

# 1991

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## National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation

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**U.S. Department of the Interior**  
**Bruce Babbitt, Secretary**

**FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE**  
**John F. Turner, Director**



**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
**Ronald H. Brown, Secretary**  
**John Rollwagen, Deputy Secretary**

**Economics and Statistics Administration**  
**Jeffrey Mayer, Acting Under Secretary**  
for Economic Affairs

**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**  
**Harry A. Scarr, Acting Director**



**U.S. Department of Interior**  
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**Division of Federal Aid**

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure their development in the best interests of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under U.S. administration.

The mission of the Department's Fish and Wildlife Service is to conserve, protect, and enhance fish and wildlife and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The Service is responsible for national programs of vital importance to our natural resources, including administration of the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration and the Federal Aid of Wildlife Restoration Programs. These two grant programs provide financial assistance to the States for projects to enhance and protect fish and wildlife resources and to assure their availability to the public for recreational purposes. Funds from the administrative portion of these programs are used to pay for the National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.



**Economics and Statistics Administration**  
**Jeffrey Mayer, Acting Under Secretary for Economic Affairs**



**BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**  
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*1991 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation.*  
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# Foreword

In 1991, more than half of the people in the United States 16 years old and older enjoyed some type of wildlife-related recreation. Whether they were fishing, hunting, or engaging in some other outdoor activity, millions of Americans enjoyed our country's fish and wildlife. In order to continue providing such opportunities, careful planning based on detailed information on resource use is necessary. The National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation is a unique source of such information. The Survey is an important tool not only for natural resource managers who use it to track trends in fish and wildlife-related recreation for future planning, but for everyone who cares about outdoor recreation.

The 1991 Survey was requested by the States through the International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. It is the eighth in a series of surveys conducted for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service since 1955. The Survey is financed by hunters, anglers, and boaters through excise taxes on sporting arms, ammunition, fishing equipment, and motorboat fuels as authorized under the Federal Aid in Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration Acts.

The Survey reports resource use by anglers, hunters, and those who enjoyed non-consumptive activities such as observing, feeding, and photographing wildlife. It also shows wildlife-related recreation to be a boom to our economy. The \$59 million Americans spent to enjoy wildlife supported hundreds of thousands of jobs.

Our American heritage is enriched by visions of bald eagles soaring gracefully, a flock of geese gliding into a placid lake and a 10-point buck bounding across a golden meadow in the fall. These and other beautiful wild creatures have the power to captivate us, to transcend the mundane in life, and fill us with awe. The value we place on such things is well documented in this Survey. Let us use this information wisely in the stewardship of our land and its wildlife.



**John F. Turner**, Director  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior