



Paul Hartfield  
Endangered Species Biologist  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Mississippi Field Office  
Jackson, Mississippi

Paul Hartfield is an endangered species biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stationed in Jackson, Mississippi. Specializing in imperiled aquatic fauna, Hartfield has conducted status reviews and prepared Federal Register documents listing 24 species as threatened or endangered, and designating more than 1,200 miles of stream and river channels as critical habitat under the Endangered Species Act. He also identifies recovery strategies, prepares and publishes Recovery Plans, and works with agencies, local partners and communities to protect and recover endangered species. He has authored journal articles and reports on a variety of subjects, including stream geomorphology, and taxonomy, ecology, and status of freshwater mussels, snails, crayfish, aquatic insects, fish, turtles, and Interior least tern.

For the past 14 years, Hartfield has collaborated with the USACE Mississippi Valley Division (MVD) and Districts, and with the Engineer Research and Development Center Environmental Laboratory, to define habitats and habitat uses of three endangered species in the Lower Mississippi River (LMR). This information was, and continues to be used to develop, test, and implement channel engineering designs and Best Management Practices (including Engineering With Nature principles) that contribute to the conservation of listed species and their LMR channel habitats. Both management and research components are documented by a formal Section 7(a)(1) conservation program for the endangered Interior least tern, pallid sturgeon, and fat pocketbook mussel under the MVD Channel Improvement Program (USACE MVD 2013).