

WEST VIRGINIA

DNR

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

almost heaven®

WEST VIRGINIA
DNR

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WVstateparks.com
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Governor, State of West Virginia

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Director, Division of Natural Resources

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Chief, Parks and Recreation Section

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Bradley S. Leslie
Chief Engineer, Planning, Engineering and Maintenance

Natural Resources Commissioners

Jeffrey S. Bowers – *Sugar Grove*
Gregory K. Burnette – *Elkview*
Byron K. Chambers – *Romney*
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Thomas O. Dotson – *White Sulphur Springs*
David M. Milne – *Bruceton Mills*
Kenneth R. Wilson – *Chapmanville*

The West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Annual Report 2020-2021 is published by the Division of Natural Resources and the Department of Commerce Communications.

It is the policy of the Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, services, programs and employment opportunities to all persons without regard to sex, race, age, religion, national origin or ancestry, disability, or other protected group status.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Governor Justice:

Transmitted herewith is the Annual Report for the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources for fiscal year July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021.

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

A detailed account of receipts and expenditures as prescribed by the West Virginia Code Chapter §20-1-7(17), is also respectfully submitted.

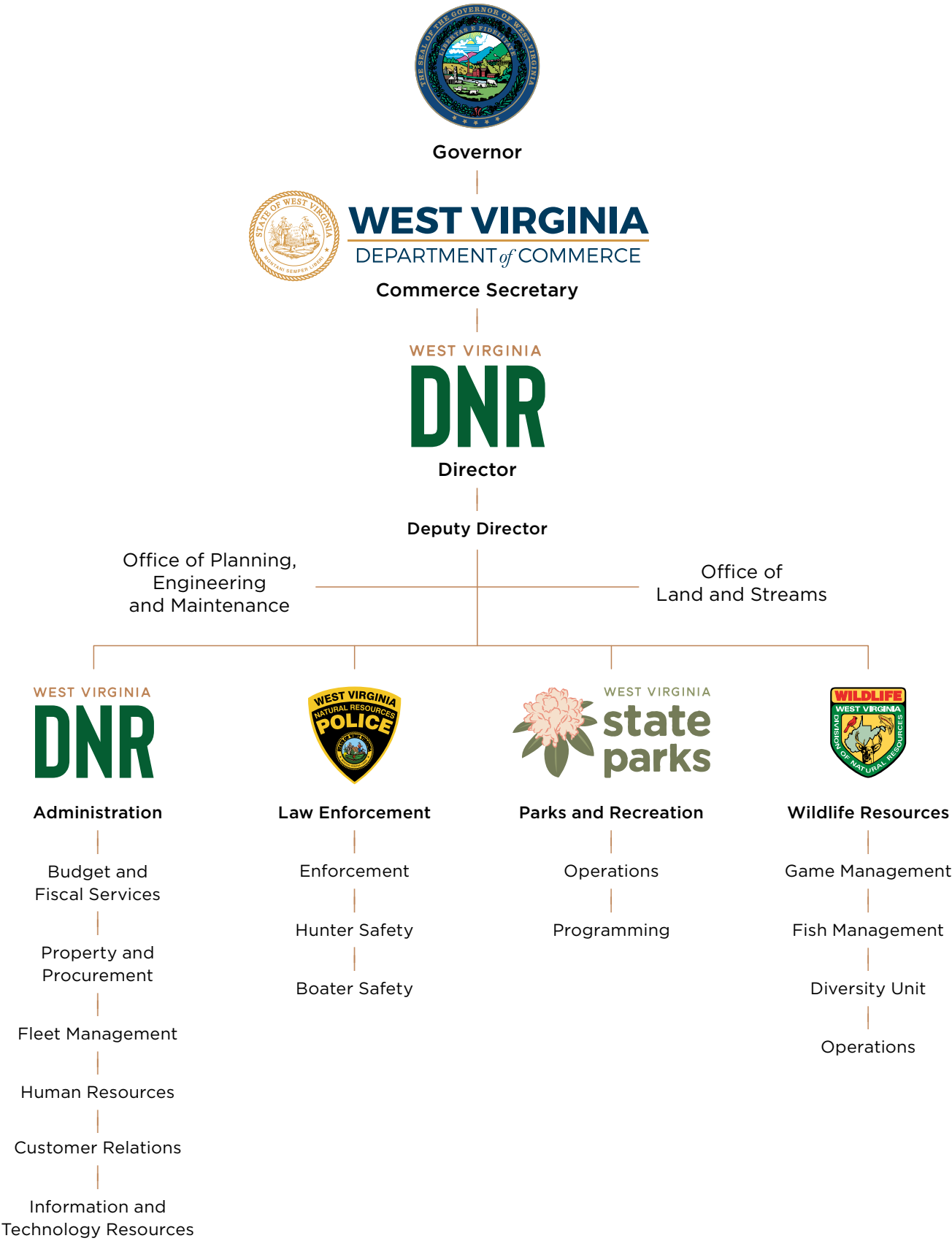
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. S. McDaniel", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Stephen S. McDaniel

SSM:kf

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART





Mission Statement

It is the statutory mission of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources to provide and administer a long-range comprehensive program for the exploration, conservation, development, protection, enjoyment, and use of the natural resources of the State of West Virginia.

VISION STATEMENT

Clean water, healthy forests, diverse habitats, and abundant wildlife that are responsibly managed, protected, and utilized by all residents and visitors to West Virginia, maximizing the economic potential of the state's natural beauty and abundant recreational opportunities.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- **Public Trust and Accountability.** The WVDNR is accountable to the public and operates in an open and transparent manner so public trust is maintained.
- **Stewardship.** The WVDNR is the steward of all the state's natural resources for present and future generations.
- **Partnerships.** The WVDNR proactively seeks out new partnership opportunities, both public and private, to position itself to best serve the stakeholders of West Virginia's natural resources.
- **Customer Service.** The WVDNR provides excellent service to all customers, both internal and external.
- **Diversity.** The WVDNR promotes not only diverse ecosystems, but diversity in the workplace so all stakeholders may benefit from the enjoyment of the state's natural resources.
- **Valued and Highly Skilled Staff.** The WVDNR supports the development of its staff and fosters an environment of collaboration and innovation so employees as well as the agency can reach full potential.

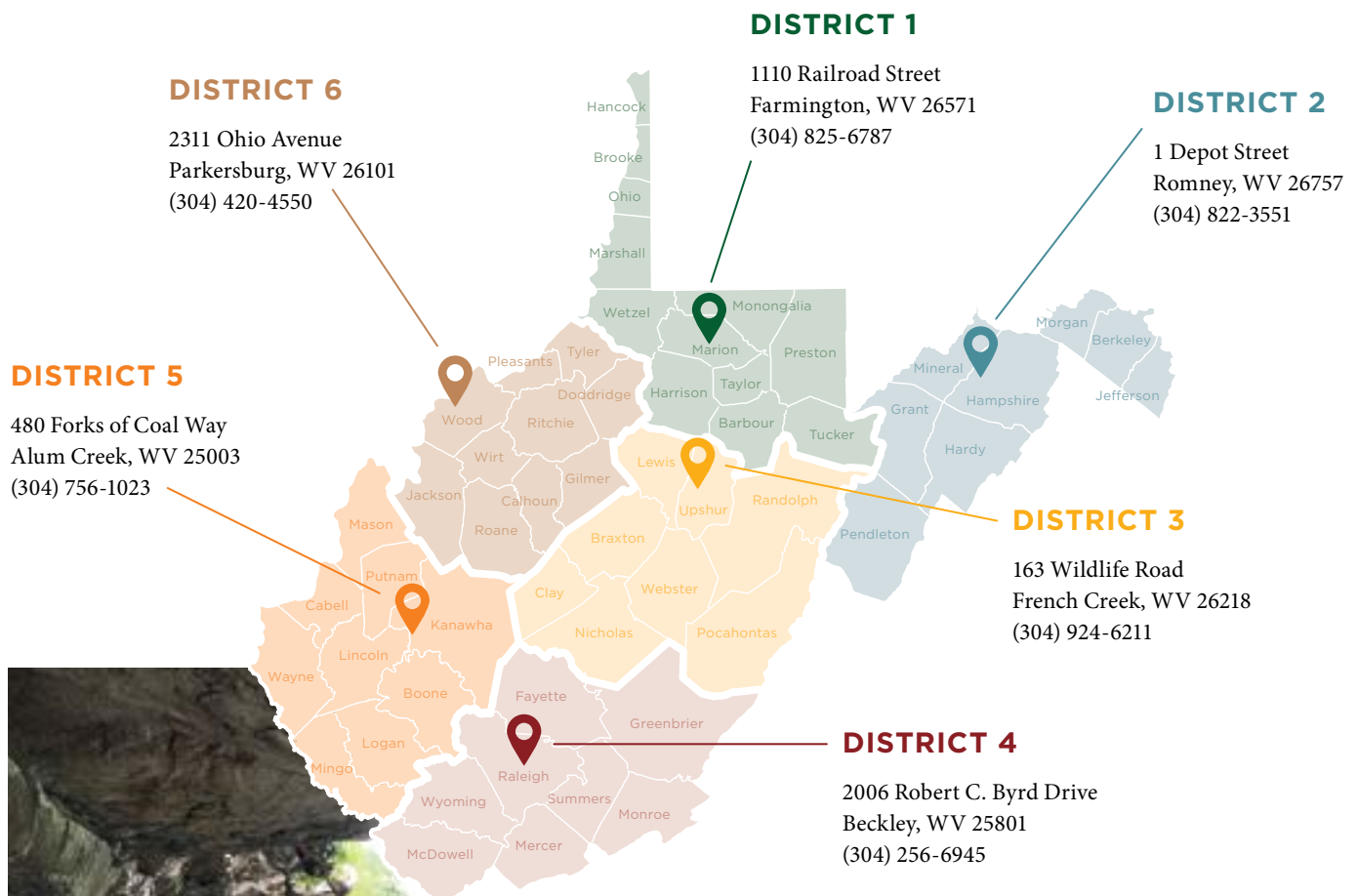
BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS ON WHICH THE DIRECTOR SERVES

- West Virginia Natural Resources Commission §20-1-17(b)
- Wildlife Endowment Fund Advisory Board §20-2B-2
- West Virginia Public Land Corporation §5A-11-2(b)
- West Virginia Whitewater Commission §20-2-23(a)
- West Virginia Outdoor Heritage Conservation Fund Board §5B-2G-4(a)
- National Coal Heritage Area Authority §29-31-2(b)
- State Resiliency Office Board §29-30-2
- West Virginia State Parks and Recreation Endowment Fund Board §20-5A-2(b)

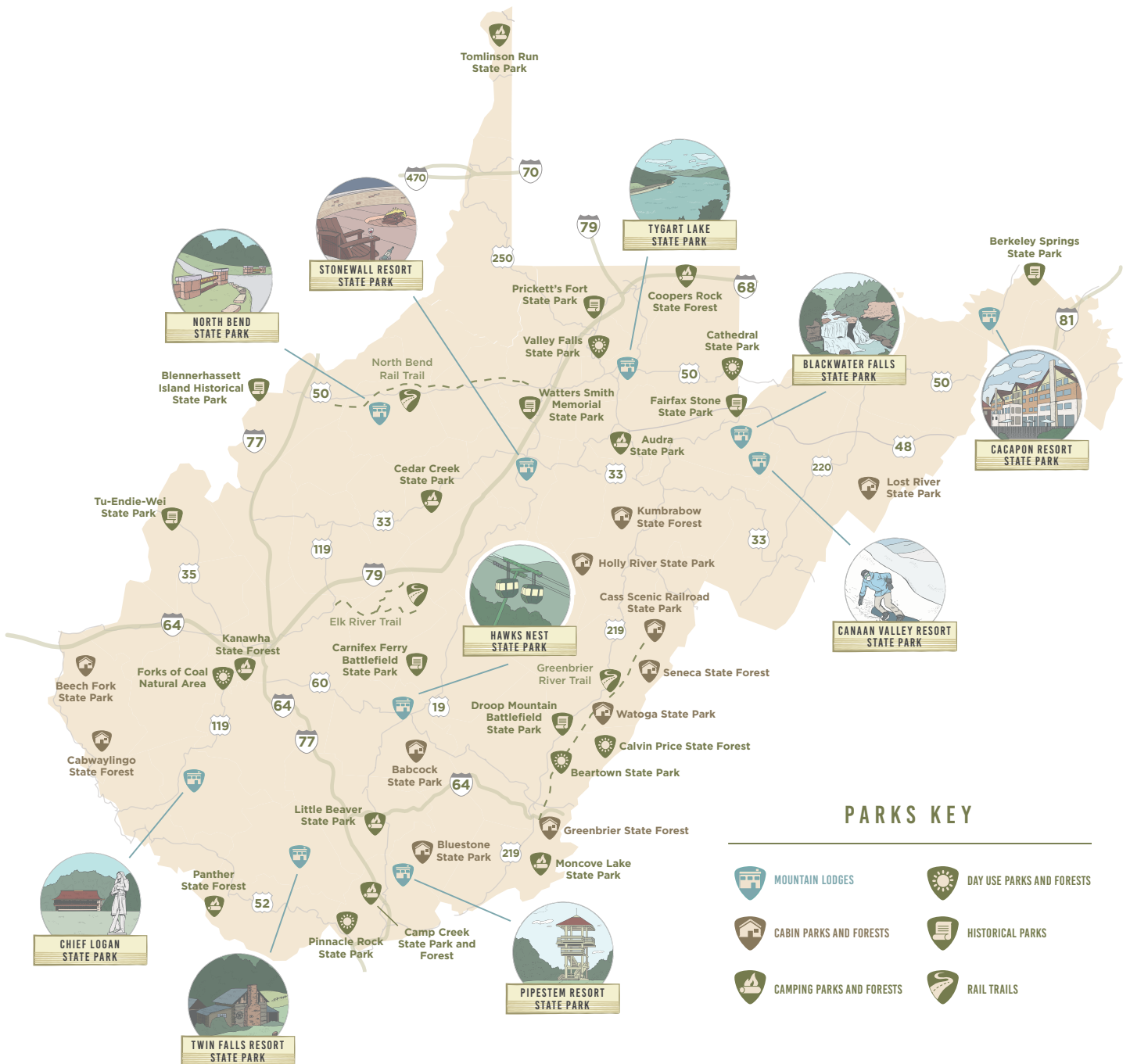
EEOC STATEMENT

It is the policy of the Division of Natural Resources to provide its facilities, services, programs, and employment opportunities to all persons without regard to sex, race, age, religion, national origin, or ancestry, disability, or other protected group status.

DISTRICT OFFICES



STATE PARKS, FORESTS AND RECREATION AREAS



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

DISTRICT 1 (304) 825-6787

1. Bear Rocks Lake
2. Burches Run
3. Castlemans Run Lake
4. Cecil H. Underwood
5. Center Branch
6. Cheat Canyon
7. Cross Creek
8. Dents Run
9. Dunkard Fork
10. Fairfax Pond-Rehe
11. Hillcrest
12. Lantz Farm and Nature Preserve
13. Lewis Wetzel
14. Little Canaan
15. Little Indian Creek
16. Pedlar
17. Pleasant Creek
18. Pruntytown State Farm
19. Snake Hill
20. Teter Creek
21. Upper Deckers Creek

DISTRICT 2 (304) 822-3551

22. Allegheny
23. Edwards Run
24. Fort Mill Ridge
25. Lost River
26. Nathaniel Mountain
27. Shannondale Springs
28. Short Mountain
29. Sideling Hill
30. Sleepy Creek
31. South Branch
32. Thorn Creek
33. Warden Lake
34. White Horse Mountain
35. Widmeyer

DISTRICT 3 (304) 924-6211

36. Becky Creek
37. Big Ditch
38. Burnsville Lake
39. Elk River
40. Handley
41. Huttonsville
42. Slatyfork
43. Smoke Camp
44. Stonecoal Lake
45. Stonewall Jackson Lake
46. Summersville Lake
47. Valley Bend

DISTRICT 4 (304) 256-6945

48. Anawalt Lake
49. Andrew Rowan
50. Beury Mountain
51. Bluestone Lake
52. Daniels Ridge
53. Horse Creek Lake
54. Meadow River
55. Moncove Lake
56. Panther
57. Plum Orchard Lake
58. R.D. Bailey Lake
59. Tate Lohr
60. Tug Fork

DISTRICT 5 (304) 756-1023

61. Amherst/Plymouth
62. Beech Fork Lake
63. Big South
64. Big Ugly
65. Bright McCausland Homestead
66. Chief Cornstalk
67. Chief Logan
68. East Lynn Lake
69. Green Bottom
70. Hilbert
71. Laurel Lake
72. McClintic
73. Mill Creek
74. Tomblin
75. Upper Mud River

DISTRICT 6 (304) 420-4550

76. Buffalo Run
77. Burning Springs
78. Conaway Run Lake
79. Elk Fork Lake
80. Federal Ridge
81. Frozen Camp
82. Hughes River
83. Little Kanawha River
84. Lynn Camp
85. O'Brien Lake
86. Ritchie Mines
87. Rollins Lake
88. Sand Hill
89. Sandy Creek
90. Stumptown
91. The Jug
92. Toll Gate
93. Turkey Run
94. Walker Creek
95. Wallback
96. Woodrum Lake

STATE FORESTS (304) 558-2764

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

NATIONAL FORESTS Monongahela WMAs

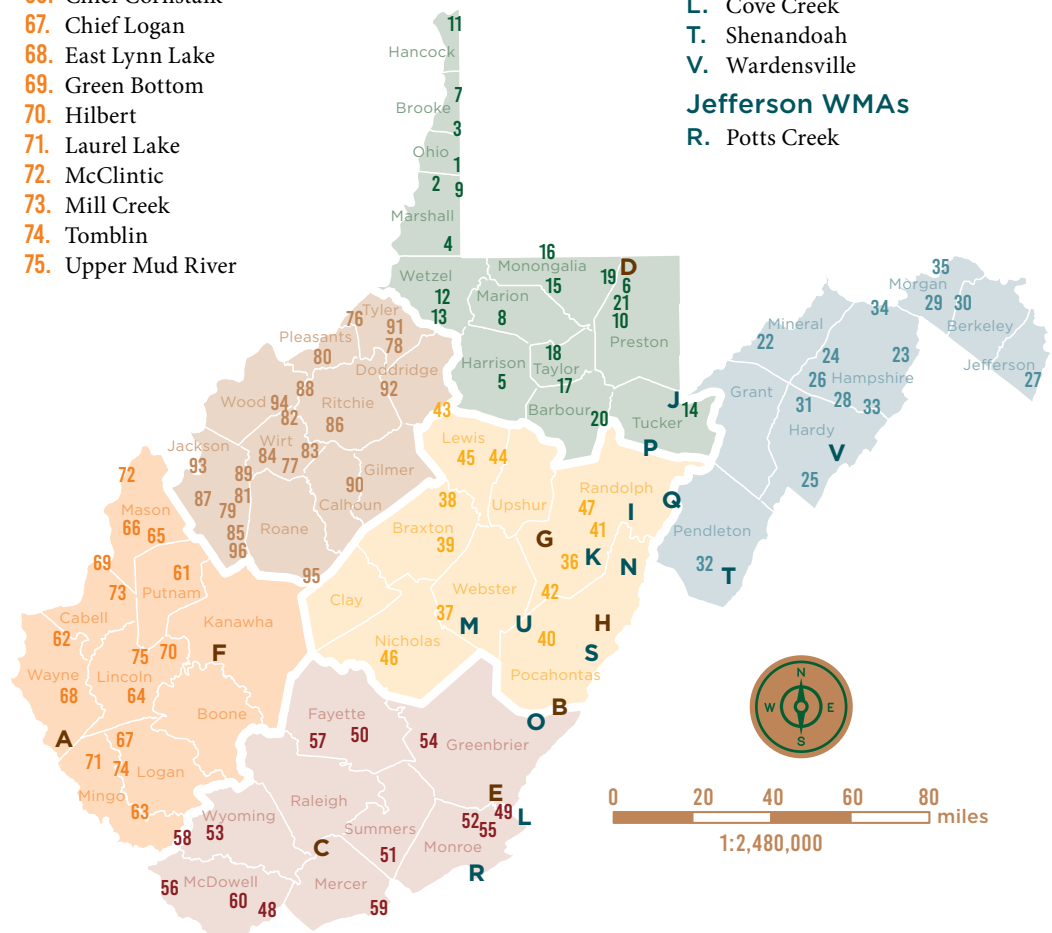
- I. Beaver Dam
- J. Blackwater
- K. Cheat
- M. Cranberry
- N. Little River
- O. Neola
- P. Otter Creek
- Q. Potomac
- S. Rimel
- U. Tea Creek

George Washington WMAs

- L. Cove Creek
- T. Shenandoah
- V. Wardensville

Jefferson WMAs

- R. Potts Creek



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WEST VIRGINIA

DNR

ADMINISTRATION

Brian R. Bolyard, *Chief*



The Administration Section provides services to all Division of Natural Resources offices in the areas of budgeting, accounting, investments, staffing, payroll, employee relations, employee benefits, workforce development, procurement, property management and control, fleet management, general services, computer application development and maintenance, customer relations, and hunting and fishing license sales. It also publishes *Wonderful West Virginia* magazine.

This section is composed of seven major units: Office of the Chief, Budget and Fiscal Services, Customer Relations, Fleet Management, Human Resources, Property and Procurement, and Information and Technology Resources.



Human Resources

The Human Resources office is composed of nine staff members working within three primary areas: Employee Relations, Workforce Development, and Employment Services. During FY2021, the Human Resources' office processed 137 job postings, 940 new hires (63 permanent and 877 temporary), 22 resignations, 18 retirements, 77 Workers' Compensation claims, and 286 Unemployment claims.

Fleet Management

The Fleet Management office is managed by the Fleet Coordinator who oversees all administrative tasks pertaining to agency-owned vehicles (cars, trucks, boats, ATVs, UTVs, and utility trailers). These tasks include fuel and maintenance management, titles and registration, inventory management, insurance, reimbursements of sold vehicles, and driver safety training. During FY2021, the agency purchased 15 vehicles. Four of those vehicles (Wildlife) won't be delivered until early 2022. An additional vehicle was donated to the Law Enforcement section. The agency received \$73,484.74 in reimbursements from vehicles that were sold. Under the direction of the Fleet Management office, the agency received 100% compliance for the 2021 Driver Safety Training program.

Property and Procurement

The Property and Procurement office is composed of ten staff members, including six District Radio Operators. The Property and Procurement staff are responsible for the procurement of commodities and services for the entire agency. During FY2021, the office processed:

Fixed Assets Added.....	383
Fixed Assets Retired.....	311
Agency Delivery Orders Completed	2,396
Master Agreements Awarded	17
Change Orders and Modifications Issued	328
Contracts ≤ \$25,000 Issued	96
Contracts over \$25,000 Issued.....	101

Information and Technology Resources

The Information and Technology Resources office is composed of one full-time staff member. The office performs IT support services, technology planning, project management, and database and document services. This technical component of the Administration Section is charged with supporting business operations by utilizing and improving available technology.

SERVICE HITS PER WEBSITES:

WVdnr.gov	3,283,511
State Parks	16,519,564
Wonderful West Virginia Magazine.....	27,966

Customer Relations

Customer Relations consists of the Hunting and Fishing License unit, the *Wonderful West Virginia* magazine staff, and front desk operations at the South Charleston Office with a total of nine staff members.

Wonderful West Virginia magazine is an official publication of the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources. In FY2021, the average number of copies mailed each month to individual subscribers was 16,552. In addition, an average of 1,400 copies were distributed each month to paid bulk subscribers such as governmental agencies, chambers of commerce, hotels, real estate firms, State Park gift shops, and other newsstand distributors.

The Hunting and Fishing License Unit is responsible for administering all aspects of the hunting and fishing license operations. In calendar year 2020, there were 809,509 license privileges sold, resulting in license revenue of \$14,300,740. The new electronic licensing system (ELS) went live January 1, 2015, marking 2020 as the sixth year for the sale of 100 percent of hunting and fishing licenses by electronic means.



TOTAL LICENSE SALES

Hunting and Fishing License Sales by Residency and Class – Calendar Year 2020

Resident				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
A	Hunting and Trapping	\$ 19.00	12,413	\$ 235,847
AH	Apprentice Hunting & Trapping	\$ 19.00	993	\$ 18,867
AHJ**	Apprentice Junior Hunting & Trapping	\$ 11.00	1,828	\$ 20,108
B	Fishing	\$ 19.00	65,926	\$ 1,252,594
L	5-Day Fishing	\$ 8.00	2,037	\$ 16,296
N	Antlerless Deer Hunting	\$ 10.00	61,048	\$ 610,480
BG	Big Game	\$ 10.00	3,723	\$ 37,230
RG	Additional Deer - Firearms	\$ 21.00	21,603	\$ 453,663
RB	Additional Deer - Archery	\$ 21.00	18,716	\$ 393,036
RM	Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	\$ 16.00	1,616	\$ 25,856
X*	Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 30.00	88,583	\$ 2,657,490
XJ**	Junior Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 11.00	5,306	\$ 58,366
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	\$ 8.00	4,970	\$ 39,760
DS	Bear Damage Stamp	\$ 10.00	28,273	\$ 282,730
O	Trout Fishing	\$ 10.00	86,356	\$ 863,560
CS***	Conservation Stamp	\$ 5.00	173,236	\$ 866,180
Resident Subtotal			576,627	\$ 7,832,063

*The listed price of X (\$30) does not include the price of the CS (\$5). Total price of X is \$35.

**The listed price of XJ & AHJ (\$11) does not include the price of the CS (\$5). Total price of XJ & AHJ is \$16.

***CS includes the CS stamps sold on X , XJ and AHJ licenses.

Non-resident				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
I	National Forest Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 2.00	19,124	\$ 38,248
E	Non-resident Hunting/Trapping	\$ 119.00	24,809	\$ 2,952,271
EE	Non-resident Bear Hunting	\$ 162.00	2,340	\$ 379,080
AAH	Non-resident Apprentice Hunting & Trapping	\$ 119.00	393	\$ 46,767
AAHJ	Non-resident Apprentice Junior Hunting & Trapping	\$ 16.00	785	\$ 12,560
F	Non-resident Fishing	\$ 37.00	16,083	\$ 595,071
H	Non-resident Small Game Hunting - 6 day	\$ 27.00	825	\$ 22,275
LL	Non-resident Fishing - 1 day	\$ 3.00	48,190	\$ 144,570
NN	Non-resident Antlerless Deer	\$ 27.00	14,307	\$ 386,289
RRG	Non-resident Additional Deer - Firearms	\$ 43.00	4,532	\$ 194,876
RRB	Non-resident Additional Deer - Archery	\$ 37.00	2,702	\$ 99,974
RRM	Non-resident Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	\$ 37.00	223	\$ 8,251
UU	Non-resident Archery Deer	\$ 32.00	8,684	\$ 277,888
VV	Non-resident Muzzleloader Deer	\$ 32.00	1,711	\$ 54,752
WW	Non-resident Turkey	\$ 32.00	3,822	\$ 122,304
XXJ	Non-resident Junior Sportsman	\$ 16.00	1,545	\$ 24,720
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	\$ 8.00	1,324	\$ 10,592
DS-EE	Bear Damage Stamp	\$ 10.00	2,342	\$ 23,420
OO	Trout Fishing	\$ 16.00	16,679	\$ 266,864
J	Small Game Shooting Preserve Hunting - 6 day	\$ 10.00	1,367	\$ 13,670
CS/LE	Non-resident Conservation / Law Enforcement	\$ 13.00	61,095	\$ 794,235
Non-resident Subtotal			232,882	\$ 6,468,677

Grand Total Resident + Non-resident Sales			809,509	\$ 14,300,740
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ONLINE LICENSE SALES

Hunting and Fishing License Sales by Residency and Class – Calendar Year 2020

Resident				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
A	Hunting and Trapping	\$ 19.00	4,455	\$ 84,645
AH	Apprentice Hunting & Trapping	\$ 19.00	635	\$ 12,065
AHJ**	Apprentice Junior Hunting & Trapping	\$ 11.00	796	\$ 8,756
B	Fishing	\$ 19.00	25,248	\$ 479,712
L	5-Day Fishing	\$ 8.00	1,356	\$ 10,848
N	Antlerless Deer Hunting	\$ 10.00	32,101	\$ 321,010
BG	Big Game	\$ 10.00	1,667	\$ 16,670
RG	Additional Deer - Firearms	\$ 21.00	10,658	\$ 223,818
RB	Additional Deer - Archery	\$ 21.00	9,985	\$ 209,685
RM	Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	\$ 16.00	1,065	\$ 17,040
X*	Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 30.00	44,037	\$ 1,321,110
XJ**	Junior Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 11.00	2,656	\$ 29,216
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	\$ 8.00	2,402	\$ 19,216
DS	Bear Damage Stamp	\$ 10.00	15,659	\$ 156,590
O	Trout Fishing	\$ 10.00	36,494	\$ 364,940
CS***	Conservation Stamp	\$ 5.00	77,575	\$ 387,875
Resident Subtotal			266,789	\$ 3,663,196

*The listed price of X (\$30) does not include the price of the CS (\$5). Total price of X is \$35.

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***CS includes the CS stamps sold on X , XJ and AHJ licenses.

