

ALL AMERICAN RIVERS
An America's Great Outdoors Initiative



RIVERS FOR PEOPLE AND WILDLIFE

ALL AMERICAN RIVERS
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State	River	Project Name	Lead Agency	50-State
Alabama	Dog River	Dog River Scenic Blueway	NPS	
Alaska	Kenai River	Kenai River	FWS	
Arizona	San Pedro River	San Pedro Watershed	BLM	
Arkansas	Cache River	Cache River Restoration	FWS	
California	Sacramento River	Red Bluff Fish Passage Improvement Project	BOR	
Colorado	Dolores River	Dolores River	BLM	
Connecticut	Connecticut River	Connecticut River Watershed	FWS	Yes
Delaware	Nanticoke River	Nanticoke River	NPS	
District of Columbia	Anacostia River	Watts Branch Stream Restoration	FWS	
Florida	Magnolia Creek	Magnolia Creek Watershed Fish Passage	FWS	
Georgia	Chattahoochee River	Chattahoochee River NRA Water Trail	NPS	
Hawaii	He'eia Stream	Lower He'eia Stream Restoration Project	FWS	
Idaho	Salmon River	Yankee Fork Off-Channel Habitat Restoration	BOR	
Illinois	Pecatonica River	Pecatonica River	NPS	
Indiana	Wabash River	Wabash River	FWS	Yes
Iowa	Big Sioux River	Klondike Dam	FWS	
Kansas	Kansas River	Kansas River Blue Trail	NPS	Yes
Kentucky	Kentucky River	Kentucky River Water Trail	NPS	Yes

State	River	Project Name	Lead Agency	50-State
Louisiana	Tensas River	Tensas River NWR Recreation Expansion	FWS	
Maine	Penobscot River	Penobscot River	FWS	Yes
Maryland	Chester River	Captain John Smith National Historic Trail	NPS	Yes
Massachusetts	Connecticut River	Connecticut River Blueway	FWS	Yes
Michigan	Detroit River	Detroit River Restoration	FWS	Yes
Minnesota	Mississippi River	Mississippi River Water Trail and National Recreation Area	NPS	Yes
Mississippi	Pascagoula River	Pascagoula River Blueway	NPS	Yes
Missouri	Missouri River and Mississippi River	Missouri/Mississippi Rivers Confluence	FWS	
Montana	Missouri River	Upper Missouri River	BLM	
Nebraska	Platte River	Platte River Restoration and Recreation	BOR	Yes
			FWS	
Nevada	Colorado River	Colorado River Heritage Greenway Park and Trails	BOR	Yes
New Hampshire	Connecticut River	Silvio Conte National Wildlife Refuge	FWS	Yes
New Jersey	Delaware River	Athos Oil Spill	FWS	
New Mexico	San Juan River	San Juan River Habitat Restoration	BOR	
New York	Bronx River	Bronx River Blueway	NPS	
North Carolina	Wabash River	Waccamaw River Blueway	NPS	Yes
North Dakota	Missouri River	Pallid Sturgeon Recovery	FWS	
Ohio	Chagrin River	Sulphur Springs Stream Restoration	FWS	

State	River	Project Name	Lead Agency	50-State
Oklahoma	Blue River	Blue River	NPS	Yes
Oregon	Sandy River	Sandy River	BLM	
Pennsylvania	Susquehanna River	Lower Susquehanna Landscape Initiative	NPS	Yes
Rhode Island	Blackstone River	Blackstone River Valley Greenway	NPS	Yes
South Carolina	Waccamaw River	Waccamaw River Blueway	NPS	
South Dakota	Gimlet Creek	Gimlet Creek Stream Crossing Rehabilitation	FWS	
Tennessee	Harpeth River	Harpeth River Dam Removal	FWS	
Texas	Rio Grande River	Rio Grande River Watershed	FWS	Yes
Utah	Escalante River	Escalante River Invasive Species Control	BLM	
Vermont	Winooski River	Winooski River Watershed Project	FWS	Yes
Virginia	James River	Captain John Smith National Historic Trail	NPS	Yes
Washington	Elwha River	Elwha River Fish Passage Project	NPS	
West Virginia	Ohio River	White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery	FWS	
Wisconsin	Milwaukee River	Milwaukee River Restoration	FWS	
Wyoming	North Platte River	North Platte River	BLM	

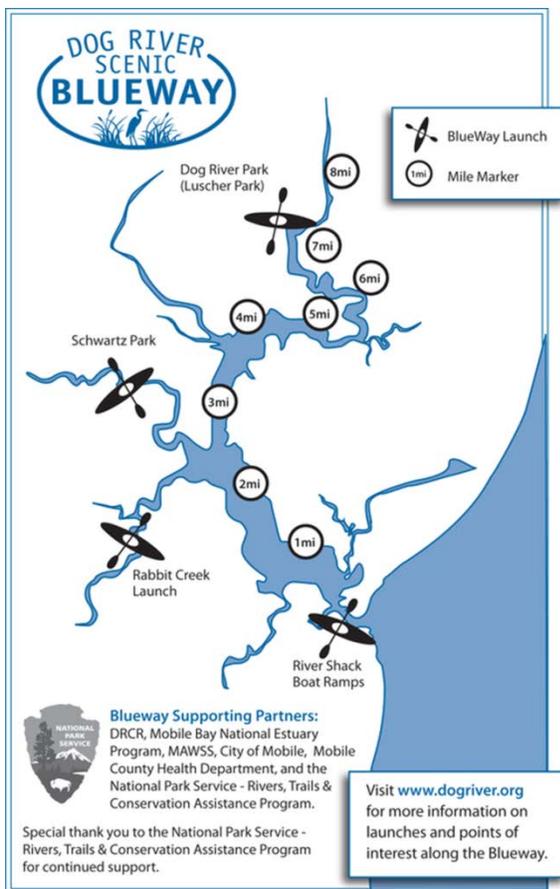
DOG RIVER ALABAMA

Project Name: Dog River National Water Trail

Project Type:

- Education
- Recreation (National Water Trail)
- Restoration (Wetlands and Marsh)

Project Description: The Dog River watershed is 90 square miles, covering more than half of Mobile, Alabama. The River is one of the largest tributaries to Mobile Bay, a National Estuary, and serves as an important recreational waterway. The National Park Service is working with local agencies and non-governmental organizations to obtain a National Water Trail designation for the Dog River.



The partnership is also working to increase environmental awareness and stewardship of the river and its watershed through educational opportunities and recreational access, including construction of additional boating launch sites. Through these activities, the National Park Service and community partners will raise awareness of the Dog River as a recreational destination and important water resource in the Mobile area.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- City of Mobile
- Dog River Clearwater Revival

Outcomes for 2012:

- Obtain National Water Trail designation
- Construct an additional river access point

KENAI RIVER ALASKA

Project Name: Kenai River Restoration and Protection Project

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Recreation (River and Fishing Access)
- Youth (Stewardship Program)
- Restoration (Stream, Riparian, Fish Passage, and Invasive Species Control)



Kentaro Yasui

Project Description: The Kenai Peninsula is one of Alaska's premier destinations for tourists and residents and is known for its excellent fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities. Since the early 1980s, many Federal, State, and local agencies, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners have been collaborating to preserve and protect the health of the Kenai River and its tributaries. The goal of this project is to support and strengthen partnerships dedicated to restoring and conserving the fish and wildlife resources of the Kenai River and its watershed for the continuing benefit of local residents and visitors to the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Federal Partners:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Forest Service
- Kenaitze Indian Tribe IRA (federally recognized tribe)
- National Resources Conservation Service
- Kenai National Wildlife Refuge

Non-Federal Partners:

- Alaska Department of Natural Resources
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game
- Kenai Watershed Forum
- Commercial and sport fishing associations
- Kenai Peninsula Fish Habitat Partnership
- Kenai Peninsula Borough
- Private landowners
- Land trusts and many other private and public organizations

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete habitat stewardship interpretation projects at Centennial Creek and Rotary Parks
- Remove three fish passage barriers
- Complete 35-40 voluntary riparian habitat improvement projects on private lands
- Complete No Name Creek and Soldotna Creek floodplain restoration and access projects
- Continue support of the Stream Watch program

SAN PEDRO RIVER

ARIZONA



Bureau of Land Management

Project Name: San Pedro Watershed

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Education (Hands on the Land)
- Large Landscapes
- Recreation (San Pedro Trail System)
- Restoration (Riparian and Upland)
- Youth (Internship Program and Conservation Corps)

Project Description: The San Pedro is one of the most significant perennial desert river reaches in the American Southwest and is one of the few remaining free-flowing rivers in the Southwest United States. The River and its watershed provide habitat for over 400 migratory and resident bird species, as well as designated critical habitat for southwestern willow flycatcher and Huachuca water umbel. Private-public collaborations are focusing on preserving habitat while meeting private-sector considerations including performing Endangers Species Act mitigation. This project

will expand long-term watershed partnerships for conservation and restoration of unique riparian areas by establishing the Lower San Pedro Collaborative Conservation Initiative.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Agricultural Research Service
- Department of Defense
- Department of the Army
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Air Force
- U.S. Geological Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Department of Homeland Security

Non-Federal Partners:

- Friends of the San Pedro River
- Arizona Game and Fish Department
- The Nature Conservancy
- City of Sierra Vista
- Upper San Pedro Partnership
- Pima County
- Cochise County
- University of Arizona

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete riparian assessment by the National Riparian Service Team
- Complete preparation plan for San Pedro Resource Management Plan
- Implement Tamarisk and other invasive species control along San Pedro River riparian area
- Recover native fish in Aravaipa Creek, a major tributary to the San Pedro River
- Collaborate with the Department of Defense on easements for the Babocomari River
- Collaborate with Friends of the San Pedro River to provide education programs

CACHE RIVER ARKANSAS

Project Name: Cache River Restoration

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Education (Interpretation)
- Large Landscapes (“Big Woods”)
- Recreation (National Wildlife Refuges, Boating and Wildlife)
- Restoration (Stream and Riparian)

