



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program

Regional Showcase Accomplishments
Fiscal Year 2010

www.fws.gov/coastal



25 Years of Coastal Conservation
1985 - 2010

The Coastal Program provides financial and technical assistance to partners for the conservation and restoration of priority coastal habitats, including coral reefs, shorelines, marshes, wetlands, uplands, and rivers and streams.



The Coastal Program partners with coastal communities to protect and restore habitat for Federal trust species, including threatened and endangered species, migratory birds, inter jurisdictional fish, and certain marine mammals.



The Coastal Program is delivered through a network of locally based field staff with expertise in coastal habitat protection and restoration in 23 priority coastal areas around the U.S., including the Great Lakes and U.S. Territories and Commonwealths.



Since 1984, the Coastal Program has protected over 2 million acres of coastal habitat and restored:

- 268,000 wetland acres
- 109,000 upland acres
- 1,750 stream miles

Region 1 - The Northwest

Clatsop County, Oregon Perkins Creek Tributary Restoration

Partners:

Lower Columbia River Estuary Program

Geographic Focus Area:

Lower Columbia River Estuary

Landscape Conservation Cooperative:

North Pacific



Photo by Craig Damo @ flickr.com

The Perkins Creek tributary restoration project restores and enhances fish passage, wetland and riparian habitats for threatened and endangered salmonids such as the Coho Salmon, steelhead, coastal cutthroat trout, and western brook lamprey. The privately owned project sites are tidally influenced and provide valuable spawning and rearing habitats for listed interjurisdictional fish species.



The Columbia River Estuary is one of the largest estuaries in the west coast at over 80,000 acres. Historically, Columbia River salmon and steelhead runs were once the largest runs in the world, but the river has been severely degraded from human use over recent years. The Coastal Program is working closely with partners to restore historic numbers of wild salmon and steelhead populations.

USFWS contribution:	\$20,000
Partner Contribution:	\$126,783
Total project cost:	\$146,783

Region 2 - The Southwest

Nueces County, Texas **Port Aransas Nature Preserve** **Brazilian Pepper Control Project**

Partners:

City of Port Aransas, TX
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Texas General Land Office

Geographic Focus Area:

Texas Coastal Bend

Landscape Conservation Cooperative:

Gulf Coast Prairie

Brazilian Pepper is an invasive woody plant that has the ability to dominate and completely change landscapes. The City of Port Aransas requested financial and technical assistance from the Coastal Program to help develop and implement a Brazilian pepper control plan for the preserve, consisting of mechanical removal, chemical control and a prescribed fire. The project restores 883 acres of grassland habitat, in addition to protecting 7,000 feet of shoreline habitat.



Invasive Brazilian Pepper



Before Restoration



After Restoration

The shoreline of the Port Aransas Nature Preserve is subject to extremely high erosion rates causing the loss of valuable upland habitats and threatening sensitive wind tidal flats.

USFWS contribution:	\$30,000
Partner Contribution:	\$2,908,000
Total project cost:	\$2,938,000

Region 3 - The Midwest

Monroe County, Michigan **Brancheau Coastal Wetland Restoration**

Partners:

Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

Geographic Focus Area:

Lower Detroit River and System

Landscape Conservation Cooperatives:

Eastern Tallgrass Prairie and Big Rivers

Upper Midwest and Great Lakes



This project resulted in the restoration and management of a 44.8 acre wetland complex and enhancement of 30 adjacent wetland acres located in the Lake Erie coastal zone. Restoration techniques included breaking drain tiles and constructing a low level berm to restore hydrology and to prevent flooding off site properties. The restoration design provides FWS with a management infrastructure that will allow the DRIWR to emulate natural wetland hydrology, control invasive species and maintain quality habitat over the long term.



The adjacent Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge features over 30 species of waterfowl, 17 species of raptors, 31 species of shorebirds, 160 species of songbirds, and 117 species of fish.