Non-resident				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
I	National Forest Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 2.00	12,316	\$ 24,632
E	Non-resident Hunting/Trapping	\$ 119.00	17,385	\$ 2,068,815
EE	Non-resident Bear Hunting	\$ 162.00	1,748	\$ 283,176
AAH	Non-resident Apprentice Hunting & Trapping	\$ 119.00	301	\$ 35,819
AAHJ	Non-resident Apprentice Junior Hunting & Trapping	\$ 16.00	562	\$ 8,992
F	Non-resident Fishing	\$ 37.00	9,491	\$ 351,167
H	Non-resident Small Game Hunting - 6 day	\$ 27.00	671	\$ 18,117
LL	Non-resident Fishing - 1 day	\$ 3.00	27,660	\$ 82,980
NN	Non-resident Antlerless Deer	\$ 27.00	10,059	\$ 271,593
RRG	Non-resident Additional Deer - Firearms	\$ 43.00	3,163	\$ 136,009
RRB	Non-resident Additional Deer - Archery	\$ 37.00	2,283	\$ 84,471
RRM	Non-resident Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	\$ 37.00	188	\$ 6,956
UU	Non-resident Archery Deer	\$ 32.00	6,454	\$ 206,528
VV	Non-resident Muzzleloader Deer	\$ 32.00	1,231	\$ 39,392
WW	Non-resident Turkey	\$ 32.00	3,135	\$ 100,320
XXJ	Non-resident Junior Sportsman	\$ 16.00	1,214	\$ 19,424
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	\$ 8.00	831	\$ 6,648
DS-EE	Bear Damage Stamp	\$ 10.00	1,751	\$ 17,510
OO	Trout Fishing	\$ 16.00	9,735	\$ 155,760
J	Small Game Shooting Preserve Hunting - 6 day	\$ 10.00	1,334	\$ 13,340
CS/LE	Non-resident Conservation / Law Enforcement	\$ 13.00	39,290	\$ 510,770
Non-resident Subtotal			150,802	\$ 4,442,419

Grand Total Resident + Non-resident Sales	417,591	\$ 8,105,615
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AGENT LICENSE SALES

Hunting and Fishing License Sales by Residency and Class – Calendar Year 2020

Resident				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
A	Hunting and Trapping	\$ 19.00	7,958	\$ 151,202
AH	Apprentice Hunting & Trapping	\$ 19.00	358	\$ 6,802
AHJ**	Apprentice Junior Hunting & Trapping	\$ 11.00	1,032	\$ 11,352
B	Fishing	\$ 19.00	40,678	\$ 772,882
L	5-Day Fishing	\$ 8.00	681	\$ 5,448
N	Antlerless Deer Hunting	\$ 10.00	28,947	\$ 289,470
BG	Big Game	\$ 10.00	2,056	\$ 20,560
RG	Additional Deer - Firearms	\$ 21.00	10,945	\$ 229,845
RB	Additional Deer - Archery	\$ 21.00	8,731	\$ 183,351
RM	Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	\$ 16.00	551	\$ 8,816
X*	Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 30.00	44,546	\$ 1,336,380
XJ**	Junior Sportsman Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 11.00	2,650	\$ 29,150
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	\$ 8.00	2,568	\$ 20,544
DS	Bear Damage Stamp	\$ 10.00	12,614	\$ 126,140
O	Trout Fishing	\$ 10.00	49,862	\$ 498,620
CS***	Conservation Stamp	\$ 5.00	95,661	\$ 478,305
Resident Subtotal			309,838	\$ 4,168,867

*The listed price of X (\$30) does not include the price of the CS (\$5). Total price of X is \$35.

**The listed price of XJ & AHJ (\$11) does not include the price of the CS (\$5). Total price of XJ & AHJ is \$16.

***CS includes the CS stamps sold on X , XJ and AHJ licenses.

Non-resident				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
I	National Forest Hunting/Trapping/Fishing	\$ 2.00	6,808	\$ 13,616
E	Non-resident Hunting/Trapping	\$ 119.00	7,424	\$ 883,456
EE	Non-resident Bear Hunting	\$ 162.00	592	\$ 95,904
AAH	Non-resident Apprentice Hunting & Trapping	\$ 119.00	92	\$ 10,948
AAHJ	Non-resident Apprentice Junior Hunting & Trapping	\$ 16.00	223	\$ 3,568
F	Non-resident Fishing	\$ 37.00	6,592	\$ 243,904
H	Non-resident Small Game Hunting - 6 day	\$ 27.00	154	\$ 4,158
LL	Non-resident Fishing - 1 day	\$ 3.00	20,530	\$ 61,590
NN	Non-resident Antlerless Deer	\$ 27.00	4,248	\$ 114,696
RRG	Non-resident Additional Deer - Firearms	\$ 43.00	1,369	\$ 58,867
RRB	Non-resident Additional Deer - Archery	\$ 37.00	419	\$ 15,503
RRM	Non-resident Additional Deer - Muzzleloader	\$ 37.00	35	\$ 1,295
UU	Non-resident Archery Deer	\$ 32.00	2,230	\$ 71,360
VV	Non-resident Muzzleloader Deer	\$ 32.00	480	\$ 15,360
WW	Non-resident Turkey	\$ 32.00	687	\$ 21,984
XXJ	Non-resident Junior Sportsman	\$ 16.00	331	\$ 5,296
A-1	Small Arms Hunting	\$ 8.00	493	\$ 3,944
DS-EE	Bear Damage Stamp	\$ 10.00	591	\$ 5,910
OO	Trout Fishing	\$ 16.00	6,944	\$ 111,104
J	Small Game Shooting Preserve Hunting - 6 day	\$ 10.00	33	\$ 330
CS/LE	Non-resident Conservation / Law Enforcement	\$ 13.00	21,805	\$ 283,465
Non-resident Subtotal			82,080	\$ 2,026,258

Grand Total Resident + Non-resident Sales			391,918	\$ 6,195,125
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ADMINISTRATION

LIFETIME LICENSE SALES

Hunting and Fishing License Sales by Class – Calendar Year 2020

Adult				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
A-L	Hunting and Trapping	\$ 782.00	3	\$ 2,346
AB-L	Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing	\$ 805.00	293	\$ 235,865
A-1-L	Small Arms Hunting	\$ 75.00	58	\$ 4,350
B-L	Fishing	\$ 552.00	21	\$ 11,592
O-L	Trout	\$ 230.00	126	\$ 28,980
Resident Subtotal			501	\$ 283,133

Infant				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
A-L-I	Hunting and Trapping	\$ 391.00	2	\$ 782
AB-L-I	Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing	\$ 402.50	1,224	\$ 492,660
B-L-I	Fishing	\$ 276.00	29	\$ 8,004
O-L-I	Trout	\$ 115.00	528	\$ 60,720
Resident Subtotal			1,783	\$ 562,166

Senior				
CLASS	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	NUMBER	AMOUNT
XS	Hunting and Trapping	\$ 25.00	6,238	\$ 155,950
Resident Subtotal			6,238	\$ 155,950

Grand Total Lifetime Sales			8,522	\$ 1,001,249
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Budget and Fiscal Services

The Budget team is composed of two full-time employees and a shared position with the Accounts Receivable sub-unit within Fiscal Services. The team prepares all appropriation requests for the agency, develops expenditure schedules and amendments to the fiscal year budget, and monitors all budgeting processes. The team also manages the automated clearing house payment system for federal programs and prepares the Division's indirect cost allocation plan. During legislative sessions, the Budget team coordinates and processes all legislative fiscal notes. During FY2021, the Budget team processed 220 budget amendments, 92 federal drawdowns for the Wildlife Resources Section, 17 federal drawdowns for the Law Enforcement Section and four spending authority adjustments.

The Fiscal Services team is composed of 11 employees who handle all the payment and revenue processes for the agency, including compliance. Fiscal Services has five sub-units: Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable, P-Card Management, Financial Reporting, and Internal Auditing. During FY2021, Fiscal Services processed 51,553 purchasing card transactions, 9,504 invoices, 859 travel documents and conducted numerous field audits.

Statement of Disbursements – Fiscal Year 2020-2021

ADMINISTRATION SECTION

BUDGET & FISCAL SERVICES

Current Expense	\$	459,132.57
Employee Benefits		215,271.70
Equipment		12,405.10
PEIA Reserve Transfer		20,434.57
Personal Services		720,458.72
WV OPEB Contribution		27,295.27
BUDGET & FISCAL SERVICES Total	\$	1,454,997.93

EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATIVE

Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	\$	8,253.00
Current Expense		370,300.85
Employee Benefits		115,766.09
Equipment		4,371.29
Personal Services		469,063.11
Wildlife Endowment Fund Transfers		4,346,880.00
WV OPEB Contribution		15,120.00
EXECUTIVE/ADMINISTRATIVE Total	\$	5,329,754.34

GENERAL SERVICES

Building Improvements	\$	1,517.72
Current Expense		351,138.35
Employee Benefits		112,996.42
Equipment		4,011.37
Personal Services		357,904.31
Repairs and Alterations		15,710.40
WV OPEB Contribution		14,800.00
GENERAL SERVICES Total	\$	858,078.57

STAFFING/PAYROLL

Current Expense	\$	22,609.85
Employee Benefits		124,185.41
Equipment		8,965.00
Personal Services		404,295.57
WV OPEB Contribution		14,160.00
STAFFING/PAYROLL Total	\$	574,215.83

WONDERFUL WEST VIRGINIA MAGAZINE

Current Expense	\$	328,521.29
Employee Benefits		24,078.99
Personal Services		64,101.09
WV OPEB Contribution		3,840.00
WONDERFUL WEST VIRGINIA MAGAZINE Total	\$	420,541.37

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	2,812,680.18
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		4,673,987.68
Special Revenue Appropriated		1,051,587.84
Federal Revenue Appropriated		99,332.34
TOTAL ADMINISTRATION	\$	8,637,588.04

Statement of Disbursements – Fiscal Year 2020-2021

LAW ENFORCEMENT SECTION

Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	\$	33,012.00
Current Expense		1,924,937.06
Employee Benefits		2,290,863.79
Equipment		392,757.36
PEIA Reserve Transfer		15,770.67
Personal Services		7,104,697.27
Repairs and Alterations		125,015.44
WV OPEB Contribution		207,055.14
LAW ENFORCEMENT Total	\$	<u>12,094,108.73</u>

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	3,231,546.48
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		1,881,497.09
Special Revenue Appropriated		4,778,731.90
Federal Revenue Appropriated		<u>2,202,333.26</u>
TOTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT	\$	<u><u>12,094,108.73</u></u>

WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS		
Building Improvements	\$	24,115.96
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		265,051.55
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		44,152.21
Current Expense		164,851.26
Employee Benefits		26,161.56
Equipment		20,156.61
Personal Services		173,977.41
Repairs and Alterations		260,104.49
WV OPEB Contribution		1,920.00
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS Total	\$	<u>980,491.05</u>

COLD WATER FISH MANAGEMENT		
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	\$	45,500.00
Current Expense		1,165,216.20
Employee Benefits		449,172.40
Equipment		554,356.66
Personal Services		1,355,438.92
Repairs and Alterations		86,432.24
WV OPEB Contribution		48,960.00
COLD WATER FISH MANAGEMENT Total	\$	<u>3,705,076.42</u>

ELKINS OPERATIONS CENTER		
Current Expense	\$	213,514.88
Employee Benefits		32,724.78
Equipment		4,514.67
Personal Services		110,625.91
Repairs and Alterations		24,961.34
WV OPEB Contribution		3,200.00
ELKINS OPERATIONS CENTER Total	\$	<u>389,541.58</u>

Statement of Disbursements – Fiscal Year 2020-2021

WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION

GAME MANAGEMENT

Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	\$	37,500.00
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		350,478.89
Current Expense		2,025,240.14
Employee Benefits		949,922.39
Equipment		800,813.73
Land Improvements		9,872.20
Land Purchases		1,781,504.29
PEIA Reserve Transfer		152.53
Personal Services		3,252,861.05
Repairs and Alterations		448,228.82
WV OPEB Contribution		103,984.00
GAME MANAGEMENT Total	\$	9,760,558.04

HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE UNIT

Current Expense	\$	391,402.82
Employee Benefits		58,750.74
Personal Services		191,301.99
WV OPEB Contribution		9,280.00
HUNTING & FISHING LICENSE UNIT Total	\$	650,735.55

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Current Expense	\$	352.23
Employee Benefits		47,977.94
Personal Services		142,498.97
Repairs and Alterations		201,204.30
WV OPEB Contribution		6,000.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS Total	\$	398,033.44

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Current Expense	\$	35,109.33
Employee Benefits		190,892.03
Equipment		17,183.49
Personal Services		494,088.21
Repairs and Alterations		117.30
WV OPEB Contribution		19,040.00
TECHNICAL SUPPORT Total	\$	756,430.36

WARM WATER FISH MANAGEMENT

Building Improvements	\$	1,372.72
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		3,800.00
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		410,988.70
Current Expense		1,163,327.62
Employee Benefits		400,996.80
Equipment		183,519.47
Personal Services		1,316,171.80
Repairs and Alterations		343,229.02
WV OPEB Contribution		46,492.00
WARM WATER FISH MANAGEMENT Total	\$	3,869,898.13

Statement of Disbursements – Fiscal Year 2020-2021

WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION

WEST VIRGINIA WILDLIFE CENTER

Current Expense	\$	74,600.05
Employee Benefits		51,069.83
Equipment		1,503.50
Personal Services		236,291.89
Repairs and Alterations		25,814.29
WV OPEB Contribution		4,160.00
WEST VIRGINIA WILDLIFE CENTER Total	\$	393,439.56

WILDLIFE ADMINISTRATION

Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	\$	160,015.45
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		9,909,853.69
Current Expense		1,729,843.46
Employee Benefits		222,215.89
Equipment		78,803.42
Land Improvements		2,830.00
Personal Services		746,945.91
Repairs and Alterations		52,416.44
WV OPEB Contribution		24,720.00
WILDLIFE ADMINISTRATION Total	\$	12,927,644.26

WILDLIFE DIVERSITY

Current Expense	\$	326,964.19
Employee Benefits		299,061.61
Equipment		64,971.72
PEIA Reserve Transfer		994.58
Personal Services		1,158,138.52
Repairs and Alterations		6,046.26
WV OPEB Contribution		39,109.30
WILDLIFE DIVERSITY Total	\$	1,895,286.18

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	131,243.19
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		18,547,029.38
Special Revenue Appropriated		5,734,423.23
Federal Revenue Appropriated		11,314,438.77
TOTAL WILDLIFE RESOURCES	\$	35,727,134.57

Statement of Disbursements – Fiscal Year 2020-2021

PARKS & RECREATION SECTION

PARKS & RECREATION

Bank Costs	\$	444,783.51
Building Improvements		13,879.02
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		246,937.35
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		492,185.07
Current Expense		16,241,135.05
Employee Benefits		6,097,934.43
Equipment		771,597.62
Land Improvements		14,924.04
PEIA Reserve Transfer		110,383.50
Personal Services		20,054,849.15
Remittance of Taxes		866,417.51
Repairs and Alterations		2,339,519.54
WV OPEB Contribution		588,550.88
PARKS & RECREATION Total	\$	48,283,096.67

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	16,493,332.47
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		28,013,521.18
Special Revenue Appropriated		3,776,243.02
Federal Revenue Appropriated		-
TOTAL PARKS & RECREATION	\$	48,283,096.67

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES SECTION

OFFICE OF LAND & STREAMS

Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	\$	26,623.50
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		482,126.82
Current Expense		1,163,257.06
Employee Benefits		69,021.21
Equipment		8,585.97
Land Purchases		278,762.51
PEIA Reserve Transfer		1,563.15
Personal Services		228,374.95
WV OPEB Contribution		9,120.00
OFFICE OF LAND & STREAMS Total	\$	2,267,435.17

General Revenue Appropriated	\$	-
Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		265,783.95
Special Revenue Appropriated		2,001,651.22
Federal Revenue Appropriated		-
TOTAL SPECIAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES	\$	2,267,435.17

Grand Total General Revenue Appropriated	\$	22,668,802.32
Grand Total Special Revenue Non-Appropriated		53,381,819.28
Grand Total Special Revenue Appropriated		17,342,637.21
Grand Total Federal Revenue Appropriated		13,616,104.37
GRAND TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$	107,009,363.18

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Appropriated Funds

GENERAL FUND (0265)

Appropriated Fund - No Cash Balance

Disbursements

Personal Services	\$	(14,502,129.56)	
Employee Benefits		(4,668,739.45)	
Current Expense		(465,156.84)	
Repairs and Alterations		(2,019,894.36)	
Equipment		(287,734.77)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(35,905.50)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(3,035.85)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer		(117,812.27)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(539,641.67)	
Land Improvements		(14,924.04)	
Building Improvements		(13,828.01)	
Total Disbursements			\$ (22,668,802.32)

SPECIAL REVENUE LICENSE FUND (3200)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020			\$ 1,008,935.44
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			8,808,468.68
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE			\$ 9,817,404.12
Receipts			
Animal Replacement Costs	\$	76,567.75	
Hunting & Fishing Licenses and Stamps		13,228,165.83	
Investment Earnings		17,219.06	
Miscellaneous Permits and License		3,102.50	
Miscellaneous Collections		3,541.80	
Surplus Property Sale		31,550.36	
Fund Transfers		1,455,460.00	
Contract Reimbursement		23,820.00	
			\$ 14,839,427.30
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(4,703,774.08)	
Employee Benefits		(1,557,515.98)	
Current Expense		(3,405,331.84)	
Repairs and Alterations		(487,765.50)	
Equipment		(127,691.31)	
Building Improvements		(25,633.68)	
Land Improvements		(4,459.57)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(44,152.21)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(308,578.55)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(152,279.90)	
			(10,817,182.62)
ENDING FUND BALANCE			\$ 13,839,648.80
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(9,519,005.24)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021			\$ 4,320,643.56

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Appropriated Funds

GAME, FISH AND AQUATIC LIFE FUND (3202)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	20,071.21
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			594,124.39
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	614,195.60
Receipts			
Investment Earnings	\$	1,149.20	
Fish Kill Reimbursement		9,936.92	
			\$ 11,086.12
Disbursements			
Current Expense	\$	(66,156.50)	
			(66,156.50)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	559,125.22
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(538,273.59)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	20,851.63

WILDLIFE DIVERSITY FUND (3203)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	29,996.01
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			1,449,598.05
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	1,479,594.06
Receipts			
Investment Earnings	\$	2,777.62	
Miscellaneous Collections		541.90	
Sale of Booklets		596.60	
Sale of Wildlife Calendars		135,766.85	
Sale of Wildlife License Plates		347,949.00	
Special Events		1,586.80	
Insurance Payments		9,125.00	
Animal Replacment Costs		50.00	
			\$ 498,393.77
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(203,502.31)	
Employee Benefits		(45,018.43)	
Equipment		(24,486.00)	
Current Expense		(106,769.82)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(6,480.00)	
			(386,256.56)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	1,591,731.27
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(1,422,375.67)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	169,355.60

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Appropriated Funds

USE & DEVELOPMENT FUND - PUBLIC LAND CORPORATION (3205)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	8,202,919.06
Receipts			
Channel Changes	\$	500.00	
Docking Facilities		9,000.00	
Low Water Fords		31,000.00	
Low Water Level Bridges		63,700.00	
Miscellaneous Collections		1,825.00	
Permits		(4,625.00)	
Pipeline Permits		362,116.75	
Right of Way		108,555.00	
Sand/Gravel ATE Management		3,800.00	
Oil and Gas Royalties		728.47	
Oil & Gas Leases		4,516.96	
Sand and Gravel Lease		14,480.00	
Sand and Gravel Royalties		114,457.00	
Stream Restoration		3,800.00	
Structures		522,575.00	
Subterranean Cable Permit Renewal		29,200.00	
Water Intake Supply System		7,600.00	
			\$ 1,273,229.18
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(158,714.13)	
Employee Benefits		(42,078.25)	
Current Expense		(188,956.26)	
Contractual Services		(975,065.62)	
Land Purchases		(20,148.21)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer		(1,563.15)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(5,760.00)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(508,750.32)	
			(1,901,035.94)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	7,575,112.30

PARKS AND RECREATION ENDOWMENT FUND (3211)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	142,670.44
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			3,637,023.27
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	3,779,693.71
Receipts			
Investment Earnings	\$	7,810.50	
Royalty Payment Marcellus Gas Drilling		2,894,823.59	
Gas Royalties		3,065.99	
			\$ 2,905,700.08
Disbursements			
Current Expense	\$	(884.32)	
			(884.32)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	6,684,509.47
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(6,465,750.60)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	218,758.87

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Appropriated Funds

WHITEWATER STUDY AND IMPROVEMENT FUND (3253)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	4,599.83
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			118,751.73
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	123,351.56
Receipts			
Investment Earnings	\$	227.88	
Miscellaneous Collections		13,575.10	
Study and Improvement Fees		37,122.80	
Whitewater Stocking Study Fee-Gauley River		521.85	
			\$ 51,447.63
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(28,619.16)	
Employee Benefits		(14,782.57)	
Current Expense		(2,778.25)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer		(283.80)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(1,920.00)	
			(48,383.78)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	126,415.41
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(116,479.61)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	9,935.80

DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES LOTTERY FUND (3267)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	1,903,839.38
Receipts			
Lottery Transfers	\$	3,443,151.00	
Miscellaneous Collections		1,420.07	
			\$ 3,444,571.07
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(1,992,578.36)	
Employee Benefits		(503,676.60)	
Current Expense		(386,279.50)	
PEIA Reserve Transfer		(15,366.16)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(66,560.00)	
			(2,964,460.62)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	2,383,949.83

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Appropriated Funds

STATE PARK IMPROVEMENT FUND (3277)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	9,580,990.95
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE			
Receipts			
Lottery Transfers	\$	1,505,000.00	
Reimbursement		150,974.61	
Grants		9,539.65	
Surplus Property Sale		13,264.06	
Cooperative Agreements		28,300.00	
			\$ 1,707,078.32
Disbursements			
Current Expense	\$	(461,236.23)	
Repairs and Alterations		(101,333.43)	
Equipment		(40,444.87)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(376,338.62)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(227,307.50)	
			(1,206,660.65)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	10,081,408.62



Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Appropriated Funds

CONSOLIDATED FEDERAL FUND (8707)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	2,521,597.06	
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			6,240,292.04	
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	8,761,889.10	
Receipts				
Law Enforcement				
Boating Safety	\$	608,538.00		
Duplicate Boat Safety Cards		130.00		
Hunter Safety Replacement Cards		10,265.00		
Hunter Safety		273,947.30		
Surplus Property Sale		4,875.00	\$	897,755.30
Wildlife Resources				
Aquatic Outreach Program		7,394.23		
Avian & Mammal Surveys		235,630.34		
Boating Access Administration		316,632.57		
Boating & Maintenance		20,650.49		
District Wildlife Management		1,253,018.44		
Endangered Animals		87,362.84		
Enhancing Fishery Opportunity Program		629,226.69		
Elk West Virginia		1,473,692.05		
Evaluated Working Lands for Wildlife		9,994.36		
Fish Habitat Enhancement		10,944.78		
Fish Hatchery Operations		4,063,441.95		
Fish and Wildlife Coordination		160,376.18		
Fish Research		154,658.83		
Hunter Safety		292,530.36		
Investment Earnings		11,614.36		
Limestone Treatment Access		31,499.90		
Miscellaneous Collections		3,801.57		
Mount Storm Lake		23,062.50		
NRCS Watershed at Cherry River		101,424.62		
Participation in Regional Conservation Needs		6,086.88		
State Wildlife Grant		564,568.00		
Surplus Property Sale		6,946.94		
USDA Monongahela Nat. Forest Schools Road		94,719.32		
USDP AG NRCS Wildlife Hbdt Inc		40,541.30		
White Tailed Deer Ecology		172,227.70		
Wildlife Research		748,394.75	\$	10,520,441.95
			\$	11,418,197.25
Disbursements				
Personal Services	\$	(5,614,583.99)		
Employee Benefits		(1,668,284.70)		
Current Expense		(4,694,450.21)		
Repairs and Alterations		(513,954.22)		
Equipment		(864,841.97)		
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(76,250.00)		
Land Improvements		(1,242.20)		
WV OPEB Contribution		(182,497.08)		
				(13,616,104.37)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	6,563,981.98	
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(4,476,342.94)	
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	2,087,639.04	

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM FUND (3204)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	358,486.91
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			5,064,466.74
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	5,422,953.65
Receipts			
Boating Under Influence Grant	\$	9,777.66	
Commercial Shoot Preserve		1,075.00	
Hatfield McCoy Trail Patrol Reimbursement		348,832.42	
Fund Transfers		189,098.00	
Investment Earnings		9,868.55	
License Reinstatement Fee		7,177.00	
Miscellaneous Collections		1,065.00	
Miscellaneous Permits		4,380.00	
Motorboat Licenses		431,479.75	
Tipping Fees		498,892.23	
Vehicle Reimbursement		91,878.32	
Whitewater Rafting Licenses		30,500.00	
			\$ 1,624,023.93
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(812,570.26)	
Employee Benefits		(261,238.74)	
Current Expense		(256,827.79)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(24,185.80)	
			(1,354,822.59)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	5,692,154.99
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(4,891,609.79)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	800,545.20

LAW ENFORCEMENT CONTRACTS (3208)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	5,890.00
Receipts			
			-
Disbursements			
			-
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	5,890.00

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

WILDLIFE ENDOWMENT FUND (3224)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	3,795.00
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			60,463,824.93
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	60,467,619.93
Receipts			
Investment Earnings	\$	19,009,458.31	
Lifetime Hunting & Fishing License		829,746.65	
			\$ 19,839,204.96
Disbursements			
Fund Transfers	\$	(4,346,880.00)	
Current Expense		(15.00)	
			(4,346,895.00)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	75,959,929.89
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(75,959,927.89)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	2.00

WILDLIFE RESOURCES-RECREATION FUND (3227)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	916,329.47
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			39,604,775.51
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	40,521,104.98
Receipts			
AML DEP Subgrant Wildlife	\$	169,550.00	
Campsite Rentals		35,610.40	
Dredging Mussel Mitigation		687,835.39	
Elk Tour Tickets		5,132.99	
Entrance Fees		110,557.73	
Fish Promotion and Research		257,574.08	
Fund Transfers		2,574,514.00	
Gas Royalties		79,226.24	
Gift Shop Sales		17,992.95	
Gifts & Bequests		11,111.16	
Gifts, Grants & Donations		129.38	
Habitat Land Inquiries		10,725.00	
Hunters Helping the Hungry		18,447.64	
Hunting & Fishing License Issuance Fee		368,432.00	
Information Retrieval		15,600.00	
Insurance Payments		6,850.00	
Investment Earnings		75,672.24	
Leases		22,452.00	
Miscellaneous Collections		15,383.54	
Picnic Shelter Fees		625.10	
Refunds		12,634.11	
Right Of Way		4,808.95	
Royalty Payment Marcellus Gas Drilling		5,142,455.54	
Scientific Collection Permit		33,850.00	

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

WILDLIFE RESOURCES-RECREATION FUND (3227)

Stonecoal Reservoir	12,000.00	
Surface Damages	79,342.09	
Surplus Property Sales	21,775.00	
Timber Sales	<u>814,209.93</u>	
		\$ 10,604,497.46
Disbursements		
Personal Services	\$ (1,140,445.88)	
Employee Benefits	(320,309.21)	
Current Expense	(1,367,675.08)	
Repairs and Alterations	(427,803.20)	
Equipment	(673,127.96)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(10,671,321.28)	
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj	(168,303.45)	
Land Improvements	(11,460.00)	
Land Purchases	(219,840.00)	
Building Improvements	(5,927.07)	
WV OPEB Contribution	<u>(32,307.26)</u>	
		(15,038,520.39)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$ 36,087,082.05
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021		(35,702,433.75)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		<u><u>\$ 384,648.30</u></u>

BEAR DAMAGE FUND (3228)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$ 30,200.75
Investment Balance July 1, 2020		<u>726,526.11</u>
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$ 756,726.86
Receipts		
Bear Damage Stamps	\$ 298,700.00	
Investment Earnings	<u>1,408.28</u>	
		300,108.28
Disbursements		
Current Expense	\$ <u>(262,605.80)</u>	
		(262,605.80)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$ 794,229.34
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021		(727,934.39)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		<u><u>\$ 66,294.95</u></u>

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

CONSERVATION STAMP FUND (3232)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	305,887.24
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			3,855,503.28
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	4,161,390.52
Receipts			
Conservation Stamp Sales	\$	1,510,369.00	
Investment Earnings		7,303.33	
			\$ 1,517,672.33
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(95,825.80)	
Employee Benefits		(9,611.52)	
Current Expense		(104,442.99)	
Land Purchases		(1,561,664.29)	
Repairs and Alterations		(97,843.65)	
			(1,869,388.25)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	3,809,674.60
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(3,362,806.61)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	446,867.99

TROUT STAMP FUND (3233)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	229,143.43
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			294,867.55
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	524,010.98
Receipts			
Investment Earnings	\$	514.34	
Trout Stamp Sales		1,538,994.00	
Fund Transfers		127,808.00	
			\$ 1,667,316.34
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(899,715.47)	
Employee Benefits		(360,563.01)	
Current Expense		(42,709.36)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(43,360.00)	
Repairs and Alterations		(30,152.10)	
			(1,376,499.94)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	814,827.38
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(682,493.49)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	132,333.89

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

GIFTS, GRANTS & BEQUESTS (3237)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	33,919.23
Receipts			
Special Events	\$	<u>32,413.71</u>	
		\$	32,413.71
Disbursements			
Current Expense	\$	<u>(1,406.82)</u>	
			<u>(1,406.82)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	<u><u>64,926.12</u></u>

LAND MINERALS AND SPECIAL PROJECTS (3239)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	897,158.46
Receipts			
Fund Transfers	\$	262,114.30	
Miscellaneous Collections		625.00	
Land Leases		27,968.19	
Rental Leases		800.00	
Right-of-Way		<u>53,099.00</u>	
		\$	344,606.49
Disbursements			
Current Expense		(7,169.65)	
Land Purchases		<u>(258,614.30)</u>	
			<u>(265,783.95)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	<u><u>975,981.00</u></u>

PAYROLL CLEARING ACCOUNT (3245)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	12,067.80
Receipts			
Miscellaneous Collections		<u>-</u>	
		\$	-
Disbursements			
Employee Benefits		<u>-</u>	
			<u>-</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	<u><u>12,067.80</u></u>

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SPORTS EDUCATION STAMPS (3247)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	40,936.69
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			329,615.39
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	370,552.08
Receipts			
Law Enforcement / Sports Ed. Stamps	\$	459,329.00	
Investment Earnings		564.05	
			\$ 459,893.05
Disbursements			
Personal Services	\$	(350,035.43)	
Employee Benefits		(116,815.85)	
Current Expense		(1,674.75)	
WV OPEB Contribution		(9,746.40)	
			(478,272.43)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	352,172.70
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(247,179.44)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	104,993.26