Project Description: The White River/Cache River Complex is a 550,000-acre bottomland hardwood forest, the largest in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley, located in Arkansas. This area includes the White River National Wildlife Refuge and the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge along with several State Wildlife Management Areas, such as the Cache River Natural Area (CRNA). The 937-acre CRNA contains outstanding examples of cypress-tupelo swamp and willow-oak forest, with some cypress trees estimated to be over 1000 years old. In addition, over 200,000 acres of the Cache and Lower White Rivers are included in the Ramsar Convention’s List of Wetlands of International Importance.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will restore the stream along 3 meanders, which will have direct benefits for fish, mussels, and wildlife on over 4.6 miles of historic river channel and will increase accessibility for boating, fishing, hunting, and wildlife observation opportunities on both the Cache River National Wildlife Refuge and privately-owned lands. The Natural Resources Conservation Service is investing significant Federal dollars to reforest private lands within the project area. This includes more than 20,000 acres that will be reforested within the next 10 years through cooperative projects between Federal, State, non-governmental organizations, and private landowners. As the Cache River and surrounding landscape are restored, the landscape will be managed to benefit water quality, aquatic and wetland ecosystems, wildlife, local communities, and the public.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

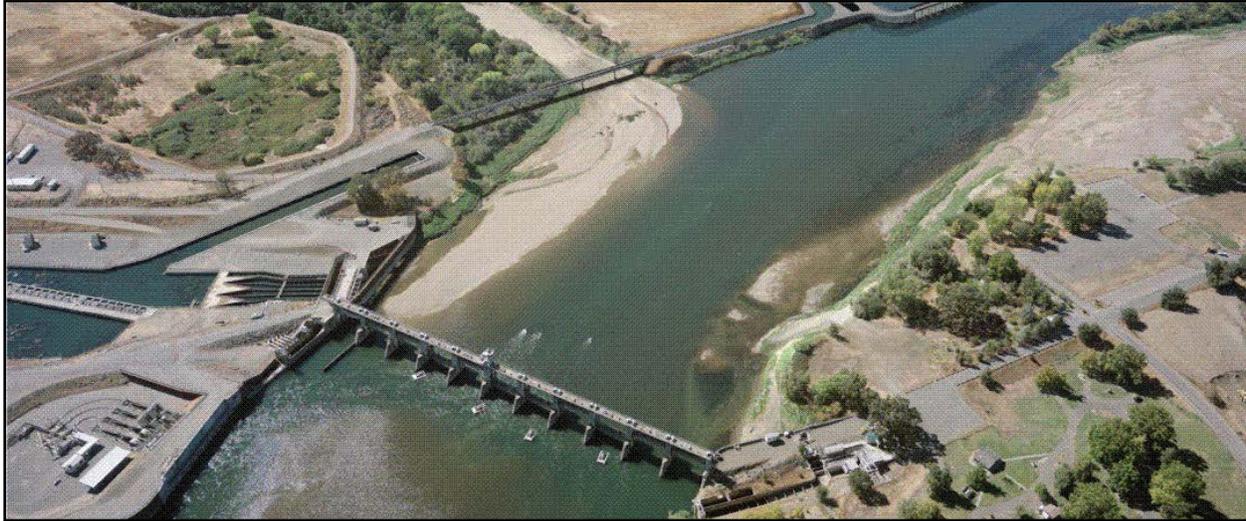
Non-Federal Partners:

- City of Clarendon, Arkansas
- Cache River/Bayou DeView Improvement District
- The Nature Conservancy
- Craig Campbell (The Stephens Group)

Outcomes for 2012:

- Begin stream restoration that is scheduled to be completed in 2013

SACRAMENTO RIVER CALIFORNIA



Artist Rendering Courtesy of CH2MHill

Project Name: Red Bluff Fish Passage Improvement Project

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Restoration (Fish Passage)
- Species Recovery (Salmon species and Green Sturgeon)

Project Description: In 1963, the Bureau of Reclamation constructed a diversion dam on the Sacramento River at Red Bluff, California, to provide water to the Tehama-Colusa Canal as part of the Central Valley Project. The dam also impeded fish passage to and from spawning habitat upstream of the dam. Historically, the Sacramento River supported large salmon runs and continues to have several salmon and sturgeon populations, including four species listed under the Endangered Species Act.

After considering various options to improve passage conditions, the Bureau of Reclamation decided to replace the function of the dam with a new pumping plant with a state-of-the-art fish exclusion screen to prevent fish injury. The project will provide unimpeded fish passage and continued delivery of water to 150,000 acres of high-value cropland, which produces over \$250 million in crops per year and contributes \$1 billion annually to the regional economy.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority
- State of California

Outcomes for 2012:

- Install fish screen and achieve operational capability of pumping plant by early June, and complete key project features by October
- Construct a 25-acre side channel and complete riparian restoration

DOLORES RIVER COLORADO

Project Name: Dolores River Tamarisk Removal Project

Project Type:

- Large Landscape
- Restoration (Invasive Species Control)
- Recreation (Fishing and Boating)
- Species Recovery (Southwestern Willow Flycatcher)
- Youth



Bureau of Land Management

Project Description: The Dolores River Partnership was formed in 2008 and is a two-state, citizen driven partnership with the goal of restoring approximately 200 miles of the Dolores River from McPhee Reservoir to its confluence with the Colorado River in Utah. Project goals include improving public safety, the removal of tamarisk and other noxious weeds, improving fish habitat, the development of education and stewardship opportunities, and expanding opportunities for youth employment.

This citizen driven project is focused on restoring riparian vegetation through the removal of tamarisk and other invasive species along the Dolores River and the planting of native cottonwoods and willows. Youth groups will assist with invasive species control and native species planting. Tamarisk removal and native vegetation plantings will reduce the risk of wildfire, increase in-stream water flows, and improve stream bank stability thus improving habitat conditions for native fish species.



Bureau of Land Management

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Land Management
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Colorado Parks and Wildlife
- Utah Division of Wildlife
- Gates Family Foundation
- Walton Family Foundation
- Tamarisk Coalition
- The Nature Conservancy

Outcomes for 2012:

- Conduct invasive species control
- Restore riparian habitat with native vegetation

CONNECTICUT RIVER WATERSHED

CONNECTICUT

Project Name: Connecticut River Watershed

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Large Landscapes
- Recreation, Education, and Youth
- Urban

Project Description: The Connecticut River Project spans the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire as the River travels over 410 miles from the Canadian border

to Long Island Sound. The Connecticut River Watershed Project and the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge support landscape level conservation, environmental education, and recreation partnerships. These partnerships have helped make significant strides towards promoting habitat connectivity and resulted in the creation of quality opportunities to reconnect people to the Connecticut River through an expanding network of public and private access points within a mosaic of approximately two million acres of conserved land.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Department of the Interior
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Transportation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Environmental Protection Agency

Non-Federal Partners

- Friends of the Silvio O. Conte Refuge
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- States of Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Vermont
- Other local and non-profit partners

Outcomes for 2012:

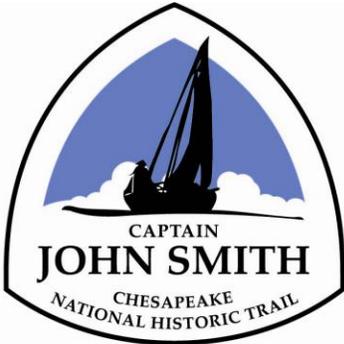
- Partner with the Natural Resources Conservation Service on landowner assistance
- Work with partners to plan, fund, and execute aquatic species passage restoration
- Complete the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Silvio O. Conte Refuge in consultation with the public, partners, and in support of wildlife action plan
- Develop outreach and educational opportunities through the Watershed on Wheels Express, the “Conte Corner,” and the “Adopt a Habitat” initiative
- Establish an agreement among the Silvio O. Conte Refuge, Connecticut River Watershed Council, and the Friends of Silvio O. Conte Refuge to develop partnerships with new members of the federal family within the watershed
- Acquire habitat in the Salmon and Eight-mile River watersheds as part of the Refuge
- Establish a 400-mile Connecticut River water trail with river access and camp sites

NANTICOKE RIVER DELAWARE

Project Name: Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Education
- Recreation (River Connecting Trail)



Project Description: The Nanticoke River is a major tributary of the Chesapeake Bay on the Delmarva Peninsula. A 26-mile water trail running along the River was set aside in July 2011 by the State of Delaware and Federal officials, contiguous with a 37-mile water trail extending through Maryland to the Chesapeake Bay. This project will further the goals of the water trail by identifying additional public access points and extending the reach of the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail to the Upper Nanticoke.

The Upper Nanticoke River Connector Trail is closely associated with Captain John Smith's exploration of the Bay and its tributaries. It provides tremendous recreation and tourism opportunities and adds additional points of public access to the Captain John Smith National Historic Trail. The connecting trail is nationally significant because of its association with our Nation's early exploration and settlement; American Indian heritage; commerce and trade; and for its outstanding natural and recreational resources. Lastly, it has a wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational features, which meet the NPS criteria described in the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail comprehensive management plan.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- Chesapeake Conservancy

Outcomes for 2012:

- Obtain River Connecting Trail designation
- Install trail signage
- Launch National Park Service Chesapeake Application with John Smith Trail component
- Complete management plan and land protection plan for entire Captain John Smith trail
- Identify additional sites for boating access
- Design of new public access



National Park Service

ANACOSTIA RIVER

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Project Name: Watts Branch Stream Restoration

Project Type:

- Education (Job Training)
- Recreation (Open Space and Trails)
- Restoration (Stream and Riparian)
- Urban

Project Description: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coastal Program and the D.C. Department of the Environment implemented a 1.8-mile stream restoration project on Watts Branch, a tributary to the Anacostia River. The Coastal Program used a watershed-based approach to assess watershed conditions affecting the stream, and a natural channel design method to restore habitat and long-term channel stability. The restoration design included structures that create instream habitat and reduce flood stresses on channel banks, while riparian vegetation provides bank stability and wildlife habitat.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The Watts Branch restoration also created a healthier and stronger community by creating green jobs, engaging citizens in stewardship activities, and connecting neighborhood residents to their local waterway. The restoration of Watts Branch alone has infused nearly \$3 million into the local economy, creating jobs in manufacturing, surveying, construction, restoration, planting, and maintenance of the habitat. Washington Parks and People, a nonprofit organization and project partner, also created the "D.C. Green Corps," a specialized environmental job training program for local residents. Watts Branch was the outdoor classroom for the program.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Environmental Protection Agency

Non-Federal Partners:

- D.C. Department of the Environment
- Washington Parks and People
- Washington Sanitary Sewer Commission
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- D.C. Department of Transportation

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete planting of the riparian buffer

MAGNOLIA CREEK FLORIDA

Project Name: Magnolia Creek Fish Passage Project

Project Type:

