



Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program in Maine

Background

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife program is the Service's most popular and effective programs for voluntary, citizen and community-based fish and wildlife habitat restoration activities. Partners program serve as a bridge to owners and managers of private lands to develop partnerships for the benefit of these Trust Species. Its approach is simple: Engage willing partners, through non-regulatory incentives, to conserve and protect wildlife values on their property.

Accomplishments

Partners Program Habitat Restoration

- Developed close working relationships with four Native American Tribes who collectively own 230,000 acres in Maine
- Partnerships formed with over 30 organizations T 180 acres of saltmarsh restored
- 550 acres of upland restored
- 33 miles of river habitat opened up for anadromous fishes
- 130 acres of ditched, emergent wetlands restored

- 9,500 acres of freshwater wetlands protected from drainage by installing 500 beaver exclosures (includes wetlands owned by the Penobscots, Passamaquoddy, and Maliseet Indians)
- 6 miles of Atlantic salmon river habitat fenced to prohibit livestock from degrading water quality



Shorebirds, wading birds, waterfowl, and other fish and wildlife resources benefit from saltmarsh restoration.

Partners Program and USDA Conservation Programs

- 2,234 acres of wetlands in perpetual conservation easement status, managed by USFWS
- 7,325 acres of wetlands and uplands enrolled in 50-year conservation contracts

- 25,000 acres of grassland enrolled in CRP
- 1,500 acres of grasslands enrolled in WHIP

Priorities

As the delivery mechanism for strategic habitat conservation, the Partners Program will continue to lead change working and coordinating with our public and private partners to assist in reaching national conservation goals. By working cooperatively with private landowners to restore and enhance habitat on private lands, the Partners program helps reduce the reliance on regulation to achieve the Service's mission of conserving Trust species.

For More Information

For more information about the Partners Program, contact:

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