MAGAZINE SALES & SUBSCRIPTIONS (3248)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	47,753.90
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			749,577.58
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	797,331.48
Receipts			
Investment Earnings	\$	1,452.97	
Magazine Sponsorship		11,956.67	
Magazine Bookshelf Sales		1,953.22	
Magazine Sales		30,999.95	
Magazine Subscriptions		317,929.87	
Miscellaneous Collections		(131.00)	
			\$ 364,161.68
Disbursements			
Current Expense	\$	(325,521.29)	
			(325,521.29)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	835,971.87
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(751,030.55)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	84,941.32

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

CLEARING ACCOUNT-EQUIPMENT (3251)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	309,203.15
Receipts			
Rental Leases	\$	<u>8,800.00</u>	
		\$	8,800.00
Disbursements			
Current Expense	\$	<u>(179.57)</u>	
			(179.57)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	<u><u>317,823.58</u></u>

CLASS A-1 SMALL ARMS HUNTING LICENSE (3259)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	52,476.96
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			<u>894,170.61</u>
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	946,647.57
Receipts			
Class A-1 Small Arms Hunting License	\$	52,304.00	
Lifetime Small Arms Hunting License		4,275.00	
Investment Earnings		<u>1,733.26</u>	
		\$	58,312.26
Disbursements			
Equipment		<u>-</u>	
			-
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	<u>1,004,959.83</u>
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			<u>(895,903.87)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	<u><u>109,055.96</u></u>

WATTERS SMITH MEMORIAL STATE PARK (3261)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	55,777.99
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			<u>862,446.46</u>
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	918,224.45
Receipts			
Gas Royalties	\$	26,828.38	
Investment Earnings		1,577.70	
Oil & Gas Leases		<u>1,085.60</u>	
		\$	29,491.68
Disbursements			
Repairs and Alterations		(4,741.07)	
Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		<u>(129,950.00)</u>	
			(134,691.07)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	<u>813,025.06</u>
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			<u>(709,024.17)</u>
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	<u><u>104,000.89</u></u>

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

DECOY ANIMALS ASSESSMENT FEE (3264)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	731.23
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			5,468.04
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	6,199.27
Receipts			
Miscellaneous Collections	\$	309.50	
Investment Earnings		10.51	
			\$ 320.01
Disbursements			
Current Expense	\$	(18.29)	
			(18.29)
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	6,500.99
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(5,478.55)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	1,022.44

STATE PARK OPERATING FUND (3265)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	2,460,072.02
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			11,962,586.42
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	14,422,658.44
Receipts			
Bath / Massages	\$	385,785.56	
Bicycle Rental		3,361.77	
Boat Rental		215,735.14	
Bonus Payment Marcellus Gas Drilling		167,711.05	
Cabin Advance Reservation		5,643,229.32	
Cabin Rentals		869,673.72	
Campsite Advance Reservation		4,722,755.06	
Campsite Rentals		962,744.85	
Coin Laundry Machines		8,189.12	
Consumers Sales Tax		63,091.57	
Cot & Crib Rental		6,833.07	
Crawler Tree Planter Rent		1,409,660.00	
Driving Range		19,830.82	
Entrance Fees		12,682.06	
Equipment Rental		19,555.06	
Facility Use Rental		40,000.61	
Firewood Sales		337,123.22	
Food & Snacks		468,391.24	
Fund Transfers		745,748.31	
Games		3,297.04	
Gas & Oil Leases		1,888.00	
Gas Royalties		1,121.78	
Gift Cards		223,861.86	
Gift Shop Sales		2,956,172.57	
Greens Fees		558,861.16	
Group Camps		11,336.08	
Hiking Club		9,300.00	
Hotel Occupancy Tax		898,537.55	
Insurance Payments		59,879.67	

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

STATE PARK OPERATING FUND (3265)

Investment Earnings		21,797.25		
Lift Ticket Fees Parks		67,377.87		
Lodge Advance Reservation		4,974,547.29		
Lodge Rooms		994,322.75		
Lottery Collections - Net		5,317.00		
Magazine Sales		187.69		
Miniature Golf		28,154.83		
Miscellaneous Collections		104,926.67		
Miscellaneous Non-Taxable		71,419.74		
Miscellaneous Operations		172,353.20		
Nature Center		27,149.77		
Picnic Shelter Fees		219,019.38		
Pro Shop		152,956.62		
Residence Rentals		18,829.65		
Restaurants		1,920,047.96		
Roman Bath		289,986.91		
Royalty Payment Marcellus Gas Drilling		267,665.57		
Shooting Ranges		23,891.04		
Sled Rental		391,958.99		
Special Events		10,198.67		
Surplus Property Sale		9,665.84		
Swimming Fees		349,549.70		
Tram		146,910.29		
Vending Machines		11,988.81		
Wine Tax		27.84	\$	31,106,608.59
Receipts - Concessions				
Boat Dock Concession	\$	61,726.59		
Coin Machine Concession		9,443.22		
Food and Snacks Concession		1,275.12		
Golf Carts		200,232.89		
Marina		10,051.55		
Miscellaneous Concession		314,398.27		
Restaurant Concession		11,451.21		
Riding Stable		7,636.74		
Zip Line Ticket Sales		77,140.19	\$	693,355.78
				\$ 31,799,964.37
Disbursements				
Personal Services	\$	(8,079,590.32)		
Employee Benefits		(2,210,429.70)		
Current Expense		(15,514,236.87)		
Repairs and Alterations		(211,101.59)		
Equipment		(375,497.21)		
Remittance Of Taxes		(866,196.12)		
Bank Costs		(444,783.51)		
PEIA Reserve Transfer		(14,273.62)		
Consultant Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		(16,594.00)		
WV OPEB Contribution		(122,068.48)		
				(27,854,771.42)
ENDING FUND BALANCE			\$	18,367,851.39
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021				(12,983,933.67)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021			\$	5,383,917.72

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

CANAAN MAINTENANCE FUND (3274)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	17,234.14
Receipts			
Maintenance Transfer from Operating Fund			
		\$	-
Disbursements			
Repairs and Alterations	\$	(6,315.30)	
			(6,315.30)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	10,918.84

COYOTE MANAGEMENT FUND (3292)

Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	3,579.18
Investment Balance July 1, 2020			12,207.35
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE		\$	15,786.53
Receipts			
Coyote Management Donations	\$	4,817.22	
Investment Earnings		23.63	
			4,840.85
Disbursements			
Current Expenses		-	
			-
ENDING FUND BALANCE		\$	20,627.38
Less - Investment Balance June 30, 2021			(12,230.98)
Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	8,396.40

SANDY DISASTER FUND (3015)

Fund 3015 (OCT '12 SANDY DISASTER) Cash Balance July 1, 2020		\$	188,537.41
Receipts			
FEMA Holly River & Canaan Valley			
		\$	-
Disbursements			
Current Expenses	\$	(3,546.84)	
Repairs and Alterations		(14,196.55)	
			(17,743.39)
Sandy Disaster Fund Cash Balance June 30, 2021		\$	170,794.02

FLOOD DISASTER FUND (3207)

Fund 3207 (JUN '16 FLOOD DISASTER) Cash Balance July 1, 2019		\$	173,243.35
Receipts			
FEMA Reimbursement	\$	63,916.37	
			63,916.37
Disbursements			
Fund 3207 Contractor Pmts for Capital Asset Proj		-	
			-
Flood Disaster Fund Cash Balance June 30, 2020		\$	237,159.72

Combining Statement of Revenues, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Balances Fiscal Year 2020-2021

Non-appropriated Funds

RECAPITULATION OF FUNDS

	Revenue	Disbursements	Investments
General Fund	\$ -	\$ (22,668,802.32)	\$ -
Consolidated Federal Funds	11,418,197.25	(13,616,104.37)	4,476,342.94
Appropriated Special Revenue Funds	24,730,933.47	(17,391,020.99)	18,061,884.71
Non-Appropriated Special Revenue Funds	68,719,543.77	(53,333,435.50)	136,936,987.15
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	\$ 104,868,674.49	\$ (107,009,363.18)	\$ 159,475,214.80

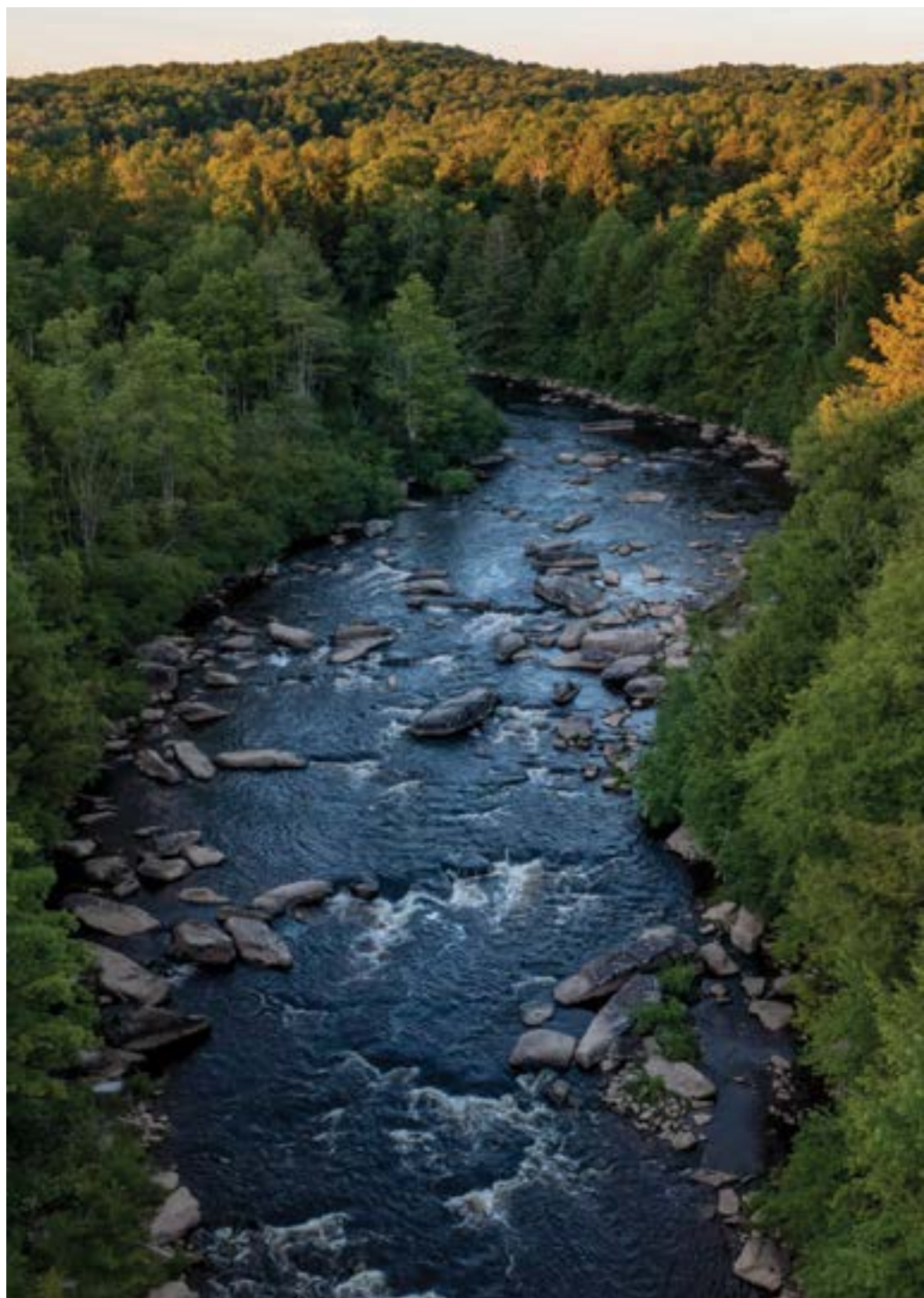


WEST VIRGINIA

DNR

**OFFICE OF LAND
AND STREAMS**

Julia A. Morton, *Supervisor*



Overview

The State of West Virginia, through the Division of Natural Resources, holds title to certain lands and mineral resources, and the rivers and streams of the state. The Division of Natural Resources is charged with administering and managing those certain state lands and mineral resources, and the state's rivers and streams to provide a comprehensive program for their conservation, development, protection, enjoyment, and use.

The Office of Land and Streams, within the Division of Natural Resources, is responsible for the Division of Natural Resources' real estate and is charged with the maintenance, preservation and custody of the records relating thereto. The Office of Land and Streams administers the acquisition and leasing of the Division of Natural Resources' real estate and the permitting of the State of West Virginia's rivers and streams.



Lands of the Division of Natural Resources

The lands of the Division of Natural Resources administered by the Office of Land and Streams include state parks, wildlife management areas, natural areas and preserves, wetlands, state forests, trails, administration structures, and public access sites to rivers and streams. They are of great natural and/or historical significance and are for the use and benefit of the citizens of West Virginia and its visitors.

Wildlife Management Areas/Public Access Sites/Natural Areas	436,234 acres
State Parks	77,328 acres and 28.7 miles leased for the Elk River Trail
State Forests	72,683 acres
Administration	69 acres
Total Lands	586,314 acres
Rivers and Streams	34,000 miles including approximately 5,000 named waterways

Land Acquisition

The Office of Land and Streams, on behalf of the State of West Virginia, Department of Commerce, and the Division of Natural Resources acquires land and interests in land by purchase, lease, donation and exchange, and is responsible for the preparation and execution of all documents related to the real estate transaction.

The real estate acquisition process includes communication with other Sections within the Division of Natural Resources, other governmental agencies, negotiation with property owners, inspection of property, title searches, obtaining appraisals and surveys. This also includes the preparation, execution, and recordation of documents.

Real property is acquired by deed, right-of-way, easement, lease, license and agreement.

State Park Land Acquired in Fiscal Year 2021

No land was acquired for State Parks in the fiscal year 2021.

State Forest Land Acquired in Fiscal Year 2021

No land was acquired for State Forests in the fiscal year 2021..

Administration Land Acquired in Fiscal Year 2021

No land was acquired for Administration in the fiscal year 2021.

Wildlife Management Land Acquired in Fiscal Year 2021		
PROPERTY	ACQUIRED FROM	ACREAGE
Allegheny	Naomi Joyce Carr Trust	199.680
Daniels Ridge	Heartwood Forestland Fund IV Limited Partnership	2,457.000
Daniels Ridge	Thurman C. and Millie D. Spence	847.122
Hilbert	Sarah Wood, et al	70.000
Hughes River	Martin Marietta Materials, Inc.	256.217
Tug Fork	EIP West Virginia, LLC	4,689.000
Tug Fork	West Virginia Housing Development Fund	219.680
TOTAL		8,738.699

Cancellation of Wildlife Management Area and Natural Area Leases in Fiscal Year 2021	
PROPERTY	ACREAGE
Andrew Rowan Farm WMA	-510.000
Berwind Lake WMA	-92.850
Big Ugly WMA	-63.400
Cotton Hill Natural Area	-5.130
Sand Hill WMA	-967.000
TOTAL	-1,638.380

Public Access Sites Created and/or increased in Fiscal Year 2021	
PROPERTY	ACREAGE
Fetterman-Grafton	0.860
Gauley Mountain	2.183
North River Mills	0.600
TOTAL	3.643

Modification of Acreage in Public Access Site Leases in Fiscal Year 2021	
PROPERTY	ACREAGE
French Creek Embayment	0.280
Jim Compton Elk River	8.220
Sandstone	0.038
TOTAL	8.538

Cancellation of Public Access Site Leases in Fiscal Year 2021	
PROPERTY	ACREAGE
Lowell Bridge	-0.470

Oil and Gas Leasing

The Office of Land and Streams is responsible for leasing the state's mineral interests in, on and/or underlying state lands, rivers, and streams. The state's mineral interests include oil, gas, coal, sand, and gravel. At the end of fiscal year 2021, there were 62 Oil and Gas Leases and 1 Sand and Gravel Lease on state lands, rivers, and streams.

The leasing process is statutorily required to be done through the competitive bid process. The competitive bid process includes receiving a mineral bid nomination, obtaining approval from the Governor, preparing a Bid Prospectus, receiving a competitive bid, and preparing, executing, and recording a Lease Agreement.

Oil and Gas Leases Obtained in Fiscal Year 2021		
AREA	ACREAGE	NUMBER OF LEASES
Fish Creek	13.280	1
Middle Island Creek	110.120	6
Middle Island Creek and Pursley Creek	15.805	1
Middle West Fork Creek	30.255	1
TOTAL	169.460	9

Of the above nine Oil and Gas Leases, eight Oil and Gas Leases were for Marcellus Shale and Utica wells, and one Oil & Gas Lease was for Marcellus Shale wells only.

Sand and Gravel Lease Obtained in Fiscal Year 2021		
AREA	MILEAGE	NUMBER OF LEASES
Ohio River	72.4	1

River and Stream Management

The Office of Land and Streams grants governmental agencies, companies and individuals license and right-of-entry permits for crossing rivers and streams and for work done to the banks of rivers and streams. Licenses and right-of-entry permits are issued for pipelines, stream mitigation, habitat enhancement, bank stabilization, culverts, structures, cables, utility lines, dredging, loading, docking and mooring projects.

The licensing and right-of-entry permit process includes receiving an application, a review of the application by a wildlife biologist, and the preparation and execution of the license and right-of-entry permit.

Permits Issued in Fiscal Year 2021	
PROJECT	NUMBER
Stream Activity Bed/Bank Work	367
Pipeline and Cable	925
Stream Structure	326
Loading, Docking and Mooring	12
TOTAL	1,630



LAW ENFORCEMENT

Colonel Bobby L. Cales, *Chief*



The Law Enforcement Section is responsible for the prompt, orderly, and effective enforcement of all Chapter 20, Code of West Virginia laws and rules promulgated under that authority and protection of the citizens of this state. A highly visible, uniformed Natural Resources Police patrol working with the support of sportsmen, DNR Wildlife and Park and Recreation Sections, federal agencies, and other state agencies enables us to accomplish this mission.

The methods employed by the Section extend beyond traditional law enforcement roles. Natural Resources Police conduct land and water patrols, environmental crimes and complaint investigations, ATV enforcement, boating safety checks, and educates the public on hunting and boating safety. The Section uses its unique capabilities to respond to emergencies and mutual aid requests, coordinate with stakeholders, and inspire and cultivate the next generation of conservationists.

The Section strives to operate efficiently and effectively while always considering the best interests of the state. The success of the Section and Division depends on the hard work of officers in the field and the office support staff. The Natural Resources Police have a proud history of carrying out their duties with pride, integrity, honor, commitment, accountability, loyalty, courage, teamwork, dependability and respect. It is an honor to lead this Section, build upon traditions, and embrace new challenges.

Law Enforcement Program

The WV DNR Law Enforcement Section normally has a staffing level of 126 Natural Resources Police Officers (NRPO) and 11 support personnel. During FY2021, eight officers separated from service, one support personnel separated, one new support personnel was hired and nine new officers were hired.

The Law Enforcement Section has been actively seeking new and innovative methods for the accomplishment of our overall mission. The following are some highlights of the past fiscal year:

- The public and media are following the work done by officers on the WV Natural Resources Police Officer Facebook page. The Facebook page, [Facebook.com/DNRpolice](https://www.facebook.com/DNRpolice), continues to see an increase in both state and national media contacts for additional information. The reporting of wildlife law violations at [WVdnr.gov/lenforce/poachers.shtml](https://www.WVdnr.gov/lenforce/poachers.shtml) is being used by the public in helping to solve cases.
- The Section reporting forms have been moved into electronic form to allow for internet transfer and approvals. This allows for faster updates of changes to forms for an officer's access. The Section continually utilizes technology to reduce travel and administrative costs. Cellular telephones, desktop/laptop computers, radios, and the internet are used to transmit reports, complaints, and information. SharePoint allows the Section to place its forms in a central location that can be accessed by the District Offices.
- The Section continues to work with federal and state agencies to procure grants to assist with equipment purchases. The hunter education and boating safety grants are monitored to maximize returns from the Section's expenditures of time and resources.
- During FY2021, the Section received three new Dodge Ram 1500 Classic Pickup trucks, five new Jeep Grand Cherokee Latitude SUVs, three new Dell Laptops, 130 new WatchGuard Body Cameras and six new Autel Robotics EVO II Pro 6K Rugged Bundle Drones.
- Conference calls and online tools are used to conduct meetings, boards and planning sessions to cut down on in-state travel and to follow COVID-19 social distancing protocols.
- Some of this year's legislation that passed included:
 - SB216 Commerce Rules 58-56 added edible enticement and non-edible facsimile of an enticement to definition of baiting in the waterfowl rules.
 - SB419 Redefined the term firearm to match the Federal definition.
 - SB514 Provided new criteria and term limits for Natural Resource Commission members.



Officer Training

West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section certified 10 new Pistol/Firearms Instructors, certified 10 Swift Water Rescue Level One Technicians, and six newly hired officers attended mandatory ATV rider-safety. Enhanced firearms training was conducted with the Glock 21 duty pistol and the Remington 870 shotgun. Seven newly sworn Natural Resources Police Officers attended the mandatory eight-hour Seated Battery Transition Course. All other NRPOs completed the annual Seated-Battery refresher course for Boating Under the Influence (BUI) and Driving Under the Influence (DUI) enforcement. During FY2021, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Section partnered with the Charleston Police Department and NASBLA (National Association of State Boating Law Administrators) to complete a Boat Crew Members Course that is 40 hours in length. In FY2021, Natural Resources Police Officers were CPR/First Aid recertified and received Stop the Bleed instructor certification. Based on a partner grant with Spirit of Blue Foundation and the West Virginia Trauma Surgeons Association, 135 Gen7 C-A-T Tourniquets and Rigid TQ Holders were issued to all West Virginia Natural Resources Police Officers after the Stop the Bleed training.

The Law Enforcement Section Honor Guard/Color Guard continues to attend opening ceremonies for special events and funerals.



Hunter Education Program

West Virginia's Hunter Education Program continues to grow as more middle and high schools are participating. All persons born on or after January 1, 1975, must first successfully complete a certified hunter education course before purchasing a base hunting license. During FY2021, 4,784 students graduated from 439 statewide hunter education classes. The Law Enforcement Section offers public and in-school courses throughout the year. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, numerous public and school-related hunter education courses were canceled.

Volunteer instructors continue to provide a great service to the WV Hunter Education Program. More than 150 volunteer instructors drove 22,472 miles and donated 4,855.25 hours to the mandatory program. Natural Resources Police Officers logged 11,899 hours and drove 121,457 miles.

The Law Enforcement Section dedicates six Regional Training Sergeants, one Office Assistant, and one State Coordinator to the Hunter Education Program.

The Law Enforcement Section maintains Hunter Education class information and registration services on **register-ed.com**. IHEA-USA and State of West Virginia approved on-line courses are designed to eliminate the classroom portion of the program. However, students will not receive their certification until they pass the hands-on practical and final exam at the nearest district office. Traditional in-person courses are still taught throughout the State of West Virginia.

During calendar year 2020, West Virginia experienced six Class A hunting incidents defined as an injury caused by the discharge of a bow or firearm while hunting resulting in zero fatalities. There were nine Class B hunting incidents defined as falls from a tree stand resulting in three fatalities. There were six Class C hunting incidents, which are defined as injuries sustained while hunting that are not from a firearm or bow. Two were hunting-related ATV accidents, neither of which were fatal. The remaining four Class C hunting incidents were heart attacks that occurred while hunting. There were zero Class D hunting incidents which are defined as property damage reports.

Due to COVID-19 state restrictions, officers across the state could not participate in several sporting and hunting shows, could not attend summer camps, and other special events such as JAKES Days, Archery in the Schools State Tournament, and National Hunting and Fishing Days. The WV DNR Law Enforcement Section was able to restart Archery in the Schools trainings late into the fiscal year.

The Law Enforcement Section has conducted numerous interviews for TV, radio, and magazines promoting safe hunting and boating.



Boating Safety Program

The Law Enforcement Section offers in-person Boating Safety classes in all counties in West Virginia. Students may view class information and register online at **register-ed.com**. The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and The U.S. Power Squadron also teach Boater Education within the State of West Virginia. The National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) and State of West Virginia approved online boater education courses can be found on **WVdnr.gov**. Anyone born after December 31, 1986, is required to successfully complete a NASBLA-approved boating safety course before operating a motorboat. While using news releases and interviews during Spring Aboard, the mandatory boater education message reaches many new boaters.

A grant from the Governor's Commission on Drunk Driving Prevention program provided the Law Enforcement Section additional funding for enhanced BUI patrols on West Virginia waters from July 1, 2020, to September 30, 2020. These patrols resulted in nine BUI arrests and 786 other citations/warnings.

Natural Resources Police Officers participated in the nationwide program Operation Dry Water from July 3, 2020, to July 5, 2020, to reduce alcohol-related boating incidents. This operation resulted in 265 citations/warnings and four BUIs. The Section has renewed its efforts toward water safety and increased lifejacket usage by the public through our Wear It Campaign on Facebook and general boat patrols.



Whitewater Enforcement Program

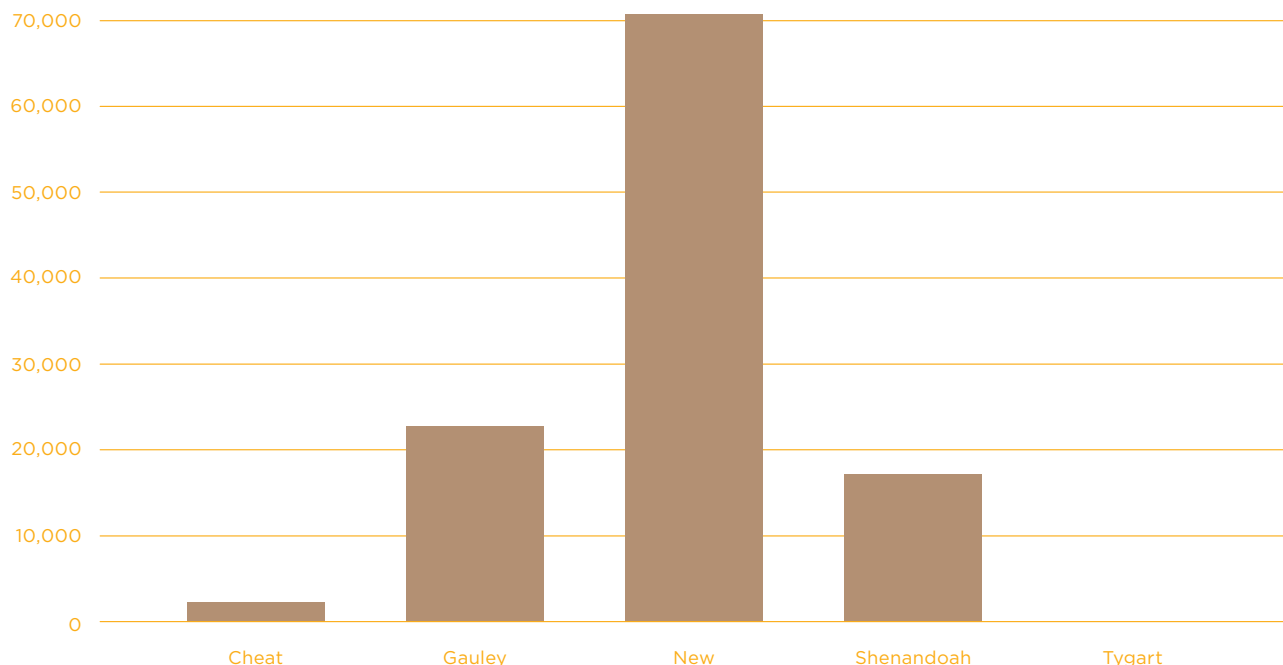
The Law Enforcement Section has the responsibility of regulating the commercial whitewater industry in West Virginia. Twenty commercial whitewater outfitters and guides were licensed for calendar year 2020. Sixteen general outfitters and guides were licensed to conduct business in designated whitewater zones for calendar year 2020.

The Law Enforcement Section issues all licenses, collects fees, maintains submitted injury reports, user number reports and trip leader reports for outfitters, investigates new license applications and reviews license transfers for approval. Natural Resources Police Officers patrol rivers, conduct compliance checks on guides and equipment, and investigate whitewater accidents.

In West Virginia, whitewater zones are located on the Cheat, Gauley, New, Shenandoah and Tygart rivers. In the calendar year 2020, approximately 112,472 people were reported users in whitewater by commercial whitewater and general outfitters.

The Whitewater Commission and the Division of Natural Resources continue to work together making commercial whitewater operations as efficient and safe as possible. The Commission and Division have continued to work diligently to maintain a comprehensive whitewater reporting system. The website has streamlined all required reporting by outfitters conducting business in whitewater zones.