- Education
- Restoration (Fish Passage, Channel, Riparian, and Unpaved Road Stabilization)
- Recreation (Florida National Trail)
- Species Recovery (Gulf Sturgeon)
- Youth

Project Description: The Magnolia Creek system is a unique natural resource located within the Lafayette Creek drainage of the Choctawhatchee Bay Ecosystem in Northwest Florida. It harbors many fish, reptiles, and amphibians. The Magnolia Creek Watershed Fish Passage Project, a large contiguous watershed restoration effort, involves a partnership between agencies and a willing private landowner to protect and restore 200 acres of floodplain habitat along a 15-mile corridor of Magnolia Creek. This effort supports fish and wildlife conservation, outdoor recreation, and improves the overall health of Lafayette Creek ecosystem.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Nokuse Plantation

Outcomes for 2012:

- Restore fish passage at three sites
- Restore seven miles of stream habitat
- Restore two acres of wetlands
- Restore three acres of upland habitat
- Complete bridge for the Florida National Scenic Trail



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

CHATTAHOOCHEE RIVER

GEORGIA

Project Name: Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area & National Water Trail

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Education (Interpretative Materials)
- Recreation (National Water Trail)
- Urban

Project Description: The Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area (NRA) is a linear park in the Atlanta-metro area, which includes 48 miles of river, over 70 miles of hiking trails, and 18 developed river access areas. The trail consists of a beautiful stretch of river, rich in natural and human history, nestled within a network of suburban and urban communities extending from the southern tip of Lake Lanier to the northern limits of the City of Atlanta. Due to releases of water from Lake Lanier, the River is clear, cold, and slow moving, and contains the southern-most wild trout fishery in the country.



National Park Service

The vision for this project is to create better connections and access to the Chattahoochee River for the six million people living in the Atlanta metropolitan area. A National Water Trail designation will bring national recognition to the River and allow partners to capitalize on the designation to protect more watershed land and increase trail connections in the NRA.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Non-Federal Partners:

- Georgia Department of Natural Resources - State Parks and Historic Sites
- Cobb, Fulton, Forsyth, and Gwinnett Counties
- Cities of Atlanta, Duluth, Johns Creek, Roswell, Sandy Springs, Sugar Hill
- Upper Chattahoochee Riverkeeper
- Trust for Public Land
- Chattahoochee Nature Center
- Georgia River Network

Outcomes for 2012:

- Obtain National Water Trail designation
- Finalize inventories for water trails connecting to northern and southern ends of the National Recreation Area
- Continue negotiations to facilitate parcel acquisitions for 2013

HE'EIA RIVER

HAWAII

Project Name: Lower He'eia Stream Restoration Project: Mahuahua 'Ai o Hoi

Project Type:

- Education (Youth Conservation Corps, Internships and Volunteer Programs)
- Restoration (Riparian and Wetland)
- Species Recovery
- Traditional Hawaiian Cultural Practices

Project Description: The He'eia watershed and the adjacent Kane'ohe Bay contain the highest numbers and greatest diversity of fish, marine invertebrates, and native marine algae on the island. The lower He'eia watershed was once a thriving wetland that native Hawaiians managed through traditional cultivation of taro, the ancient Hawaiian staple crop. However, in the mid-1800s, taro was replaced by sugar cane, pineapple, rice, and cattle ranching, resulting in significant changes to the landscape and to aquatic and wetland habitats.



Hawaiian Duck

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

The biodiversity of this area, coupled with the high level of interest from the He'eia community and local leadership, was the catalyst for the local community to prioritize this site for conservation action. The result is a community-based partnership to restore the biological, socioeconomic, and cultural productivity of the lower He'eia watershed by restoring wetlands, the stream, and adjacent reefs. Restoration will also recreate a traditional Hawaiian wetland system, including traditional agricultural practices.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Western Pacific Fishery Management Council
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Non-Federal Partners:

- Kako 'o 'Oiw
- Ko'olaupoko Hawaiian Civic Club
- Hawaii Community Foundation
- Hawaii Fish Habitat Partnership
- The Nature Conservancy
- Hawaii Community Development Authority
- Hawaii Office of Hawaiian Affairs
- Harold K.L. Castle Foundation

Outcomes for 2012:

- Eradicate invasive species and remove mangrove
- Restore two acres of wetland and five acres of riparian habitat

YANKEE FORK

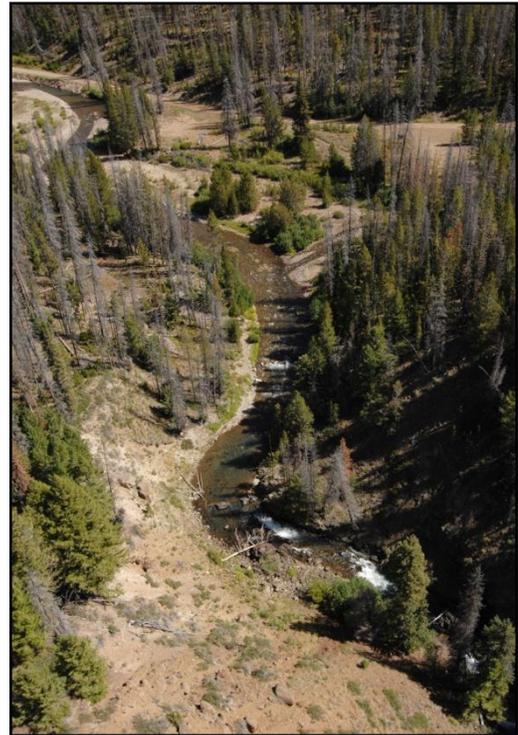
IDAHO

Project Name: Yankee Fork Rehabilitation Project

Project Type:

- Species Recovery (Chinook Salmon, Steelhead Trout, and Bull Trout)
- Restoration (Stream, Riparian, and Wetland)

Project Description: The Bureau of Reclamation is required to implement habitat improvement projects in specific sub-basins in the Columbia River drainage. Reclamation completed a Tributary Assessment in the Yankee Fork, which is being used as a basis for developing a long-term plan for salmon and steelhead habitat improvement. Fish habitat in the Yankee Fork has been drastically altered as a result of mining activities and associated dredging of the stream channel. The primary project goal is to create and maintain high-flow refuge and year-round rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon. The project will also improve holding and spawning habitat for returning adult Chinook salmon, as well as habitat for steelhead and other native fish, including Bull trout.



Bureau of Reclamation

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Reclamation
- Bonneville Power Administration
- Salmon-Challis National Forest

Non-Federal Partners:

- Idaho Office of Species Conservation
- Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
- Trout Unlimited
- JR Simplot Company

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete side-channel, riparian, and wetland restoration project on the JR Simplot Company property

PECATONICA RIVER ILLINOIS

Project Name: Pecatonica River Water Trail

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Recreation (Boat Access)
- Restoration (Wetland and Riparian)



National Park Service

Project Description: The Pecatonica River has had a significant increase in recreational use, over the last three years. The Pecatonica River Water Trail project consists of volunteers who have dedicated themselves to revitalizing their region by providing recreational access along 58 miles of the river in Stephenson County, Illinois.

Their hard work includes clearing obstructions in the River, sponsoring river clean-ups, holding paddling events, and promoting “universal access” design. The goal is to ensure

the waterway is open to all people, skills, and talents, to have launch sites four to six miles apart, and to provide amenities such as restroom facilities and drinking water and parking at each site. There are currently eight defined access sites along the river, which the group is working to create or improve.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Fehr-Graham Associates, Inc.
- Lena Community Park District
- Stephenson County Board
- Ducks Unlimited
- Pheasants Forever
- Friends of the Pecatonica River Foundation

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete a river access site at Atten’s Landing, which includes two fishing docks and a floating dock
- Restore one acre of wetland and riparian habitat

WABASH RIVER

INDIANA

Project Name: Healthy Rivers Initiative

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Restoration (Riparian and Wetland)

Project Description: The Wabash River system is a unique natural resource, containing the longest free-flowing stretch of any river in the United States east of the Mississippi River and harbors many of Indiana's rarest fish, mussels, birds, and plants.

The Healthy Rivers Initiative is the largest conservation initiative ever undertaken in Indiana. The project involves a partnership of agencies and organizations working together with willing landowners to permanently protect 43,000 acres of floodplain habitat along a 94-mile corridor of the Wabash River and Sugar Creek for fish and wildlife conservation, outdoor recreation, and to improve the overall health of the Wabash River ecosystem.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Indiana Department of Natural Resources
- Ducks Unlimited
- Vigo County Parks Department
- The Nature Conservancy
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Wabash River Heritage Corridor Commission
- Eli Lilly, Inc./Elanco Clinton Laboratories

Outcomes for 2012:

- Acquire 3,480-acre Fairbanks Landing property and pursue acquisition of other important habitat
- Complete restoration work on a wetland and floodplain demonstration project on Eli Lilly, Inc./Elanco Clinton Laboratories property
- Coordinate with partners to evaluate key applications for permanent Wetlands Reserve Program easements in the Wabash River and Sugar Creek floodplains
- Assist Sullivan County Soil and Water Conservation District on a raft trip on the Wabash River for 300 youth over 3 days, focusing on river ecology and conservation
- Coordinate with partners to protect and restore important habitat through the Wabash River Corridor North American Wetlands Conservation Act project



Huw Williams

BIG SIOUX RIVER

IOWA



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Name: Klondike Dam Fish Passage Project

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection (Alluvial Wells)
- Recreation
- Restoration (Fish Passage)
- Public Safety

Project Description: The Big Sioux River drains 7,260 square miles of land in eastern South Dakota, western Minnesota, and northwestern Iowa. The River is an important recreational resource and provides safe drinking water for area residents. As the only dam between the Big Sioux's confluence with the Missouri River and the natural falls in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, Klondike Dam is the most significant barrier to fish passage on the river, with nine fish species collected below the dam that are not found upstream.

Klondike Dam Fish Passage project will construct a rock ramp to facilitate year-round fish passage. Once the project is complete, it will open 1,840 miles of stream for native fish migrations. The ramp will also maintain the head created by the dam that is necessary for the upstream alluvial wells operated by the Lyon Sioux Rural Water System. This project will also permanently stabilize the dam, eliminate the safety hazard associated with a low-head dam, and provide recreational kayaking rapids.

