department of Education, Pennsylvania Council of Trout Unlimited (TU), local TU chapters, schools, and partners.

Each summer, the PFBC provides teachers with curriculum and training. TIC classrooms receive eggs from the PFBC's Benner Spring State Fish Hatchery in the fall, and fingerlings are released in April or May. The program helps foster awareness of coldwater conservation to students in grades 3-12.

For the 2018-2019 school year, there were 393 classrooms, representing 235 Pennsylvania school districts. Nearly 40% of all public school districts in Pennsylvania and 41,740 students participated. In 2018-2019, 369 of the 393 TIC teachers completed end of year reports, showing over 10,000 teaching hours. Of the teachers reporting, 165 teachers stated that they provided fishing skills and/or fishing experiences, reaching over 10,000 students, 659 parents, and 574 instructors.

In 2019, PFBC staff delivered four teacher trainings, reaching 78 new teachers and program partners. The PFBC partnered with the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Stroud Water Research Center, and Pennsylvania Council of TU to implement the first biennial TIC Summit.

## STREAM Girls Program

STREAM Girls is a national TU program that connects Girl Scouts to coldwater resources through the study of the resources, the organisms within the resources, and enjoyment of those resources. STREAM is an acronym for Science, Technology, Recreation, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. Three additional STREAM Girls programs were implemented in 2019.

## Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT)

The PFBC continued a multi-year statewide (2013-2022) Muskellunge study to evaluate the effects of a regulation change adopted in 2007 that increased the minimum size from 30 inches to 40 inches and reduced the daily creel limit from two fish to one fish.

Through 2019, biologists captured 1,071 adult muskies and tagged fish with glass encapsulated microchips known as passive integrated transponders (PIT) tags. Of the tagged muskies, 165 muskies have been recaptured.

## Wild Trout Designations

During 2019, PFBC biologists and Unassessed Waters Initiative partners continued to survey streams to identify and classify naturally reproducing populations of trout. Surveyed waters that support natural reproduction of wild trout qualify to be added to the PFBC's listing of wild trout streams and/or listing of Class A wild trout streams.

In 2019, the PFBC added 271 new waters to the list of wild trout streams and extended the length of 17 waters, thus increasing the protection on 508 miles of streams. Additionally, 330 miles of tributaries to wild trout streams were also protected due to functional importance to downstream trout populations. The PFBC added 65 new stream sections to the Class A wild trout streams list, thus qualifying 153 miles for upgrade to High Quality-Cold Water Fishes.

## Leadership Development

The Commission again utilized leadership development opportunities offered by the Office of Administration. Linda Flemm from the Human Resource Office graduated from the Leadership Development Program. Chad Whittaker from the Executive Office and Jason Obrien from the Bureau of Hatcheries graduated from the Emerging Leaders program.

## Law Enforcement Awards

Each year, the PFBC's Bureau of Law Enforcement honors its WCOs with a variety of awards that recognize outstanding service and excellence in the field. In 2019, awards were presented in the following categories:

**The Top Gun Award** was presented to WCO Corey Girt (Mifflin/northern Huntingdon) for his boating under the influence (BUI) efforts on Raystown Lake and the region.

**The Gerald L. Greiner Environmental Protection Award** was presented to WCO Travis Miller (Lehigh) for his environmental work.

**The 2018 Officer of the Year Award** was presented to WCO Robert Plumb (northern Wallenpaupack) for his well-rounded efforts in the Northeast Region.

**A Lifesaving Award** was presented to WCO Chase Rhoades (northern Montgomery), who saved a distressed swimmer while on vacation in Costa Rica.

**Lifesaving Awards** were presented to Sergeant Craig Garman (Southcentral Region) and WCO Sean Sauserman (Blair/Huntingdon) for their life-saving actions. See page 15 for more information on the incident.

**The Heroes of Water Rescue Award** was presented to Chris Calhoun, a Water Rescue Instructor with the Pennsylvania Water Rescue Program.

## Conservation Area Opportunity Tool

In August 2019, the web-accessible Conservation Opportunity Area tool was publicly launched and is available at <https://wildlifeactionmap.pa.gov/>. Developed by the PFBC and the Pennsylvania Game Commission, this free tool allows users to draw an area (up to 5,500 acres) and generate a report containing information on Species of Greatest Conservation Need and their habitats, conservation actions, research, survey needs, and more. This data-driven tool holds more than 280,000 records for birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles, terrestrial, and aquatic invertebrates. Federal funding was provided by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sportfish Restoration, and State Wildlife Grants Program.

## Sportsmen's Day on the Hill

On April 10, 2019, the PFBC participated in a sportsmen's legislative breakfast at the Pennsylvania Capitol Building. Joining the PFBC were representatives from the Pennsylvania Game Commission and members of the Legislative Sportsmen's Caucus. The briefing

focused on priority legislation for Pennsylvania's hunters, anglers, and diverse natural resources, along with ways sportsmen can better engage their elected officials. Afterward, the PFBC hosted a "Get Hooked on Fishing" event in the East Wing Rotunda for legislators and staff. The highlight of the afternoon was a visit from Governor Tom Wolf, who thanked PFBC staff for their work and purchased his 2019 fishing license.



## Statewide Statistics

Non-game Permits
Species Impact/PNDI Reviews – 2,111
Scientific Collector Permits/Amendments – 453
Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species Permits – 89
Biological Opinions/T&E Take Permits – 7
Non-game Special Permits – 14
Organized Reptile and Amphibian Hunt Permits – 6
Venomous Snake Permits – 1,942
Commercial Snapping Turtle Permits – 35

Bureau of Law Enforcement
Citations – 4,086
Crimes Codes – 13
Warnings for Violations – 29,709
On Board Safety – 24,272
Boating Safety Education Certificates Issued – 15,778
Special Activities – 2,510
Water Rescue Certificates – 5,388
Pollutions Investigated – 123
Boating Under the Influence – 45
Lake Erie Commercial Permits – 34

Boating Accidents
Each year, on average, 700 people die in boating-related accidents nationwide. Nearly 85% of the victims were not wearing life jackets.
Last year, there were 55 recreational boating accidents that resulted in eight fatalities. Seven of the eight victims were not wearing life jackets at the time of the accidents. Alcohol or drugs were believed to have been a factor in one of the fatal accidents.

