

Message from the Chief



What a difference a year makes! After one of the wettest years on record in 2011, 2012 greeted Ohioans with extreme drought conditions, much of which still persist. It would be a relief for Ohio's people and wildlife if the weather in 2013 brought a balance of the past two years.

In spite of those challenging weather conditions, our fish and wildlife resources remain healthy and viable. Our spring wild turkey hatch was above normal, and we are cautiously optimistic that the Lake Erie perch and walleye hatches will be good as well. Fish production from our six state fish hatcheries was excellent, and new youth angling opportunities were introduced at five locations around the state. Ohio continues to build upon its reputation as a top whitetail hunting destination, and our herd remains CWD-free.

Wildlife watchers enjoyed a tremendous spring bird migration, with record numbers of birders coming out to Magee Marsh and other notable birding sites. In addition, several wildlife species that were listed as threatened or endangered saw their status improve, including the Lake Erie water snake, osprey, bald eagle and bobcat.

I look forward to 2013 being another productive and successful year, and thank you for your support of Ohio's wildlife. Whether you purchase a hunting or fishing license, Legacy Stamp, specialty license plate or donate through the income tax check-off, your dollars are vital to the continued health and well-being of our wild creatures, great and small.

Sincerely,

Scott A. Zody, Chief
OHIO DIVISION OF WILDLIFE



DISTRICT AND STATEWIDE OPERATIONS **\$15,961,376**

Expenditures include money spent for fiscal and business management, licensing and permits, property management, computer services, environmental research and review, and wetlands habitat restoration.

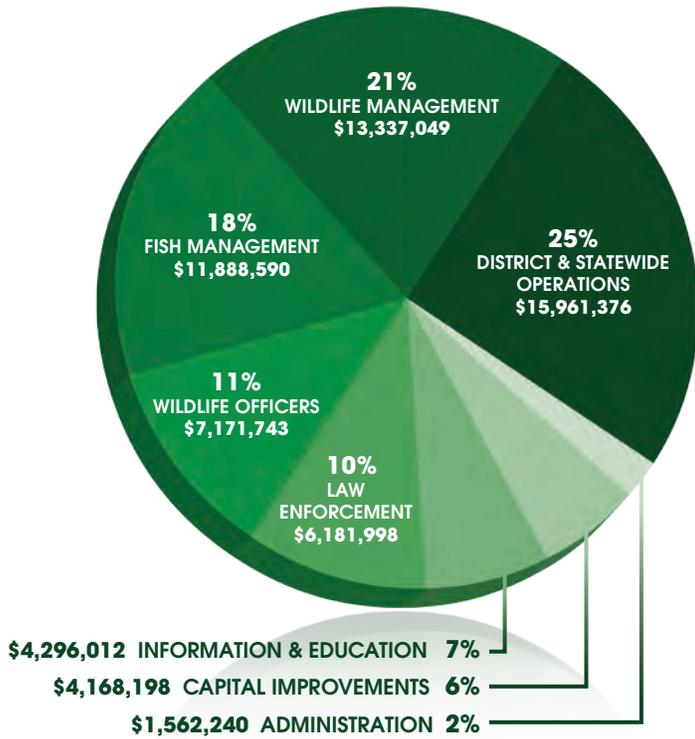


WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT **\$13,337,049**

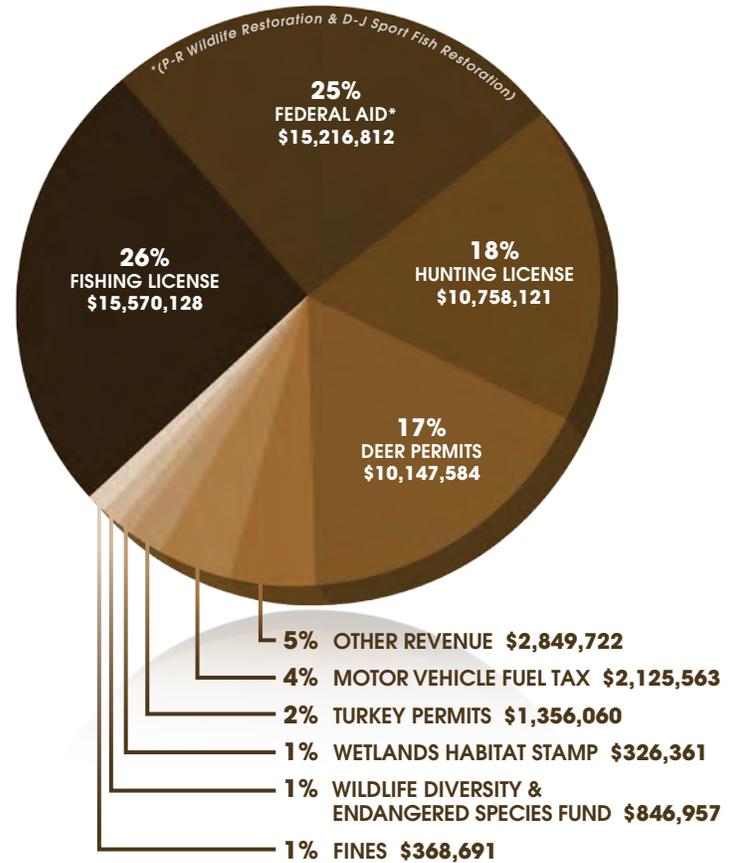
Wildlife Management and Research is responsible for managing all wildlife, assisting landowners with habitat improvements, managing land for wildlife and wildlife-oriented recreation, monitoring wildlife populations and harvest, and conducting applied research to be used in improving wildlife populations, regulations, and public satisfaction with Ohio's wildlife resources.

FINANCIAL REPORT 07.01.11 - 06.30.12

2012 EXPENDITURES \$64,567,206



2012 REVENUE \$59,565,999



EXPLANATION OF EXPENDITURES

FISH MANAGEMENT \$11,888,590

Fish Management and Research maintains the aquatic resources of the state. Biologists and other fisheries personnel manage water areas by improving spawning habitat and fishing access, recommending regulations, monitoring fish populations and angler harvest, fish stocking, and research.

WILDLIFE OFFICERS \$7,171,743

LAW ENFORCEMENT \$6,181,998

Enforcement is a fish and wildlife management tool designed to protect resources, ensure fair and equitable use, protect state property, and implement fish and wildlife, litter and pollution statutes. Wildlife officers are assigned to each of Ohio's 88 counties, and Lake Erie.

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION \$4,296,012

Monies spent include hunter, trapper, and angler education, printing of regulations, educational materials for Ohio's educators, maintaining the division's electronic newsletter, website, *Wild Ohio* television program and magazine, information distribution to the media and public, and the creation and printing of maps and other publications.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS \$4,168,198

These funds are spent on land purchases and the repair, maintenance, renovation, and construction of facilities such as fishing access sites, boat ramps, hatcheries and offices.

ADMINISTRATION \$1,562,240

Expenditures in this category include money spent for wildlife administration and human resources staff, statewide costs associated with employee recruitment, safety, and training needs, as well as employee wellness programs. These include required medical testing such as random drug testing, respirator medical clearance, lead testing, and preventative medical services such as rabies and Hepatitis B vaccinations.