The CWS staff of over 80 biologists includes mammalogists, ornithologists, limnologists, pathologists, toxicchemical biologists and biometricians. About a quarter are assigned exclusively to research in Northern Canada and the rest are distributed among research projects in other parts of the country. The ornithologists work in close association with the provincial governments, with Ducks Unlimited (Canada) and with the United States Fish and Wildlife service. The mammalogists concentrate on the mammals of the national parks and northern territories, in co-operation with the territorial governments and other agencies. Because sport fishing is such an important activity in the national parks, limnologists carry out research on fish-management programs. Pathologists, working with other CWS staff and wildlife agencies, investigate disease problems in wildlife and develop, and frequently implement, measures for disease prevention and control. The effects of pesticides in Canada are studied by the toxic-chemical biologists, while the biometricians provide a link between the computer and the biologists, analyzing data from the field and studying the means to improve the statistical design and analysis of the migratory-birds hunter permit and survev system.

The Canadian Wildlife Service has established 80 sanctuaries for migratory birds, frequented largely by waterfowl that may be hunted elsewhere in season. Five wildlife centres have also been established. In addition, the Service administers a program aimed at preserving wildlife habitats. Under that program more than 40 national wildlife areas have been established.