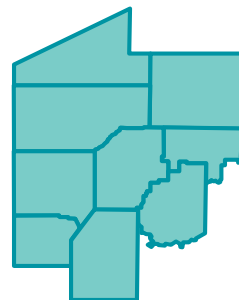
Education Activity	Count	Participants
Shows and Special Events	79	20,000
Introduction to Fishing Events and Youth Fishing Programs	96	7,600
Family Fishing Programs	79	3,700
Fly Fishing	72	900
Active Fishing Skills Instructors	67	24,100
New Fishing Skills Instructors Certifications	10	114
2018-2019 Trout In the Classroom Teachers	369	40,500
Hatchery Tours, Other Education Programs	47	2,800



Fishing License and Permit Types	
December 1, 2018 - December 31, 2019	Units Sold
1-Day Labor Day Resident	449
1-Day Labor Day Tourist	177
1-Day Resident	4,228
1-Day Tourist	5,293
10-Year Non-Resident	18
10-Year Resident	790
3-Day Tourist	26,986
3-Year Non-Resident	560
3-Year Resident	12,115
3-Year Senior Resident	393
5-Year Non-Resident	96
5-Year Resident	3,946
5-Year Senior Resident	71
7-Day Tourist	7,657
PA Resident National Guard/Reserve	178
Senior Lifetime	16,160
Non-Resident	42,562
POW Resident Annual	2
POW Resident Lifetime	0
Reduced Disabled Veteran	522
Resident	621,189
Senior Resident	24,626
Voluntary Youth	9,069
3-Year Combination Lake Erie and Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	2,187
3-Year Lake Erie Permit	168
3-Year Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	7,682
5-Year Combination Lake Erie and Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	839
5-Year Lake Erie Permit	34
5-Year Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	2,473
10-Year Combination Lake Erie and Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	213
10-Year Lake Erie Permit	7
10-Year Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	436
Combination Lake Erie and Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	71,194
Lake Erie Permit	23,636
Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	446,348
3-Year Senior Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	3,043
5-Year Senior Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	1,600
10-Year Senior Trout/Salmon Stamp Permit	701
<b>Total Licenses &amp; Permits</b>	<b>1,337,648</b>

# FIRST DISTRICT

## Commissioner Dan Pastore



Commissioner Dan Pastore, Fairview, Erie County, represents the First District of the PFBC. He was appointed in June 2019.

The First District includes **Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, and Warren counties.**



## FIRST DISTRICT

### Tamarack Lake

In June, a valve-turning ceremony with local officials, state government officials, and volunteers marked the completion of the \$12.2 million Tamarack Lake Rehabilitation Project, Crawford County.

Water will be introduced at a controlled rate, and it will take approximately 6 months for the lake to reach its maximum depth of 13 feet. Recreational fishing and boating will not be available until the water reaches a level that is



deemed safe for public access. A restocking plan began to restore the Largemouth Bass, Walleye, Crappie, Yellow Perch, and Muskellunge populations.

*Melissa Fuller with the Friends of Tamarack Lake participated in a valve-turning ceremony.*

### Lake Erie Sport Fishing Update

The Walleye fishery in Lake Erie was exceptional for the third consecutive year. The catch rate was the third highest in a 22-year survey record. Harvest rate was the highest on record due to the abundance of age four adults.

The steelhead tributary fishery was also excellent in 2019, with anglers reporting the highest catch rates observed since the Lake Erie Cooperative Angler Logbook survey was reinitiated in 2012.

### Lake Erie Acoustic Telemetry

The PFBC's Lake Erie Research Unit (LERU) continued participating in an acoustic telemetry study that tracks fish behavior and migration patterns in the Great Lakes.

In 2019, the LERU implanted acoustic tags into an additional 21 Walleyes captured off the same spawning shoal as the previous year, just east of the Walnut Creek access area. Tagged fish are tracked using a grid system of acoustic receivers, which is maintained on the bottom of Lake Erie. A receiver data download from May 2019 showed over 60,000 detections from Pennsylvania's 41 tagged Walleyes.

### Access Area and Marina Improvements

Northeast Marina, Erie County – Engineering staff designed and obtained permits to install energy efficient LED light fixtures in the parking lot of the Northeast Marina to improve visibility and security for patrons using the marina. Electricians completed the project in August of 2019.

Walnut Creek Marina, Erie County – Construction staff removed approximately 6,000 cubic yards of sediment from within the mouth of the marina entrance.

### Linesville State Fish Hatchery

The Linesville State Fish Hatchery, Crawford County, attracted an estimated 60,000 visitors in 2019 through tours and special events. In April, the annual open house drew more than 4,500 people for a program that included Walleye spawning, fly tying, and a casting skills clinic.



### Habitat Management

The PFBC's Fisheries Management, Habitat Management, and Construction and Maintenance divisions collaborated to implement a fish passage technique to facilitate steelhead movement upstream from a natural barrier on Fourmile Creek, Erie County.

In August 2019, a special grinder head mounted on a mini-excavator was used to cut a fish passage channel through the waterfall. The channel concentrates flow to allow steelhead to pass during low flow conditions and is intended to compliment the Alaskan steep pass fish ladder and bypass fishway already in place on Fourmile Creek.

The modified channel is already a success and is passing substantial numbers of steelhead that were previously fragmented from upstream habitat by the waterfall. The longevity and effectiveness of the project are being evaluated. If successful, this technique will be considered for broader application to other suitable streams to increase steelhead movement into Lake Erie tributaries.

### Mussel Propagation

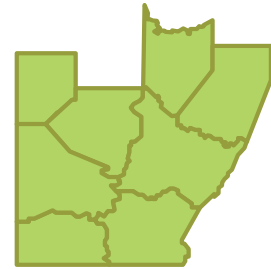
The PFBC began repurposing the Union City State Fish Hatchery, Erie County, for mussel propagation to help augment and support freshwater mussel restoration in Dunkard Creek and other watersheds. Bureau of Hatcheries staff were trained at the National Conservation Training Center, West Virginia, and freshwater mussel equipment was purchased and installed at Union City. A 5-year mussel propagation plan is in the early stages of implementation.

### Erie Access Improvement Program

The steelhead fishery in Lake Erie and its tributaries is a popular destination for anglers and generates tremendous economic benefits for the region. Pennsylvania's Fishing and Boating Access Strategy ranks this watershed as the top priority for access improvements statewide. To date, the Commission has acquired approximately 30 miles of public fishing access in the Lake Erie Watershed through easements and land purchases under the Erie Access Improvement Program.