2020 WEST VIRGINIA WHITEWATER USER NUMBERS

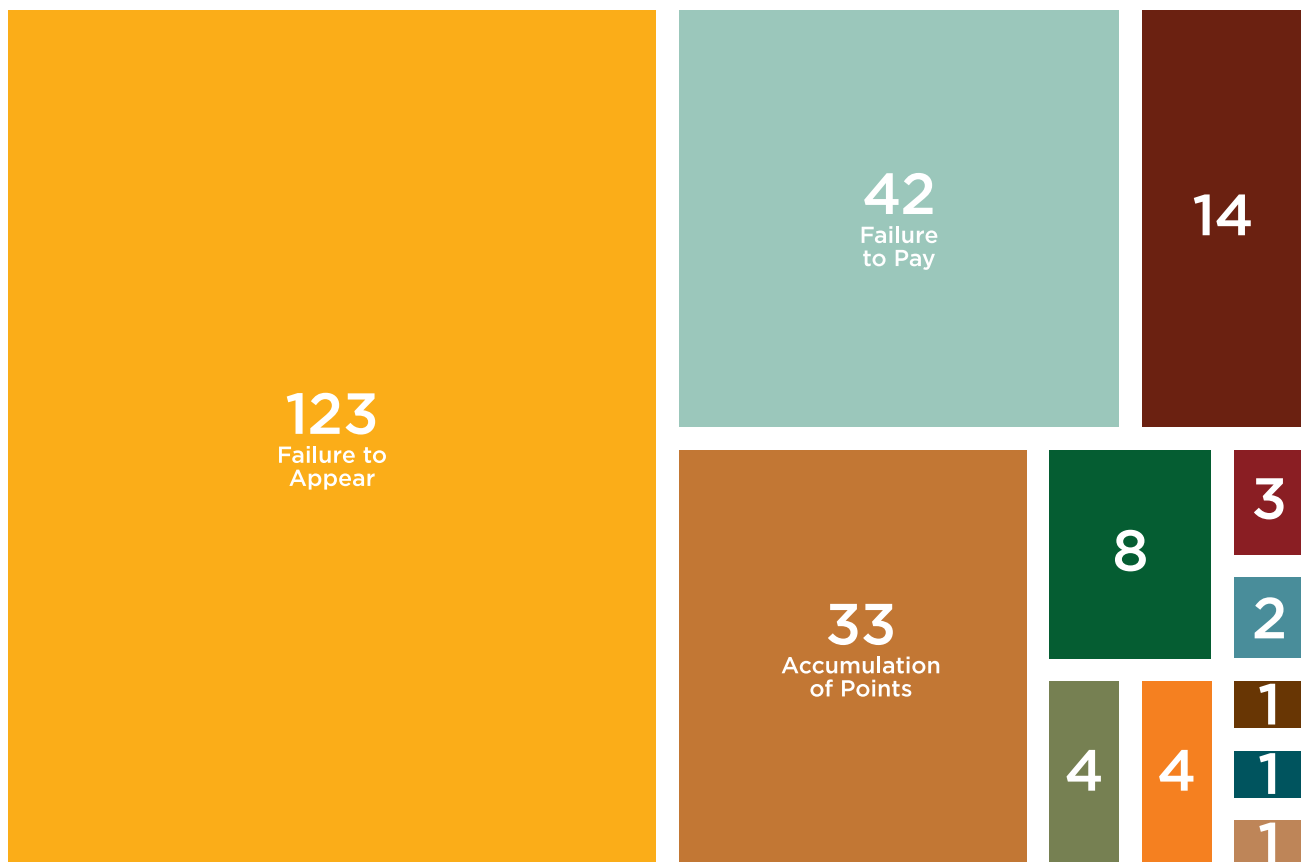


The License/Privilege Revocation System

The Section procedures for revoking the hunting, trapping, and fishing license and privileges are governed by Legislative Rule 58CSR23.

According to the terms of the Interstate Wildlife Violator's Compact (IWVC), of which West Virginia is a member, a suspension in any of the compact states is effective in all of the compact states if the wildlife conviction is a suspendable offense in the respective states. The threat of not being able to hunt, fish or trap in all or some of the IWVC member states serve as a powerful deterrent to would-be poachers.

More than 7,378 revocation notices have been sent to individuals convicted of hunting, trapping, and/or fishing violations since the commencement of the electronic revocation system in the early 1990s. During FY2021, 236 revocation letters were processed. In addition, 159 revocations were ratified by the WV DNR on the IWVC.



TYPE OF REVOCATIONS FISCAL YEAR 2021

Accumulation of Points	33	Fishing While Revoked	1	Trophy Wildlife Kills	14
Bear Kill	1	Hunting While Revoked	4	Wanton Waste	3
Failure to Appear	123	Interference	1		
Failure to Pay	42	Negligent Shooting	2		
False Application	4	Spotlighting	8		

Total Revocations: 236

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement Activity

LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY BY DISTRICT - JULY 4, 2020 THRU JULY 2, 2021

DISTRICT	ARRESTS					WARNINGS				COMPLAINTS					
	Chapter 20 Arrests	Chapter 22 Arrests	Arrest Warrants	Other Arrests	TOTAL ARRESTS	Chapter 20 Warnings	Chapter 22 Warnings	Warnings Other	WARNINGS TOTAL	Complaints Received	Complaints Investigated	Wildlife Damage Complaints Received	Wildlife Damage Complaints Investigated	Other Complaints	COMPLAINTS TOTAL
1	528	111	57	71	767	482	628	139	1,249	864	825	168	168	82	2,107
2	507	87	43	103	740	346	84	82	512	617	628	284	285	22	1,836
3	464	110	42	66	682	981	320	117	1,418	773	753	203	213	24	1,966
4	331	50	28	142	551	887	191	173	1,251	709	720	224	232	59	1,944
5	704	103	24	84	915	681	428	276	1,385	981	899	86	67	14	2,047
6	487	67	60	88	702	390	97	34	521	441	389	98	96	2	1,026
TOTALS	3,021	528	254	554	4,357	3,767	1,748	821	6,336	4,385	4,214	1,063	1,061	203	10,926

Definitions

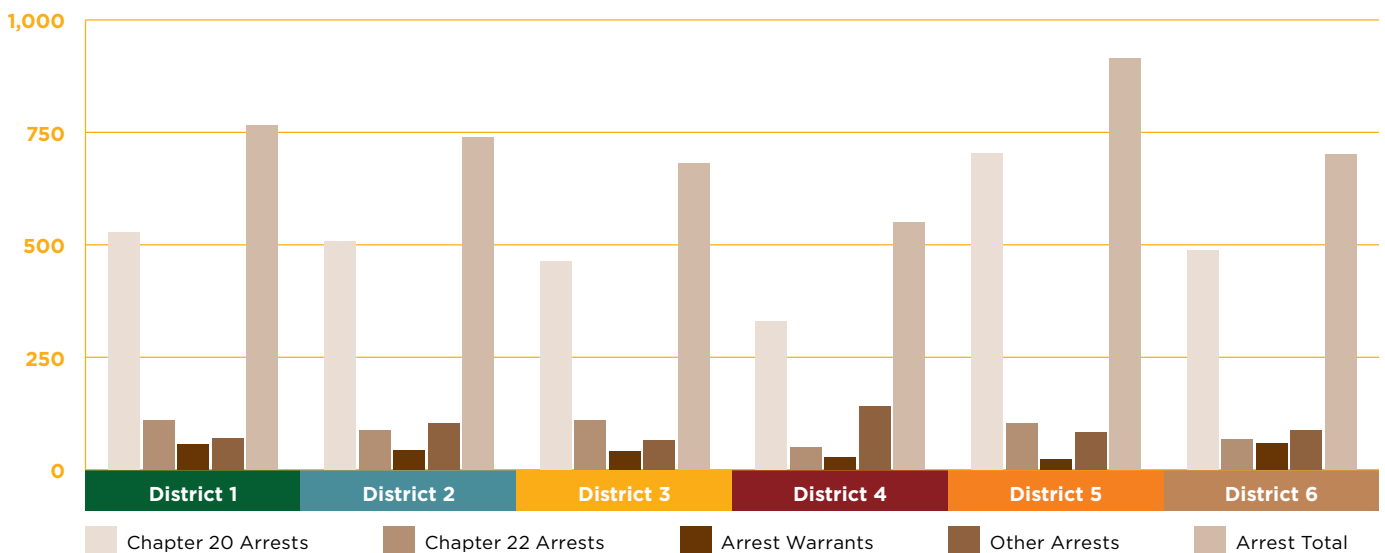
Chapter 20: Citations/Arrests for natural resources violations, including Forestry.

Chapter 22: Citations/Arrests for environmental violations such as outside burning, air pollution, open dumps, etc.

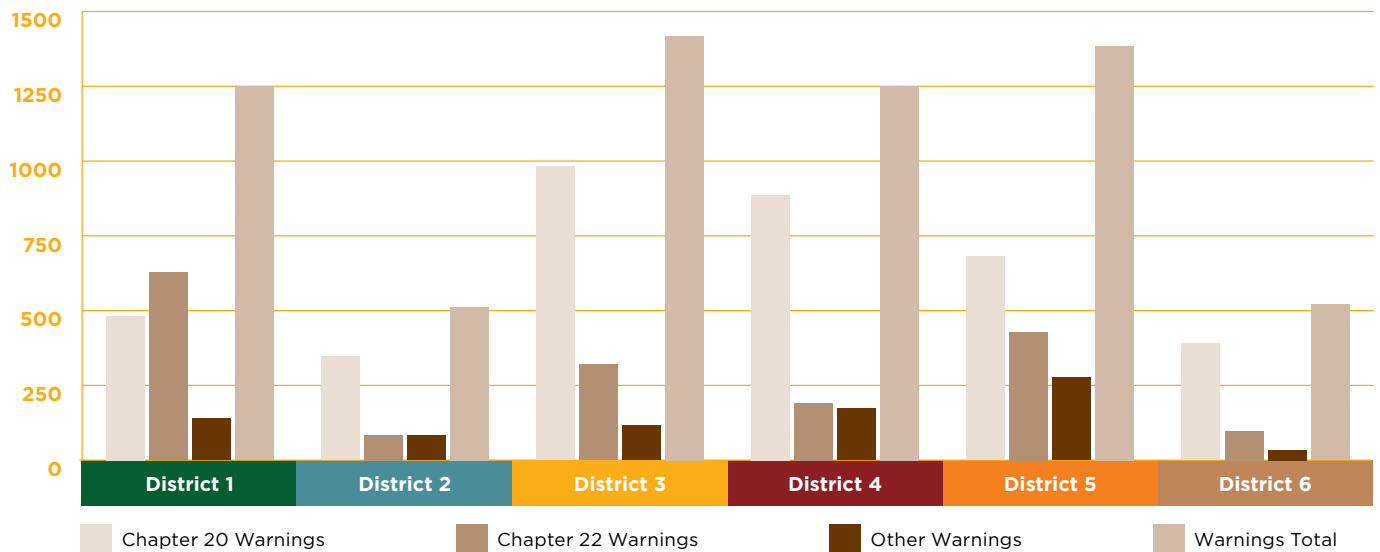
Warrants: Arrest warrants for violations that occur outside the officer's assigned county/area.

Other: Citations issued for violations that occur on the Hatfield-McCoy Recreation Area, State Forests, State Parks, and Wildlife Management Areas. Also included in "Other" are arrest for motor vehicle violations, possession of controlled substances, etc., that occur in the officer's presence.

ARRESTS BY TYPE AND DISTRICT - JULY 4, 2020 THRU JULY 2, 2021



WARNINGS BY TYPE AND DISTRICT - JULY 4, 2020 THRU JULY 2, 2021

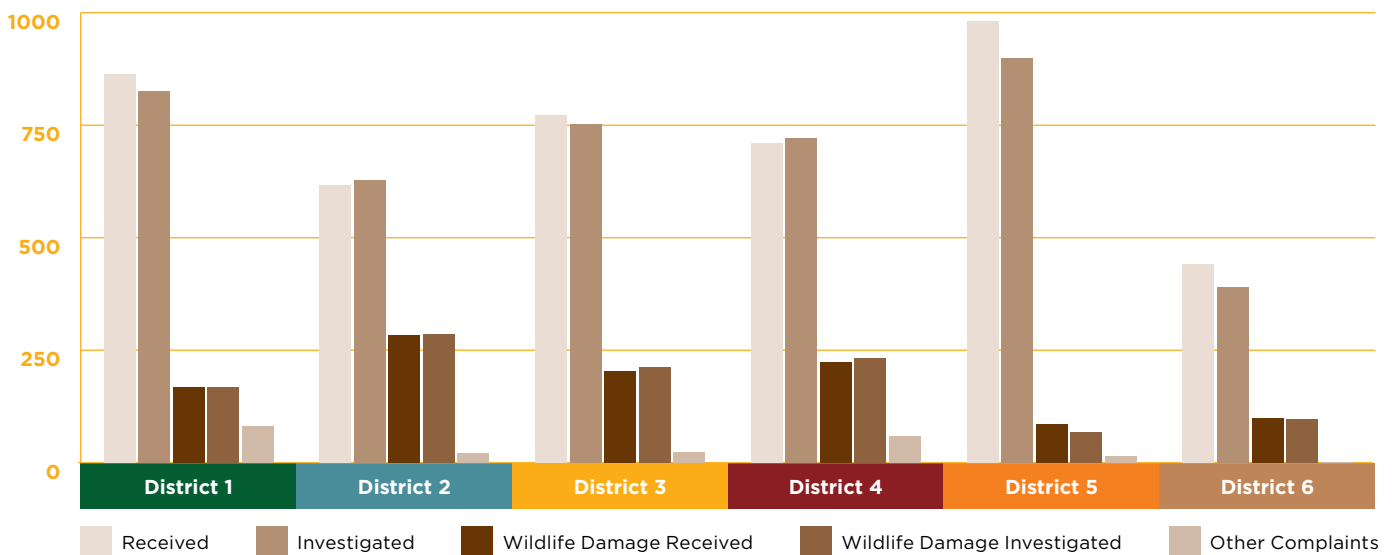


Definitions

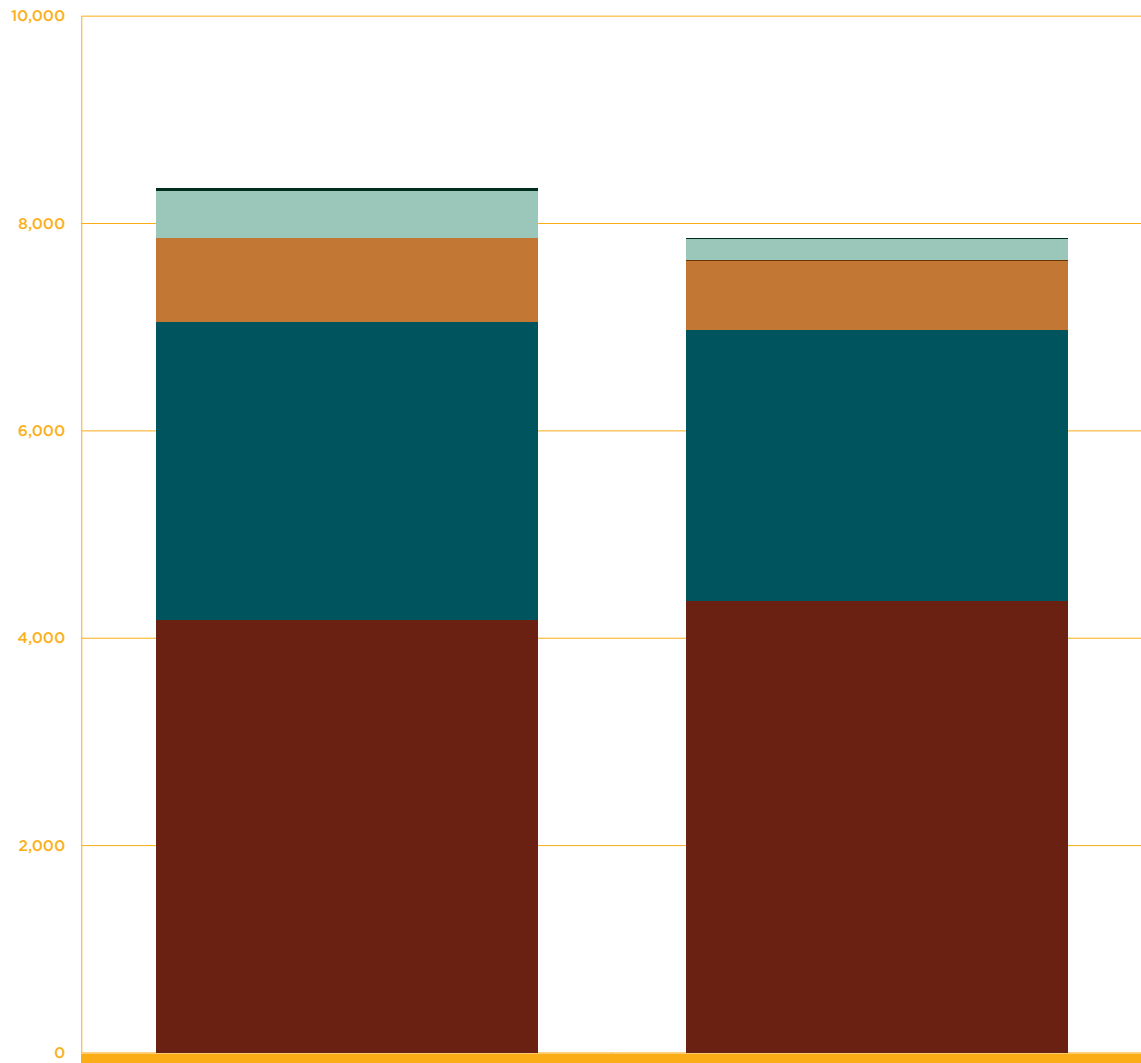
Chapter 20: Citations/Arrests for natural resources violations, including Forestry.

Chapter 22: Citations/Arrests for environmental violations such as outside burning, air pollution, open dumps, etc.

COMPLAINTS RECEIVED AND INVESTIGATED BY DISTRICT - JULY 4, 2020 THRU JULY 2, 2021



Prosecution Comparison - FY 2020 vs. FY 2021



	2020	2021
Number of Prosecutions	4,171	4,358
Convicted	2,882	2,613
Dismissed	804	666
Acquitted	3	5
Failed to Appear	450	209
Pre-Trial Diversion	32	2

Report of Prosecutions by Charge FY 2021

HEADING AND CHARGE	TOTAL
Littering	
Litter, Highway	9
Litter, Public/Private Road or Property in waters of State or w/in 100ft waters	30
Litter, Private Property	4
Litter, Greater than 500 lbs.	7
Litter, 100-500 lbs.	10
Litter, Less than 100 lbs.	19
Litter, No Record of Mandatory Disposal	104
TOTAL Littering	183
License	
Fishing Paraphernalia in Possession without License	101
Hunting Paraphernalia in Possession without License	10
Residents Fishing without License	375
Residents Hunting without License	123
Non-Residents Fishing without License	96
Non-Residents Hunting without License	36
Hunt/Trap/Fish without Photo ID in Possession	15
Fishing without Trout Stamp	6
Hunting Bear without Bear Hunting License EE	2
Hunting Bear without Bear Damage Stamp	6
Hunting without Big Game Stamp (BG)	0
Hunting Additional Deer without RB/RRB Stamp	1
Hunting Additional Deer without RG/RRG Stamp	3
Hunting Antlerless Deer without Class N/NN Stamp	31
Hunting without CS Stamp	0
Hunting without Class Y Permit	2
Hunting Migratory Birds without Federal Stamp	0
Hunting without Class A-1 Pistol Stamp	2
Hunting Turkey with out Turkey Stamp WW	1
Fishing while License Revoked	6
Hunting while License Revoked	12
Improper Fishing License	0
Improper Hunting License	0
Making False Application - Fishing License	1
Making False Application - Hunting License	2
Making False Application - Hunting and Fishing License	3
Making False Application - Lifetime Hunting and Fishing License	2
Hunting without Hunter Education Card	3
Trapping without a license	4
Failure to Obtain Fish Pond License	1
Failure to Obtain Game Farm Permit	1
Forge/Utter/Alter/ Falsity Certificate of Training- Hunter Education Card	1
WDCA, Operate without License	0
TOTAL License	846

Report of Prosecutions by Charge FY 2021

HEADING AND CHARGE	TOTAL
Hunting	
Bear, Failure to Check	2
Bear, Failure to Submit Bear Tooth	14
Bear/Possess/Transport Parts of Bear Not Tagged	0
Hunt/Kill/Possess Bear/Bear Parts Closed Season	4
Feed Bear or Hunt Bear Using Bait/Poison/Trap/Explosives	12
Bear/Hunt with Rifles less than 25 caliber Rimfire	3
Blaze Orange, None or Insufficient	34
Closed Season	93
Exceed Bag Limit	5
Failure to Check Game	112
Failure to Field Tag Game	39
Illegal Carry of Bow and Gun in Woods at same time	0
Illegal Killing or Taking of Deer, Turkey, Boar	3
Illegal Possession of Wildlife or Parts Thereof	285
Illegal Method of Hunting (Dig/Cut/Smoke Out Wild Animal/Bird)	1
Illegal Sale of Wildlife including Bear	1
Illegal Transportation of Wildlife (Sale/Purchase) in State	1
Illegal Transportation of Wildlife Out of State	3
Illegal Disposal of Dead/Diseased Animals	0
Hunt Deer with Illegal Firearms/Ammo	20
Loaded/Uncased Firearm or Nocked Crossbow, Land Conveyance	196
Loaded/Uncased Firearm or Nocked Crossbow in Vehicle, Conveyance	0
Shoot Across or in Public Road	17
Shoot Within 25 yards of Vehicle	10
Shoot/Hunt from Motor Vehicle/ATV/Land Conveyance	107
Shoot at Game Not Plainly Visible	1
Negligent Shooting - Person	1
Negligent Shooting - Livestock/Property	2
Illegal Shooting Distance of Dwelling	16
Illegal Shooting Distance of School/Church	1
Spotlighting/Night Vision	21
Sunday Hunting on Private Land without Permission	1
Trapping Using Exposed Bait	7
Uncased Firearm in vehicle at night	6
Unlawful Entry of Unenclosed/Posted Property Hunt/Trap/Fish	3
Hunt Without Permission Lands of Another	153
Wanton Waste Big Game	13
Hunt After Killing Legal Deer	5
Hunt/Take/Kill by Bait/Trap/Snare: Bear, Turkey, Grouse, Pheasant, Quail	42
Hunt Bear/Boar/Mig Bird/Prot Bird or Mammal w/Bait/Trap/Net Snare	9
Hunt Deer 1/2 Hour Before Sunrise - 1/2 Hour After Sunset	26
Hunt, Deer, Fail to Comply w/Limited Antlerless Permit Procedures	0
Hunt, Illegal Kill, Additional Antlered Deer	43
Shoot/Kill Bear Less than 75# Live/50 # Field Dressed	3
Shoot/Kill Bear accompanied by a Cub	0
Deer Enhanced Antlered Penalty	0
Hunt Turkey with Electronic Call	3
Hunt Under the Influence	8
Hunt, Apprentice Licensee hunting without an Adult	1
Underage Hunter without Adult	7
Interference with Hunter/Trapper	3
Hunt/Possession of Untagged Wildlife killed by another	1
Hunt/Possession Firearm while training dogs	2

Report of Prosecutions by Charge FY 2021

HEADING AND CHARGE	TOTAL
Hunting continued	
Dogs Chasing Deer	6
Failure to Tag Traps	4
Failure to Tend Traps Daily	3
Trapping with illegal body gripping snares	2
Hunt/Trap/Kill Fur-Bearing Animal out of season	6
Hunt/Trap/Lands of Another w/out written permission	1
Hunt/CWD Containment Area Transport Violation	1
Hunt/Kill/Take Protected Game Bird	1
Hunting, Taking Waterfowl Closed Season	
Illegal Importation of Wildlife	1
Possession of Native Wildlife Parts for Commercial Purpose	2
Possession of Illegal Hunting Paraphernalia	0
Hunting/Failure to sign Federal "Duck Stamp"	2
Hunting Migratory Birds over Bait	3
Hunting Waterfowl Sunset to 30 minutes before Sunrise	0
Hunting Migratory Birds without HIP	0
Use Drone Hunt/Take/Kill Wild Animal/Birds or Drive/Herd Animals/Birds Hunt	0
Hunting Migratory Birds with Unplugged Gun	2
TOTAL Hunting	1,374
Fishing	
Fishing During Closed Season	0
Fishing without Permission	12
Fishing in Restricted Area	25
Fishing, Catch & Release Black Bass	1
Fishing, Illegal Possession of Wildlife or Parts Thereof	25
Fishing, Catch & Release, TROUT, Time Restriction Violation	0
Fishing, No Legible or Waterproof Tag, Dropline	0
Taking Fish by Illegal Methods	3
Fish Within 200 FT of DNR Personnel Stocking Fish	0
Using Prohibited Bait in Restricted Areas	9
Access Site Violation, Alcohol	26
Access Site Violation, Unauthorized Use of	12
Access Site Violation, Litter	1
Fish- Wanton Waste Game fish	1
Exceed Daily Creel Limit	3
Exceed Two Pole Limit/Trout	6
Exceed Daily Creel Limit/Trout	33
TOTAL Fishing	157
Boating	
Create Wake in No-Wake Zone	5
Boat, Failure to Report Boating Accident	1
None or Insufficient Equipment	39
None or Insufficient Number of PFDs for Children Under 12	27
None or Insufficient Number of PFDs	153
Improper Location or Spacing of Numbers	1
Operation of PWC during Illegal Hours	1
Reckless Operation	21
Operating Boat without Required Boater Safety Card	12
Tow/Pulling Skier without Observer/Mirror	9
Boat, Unregistered Watercraft	11
Boat without Registration Card	0

Report of Prosecutions by Charge FY 2021	
HEADING AND CHARGE	TOTAL
Boating continued	
Overload Boat, Passengers	5
Operate Watercraft while Under the Influence	4
Boat Under the Influence	14
Tow or Operate Boat w/o PFDs	1
Boat, Exceed 10HP Motor Limit	2
Boat, Failure to Render aid after Boat incident	1
Boat, Jumping wake of another vessel w/PWC	2
Boat, Operating watercraft in restricted area	3
Boat, Permit Underage operation MB/PWC	2
Tow without Approved Equipment	0
WHITEWATER - Outfitter/Guide without License	2
TOTAL Boating	316
Solid Waste	
Open Burning, Air Pollution	2
Open Burning of Refuse/Solid Waste	97
Open Dump, Creating or Contributing to	147
Unauthorized Use of Dumpster	4
Abandonment of inoperable appliance	2
Waste Endangerment	111
Waste Tires/Accumulate over 100 for Beneficial Use without Permit	1
Unlawful Disposal of Waste Tires	13
TOTAL Solid Waste	377
Water Pollution	
Allow Wastes in Water without Permit	0
TOTAL Water Pollution	0
Forestry	
Failure to Safety Strip Around Fire	7
Failure to Attend To or Extinguish Fire	4
Illegal Burning	8
Permitting a Fire to Escape	1
Throw Lighted Material on Road or Forest Lands	12
Burning During Fire Season without Permit	33
GINSENG	
Age	3
Dig Out of Season	26
Without Certification	28
No Dealer's License	1
Dig without Permission	2
No activity permitted on Public Lands	2
TIMBERING	
Theft	7
Notification Failure	0
Failure to Reclaim Timbering Operation	0
Peel Trees/Timber without Permission	7
Timber Operation without Certified Logger	0
Timber/Trespassing to Cut/Take/Damage Trees	5
Timber/Operate Equipment w/out Adequate Spark Arrestor	1
Timbering without License	1
TOTAL Forestry	148

Report of Prosecutions by Charge FY 2021

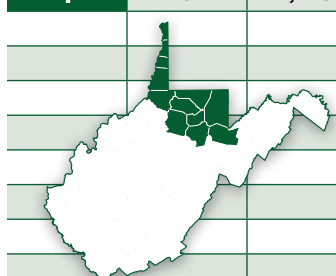
HEADING AND CHARGE	TOTAL
General	
Conspiracy - Hunting	107
Conspiracy - Fishing	9
Conspiracy - Non-Hunting or Fishing	3
Failure to Surrender License	0
General Obstruction/Withhold Information	47
Pet Permit Fail to Clean Cages Daily	0
Bait Cervids/Wildlife in Containment Area	26
Dam/Obstruct Waterways	1
STATE PARK VIOLATIONS	
Hunting	3
Prohibited Discharge of Firearm in Park	1
Destruction of Property	1
Failure to Obey Public Shoot Range Rules	3
National Forest Use MV in Closed Area	17
WMA VIOLATIONS	
Alcohol	12
Camping Violations	10
Destruction of Property	7
Hunting-ATV in Restricted area of WMA	3
Improper Disposal of Refuse	4
Motor Vehicle Violations	71
Fire in Undesignated Area	3
Uncased Firearm/Bow/Arrow in WMA	4
Loud Excessive Noise	3
Bait/Feed Wildlife	14
Possess/Use Controlled Substance on WMA	1
OUTSIDE CHAPTER 20	
Alcohol	16
Animal Cruelty	5
ATV Violations on Roadways	8
Destruction of Property	3
Disorderly Conduct	1
Motor Vehicle Violations	179
Driving Revoked/DUI	10
DUI	10
Driving Revoked/Suspended	54
No Operators/Permits- DL	8
Fleeing from Officer	15
Illegal Possession of Controlled Substances	95
Illegal Possession of Firearms	12
Illegal Sale/Display Firearm	0
Larceny	2
Livestock Trespassing on Property of Another	0
Trespassing	69
False Information to Officer	2
False Reports/Emergency Incident	3
Fraud Schemes	1
Intimidation/Use electronic device	1
Accident Leave Scene/Death/Injury	1
Accident Leave Scene/No information/No Aid	1
Neglect of a Child/Contribute to the Delinquency	0
Warrant/Fugitive from Justice	1

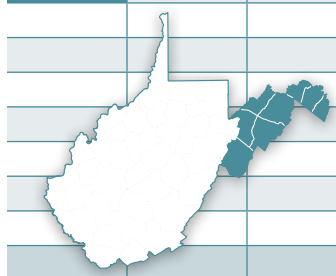
Report of Prosecutions by Charge FY 2021	
HEADING AND CHARGE	TOTAL
General continued	
Failure to Pay Dog Tax	1
Salvage Yard/Operating without Permit	1
HATFIELD-MCCOY RECREATIONAL AREA	
Alcohol Possess/Consume	65
Ignite/Maintain Fire Except at Designated Trailhead Locations	
No Glass Containers While Riding a Motor Vehicle within HMRA	3
Riding/Remain on Designated/Marked Trails	1
Riding without Helmets	60
Riding without Permits	20
On Trail 1/2 Hour After Sunset to 1/2 Hour Before Sunrise	3
Under 16 YOA Supervised by Parent/Guardian/Appointed Adult	1
Obey all Traffic Laws/Devices/Signs	2
TOTAL General	1,004

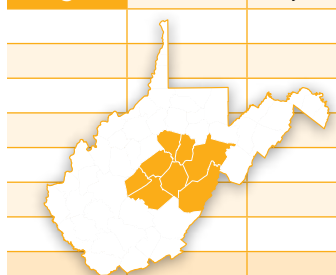


Reports of Prosecutions for FY 2021

DISTRICT	TOTAL ARRESTS	TOTAL WARNINGS	COUNTY	NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS	DISPOSITIONS OF PROSECUTIONS			FAILED TO APPEAR	PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION
					CONVICTED	DISMISSED	ACQUITTED		

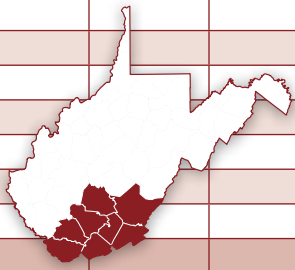
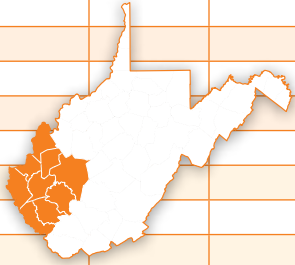
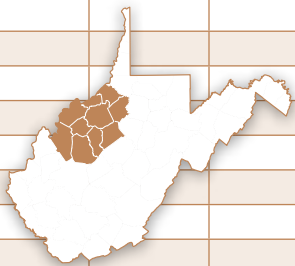
1	767	1,249	Barbour	61	34	5	1	2	0
			Brooke	67	35	12	0	1	0
			Hancock	47	31	5	0	0	0
			Harrison	81	46	6	0	3	0
			Marion	118	79	9	0	4	0
			Marshall	23	17	2	0	0	0
			Monongalia	101	69	3	0	13	0
			Ohio	20	9	6	0	0	0
			Preston	73	62	7	0	0	0
			Taylor	49	33	7	0	7	0
			Tucker	36	29	1	0	1	0
			Wetzel	16	15	0	0	0	0
			TOTAL	692	459	63	1	31	0

2	740	512	Berkeley	65	50	7	0	3	0
			Grant	73	62	5	0	1	0
			Hampshire	155	110	26	0	3	0
			Hardy	101	65	3	0	2	0
			Jefferson	109	74	7	0	10	0
			Mineral	55	42	2	0	0	0
			Morgan	31	20	5	0	0	0
			Pendleton	144	112	20	0	6	0
			TOTAL	733	535	75	0	25	0

3	682	1,418	Braxton	68	56	8	0	3	0
			Clay	97	59	11	4	18	0
			Lewis	107	98	0	0	8	0
			Nicholas	237	130	60	0	38	0
			Pocahontas	168	149	2	0	6	0
			Randolph	148	131	2	0	12	0
			Upshur	71	56	1	0	11	0
			Webster	50	43	5	0	0	0
			TOTAL	946	722	89	4	96	0

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Reports of Prosecutions for FY 2021

DISTRICT	TOTAL ARRESTS	TOTAL WARNINGS	COUNTY	NUMBER OF PROSECUTIONS	DISPOSITIONS OF PROSECUTIONS			FAILED TO APPEAR	PRE-TRIAL DIVERSION
					CONVICTED	DISMISSED	ACQUITTED		
4 	551	1,251	Fayette	47	18	8	0	2	0
			Greenbrier	100	54	2	0	10	0
			McDowell	42	10	1	0	0	0
			Mercer	34	3	0	0	0	0
			Monroe	43	24	1	0	10	0
			Raleigh	119	71	7	0	9	0
			Summers	31	13	1	0	1	0
			Wyoming	100	57	2	0	1	0
			TOTAL	516	250	22	0	33	0
5 	915	1,385	Boone	145	81	38	0	7	0
			Cabell	21	4	15	0	0	0
			Kanawha	110	20	14	0	7	0
			Lincoln	47	31	6	0	0	0
			Logan	214	47	89	0	0	0
			Mason	137	87	20	0	5	0
			Mingo	67	15	44	0	1	0
			Putnam	47	13	27	0	1	0
			Wayne	66	15	31	0	3	0
			TOTAL	854	313	284	0	24	0
6 	702	521	Calhoun	47	32	9	0	0	0
			Doddridge	54	43	3	0	0	0
			Gilmer	19	17	0	0	2	0
			Jackson	76	37	24	0	6	0
			Pleasants	12	3	1	0	0	0
			Ritchie	127	81	19	0	6	0
			Roane	111	31	41	0	2	0
			Tyler	6	3	0	0	0	0
			Wirt	27	16	5	0	3	0
			Wood	138	71	31	0	11	2
			TOTAL	617	334	133	0	30	2
STATE TOTAL	4,357	6,336		4,358	2,613	666	5	239	2



PARKS AND RECREATION

Bradley R. Reed, Sr., *Chief*

Introduction

This report provides a review of major programs, policies, actions, and challenges addressed during the 2021 fiscal year.

