

# Cynthia K. Dohner

## *Regional Director*



USFWS

Cynthia K. Dohner (Cindy) currently serves as the Regional Director (RD) of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Southeast Region, which is headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia. In this position, she provides vision, leadership, and oversight for Service activities in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. She also oversees the management of approximately 120 national wildlife refuges covering more than 3.2 million acres, 14 national fish hatcheries, five fishery assistance offices, and 17 ecological services field offices.

She previously served as the Deputy Regional Director for five years overseeing daily Service operations. She was also responsible for the supervision of the five Assistant Regional Directors, the Chief of Refuges, and a Special Assistant for the Councils and Commissions. These supervisors are responsible for carrying out the work of the Service's major programs throughout the southeast. There are more than 1500 employees in the Southeast Region.

Before moving to the Deputy position, she was the Assistant Regional Director for Ecological Services (ES) in the southeast. In this position, she managed the Region's 16 ecological services field offices with more than 325 staff. The ES program is responsible for implementing numerous programs, such as the Endangered Species Act, Coastal and Partners for Fish and Wildlife programs, Federal water resource development activities, National Wetlands Inventory, and the Environmental Contaminants program. As ARD, she exercised line authority for managing Service activities conducted at the ES field offices throughout the Southeast Region. As ARD she was responsible for policy development and programmatic staff support to the RD and the field. She also assisted the WO with budget formulation, and was responsible for allocating a multi-million dollar budget to the field offices, as well as ensuring the budgets were properly executed each year. She managed programs that are subject to rapidly changing initiatives and shifting priorities, determined and integrated longterm plans, goals and objectives, and made decisions concerning the implementation of programs, program emphasis and organizational structure into the budget execution.

Before coming to the Southeast Region, she worked with the Fish and Wildlife Service in the Division of Fish Hatcheries in the Washington, D.C. office. There she worked on issues such as fisheries imperiled species, mussel propagation, broodstock management and cryopreservation. Through a natural progression, she moved to the Endangered Species Program, where she first served as the national coordinator for the development of the Habitat Conservation Planning program. She then became the Chief, Branch of Recovery and Consultation in the Washington Office. In this position, she coordinated numerous national issues for the

Endangered Species program, such as recovery, section 7 program, Habitat Conservation Plans, and other private lands initiatives.

She has worked a variety of environmental jobs within the private sector and environmental groups, as well as with a few States and other Federal agencies. She has propagated fish, conducted field surveys and water quality analysis, and drafted and finalized Federal regulations, policies and guidelines. She earned her B.S. in Marine Biology from Millersville University in 1982, and a M.S. in Fisheries and Aquaculture from the University of Rhode Island in 1984. She is married and has two boys, Zachary and Jacob.



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