# SECOND DISTRICT

## Commissioner Rocco S. Ali



Commissioner Rocco S. Ali, North Apollo, Armstrong County, represents the Second District of the PFBC. He was appointed in October 2012.

The Second District includes **Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Washington, and Westmoreland** counties.

## SECOND DISTRICT

### Donegal Lake

The \$5.6 million rehabilitation project concluded in December, correcting deficiencies in the dam's spillway capacity and embankment stability. The lake is expected to reopen in spring 2020. Additional construction included the addition of a new concrete boat launch and resurfacing of a parking area.

### Channel Catfish at Stocking Survival Study

Results of this multi-year study determined that Channel Catfish stocked into several southwestern Pennsylvania lakes as yearlings had greater chances of survival than Channel Catfish stocked as fingerlings.

From 2014-2019, PFBC fisheries biologists studied fingerling (2- to 3-inches) and yearling (8- to 10-inches) Channel Catfish stocked in equal numbers in Upper Twin Lake, Lower Twin Lake, Canonsburg Lake, and Lower Burrell Park Pond. All four lakes have dense bass populations and were stocked with fingerling Channel Catfish for several years prior to 2014. Canonsburg Lake was the only lake of the four that has a Gizzard Shad population and a good catfish fishery attributable to fingerling catfish stockings. Bass feed heavily on Gizzard Shad in Canonsburg Lake, which may have allowed increased survival of stocked fingerling catfish.

To identify the life stage (fingerling or yearling) at which the fish was stocked as well as the year, all catfish received a unique fin clip. This allowed biologists to determine which size of catfish survived better. Each of the four lakes were sampled in 2018 and 2019 using night electrofishing, trap nets, and hoop nets. A total of 445 fin-clipped Channel Catfish were captured from the four lakes in 2018 and 2019. Out of the 445 marked fish, 432 (97%) were catfish stocked as yearlings and 13 (3%) were catfish stocked as fingerlings.



*A Channel Catfish with a left pelvic fin clip.*

### Monongahela River Catfish Sampling

Commission biologists conducted intensive sampling of Monongahela River for Channel Catfish and Flathead Catfish from May 2019 to July 2019. This was the third year of intensive catfish sampling on the Three Rivers system with all four sections of the Ohio River sampled in 2017 and the

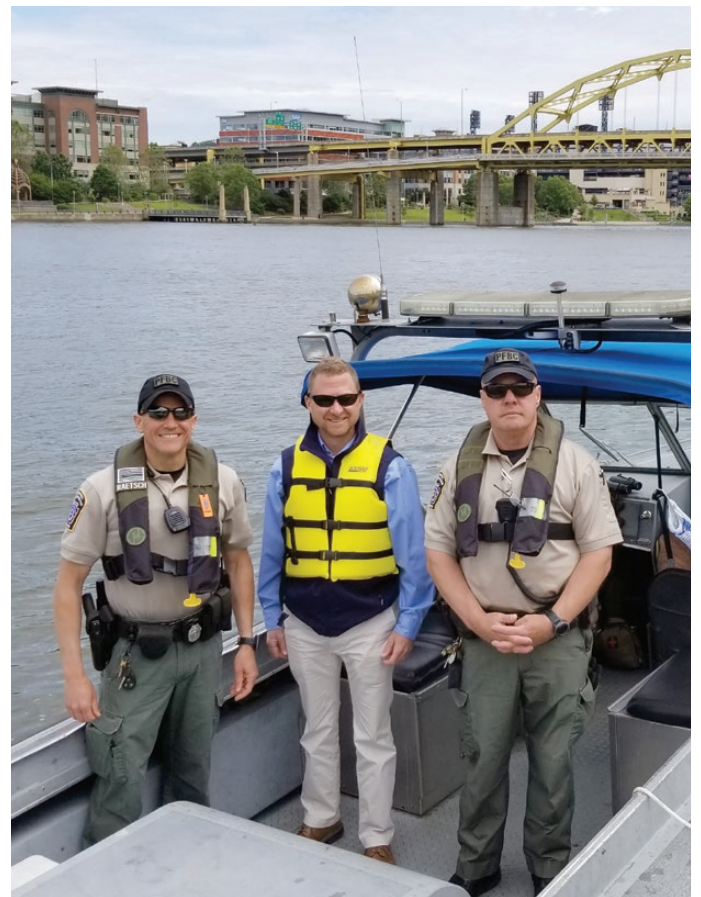
lower four sections of the Allegheny River sampled in 2018. A total of 382 fish were captured in 2019, including 259 Channel Catfish and 123 Flathead Catfish. Highlights of the survey included a 35-inch, 25-pound Channel Catfish and four 43-inch Flathead Catfish that weighed from 36 to 43 pounds. Channel Catfish ranged in age from 1 to 22 years old and Flathead Catfish from 1 to 38 years old. Surveys suggested that Channel Catfish are not being overharvested by anglers.



*Flathead Catfish from the Monongahela River.*

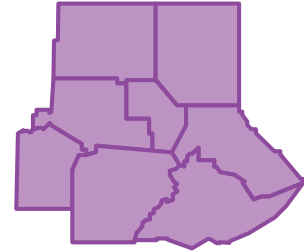
### Safe Summer Boating Event at The Point

Executive Director Tim Schaeffer was joined by PFBC staff, members of the Boating Advisory Board, and Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources staff at Point State Park, Allegheny County, for a news conference about safe boating and impaired boating prevention prior to Memorial Day weekend.



# THIRD DISTRICT

## Commissioner William C. Brock



Commissioner William C. Brock, St. Marys, Elk County, represents the Third District of the PFBC. He was appointed in July 2017.

The Third District includes **Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Jefferson, McKean, and Potter counties.**

## THIRD DISTRICT

### Kyle Lake

Kyle Lake Dam, Jefferson County – This \$4.7 million rehabilitation project concluded in December 2019, correcting deficiencies in the dam’s spillway capacity and dam embankment stability. The lake is expected to reopen in the spring of 2020.