Lead Federal Agency:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Iowa Department of Natural Resources
- South Dakota Game Fish and Parks
- Lyon and Sioux Rural Water
- Lyon County Conservation Board
- Lyon County, Iowa

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete fish passage project

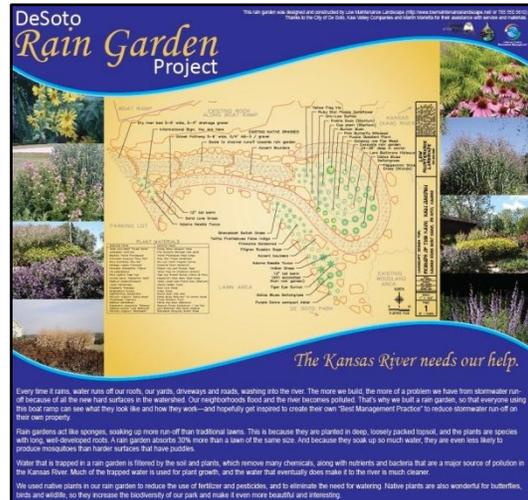
KANSAS RIVER KANSAS

Project Name: Connecting the Kansas River

Project Type:

- Recreation (National Water Trail)
- Urban

Project Description: The Kansas River is the longest prairie river in the nation and is a unique natural resource for the region with its sand substrate. The 159-mile Kansas River Water Trail runs between Junction City and its confluence with the Missouri River near Kansas City. Over 2 million people live in the cities and towns along the River between Kansas City and Junction City.



Kansas Riverkeeper

The State of Kansas and its citizens have worked to increase awareness of water quality issues and promote recreational access to the river. Currently, there are 18 access points; however, more access points are needed to maximize recreation opportunities and improve visitors' experiences. The National Water Trail designation will bring national recognition to the River and promote river recreation and stewardship.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Non-Federal Partners:

- Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism
- Topeka Riverfront Authority
- Topeka Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
- Friends of the Kaw

Outcomes for 2012:

- Obtain National Water Trail designation
- Plan future river-related projects with communities



National Park Service

KENTUCKY RIVER KENTUCKY



National Park Service

Project Name: Kentucky River Water Trail

Project Type:

- Recreation (River Access)
- Education

Project Description: The majestic Kentucky River flows from its headwaters in the foothills of eastern Kentucky northward 256 miles to its mouth at the Ohio River in Carrollton, Kentucky. Passing through dramatic palisades and iconic Kentucky bluegrass farms, the Kentucky River provides an opportunity to establish a water trail for recreational boaters and to attract adventure tourists. The Kentucky River Water Trail will incorporate interpretive opportunities for boaters, including both river ecology and the unique history along the Kentucky River. Paddling from Beattyville to the Ohio River will provide a unique perspective of Kentucky for young and old paddlers alike.

Lead Federal Agency:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners:

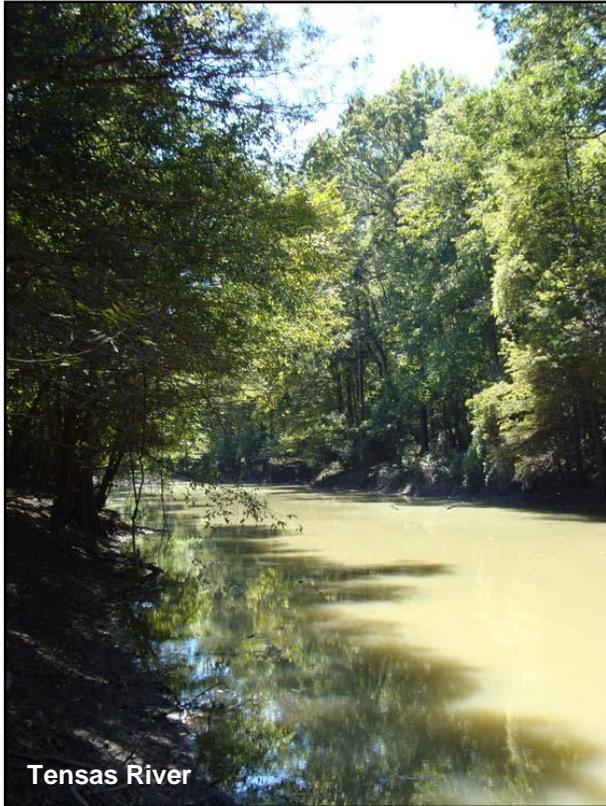
- Kentucky Riverkeeper, Inc.
- Commonwealth of Kentucky
- Frankfort/Franklin County Tourism Commission

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete needs assessment and implementation plan for the water trail
- Develop information and outreach materials on recreational boating
- Prepare National Water Trail application and pursue designation
- Develop and improve river access
- Open Pool 4 as a new 17-mile section of the Kentucky River Water Trail
- Open an additional 19 miles of the Kentucky River Water Trail in Pool 11

TENSAS RIVER

LOUISIANA



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Name: Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge Paddling Trail

Project Type:

- Education
- Recreation

Project Description: The Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge contains one of the largest remaining contiguous tracts of bottomland hardwood forest in the Mississippi Alluvial Valley. The portion of the Tensas River that winds through the Refuge has never been channelized or straightened, and opportunities for recreational activities focused on the river abound.

The Tensas River Paddling Trail project will designate a paddling trail along the Tensas River, add strategically located signage along the trail, and develop a brochure to enhance public outreach. Cultural and historical resources will be

emphasized, along with the extensive natural resources of the Tensas River. With this trail, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will support and enhance outdoor recreation opportunities for both local residents and visitors in this economically depressed area of the Mississippi Delta.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Louisiana State University Cooperative Extension Service
- Louisiana State Parks
- Quapaw Canoe

Outcomes for 2012:

- Install water trail signage
- Develop water trail brochure

PENOBSCOT RIVER

MAINE



Linwood Riggs

Project Name: Penobscot River Restoration

Project Type:

- Restoration (Fish Passage and Riparian)
- Recreation

Project Description: Restoration of the Penobscot River watershed is a well-established, multi-partner, landscape conservation effort that can serve as a demonstration for other large landscape collaborations. The Penobscot River restoration is changing the way the Nation balances multiple water use needs, including energy production and habitat restoration.

The strategy for this work plan includes completion of fish passage and associated activities on the main stem of the Penobscot River. Once major barriers are removed or bypassed, fish populations will have significantly improved access to more than 1,000 miles of historic habitat in tributary streams and ponds. Complementary to this major effort will be additional work by other stakeholders removing fish passage barriers on the tributaries to the Penobscot River. Furthermore, riparian conservation is being implemented by private landowners to improve habitat immediately adjacent to the rivers and streams.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- National Park Service
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Penobscot River Restoration Trust
- Penobscot Indian Nation
- Maine Audubon
- Natural Resources Council of Maine
- American Rivers
- The Nature Conservancy
- Trout Unlimited
- Atlantic Salmon Federation
- Maine Department of Marine Resources
- Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife
- Maine Forest Service
- Maine State Planning Office
- PPL Corporation
- Black Bear Hydro Partners LLC
- Appalachian Mountain Club
- Keeping Maine's Forest Coalition

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete water intake system for a mill on the main stem of the Penobscot River
- Remove the Great Works Dam to improve fish passage
- Develop plans and improve fish passage at the Milford, Orono, and Stillwater projects
- Complete approvals for energy enhancements at the Orono and Stillwater projects



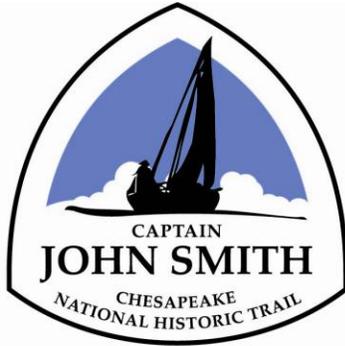
Penobscot River Restoration Trust

CHESTER RIVER MARYLAND

Project Name: Captain John Smith National Historic Trail and the Star-Spangled Banner Trail

Project Type:

- Recreation (Trail and River Access)
- Large Landscapes
- Youth
- Education



Project Description: The John Smith Trail traces the historic water routes of Captain John Smith's voyages exploring the Chesapeake Bay and waterways in Maryland, Virginia, Delaware, and the District of Columbia. The Star-Spangled Banner Trail follows the route of the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812, on many of the same waters.

The trails connect major cities and scores of historic and natural areas, and provide tremendous opportunities for recreation, tourism, education, and conservation. The project will increase trail orientation and interpretive signage, launch new visitor information initiatives, and identify indigenous cultural landscapes along the John Smith Trail. The project will also open new sections of the trails, connect to other trails, add public and river access sites, and protect important trail resources.

Lead Federal Agency:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Maryland Historical Trust
- Maryland Office of Tourism Development
- John Smith Trail Advisory Council
- Chesapeake Conservancy
- Sultana Projects Inc.

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete management plan and land protection plan for entire Captain John Smith trail
- Obtain a Connecting Trail designation on the Chester River
- Complete signage and interpretive media for Chester River Water Trail
- Launch National Park Service Chesapeake Application including John Smith trail component



National Park Service

CONNECTICUT RIVER WATERSHED

MASSACHUSETTS

Project Name: Connecticut River Watershed

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Large Landscapes
- Recreation
- Education
- Youth
- Urban

Project Description: The Connecticut River Project spans the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire as the river travels over 410 miles from the Canadian border to Long Island Sound. The Connecticut River Watershed Project and the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge support landscape level conservation, environmental education, and recreation partnerships. These partnerships have helped make significant strides towards promoting habitat connectivity and resulted in the creation of quality opportunities to reconnect people to the Connecticut River through an expanding network of public and private access points within a mosaic of approximately two million acres of conserved land.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Department of the Interior
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Transportation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Environmental Protection Agency

Non-Federal Partners

- Friends of the Silvio O. Conte Refuge
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- States of Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Vermont
- Other local and non-profit partners



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Outcomes for 2012:

- Partner with the Natural Resources Conservation Service on landowner assistance
- Work with partners to plan, fund, and execute aquatic species passage restoration
- Complete the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Silvio O. Conte Refuge in consultation with the public, partners, and in support of wildlife action plan
- Develop outreach and educational opportunities through the Watershed on Wheels Express, the “Conte Corner,” and the “Adopt a Habitat” initiative
- Establish an agreement among the Silvio O. Conte Refuge, Connecticut River Watershed Council, and the Friends of Silvio O. Conte Refuge to develop partnerships with new members of the federal family within the watershed
- Acquire habitat in the Salmon and Eight-mile River watersheds as part of the Refuge
- Establish a 400-mile Connecticut River water trail with river access and camp sites

DETROIT RIVER MICHIGAN

Project Name: Detroit River Urban Park and Restoration

Project Type:

- Restoration (Riparian)
- Recreation (Trail and River Access)
- Youth
- Education
- Urban

Project Description: This initiative will foster urban youth appreciation of the Detroit River and help establish a new generation of river caretakers. Through conservation work on the river, these young people may be inspired to consider jobs in natural resource conservation and resource management.

