

Desert Fish Habitat Partnership



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Desert Fish Habitat Partnership (DFHP)



- Purpose: To conserve aquatic habitat in the arid West for desert fishes and the American people by protecting, restoring and enhancing these unique habitats in cooperation with and in support of, state fish and wildlife agencies, federal agencies, native American tribes, conservation organizations, and individuals.

DFHP: How, What, and Why?

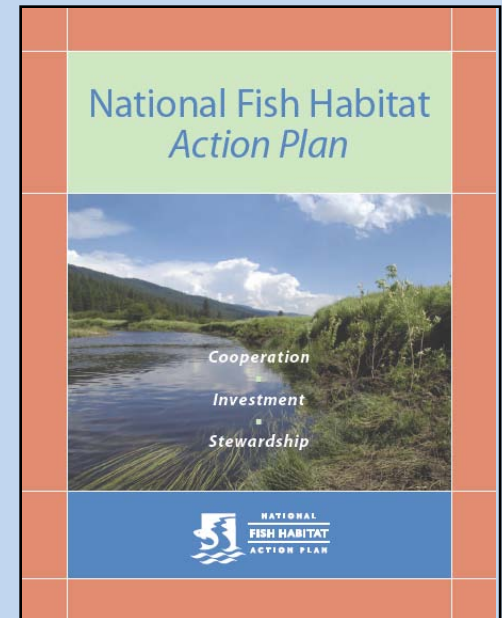


- How did DFHP become a partnership?
- What is the DFHP?
- Why is there a need for a DFHP?

How did DFHP become a partnership?

- National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP)
- Recognized as a National Fish Habitat Partnership in 2009

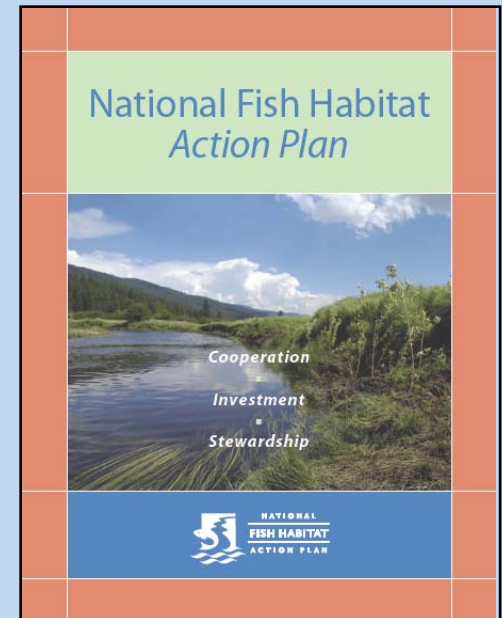
<http://www.fishhabitat.org>



NFHAP

Fish Habitat Partnerships are:

- Focused on protection, restoration, and enhancement of fish habitat
- Partnership driven
- Non-regulatory and voluntary
- Science-based



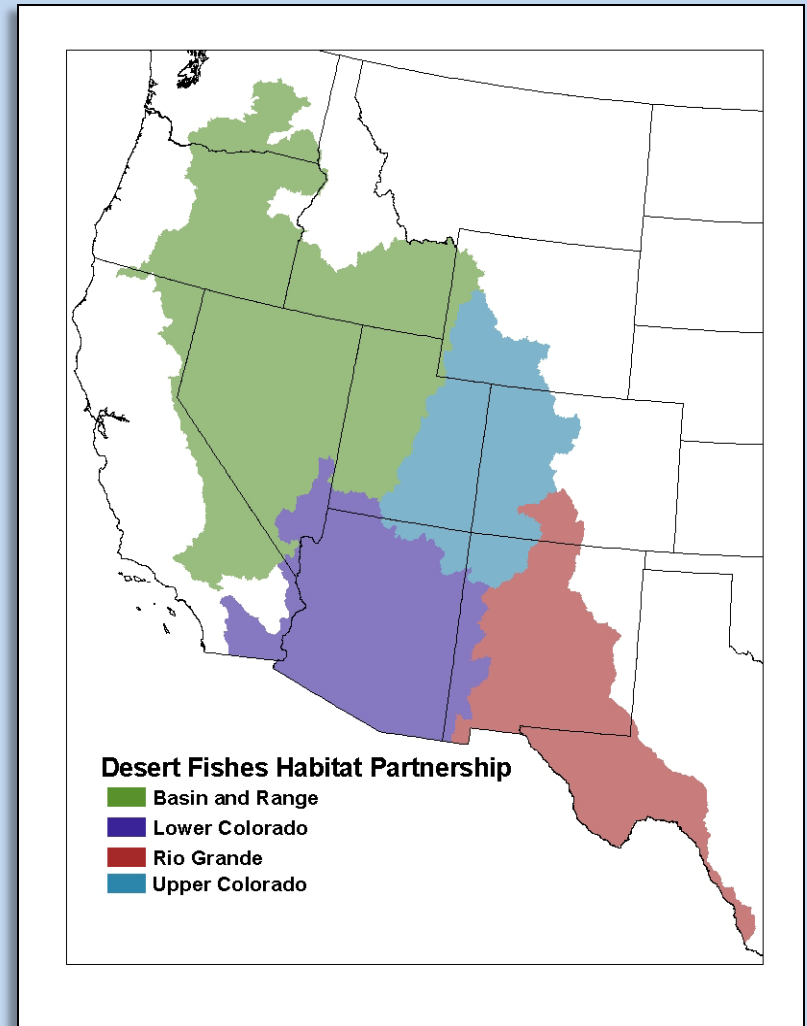
What is the DFHP?