### Hatcheries and Facilities

H. R. Stackhouse, Centre County – Engineering staff coordinated the construction of a water supply well that will provide clean water to the H. R. Stackhouse and Bellefonte State Fish Hatchery. Carpentry staff cleaned and applied



H. R. Stackhouse, Centre County

wood stain to the exterior of the facility, replaced exterior bunk house doors, and installed signage throughout the facility. Electricians replaced interior light fixtures throughout the facility with LED light fixtures. These projects will improve the overall energy efficiency of the building.

Bellefonte State Fish Hatchery, Centre County – Carpentry staff constructed and installed an aeration tower that supplies water to the lower hatch house and repaired a roof and roof truss in a mid-point aeration building. Electricians installed LED overhead lights to replace unfunctional incandescent bulbs. These projects will improve the overall energy efficiency of the facility and allow better visibility and security of the grounds.



Bellefonte State Fish Hatchery, Centre County

Benner Spring State Fish Hatchery, Centre County – Carpentry staff replaced exterior doors, repaired window seals and fixed a leaking garage roof as well as constructed fish crowding screens for use by hatchery staff. Electricians replaced many exterior and interior incandescent light fixtures with LED light fixtures. These projects will improve the overall energy efficiency of the buildings and improve visibility and security at the site.

### Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Restoration Grant

The Sinnemahoning Creek Watershed Restoration Grant program awarded seven new grants totaling \$550,000 to external partners in Cameron, Elk, McKean, and Potter counties. Additionally, four previously awarded Sinnemahoning grants were completed by external partners. These include the replacement of a barrier culvert with a bottomless arch to reconnect previously fragmented aquatic habitat and reestablish passage for wild Brook Trout in Gravel Lick Run, Potter County; completion of a 10-year monitoring program to describe stream flow, temperature, water chemistry, physical habitat, and wild trout populations at 10 reference streams in Cameron, Elk, McKean, and Potter counties; completion of two instream habitat enhancement projects to benefit Eastern Hellbender, wild Brook Trout, and Brown Trout populations in Kettle



Eastern Hellbender

Creek, Potter County; and completion of seven instream habitat enhancement projects to benefit Eastern Hellbender, wild Brook Trout, and Brown Trout populations in multiple streams in McKean County.

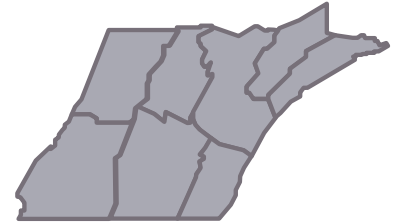


Bennett Branch Sinnemahoning Creek, Cameron County

photo: Pennsylvania Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau VisitPA.com | Jeff London

# FOURTH DISTRICT

## Commissioner Donald K. Anderson



Commissioner Donald K. Anderson, Meyersdale, Somerset County, represents the Fourth District of the PFBC. He was appointed in October 2018.

The Fourth District includes **Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, and Somerset counties.**

## FOURTH DISTRICT

### Dam Safety Improvements

Meadow Grounds Lake Dam, Fulton County – All permits for construction have been obtained, and the project is currently in the bidding and award phase. The project is estimated to cost \$3.7 million and will address deficiencies in the dam’s spillway capacity and dam embankment stability.

Somerset Lake Dam, Somerset County – The Pennsylvania Department of General Services bid and awarded the \$7.5 million construction contract to Thomas Construction Company. The project will address deficiencies in the dam’s spillway capacity and dam embankment stability. The projects will take 2 years to complete and are scheduled to be complete in fall 2021.

High Point Lake Dam, Somerset County – Contractors repaired broken stoplogs within the dam’s control tower, and the reservoir was restored to normal pool in summer 2019.



Somerset Lake, Somerset County

### Habitat Management

In Cambria County, staff continued to partner with Cambria County Conservation District to enhance the West Branch Susquehanna River. Through the PFBC’s Cooperative Habitat Improvement Program, the partnership secured angler access and improved an 800-foot reach of river. This portion of the river is designated as a Class A wild trout stream and is managed with Catch and Release All Tackle fishing regulations. Over the past 4 years, approximately 2 miles of the West Branch were enhanced through this partnership.

### Raystown Lake’s Exceptional Bass Fishery

A 2019 survey of Raystown Lake, Huntingdon County, indicated a thriving fishery that far exceeds the PFBC’s Big Bass guidelines. Nighttime surveys over eight nights resulted in 619 Largemouth Bass ranging from 5 to 23 inches and 212 Smallmouth Bass ranging from 3 to 21 inches.



Largemouth Bass from Raystown Lake’s Great Trough Creek Cove.

Smallmouth Bass were more prevalent in the lower portion of the reservoir while Largemouth Bass were more numerous in coves and bays extending from the middle to upper portion of the reservoir.

### Berlin Brothersvalley High School at Reynoldsdale State Fish Hatchery

Commissioner Donald K. Anderson led students from Berlin Brothersvalley High School on a tour of the Reynoldsdale State Fish Hatchery, Bedford County, in February 2019. The hatchery raises trophy golden rainbow trout and other trout in its modern outdoor raceways.



### Reynoldsdale State Fish Hatchery

This facility was enhanced with a larger egg incubation system and equipped with ultraviolet light to control fungus during trout production.

### Lifesaving Award, Blair County

WCO Sean Sauserman and Sergeant Craig A. Garman were recognized with Lifesaving Awards. On March 14, 2019, while facilitating a preseason trout stocking in Blair County, WCO Sauserman and Sergeant Garman utilized basic life support training and skills to assist a volunteer stocking assistant who suffered a cardiac event.



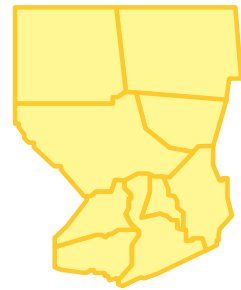
Sergeant Garman



WCO Sauserman

# FIFTH DISTRICT

## Commissioner Eric C. Hussar



Board President Eric C. Hussar, Lewisburg, Union County, represents the Fifth District of the PFBC. He was appointed in October 2014 and reappointed in June 2019.

The Fifth District includes **Bradford, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, and Union counties.**



## FIFTH DISTRICT

### Beechwood Lake

Beechwood Lake Dam, Tioga County – the PFBC, in partnership with Natural Resources Conservation Service, selected a consulting engineer to design dam safety improvements to address spillway capacity and dam embankment stability.