This initiative will engage urban youth in conservation activities at the William G. Milliken State Park, along the 5.5-mile Detroit RiverWalk, which is one of the largest urban waterfront redevelopment projects in the United States. The Detroit RiverWalk and William G. Milliken State Park offer compelling conservation and environmental education programs and stellar outdoor recreational opportunities. Nearly seven million people live within a one hour drive of these urban jewels in Detroit. This project will build upon extensive conservation work underway through the Detroit Riverfront Conservancy, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, City of Detroit, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and numerous other partners.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Michigan Department of Natural Resources
- Detroit Riverfront Conservancy
- City of Detroit
- At least 100 other public and private partner organizations

Outcomes for 2012:

- Provide jobs for Greening of Detroit workers restoring habitat at the Gateway of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge
- Create discovery center and improve recreational opportunities at William G. Milliken State Park
- Expand and improve Kids Free Fishing Day at William G. Milliken State Park
- Provide a compelling urban conservation experience for urban youth at the Detroit River Days, an event that attracts one million people each year
- Restore shoreline habitat and improve public access at Mt. Elliott Park along the Detroit RiverWalk
- Engage youth in celebration of World Wetlands Day
- Work with U.S. Forest Service to educate and engage youth in conservation

MINNESOTA AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS

MINNESOTA

Project Name: Mississippi National River and Recreational Area National Water Trail



National Park Service

Project Type:

- Recreation (National Water Trail)
- Education
- Urban

Project Description: Mississippi National River and Recreation Area provides a unique and diverse outdoor experience, with its many historic, cultural and natural sites, along the 72-mile stretch of the Mississippi River and 4-mile stretch of the Minnesota River. Archeological sites, historic structures and landscapes, shorelines, wetlands, steep slopes, and other sensitive resources are found in the area. The corridor passes through the eastern deciduous forest and the tall grass prairie biomes. Other vegetation types include floodplain forest, upland prairie, and maple basswood forest.

The local community is seeking a National Water Trail designation for this section of the Mississippi River and Minnesota River, which will promote awareness of these natural, archeological and historic resources, and promote river recreation and stewardship.

Lead Federal Agency:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners

- Wilderness Inquiry
- Mississippi River Fund

Outcomes for 2012:

- Obtain a National Water Trail designation
- Develop strategic plan
- Host 10,000 students for a day-trip on Mississippi River
- Host 1,000 students for an overnight camping trip



National Park Service

PASCAGOULA RIVER

MISSISSIPPI

Project Name: Pascagoula River Water Trail

Project Type:

- Education
- Recreation (River Access)
- Youth

Project Description: The Pascagoula River Water Trail will promote public use and enjoyment of the entire Pascagoula River and its natural resources. The Pascagoula River is widely recognized as the last large unimpeded river system in the contiguous United States. This 81-mile-long water trail will provide opportunities for people to enjoy the scenic beauty of the Pascagoula River watershed through a system of trails, camping and picnic sites connected via water trail launch points across the entire reach of the river from its headwaters to the Gulf of Mexico.



National Park Service

Although many sites support recreational activities along the river, much of the existing recreational infrastructure was destroyed by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The water trail will help foster a conservation ethic in communities throughout the Pascagoula River Watershed. The Pascagoula River Basin Alliance, working with many diverse project partners, will take the lead in educating citizens about the valuable natural resources of the river and seek to instill a sense of stewardship for these natural resources. The National Park Service's Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program will assist project partners in building both the communication network of agencies and organizations that work on the Pascagoula River and the physical network of recreational trails and open spaces.

Lead Federal Agency:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners

- Pascagoula River Basin Alliance
- George and Jackson Counties
- Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks

Outcomes for 2012:

- Engage youth in riparian habitat restoration
- Convene stakeholders through various water trail mapping workshops and outdoor trail scoping classrooms
- Develop working base map identifying opportunities for priority water trail segments, key launch sites and potential interpretive sites along the water trail
- Host community trails workshops as part of the Pascagoula River Education Adventure Fest
- Design and install Pascagoula River water trail directional and interpretive signage
- Develop web-based water trail information portal

MISSISSIPPI AND MISSOURI RIVERS

MISSOURI

Project Name: Mississippi and Missouri Rivers Confluence Restoration

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Recreational (Hunting)
- Restoration (Wetland)



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Description: The Nation's two largest rivers, the Mississippi and the Missouri, meet just north of the St. Louis metropolitan area. The confluence of the two rivers has provided a place where people have congregated and thrived for centuries. The starting point of the Lewis and Clark Expedition is now an important area for recreational canoeing, birding, fishing, hiking, boating, and hunting.

The Missouri and Mississippi River Confluence Restoration project is a partnership whose vision is to strategically implement alternatives, which enable voluntary landowners and local governments to maintain, protect, restore, and enhance the open space of the confluence area through existing federal, state, and local conservation programs and to initiate innovative and cooperative approaches to conserve the natural, cultural, and historical significance of the area.

Ongoing work has been performed on the floodplain of the confluence of the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers since 2005, led by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. Projects include voluntary private land protections through conservation easements, private land habitat restoration and enhancement, public land acquisition, education, and outreach. The voluntary protection and restoration work is important to migratory birds and other wildlife, including the endangered Pallid Sturgeon. Maintaining connections to the River and restoring the wet prairie and emergent habitat will benefit bird and other wildlife species.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Department of Agriculture

Non-Federal Partners:

- 40 partners, including state and local agencies and non-profit organizations

Outcomes for 2012:

- Restore 120 acres of wetland
- Conserve 1,000 acres of habitat easements



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

UPPER MISSOURI RIVER

MONTANA

Project Name: Upper Missouri River

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Education
- Recreation (Wild and Scenic River)
- Restoration (Riparian)
- Youth



Bureau of Land Management

Project Description: The Upper Missouri Wild and Scenic River, which flows through the Bureau of Land Management’s Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, remains largely unchanged since the days when Lewis and Clark traveled through the Missouri Breaks. In addition to its historical importance, the river provides habitat for the rare Pallid Sturgeon along with 48 other species of fish, 60 mammals and over 200 species of birds.

The Bureau of Land Management’s National Riparian Service Team has taken a collaborative approach to recreation, restoration, and watershed management. The “Cottonwood Restoration Team” is a unique partnership made up of multiple agencies and non-governmental organizations. This partnership has agreed to cooperate in reestablishing spring river flows that mimic the natural flow regime to help restore the riparian areas and reestablish the historic groves of cottonwood trees present when Lewis and Clark navigated the river over 200 years ago.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Missouri Conservation District Council
- PPL Montana
- Friends of the Missouri Breaks
- PN Ranch

Outcomes for 2012:

- Acquisition of 652 acres along the river corridor
- Eradicate Russian olive on 100 acres of riparian habitat



Bureau of Land Management

PLATTE RIVER NEBRASKA

Project Name: Platte River Recovery Implementation Program

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Restoration (Target Species Habitat)
- Species Recovery
- Recreation

Project Description: Over the last 100 years the Platte River has undergone extensive development. The river system today contains 15 major dams and reservoirs, provides water for about 3.5 million people, hydroelectric power, irrigation water, flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife habitat. Substantial portions of the economies of the Platte River Basin States are based on water supplied by the Platte River. The states of Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming; the Department of the Interior; water users in the three states; and environmental and conservation groups have come together to pursue a basin-wide, cooperative recovery program to improve and maintain habitat for species which use the Central and Lower Platte River in Nebraska.

The Program's goals include acquiring interest in land and ensuring water flows to improve and maintain habitat for target species. Platte River habitat is essential to the recovery of the Whooping crane, Interior least tern, Piping plover, and Pallid sturgeon, all threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service complements the Program's activities by restoring critical riparian and stream habitat on private lands for the same target species. In addition, the Program and the Service are improving recreational opportunities for hunting and bird watching.

Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Several Federal, state, and non-profit partner organizations

Outcomes for 2012:

- Implement pilot sediment augmentation project
- Implement the Integrated Monitoring & Research Plan, including species monitoring
- Improve and upgrade the internet reservation website and deer lottery application
- Collaborate with private landowners to restore habitat



COLORADO RIVER NEVADA

Project Name: Colorado River Heritage Greenway Park and Trails

Project Type: Recreation (Access and Trails) and Youth (Conservation Corps)

Project Description: Since 2000, the Bureau of Reclamation has worked with local agencies in a collaborative, community-based effort, on this 1,191-acre public park that will reach into Arizona and directly serve the three states of Nevada, Arizona, and California. The project includes trails, day-use areas, picnic sites and shade shelters, fishing piers, equestrian facilities, and access to the Colorado River.

