

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