### New Muncy Access Area Site Planned

In July, the PFBC acquired an approximately 3-acre parcel of property located in Muncy Creek Township, Lycoming County, that will be used to construct a public fishing and boating access to the West Branch Susquehanna River. The new site will replace the former Muncy access, which was closed in July 2016 due to unsafe conditions caused by the accumulation of sediment from Muncy Creek, creating a sandbar at the boat launch. The project is currently in the design stages.

### Habitat Management

Through the PFBC’s partnership with the Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy, habitat enhancement structures were constructed to stabilize streambanks along 1.5 miles of stream to reduce erosion and sedimentation to the Susquehanna River and the Chesapeake Bay. Of the 1.5 miles of stream, 1,500 feet were enhanced on Turtle Creek, Union County. Through continued efforts of partners, the overall health of the Turtle Creek watershed is improving. Since 2009, this partnership has enhanced over 18 miles of stream.



Turtle Creek, Union County

On Buffalo Creek, Union County, habitat enhancement devices were installed on a portion of the creek that flows through Mifflinburg in a Children/Disabled Fishing Area. The project greatly enhanced the overall stream habitat and provides for expanded fishing opportunities for children and disabled anglers.



Buffalo Creek, Union County

## Eastern Hellbender Pennsylvania’s Official State Amphibian

Since 2016, Chesapeake Bay Foundation’s Student Leadership Council members have spearheaded the campaign to recognize the Eastern Hellbender and create greater awareness of the critical need to reduce pollution in Pennsylvania’s rivers and streams. Hellbenders are an indicator species for clean water.

Students wrote the first draft of a bill that was sponsored by Senator Gene Yaw (R-Lycoming).

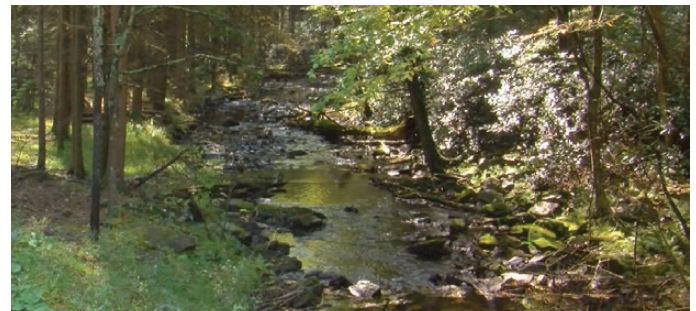
On April 23, 2019, Governor Tom Wolf signed Senate Bill 9 designating the Eastern Hellbender as the Commonwealth’s official state amphibian.



Photo: Christopher Guentzi

### Trout Stocking at Halfway Lake

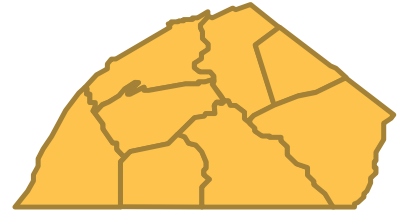
Students from Mifflinburg Cyber Charter School assisted with a fall trout stocking at Halfway Lake, R. B. Winter State Park, Union County, in October 2019.



R. B. Winter State Park, Union County

# SIXTH DISTRICT

## Commissioner Robert B.J. Small



Commissioner Robert B.J. Small, Mechanicsburg, Cumberland County, represents the Sixth District of the PFBC. He was appointed in July 2017.

The Sixth District includes **Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, and York counties.**

## SIXTH DISTRICT

### Children’s Lake

Children’s Lake, Cumberland County – Consulting engineers for the project have completed geotechnical drilling, topographic and property surveys, and are designing improvements to the dam that will address spillway capacity, seepage, and dam embankment stability.



### Access Area and Marina Improvements

Baileys Grove parking area, Dauphin County – Engineering staff designed and will construct a new crushed stone parking lot to provide improved access to Clarks Creek. Construction and maintenance staff completed the improvements in November 2019.



Children’s Lake Access Area, Cumberland County – Construction staff regraded and resurfaced the parking lot at Children’s Lake and repaired a collapsed portion of the exterior wall surrounding the lake.

### Hatcheries and Facilities

Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery, Cumberland County – Carpentry staff constructed work benches, cabinets, and office walls at the facility for better staff accommodations. Electricians and maintenance staff assisted in storm damage cleanup efforts. These improvements are necessary for the ongoing operation of the hatchery.



Representative Bill Kortz tours the Huntsdale State Fish Hatchery following storm damage in summer 2019.

## Chesapeake Logperch Recovery Project

A nationally competitive State Wildlife Grant proposal was funded by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to address conservation needs for the Chesapeake Logperch, a globally rare fish in the perch family. The PFBC led this multi-state effort to recover the Chesapeake Logperch in the Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania and develop a Conservation Action Plan for the Chesapeake Logperch in Maryland. This project included collecting and successfully breeding wild caught brood stock, as well as the trap and transport of 256 wild specimens from the Octoraro Creek, where Chesapeake Logperch remain in abundance, to the Conewago Creek, York County, where the fish were historically present but no longer occur. In September 2019, approximately 900 of the hatchery-raised fish were released in Chiques Creek, Lancaster County.



## Cumberland Valley’s Limestone Wild Trout

Surveys conducted on Letort Spring Run, Carlisle, Big Spring Creek, Newville, and Falling Spring Branch, Chambersburg, reinforced why these well-known Class A limestone spring streams support exceptional fisheries. Robust wild trout populations residing in each of the three streams continue to provide excellent fishing opportunities for wild Brook Trout, Brown Trout, and Rainbow Trout. Survey catch at the downstream portion of Letort Spring Run managed with Commonwealth Inland Waters fishing regulations yielded 557 wild Brown Trout between 3 and 23 inches long, with 19 trout greater than 18 inches during the 2019 survey. Additionally, survey catches from the upstream portions of Big Spring Creek and Falling Spring Branch, both managed with Catch and Release Fly-Fishing Only regulations, trended upward as a result of good year-classes that were successfully recruited to the adult fisheries.

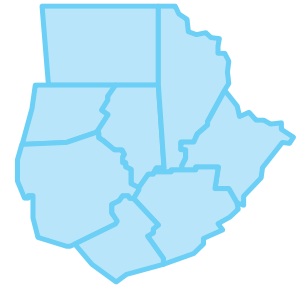
## Flathead Catfish Update

(Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Districts)

Surveys of these waterways continued to develop baseline information to determine the abundance, range, and growth rates of these fish, which are native to Pennsylvania in the Ohio River basin but are considered invasive in the Delaware and Susquehanna river basins.

