



# Bring Back the Natives

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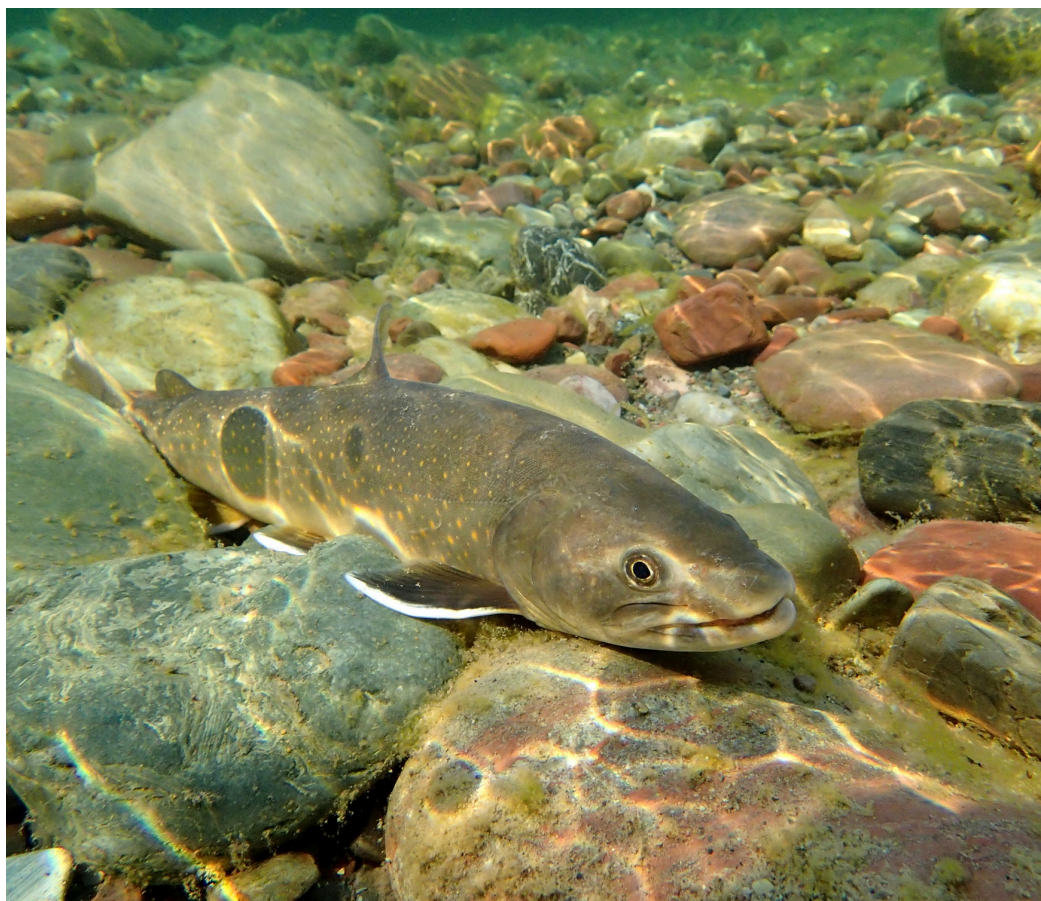
## ABOUT NFWF

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation's fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 5,000 organizations and generated a total conservation impact of \$6.1 billion.

Learn more at [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org)

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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Bull trout

## OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and U.S. Forest Service announced 2020 funding awards for the Bring Back the Natives Program. Seven new native fish conservation and habitat restoration project grants totaling \$510,000 were awarded, leveraging \$2 million in match from the grantees and generating a total conservation impact of more than \$2.5 million.

The Bring Back the Natives Program seeks to restore, protect and enhance native fish species of conservation concern throughout the United States. The program emphasizes coordination between private landowners and federal agencies, tribes, corporations and states to improve the ecosystem functions and health of watersheds. The end result is conservation of aquatic ecosystems, increased in-stream flows and partnerships that benefit native fish species throughout the United States. This funding opportunity also provides funding to implement the goals of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

Leading factors in native fish species decline are habitat alteration, lack of adequate in-stream flows and invasive and/or nonnative species. The following projects address key threats to focal species by restoring connectivity, restoring riparian and instream habitat and water quality and managing invasive species.

