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# Operational Activities: Aquaculture

Last Modified:



Mississippi State University Extension

Aquaculture is an important industry in the United States. However, wildlife depredation, especially by fish-eating birds, can significantly impact production.

Wildlife Services (WS) provides Federal leadership and expertise to resolve wildlife conflicts that threaten U.S. agricultural resources. Our wildlife biologists and technicians work nationwide to protect agricultural crops and aquaculture from

damage caused by wild animals.

## Our Services

We support the aquaculture industry and stakeholders with the following services:

- Helping producers obtain and renew [migratory bird depredation permits](#)
- Providing technical assistance
- Using integrated damage management tools (harassment/removal)
- Conducting surveillance

This includes assistance to anglers, baitfish and crawfish producers, catfish farmers, fish hatcheries, sport fish producers for pond stocking, and tropical fish producers.

We also conduct outreach and research and collaborate with Federal regulatory agencies. For example, WS biologists conduct damage evaluations to provide information to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the State wildlife agency as part of their permit processes.

[Learn More About the Migratory Bird Depredation Permit Process](#)

## Resources

[Fish-Eating Birds: Species Factsheets](#)

[\*Coming soon!\*](#)





[Aquaculture Research at WS' National Wildlife Research Center](#)



Need more information or assistance with wildlife damage?

[Visit the WS State Office Directory](#)

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## **Related Links**

- [Veterinary Services: Aquaculture Health](#)
- [Importing Fish, Fertilized Eggs, and Gametes into the United States](#)
- [USDA Aquaculture Resources](#)

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