# SEVENTH DISTRICT

## Commissioner William Gibney



Commissioner William Gibney, Honesdale, Wayne County, represents the Seventh District of the PFBC. He was appointed in June 2019.

The Seventh District includes **Carbon, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne, and Wyoming** counties.

## SEVENTH DISTRICT

### Dam Safety Improvements

Belmont Lake Dam and Lower Woods Dam, Wayne County – The consulting engineers have submitted the construction document to the Pennsylvania Department of General Services, and the project design is approximately 95% complete.

Lower Woods Dam, Wayne County – The design of the Lower Woods Rehabilitation project is approximately 95% complete. The dam safety permit remains under review by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Dam Safety.

White Oak Pond Dam and Miller Pond Dam, Wayne County – Consulting engineers completed topographic surveying, geotechnical drilling, and began design of the dam structures. The design of the structures are approximately 40% complete.

### Habitat Management

At Frances Slocum Lake, Luzerne County, Commission staff assisted by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and volunteers from the Nanticoke Conservation Club constructed and deployed 25 porcupine crib habitat structures. Built from rough-cut hemlock weighted with concrete block, the structures can last up to 30 years underwater, providing protection and spawning areas for bass, sunfish, and minnows.



### South Branch Bowman Creek

Two years after a dam was breached upstream, eliminating the impounded area known as Mountain Springs Lake, a survey of the South Branch Bowman Creek revealed a growing population of native Brook Trout, improved water quality, and other environmental conditions. Three of the 21 captured trout were of legal size.

The survey followed efforts by the Luzerne County Conservation District with funding through the Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture and The Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and help from citizen volunteers and the PFBC, which included riparian plantings and limestone additions within the former lake and surrounding area.

### Palmerton Zinc Pile Projects

The PFBC continued its role on the Palmerton Natural Resources Trustee Council to oversee how National Resource

Drainage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) funds are used pursuant to the final restoration plan for the Palmerton Zinc Pile Superfund site. Projects are intended to protect aquatic habitat, improve fish passage, and increase public access to the Lehigh River.

- NRDAR funds were used by the PFBC to acquire the Berger Tract, a 9.5-acre parcel with 1,300 feet of Lehigh River frontage.
- NRDAR funds contributed to the removal of a dam on the upper Lehigh River that was located on the 500-acre Klondike Property acquired in 2018.

### Upper Delaware River Tailwaters Joint Fisheries Investigation Plan

Field collections of wild trout were completed for this ongoing 3-year (2018-2020) Joint Fisheries Investigation Plan between the PFBC and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. As part of the study, trout that were tagged with internal microchips the previous year were recaptured and their size and location was documented. The intent of the plan is to assess the wild trout population and the impact of angler harvest in this increasingly popular fishery to influence a new adaptive fisheries plan.

### Shad Collection on Delaware River

American Shad surveys were conducted along the Delaware River near Milford, Pike County. Students from Wallenpaupack High School assisted Commission fisheries biologists with labor-intensive nighttime collections using seining nets. Young-of-year shad specimens were examined for health and abundance.



Students collecting young-of-year shad with seine nets.

### PennEast Pipeline Freshwater Mussel Salvage

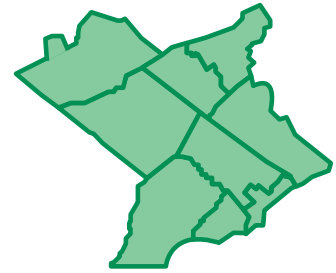
In June 2019, biologists with the PFBC Division of Environmental Services conducted a freshwater mussel survey and salvage in the Susquehanna River near Wilkes-Barre.



The effort was intended to take inventory of species in the area of the natural gas pipeline crossing and move mussels out of harm's way before excavation began to relocate the pipeline beneath the river bottom. Approximately 100 mussels were collected, representing seven species. All the mussels collected were marked and moved to a permanent location downstream where their survival and growth can be monitored.

# EIGHTH DISTRICT

## Commissioner Richard S. Kauffman



Commissioner Richard S. Kauffman, Leesport, Berks County, represents the Eighth District for the PFBC. He was appointed in July 2017 and reappointed in June 2019.

The Eighth District includes **Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, and Schuylkill counties.**

## EIGHTH DISTRICT

### Minsi Lake

Minsi Lake Dam, Northampton County – Major construction work concluded in November on this \$4.9 million rehabilitation project to address deficiencies in the dam’s spillway capacity and embankment stability. The lake is expected to reopen spring 2020.

Minsi Lake access area, Northampton County – Engineering staff coordinated the paving of parking lots that were in a state of disrepair.

While this 117-acre lake was drawn down for a dam safety improvement project, biologists in the PFBC’s Habitat Management Division took the opportunity to improve fish habitat features and worked closely with the Division of Construction and Maintenance to place large amounts of wood and rock structures on the lake bottom. These structures will provide cover for panfish and bass once the lake is refilled. Anglers can also target these new fishing hot spots by referencing their location using GPS maps on PFBC’s website at [www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com).



### Striped Bass Regulatory Update

During annual spawning stock surveys from the Pennsylvania/Delaware state line upriver to Trenton Falls in Morrisville, Pennsylvania, the catch rate of reproductively mature Striped Bass was lower than historical long-term averages. This data combined with findings from other agencies in the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) contributed to a proposal for further action to reduce fishing mortality of Striped Bass.

To solicit comments on potential regulation changes, the PFBC and the ASMFC held a joint public hearing on August 28, 2019 at Silver Lake Nature Center in Bristol, Pennsylvania. Attendees at the meeting almost unanimously favored more conservative regulations to protect the fishery. In October 2019, the ASMFC Striped Bass Management Board voted to implement new harvest restrictions, as well as mandating the use of circle hooks when targeting Striped Bass with bait.



### Fisheries Lab Lecture Series

In mid-November, Southeast Region Outreach staff delivered a Fishes and Macroinvertebrate Identification Lab for students in Delaware Valley University’s Wildlife Management program. This four-day series also provided information to students on working for the PFBC and some of the PFBC’s modern conservation challenges in aquatic resource management. During the program, 53 students went through the lab.



