



NATIONAL FISH HABITAT ACTION PLAN

www.fishhabitat.org

The National Fish Habitat Action Plan is an investment strategy to make conservation dollars go farther in restoring our impaired waterways to sustainable health and maintaining the existing health of other waterways. Recognizing their shared interests are at stake, hundreds of public and private partners are coming together to target high priority areas and iconic species where America's aquatic life will benefit from voluntary conservation actions.

Why Act Now?

More than 40 percent of U.S. fish populations are in decline and half of our waters are impaired. Prior fragmented conservation efforts have not been able to reverse the trend of declining fish populations, but implementation of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan has been proven successful, considering conservation on the whole through these attributes:

- Action oriented
- Science based
- Identify priority needs and acknowledge gaps
- Identify and achieve measurable outcomes
- Build on existing collaborative efforts
- Focus resources and funding where they will make a measurable difference
- Encourage public-private partnerships
- Monitor and disseminate results
- Don't stop until the job is done

Increased support of Action Plan implementation will maintain and further enhance fishing opportunities for the public and therefore put more dollars on the ground for fish habitat conservation.

More People Working for More Fish

Under the Action Plan, Federal, state, and privately-raised funds will be the foundation for building regional partnerships that implement actions voluntarily to protect, restore and enhance our nation's fish habitat areas. This is the most comprehensive effort ever attempted to treat and avert the causes of fish habitat decline, not just the symptoms.

By **2010** the National Fish Habitat Action Plan will:

- Assess the condition of all fish habitats in the U.S.
- Prepare a Status of Fish Habitats in the U.S. report
- Establish 12 or more Fish Habitat Partnerships in priority areas
- Fund projects to protect, restore, and enhance priority habitats.

By **2015** the Action Plan will protect all healthy and intact fish habitats.

By **2020** the Action Plan will improve the condition of 90 percent of priority habitats and species targeted by Fish Habitat Partnerships. Combining the collective efforts of state, federal, territorial and local agencies with local, private and industry partners, to form local and regional fish habitat partnerships, is our best chance to achieve success.

Join Us!

More than 1,700 organizations— state and federal agencies, scores of non-profit organizations, along with corporations, academic institutions, native American tribes, anglers and individuals are working together to conserve aquatic habitat. Please join the thousands of Americans who share your passion for fishing and healthy fish habitat.

Visit our website for more information. www.fishhabitat.org



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Partnerships Across the Map

Fish Habitat Partnerships are the work units of the Action Plan. The partnership level is where it all happens—the assessment of regional needs, the planning and prioritization, and the leveraging of resources to implement local projects to protect, restore, or enhance fish habitat and population. National efforts will provide logistical and some financial support for the Partnerships, but decisions are always made at the local and regional level, a true bottom up approach. One of The Action Plan’s objectives for 2010 was to establish 12 Fish Habitat Partnerships. That objective has been met, as there are currently 17 regional partnerships already demonstrating real results. The current listing of Fish Habitat Partnerships can be found on the map below:

Along with these recognized Partnerships, there are currently five “Candidate” Fish Habitat Partnerships seeking official recognition from the National Fish Habitat Board.

Through a collaboration of these Fish Habitat Partnerships and their partners and stakeholder, many fish habitat projects are completed each year. Beginning in 2007, FHP’s and the National Fish Habitat Board began an annual process to highlight 10 of these projects and initiated the “Waters to Watch” campaign. This annual snapshot of projects underway, emphasizes the successful actions being accomplished under NFHAP to improve the health of our nation’s fish habitats. For more information visit: www.fishhabitat.org.

The 10 “Waters to Watch” for 2011 include:

- Alewife Brook/Scoy Pond, New York
- Au Sable River, Michigan
- Barrataria Bay, Louisiana
- Batten Kill River, New York
- Cottonwood Creek, Alaska
- Duchesne River, Utah
- Llano River, Texas
- Manistee River, Michigan
- St. Charles Creek, Idaho
- Waipa Stream, Hawaii