*(continued)*

**Bitterroot Native Trout Passage and Habitat Restoration (MT)**

Grantee: Trout Unlimited

Grant Amount: ..... \$99,495

Matching Funds: ..... \$320,000

Total Project Amount: ..... \$419,495

Remove passage barriers and restore habitat quality for bull trout and Westslope cutthroat trout in the Bitterroot Watershed of Western Montana. Project will reconnect up to 53 miles of habitat, restore 2 miles of instream habitat and improve 155 acres of riparian habitat.

**Restoring Connectivity to Native Brook Trout Habitat in the French Broad Watershed (TN)**

Grantee: Trout Unlimited

Grant Amount: ..... \$70,871

Matching Funds: ..... \$371,951

Total Project Amount: ..... \$442,822

Reconnect native Southern Appalachian brook trout habitat on two tributaries to the French Broad River by replacing culverts blocking aquatic organism passage with fully passable structures. Project will reconnect 4 miles of native brook trout habitat and 29 miles of small stream network, allowing genetically distinct, endemic populations of brook trout better access to breeding habitat and thermal refuge.

**Rehabilitation of Upper Trout Creek to Benefit Mid-Columbia River Steelhead (OR)**

Grantee: U.S. Forest Service - Ochoco National Forest

Grant Amount: ..... \$63,822

Matching Funds: ..... \$210,000

Total Project Amount: ..... \$273,822

Restore and enhance stream habitat in Upper Trout Creek to benefit Mid-Columbia River steelhead. Project will restore 15.5 miles of stream through large wood placement, improve 3 miles of floodplain connectivity and plant native vegetation along 8 miles of riparian habitat.

**Habitat Restoration and Heliwood Loading in the South Fork Trinity River (CA)**

Grantee: Yurok Tribe

Grant Amount: ..... \$78,061

Matching Funds: ..... \$832,495

Total Project Amount: ..... \$910,556

Improve the habitat quality and ecological conditions for wild spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead in a 9 mile reach of the South Fork Trinity River. Project will place approximately 300 whole trees as large wood to enhance habitat complexity by restoring and enhancing geomorphic processes and water quality.

**Clear Fork Cutthroat Trout Restoration (CO)**

Grantee: U.S. Forest Service - Grand Mesa Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests

Grant Amount: ..... \$68,000

Matching Funds: ..... \$110,238

Total Project Amount: ..... \$178,238

Restore 13 miles of habitat for native green lineage Colorado



Chinook salmon

River cutthroat trout on the Clear Fork East Muddy Creek through the establishment of a fish barrier and the removal of nonnative brook trout that are outcompeting native fish. Project will create a meta-population of native cutthroat trout which will help ensure the long-term persistence of the species by increasing the population's resiliency.

**Restoration of Colorado River Cutthroat Trout in Fall Creek (CO)**

Grantee: Freshwater Life

Grant Amount: ..... \$79,000

Matching Funds: ..... \$120,224

Total Project Amount: ..... \$199,224

Secure a Colorado River cutthroat trout population from the threat of nonnative trout and restore 5 miles of stream habitat in Fall Creek. Project will construct a fish passage barrier, eradicate nonnative trout above the barrier and reintroduce cutthroat trout from the upstream conservation population in Woods Lake.

**Non-native Fish Management and Habitat Restoration on the Escalante River (UT)**

Grantee: Utah Division of Wildlife Resources

Grant Amount: ..... \$50,750

Matching Funds: ..... \$60,001

Total Project Amount: ..... \$110,751

Remove and monitor nonnative fish in Slickrock Saddle Bench Spring and the Escalante River to benefit roundtail chub, bluehead sucker and flannelmouth sucker populations. Project will also restore and improve 0.5 miles of riparian and aquatic habitat.