Youth Conservation Corps crews will restore the riverfront by removing invasive species and planting native vegetation. The long-standing desire for a multi-use, showcase outdoor recreation facility that contributes to local economies, restores a scenic river segment, and connects residents and visitors to America's Great Outdoors, is now a reality. Over 36 million visitors to the area annually will now have world-class access to enjoy and learn about the Colorado River and its unique setting. Hiking, bird-watching, boating, fishing, picnicking, horseback riding, and environmental education are among the opportunities available.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Reclamation
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Clark County, Nevada
- Town of Laughlin, Nevada
- Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority
- Mohave County, Arizona
- Big Bend Water District
- Nevada Division of State Lands
- Nevada Division of Wildlife
- Laughlin Chamber of Commerce



Bureau of Reclamation

Outcomes for 2012:

- Construct 5.25 miles of trails, 4 day-use areas, 15 picnic and shade shelters, 3 fishing piers, equestrian facilities, a highway pedestrian bridge overpass and underpass, and access to the Colorado River

CONNECTICUT RIVER WATERSHED

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Project Name: Connecticut River Watershed

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Large Landscapes
- Recreation
- Education
- Youth
- Urban

Project Description: The Connecticut River Project spans the states of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and New Hampshire as the river travels over 410 miles from the Canadian border to Long Island Sound. The Connecticut River Watershed Project and the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge support landscape level conservation, environmental education, and recreation partnerships. These partnerships have helped make significant strides towards promoting habitat connectivity and resulted in the creation of quality opportunities to reconnect people to the Connecticut River through an expanding network of public and private access points within a mosaic of approximately two million acres of conserved land.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Department of the Interior
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Transportation
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Environmental Protection Agency

Non-Federal Partners

- Friends of the Silvio O. Conte Refuge
- Commonwealth of Massachusetts
- States of Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Vermont
- Other local and non-profit partners

Outcomes for 2012:

- Partner with the Natural Resources Conservation Service on landowner assistance
- Work with partners to plan, fund, and execute aquatic species passage restoration
- Complete the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for the Silvio O. Conte Refuge in consultation with the public, partners, and in support of wildlife action plan
- Develop outreach and educational opportunities through the Watershed on Wheels Express, the "Conte Corner," and the "Adopt a Habitat" initiative
- Establish an agreement among the Silvio O. Conte Refuge, Connecticut River Watershed Council, and the Friends of Silvio O. Conte Refuge to develop partnerships with new members of the federal family within the watershed
- Acquire habitat in the Mohawk River and Pondicherry Divisions as part of the Refuge
- Establish a 400-mile Connecticut River water trail with river access and camp sites

DELAWARE RIVER

NEW JERSEY

Project Name: Athos Oil Spill Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration Projects

Project Type:

- Large Landscapes
- Urban
- Youth
- Recreation
- Restoration (Oyster Reef)

Project Description: In 2004, roughly 265,000 gallons of oil were spilled on the Delaware River from the *Athos* tanker, when the ship struck a submerged anchor. Over 57 miles of shoreline along the Delaware and its tributaries have been impacted by the spill, including habitat for bald eagles, migratory shorebirds, and the endangered short-nose sturgeon.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Non-Federal Partners:

- New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
- Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control
- Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
- Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

Outcomes for 2012:

- Create 17 acres of oyster reef and place substrate populated with juvenile oysters to enhance colonization



Oyster Reef

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

SAN JUAN RIVER

NEW MEXICO

Project Name: San Juan River Habitat Restoration

Project Type:

- Restoration (Channel and Riparian)

Project Description: The San Juan River is home to the endangered Colorado Pikeminnow and Razorback sucker. The San Juan Recovery Program assists in recovery of endangered species for over 300 water development projects in Utah, Colorado, and New Mexico. In addition, actions taken under this program will provide benefits to other native fishes in the San Juan Basin and prevent them from becoming endangered in the future.

Recovery actions involve restoring and managing stream flows and habitat, boosting wild populations with hatchery-raised endangered fish, and reducing negative



BIO-WEST

interactions with non-native fish species. For this project, bulldozers and excavators were used to construct secondary channels and backwaters and remove non-native vegetation.

While species recovery and water development are the primary benefits of these recovery activities, in-stream flow protection and habitat restoration will also likely result in healthier

riverine and riparian environments in national parks, on tribal lands, and on other public and private lands enjoyed by outdoor recreationists and nature enthusiasts.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs

Non-Federal Partners:

- Jicarilla Apache Nation
- Navajo Nation
- Southern Ute Indian Tribe
- Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribe
- State of Colorado
- State of New Mexico

Outcomes for 2012:

- Restore 6.5 miles of secondary channels and 6 acres of backwater habitats
- Remove non-native vegetation (primarily Russian Olive) from more than 10 riparian acres

BRONX RIVER

NEW YORK

Project Name: Bronx River Water Trail

Project Type:

- Recreation (National Water Trail)
- Education
- Urban
- Youth



National Park Service

Project Description: The Bronx River Water Trail extends eight miles from Shoelace Park near 219th Street to Soundview Park at the estuary to Long Island Sound. The Bronx River, the only freshwater river in New York City, offers a variety of recreational and cultural opportunities, passing directly through the New York Botanical Gardens, the Bronx River Forest, cityscapes, and the Bronx Zoo, giving paddlers an excellent view of the Bison enclosure. The water trail offers abundant signage and ample access, with a total of nine

launch sites along eight miles of trail. The trail is managed by New York City Parks and The Bronx River Alliance. The project partners are seeking to obtain a National Water Trail designation.

Lead Federal Agency:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- New York City Parks
- Bronx River Alliance

Outcomes for 2012:

- Obtain National Water Trail designation
- Host 7,000 participants for recreational programs
- Train 25 community residents in Water Safety and get four certified instructors
- Improve four boat launch sites and provide maintenance on three other launch sites

WACCAMAW RIVER

NORTH CAROLINA

Project Name: Waccamaw River Water Trail

Project Type:

- Recreation (National Water Trail)
- Education

Project Description: The Waccamaw River and its corridor contain critical floodplain and an important wildlife migration corridor, while also supporting many recreational opportunities and several new adventure tourism businesses. The Waccamaw River Water Trail, stretching across North and South Carolina, would be a two-state water trail from its source at Lake Waccamaw in North Carolina to Winyah Bay in South Carolina.

The 60,000-acre Waccamaw River floodplain, in southeastern North Carolina, stretches south to the Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge in South Carolina, as one of the largest contiguous wildlife habitats in the southern coastal plain. Significant features include three endemic natural communities, an endemic plant species, and 11 endemic animal species, including the federally-listed Waccamaw silverside, Waccamaw darter, and Waccamaw killifish.



American Rivers

Lead Federal Agency:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- American Rivers
- Winyah Rivers Foundation
- Brunswick County
- Columbus County
- Cape Fear Council of Governments
- Cape Fear Arch Conservation Collaboration
- North Carolina State Parks
- NC State Trails Program
- NC Coastal Land Trust
- The Nature Conservancy
- North Carolina Natural Heritage Program
- North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Outcomes for 2012:

- Obtain National Water Trail designation
- Identify river access points along the 48 miles of river corridor in North Carolina
- Complete water trail event (media and key stakeholders kayak outing)
- Identify a key river access point for beginning the Water Trail
- Begin collecting base data for producing trail guide

MISSOURI RIVER NORTH DAKOTA

Project Name: Pallid Sturgeon Recovery

Project Type:

- Restoration (Channel and Riparian)
- Species Recovery (Pallid Sturgeon)

Project Description: Pallid sturgeon are endangered, bottom-dwelling fish that have remained largely unchanged as a species for 70 million years. Individuals grow up to 6 feet in length and 85 pounds in weight, can live beyond 60 years of age, and now are rarely seen in the wild. While the pallid sturgeon was able to withstand changes due to glaciations, flooding, and drought, more recent changes to the river have contributed to decline in this species.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

This project conserves habitat at the confluence of the Missouri and Yellowstone rivers to maintain habitat for the species. The project also collects brood stock and uses fish hatcheries to produce and stock pallid sturgeon fingerlings. The project also monitors populations in support of recovery and restoration of these native fishes in the Missouri River and conducts associated educational outreach regarding sturgeon recovery.

Lead Federal Agency:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- North Dakota Game and Fish Department
- North Dakota Natural Resource Trust
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- Many other federal, state, and local partners

Outcomes for 2012:

- Collect and rear brood stock
- Stock fingerlings in Missouri River
- Support educational and outreach opportunities



North Dakota Game and Fish Department

CHAGRIN RIVER WATERSHED

OHIO

Project Name: Sulphur Springs Assessment and Restoration Project

Project Type:

- Restoration (Channel and Riparian)

Project Description: The Chagrin River watershed is home to some of the last relict populations of native Ohio brook trout, dating back to the last glaciations over 10,000 years ago. Sulphur Springs, a designated cold-water stream that drains into the Chagrin River and ultimately Lake Erie, once supported a population of Quebec brook trout. This project will restore a segment of Sulphur Springs that was impounded in the 1930's and the dam has since breached.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

This segment of stream is entrenched and the higher velocity stream flows have scoured the narrow channel down to shale bedrock, providing little to no habitat. Furthermore, the stream corridor does not have a forested riparian area, causing warming temperatures in this segment and downstream, fragmenting coldwater habitat in this tributary. Through restoration and monitoring, this project will assess the stream as a suitable potential reintroduction site for the state threatened native Ohio brook trout and other coldwater habitat species. The project will also be used to develop an education campaign and help formulate recommendations for residents and communities to promote and improve coldwater stream habitat in Sulphur Springs and throughout the Chagrin River watershed.

Lead Federal Agency:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- State of Ohio
- Chagrin River Watershed Partners, Inc.
- Cleveland Metroparks
- Emerald Necklace Chapter of Trout Unlimited

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete habitat suitability study
- Construct and complete stream restoration and riparian planting

BLUE RIVER OKLAHOMA

Project Name: Blue River Landscape

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Recreation
- Education

Project Description: The Blue River in southern Oklahoma is one of few free-flowing rivers in the state and a destination for recreational anglers, kayakers, canoeists, and rafters. Efforts will include development of a Land Management Demonstration Area on the Nature Conservancy's newly purchased Blue River Preserve. This area, when restored, will provide an educational "how to" resource for private landowners on riparian habitat protection and restoration.

Opportunities for fishing, kayaking, canoeing, bird watching, and educational activities will be enhanced and promoted by improving facilities at the Blue River Wildlife Management Area and designating portions of the River as a National Water Trail. Conservation of the Blue River and its corridor of riparian habitat will be promoted by the establishment of in-stream flow levels and water quality monitoring. Educational efforts focusing on protecting the "sole source" Arbuckle Simpson Aquifer will include yearly field trips to the area, as part of the Arbuckle Simpson Nature Festival.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Chickasaw Nation
- Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation
- The Nature Conservancy
- Other academic and non-profit partners

Outcomes for 2012:

- Acquire a 500-acre parcel for land management demonstration project
- Dedicate the Blue River Preserve
- Host several public educational and recreational events

SANDY RIVER OREGON

Project Name: Sandy River Basin Restoration Project

Project Type:

- Restoration (Riparian)
- Recreation (Trail and River Access)
- Urban

Project Description: The Sandy River Basin Restoration Project is a watershed-scale partnership focused on restoration and outdoor recreation. Restoration efforts since the beginning

of the Marmot Dam fish passage project are focused on land acquisitions from willing sellers, dam site revegetation, trail construction, river access, and environmental education.



Bureau of Land Management

The Sandy River, located within 30 minutes of one-third of Oregon's population, is the primary fish-producing river for the Sandy River Basin. The ongoing restoration will improve salmon spawning habitat, while acquisitions along Boulder Creek in the Wild and Scenic River corridor will protect critical habitat for the Federally-listed spring Chinook, winter Steelhead, and winter Coho.