Overview

Fiscal year 2021 was an incredible one for West Virginia State Parks. It was a year that saw several important past milestones surpassed as well as innovation and change brought to the system at an unparalleled level. Before addressing the traditional elements of this report, it is important to list many of these achievements at our introduction. Details on some of these items will be discussed later in the report.

- Park system revenues reached the highest in recorded history at \$26,841,271. This number is an increase of \$5.6 million over FY2020 and \$4.7 million over the previous three-year average. (Note field level expenditures only increased approximately \$35,000 over the previous fiscal year.)
- Self-sufficiency was 67.9% in 2021, surpassing FY2020 by 14.2% and the previous three-year average by 9.7% — again a record.
- Five state park areas operated at a profit in fiscal year 2021: Babcock, Beech Fork, Blackwater Falls, Camp Creek and Watoga. In addition, Bluestone, Holly River, Moncove Lake state parks, as well as Seneca State Forest demonstrated 20% increases over the previous year.
- Sales from our gift shops across the park system drew revenues of well over \$3 million in FY2021 — another record. Sales were up 37% from FY2020.
- Park attendance grew from a five-year average of seven million visitors per year to nearly 10 million.
- Guest satisfaction surveys ratings grew from an average of 94% good/excellent reviews to 95% on all park services and facilities.

Noteworthy innovations, new facilities, significant programs, and other ideas that came to fruition in FY2021 are as follows:

- Opening of the new Cacapon Lodge and Conference Center.
- Purchase, development and opening of part of the Elk River Rail Trail.
- Opening of the pilot project partnership with Hatfield McCoy Trails at Cabwaylingo State Forest.
- Opening of a private public partnership for beach adventures at Tygart Lake State Park.
- Significant expansion of a public private partnership for adventure activities at Pipestem Resort State Park.



- Development of a public private partnership for “Glamping” (fancy remote camping) at several park and forest areas.
- Evolved retail operations into a much more profitable business for parks and forests with a centralized manager, bulk buying and a level of expertise not seen before.
- Worked closely with Tourism on a wide variety of packages, discounts, and opportunities.
- Converted group camp facility at Cabwaylingo State Forest into an elementary school to assist flood displaced Wayne County students and faculty.
- Hosted the largest ever NICA (National Interscholastic Cycling Association) race in state history at Canaan Valley Resort State Park.
- Completely reinvented the Trading Post Gift Shop at Blackwater Falls State Park, which has already resulted in repeat record business days.
- Opened new or renovated existing back country cabins at Camp Creek, Tomlinson Run, Little Beaver, Cass and Lost River state parks. Renovated the fire tower at Cass. Developed a public private partnership for equestrian riding to the back country cabins at Cass and Lost River state parks.
- Began a program for preservation of special Natural Areas within the boundaries of certain state parks.
- Developed operating procedures for the Parks Endowment Fund.

Overview continued

The mission of the Parks and Recreation Section, as detailed in the West Virginia Code Chapter §20-5-3, is to “Promote conservation by preserving and protecting natural areas of unique or exceptional scenic, scientific, cultural, archaeological, or historical significance and to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for the citizens of this State and its visitors.”

The Parks and Recreation Section has very successfully met the mandates of this legislated mission throughout its 93-year history, with its protection and preservation of more than 164,000 acres of easily accessible public land. The Parks and Recreation Section (Park System) promotes conservation with its mere existence. Undeveloped wild lands constitute 150,000 acres, or 92% of the land within West Virginia State Parks and Forests. Fifteen state park areas feature primary or secondary old growth forest.

The system is composed of 35 State Parks, nine State Forests and three State Rail Trails. West Virginia citizens enjoying state parks and forests normally represent 63% of system visitors, while 37% are guests traveling from outside the state.

The protection of these wildland green spaces and largely undisturbed ecosystems is vitally important to the state and nation. State Park lands are set aside in their most natural condition for the benefit of the public now and for generations to come. This preservation has enormous ecological, scientific, and cultural benefits. Equally as important is the noteworthy contribution to the quality of life for the citizens of the state. State parks, forests, and rail trails contribute significantly to the physical and mental health of their users. Additionally, the upper watersheds of many of the state’s rivers and streams are within the Section’s responsibility, helping to ensure healthy water supplies for the citizens within and outside of our borders. Hiking trails, park, and forest roads meander quietly through areas providing tranquil settings for mental and physical health and for the enrichment of visitors. Moreover, this prime real estate adds significantly to the values of surrounding privately owned lands, which contribute to the tax base of county governments.

In terms of the legislated mission to provide recreation, agency management efforts provide nearly 14,000 acres of developed recreational lands, which are enjoyed by nearly 10,000,000 visitors annually. Recreational activities range from intense components such as downhill skiing and rock climbing to more relaxed activities like golf and boating or paddling. Other venues to enjoy are quiet campfires, picnicking, hiking and traditional park recreation.

The recreational opportunities provided by these areas are significant to the tourism industry in West Virginia. The Parks System is an economic stabilizer for overall state tourism by offsetting economic fluctuations. Parks protect and maintain



a base of tourism during tough economic times when entrepreneurial and private tourism activity downtrends and serve to buffer the negative consequences of lost tourist activity. As economic times improve, the Park System encourages these same private businesses to develop and cultivate, thus, requiring less effort to grow and prosper.

A snapshot of the facility inventory within the Park System includes 798 lodge rooms, 358 cabins, 1,546 campsites, 152 picnic shelters and 559 playground units. Park System staff maintains more than 2,500,000 square feet of indoor space in nearly 1,500 buildings with an average age of more than 50 years. More than 700 miles of hiking trails are provided across 46 areas. The West Virginia Park System has incredibly diverse revenue-producing activities and opportunities compared to other states. The reader should consider the management of town and train operations at Cass, an island and sternwheel boat operation at Blennerhassett, a ski area at Canaan Valley and zip line operations at Pipestem, as a partial list of features that separate West Virginia State Parks from national norms.

Every state park and forest area contributes to the value of the state and the excellence and complexity of the system. Unique West Virginia treasures such as Blackwater Falls, the Babcock Glade Creek Grist Mill, Twin Falls Resort Pioneer Farm and the Droop Mountain Battlefield Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) era lookout tower are iconic representations of West Virginia. Exceptional scenic overlooks are on display at areas such as Hawks Nest, Cacapon Resort, Pipestem Resort, Babcock, Lost River, Coopers Rock and Carnifex Ferry. The preservation of the impressive virgin forest at Cathedral State Park and representation of 18th century life at Prickett’s Fort State Park, while at the same time parks’ operation of Stonewall Resort State Park, Canaan Valley Resort State Park and Pipestem Resort State Park, further represents the diversity of the system and its management challenges.



General Information

GUEST SAFETY AND SATISFACTION

Guests visiting West Virginia's state parks and forests have an overwhelmingly safe and satisfying experience. The agency is constantly assuring the appropriate operation of complex facilities such as excursion boats, elevators, marinas, historic structures, pools, lakes, dams, water systems, sewage systems and other similar important facilities offered for the care of and use of the public. The system provided recreation to the public this past year with minimal incidents or safety concerns. Our State Park system affords the traveling public a safe outdoor recreation experience. Fundamental for marketing is the awareness that all overnight facilities and park grounds are considered free from danger by the traveling public. A significant gauge of this success is the minimal number of incidents occurring on parks or forests which escalate to the level of arrests or citations. Comment card reports show a 95% Excellent or Good rating of our parks and forests. A major management emphasis in park operations is placed on hospitality and providing excellent guest services.

IMPROVEMENTS

Bond-financed development programs are making an important impact to the system. The Cacapon Resort State Park Lodge expansion funded with excess Lottery monies was completed and opened to the public on May 1, 2021. This new construction features 78 lodge rooms, indoor and outdoor dining, lounge, fitness center, indoor pool, spa, and enhanced meeting facilities. Renovation to the existing lodge facilities is ongoing and slated for completion in winter 2021.

A second excess Lottery fund bond program valued at \$60 million is ongoing. This program was specifically set up for repairs and upgrades throughout the system including lodge and cabin updates, redecoration, improved accessibility, water and wastewater treatment upgrades, recreational projects, technology upgrades, infrastructure repairs, bathhouse improvements and other similar improvements. This investment will provide immediate and long-term positive returns including higher guest satisfaction, greater guest safety, enhanced revenue production, and improved regulatory compliance. By the end of FY2021, significant progress will have been made toward the completion of these projects.

FY2021 saw many notable improvements. Perhaps the most significant was the renovation of almost all the cabins across the state. These bond projects varied in size and scope, depending upon need, but largely included: complete renovation of kitchens and bathrooms, new furniture, electric upgrades, porch additions, insulation, new HVAC, roofing, flooring, and décor features.

Construction of the new trail system to serve the pilot legislated mandate to offer off-road motorized riding at Cabwaylingo State Forest was completed by our business partner Hatfield McCoy Regional Recreational Authority. These new trails and associated facilities opened in March.

Although hampered by COVID-19 related school closures, we remained committed to the Simulated Workplace partnership with county school systems across the state. This excellent program has positively affected student technical learning while providing needed maintenance and project work on state parks and forests.

WORKFORCE

The Park System directly employs more than 380 full-time staff and approximately 1,500 seasonal and summer staff. Onsite private concession operations additionally provide jobs numbering in the hundreds. The employees are a consistent and dedicated workforce, motivated by their understanding of the value of parks, forests and the mission of the Parks and Recreation Section. This focus by the staff is integral to its success.

Approximately one-third of seasonal and summer staff are high school and college-age students gaining first-time work experience serving in hospitality and maintenance capacities at pools, campgrounds, restaurants, lodges and as summer naturalists. At these jobs, important life skills are gained while the student learns the importance of West Virginia's natural resources and the state's tourism industry. At the same time, young employees gain understanding of the importance of staying and investing in the state and often develop a deep connection to West Virginia. Many citizens, who have remained within our borders to make a difference as community leaders and to invest a lifetime of commitment to betterment for the state, began their work experience as park or forest student employees. Seasonal staff often return for employment annually to aid building and grounds maintenance, housekeeping, front desk operations and as office staff. Our mixture of full-time, seasonal, and summer employees greatly contributes to the efficient and effective operation of the system.

In addition to the staff working directly for the Park System, a 2016 Economic Impact Study revealed the economic activity stimulated by visitation to state parks and forests supported approximately 3,209 off-site, full-time equivalent private sector jobs across the state. These jobs are a result of private businesses profiting because of the existence of a park or forest in their area of the state. Examples of such businesses might include an adventure outfitter, which utilizes a state park or forest, local purveyors of groceries or fuel, retail establishments, restaurants, etc. In terms of wages and income, the economic activity spawned by visitation to the State Parks and Forests was responsible for roughly \$91.6 million in salary income in FY2016 according to the same Economic Impact Study. FY2021 based on increased numbers of visitors.

VACANCIES

As with many private sector businesses, the Parks and Recreation Section is currently struggling with workforce recruitment and retention issues. As of this writing the Section has approximately 60 full-time and 280 seasonal position vacancies.



EDUCATION

West Virginia's state park and forest management continue to increase emphasis on education and interpretation. Park and Forest Superintendents interpret the resources existing on specific areas and promote the conservation mandate. Naturalists and historical interpreters are employed to aid in this effort. There were nine full-time and 17 part-time naturalists who provided programming to thousands of guests engaged through programming and nature center visits during this past year. Volunteer docents and interpreters assist with this effort ranging from museum guides to bluebird box builders and programmers.

The system continues to improve on the quality of programming concentrating largely, but not exclusively, on interpretation of state flora, fauna, natural history, and the mission of the Park System. A major emphasis is placed on programming geared toward youth. Programmers and naturalists are charged with implementing programs, which include interpretive hikes, wildlife observation, water study, etc., and to engage visitors in discovering and understanding the outdoors through interpretative interaction. Energizing and encouraging families to get outside is a priority.

State parks and forests are visited regularly by school groups. The areas are considered an outdoor learning laboratory, always available for nature study and specifically providing preservation of rare, threatened, and endangered species in unique ecosystems. The system operates four museums and six nature centers that are open year-round. Other nature centers, visitor centers and museums operate seasonally.



Finances

ECONOMIC IMPACT

In 2016, the system commissioned an Economic Impact Study to renew the understanding of the economic impact of West Virginia State Parks and Forests on the state and its citizens. A key finding of this study is that the total economic impact of the system annually ranges between \$160.5 million and \$189.5 million. Economic impact is a measure of fresh money infused into the State's economy that likely would not have been generated in the absence of the Park System. The study showed that for every \$1 of general tax revenue provided to State Parks, \$13.15 on average was generated in fresh money that would not be present except for the operation of state parks and forests. It is time for the Section to commission a new study to update numbers demonstrated on the 2016 report. It is important to note, however, that the annual US inflation rate has averaged approximately 2.1% since 2016 so these numbers can likely be adjusted accordingly, plus would be impacted by the significant increase in park business since.



EXPENDITURES

As noted previously, revenue collections last fiscal year accounted for 67.9% of field park and forest expenditures. The balance of funds for system operation are provided by General Revenue, Lottery Account, and Lottery Account (Park Improvement Fund). The General Revenue expenditures for the Section in FY2021 were \$16,956,924 and used for classified service salaries and benefits for the majority of full-time staff within the Park System. Lottery Account funds in FY2021 were \$2,426,177 and were also used for Parks' salaries and benefits, plus a small portion legislatively dedicated to the Pricketts Fort State Park Foundation. General Fund Account expenditures were \$3 million and used for routine repairs and alterations, and major repairs and equipment.

REVENUE GENERATION

The system employs a "User Pay-Public Benefit" model for operations. User fees for services and products generate revenue supporting the many public benefits provided by the system. Revenue generated by system operations is held within the Special Revenue Account. In FY2021, total field unit collected revenue from this account cash flow was \$26,841,271, up approximately \$5.6 million from FY2020.



FUNDING

The greatest challenge facing the system has been a lack of funding for operations and deferred maintenance. The 2018 Legislative Performance Review Audit recommended an additional \$3 million to be budgeted annually to the section for major repairs and equipment replacement to address deferred maintenance. The 2018 Excess Lottery Bond will address a portion of the estimated \$160 million needed for major repairs and alterations to bring park facilities up to the standards expected by the visiting public.

Just past the ending of FY2021, the Parks Section received word that it would receive \$42 million for upcoming projects including restroom renovation and construction around the system, campground construction and various parks, cabin construction at Beech Fork State Park and Coopers Rock State Forest and Hatfield McCoy UTV trail construction at Twin Falls and Chief Logan State Parks. This is welcome funding for important projects; however, it will not eliminate the need for recurring maintenance dollars as listed above.



DIVERSITY

It is important that the system cultivates a workforce representative of the people of West Virginia. To do so, the Park System desires to increase the representation of minority groups in the workforce.

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COMPLIANCE

Critical to the mission of providing recreation to the public, the system must provide services, facilities, and programs to all people in a safe and accepting environment. Most of the items identified in the original systemwide ADA assessment are complete while additional and ever evolving needs remain and require funding. The excess Lottery bonds will address many Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) needs.

NON-NATIVE INVASIVE SPECIES

The spread of non-native invasive species plants is quickly becoming a significant issue on state parks such as North Bend and Cacapon Resort. The seemingly exponential spread of species such as Japanese Stiltgrass, Japanese Barberry, Garlic Mustard, Bush Honeysuckle and Autumn Olive are creating monocultures in numerous natural areas. This is forcing out native species biodiversity that, in turn, critically harms healthy ecosystems. A plan for addressing problem areas and a plan for protecting non- affected areas needs to be developed, funded, and implemented.



Individual Area and Section Activity Reports

West Virginia State Parks, Forests, and State Rail Trails differ from those in most other states because of the added role in filling a local recreational niche not available from local government. Many communities in West Virginia cannot afford to provide recreational opportunities such as tennis courts, swimming pools, picnic areas, etc. that are a primary responsibility of city and county governments in other states. Consequently, over the years, this function has been expected from local state parks and forests. Requirements for maintaining individual facilities are quite varied. Replacement and upkeep of aging infrastructure is a constant challenge. This section of the Annual Report will focus on park successes and issues as reported by individual Park Superintendents.

AUDRA STATE PARK

Paving was completed on three heavily used parking lots and the campground road. The sewer line at the river restroom was replaced. A new water line was installed in the campground to supply two water fountains and four new fire rings were installed on campsites. New parking blocks were installed in the gravel parking lot. The restroom in the upper picnic area had new privacy entrance walls put up and painted, the interior walls were scraped and painted, and new baseboard was installed in both sides of the restroom. Three new displays were built for the gift shop. With the help of volunteers, more than 100 new trees were planted in the campground and upper picnic area.

BABCOCK STATE PARK

Babcock State Park maintenance staff completed renovations in four Economy Cabins and five Legacy Cabins. Work in these cabins included the installation of all new kitchen cabinets, solid quartz countertops, undermount stainless steel kitchen sinks, new appliances, new ceramic tile around the bathroom shower stalls, new propane tankless water heaters, and new “mini-split” HVAC units.

Additionally, a new electric furnace and heat pump/AC unit and a new electric water heater was installed in Vacation Cabin 14, and contractors began renovation work in six Legacy Cabins. This work will be fully completed later in the year and will also include the installation of all new kitchen cabinets, solid quartz countertops, undermount stainless steel kitchen sinks, new appliances, new ceramic tile around the bathroom shower stalls, new propane tankless water heaters, and new “mini-split” HVAC units.

Other notable work at Babcock included installation of a new roof on the original CCC supply house; replacement of the original water line that was installed from the park’s entrance to the Sugar Camp Run Picnic Area; repairs to the swinging bridge located between Cabins five and seven; and repairs to the Manns Creek water reservoir to stop a bad water leak.

The Seventh Annual Sticks and Stones 15K trail race was successfully held during October 2020. The 16th Annual Grist Mill Grinder half marathon trail race was held in April 2021, after a one-year cancellation due to COVID-19.



BEECH FORK STATE PARK

Overnight camping, cabins, retail sales and day-use visitation increased significantly despite the many challenges presented by the COVID lockdown, the late winter ice storm, and the 2021 spring flood. Revenue production exceeded all previous records and park self-sufficiency increased from 101% to 131%.

Significant work at Beech Fork included the upgrading of all 49 campsites in Old Orchard campground. This work, performed by the maintenance staff, included adding gravel patio pads with timber borders, new fire rings and new picnic tables. Staff also completed the installation of a new 18-hole professional disc golf course, designed by former PDGA National Champion and West Virginia native Johnny Sias.

Further, Beech Fork was awarded a total of \$146,000 in three separate Recreational Trail Grants. Planning and DOH contract submittals were slowed by the COVID situation but were in progress for the grants at the end of the reporting period.

Other improvements included the upgrading of the park’s Gift Shop; the installation of new window treatments at the cabins; network connectivity to the swimming pool concession network for the operation of the CampLife Point-of-Sale system; and installation of eight newly manufactured campfire grills manufactured by Cabell County Career Technical Center, which fulfilled the 20 ordered originally as part of a Career Technical Education/Simulated Workplace project.

BERKELEY SPRINGS STATE PARK

Work at Berkeley Springs this year focused primarily on routine maintenance and upkeep with a few noteworthy projects as detailed herein. One of these projects included the repair and remodel of the Main Bathhouse's front stairs and the refinishing of the railings thus improving the overall appearance and first impression as guests entered the building. Additionally, a new boiler system was installed in the Old Roman Bathhouse including new plumbing and pressure gauges; a new two-way radio system was implemented for staff allowing for better communication throughout the park; the outdoor pool was repainted, and concrete work finished; and the water line was replaced outside the Main Bathhouse and a new gift shop was added to the facility.

Special events in the park included Art in the Park, several car shows, and a Homeless Coalition event. Park massage therapists also took advantage of several continuing education opportunities, learning new massage therapy procedures, techniques, and services.



BLACKWATER FALLS STATE PARK

With the COVID-19 pandemic, outdoor activities in general experienced an increase in popularity. Blackwater Falls had an unprecedented number of visitors throughout the season despite the pandemic.

The winter weather was ideal for cross country skiing, which led to record sales for ski rentals. The sled run season, covered by the reporting period, realized the highest grossing revenue in the history of the operation. Revenues totaled \$514,145.94 which was a 79.71% increase compared to FY2020 (the previous best year). The Sled Run season opened a week earlier than usual due to high demand and favorable weather conditions. This season was the busiest yet, with weekends selling out weeks in advance, and almost every session at capacity throughout the week. The Sled Run was featured in local news reports including interviews by WBOY and the Charleston Gazette-Mail. Improvements to the Sled Run prior to opening included installing an exterior window in the ticket booth for guests to purchase their tickets without having to enter the building, and the installation of new fire rings and outdoor seating around the building.

Additionally, there were many major projects at Blackwater Falls this year, the most notable of which was the closure and ongoing renovation of the Blackwater Lodge and complete renovation of the Blackwater Trading Post. On November 1, 2020, the lodge closed for renovations. This work encompasses the renovation and remodel of the public area, restaurant, hallways, and guest rooms. The projected completion date for the lodge is fall 2021. The Trading Post gift shop at the falls was closed for several months to completely overhaul the interior. It reopened for the season on Memorial Day Weekend as the "Blackwater Trading Company." The improvements to the interior and overall atmosphere resulted in an incredible increase in sales.



PARKS AND RECREATION

BLANNERHASSETT ISLAND HISTORICAL STATE PARK

More improvements to the Island Belle passenger boat were made during the winter of 2020-21, including new rudders and a power steering system. This has improved the boat's maneuverability and allows the Belle to operate in higher and swifter river conditions than was previously possible. The Belle's operations also continued the trend of zero lost days due to mechanical issues. A new Ohio River Flood display was installed in the museum and proved popular. The museum received a donation of what is believed to be Margaret Blennerhassett's china cabinet, which was put on display. The Island also is serving as a host site for a black walnut tree growing demonstration. In total, 800 trees were planted including white pine, cypress and black walnut. A storage building was built by the building and trades class at the Wood County Technical Center through the Simulated Workplace Program.

BLUESTONE STATE PARK

In FY2021, Bluestone State Park continued the most extensive cabin upgrades and remodeling project since the original construction in 1950. New roofs were put on all 26 cabins, kitchen and bathroom remodeling was completed in 23 of the 26 cabins, new blinds, doors, and HVAC units were installed.

Bluestone Dam has entered the US Army Corps of Engineers Phase 5 project for dam safety upgrades that will go on for 8-10 years. The resulting high waters at the park have altered certain operations in low-lying areas. The Bluestone Marina walkway along the shoreline was repaired in a joint effort of marina operator and park. Clearing of the vistas on Route 20 along the park overlooks is ongoing. New lights were installed at the main boat launching area.

Bluestone State Park participated in a Work Exploration Program with two nearby high schools. This is part of the Simulated Work Program for those with disabilities. Between 5-15 students worked hours on the park as a vocational type schooling twice a week to learn work skills. The best of these students can be eligible for an 80-hour NuSkool program working at the park individually with a job coach. Bluestone had two NuSkool students in FY2021. Qualifying students can graduate to a 480-hour internship where they get on the job training. Bluestone had one of these students who has been hired in a housekeeping/maintenance position.



CABWAYLINGO STATE FOREST

The Cabwaylingo State Forest Trail System Two Year Pilot Project permitting ATVs and ORVs began this spring with 80 miles of new trail opened in the forest. This new trail system was developed and is operated by the Hatfield-McCoy Regional Recreation Authority. The cabin roads were improved to accommodate guests pulling ORV trailers. Cabin renovations continue with new tankless water heaters, kitchen cabinets, bathroom remodeling and installation of pedestal grills and outside fire rings.

Campground improvements included new fire boxes and gravel to sites and roads. All hiking trails were cleared and remarked with color coded trail markers.

The forest experienced a major ice storm and flooding this past winter, which impacted the local area. The Group Camp was used as an elementary school after Dunlow Elementary received major flood damage.



CACAPON RESORT STATE PARK

Most noteworthy at Cacapon this year is that the New North Lodge opened officially on May 1, 2021, with many positive guest comments. Renovations of the existing lodge were ongoing at the end of the reporting period with a planned opening late summer or early fall. Multiple events were held in the new lodge including: a prom, middle school formal, weddings, reunions and golf groups. The new facilities consist of Prospects Dining Room, Legacy Lounge, Panhandle Private Dining Room, Ziler Library, an indoor pool and Healing Waters Spa.

Improvements at the golf course included drainage upgrades, new sand in the bunkers, as well as drainage work on the fairways and greens. A new ongoing proactive and preventative maintenance program was developed for the golf course.

Other improvements included the completion of a new section of mountain bike trail, installation of a new ADA swing at the playground, and the construction of a dog park located near the Batt Shelter. These projects were all sponsored by the Cacapon State Park Foundation.

Small projects at Cacapon included the refinishing of the bathhouse floors and the installation of new air conditioning units; development of new multi-use trails; the restoration of existing trails; the installation of new fencing around pollinator areas; and construction of a large woodshed for firewood storage.

Special events hosted by the park included Geography Rocks, Wings of Wonder and First Day Hike. During the COVID closure, the park participated in preparing school lunches for the students of the local area.

CAMP CREEK STATE PARK

Park staff completed the GSAP restroom at the new Ranger Outpost cabin. In keeping with the theme of everything on the cabin coming from the forest, the staff cut and milled four hemlock logs and used the boards for siding the restroom. A metal roof and catch system to provide water for use in the restroom completed the project. The road from the Blue Jay parking area to Hunter Parking was graveled. Stone was hauled to large water holes on Blue Jay Ridge, and all water bars and culverts were cleaned.

Culverts were built at Bear Creek to help with drainage issues. Working with the Bibbee Nature Club, staff constructed a Chimney Swift Tower that was placed on the island in front of the main office. Three wildlife areas were planted with sunflowers in preparation for the “Peak of the Bloom” event held in August each year. First Day hikes were hosted in all three parks: Camp Creek, Brush Creek Falls and Pinnacle Rock.