- A cooperative partnership composed of:
 - state & tribal fish & wildlife agencies
 - federal resource agencies
 - research & private organizations
 - engaged individuals
- Based on Fish Habitat Partnership guidance from the NFHAP
- Specific emphasis of nongame fish species and their habitats



DFHP Geographic Scope

- Basin and Range
- Upper Colorado
- Lower Colorado
- Rio Grande



Why is there a need for a DFHP?

- 50% of U.S. threatened and endangered fishes occur in the arid west
- 54 freshwater fishes listed under ESA occur within the DFHP
- Desert aquatic habitats within the DFHP support over 179 at-risk, non-salmonid fish species
- 8 of the **top** 10 states within the U.S. with at-risk freshwater fish species are DFHP partner states (AZ, UT, NV, CA, NM, OR, TX, and ID)

Why is there a need for a DFHP?

- Desert fish species distributions
- Cross-jurisdiction

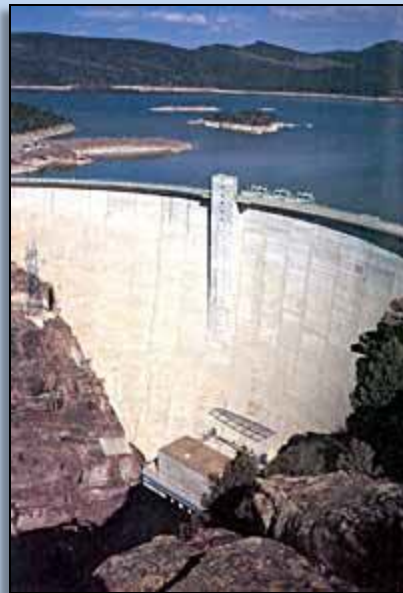
Why is there a need for a DFHP?

Introduced non-native species



Why is there a need for a DFHP?

Habitat alteration and loss



Why is there a need for a DFHP?

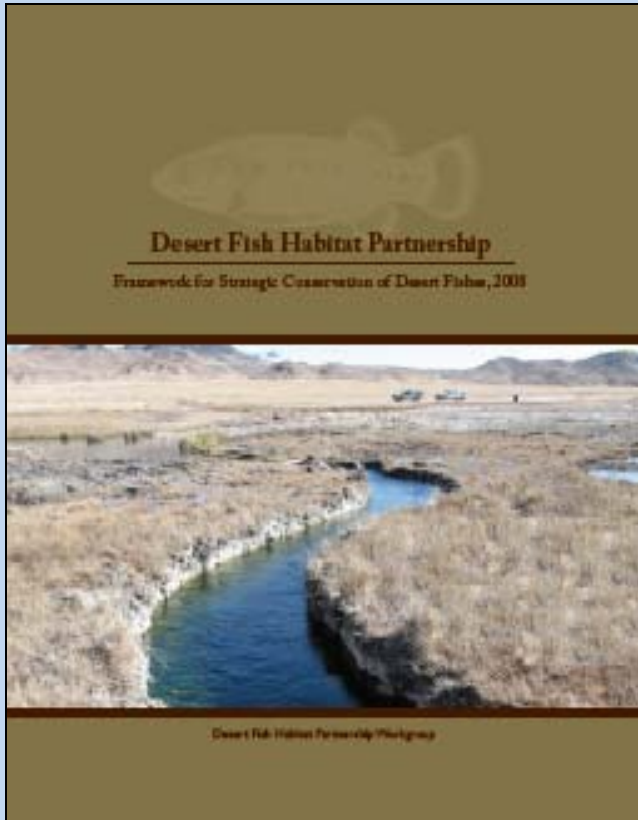
Surface and ground water development





- Development of a regional strategy and priorities
- Cross-jurisdictional coordination
- Facilitation of and support for on-the-ground conservation projects

