

Focus ON THE FISHAMERICA FOUNDATION



Fifteen States Receive Sportfish Habitat Funding

FishAmerica Awards More Than \$585,000 in Grants

The FishAmerica Foundation recently awarded nearly \$595,000 to 19 projects in 15 states for sportfish habitat restoration. The projects were funded through FishAmerica's partnerships with the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration \(NOAA\) Restoration Center](#), the [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#), the [Chesapeake Bay Trust](#) and [Trout Unlimited](#).

The community-based grant recipients and their partners will leverage more than \$5 million in matching funds through donations, in-kind services and nearly 8,000 hours of volunteer labor.

Projects Summary

NOAA

Nine community-based organizations throughout the United States will receive a total of \$255,000 in funding through FishAmerica's partnership with the [NOAA Restoration Center](#). Since 1998 FishAmerica's partnership with the [NOAA Restoration Center](#) has funded 279 projects, turning nearly \$7 million in investments into \$20 million in vital fisheries habitat in 25 states. These projects will:

- Improve fish passage in the Cape Cod watershed in Massachusetts



In October 2008, the [Whites Gulch Dam \(video link\)](#) and a secondary dam on the Salmon River in California were removed. The removal of these dams, in combination with the removal of another barrier downstream later this year, will open up two miles of spawning and rearing habitat for spring Chinook salmon and threatened Coho salmon and steelhead trout.

- Improve fish passage and enhance fisheries habitat in the Narragansett Bay watershed of Massachusetts
- Improve fisheries habitat along the Elizabeth River in the Chesapeake Bay watershed of Virginia
- Improve fisheries habitat along the Mississippi coast
- Improve fish habitat in the Little Salmon River watershed of Idaho
- Improve fisheries habitat in the Lower Klamath watershed of California
- Restore fisheries habitat in the Sacramento River watershed of California
- Restore fisheries habitat in the John Day River basin of Oregon
- Improve fish passage and to restore habitat for salmonids in the Washington's Puget Sound watershed.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Six projects in the Northeast received funding through FishAmerica's partnership with the [U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service](#), Region 5. Local communities



article continues

will leverage an additional \$1.6 million in funding for projects that will restore fish passage, enhance fish habitat and improve water quality in the Missisquoi River watershed of Vermont, the Connecticut River watershed, the Narragansett Bay watershed, Long Island Sound and the Susquehanna watershed.



Volunteers from [Trout Unlimited](#) and the [Kettle Creek Watershed Association](#) restored habitat for Eastern brook trout on a nearly four-mile stretch of the Cross Fork, a tributary of Kettle Creek in the Susquehanna River watershed in Pennsylvania. The project will increase the thermal refuge and habitat cover for native brook trout.

Chesapeake Bay Trust

Through FishAmerica's partnership with the [Chesapeake Bay Trust](#), three projects will receive \$100,000 to restore fisheries habitat in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay watershed. Local communities will provide \$72,000 in leveraged funds. These projects will restore in-stream fisheries habitat and water quality along Beaver Creek, restore shoreline fisheries habitat and improve riparian along a tributary of the South River, and restore wetland fisheries habitat along a tributary of the Chester River in Maryland.



Trout Unlimited

Trout Unlimited's Embrace-A-Stream (EAS) program will receive \$20,000 in the third year of FishAmerica's partnership to invest in coldwater fisheries habitat-restoration projects throughout the United States. Local chapters will receive \$22,180 from FishAmerica and the Trout Unlimited's EAS program and will provide \$456,295 in matching funds. These projects will:



- Restore pure Rio Grande cutthroat trout to the Comanche Creek watershed in northern New Mexico
- Restore habitat for westslope cutthroat trout and bull trout along Sauerkraut Creek in the upper Blackfoot River watershed in Lincoln, Montana



The Maryland Department of Natural Resources will create fish passage at the White Hall Dam located just below the confluence of Little Falls with Gunpowder Falls in northeast Maryland, opening 46 square miles of habitat for trout and other resident sportfish.

- Restore habitat for brook trout and Westslope cutthroat trout along the South Fork of Flatwillow Creek just 23 miles from Lewistown, Mont.
- Improve habitat for Yellowstone cutthroat trout along the Fox Creek in the upper Teton River watershed of Idaho
- Restore Yellowstone cutthroat trout habitat to Crow Creek in the upper Snake River watershed of Idaho ■