CANAAN VALLEY RESORT STATE PARK

Two areas within the park were designated as Natural Areas under the WVDNR Natural Areas Program representing both 2,000 acres of Canaan wetlands and 210 acres on Bald Knob. It is important to point out that the wetland area at Canaan Valley State Park is home to rare conifer swamps that includes 43 endangered species of plants, 12 invertebrates and a variety of unique animals. The Bald Knob location holds a rare red spruce forest, which also boasts several unique invertebrates and amphibian species. The Park has partnered with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Heart of the Highlands Trail Organization to receive a federal grant that will fund the construction of a new trail connecting the park and the National Wildlife Refuge. This is a project that has been in the making for more than 15 years. During the COVID closures, the park participated in preparing school lunches for students of Tucker County.

CARNIFEX FERRY BATTLEFIELD STATE PARK

Improvements to the park gift shop included new slat wall shelving and a computerized point-of-sale system. A dry erase information board that directs groups to the proper shelter was redesigned and improved. Park staff also designed and installed a new parking lot water runoff drainage system for the sidewalk leading to the picnic area restrooms. The Carnifex Ferry Sign Shop produced a total of 1,794 signs for state parks and other DNR facilities during FY2021.



CASS SCENIC RAILROAD STATE PARK

Cass Company House renovations were completed with bathrooms and kitchens being remodeled, new HVAC units installed, and new interior furnishings added. Work began to restore foundations and interiors of two unoccupied and deteriorating houses on main street. The park-wide water and sewer project saw a new water tank installed, new sewer lines and manholes from the sewer lagoon to the Cass Company Store. Bald Knob Wilderness Cabin renovation through a concessionaire agreement is nearly completed. WVU partnered with the park to bring the “Timber Timbre” exhibit and programming temporarily to the park museum. Youth Build partnered with the park to renovate the Cass Company Store bathrooms. Cass Laundry received two new industrial size dryers and one washing machine, equipment that was needed to keep up with the demands of laundry services for the seven parks served by this unit. E-bikes were purchased and are now available for rent at the park. Staff assisted with extending the Greenbrier River Trail a quarter mile to terminate at the Cass Company Store.

CATHEDRAL STATE PARK

Although small, Cathedral State Park saw some notable improvements and hosted regular public events.

Major projects included the renovations of the park’s public restrooms and the replacement of the water system, which now permits that facility to remain open later into the season; a new boardwalk was installed on the Cathedral Trail, thus allowing that trail to be accessible to park visitors during April 2021; and a small gift shop was opened in the Cathedral State Park Office, which opened in April 2021.

Cathedral hosted a “History Alive” program focusing on Sacagawea. Throughout the fall Cathedral hosted several guided hikes, including a “Wonder-fall Hike” exploring the Giant Hemlock and Owl trails. Four American Chestnut trees were planted in front of the main parking lot in hopes of regenerating the species. Cathedral hosted a program for the Wildflower Pilgrimage focusing on mosses in the park.

CEDAR CREEK STATE PARK

Renovations to the Recreation Building included the addition of a new HVAC system and roof/chimney repairs. An ADA walkway was constructed at the pool, a water slide installed, and a new concession area was opened. The ponds were stocked with grass carp and a new water pumping system was installed, both in an attempt to improve the water quality. Three bridges were built over the causeways between the ponds. Two islands in the ponds were cleared of brush and dead trees and native species were planted. Eight new paddle boats were purchased and available for rent. Dead and hazardous trees were removed throughout the park, and trail improvements were made. An original log was replaced in the cabin/check-in building, new conduit was installed for electric upgrades and bathhouses were renovated. Installation of two new septic systems began and, once completed, will eliminate the wastewater lagoon. The Cedar Creek State Park Foundation was formed and held several events.

CHIEF LOGAN STATE PARK

Numerous improvements were completed at Chief Logan State Park in the 2021 fiscal year. Two of the most important and needed projects were the scheduled bond improvements projects: the replacement of the underground water lines and replacement of the pool water slide.

Renovations at the swimming pool ticket counter room included a wooden partition with a 10' X 10' white manual push-up door with a slide lock. The room was painted, and new LED lights and a ceiling fan were installed. A new computer, cash drawer, and credit card terminal were also purchased to allow for retail items to be sold at the pool.

Other important improvements included the installation of a "through-the-door" drop box for after-hour revenue drops at the park office for the pool, campground, and Wildlife Exhibit; the installation of a concrete pad at the campground check-in station for the ice/soda machine; the expansion of retail items at the campground check-in station; the installation of a new ADA compliant concrete sidewalk to the No. 1 restroom; the replacement of a wood bridge by the Department of Highways; the placement of a new handicap swing set at Shelter 7; and the construction of several trash bin enclosures at park shelters.

The Chief Logan State Park Foundation was reactivated by several Logan County residents. Two meetings were held and priorities discussed.

The 27th Christmas in the Park was held from Thanksgiving night through December 31, 2021.

CHIEF LOGAN LODGE

All bond projects for the lodge were completed this year including new carpet in the conference center, lobby, and hallways, painting of the conference center, and replacement of window treatments. The Lodge front desk manager was tasked with overseeing and managing the revenue centers of the park including the park's gift shops, the camp store, and outdoor pool facility. A small retail selection was added to the outdoor pool area. The gift shop was reopened in the lodge selling all West Virginia made merchandise and named Country Roads Creations.

COOPERS ROCK STATE FOREST

The fiscal year saw staff needing to modify operations through adaptation and creative solutions due to the COVID pandemic. The spring saw Coopers Rock State Forest having to close most of its facilities and the majority of events were canceled, but day use numbers were very strong with people seeking outdoor recreation. As conditions improved, the forest saw record campground use, often breaking previous occupancy records for both McCollum and Rhododendron campgrounds. The 18-hole disc golf course saw construction begin and the first 9 holes are playable. More tent pads were completed in Rhododendron Campground, providing tent campers a flat spot to set up. Ten TENTRR "glamping" campsites are under construction with rentals set to start in August 2021.



PARKS AND RECREATION

DROOP MOUNTAIN BATTLEFIELD STATE PARK

The garage's old siding at Droop Mountain was replaced with rough cut pine siding and all three buildings that had siding replaced were painted. Outdoor lighting modifications to obtain official Dark Sky Designation were completed. Reenactors assisted with clearing brush, splitting wood, and cleaning debris around the tower. Volunteers also helped clean up substantial debris behind the cannon as well as prepped and painted the cannon. Gravel was spread at Droop Mountain Tower parking lot, a few dead and diseased trees were cut down, and Minie Ball, Horse Heaven, Musket and Big Spring trails were blazed. Playground equipment was improved with new swings, chains, and painting, along with safety surface beneath several units. Shelter roofs were repaired with substantial amounts of rotted boards and beams removed and replaced; and the shelters, office and CCC kiosk were reshingled.

ELK RIVER TRAIL

The new Elk River Trail in Clay and Kanawha counties saw significant progress during the past year. The trail's owner, Bright Enterprises, continued removing track and ties from the railbed, compacted the ballast (gravel) base, then applied 3-4 inches of limestone sand as the top dressing, which was in turn compacted, creating an ideal surface for hiking and bike riding. Bright allowed the public to utilize the finished sections of the trail while they awaited the state to fund purchase. The Buffalo Creek spur of the Elk River Trail was purchased in November/December 2020 by the State Rail Maintenance Authority. The 28-mile section from Duck to Hartland was leased to the State in the spring. Division of Highways installed signs bringing motorists to the soon-to-be-opened sections of the trail from four exits on I-79. Other sections of the trail are set to be purchased soon.



GREENBRIER RIVER TRAIL

Volunteers painted all mile markers along the trail, bathrooms, shelters, cleaned/cut up downed trees, fixed the sleeping platforms at two shelters along the trail, replaced Mile Marker 69 shelter roof with metal roofing, and reinstalled an interpretative sign at Buckeye Trailhead Kiosk. Employees prepped the trail for limestone gravel sands, which included blowing leaves with a tractor implement, filling potholes, and trimming back overhanging branches and trees. Nearly 62 miles of trail resurfacing was completed. A new bike pump purchased by the Greenbrier River Trail Association and other community members was installed at the new bike repair kiosk at Marlinton. Seven interpretive signs were installed with the help of the Forest Service and volunteers. Two picnic tables were built and placed at Mile Marker 13. Locust Creek, Sand Bar, and Spring Creek bridges were repaired. Three eroding rough spots with high berms along the asphalt at Marlinton were fixed with 6x6s and gravel. New bear proof trash cans were installed at two campsites.

A significant slide occurred on the trail close to the area where the major slide occurred in 2018. Massive boulders and debris came down. Staff used the Cass backhoe to remove smaller rocks and prepare an area for the larger boulders to go. Contractors took two days and around 18 hours to remove the larger boulders and clear the trail.

GREENBRIER STATE FOREST

Renovations to kitchens and bathrooms at cabins 4, 5, 6 and 7 were completed. Lighting was replaced in the dining area of all eight classic cabins. Sewer lines were replaced at cabins 4 and 11. Mattresses, bathroom shades, and kitchen accessories were replaced in all cabins and new curtains were purchased for cabin 14. Cabin 9 required roof repairs due to tree damage and the water valve boxes from the old water system were removed and those areas naturalized. Five dangerous trees in the cabin area and seven dangerous trees in the campground were removed for safety concerns. A new footbridge was built on Old Roads Trail. The pool was repainted, and the pool bathhouse had the gutter, fascia board, and downspouts replaced along one half of the building. Work began on the ADA Office Bond Project, which included permitting, site preparation, and foundation construction in this ongoing project. New faucets and sanitizing stations were installed in the campground bathhouse.

Events on the forest included two PDGA-sanctioned disc golf tournaments, one held in the fall of 2020 and the other in the spring of 2021.

HAWKS NEST STATE PARK

Notice to proceed was given for the bond projects on the lodge and museum renovations. Park Headquarters was also renovated, including new carpet and paint. New pole lights were installed as part of the parking lot light replacement program, and the Hawks Nest Lake Trail was completed. In a new partnership this year with TENTRR, nine glamping sites were set up on Fisherman's Trail along the New River. In the historical CCC area, picnic grills were rebuilt, and the Trading Post Gift Shop was renovated. During the drawdown of Hawks Nest Lake, the boat launch area was dredged to assist boaters and fishermen. Special events and activities held at the park during the reporting period included: Hawks Nest Trick or Treat, the annual Christmas lighting display, Easter Egg Hunt and Sunrise Service, and the new Hawks Nest Flea Market.

HOLLY RIVER STATE PARK

The Carpenter bathhouse was completely renovated along with a new ADA ramp to the bathhouse and pavilion. The Old Pavilion restroom was renovated, while a new approach and ramp from the parking area to the shelter that meet ADA accessibility standards is underway. Work continued on the pool shower house renovations. New volleyball and badminton poles and nets were installed. More than 150 dead trees were cut in the campground over the winter. Fiber was installed allowing Wi-Fi access to the cabins, pool, assistant superintendent's residence, maintenance shop, activity building and carpenter area, with campground access coming in FY2022. Renovations began and were nearly completed to preserve the old one-room patrol cabin on Ridge Road Trail. New laminate flooring was installed at one campground bathhouse.

KANAWHA STATE FOREST

A new gift shop was completed by staff and opened in July of 2020 and had an immediate positive impact on visitation and park revenue. At the end of the reporting period, work on the new nature center was in the final stages to be ready for opening, and work had begun on a park arboretum. Remodeling was also still underway on the campground bathhouse with a completion date expected in fall 2021. Plans for a full overhaul of the campground electrical system were completed and construction is to begin in fall 2021. Set operating hours were established for the gun range further reducing the number of incidents there. The Trail Coordinator completed a major project of remapping, signing, and blazing of the entire trail system in the forest, with a total of approximately 27 miles of trail added to the map. This effort reduced lost hiker calls to a quarter of what they were in the previous year.



KUMBRABOW STATE FOREST

The maintenance staff remodeled and relocated the gift shop at the office headquarters to allow for more space and merchandise sales. A water conditioner system was added to the water plant. The park suffered from several severe storms and cleanup was completed as necessary. Contractors installed window treatments in cabins. Woodstove parts were ordered from Ireland and have finally arrived to be used in the cabins. Water and electrical issues were addressed in the residence. The Division of Forestry planted 2,000 trees in the forest.

LITTLE BEAVER STATE PARK

In FY2021, the employees of Little Beaver State Park completed several projects including the Camping Cabin Project. Staff installed approximately 2,900 feet of 3-inch electrical conduit for American Electric Power to run power into the Black Oak Campground Loop. Thirty-seven sites in the Black Oak Loop were cleared of debris and an additional three sites were created. An area in the center of Black Oak Loop was cleared in preparation for construction of a new bathhouse and parking lot. A Chimney Swift Tower was built and installed below the dam with an interpretive sign to inform guests of the purpose of the tower.

Little Beaver State Park hosted a car show with the Shade Tree Car Club and the 30th Annual Kid's Fishing Derby.

PARKS AND RECREATION

LOST RIVER STATE PARK

Lost River is consistently seeing revenue increases throughout the year in our retail department. Staff repainted the exterior of Shelter 1. Structural repairs were made to the foundation of Cabin 7.

Renovations and upgrades were completed in three classic cabins. A brand new 18-hole disc golf course was installed. A large-scale tree trimming operation was conducted park wide to remove limbs and dead trees around cabins, parking areas, and along roadsides. Renovations, alterations, and upgrades were completed to the Primitive Outpost Cabin near the fire tower on Big Ridge Mountain. A large commemorative sign was placed on the 227-acre tract of land that was donated to the park by John and Vivian Knepper. Roof repairs were made on several buildings. New curtains and blinds were installed in all rental cabins. New furniture constructed by West Virginia Correctional Industries was added to all the Legacy cabins and all cabins received new Curtis rocking chairs. A new pipe gate with a nice design was constructed by students from Mineral County Vocational School as part of the Simulated Workplace Program. Two woodsheds were built by Hampshire County students to be placed at the rental cabins.

MONCOVE LAKE STATE PARK

The Park headquarters building, and the interiors of both campground bathhouses were repainted. Both bathhouses also had new sink countertops, faucets, toilets, hand dryers and soap dispensers installed by Monroe County Vocational School under the Simulated Workplace Program. A new backflush pump was installed in the water treatment plant. Field GPS location of all the park trails was performed, and an updated trail map was generated. The Mountain View/Peterstown Summer School Day Camp and Monroe County 31st Circuit Drug Court Rehabilitation Program graduation ceremonies were held in the park.

NORTH BEND RAIL TRAIL

Much of the year was devoted to coordinating with Citynet on a fiber optic installation on the entire length of the Trail, which eventually led to closing the entire 72 miles. Work is still ongoing with a resurfacing phase that began on the western end and to date, ten miles have been reopened. COVID-19 resulted in increased trail usage as people sought ways to enjoy recreation while still maintaining social distancing.

NORTH BEND STATE PARK

The Park continued to experience the business effects from the COVID-19 pandemic throughout Summer and Fall 2020, even after fully reopening. An appreciable percentage of our regular lodge and cabin occupancy that was resultant from group business, family reunions, church retreats, business conferences, and training getaways continued to be canceled. These cancellations not only impacted occupancy, but also impacted restaurant revenue as well. Nevertheless, some of the lost group business translated to an increase in campground occupancy and day-use visitation.

During FY2021, two major bond projects were underway in the park: the water line replacement and lodge renovation. First was the replacement of the water main through the park. The project was completed in May 2021 with minimal impact on business operations. The second bond project was the lodge remodeling which resulted in the closing of the lodge in August 2020, and it remained closed at the end of the reporting period. During this time of closure, the park's restaurant manager assisted other parks with their restaurant operations. Staff also rewrote the front desk manual, developed inspection logs, attended supervisory training, and revised cleaning standards and practices in the housekeeping department. These efforts are aimed at providing new, improved operating standards once the lodge reopens.

PANTHER STATE FOREST

The Group Camp lower building project was completed this past fiscal year. The whole structure was reshingled and a new roof constructed to replace the original flat roof over the restrooms. Most of the exterior was reinsulated, and new siding was installed and painted. New fans were purchased. A longer range Wi-Fi extender was installed in the main building. Renovations continued on the pool bathhouse including repainting the interior walls, stalls, and floors. New LED lighting was installed, and portions of the roof were replaced. The pool basin was repainted and resealed but the search for new leaks is ongoing. The filter room plumbing was almost completely redone, and a new sand filter was installed after several structural failures. Commercial refrigeration units were added to the concession stand.

New trail signs were delivered, and installation was planned for fall 2021. All footbridges in the park received non-slip traction sheeting. The Park hosted several community events including the 4-H Camp, a county drive-up vaccination clinic, a sheriff's department firearms safety class, and the Sandy Creek Expedition driving tour. The office was renovated to accommodate a small gift shop, and a new safe and alarm system were installed. Comment boxes were built and added to the camping areas.

PINNACLE ROCK STATE PARK

A concrete berm was constructed on the dam walkway at Jimmy Lewis Lake, as recommended by dam safety inspectors. Three kiosks were built at the shelter area with the Friends of Pinnacle Rock providing signage for each. The stone steps leading from the handicap parking area to the shelter restrooms were rebuilt for safety. Friends of Pinnacle hosted a Kid's Fishing Derby at the lake in June 2021.

PIPESTEM RESORT STATE PARK

Many improvements were underway at Pipestem Resort State Park for the duration of the reporting period. Most notable was the renovation work at both lodges. McKeever Lodge renovation work included public areas, conference rooms, guest rooms, and the restaurant. During this work, the lodge remained partially opened and serviced guests and visitors. Renovation work at Mountain Creek Lodge was also performed and completed. In December, a water line froze due to contractor error causing damage to several rooms over many floors at McKeever Lodge.

Another major project will take place at the Canyon Rim Center. This area includes the upper tramway platform, zip line staging area, gift shop and refreshment stand. This facility will soon be under renovation. Further, the tram's electrical control panel received a complete overhaul.

Other work completed at Pipestem included: expansion of the Call Center; installation of fireplace mantels in 25 cabins; installation of LED parking lot lighting; installation of a new HVAC system at Mt. Creek dining room as well as the bridgeway and spa at McKeever Lodge. The Park also purchased a skeet range building and added electricity to that area.

Smaller, yet noteworthy projects included the renovation of the Convention Services and Sales offices at McKeever Lodge; the upgrade of the River Trail in preparation for an additional zipline, and the planting of two pollinator zones.

PRICKETT'S FORT STATE PARK

The programming and outdoor concerts normally held in the summer were canceled in 2020 due to COVID-19 but resumed in early spring 2021. A major water leak at the fort was repaired, and the boat docks and footbridge at the old visitor center were repaired. The visitor center is undergoing renovations to convert it into an eating establishment, a project funded and supervised by the Pricketts Fort Memorial Foundation.



SENECA STATE FOREST

Cabin improvements continued to be the emphasis in the past fiscal year. All new gas light fixtures were installed in Cabin 6, and new refrigerators, new wood burning cookstoves and West Virginia-made wooden rocking chairs were installed in two cabins. Seven windows were replaced in the fire tower cabin, completing the project begun last year. Two replacement pedal boats were purchased. Sixteen post grills were purchased for the picnic area and campground. Dead and dangerous trees were removed from the picnic area, cabin areas and campground. Seneca Lake received a "Gold Rush" stocking in the spring. Volunteers donated 510 hours assisting with trail maintenance, handling firewood and grounds maintenance.

STONEWALL RESORT STATE PARK

Three additional deluxe cottages were built and added to the rental inventory this fiscal year. The original cottages received new flooring and interior painting. The Woodland Trail and Mosaic Trail were completed while the Passive Park Trail was upgraded and expanded. A multitude of broken parking space stops were replaced throughout the resort. Additional "no wake" buoys were installed near the cottage ramp and dock where infractions had been an ongoing issue. More than \$300,000 of pylons were retrofitted to the marina docks to help alleviate a long-standing issue of damage resulting from high water and winds. All deck boards were replaced on the marina and cottage docks with plans to stain them in fall 2021. Extensive upgrades were begun at the wastewater treatment plant with an expected completion date of winter 2021.

PARKS AND RECREATION

TOMLINSON RUN STATE PARK

A new set of stairs and sidewalk were installed at the Group Camp Dining Hall. New mini-golf supplies and 4x6 timbers for the golf hole borders were purchased with recreation bond money. Staff installed 50-amp electric service to five campsites that did not have electric service before. The campground gift shop was remodeled to provide increased capacity. A new camping cabin that was built by the John D. Rockefeller Career Center under the Simulated Workplace Program, was installed, and made available for rent at the campground. New sand and a volleyball net were purchased for the pool area volleyball court. The pool bathhouse had a new roof installed and the building was painted. A new 180-foot-long water slide was installed at the pool.

TU-ENDIE-WEI STATE PARK

The electrical improvements were completed on the Mansion House and the monument. The project to rewire the entire park was approximately 60% complete at the end of the reporting period. Due to energy efficiency improvements the electrical cost of running the park has dropped by 50%, and it is expected that another drop will be seen as the remaining work is completed. Flower bed improvements continued with the ongoing help from 4-H of Mason County. The general area beautification also has included new historic flags for the house, improvements to the work shed, and a display of the Mansion House through the years to celebrate the 225th anniversary of its construction.



TWIN FALLS RESORT STATE PARK

During this fiscal year, Twin Falls Resort made major improvements to the Monarch Lodge, including the completion of structural and brick repairs, notably with the Oak Room and Chinquapin Room being stabilized and reinforced. In addition, a new Garland brand roof was installed on the Monarch Lodge that should serve the lodge for 40 years. The picnic areas also saw improvements during the year, with three new precast concrete bathrooms added in public areas. Handicap accessible ramps, parking barriers, and landscaping were added to the bathrooms by park staff. Staff installed a 9-hole disc golf course near the nature center of the park. Recreation at the park was also boosted with the creation of a game room at the lodge, retrofitting the existing Magnolia Room.

Interscholastic Cycling Association (NICA) Trail was completed and scheduled to host a NICA sanctioned race in October 2021. The Hickory Knob Trail was also completed and allows hikers to now access more of the park on trails than ever before. This trail will enable hikers to travel from one end of the park to the other on trails with only minor sections on hard roads.

The newest shelter in the park, Shelter 4, was opened this year and was in high demand. New picnic tables were made for the shelter and cabins by a local church group that constructed 32 tables for the shelter and 14 for the cabins.

Significant improvements were made to the golf course. New rough lines and standards were developed and implemented, as well as reestablishing the original size and scope of the greens. Improvements to the look and approach of the tee boxes were made, and maintenance techniques and methods have been implemented.

A large parking area was created near the Nature Center to provide parking for the Nature Center, disc golf course, and additional parking for the Amphitheater and ballfield areas. Additional picnic tables were created through the Simulated Workplace Program, adding 20 tables to the campground and picnic areas.



TYGART LAKE STATE PARK

New window blinds were installed in the lobby and dining room area. A remodel of lodge room interiors, addition of decks and sliding doors and replacement of the room HVAC systems began and was ongoing at the end of the reporting period. A project to replace wastewater treatment plants at the lodge and cabin areas was put out to bid in 2020 and awarded, with construction to start in late 2021. A project to replace the lodge lobby and dining room HVAC system was planned and put out to bid near the end of the fiscal year. This project will replace eight package units and one split system on the lodge roof. New docks were installed adjacent to the second boat ramp and parallel to the shoreline, an overflow parking area was constructed across the road from the marina restrooms, and the marina parking lot was widened to allow for angled parking. A complete interior remodel of the men's campground bathhouse was completed. Bathrooms were remodeled in Cabins 1 through 10, sill plates were replaced on Cabin 1, and floors were repaired in Cabins 7 and 9. A short hiking trail was constructed from the park office to the swimming area building. Work was done to improve the tread and grade on Woodland Trail near the campground. The operation of the swimming area was put out to bid and awarded to Ace Adventures, who installed an inflatable water park adjacent to the swimming area. The Park has assisted Ace Adventures with gift shop and site preparation, operational assistance and lending of kayaks.

VALLEY FALLS STATE PARK

The major bond project during the reporting period was the complete renovation of the park restroom. The building was completely gutted and new walls, partitions, floor covering, toilets, urinals, sinks, toilet paper dispensers, paper towel dispensers, soap dispensers and vent fans were added. The exterior was painted. Additional bond funding was used to gravel the parking lots. Slat wall fixtures were added to the gift shop for merchandise display. Despite the cancellation of many events due to COVID-19, the park still hosted several weddings and gatherings. Special events during the year included a mountain bike race, trail running race, an ultra-marathon, kayak training event and saw-whet owl banding.

WATOGA STATE PARK (includes Calvin Price State Forest)

More dead and dangerous trees were removed from the Beaver Creek Campground and cabin areas. Twenty composite park benches were installed throughout the park. New electrical service was completed at Beaver Creek campsites 23-38. Six tent sites at Beaver Creek were enlarged to accommodate travel trailers. Twelve campsites at Riverside Campground were lengthened and widened in preparation for new electric pedestals being installed. All Riverside electric was upgraded to 50 amp, including the 12 former non-electric sites. Contractors installed blinds and curtains in all 34 cabins, and new mattresses were purchased.

WATTERS SMITH MEMORIAL STATE PARK

More than 3,500 feet of waterline was installed replacing, in some cases, 50-year-old lines. Extensive replacement of fence posts and rails along Duck Creek Road was done. One thousand trees were planted in the park's forest and open areas including American Chestnut Hybrids, Red Buds, Paw Paws, Persimmon, White Walnut and Red Osier Dogwoods. A 3.75-mile, professionally constructed, beginner-level mountain bike/hiking trail was completed by a contractor. Information boards, trail maps, trail markers, new signage and bike repair stations were installed along the trail. The Dogwood Trail was completely rerouted and professionally constructed creating a nice downhill ride for mountain bikers and allowing trail users to link into surrounding trails. The construction of the new trail and repairs to many of the existing trails led to an increase in overall park attendance.



WEST VIRGINIA

DNR

**PLANNING,
ENGINEERING AND
MAINTENANCE**

Bradley S. Leslie, *Chief Engineer*



Overview

The Planning, Engineering, and Maintenance Section (PEM) serves the Division of Natural Resources through many functions. PEM is responsible for the proper planning of all significant capital improvement projects as well as major maintenance projects; all construction or consulting related to bidding documents and overseeing their ultimate proper disposition through the Division of Purchasing; and represent the agency as the owner for all significant construction and architectural/engineering projects by providing administration for these contracts.

The Planning Engineering and Maintenance Section is also tasked with assisting in and ensuring the compliance of federal and state environmental regulations by all sections of the DNR. We maintain the agency's West Virginia National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits and provide support to the sub agencies in their compliance, recordkeeping and reporting.

PEM provides technical support primarily to the Parks and Wildlife Sections, but to Administration and Law Enforcement as well. This support includes technical advice for building maintenance and improvements, environmental compliance, water and wastewater treatment, and infrastructure repairs and improvements.

The PEM office is responsible for monitoring and maintaining certain systems as they relate to public safety. Proper inspection, maintenance and repairs are required to maintain public safety for the agency's dams, ski lifts, aerial tramways, surface lifts, and nautical vessels. This important function of PEM is accomplished by striving to ensure compliance with codes and standards more stringent than state code in many instances.

PEM also works with FEMA and the State Division of Homeland Security following the occurrence of a state disaster to submit reports of damages and to see that the damages are repaired, and the state is properly reimbursed.

SUBSTANTIALLY COMPLETE PROJECTS AS OF JUNE 30, 2021, INCLUDING 20 PROJECTS FOR PARKS SECTION AND 7 FOR WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION (completed between June 2020 and June 2021)

- Babcock State Park
 - Water Line Replacement
 - Septic
- Blackwater Falls State Park
 - Wastewater Treatment and Collection System Repairs
- Cacapon Resort State Park New Lodge Addition
- Cass Scenic Railroad State Park
 - Wastewater Collection System Renovations
 - Water Tank Replacement
- Chief Logan State Park
 - Water Line Replacement
 - Water Slide Replacement
- Claudia L. Workman Wildlife Education Center (Phase II) Building Construction
- Coopers Rock State Forest Trading Post Roofing
- Frozen Camp WMA Headquarters and Shop/Storage Building
- Fairfax Lake WMA Dam Repair
- Hawks Nest State Park
 - CCC Museum
 - Lodge Redecoration
 - CCC Gift Shop/Restroom Roofing
- McClintic WMA Residence Roof Replacement
- Meadow River Public Boating Access Site
- Moncove Lake State Park WWTP upgrades
- North Bend State Park Water Line Replacement
- Ridge Hatchery Water Supply Rehabilitation
- Rollins Lake WMA Dams Repair
- Tomlinson Run State Park
 - Pool Slide Replacement
 - Pool Bathhouse Roof Replacement
 - Stream Enhancement
- Twin Falls Resort State Park
 - Structural Repairs
 - Roof Replacement
- Tygart Lake State Park
 - Wastewater Treatment and Collection System Renovations

PLANNING, ENGINEERING AND MAINTENANCE

CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN PROJECTS IN PROGRESS AS OF JUNE 30, 2021, INCLUDING 40 PROJECTS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION SECTION AND 18 FOR WILDLIFE RESOURCES SECTION

- Babcock State Park
Cabin Area Electrical
System Renovation
- Bowden Hatchery
 - Raceway Renovation Project
Contract 2
 - Recirculation and Wastewater
System Contract 3
- Bear Rocks Lake
Dam Monitoring and Improvements
- Beech Fork State Park
 - Lake Dredging
 - Campground Bathhouses and
Comfort Stations
ADA Improvements
- Blackwater Falls State Park
Lodge Redecoration
- Cacapon Resort State Park
 - Campground Construction
 - Wastewater Treatment Collection
System Rehab
 - Existing Lodge Renovation
 - Golf Course Drainage
Improvements
- Canaan Valley Resort State Park
 - Wastewater Treatment and
Collection System Repairs
 - Campground Addition
 - Tube Park Lift Addition
- Chief Logan State Park
Wastewater Improvements
- Clendenin Public Boating Access Site
- Coopers Rock State Forest
 - Water and Wastewater Improvements
 - Superintendent Residence
 - Campground Bathhouse
ADA Improvements
 - New Restroom
- District 2 and 3 Office Renovations
- District 6 Office Construction
- Elk River Boating Access Sites
(Five Sites)



- Gyandott Boating Access Facility
- Hawks Nest State Park
 - Lodge Structural Repairs
 - CCC Pavilion Renovations
- Holly River State Park
Connection to Public Water
- Kanawha River
Boat Access Site/South Charleston
- Kanawha State Forest
 - Campground Existing Washhouse
ADA Improvements
 - Campground New Washhouse and
ADA Improvements
 - Dunlop Hollow New
Comfort Station
 - Campground Electric
Improvements
- Mt. Storm Boat Ramp Improvements
- North Bend State Park
 - Wastewater Improvements
 - Lodge Landscaping
 - Lodge Redecoration
 - Cokeley Branch
Campground Improvements
 - Cokeley Branch Well Plugging
- Palestine Mussel Hatchery
- Pipestem Resort State Park
 - Upper and Lower Tram Structural
Repairs and ADA Improvements
 - Wastewater Treatment and
Collection System Repairs
 - Lodge Redecoration
- Reeds Creek Septic
- Statewide Shooting Range
Lead Management Plan and
Range Improvements
- Summersville Lake WMA
Headquarters and Shop/
Storage Buildings
- Stonewall Jackson Resort State Park
Wastewater Treatment Improvements
- Tomblin WMA
Headquarters and Shop/Storage
Buildings and Elk Observation Tower
- Twin Falls Resort State Park
 - Golf Course Irrigation System
 - Outdoor Pool Replacement
- Turkey Run Dam Repairs
- Tygart Lake State Park
Wastewater Improvements
- Upper Decker Creek
Dams Improvements
- Watters Smith Memorial State Park
 - Master Plan
 - Event Shelter
- Watoga State Park
 - Wastewater Improvements
 - Swimming Pool Renovation
 - Water Line Replacement
- White Horse WMA
Office/Storage Building



WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Paul R. Johansen, *Chief*



WILDLIFE RESOURCES

The Wildlife Resources Section (WRS) is responsible for the management of the state's wildlife resources for the use and enjoyment of its citizens. The primary objective of the Section is to maintain and perpetuate fish and wildlife at levels compatible with the available habitat, while providing maximum opportunities for recreation, research, and education.

