Conserve and promote fishing, hunting and wildlife resources through management, education and scientific research.

**Division Mission**

RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT

Wildlife Resources Division averages approximately $30 million in federal Sport Fish & Wildlife Restoration funds each year. These funds come from a federal tax on ammunition, guns, fishing equipment and motorboat fuel. To receive federal funds, Georgia must spend 100% of state revenue collected from hunting/fishing licenses on sport fish and wildlife management to benefit hunters and anglers.

**Economics of Outdoor Recreation**

*Hunters, anglers, shooters and wildlife enthusiasts spend BILLIONS in Georgia*

**Fishing**
- Anglers: 1,083,120*
- Fishing generates $1.5 billion in retail sales in Georgia, annually.
- 10 State Fish Hatcheries produced and stocked 8.9 million fish.
- 11 Public Fishing Areas: 130 lakes (2,000 acres), estimated 800,000 visitors.

**Hunting**
- Hunters: 769,105*
- Hunting generates $977 million in retail sales in Georgia, annually.
- 125 Wildlife Management Areas: 1,149,872 acres.

**Wildlife Viewing**
- Wildlife Viewers: 2.4 million
- This group spends an estimated $1.8 billion annually in Georgia.

**Shooting Sports**
- Recreational Shooters: 1.2 million+
- Shooters spend $326 million in retail sales.
- 47 Public Shooting Ranges (archery, shotgun, pistol, rifle) with 70,000 estimated visitors.

**Management Highlights**

Hatchery Production & Stocking:
- 612,000 Trout
- 1.5 million Largemouth Bass
- 1.9 million Striped Bass
- 4.3 million other species combined

WMA Land Ownership:
- State-Owned: 488,969
- Long-Term Lease: 603,538
- Short-Term Lease: 57,365

WMA Land Management (Acres):
- Dove Fields: 3,184 acres
- Impoundments: 5,269 acres
- Food Plots & Openings: 9,246 acres
- Roads Maintained: 1,973 miles

Other Management Activities:
- Prescribed Fire: 75,500 Acres Burned
- Boat Ramps Managed: 168
- Fish Attractors Installed: 1,000 (14 waterbodies)
- Aquatic Plants Grown & Installed: 14,321 (15 waterbodies)

**Public Assistance**

Fisheries Technical Assistance: 1,000 fulfilled requests.

Wildlife Technical Assistance: 5,000 hours provided to 4,000 citizens.

Georgia Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP): 117 cooperators managing 163,162 acres.

Urban Wildlife Program (Metro Atlanta): 2,404 calls; on-site response to 532 citizens.

*Number of certified anglers & hunters reported in Fall 2022 to US Fish and Wildlife Service based on their certification rules and criteria, based on FY2021 state license data (WRD LBRU).
CONSERVATION WORK AND ACTIONS

◊ 640 State Wildlife Action Plan high-priority species.
◊ 52 Ongoing Research Projects.
◊ Georgia Biodiversity Portal: 966 species profiles added or updated; 346,294 web visits.
◊ NatureServe Biotics: 19,972 rare species and natural community sites.
◊ Environmental reviews and assistance: 1,239 web visits; 890 data requests.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH

7 Regional Education Centers Outreach:
◊ Visitor Center Guests (24,490)
◊ Education Programs (57,531 students)
◊ Public Programming Classes (11,158 people)

Hunter Development Program Outreach:
◊ 31,773 people (28,797 youth, 2,976 adults)
◊ National Archery in the Schools Program: 250 Georgia Schools (18,219 students)

Fishing Outreach:
◊ Kids Fishing Events: 90+ Events with estimated 8,000 participants

GEORGIA DNR WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION

STATE SPECIES

State Reptile: Gopher Tortoise
State Amphibian: Green Treefrog
State Marine Mammal: North Atlantic Right Whale
State Mammal: Whitetail Deer
State Bird: Brown Thrasher
State Game Bird: Bobwhite Quail
State Coldwater Game Fish: Brook Trout
State Freshwater Game Fish: Largemouth Bass
State Saltwater Game Fish: Red Drum
State Riverine Game Fish: Shoal Bass
State Butterfly: Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
State Insect: Honeybee
State Tree: Live Oak
State Flower: Cherokee Rose

GEORGIA DNR WILDLIFE RESOURCES DIVISION

Wildlife Resources Division
FY2022 Expenditures
$86.3 million

Wildlife Conservation
$14,182,866
16%

Fisheries Management
$17,844,955
21%

Game Management
$44,215,844
51%

Other Funds
$22,645,195
26%

Administration / License and Boat Registration
$10,102,126
12%

Wildlife Resources Division
FY2022 Revenue Sources
$86.3 million

Federal Funds
$43,696,874
51%

State Funds: Other State Revenue
$2,420,993
3%

State Funds: License Revenue
$17,582,730
20%

State Funds
$26,645,195
30%

Other Funds made up of license plate sales, donations, timber revenue, etc.