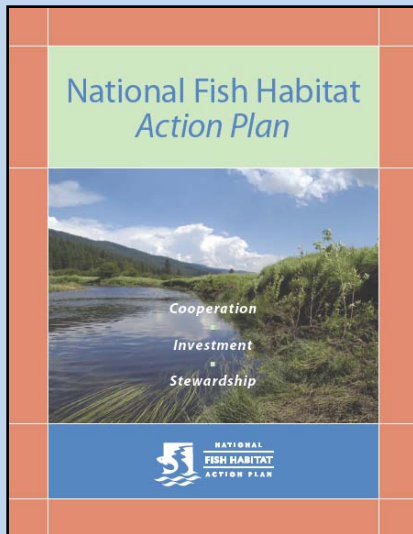
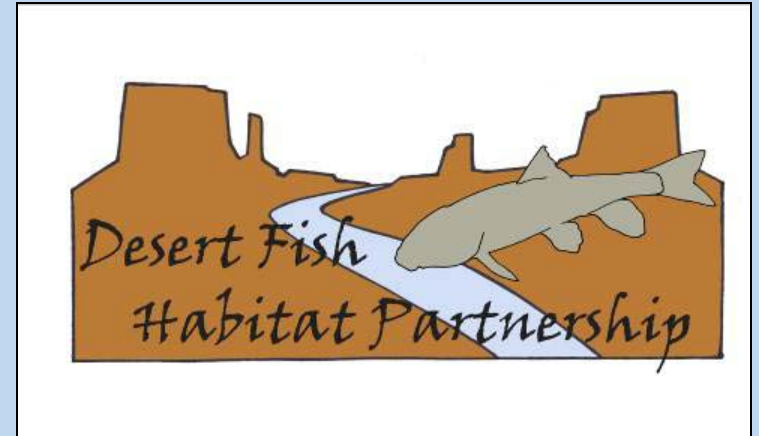
DFHP Objectives



- Contribute to the success of aquatic species and habitat strategies and actions identified in State Wildlife Action Plans (SWAPs)
- Support priority, on-the-ground habitat-based conservation actions
- Implement the DFHP Framework

DFHP Objectives

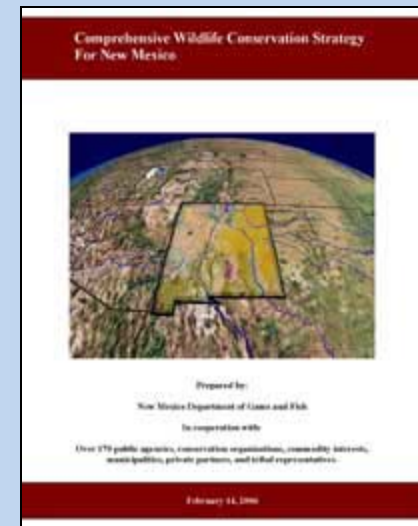
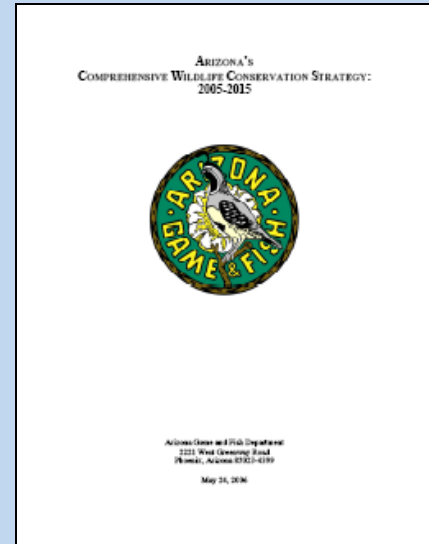
- Build partnerships to develop additional resources for desert fish habitat restoration