Operations Unit

INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM

Traditional public meetings to present proposed regulation changes to hunters, anglers, and other interested individuals were canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic concerns. Comments on the proposed regulations for the upcoming seasons were solicited through submission of written responses to questionnaires. Fifty-five clubs with 7,802 members, and 323 individuals submitted completed questionnaires.

The WRS staff assisted conservation and civic clubs, schools, and communities with various wildlife-related inquiries and informational needs. These activities included working with organizations and events such as the Boy Scouts, 4-H clubs, Envirothon, hunting, trapping, and fishing-based clubs, nature tours, outdoor and hunting shows, fairs, and training schools. Cooperation was extended to universities and colleges by staff serving as guest lecturers.

The West Virginia State Wildlife Center continued to provide an excellent opportunity to observe and learn about the Mountain State's abundant wildlife of both past and present. In 2020, the facility was visited by 43,554 visitors generating \$84,482 in total admissions. Following a year that was largely affected by COVID-19, the Wildlife Center was still prosperous, even though special events were canceled.

The West Virginia Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation (R3) Strategic Plan

As hunting and angling participation trends decline, faced with societal changes, and recognizing a need to better connect West Virginia citizens with the outdoors, the WVDNR developed a Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation (R3) strategic plan to guide future efforts and program development. Building on plan development that began in February 2018, the WVDNR finalized the R3 strategic plan in May 2020. Plan implementation was scheduled to start during the summer of 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and safety of both staff and participants, this step was put on pause.

While in-person activities were put on hold, the WVDNR was able to develop and implement a series of integrated marketing efforts to promote license sales and outdoor participation. During the COVID-19 pandemic, participation in all types of outdoor recreation increased greatly. By targeting this unique audience, license sales and outdoor recreation remained relevant to new and returning hunters, anglers, and outdoor enthusiasts.



In this reporting period, more than 218 hunters had a deer scored by an official WVDNR scorer, or affiliated scorer, certified through the Boone and Crockett Club and/or Pope and Young Club. During the 2020-21 hunting season, 78 bucks were harvested with a gun, muzzleloader, bow, or crossbow, and met the requirements of the WV Big Buck Certification Program. An additional 81 bucks from previous years were officially scored and met the requirements for a WV Big Buck Certificate. This hunting season saw a new state record whitetail buck harvested by Jody Dalton while bow hunting in Wyoming County.

Staff typically conduct or assist in many more fishing education events. These events included National Hunting and Fishing Days, Black Walnut Festival, Conservation Camp, Charleston Hunting and Fishing Show, Gold Rush, WV Arts and Crafts Fair, Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs, Kid's Fishing Derby, and numerous Outdoor Classrooms. However due to the COVID-19 outbreak most fishing events were canceled this year.

The weekly West Virginia Outdoors and DNR Report radio programs with Chris Lawrence were broadcast over 17 Metro-News-affiliated stations throughout the state.

INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH PROGRAM CONTINUED...

Archery in the Schools

In the 16th year of operation, this program reached more than 300 schools. During FY2021, WVDNR hosted six Basic Archery Instructor Training courses adding an additional 44 instructors to the program. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, safety precautions were implemented, and class sizes were limited.

To comply with state and local health directives, the WV Archery in the Schools State Tournament was held virtually. The event was open to all active programs as qualifying tournaments could not take place. Schools were required to shoot a competitive round between March 25-27, 2021. After shooting, scores were verified and submitted to an online database. In total, 717 archers from 51 schools participated in the virtual tournament.

The National Archery in the Schools (NASP*) program also opted to hold their national tournament virtually. The event was open to any school with an active program, making it the largest competitive virtual tournament ever held. West Virginia had 35 schools participate in the event, with several teams and individuals placing in the top tier of their age group.

Hunters Helping the Hungry

The Hunters Helping the Hungry (HHH) program is a cooperative effort that involves the WVDNR, hunting community, meat processors, Mountaineer Food Bank, Facing Hunger Foodbank, and a statewide network of more than 600 food pantries, shelters, churches, children's homes, and similar groups. Since its inception in 1992, the HHH has provided 1,046,697 pounds of venison. In 2020, hunters donated a total of 500 deer (20,104 pounds of venison) that contributed to approximately 26,805 meals. In 2020, program costs (e.g., processing and transport) were \$38,197.98. Many of these costs were offset by donations from the annual "Share the Harvest Sunday," the "Governor's One Shot" fundraiser, and the generosity of private individuals. The WVDNR is prohibited from using license revenue to fund HHH and must rely upon these generous funding sources to successfully operate the program.

National Hunting and Fishing Days – Stonewall Resort State Park

West Virginia's Celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day was scheduled for September 19-20, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the event was canceled. Typically, the event provides the public with hands-on learning opportunities in the areas of wildlife and outdoor recreation. In past years, the WVDNR partnered with the West Virginia Wildlife Federation to promote and coordinate this event. Attendance averages approximately 6,000 people who try their hand at several activities including archery, rifle and shotgun shooting, fly-fishing, and bow fishing. In addition, attendees can also attend several wildlife demonstrations and visit approximately 60 vendors.

Outdoor Youth Challenge

The Outdoor Youth Challenge (OYC), which is held annually at West Virginia's Celebration of National Hunting and Fishing Day, was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Typically, youth participate in hands-on activities and displays that encouraged them to gain knowledge and experience about wildlife, hunting, fishing, firearms safety, and outdoor recreation. WVDNR Law Enforcement personnel coordinate the OYC with the assistance of WRS personnel.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM

The WRS continued its successful capital improvements program to enhance opportunities for hunters, anglers, and other wildlife recreationists. Funds for capital improvements are primarily derived from 10 percent of the hunting and fishing license revenues and from the purchase of Conservation Stamps by licensed hunters and anglers. This program provides facilities, such as wildlife management areas, shooting ranges, fishing and boating access sites, physically challenged accessible hunting and fishing facilities, fish hatcheries and dam improvements for the benefit of hunters, anglers, shooting sports participants and boaters.

The year's major projects were:

- Construction of a headquarters and storage building complex at Frozen Camp Wildlife Management Area, Jackson County, and Summersville Wildlife Management Area, Nicholas County.
- Rehabilitation of the dams at Rollins Lake, Jackson County, and the Fairfax Pond in Preston County.
- Renovation of the water supply system at Ridge State Fish Hatchery, Morgan County.
- Improved access to the Meadow River by installing a concrete ramp in Charmco Park, Greenbrier County.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS) AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT PROGRAM

Support of annual projects included summarizing game harvests, processing antlerless deer eligibility notices, and summarizing results and responses from spring gobbler surveys, grouse cooperator surveys, bow hunter surveys, statewide hunter prospect surveys, and mast surveys. A new angler survey is in development and the deer hunter survey is being redesigned to improve flow and readability, with the goal of increasing the response rate. Staff prepared and submitted fiscal notes on legislation during the 2021 legislative session, served on the Trout Management Plan Technical Advisory Committee, and led an agency-wide Wildlife Endowment Fund Plan update effort.

Staff provided technical assistance and training on GIS and Global Positioning Systems (GPS) data acquisition and dataset development, GPS data management, GIS application use, cartography, large-format printing, and spatial data analysis. Paper and PDF maps of Wildlife Management Areas and Lakes were produced for internal and public use, and are available at the Elkins Operations Center and District offices. Traditional Trimble GPS data collection, ArcGIS Survey123 and Avenza Maps on mobile devices were supported for field use. Staff provided geospatial services and support for projects operating statewide to ensure the collection of accurate locations of field survey data. GIS capabilities were deployed across the agency and ongoing staff instruction was provided by request.

GIS and Technical Support maintained and managed over three terabytes of natural resource base mapping information ranging from statewide aerial photography, satellite imagery, topographic maps, soil surveys, geology, elevation data, public land boundaries, streams, fishing access sites, wetlands, public fishing lakes, lake depth, demographics, political boundaries, land use/land cover, and other natural resource datasets. Use of these GIS datasets by agency staff continued to grow and become incorporated into the daily workflow and basic analysis of project data.

Analysis projects continued, including the Grouse Habitat Management Priority Tool, Chronic Wasting Disease Model, Landscape Integrity Index update, and Stream Integrity Index. Staff consulted with WRS biologists on new Habitat Suitability Models and prioritized modeling for West Virginia Species of Greatest Conservation Need. Woodrat and Indiana bat models were completed and are starting to be used to identify field survey locations. Staff finalized a project with Davis and Elkins College to complete habitat suitability models for six threatened and endangered plant species: shale barren rock cress, small whorled pogonia, harperella, northeastern bulrush, Virginia spiraea, and running buffalo clover. Internal field validation of models has begun.

Staff responded to requests for data from consultants, partners, and other federal, state, and non-government organizations



as needed. Staff provided data to support WRS projects and activities, species database support, analysis, data management, metadata. A Data Systems Assessment was begun with Sitka Technology Group, to find the best path forward for meeting current and future information management and reporting needs for WRS and key partners. Staff maintained several GIS-based tools and projects, providing data updates, and support.

The Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing interactive online map continued to be hosted by the WV GIS Technical Center (WVGISTC). This tool provided the public with increased access to Wildlife Resources Section facilities including Wildlife Management Areas, stream access sites, float trips, license agents, physically challenged or Class Q opportunities, district office contact information, and links to online resources for license purchases and regulations. Staff collected, processed, and added to the lake depth data in the past year as part of a Sportfish Restoration Grant.

The Interagency Coordination Tool was maintained in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and WVGISTC to analyze project areas for threatened and endangered species. The online tool generated appropriate conservation practices to assist NRCS personnel in protecting these species as they develop projects.

GIS staff continued to develop, update, and assist WRS staff on the use of the Watershed Resources Registry (WRR). The WRR is an online mapping tool that allows staff to coordinate with other agencies more effectively; identify candidate locations; assess and compare potential projects; export data and print site maps for field visits; and input a site visit form connected to a point on the map. The WRR is now linked to two additional Federal planning tools, EPA NEPAAssist and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service IPaC, with the ability to generate reports for an area of interest from within the WRR tool.

ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION PROGRAM

Hydropower

Staff consulted with the WV Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), applicants, and operators on hydropower projects in West Virginia. Actions were taken on 14 licensed and active hydropower projects ensuring compliance with Clean Water Act conditions and FERC license articles. Four projects remained in varying stages of construction with one project withdrawing its application. Compensatory mitigation for the loss of aquatic resources continued for four of the licensed projects with discussions and further analysis being conducted for the remaining licensed projects. The Racine Hydroelectric Project continued to progress through the relicensing process with the expected date of license certification in 2023. The Lake Lynn Hydroelectric Project formally began the relicensing process for the expected licensing date of 2024. Deliberations continued with the Millville Project to achieve adequate downstream passage protection for the American eel. Staff continued to work with the Hawks Nest Project and state partners in establishing and securing two new access sites along the New River. Additionally, the WRS received original applications for three pump storage hydroelectric projects. The applicant has since withdrawn these applications.

Wind Power

No new wind power projects have been proposed for West Virginia. Coordination continued for the Short Mountain, Black Rock, Beech Ridge II and Pinnacle wind facilities.

Gas and Oil

Staff provided coordination with the natural gas industry to attempt to mitigate impacts to our charge resources. Staff reviewed various applications for oil and gas related activities, including well locations, pipeline activities and fractionation plant development. Assistance was provided to the WVDNR Office of Land and Streams for review of lease agreements for oil and gas under the Ohio River. Technical support was provided to WVDEP Offices of Oil and Gas and Waste and Water, concerning impacts to fish and wildlife associated with oil and gas production and transmission. Support was also provided to Fish and Game Management Units for oil and gas activities on Lewis Wetzel Wildlife Management Area.

Staff continued cooperative efforts with The Conservation Fund and industry to provide conservation measures and habitat replacement projects for impacts resulting from natural gas pipeline construction.

Technical assistance continued with WVDEP concerning stream impacts from construction of transmission lines, gas fractionation facilities, and the associated stream restoration projects required as mitigation. Staff aided WVDEP, USACE and USEPA in review of the Clean Water Act Section 404 violations at numerous oil and gas construction sites and related wetland, stream mitigation, and restoration activities. Assistance was also provided to industry, state and federal regulatory agencies related to development of Best Management Practices for stream crossing activities. Support was provided for training in the application and use of trenchless methods of pipeline crossings of streams and wetlands. Staff provided continued support to the USFWS in protecting their charge resources potentially impacted by the oil and gas industry. National Environmental Policy Act review, as a cooperating agency, was provided to FERC for several proposed natural gas pipelines.



ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATION PROGRAM CONTINUED...

Clean Water Act 404/401 and Section 10

The Coordination Unit continued to provide technical support for Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404/401, and River and Harbors Act Section 10 certifications to WVDEP under our long-standing Memorandum of Understanding. Staff reviewed and submitted comments for wetland and stream restoration, economic development projects, etc. Considerable mitigation in the form of avoidance, reduction of potential impacts, restoration, and enhancement of aquatic resources was secured as a result of these efforts. Due to recent policy changes to the definition of Water of the United States, Nationwide Permits, and proposed changes in the administration of states' 401 programs, considerable time and effort has been expended determining paths forward for WVDNR's role in the conservation of our charge resources.

Staff reviewed and submitted comments to WVDEP on approximately 48 Individual 401 Water Quality Certifications this reporting period.

Staff reviewed 45 Stream Management Plans submitted by the West Virginia Conservation Agency (WVCA) on behalf of individual landowners to accomplish relatively minor bank stabilization and channel improvement projects.

Staff coordinated with WVDEP, Tunnel Ridge, and other staff within WVDNR in identifying areas of concern, and in drafting a memo of understanding to adequately mitigate for the expected subsidence to occur at the Bear Rock Lakes WMA.

Staff coordinated with the Diversity Unit to write comments for year 5 Camp Dawson management report.



Highways

Staff continued to participate in the National Environmental Policy Act process for several West Virginia Division of Highway's (WVDOH) major projects such as: Coalfields Expressway Welch to WV 16 and Corridor H Parsons to Kerens sections 1, 2 and 3. Fishing access was discussed with WVDOH and will be added into the plans for J.C. Cruikshank Bridge Elk River and Long Run Bridge Buffalo Creek, and Fourth Street Arch Weston.

Staff reviewed numerous smaller transportation improvement projects: Seventy-four bridges, 74 culverts, 22 bank stabilizations, and eight roadway repairs.

Staff responded to requests from WVDOH, local officials, state officials, and numerous watershed groups for information on permitting issues relating to wetland/stream disturbance, mitigation obligations, permit compliance, Natural Stream Design, flooding, and other related topics. Staff provided review and comment on potential endangered species issues to West Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster Relief regarding flood-related private bridge repair/replacement projects.

Mitigation Banking and In-Lieu Fee

Staff served on the Interagency Review Team (IRT) to review, comment, and approve Mitigation Banks (MB) and In-Lieu Fee (ILF) projects. Staff attended field reviews and provided design input for the development of several newly proposed mitigation banks. Staff verified yearly monitoring reports and conducted field reviews at existing mitigation banks. Staff coordinated ILF projects including major stream and wetland restoration projects on Morgan Wetland ILF, Old Field Fork ILF, Mill Creek ILF, Frozencamp ILF, Marytown MB, Copperas MB, Kanawha Yeager MB, Kanawha Sapsucker MB, Hayes Run MB, Spanishburg MB, and Larkin Hollow MB. There were 50 projects being administered by the IRT during this reporting period. Staff coordinated with WVDEP in the development of a rapid functional assessment for wetlands that will be utilized to determine credit and debits for wetland impacts and aide in the monitoring of our state wetlands.

Regional Permits

Two Regional General Permits (RGP) required attention this reporting period. The WVCA utilized their RGP to expedite authorization of stream recovery projects (removal of channel blockages, bank stabilization, debris removal, channel restoration) after declared disasters. The WVDOH requested the development of an RGP to cover common activities related to road construction and maintenance. Staff worked with WVDEP, USACE and WVDOH staff to formulate the new WVDOH RGP. The WVDOH RGP was approved this reporting period.



Spawning Waivers

Staff received, reviewed, coordinated, and documented the issuance of fish spawning season restriction waivers, as required by the WVDEP's 401 Water Quality Certification Standard Condition #12. This work requires coordination with WRS Biologists, consultants, industry, private residents, as well as state and federal agencies. Approximately 234 waiver requests were received and reviewed during the reporting period. Waiver requests received were WVDOH (80), pipelines (122), water withdraw (28) and four other miscellaneous projects.

Refuge Coordination

Staff continued working with USFWS to revise hunting, trapping, and fishing regulations on Ohio River Islands National Wildlife Refuge and Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge. Other activities included early successional habitat development and control of invasive plant species. Coordination continued with minor projects requiring NEPA review for the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) on the Monongahela National Forest.

Natural Resource Damage Assessment

Staff served as lead contact for a Trustee Council associated with the Hanlin-Allied-Olin Natural Resource Damage Assessment. This task required coordination with multiple WRS employees, WVDEP, USFWS, as well as the responsible parties for the damage. This project may result in compensation for long term industrial impacts that occurred in the Hannibal Pool of the Ohio River. The Kanawha River capping project was reviewed this reporting period.

Collection Permits and Data Base Review Requests

A total of 327 Scientific Collecting Permit applications were reviewed, and permits issued to researchers, consultants, government agencies and educators. Most permits were issued to consultants conducting presence/absence surveys or performing biomonitoring required by other agencies. Two permit applications were denied, and one permit was revoked. Approximately 600 projects were reviewed for the occurrence of rare, threatened and endangered species. These included flood-relief projects, USACE permit applications, infrastructure development and improvements, highway projects and coal mining activities.

Master Naturalist and Invasive Species

Staff worked with Potomac Valley Master Naturalists on Invasive Oriental bittersweet at Cacapon State Park which involved writing an article for West Virginia magazine, teaching an herbicide technician class and two full weekends of invasive species control and monitoring.

Game Management Unit

PUBLIC LANDS PROGRAM

The WRS Game Management Unit conducted habitat management and law enforcement activities on 99 Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and eight state forests totaling 502,156 acres. Acquisition of public lands and unique habitats continues to be a priority, especially in targeted regions of the state. A new WMA (e.g., Daniels Ridge WMA) which encompasses 3,352 acres was acquired in Monroe County, and an additional 4,997 acres was purchased and added to the Tug Fork WMA in McDowell County. A portion of the Tug Fork WMA acquisition had been under a lease agreement with the WVDNR. In addition, fee acquisitions were made to the Allegheny WMA (200 acres) and Hilbert WMA (70 acres). A 256-acre parcel which had been under a lease agreement for several years was acquired at the Hughes River WMA. Land reviews and associated due diligence were conducted during the fiscal year on numerous properties which will be closed in FY2022.

An extensive wildlife management program was conducted on nearly 1.1 million acres of national forest land (comprised of 14 WMA units) located in West Virginia through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and WVDNR. State wildlife biologists and managers devoted a significant portion of their time reviewing national forest scoping notices, timber sales and providing technical input in the development of national forest plans. Management issues were closely reviewed to ensure that our fish and wildlife resources receive the maximum possible benefit. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, all annual joint meetings with the USFS, West Virginia Division of Forestry, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USACE and numerous working groups or symposia were either canceled or held virtually.

Management on our WMAs and national forest lands was directed toward improving forest age structure and stand composition, which created more living space for a variety of species. Much of the forest is of similar age, making it more susceptible to disease and disturbance, therefore reducing resiliency. Commercial forest management activities, which created young forest and structurally complex habitat, were conducted on 808 acres. Another 651 acres were placed under contract or in the administrative stage, 568 acres were cruised and marked, and 1,210 acres were in the initial planning stage. Approximately 54 acres of field-border cuts were created. A total of 206 acres of forest mulching was conducted.

Management activities by personnel on state and national forest lands included releasing and/or grafting existing trees and planting additional trees and shrubs for food and cover on 91 acres.

Approximately 2,502 acres of wildlife clearings were mowed, and 46 acres of new clearings were established. Lime was applied to 281 acres and fertilizer applied to another 551 acres. A total of 661 acres were seeded to create food plots and dove fields. Prescribed fire was applied to 267 acres to improve the diversity and abundance of desired plants. Herbicide was used on 800 acres to control undesirable/invasive vegetation. Sharecropping agreements were executed on 989 acres to maintain open-land habitat; 55 waterholes were maintained to provide a year-round water supply for wildlife.

Water levels on 207 acres of wetlands were manipulated to encourage waterfowl utilization. One hundred and fifty-three wood duck boxes and 62 other species nest structures were maintained.

A total of 589 miles of roads, 236 miles of trails and 14 vehicle and foot bridges were maintained. Road closures (gates) were installed and/or maintained at 659 locations.

Nine hundred eighty-two information and regulation signs were erected or maintained, and 124.3 miles of boundary was posted. Three hundred sixty-five campsites, 6 boat ramps, 23 shooting ranges, 199 parking areas and 23 physically challenged angler and hunter access sites were maintained for public use.

The highly successful controlled waterfowl hunting program at McClintic and Greenbottom WMAs continued to provide quality waterfowl hunting. Approximately 41 waterfowl ponds and 22 shooting stations were maintained on the McClintic WMA including two shooting stations for the physically challenged. A special controlled dove hunt was held on the South Branch WMA with stations available for draw.

WILDLIFE DAMAGE AND NUISANCE WILDLIFE PROGRAM

The Wildlife Damage Control (WDC) agent program allows for businesses to be licensed with the WVDNR to take and dispose of nuisance wildlife. Thirty business were licensed by WVDNR during 2020-21 as WDC agents. The WVDNR is assisted by the USDA-APHIS Wildlife Services staff on a feral swine control program in West Virginia.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Technical assistance included providing agencies that manage National and State Forests with technical review of proposed actions, assisting private landowners with habitat questions and answering questions from the public. This assistance can be in person in the office, over the telephone or email, to being onsite helping a landowner. Intra-agency assistance often involves field reviews, coordination, and the development of specific management recommendations as well as technical review and comment to NEPA actions. Approximately 2,570 staff days were spent providing technical assistance.

REGIONAL, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COORDINATION PROGRAM

Many of the challenges and issues faced by the Game Management Unit are shared by other state and federal agencies. Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic precluded in-person meeting attendance to the following organizations and events in 2020-2021, but, when possible, virtual meeting attendance occurred. Notable organizations included: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Southeastern Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Northeast Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, The Wildlife Society, Atlantic Flyway Council and numerous Technical Sections, Southeast Deer Study Group, Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study, Eastern Management Unit Dove Technical Committee, Northeast Habitat Technical Committee, Northeast Gamebird Technical Committee, Northern Bobwhite Conservation Committee, Southeast Wild Turkey Working Group, Ruffed Grouse Committee and Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture.



WILDLIFE POPULATION SURVEY AND RESEARCH PROGRAM

Wildlife Damage and Nuisance Activities

Two hundred fifty-four (254) nuisance bears were destroyed because of crop damage or nuisance activity. Hundreds of other bear complaints were resolved with harassment measures and/or removal of edible attractions. One hundred seventy (170) bear damage claims were processed.

DNR staff handled thousands of additional calls regarding sick, injured or nuisance wildlife annually. Calls about nuisance wildlife often are resolved by providing technical advice and recommendations, but many require capture and relocation or euthanasia of the offending animal.

Wildlife Population Surveys and Research

Twenty-five woodcock singing ground survey routes were conducted in cooperation with Eastern Management Region states and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A ring-necked pheasant survey was carried out on the Hillcrest WMA. Canada geese and mourning doves were banded in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Atlantic Flyway States, and states in the Eastern Dove Management Unit to monitor populations and establish harvest regulations. Nine hundred twelve Canada geese were banded statewide during the 2020-2021 fiscal year as a part of this effort. In addition, two hundred forty mourning doves were banded.

Harvest and biological data were compiled and analyzed for hunter-harvested big game species (e.g. deer, turkey, bear and wild boar) as well as hunter and trapper-harvested furbearers (e.g., beaver, fisher, bobcat and otter).



White-tailed Deer

In 2020 and January 2021, deer hunters harvested a total of 106,861 deer in the combined deer seasons. This was an increase of 7.5% from the 2019 and January 2020 harvest of 99,437 and 6% below the previous five-year harvest average of 113,444. The combined deer season harvest for fall 2020 and January 2021 is the 30th largest total deer harvest on record for West Virginia. The total deer harvest represents one deer killed for every 138 acres of deer habitat in the state, and a 58% harvest decrease from the record harvest of 255,356 deer in 2002. From 1945 through January 2021, a total of 6,670,223 deer have been recorded as harvested in West Virginia. Forty-four percent (2,902,354) of the total recorded deer harvest of the past 75 years occurred in the last 20 years.

Special controlled deer hunts were held in 2020 on six West Virginia State Parks. A total of 94 deer (69 antlerless and 25 antlered deer) were harvested according to state park superintendents. Twenty-five deer were taken at Beech Fork State Park, 28 deer at Cacapon State Park, nine deer at Canaan Valley State Park, 15 deer at North Bend State Park, 17 deer at Pipestem State Park, and no deer were harvested during the 3-day archery deer hunt at Twin Falls State Park. This was the sixth year for such a hunt at Pipestem State Park, the fifth year for a hunt at Cacapon State Park, and the fourth year for a controlled deer hunt at North Bend State Park. All State Park-controlled deer hunts are by application only.

Efforts to monitor and control the spread of chronic wasting disease (CWD) in free-ranging deer in West Virginia by WVDNR, landowners, and hunters are ongoing. A sample collection that was planned for Hardy County and published in the 2020-2021 Hunting and Trapping Regulations was canceled because of COVID-19 pandemic concerns. CWD has now been detected in a total of 413 deer in Hampshire County, eight deer in Hardy County, 25 deer in Berkeley County, nine deer in Mineral County and eight deer in Morgan County.

A bowhunter survey has been conducted annually since 1995. This cooperative venture with the West Virginia Bowhunters Association is an excellent means of monitoring populations of game animals, and furbearers, as well as providing a method for bowhunters to report their observations.

WILDLIFE POPULATION SURVEY AND RESEARCH PROGRAM CONTINUED...

Elk

In late December 2016 with the release of 24 elk secured from the Land Between the Lakes Recreation Area (LBL) in western Kentucky, wild elk were roaming the mountains of West Virginia for the first time in over 140 years. Subsequent releases were made from LBL and Arizona in 2018. Although the effort suffered a setback in the summer of 2019 from an unexpectedly high mortality rate caused by a known parasite, calving over the past five summers has produced around 65 known calves. This has stabilized the population with approximately 95-100 elk currently roaming the area. All released individuals were marked and equipped with GPS telemetry collars so movements could be tracked. In addition to this, efforts continue each winter to capture, mark, and collar calves and other un-collared individuals so that data can be collected. Efforts also continue to identify a source herd from which additional elk can be transferred to West Virginia to supplement the herd, but no new relocations are set at this time.

A salt block/trail camera study at 50 sites throughout the Elk Management Zone is continuing to allow for monitoring of both native-born and uncollared animals and to detect elk which may move in from surrounding states. In addition, high use areas were monitored during the summer by cellular trail cameras to detect calving successes.

Several presentations regarding program status were given to both public and government groups, including the West Virginia Legislature. The Eastern Elk Workshop was virtually attended to monitor the development of scientific advancements regarding elk and to network with other elk researchers. Maintenance and upkeep of the elk pen is ongoing, and a squeeze chute was erected. Zero elk were imported into West Virginia during this reporting period.

Wild Turkey

Spring gobbler season began in 1966 on our wildlife management areas and went statewide in 1968. Hunters harvested 10,134 bearded turkeys during the 2021 spring gobbler season. This harvest is 2.9% above the 10-year average. Hunters harvested 1,038 fall turkeys in 2020, down 6.7% from 2019 and 18.7% below the five-year average.

The spring gobbler survey was conducted jointly by the Wildlife Resources Section and the West Virginia Chapter of the Wild Turkey Federation. The survey serves as a means for hunters to report their observations and opinions about wild turkey management. It also allows biologists to track species throughout time and serves as a valuable tool to help monitor wildlife populations.

Black Bear

West Virginia hunters harvested 3,541 black bears during the combined 2020 archery and firearms seasons. The 2020 harvest was 14% above the 3,099 bears killed in 2019. The 2020 black bear harvest is the highest kill ever recorded and bruins were harvested in 52 of West Virginia's 55 counties, the highest also on record. In addition, the 3,938 hunting and non-hunting mortalities recorded in 2020 is the highest total ever recorded.