Photo: Professor Hoyt, Delaware Valley University

# BOATING-AT-LARGE

## Spreading the Safe Boating Message

The PFBC held media events around key boating seasons including Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day, as well as winter, reminding boaters about life jacket wear and the dangers of BUI. In 2019, events were held in the Harrisburg, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Erie markets in cooperation with other Commonwealth agencies including Pennsylvania State Police, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. For the eleventh year, WCOs conducted Operation Dry Water, a nationally coordinated enhanced BUI enforcement effort.



## Boating Facilities Grants

Reintroduced in 2019, this program is open to townships, boroughs, and municipal and county governments as well as nonprofit groups (501c3) including land trusts, conservancies, and watershed associations that are interested in the planning, acquisition, development, expansion, or rehabilitation of public boating access areas. Grants are funded through boat registration fees and are awarded based on the greatest need for regional boating facilities and the number of boaters served by projects. The 2019 grant recipients will be announced in early 2020.

## Boating-At-Large Commissioners

Two members of the Commission serve at-large and are experienced in boating and water safety education.



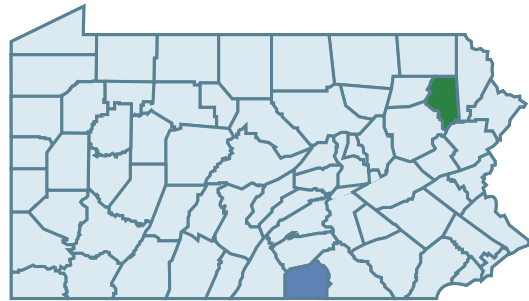
### Charlie Charlesworth

Commissioner Charlie Charlesworth, Clarks Summit, Lackawanna County, was appointed as an at-large boating commissioner in June 2019.



### Richard Lewis

Commissioner Richard Lewis, Gettysburg, Adams County, was appointed as an at-large boating commissioner in July 2017.



## Boating Advisory Board

The Boating Advisory Board (BAB) advises the Commission regarding matters relating to boating including recommendations with respect to proposed boating rules and regulations. The BAB's advice assists the Commission with establishing a boating program that ensures the safe and enjoyable operation of boats.

### BAB Members:

- Loren W. Lustig, *Chairperson*  
Biglerville
- Mary Gibson, *Vice Chairperson*  
Marysville
- Scott Ballantyne  
Fleetwood
- John Mahn Jr.  
Charleroi
- Michael Murray  
Philadelphia



## Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Report (unaudited)

### EXPENDITURES

#### Fish Fund

Personnel	\$26,894,813
Operating	\$10,492,159
Fixed Assets	\$1,224,329
Grants	\$632,145
<b>Fish Fund Total</b>	<b>\$39,243,446</b>

#### Boat Fund

Personnel	\$9,981,731
Operating	\$3,282,239
Fixed Assets	\$1,289,125
Grants	\$3,266
<b>Boat Fund Total</b>	<b>\$14,556,361</b>

#### Fish Fund & Boat Fund Total

Personnel	\$36,876,544
Operating	\$13,774,398
Fixed Assets	\$2,513,454
Grants	\$635,411
<b>Fish &amp; Boat Fund Total</b>	<b>\$53,799,807</b>

## Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Report (unaudited)

### REVENUE

#### Fish Fund

Licenses & Fees	\$25,030,710
Fines & Penalties	\$264,568
Miscellaneous	\$4,257,220
Federal & State Grants	\$7,869,320
<b>Fish Fund Total</b>	<b>\$37,421,817</b>

#### Boat Fund

Licenses & Fees	\$8,561,552
Fines & Penalties	\$218,091
Miscellaneous	\$6,136,650
Federal & State Grants	\$3,431,197
<b>Boat Fund Total</b>	<b>\$18,347,490</b>

#### Fish Fund & Boat Fund Total

Licenses & Fees	\$33,592,262
Fines & Penalties	\$482,659
Miscellaneous	\$10,393,870
Federal & State Grants	\$11,300,517
<b>Fish &amp; Boat Fund Total</b>	<b>\$55,769,307</b>

## 2019 Cooperative Nursery 50 Year Award Certificates

- Albion Sportsmen Club, Inc.
- Beaver Township Rod & Gun Club
- Delco Anglers & Conservationists
- Fishing Creek Sportsmen's Association
- New Bloomfield Sportsmen's Association

## Trout Stocked by PFBC

Trout Species	Lifestage	Amount
Brook Trout	Adult	545,040
	Fingerling	15,000
Brown Trout	Adult	860,590
	Fingerling	340,700
Rainbow Trout	Adult	1,763,285
	Fingerling	383,300
Golden Rainbow Trout	Adult	10,897
<b>Total Trout Stocked by PFBC</b>		<b>3,918,812</b>

## Trout Distributed to Cooperative Nurseries

Trout Species	Lifestage	Amount
Brook Trout	Fingerling to Coops.	164,270
Brown Trout	Fingerling to Coops.	241,550
Rainbow Trout	Fingerling to Coops.	376,750
Golden Rainbow Trout	Fingerling to Coops.	9,945
<b>Total Trout Distributed to Coops.</b>		<b>792,515</b>

**Total Trout Species (Stocked and Distributed) 4,711,327**

## Warmwater/Coolwater Fish Production and Stocking

Species	Lifestage	Amount
American Shad	Fry	832,000
Bluegill	Fingerling	18,400
Bluntnose Minnow	Adult	700
Brown Trout - Erie	Yearling	40,373
Channel Catfish	Fingerling	75,660
Channel Catfish	Yearling	14,405
Fathead Minnow	Adult	7,000
Golden Shiner	Fingerling	48,500
Lake Trout	Fingerling	3,000
Lake Trout	Yearling	78,284
Largemouth Bass	Adult	12
Largemouth Bass	Fingerling	20,416
Muskellunge	Fingerling	111,706
Muskellunge	Yearling	58,550
Northern Pike	Fingerling	3,689
Rainbow Trout - Steelhead	Yearling	1,002,012
Spottail Shiner	Adult	445
Striped Bass	Fingerling	323,202
hybrid Striped Bass	Fingerling	183,000
Tiger Muskellunge	Fingerling	10,900
Tiger Muskellunge	Yearling	9,250
Walleye	Fry	48,586,110
Walleye	Fingerling	1,626,125
White Crappie	Adult	50
Yellow Perch	Fingerling	28,000
<b>Grand Total of all Species</b>		<b>53,081,789</b>