Special recreation permits, river access, and trail construction efforts will provide safe river access to intermediate rafters and kayakers and mountain bike trails for 20,000 riders per year. The Cascade Streamwatch program brings students from underserved Portland area schools to the Salmon River to learn about stream ecology, fisheries, and healthy watersheds, helping to connect the next generation of river stewards, kayakers, and anglers to the Sandy River Basin.



Bureau of Land Management

Lead Federal Agency:

- Bureau of Land Management

Non-Federal Partners:

- Western Rivers Conservancy
- The Nature Conservancy
- International Mountain Bike Association
- Other state, municipal, and educational partners

Outcomes for 2012:

- Construct river access and trails
- Support environmental education program for Portland students

SUSQUEHANNA RIVER

PENNSYLVANIA

Project Name: Lower Susquehanna River Conservation Landscape Initiative

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Education (Interpretation)
- Recreation (Access)

Project Description: The Susquehanna River's 27,500-square mile watershed provides half of the Chesapeake Bay's fresh water supply. As the longest river in the United States without commercial boat traffic, the Susquehanna is a popular recreation destination and an important link to Pennsylvania's outdoors, river towns, and cultural heritage. This project is designed to expand and enhance public access and promote meaningful recreational experiences in the state, county, and local parks along the Lower Susquehanna River.



National Park Service

The National Park Service, working with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and other partners, will protect land along the River through power company relicensing negotiations; provide interpretation of the area's significant historical, cultural, and natural resources; support the development of eco-tourism initiatives in the corridor's Rivertowns; create land and water based trail connections; develop an integrated management approach to enhance wildlife habitat; create opportunities for outdoor recreation; protect species and habitat of special concern; and connect visitors with the natural and cultural heritage of the Lower Susquehanna River Corridor.

Lead Federal Agency:

- National Park Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

Non-Federal Partners:

- Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources
- Susquehanna Gateway Heritage Area
- Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
- Lancaster County Conservancy
- Susquehanna Greenway Partnership
- Other state, local, non-profit, and corporate partners

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete construction of river access
- Construction and enhancement of trails
- Develop interpretive/promotional plan
- Obtain designation of Susquehanna River Water Trail as connecting component of Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail

BLACKSTONE RIVER

RHODE ISLAND

Project Name: Blackstone River Valley Greenway

Project Type:

- Recreation (Access)
- Education (Interpretation)
- Restoration (Channel and Riparian)

Project Description: The Blackstone River, which flows from Worcester, Massachusetts to Providence, Rhode Island, marks the birthplace of America's industrial revolution. The River powered the first successful textile mill in the Nation and now encompasses a living landscape that helps connect modern paddlers, cyclists, and the general public to the area's industrial history.



National Park Service

Creation of a 50-mile water trail and greenway will connect Worcester, Massachusetts and Providence, Rhode Island with the 12 cities and towns between them. This project expands and integrates existing educational and recreational programs to connect communities with their ecological and cultural resources. Through special events, the development of educational curricula related to fish stock and fish ladders, and the establishment of monitoring programs for fish, this project can serve as a model for other regional programs to engage the public in natural resource stewardship. The project also will restore the River and its fish runs, restore the historic canal, and establish a regional plan for conserving significant landscapes.



National Park Service

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service
- Department of Transportation

Non-Federal Partners:

- 8 state agency partners
- 22 municipal and non-profit partners

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete river access sites and trail segments
- Host events and implement classroom programs
- Develop educational materials focused on the fish ladder project

WACCAMAW RIVER

SOUTH CAROLINA



American Rivers

Project Name: Waccamaw River Water Trail

Project Type:

- Acquisition/Easement/Protection
- Education
- Recreation (Water Trail)

Project Description: The Waccamaw River is a coastal plain river, fed from the surrounding wetlands whose rich organic waters provide the black waters that the River is known for. The black waters provide physical and chemical characteristics that

have resulted in a unique collection of species that make up this biologically diverse and nationally significant watershed. Despite its unique qualities, the Waccamaw River is relatively unknown outside of the local area. The Waccamaw River watershed is facing ever increasing threats that have the potential to negatively impact this unique natural resource.

Establishing a water trail will help to reconnect the communities to this resource, promote outdoor recreation opportunities, be an economic driver for increasing tourism in the region as well as serve as a model for protecting a threatened national resource. The water trail will produce multiple community benefits including: allowing access to an array of scenic landscapes, providing habitat protection for diverse and significant fish and wildlife populations, preserving traditional uses such as hunting and fishing, and serving as an economic engine for those communities located along the river corridor.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- American Rivers
- Pee Dee Land Trust
- Winyah Rivers Foundation

Outcomes for 2012:

- Designation of the Waccamaw River National Water Trail
- Identify potential river access points along the 100 miles of river corridor in South Carolina
- Hold a kayak outing event on the water trail
- Extend South Carolina river resource mapping to include North Carolina data

GIMLET CREEK

SOUTH DAKOTA

Project Name: Gimlet Creek Stream Crossing Rehabilitation

Project Type:

- Restoration (Stream)
- Recreation

Project Description: Gimlet Creek, in the Black Hills of South Dakota, has multiple all-terrain vehicle (ATV) crossings that are eroding the stream bank and widening the stream channel. Increased bank destabilization and bank erosion is damaging aquatic and riparian habitat for native Mountain Suckers and degrading water quality for important trout sport fisheries in Rapid Creek. The Rapid Creek



U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

flows through Rapid City, South Dakota's second largest city. Improved ATV crossings will maintain compatible recreational vehicle use in the Black Hills National Forest while concurrently protecting riparian habitat, native species, and downstream sport fisheries.

This project will replace three existing bridges that are undersized or structurally unsound with new bridges and will harden one existing low water crossing. Buck and rail fence will be installed at the bridge crossings to prohibit ATVs from driving through the creek. The stream banks will be stabilized and the channel width will be restored to reference conditions. The project will enable continued off-road use of trails by the public while restoring and protecting riparian habitat through prevention of sedimentation in Gimlet Creek.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- South Dakota Department of Game, Fish, and Parks
- Off Road Riders Association

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete three river crossings for ATV trails
- Restore stream banks around the stream crossing areas

HARPETH RIVER

TENNESSEE

Project Name: Harpeth River Restoration and Fish Passage Project

Project Type:

- Restoration (Fish Passage)

Project Description: The Harpeth River drains nearly 900 square miles in middle Tennessee and flows through one of the fastest growing regions in the country. It is a State designated Scenic River within 30 minutes of downtown Nashville. The River is one of the most archeologically and historically significant rivers in the State. The Harpeth River State Park has tracked at least 250,000 visitors annually. New access points have been established as part of the Harpeth River blueway, a joint effort to create a river trail for the entire 125 mile main stem.



Dorie Bolze, HWRA



Dorie Bolze, HWRA

The State park lies is identified as a high priority in the Tennessee State Wildlife Action Plan with a number of aquatic species of concern. By removing the low head dam, the entire river system will become free-flowing. The Harpeth and its tributaries are known for Smallmouth bass and other sport fish that will benefit from restored habitat connectivity. By reconnecting fragmented habitat and providing additional recreational opportunities, this project will serve as a model for balancing water use with wildlife conservation.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey

Non-Federal Partners:

- Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation
- Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency
- National Fish Habitat Partnership and Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership
- City of Franklin
- Harpeth River Watershed Association
- Vulcan Materials and non-profit partners
- Beaver Creek Hydrology

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete fish passage project
- Restore stream segment
- Improve river access points

RIO GRANDE TEXAS



National Park Service

Project Name: Rio Grande Watershed Landscape Conservation

Project Type:

- Large Landscapes
- Restoration (Stream, Riparian, Wetland, and Grassland)

Project Description: The Rio Grande flows through a number of rare ecosystems, including sky islands and desert grasslands. The river and associated watersheds provide important habitat for the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow, a variety of migratory bird species, and rare and endemic plants and wildlife.

This project provides leadership to the Big Bend Conservation Cooperative to implement conservation activities, including the management of riparian, aquatic, and grassland ecosystems; endangered species recovery; and climate change planning. The project also assists in the development of an adaptive management framework for landscape conservation. Habitat and species restoration projects, research and monitoring, and building a diverse and collaborative conservation partnership all contribute to the success of this bi-national effort.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Bureau of Reclamation
- International Boundary and Water Commission

Non-Federal Partners:

- Comisión Nacional de Areas Naturales Protegidas
- Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
- Several other U.S. and Mexico partners, including non-profit organizations, state and national agencies, universities, and local governments

Outcomes for 2012:

- Conduct habitat and water quality assessments
- Continue to support recovery of the endangered Rio Grande silvery minnow
- Conduct stakeholder meetings
- Restore 5,000 acres of grasslands, 40 acres of wetland, and 20 acres of riparian habitat
- Remove 200 acres of invasive species

ESCALANTE RIVER

UTAH



Bureau of Land Management

Project Name: Escalante River Watershed Partnership

Project Type:

- Recreation
- Restoration (Riparian)
- Species Recovery
- Youth

Project Description: The Escalante River was the last river of its size to be discovered in the lower 48 states, and today it's one of the last free-flowing rivers in the West. From the town of Escalante to its confluence with the Colorado River in Lake Powell, the Escalante's 90

miles of riparian corridor support more than 200 species of migratory birds, including the endangered Southwestern willow flycatcher, threatened yellow-billed cuckoo, federally-listed Mexican spotted owl, and peregrine falcon. The watershed also supports several rare fish, including remnant populations of Colorado River cutthroat trout in the upper reaches, as well as Bluehead sucker, Roundtail chub, and Flannelmouth sucker in its warmer waters. In addition to sustaining the natural wonders of this region, the Escalante plays a vital role for residents and visitors. From recreation to agriculture to industry, the waters of the Escalante fuel livelihoods and support our quality of life.