Age data from the 2019 tooth samples have been received and hunters have been notified of their bear's age. Hunters submitted 2,097 useable teeth (correct tooth, tooth not broken, etc.) for age consideration. There were 1% cubs (18), 29% (602) yearlings, 27% (574) 2-year-olds, 11% (231) 3-year-olds, and the remaining 32% (672) were 4 years old or older. Biologists use age data from hunter-harvested bear teeth to calculate population estimates and mortality rates for black bears in West Virginia. The 2,097 useable teeth submitted in 2019 represent 68% of the total black bear harvest. This rate has gradually improved each year since 2016 (the first-year tooth submission was mandatory). Hunters submitted 49% of the harvest in 2016 and 53% of the harvest in 2017 and 63% in 2018. This rate should improve in the years to come, which will allow for more precise estimates of population size.

Wild Boar

Hunters killed 145 boars during the fall 2020 and February 2021 seasons. This was the second highest harvest ever. Hunters once again had the opportunity to hunt in early February 2021 in addition to archery season and the firearms season which occurred the last week of October. The February season produced great results with a harvest of 65 boars. Thirty-eight boars were harvested in Boone County and one hundred seven in Logan County.

Firearms hunters took 82 boars (58 in Logan County and 24 in Boone County) and archers killed 63 (49 in Logan County and 14 in Boone County). Crossbow hunters accounted for 15 kills. Raleigh and Wyoming counties had no reported kills.

Annual Mast Survey

Annually during August, cooperating personnel in the WVDNR rate the abundance of mast produced by selected tree and shrub species. Mast indices are then formulated for each species on a statewide and ecological region basis. This survey has been conducted annually since 1970 and is important information often requested by hunters. Mast abundance is also an important tool to forecast the annual big game harvests.

Production of red/black oak acorns and scarlet oak acorns were the only species higher than the long-term average which had significant impacts on the 2020-2021 hunting seasons. White and chestnut oak, hickory, beech, walnut, and all soft mast species were down significantly from 2019 and well below their long-term average.

WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Fish Management Unit

The Fish Management Unit is responsible for providing fishing opportunities to meet recreational fishing demand. This is accomplished by protecting and managing more than 98,000 miles of rivers and streams as well as more than 22,000 acres of public impoundments. Fish management efforts included enhancement of fishing through stockings, development of habitat and research projects.

FISH HATCHERY PROGRAM

The fish hatchery program operated seven cold-water hatcheries, two warmwater hatcheries, and two grow-out facilities. The fish hatchery program stocked WV waters for the purposes of fisheries' enhancement, sustainability, and reintroduction when warranted. The distribution of fish from state hatcheries provided anglers with harvest opportunities beyond the sustainability of our natural systems.

Trout Hatcheries

In 2020, staff stocked 967,255 catchable trout weighing 731,868 pounds (Table 1). The 2020 trout stocking year yield was close to the annual hatchery production goal of 750,000 pounds. These trout were distributed to 73 impoundments, nine reservoir tailwaters and numerous locations on 139 streams and stream segments.

The average-size of catchable trout stocked into put-and-take managed waters in 2020 was 12.5 inches and weighed 0.76 pounds; similar to 2019. This large average trout size is a result of adequate hatchery water supplies over the stocking period. The White Sulphur Springs Federal Hatchery provided 5,102 surplus trout that were stocked during the fall stocking season.

Trout stocking also occurred in 11 Class-Q waters, which provided fishing opportunities for handicapped individuals and

children aged 10 and under. These special regulation waters were stocked the first week of March. Thirty-six waters across the state also received two stockings each, during a two-week period, in October 2020. Due to surplus fish numbers, more than 26,000 rainbow trout were also stocked during the month of December which provided a unique holiday fishing opportunity.

Wild trout management continued to receive special attention in West Virginia. The program is divided into two major parts: protecting and enhancing native brook trout populations and stocking fingerling trout to maintain wild trout populations. In 2020, more than 191,000 fingerling trout were stocked in 26 waters throughout the state (Table 2). Assistance from various conservation groups and citizen volunteers was an essential part of the fingerling trout stocking program.

Table 1.

Total number and weight of catchable and brood trout distributed to more than 200 waters statewide during 2020.

Distribution Hatchery	Brook		Brown		Golden		Rainbow		Tiger		All Trout Species	
	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT
Bowden	49,171	27,960	16,121	9,587	16,466	12,218	145,520	90,987			227,278	140,752
Edray	11,748	7,277	0	0	10,579	13,399	162,422	128,655			184,749	149,331
Petersburg	11,301	7,429	3,916	2,235	4,317	5,224	36,519	39,719			56,053	54,607
Reeds Creek	31,088	19,465	2,450	3,043	8,639	8,306	104,714	74,683	1,773	1,043	148,664	106,540
Ridge	12,671	9,876	6,114	4,849	2,940	3,595	50,943	44,144			72,668	62,464
Spring Run	20,448	18,453	9,702	5,491	15,838	15,439	88,905	84,650			134,893	124,033
Tate Lohr	20,338	12,358	1,187	661	8,242	7,665	113,183	73,457			142,950	94,141
TOTALS	156,765	102,818	39,490	25,866	67,021	65,846	702,206	536,295	1,773	1,043	967,255	731,868



FISH HATCHERY PROGRAM CONTINUED...

Table 2.

Total number and weight of fingerling trout distributed in 26 waters statewide during 2020.

Distribution Hatchery	Brook		Brown		Golden		Rainbow		All Trout Species	
	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT	NUMBER	WEIGHT
Bowden	15,399	238	29,990	437	0	0	32,679	1,864	78,068	2,539
Edray	0	0	59,421	957	0	0	6,090	174	65,511	1,131
Spring Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	47,865	2,275	47,865	2,275
TOTAL	15,399	238	89,411	1,394	0	0	86,634	4,313	191,444	5,945

Table 3.

Total number of warmwater fingerling and advanced fingerling fish distributed in 90 waters statewide during 2020.

		State Warmwater Hatchery		State Warmwater Rearing Facility			Total
SPECIES	CLASS	APPLE GROVE	PALESTINE	BEE RUN	BOWDEN	FALLS MILL	NUMBER
Blue Catfish	Advanced Fingerling	10,598					10,598
Channel Catfish	Advanced Fingerling	61,341			5,560		66,901
	Adult	1,860			1,767		3,627
Hybrid Striped Bass	Fingerling	97,686					97,686
Muskellunge	Advanced Fingerling		336	250	290	165	1,041
	Fingerling					328	328
Smallmouth Bass	Fingerling	2,000					2,000
Striped Bass	Fingerling	44,000					44,000
Tiger Musky	Advanced Fingerling	200					200
Walleye	Advanced Fingerling	1,325	1,015				2,340
	Fingerling	35,000	26,340				61,340
TOTAL		254,010	27,691	250	7,617	493	290,061

WILDLIFE RESOURCES

FISH HATCHERY PROGRAM CONTINUED...

Warmwater Hatcheries

Warmwater hatcheries produced blue catfish, channel catfish, muskellunge, hybrid striped bass, smallmouth bass, striped bass, tiger musky, and walleye during 2020. A total of 290,061 fish were produced and stocked in 90 waters throughout the state (Table 3). Warmwater hatcheries produced and stocked both fingerlings and advanced fingerlings.

Hatchery Improvements

Hatchery renovation activities began at Bowden Hatchery which includes expansion of fish rearing units, a modern water recirculating system and numerous other improvements and upgrades. Once complete, the trout production at Bowden Hatchery is expected to increase by approximately 100,000 pounds annually.

Blue Catfish

A total of 10,598 blue catfish were stocked into R.D. Bailey Reservoir (Table 3). The stocking of blue catfish in the Ohio River has demonstrated successful restoration efforts of this previously extirpated species and was not stocked in 2020 to evaluate the current population. Blue catfish stocking has also been successfully in R.D. Bailey Reservoir and now provides a fishing destination for this species.

Channel Catfish

A total 3,627 catchable-sized adult channel catfish were stocked into 42 waters in June 2020 to provide enhanced recreational fishing opportunities at the city and state park lakes (Table 3). Adult channel catfish are stocked annually just prior to the annual free fishing weekend. This stocking also provides anglers with more catchable fishing opportunities throughout the summer season.

Muskellunge

A total 1,041 advanced fingerling muskellunge were stocked in Burnsville Reservoir, East Lynn Reservoir, Monongahela River, North Bend Lake, Stonecoal Reservoir, Tug Fork River, Upper Mud Lake and Woodrum Lake. In addition, 328 fingerling musky were also stocked in Burnsville Reservoir. The number of muskellunge stocked during 2020 was five times higher than 2019 due to a better production year (Table 3). Staff typically collect brood stock for hatchery production from Elk River, Little Kanawha River, Middle Island Creek, Monongahela River and North Bend Lake.



Hybrid Striped Bass

A total of 97,686 hybrid striped bass were stocked in Beech Fork, Bluestone, and R.D. Bailey Reservoirs as well as the Kanawha and Monongahela rivers (Table 3). Hybrid striped bass do not reproduce, so supplemental stocking was necessary to sustain a fishable population.

Smallmouth Bass

A total 2,000 smallmouth bass were stocked in the R.C. Byrd Pool of the Ohio River (Table 3). This stocking was conducted with surplus fish to supplement Ohio River smallmouth bass spawning.

Striped Bass

A total 44,000 striped bass fingerlings were stocked in Mount Storm Lake and Bluestone Reservoir (Table 3). Striped bass do not reproduce in these waters, so supplemental stocking was necessary to sustain a fishable population and create a unique fishing destination.

Tiger Musky

A total 200 tiger musky were stocked in Big Ditch Lake and Mountwood Lake (Table 3). Tiger musky are a hybrid of muskellunge and northern pike and were obtained from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission hatchery program. The tiger musky were stocked in these two impoundments to create a unique fishing destination for this species.

Walleye

An estimated 61,340 fingerlings, and 2,340 advanced fingerling walleye were stocked during 2020. The number of walleye fingerlings stocked was much higher than in 2019 due to a good production year. Walleye were stocked in Charles Fork Lake, Cheat Lake, Elk River, Greenbrier River, Kanawha River, New River, Ohio River and Summersville Reservoir.

FISHERIES AND HABITAT SURVEY PROGRAM

Reservoirs

Black bass surveys were conducted on six large reservoirs in the state. Surveys at Bluestone, Burnsville, Cheat, Mount Storm, Stonewall Jackson, and Tygart lakes monitored population characteristics of largemouth, smallmouth, and spotted bass. These surveys provided the basis for determining management needs and evaluating management recommendations for these important recreational species. Gill-netting surveys were conducted for striped bass in Mount Storm Lake. Walleye surveys were conducted on Cheat and Tygart lakes to evaluate the effectiveness of the current 15-inch minimum length limit.

Rivers and Streams

River and stream fisheries surveys were conducted to assess population characteristics for a range of species. Key projects included:

- Trout population surveys and genetic material collection with a focus in the Ohio River Watershed.
- Basin watershed black bass surveys in the Cheat, Kanawha, Monongahela, Ohio, South Branch of the Potomac, and Tygart rivers and Fish Creek.
- Population characteristics and movement of blue and flathead catfish in the Ohio and lower Kanawha rivers.
- Fish community and habitat surveys in West Fork River to document changes following dam removals.
- Walleye and sauger regulation assessments on Monongahela River to assess current minimum length regulations.
- Collected smallmouth bass on the Greenbrier River with USGS for fish health study.
- Conducted angler-reward tagging of smallmouth bass on the South Branch of the Potomac.
- Brook trout population surveys on Dillons Run and Edwards Run.
- Muskellunge surveys on Middle Island Creek, and Little Kanawha River to evaluate size structure and collect brood stock for hatchery purposes.

Small Impoundments

Small Impoundment fisheries' surveys were conducted to assess population characteristics for a range of species. Key projects included black bass surveys in Buffalo Fork, Castleman's Run, Middle Wheeling, O'Brien, Parker Hollow, Plum Orchard, Right Fork Frozencamp, Sleepy Creek, South Mill Creek, New Creek, Tomlinson, Upper Mud, Warden, and Woodrum lakes; and muskellunge surveys on North Bend and Woodrum lakes.



Fish Health Surveys

Fish health surveys, as part of the USFWS Wild Fish Health Survey, were conducted on brood stock walleye from the Ohio River and brood stock muskellunge from Middle Island Creek and North Bend Lake. Surveys were also conducted on sauger and walleye from the Ohio River. All samples were found to be negative of fish pathogens.

Trout species from various cold-water hatcheries were also tested for fish health in response to observations of sick fish to facilitate proper treatment. Brook, brown and rainbow trout were tested from Bowden, Edray, Petersburg and Spring Run hatcheries. Samples tested positive for *Aeromonas hydrophila* most commonly, but *Flavobacterium* spp, *Saprolegnia* spp and *Plesiomonas shigelloides* were also identified. All pathogens identified were treated and fish recovered at their respective hatcheries. Golden trout from Reeds Creek Hatchery were also tested; all samples tested negative for fish pathogens.

INTERSTATE FISHERIES COORDINATION PROGRAM

Fish management staff coordinated and participated in research and management activities on the Ohio River. These efforts included population assessments of black bass, walleye, sauger, and channel, blue and flathead catfish. Much of this work was guided by the interstate Ohio River Fisheries Management Team. Fish management staff is also conducting a paddlefish population assessment to evaluate success of previous years' stocking efforts. Fisheries biologists participated in the Mississippi Interstate Cooperative Resource Association's aquatic nuisance species planning efforts to minimize impacts upon West Virginia's aquatic resources.

A cooperative effort continued with Ohio River basin states and federal partners monitoring populations of invasive carp species. Activities included surveys targeted to monitor population expansion, physical removal of fish, fish community surveys, and tracking movements through acoustic telemetry. Bighead carp are more regularly sampled in the lower Ohio River in low numbers, while silver carp are still rare, yet some specimens have been reported.



HABITAT AND WATER QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Fisheries management staff continued habitat enhancement projects in 2020-2021. Recycled Christmas trees were placed at Beech Fork (300), Burnsville (150), Cheat (150), Dents Run (50), East Lynn (300), Little Beaver (25), Plum Orchard (25), Stonecoal (150), Stonewall Jackson (150), Summersville (50), Sutton (200), and Tygart (200) lakes. Many of these installations were in cooperation with local fishing organizations and the WVDEP Rehabilitation Environmental Action Plan and USACE.

Other forms of habitat enhancements were created by fisheries management staff to improve lentic lake habitat. Catfish boxes were deployed at Beech Fork (20) and East Lynn (20) lakes. Larger woody and wreath structure were installed at Burnsville (10), Stonecoal (20), Summersville (45), Sutton (25), and Tygart (80) lakes. Spider blocks were deployed and/or maintained in Tygart (75) Lake. Rock piles were built at Summersville (5) Lake and spawning benches were created at Summersville (10) Lake. Large trees were dropped and anchored at the stump at Burnsville (20), Plum Orchard (16), Stonecoal (5), Summersville (50), and Sutton (10) lakes.

The acidified stream treatment program continued. Nearly 4,600 tons of high-quality limestone sand was placed in more than 66 streams at 82 locations, improving the water quality of nearly 300 miles of impaired streams and 250 acres of small impoundments.

TOURNAMENT COORDINATION AND TROPHY FISH CITATION PROGRAM

Eight hundred and sixty-three tournaments were permitted in 2020. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and some high river flows, only 514 of these were held. Tournament anglers accumulated more than 115,000 hours of fishing in bass (466), catfish (30), musky (17), and crappie (1) tournaments in 2020 on 47 different waterbodies.

The Trophy Fish Citation program recognized anglers who caught 965 fish, representing 25 species that qualified as trophies. Of 14 waters (private lakes are counted as one water) yielding 10 or more fish citations, 50 percent were from streams and rivers, 21 percent from private lakes and ponds and 29 percent from public lakes. The trophy citation program began in 1976 and has recognized more than 60,000 anglers for their outstanding catches. The year 2004 marked the first year of issuing length-only citations in addition to the certified weight citation. In 2020, the weight certification was removed, and the program went strictly to using length to determine citation fish.

Wildlife Diversity Unit

ORNITHOLOGY PROGRAM

Activities included: (1) statewide monitoring of bald eagle nests; (2) coordination and completion of secretive marshbird monitoring; (3) coordination and compiling of Christmas Bird Count; (4) monitoring of loggerhead shrike; and (5) ongoing data capture from multiple sources. Staff coordinated with Penn State Press to complete the *Breeding Bird Atlas* and publicize and distribute the book. Staff coordinated with representatives from the falconry community to develop necessary changes to the state falconry code (Title 58 Series 65). Through a partnership with NRCS, WRS staff implement the Regional Conservation Partnership Program targeting Cerulean and Golden-Winged Warblers on private lands through the Working Lands for Wildlife Program.

POLLINATOR PROGRAM

WRS staff coordinated pollinator conservation through a collaborative effort with state and federal agencies, which included developing a Pollinator Best Management Practices publication with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture. An additional USDA-NRCS partner biologist (pollinator specialist) was hired to implement pollinator conservation on private lands in southern West Virginia. The focus of this position is for the recruitment of interested private landowners and developing outreach material for the public. Staff coordinated a Pollinator Habitat Workshop in partnership with Toyota Motors Manufacturing at their Putnam County plant. Staff participated in a multi-state research project examining the genetics of the Appalachian grizzled skipper.

MUSSEL PROGRAM

WRS staff reviewed and provided comments on mussel issues for over 84 stream activity requests and contractor surveys. Seven private landowner surveys were conducted. The West Virginia Mussel Survey Protocols underwent several draft revisions in 2020 and 2021; being posted for public comment in June 2021. Staff advised and consulted on plans for the construction of a mussel hatchery at Palestine State Fish Hatchery using mitigation funds from commercial sand and gravel dredging within the New Cumberland Pool of the Ohio River.

Mussel monitoring events were conducted at three sites: Falls Mills in Middle Island Creek, Meathouse Fork and South Fork Potts Creek. New mussel monitoring sites were installed at the head of Wheeling Island in the Hannibal Pool (Ohio River) and the West Fork River near the Presley Ridge School. General mussel surveys were conducted on the Little Kanawha River, West Fork River, and Back Creek.



ECOLOGY PROGRAM

Staff sampled 17 vegetation plots. Twenty-eight new occurrences of vegetation associations were added to the Biotics database. Multivariate analysis of plot data from montane red oak forests in the state resulted in the description of three new Associations in the U.S. National Vegetation Classification. Partnership activities included coauthoring papers on bryophytes and riverscours vegetation; participating in research on the fire ecology of short leaf pine forests with professors from Concord and Marshall Universities; reviewed and commented on proposals submitted by the U.S. Forest Service; and hiring and co-supervising two Good Neighbor partner botanists for the Monongahela National Forests.

Staff assisted with the drafting of a Natural Area policy and the nomination of two Natural Areas in Canaan Valley State Park, which were signed by the Director. Field work and GIS mapping were conducted to support nomination of additional Natural Areas on state parks.

A revised West Virginia rare plants list was posted on the WVDNR website, reflecting recent changes made to state conservation ranks. Targeted plant surveys were conducted to relocate historical populations of several rare plants.

NATURAL HERITAGE PROGRAM

In the effort to inventory and database the state's rare plants, animals, and communities, a total of 391 new ecological occurrences were added to Biotics consisting of 135 vertebrate animals, 138 invertebrate animals, 28 communities, and 90 plants. In addition, a total of 1,538 records were improved and updated in Biotics consisting of 323 vertebrate animals, 241 invertebrate animals, 70 communities, and 904 plants. Staff responded to 120 data requests from cooperating agencies and researchers needing element occurrence data for a variety of research projects within the state.

RARE, THREATENED, AND ENDANGERED SPECIES PROGRAM

Surveys and Monitoring

West Virginia northern flying squirrel monitoring efforts continued utilizing acoustic methodology. Endangered Virginia big-eared bat maternity monitoring identified continued recovery from a significant decline in 2019. Occurrence records of the endangered rusty patched bumble bee were reported to program biologists, significantly expanding the known occurrence area in West Virginia. Bat acoustic monitoring across the state is ongoing, and an analysis of the full long-term dataset is near completion. Populations of the Cheat Mountain salamander were monitored utilizing protocols developed in 2020. Surveys for diamond darters were performed at three of the known “sentinel sites.”

Conservation Planning

Working with the USFWS, staff developed a long-term monitoring plan for the endangered rusty patched bumble bee. A long-term monitoring and management plan for the threatened flat-spined three-toothed land snail was developed. Program biologists have worked with partner agencies and organizations to prioritize biologically significant resources that will benefit from protection via fee-simple acquisition or conservation easements.

Coordination and Conservation

Program biologists provided support to citizens, industry, and various state and federal agencies to avoid and minimize impacts to rare, threatened, and endangered species across the state. Staff provided feedback and information to the USFWS regarding recovery of multiple federally listed species. Conservation actions were implemented for bats, candy darter, and mussels that included maintenance of multiple bat maternity sites and hibernacula, propagation, repatriation, and translocation of candy darter and mussels. Reporting datasheets were revised to improve scientific collection permit reporting, and updated records of rare, threatened, and endangered species using contemporary and historical reports new to the agency. A biologically significant cave in Mercer County was acquired through partnership with The Conservation Fund, and a portion of a stream containing the endangered James spiny mussel was acquired through partnership with the West Virginia Land Trust.

AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE PROGRAM

Staff developed conservation tools to address conservation actions for high priority species, as well as monitor and research species of greatest conservation need. Habitat suitability models (HSM) have been developed for three priority amphibian and reptile species, Cheat Mountain salamander, cow knob salamander, and timber rattlesnake, to help predict potential habitat and aid in the project consultation and review process. Staff have completed habitat assessments at random points scattered throughout the modeled area to determine the model’s predictive ability and accuracy. To date, WVDNR biologists have completed six cow knob salamander, 13 Cheat Mountain salamander and 25 timber rattlesnake habitat assessments. Habitat assessments will continue throughout the remainder of 2021.

Staff conducted annual monitoring for eastern box turtle, wood turtle and spotted turtle, as well as began a monitoring program for the federally threatened Cheat Mountain salamander. Monitoring efforts for these species follow established monitoring protocols, and monitoring will continue in the coming years.

Work with West Virginia University researchers to model and predict habitat for the spotted turtle in the state is nearing completion and will be available for use by WVDNR biologists in 2022. Work with Marshall University to determine science-based recommendations for reducing timber rattlesnake-human interactions in high-use areas is also nearing completion. Results from this study are expected by November 2021.

The eastern box turtle and timber rattlesnake citizen science projects continue to be highly successful and have produced thousands of known occurrence records from across the state. These projects have also allowed for multiple outreach opportunities through social media and news articles.





ZOOLOGY PROGRAM

Citizen Science

Given documented global decline of light sensitive insects, the WVDNR initiated a citizen science survey in 2020 to document firefly and glow worm species diversity. More than 2,000 observations were submitted as part of the citizen science initiative as well as synchronous fireflies (*Photinus carolinus*) documented in public lands such as Watoga State Park. Watoga State Park will start offering flashing display viewing opportunities in 2022 based on conservation management plans developed between partner agencies and foundations. Follow up surveys in 2020 yielded 10 additional synchronous firefly populations observed since last year, indicating West Virginia may have more populations than any other state given its vast network of undisturbed forested stream habitat.

Motus Project

A radio telemetry station was installed in June 2021 at Hanging Rock Raptor Observatory in Monroe County as part of the international Motus wildlife tracking network. The station will allow the WVDNR to study the movements of birds, bats, butterflies, and other migratory animals.

Insects

The cobblestone tiger beetle (*Cicindela marginipennis*) was subject to an Endangered Species Act listing recommendation before 2020. In August 2019 and 2020, WVDNR Diversity staff conducted an adult mark-recapture study at a known survey site over a three-day period. The study determined the most effective survey method for species detection and population size estimates were derived as a baseline for future monitoring.

Mammals

In 2019, the WVDNR partnered with the U.S. Forest Service Rocky Mountain Research Station to develop nuclear markers for the West Virginia water shrew where 30 eDNA water samples collected for brook trout could also be analyzed for water shrew occupation at a stream site. The eDNA samples have yielded new locations where brook trout are currently found with water shrew presence to be determined by the end of 2021. A water shrew was also confirmed at a known presence site in 2021 using a bucket camera trap after preliminary analysis of 10,000 images, indicating some promise of using non-lethal means of detection in future surveys.

In 2020, a camera trapping study was initiated at long-term monitoring sites for the Allegheny woodrat. Ten of 15 sites have confirmed continued species presence. Preliminary analysis of more than 100,000 images yielded 17 additional species on camera including a new eastern spotted skunk (*Spilogale putorius*) record.

WILDLIFE RESOURCES

BOTANY PROGRAM

Running buffalo clover was monitored at one site and work continued on the “Running Buffalo Clover Management Strategy for the Monongahela National Forest.” Staff monitored harperella populations on Sleepy Creek, Cacapon River, and Back Creek. Staff monitored all known whorled pogonia in West Virginia in cooperation with researchers from the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center. The WVDNR contracted with Davis and Elkins College to develop habitat suitability models for harperella, northeastern bulrush, shale barren rockcress, Virginia spiraea, small whorled pogonia, and running buffalo clover. Model validation will occur in 2021-2022.

OUTREACH AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

Presentations were given to the public, school children, college students along with church groups, and various summer day-camps. Wildlife Diversity staff instructed several Master Naturalist classes for the various state chapters and staff served on the West Virginia Master Naturalists State Advisory Committee. Certified Master Naturalists began assisting WRS staff by visiting and reviewing Wild Yards candidates and approving applications or recommending needed work. Several Wild Yards applications were approved for certification and a new Wild Yards sign was created. The 2022 DNR Wildlife Calendar was produced and the 2021 calendar won a national Gold Award from the Calendar Marketing Association annual contest.

AQUATIC COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT AND RESTORATION PROGRAM

Inventory and Monitoring

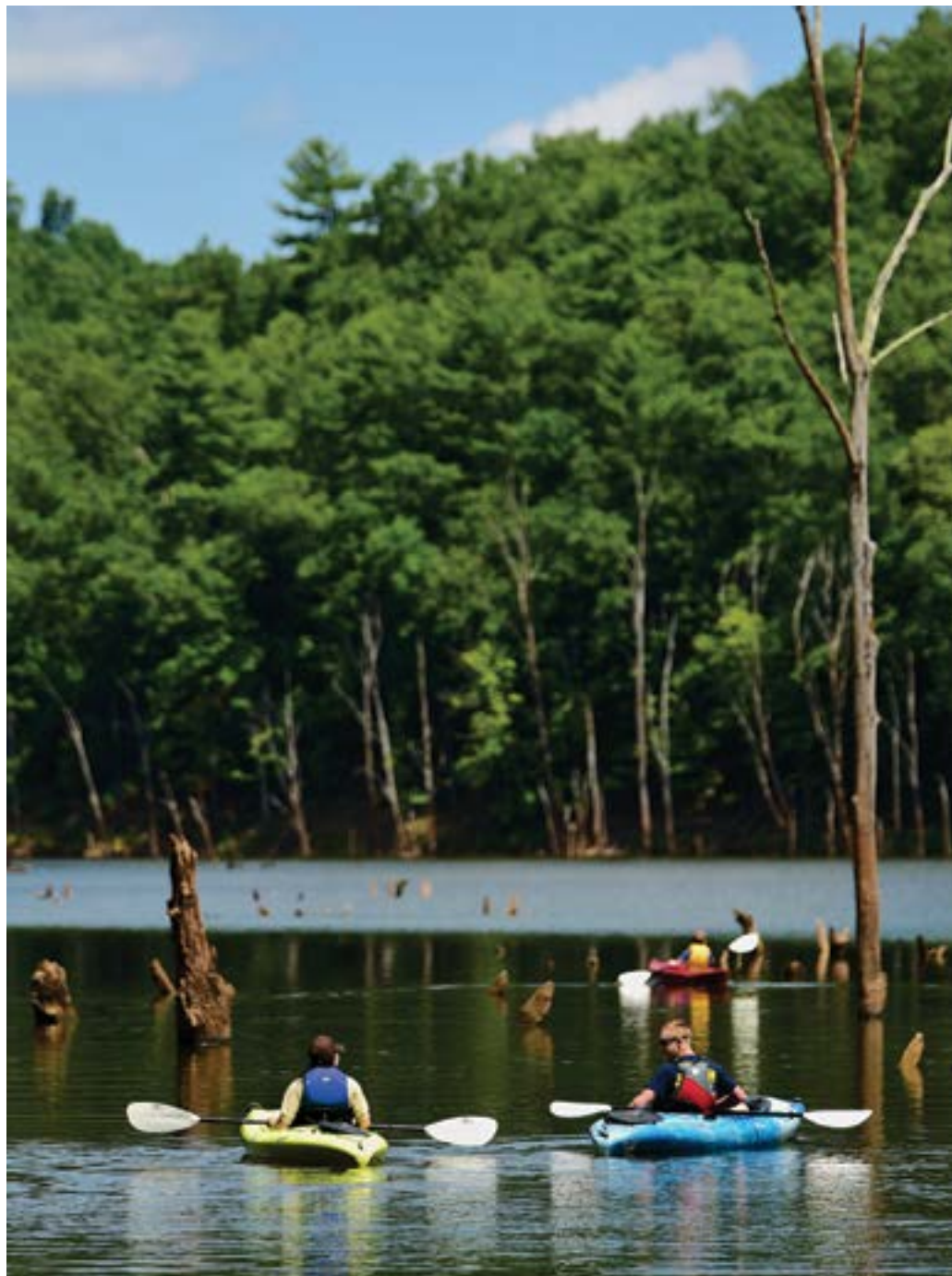
WRS staff conducted 68 fish surveys to document the distribution and status of fishes within West Virginia. Surveys included nocturnal spotlight surveys targeting diamond darter (*Crystallaria cincotta*) in the Elk River and collections of bluestone sculpin (*Cottus sp.*) to collect genetic samples. Raft and trawl surveys targeted collections of large river benthic fishes.

Rare, Threatened or Endangered Fishes

Staff continued efforts to restore the candy darter within their historic range. Monitoring the established population at Camp Creek State Park has confirmed reproduction, recruitment and range expansion. Candy darters were translocated from donor streams to streams with confirmed absence of variegate darters. Staff collaborated with White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery to refine propagation techniques for candy darters.



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