



NATIONAL FISH HABITAT ACTION PLAN

The National Fish Habitat Action Plan is an investment strategy to make conservation dollars go farther in restoring our waterways to sustainable health. Recognizing their shared interests are at stake, hundreds of public and private partners are coming together to form regional fish habitat partnerships in areas where America's aquatic life is most vulnerable.

WHY ACT NOW?

More than 40 percent of U.S. fish populations are in decline and half of our waters are impaired. Fragmented conservation efforts are not reversing the trend of declining fish populations. Some of the principal factors contributing to these declines include:

- Habitat destruction and fragmentation
- Toxic substances
- Nitrogen contamination
- Acidification
- Invasive species
- Harmful algal blooms
- Fishing gear impacts
- Altered thermal regimes.

JOIN US!

Support of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan will further enhance fishing opportunities for the public and therefore put more dollars on the ground for fish conservation.

More than 450 organizations—state and federal agencies, scores of non-profit organizations, along with corporations, academic institutions, and native American tribes—are working together to conserve and protect 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

MORE PEOPLE WORKING FOR MORE FISH

The National Fish Habitat Action Plan is a national investment strategy to maximize the impact of conservation dollars on the ground. Under the Action Plan, Federal, state, and privately-raised funds will be the foundation for building regional partnerships that address the Nation's biggest fish habitat problems. This is the most comprehensive effort ever attempted to treat 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 and federal agencies with local partners is our best chance to achieve success.



STRATEGIC ACTION FOR FISH HABITAT

2008
10 WATERS
TO WATCH

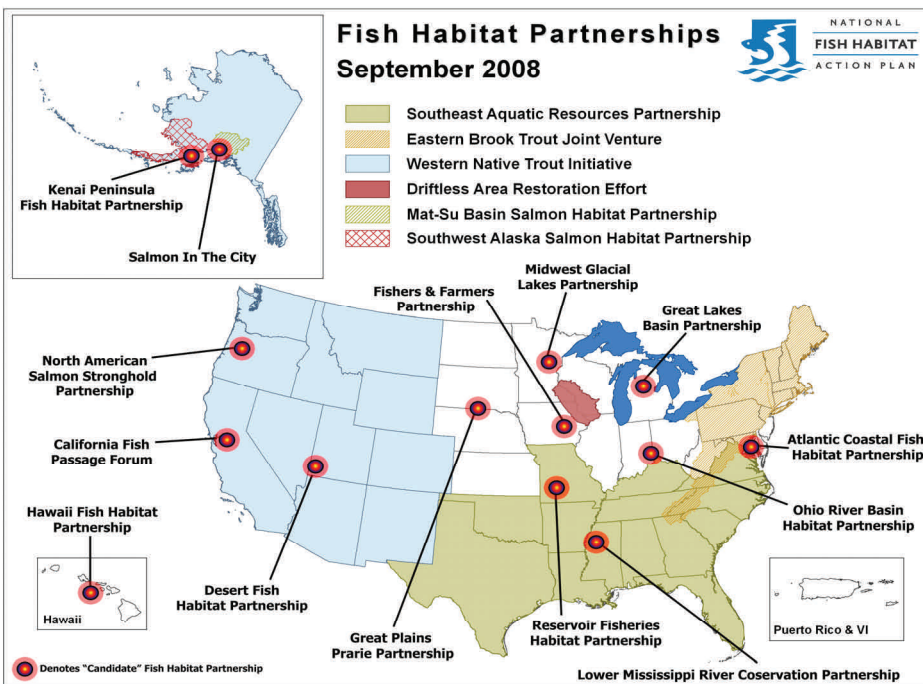
REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

Regional Fish Habitat Partnerships are the work units of the Action Plan. This 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 regional level.

The Action Plan envisions 12 Fish Habitat Partnerships by 2010. Six regional partnerships are already demonstrating that we can produce real results. They are:

- Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
- Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture
- Western Native Trout Initiative
- Driftless Area Restoration Effort
- Matanuska-Susitna Basin Salmon Conservation Partnership
- Southwest Alaska Salmon Habitat Partnership

Along with these recognized Partnerships, there are currently 14 “Candidate” Fish Habitat Partnerships seeking official recognition from the National Fish Habitat Board.



10 Waters to Watch are the ten most promising waters for demonstrating the successful protection and restoration of fish habitat. These projects are part of the regional efforts of the five Fish Habitat Partnerships.

Aaron Run, Maryland

Partners are working together to restore water quality conditions in four miles of stream.

Big Spring Branch, Wisconsin

Partners are engaged creating scour pools, increase stream velocity, and enhance sinuosity.

Lake Oconee Island, Georgia

Island shoreline along a third of a mile is rip-rapped to prevent erosion and enhance near-shore habitat.

Little Susitna River, Alaska

Partners are replacing culverts to allow salmon to again move upstream and reclaim lost rearing and spawning grounds.

O'Dell Spring Creek, Montana

Partners are reshaping the natural stream course and returning the floodplains to riparian wetlands.

South Fork Chalk Creek, Utah

A culvert will be replaced with a small bridge to reconnect 2.6 new miles of stream with downstream areas.

Stinky Creek, Arizona

Apache trout and speckled dace will be re-introduced after non-native fish are removed from two miles of a stream.

Tampa Bay Shoreline, Florida

Partners constructed near-shore oyster reefs along the coastline to provide habitat for fish and other marine life.

Trout Run, Minnesota

Partners re-sloped and stabilized eroding banks and narrowed the stream channel in key areas to improve habitat for brown trout.

Williams Run, Pennsylvania

This project will treat acid mine drainage for brook trout populations on nine miles of an Appalachian stream in Northwestern PA.

Join the power of a
conservation
partnership today.

www.fishhabitat.org

More People Working
For More Fish