USFWS contribution:	\$21,000
Partner Contribution:	\$34,670
Total project cost:	\$55,760

Region 4 - The Southeast

Ponce, Puerto Rico **Laguna de las Salinas Tidal Exchange** **and Wetland Restoration**

Partner:

Comunidad Punta Cucharas, Inc.
Municipality of Ponce
Puerto Rican Ornithological Society
Puerto Rico Dept of Natural Resources

Geographic Focus Area:

Puerto Rico South Coast

Landscape Conservation Cooperative:
South Atlantic

Laguna de las Salinas is a shallow coastal lagoon located on the dry south coast of Puerto Rico. Due to blockage of the only tidal channel, the lagoon had been experiencing more dry down, and very high salinities in recent years. The project opened the blocked tidal channel for the lagoon and constructed a new (larger) culvert bridge with better placement. Post restoration, fish populations have increased, flooding has stabilized and native mangroves are recuperating.

The Laguna de las Salinas lagoon is a well known shore and wading bird area, supports healthy fishery nursery and sportfish habitat, and is recognized as a Critical Wildlife Area.

USFWS contribution:	\$26,876
Partner Contribution:	\$27,630
Total project cost:	\$54,506



Region 5 - The Northeast

New London County, Connecticut **Bride Brook Habitat Restoration** **and Fish Access Project**

Partners:

Connecticut Dept of Environmental Protection
NOAA

Fish America Foundation

Save the Sound

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Geographic Focus Area:

Long Island Sound & Coastal Watershed



The Bride Brook restoration project will restore 59 acres of important tidal wetlands and spawning habitat for anadromous and catadromous fish populations. The installation of an open channel to restore fish passage also benefits a catadromous run of American eel, American Shad, blueback herring and alewife populations.



Bride Brook is the second largest alewife run in the State of Connecticut, with a river system extending 1.7 miles that passes through 59 acres of tidal marsh habitat.

USFWS contribution:	\$16,000
Partner Contribution:	\$663,600
Total project cost:	\$679,600



Region 7 - Alaska

Kodiak Island County, Alaska **Afognak Island Coastal Protection**

Partners:

American Land Conservancy
EVOS Office (local government)
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Shuyka Natives, Inc
Alaska DNR
Uyak Natives, Inc

Geographic Focus Area:

Coastal Kodiak Island Archipelago
Landscape Conservation Cooperative:
Western Alaska



Afognak Island has long been recognized as one of the most unique ecosystems in Alaska, consisting of superb coastal, terrestrial, and riparian habitat supporting abundant wildlife, including many threatened, endangered, and candidate species and species of special concern under the Endangered Species Act. Lakes and streams along the north coast of the island support anadromous and resident fish populations, and Sitka spruce coastal rainforests provide excellent habitat for Kodiak brown bear, Roosevelt elk, and Sitka black tailed deer.



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This project builds upon previous habitat restoration successes, which targeted resources such as: remote coastline, wetland and rainforest, pristine wild salmon spawning streams, sheltered bays, and ideal habitat for marbled murrelets, harlequin duck, pigeon guillemot, numerous marine mammals, herring, wintering sea ducks, Kodiak brown bear, and Roosevelt elk.

USFWS contribution:	\$25,700
Partner Contribution:	\$17,900
Total project cost:	\$43,600

Region 8 - The Pacific Southwest

Del Norte County, California **Humboldt Bay Coastal Dunes Reserve:** **Invasive Plant Eradication Project**

Partners:

The Yurok Tribe
NOAA Fisheries Program

Geographic Focus Area:

Klamath Basin / Trinity River
Humboldt Bay

Landscape Conservation Cooperative:
North Pacific



This project addresses both Arcata FWO and Region 8 strategic plans by implementing priority recovery and restoration actions for Federally listed species (Humboldt Bay wallflower and beach layia) and promoted outreach to connect people with nature on the newly acquired 61 acre Humboldt Coastal Nature Center, owned and managed by Friends of the Dunes.

This project addresses the Coastal Program's Strategic Plan by fulfilling Goals One (Conserving Habitat) and Two (Broaden and Strengthen Partnerships) of the plan. The project meets Goal One by restoring and protecting priority habitats for two listed plant species through the removal of a non native invasive plant species. Goal Two is achieved through fostering a close working partnership between a local land trust (Friends of the Dunes) and the Coastal Program at Humboldt Bay. Through this project, Friends of the Dunes and the Service identified and prioritized where to focus our limited funds to best restore habitat for the two listed plant species.

USFWS contribution:	\$25,000
Partner Contribution:	\$200,902
Total project cost:	\$225,902

