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# Mississippi Field Station

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Aquaculture has grown tremendously over the last 25 years, especially the production of catfish in the delta region of Mississippi. With the growth in aquaculture has come a corresponding increase in predation by fish-eating birds on aquaculture stocks.

To address these bird problems the National Wildlife Research Center of the USDA's Animal Damage Control Program, under a Congressional directive, established a research station at Mississippi State University in 1988.

Biologists at the NWRC Mississippi field station conduct studies with both captive and free-ranging birds to determine the extent of fish-eating bird damage; the local and regional population status of fish-eating birds; and effective control methods.

The goal of Mississippi field station research is not centered on the development of a single method as a panacea for all damage problems, because none is likely to be cost-effective in all situations. Instead, the continuing emphasis is on developing a number of alternative strategies that can be integrated into a comprehensive management plan for cost-effective reductions in fish-eating bird damage to aquaculture.

Further information on the research conducted at the Starkville, MS Field Station can be found on the [Defining Economic Impacts and Developing Strategies for Reducing Avian Predation in Aquaculture Systems Research Project](#) page.

# Contact Us

Mississippi Field Station

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