



Fiscal Year

2023

AT A GLANCE



**TENNESSEE
WILDLIFE
FEDERATION**



Friends,

One thing that remains constant in our great state is Tennesseans' passion for conserving our abundant natural resources. Each year, I am inspired by what this organization is able to accomplish thanks to supporters, participants, and action-takers like you.

Last year was full of incredible milestones and growth within the Federation and its programs. We surpassed 1,000 acres of wetlands restored across the state. We worked with our peer organizations around the country to pass a bill funding critical research of chronic wasting disease. We formed partnerships with national organizations to strengthen connections with new outdoorsmen and women through our Hunting and Fishing Academy and Scholastic Clay Target Program. And, our Hunters for the Hungry program celebrated its 25th year with the highest single-season deer donations to date.

On behalf of all of us at the Federation, thank you. As you look through this report, know that every success was made possible by your dedication and enthusiasm for the conservation of our natural world.

As I reflect on my final year as the Chairman of Tennessee Wildlife Federation's Board of Directors, I am incredibly proud and grateful for the opportunity to lead such a committed organization for the past three years. I look forward to continuing my work on the Board of Directors and hope you will join me in supporting the Federation's mission again in 2024.

Bruce Fox
Chairman, Board of Directors



Record-Breaking 25th Year Hunters for the Hungry

In the 2022–23 deer season, Hunters for the Hungry reached incredible milestones with generous hunters donating an all-time high of 3,116 deer. Over the last two years, the program has grown to include 73 processors across Tennessee. These hardworking, vital processors processed a record 148,011 pounds of venison in the 2022–23 deer season, equaling 592,044 servings of venison (another record!) to be distributed among hunger relief organizations in Tennessee.

“Looking back on the program’s 25-year history, our hunters and processors have risen to the challenge every year to support their fellow Tennesseans,” said Matt Simcox, Hunters for the Hungry manager. “The 2022–23 season was no different except more people than ever are invested in our mission and are committed to giving back.”

All of these statistics contribute to the larger impact Hunters for the Hungry has had over the last quarter of a century.

Hunters for the Hungry continues to be a platform for generous hunters and processors to give back to Tennessee communities. The program also relies on monetary donations to operate. To donate visit tnwf.org/hungry and to learn more about Hunters for the Hungry, visit tnwf.org/HFTH

Since 1998

2.3+ million pounds **9.3+ million servings**

of venison donated

provided through food banks and soup kitchens





Baiting Bill Defeated A piece of legislation allowing for the indiscriminate baiting of wildlife in Tennessee was defeated on the Senate floor by a constitutional majority vote opposing it. The Federation led the charge against this legislation with partners and was on Capitol Hill during session to ensure this bill was not passed. This is reportedly only the second time a piece of legislation has been defeated by a constitutional majority vote in the past 50 years.

CWD Transport Bill Defeated The Federation actively opposed and testified against legislation that would have allowed for Chronic Wasting Disease-positive deer carcasses to move from other states into Tennessee.

Lick Creek Wastewater Permit Denied The Federation worked with partners to successfully argue against a new multi-county wastewater facility which was planned for Lick Creek in Hickman County. Lick Creek is the largest tributary of the Duck River and is classified as an Exceptional Tennessee Water.

Duck River Elevated to Class 2 Scenic River The Federation worked with partners to support the passage of legislation which improved the classification of the Duck Scenic River to Class 2 status. This was in response to plans to locate a landfill close to the river, which was strongly opposed by local government, farmers, and conservationists.

Public Duck Blinds Protected A caption bill was filed to require the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission to publish a map of its No Elk Zone on the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency's website. The bill was amended in an attempt to try to undo positive changes that were previously put in place around public duck blind draws. The Federation testified against this bill and led opposition to ensure its defeat.



HABITAT CONSERVATION

Surpassed **1,000 acres**
of wetlands

restored by the Federation

Reached **491,000**
native trees

planted



HUNTING AND FISHING ACADEMY

7,950 participants

almost double from the previous year

90+

events

98% of in person event participants stated they now have the skills and confidence to hunt or fish on their own



SCHOLASTIC CLAY TARGET PROGRAM

1,615

athletes

333 athletes

competed in nationals

<4 minutes

for our Ironman
competition
to sell out

77 National titles earned
16 first place finishers



YOU are at the heart of what we do.

People have been drawn to Tennessee's abundant and vast natural beauty for centuries. For more than 75 years, Tennessee Wildlife Federation has tackled Tennessee's most urgent conservation issues through public policy and strategic programs that serve our wildlife and community. The sportsmen and women, outdoor enthusiasts, and community leaders who fervently support our mission—people like you—are the reason we remain at the forefront of conservation in Tennessee. **Thank you for being a part of Tennessee Wildlife Federation.**

Fiscal Year 2023 Financials

Revenue	\$5,500,893
Expenses	\$4,774,083
Programming Expenses	\$3,798,994
Operating and Fundraising Expenses	\$ 975,089*
Net Income	\$ 726,810

*Sourced by FY23 990

73% of costs support our mission-driven programs, while 27% cover necessary administration and fundraising expenses.

Proud to have been awarded these accreditations



Photo credits: Cover by Rebecca Stone, Bucks by Stacey Reid