## Website Statistics

### Top Ten Pages by Page View

1. Home - 67,060
2. Trout Stocking Schedules - 66,892
3. Buy a License - 32,857
4. Register/Title a Boat - 22,205
5. Trout Season Overview - 19,703
6. Gone Fishing Pa - 14,156
7. Fishing Regulations - 12,295
8. Best Fishing Waters - 11,295
9. FAQ - Fishing Licenses - 11,257
10. Trout - Pa Fishes - 11,001

### Total Web Page Visits

2,302,795

### Web Page Visits by State

1. Pennsylvania - 1,604,566
2. New York - 131,342
3. District of Columbia - 113,909
4. New Jersey - 87,376
5. Ohio - 52,831
6. Maryland - 26,481
7. Virginia - 24,218
8. Tennessee - 21,756
9. Michigan - 21,500
10. Illinois - 18,010

## Social Media 2019

(1/1/19 to 12/30/19)

### Facebook

Followers (19% increase)	83,703
Posts	902
Impressions	13,665,846
Engagement	561,736

### Twitter

Followers (9% increase)	10,700
Tweets	973
Impressions	1,871,322
Engagement	42,032

### Instagram

Followers (97% increase)	11,100
Posts	175
Impressions	1,017,185
Engagement	N/A

The PFBC social media and mobile app:  
[www.fishandboat.com/socialmedia](http://www.fishandboat.com/socialmedia)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

### STATE HEADQUARTERS

1601 Elmerton Avenue  
 P.O. Box 67000  
 Harrisburg, PA 17106-7000  
 Phone: (717) 705-7800  
 Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
 Monday through Friday

**BOATING SAFETY  
 EDUCATION COURSES**  
 Phone: (888) 723-4741

### CENTRE REGION OFFICE

595 East Rolling Ridge Drive  
 Bellefonte, PA 16823  
 Lobby Phone: (814) 359-5124  
 Fisheries Admin. Phone:  
 (814) 359-5110  
 Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
 Monday through Friday

**THE PFBC WEBSITE:**  
[www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)

**FISHING LICENSES:**  
 Phone: (877) 707-4085

**BOAT REGISTRATION/TITLING:**  
 Phone: (866) 262-8734

**PUBLICATIONS:**  
 Phone: (717) 705-7835

  
[www.fishandboat.com/socialmedia](http://www.fishandboat.com/socialmedia)

## REGION OFFICES: LAW ENFORCEMENT/EDUCATION

Contact Law Enforcement for information about regulations and fishing and boating opportunities.  
 Contact Outreach and Education for information about fishing and boating programs and boating safety education.

### NORTHWEST REGION

11528 State Highway 98, Meadville, PA 16335  
*Law Enforcement:* (814) 337-0444  
*Outreach & Education:* (814) 336-2426  
 Fax (814) 337-0579 Fax (814) 337-0579  
*Counties:* Butler, Clarion, Crawford, Erie, Forest, Lawrence, Mercer, Venango, Warren

### SOUTHWEST REGION

236 Lake Road, Somerset, PA 15501  
*Law Enforcement:* (814) 445-8974  
*Outreach & Education:* (814) 443-9841  
 Fax (814) 445-3497 Fax (814) 445-3497  
*Counties:* Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland

### NORTHCENTRAL REGION

595 East Rolling Ridge Drive  
 Bellefonte, PA 16823  
*Law Enforcement:* (814) 359-5250  
*Outreach & Education:* (814) 359-5127  
 Fax (814) 359-5254 Fax (814) 359-5153  
*Counties:* Cameron, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Elk, Jefferson, Lycoming, McKean, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Snyder, Tioga, Union

*Office hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday*

### SOUTHCENTRAL REGION

1704 Pine Road, Newville, PA 17241  
*Law Enforcement:* (717) 486-7087  
*Outreach & Education:* (717) 486-7352  
 Fax (717) 486-8227 Fax (717) 486-8227  
*Counties:* Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, York

### NORTHEAST REGION

5566 Main Road, Sweet Valley, PA 18656  
*Law Enforcement:* (570) 477-5717  
*Outreach & Education:* (570) 477-2206  
 Fax (570) 477-3221 Fax (570) 477-2621  
*Counties:* Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming

### SOUTHEAST REGION

P.O. Box 9, Elm, PA 17521  
*Law Enforcement:* (717) 626-0228  
*Outreach & Education:* (215) 968-3631  
 Fax (717) 626-0486 Fax (215) 968-1610  
*Counties:* Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Lehigh, Montgomery, Northampton, Philadelphia, Schuylkill

## STATE FISH HATCHERIES

- **BELLEFONTE\***  
1115 Spring Creek Road  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
(814) 355-3371
- **BENNER SPRING**  
1735 Shiloh Road  
State College, PA 16801  
(814) 355-4837
- **OSWAYO\***  
96 State Route 244 East  
Coudersport, PA 16915  
(814) 698-2102
- **REYNOLDSDALE\***  
162 Fish Hatchery Road  
New Paris, PA 15554  
(814) 839-2211
- **CORRY\***  
13365 Route 6  
Corry, PA 16407  
(814) 664-2122
- **HUNTSDALE\***  
195 Lebo Road  
Carlisle, PA 17013  
(717) 486-3419
- **PLEASANT GAP\***  
450 Robinson Lane  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
(814) 359-5132
- **TIONESTA\***  
172 Fish Hatchery Lane  
Tionesta, PA 16353  
(814) 755-3524
- **FAIRVIEW**  
2000 Lohrer Road  
P.O. Box 531  
Fairview, PA 16415  
(814) 474-1514
- **LINESVILLE\***  
13300 Hartstown Road  
Linesville, PA 16424  
(814) 683-4451
- **PLEASANT MOUNT\***  
229 Great Bend Turnpike  
Pleasant Mount, PA 18453  
(570) 448-2101
- **TYLERSVILLE**  
43 Hatchery Lane  
Loganton, PA 17747  
(570) 725-3965
- **UNION CITY**  
9450 Route 6  
Union City, PA 16438  
(814) 438-2222

*\* Includes visitor center. Visitors are welcome  
 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily.  
 Groups should make advance arrangements.*

[www.fishandboat.com](http://www.fishandboat.com)