To restore the Escalante River, the partner groups work together to remove woody invasive plants, particularly Russian olive, from riparian areas. Watershed restoration will improve riparian condition, enhance native fisheries, and improve the recreational experience of visitors to the area. These projects make extensive use of volunteers and Youth Corps crews, successfully engaging the public and young people in the restoration of the watershed.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- Bureau of Land Management
- National Park Service
- U.S. Forest Service

Other Partners:

- The Nature Conservancy
- Grand Staircase-Escalante Partners
- Boulder Community Alliance

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete restoration on 500 acres of riparian areas on private and public lands



Bureau of Land Management

WINOOSKI RIVER VERMONT

Project Name: Conservation and Restoration for Flood Resilience in the Winooski River Watershed

Project Type:

- Restoration (Riparian and Aquatic Connectivity)

Project Description: The Winooski River Watershed project will bring together state, regional, and local partners along with nonprofit and stakeholder groups. This partnership will demonstrate ways to prevent and mitigate future flood damage by protecting and restoring natural floodplain and geomorphic functions on the Mad River, a tributary to the Winooski River, in the Lake Champlain basin. The Mad River will serve as a demonstration area, where we will focus on helping communities protect and restore their riparian corridors and streams to take advantage of the resulting natural protection from flood damage.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Working with cooperating landowners in critical watershed and floodplain protection areas, the partners will assist landowners in conserving and restoring natural fluvial and floodplain function. Projects may include replacing undersized culverts, in-stream restoration and stabilization, restoration and protection of riparian forest buffers, and restoring riparian functions through wetland restoration, berm removal, and other practices. Technical and financial assistance will be provided to farmers and forest landowners to incorporate best management practices and develop watershed management plans.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service

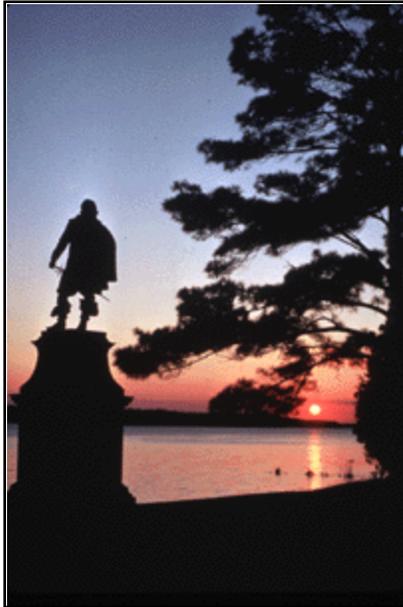
Non-Federal Partners:

- Vermont Agency of Natural Resources
- Vermont Department of Agriculture
- Friends of the Winooski River
- Other private and municipal partners

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete project that restores natural fluvial and floodplain function

JAMES RIVER VIRGINIA



National Park Service

Project Name: Make the John Smith Trail Visible and Visitor Ready

Project Type:

- Recreation (Access)
- Education (Interpretation)

Project Description: The Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail was the Nation's first water-based national trail. The Trail traces the routes followed by Captain John Smith in the early 17th century as he charted the lands and waterways of the Chesapeake Bay. At the time of his exploration, the James River was home to nearly 20,000 Algonquian-speaking people.

This project is designed to make the John Smith Trail more visible and visitor ready in Virginia. Partners will collaborate to increase Trail orientation and interpretive signage at key locations, open new sections of the Trail and connect to other trails, launch new visitor information initiatives, add public access sites, identify indigenous cultural landscapes along the Trail, and protect important Trail resources. Many of these projects are being completed with the assistance of young people.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- James River Association
- Commonwealth of Virginia
- Chesapeake Conservancy

Outcomes for 2012:

- Completed construction of river access
- Pilot the mapping of cultural resources
- Install orientation and interpretive panels
- Designate Upper James River Water Trail as a connecting component of the John Smith Historic Trail
- Launch National Park Service Chesapeake Application with John Smith Trail component
- Complete trail conservation strategy and identification of protection priorities
- Begin design of new public access sites



ELWHA RIVER WASHINGTON

Project Name: Elwha River Restoration Project

Project Type:

- Restoration (Fish Passage)

Project Description: The Elwha River Restoration Project is the largest fish passage project in U.S. history. This project will reopen more than 70 miles of pristine spawning and rearing habitat for five species of Pacific salmon.



National Park Service

Salmon populations are predicted to swell from 3,000 to nearly 400,000 as all 5 species of Pacific salmon return to one of the Pacific Northwest's most productive salmon streams. The return of salmon to this ecosystem will bring marine-derived nutrients to the watershed, restoring a vital food source for human and animal communities alike.

Furthermore, this project will bring cultural, spiritual, and economic healing to the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, as salmon return after a century-long absence and flooded sacred sites are restored to the Tribe.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- National Park Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Geological Survey
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration



National Park Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Western Washington University
- University of Washington
- City of Port Angeles

Outcomes for 2012:

- Complete fish passage and landscape restoration at Elwha Dam
- Return salmon to River above former Elwha Dam

OHIO RIVER WEST VIRGINIA

Project Name: Ohio River Aquatic Restoration

Project Type:

- Restoration (Freshwater Mussels)

Project Description:

The Ohio River is home to 116 of North America's native freshwater mussel species. Freshwater mussels play an important role in water filtration. The spread of non-native species, particularly zebra mussels, has led to the loss of several of these native mussels, resulting in decreases in water quality and affecting ecosystem integrity.



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

In West Virginia, nine miles of the Ohio River were impacted by the release of a toxic contaminant into the water, losing over 1 million mussels, 12 million snails, and 8,600 fish. This project aims to restore water quality and ecosystem integrity to this portion of the River for the benefit of the public and native mussels. A natural community of 20 species of freshwater mussels in the affected portion of the River will be restored through the development and application of mussel population restoration technology. Mussel bed habitat will be improved and mussels will be translocated and stocked to restore their populations.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Non-Federal Partners:

- West Virginia Division of Natural Resources
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources
- Columbus Zoo
- The Ohio State University
- Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission
- Other academic, state, and federal partners

Outcomes for 2012:

- Translocate and stock ten species of mussels to establish mussel bed habitat and restore populations

MILWAUKEE RIVER

WISCONSIN



Mequon-Thiensville Fishway under construction

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Project Name: Restoring Connectivity in the Milwaukee River Watershed

Project Type:

- Restoration (Stream and Riparian)

Project Description:

The Milwaukee River Basin is located in parts of 7 counties and is home to about 1.3 million people. The River's watershed contains about 500 miles of perennial streams, 35 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, and numerous lakes and ponds. The purpose of the project is to reconnect stream and river

habitat to ensure suitability for terrestrial and aquatic organisms. An extensive barrier inventory is partially completed in the watershed, which will inform the prioritization of additional river channel restoration and fish passage construction.

Many of these initiatives occur within the Milwaukee metro area, creating numerous possibilities for education and outreach to local young people. Among the projects is the construction and post project monitoring of the Thiensville Dam fishway. Included in the monitoring is a video monitoring system, which is used with local schools to increase education and awareness.

Lead Federal Agencies:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Environmental Protection Agency
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

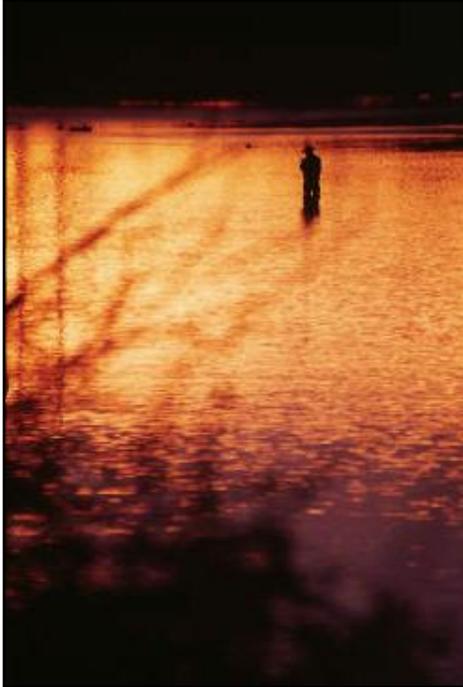
Non-Federal Partners:

- Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
- Ozaukee County

Outcomes for 2012:

- Bringing video monitoring system for Thiensville Dam fishway online
- Reconnect 218 miles of stream for aquatic dispersal and movement, which will generating access to over 20,000 acres of wetland habitat
- Develop geospatial fish and wildlife tool to guide future restoration efforts

NORTH PLATTE RIVER WYOMING



Bureau of Land Management

Project Name: Trapper's Route Special Recreation Area

Project Type:

- Restoration (Channel and Riparian)
- Recreation (Facilities)
- Education (Interpretation)

Project Description: Trapper's Route Special Recreation Management Area includes public lands along the North Platte River, between Alcova and Casper. Its year-round flow, geologic formations, changing plant communities, and abundance of wildlife contribute to the recreational experience it offers to visitors. The river is a Class 1 fishery and is rated as Blue Ribbon by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department. The area offers opportunities for fishing, floating, waterfowl hunting, and wildlife observation, as well as picnicking and camping.

This project is an expansion of previous acquisitions using the Land and Water Conservation Fund to acquire lands from willing sellers in the mixed Bureau of Land Management estate in Wyoming. The project will also enhance recreational access by developing additional access points and enhancing facilities along the river. Treatments for the invasive Russian Olive along the river corridor will be coupled with reforestation efforts to enhance wildlife habitat.

Lead Federal Agencies:

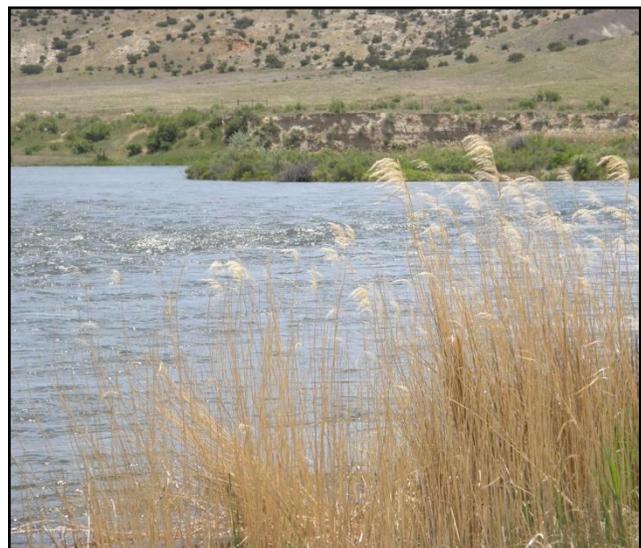
- Bureau of Land Management

Non-Federal Partners:

- Wyoming Game and Fish Department
- The Conservation Fund
- City of Casper
- The Wyoming Fly Casters
- Natrona County Road and Bridge
- Natrona County Weed and Pest

Outcomes for 2012:

- Remove invasive species, including Russian Olive
- Construct Blue Gulch trailhead
- Construct in-stream watchable wildlife project



Bureau of Land Management