

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