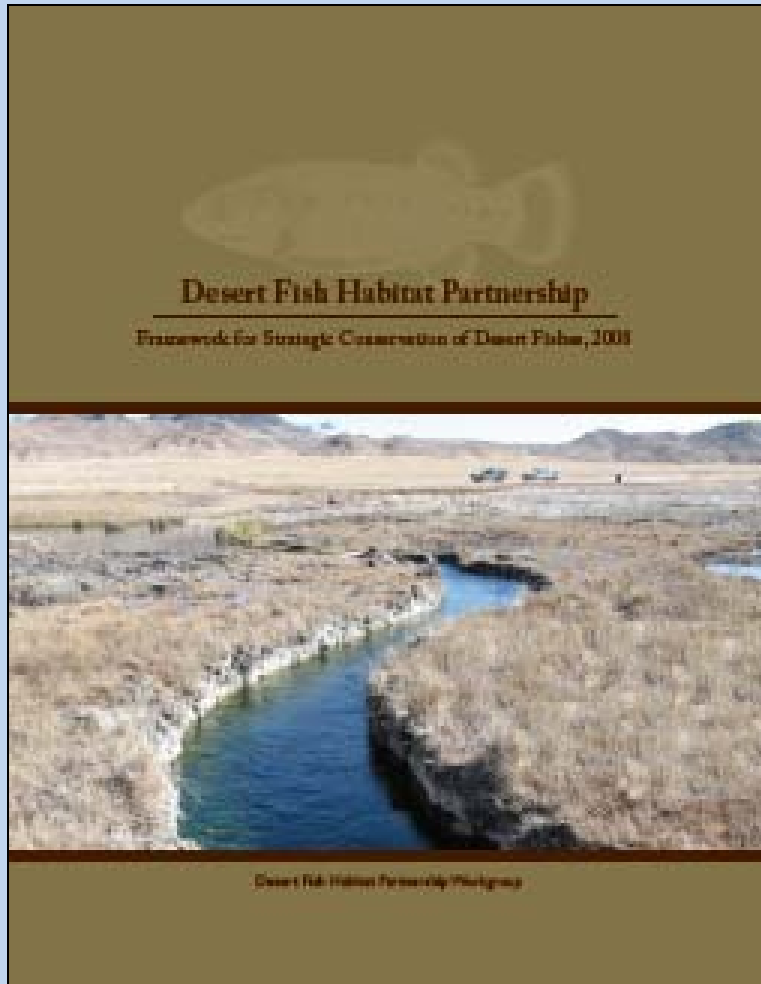
- Support successful implementation of the NFHAP

DFHP Strategic Plan

- State level need assessments
- Species of greatest conservation need
- Habitat threats
- Conservation actions



DFHP Conservation Priorities



- Integrate priorities from SWAPs with the NFHAP strategies
- Implement on-the-ground projects
- Prioritize projects

DFHP Conservation Priorities

The Matrix

- Species of greatest conservation need
 - Desert endemic
 - ESA status
 - Global heritage rank
 - Habitat type
 - Desert occurrence
 - Overall ranking

Projects as Candidate FHP

Fairbanks and Soda Springs

- Partners: USFWS, NDOW, USGS, Amargosa Conservancy, Death Valley Natural History Association
 - Warm springs pupfish
 - Ash Meadows pupfish
 - Ash Meadows speckled dace



Projects as Candidate FHP

Red Rock Cienega Restoration

- NMDGF, USFWS, AZGFD
 - Gila chub
 - Gila topminnow



DFHP First Funded Project

- Myton Diversion Fish Passage
 - Located on Duchesne River in Northeastern Utah
 - Major tributary to the Green River
 - Inhibits movement



Myton Diversion Fish Passage Project

- Allow bypass of flows
- Increase instream flow



Myton Diversion Fish Passage Project

- Additional habitat for migrating native fish



Myton Diversion Fish Passage Project

- Implementing Organization: Ute Indian Tribe

- Partner Organizations:



- Total Project Cost: \$300,000

- Partner Match: \$150,000

- DFHP Funds Requested: \$150,000

- Anticipated Start/Completion Dates: 2010/2011

Waters to Watch

Fairbanks & Soda Springs, NV

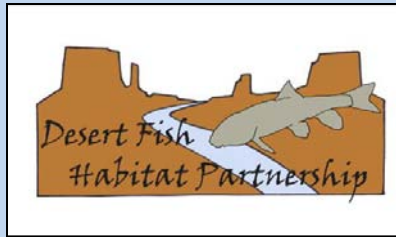


- Partners: USFWS (Ash Meadows NWR), NDOW, USGS, Amargosa Conservancy, Death Valley Natural History Association
- Restore hydrologic processes and create critically needed habitat for native species
 - Warm Springs pupfish
 - Ash Meadows pupfish
 - Ash Meadows speckled dace



Waters to Watch

Green River Basin, CO/WY/UT



- Partners: TU, Jackson Hole One Fly Foundation, NFWF, BLM, USFS, USFWS, USDA-NRCS, Wyoming GFD, Utah DWR, Colorado DOW, Green River Valley Trust, The Conservation Fund, Wyoming Water Project, Cottonwood Ranch, Ute Indian Tribe, Utah State University

Waters to Watch

Green River Basin, CO/WY/UT

- Projects



- restoring native cutthroat trout and habitat in LaBarge Creek, Muddy Creek, Severy Creek, the North Fork of the Little Snake River and Cottonwood Creek, Wyoming
- reconnecting headwater and mainstem and habitats on Duchesne River, Utah for native suckers and chub
- restoring floodplain habitat to benefit native suckers, chub, and potentially Colorado cutthroat in San Rafael River, Utah

Current status



- Request for 2011 project proposals have been announced and distributed
- Deadline for project proposal is **Aug. 1st, 2010**
- DFHP Meeting Nov. 16, 2010 in Moab, UT
- http://www.nature.nps.gov/water/DFH_partnership.cfm

Contact Info

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DFHP Partners

