



# Bring Back the Native Fish

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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)

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School of juvenile coho salmon

## OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Forest Service announced a 2021-year round of funding for Bring Back the Native Fish projects. Seven new native fish conservation and habitat restoration project grants totaling \$510,000 were awarded. The seven awards announced generated \$1,658,888 in match from the grantees, providing a total conservation impact of \$2,168,888.

The Bring Back the Native Fish 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 instream 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)*

**Nonnative Fish Removal in the Gila Watershed (AZ)**

Grantee: Gila Watershed Partnership of AZ

Grant Amount: .....\$56,117.77

Matching Funds: .....\$63,540.00

Total Project Amount: ..... \$119,657.77

Mechanically remove nonnative fish species from 1.9 miles of Bonita creek and 22 miles of Aravaipa Creek. Project will help secure populations of four federally endangered fish species, including Gila chub, Gila topminnow, loach minnow and spikedace, and directly address recovery goals identified for each species.

**Building Instream Habitat Resilience in the Cispus Watershed (WA)**

Grantee: Cascade Forest Conservancy

Grant Amount: .....\$52,000

Matching Funds: .....\$54,000

Total Project Amount: .....\$106,000

Install a minimum of six instream wood structures on confined salmonid-bearing tributaries of the Cispus River to benefit winter steelhead, Coho salmon and other species. Project will slow peak flows, reengage floodplains and side channels, create refugia, and build climate resiliency in these streams.

**North Fork Eagle Creek Dam Removal and Side Channel Restoration Project (OR)**

Grantee: Clackamas Trout Unlimited

Grant Amount: .....\$100,498

Matching Funds: .....\$228,325

Total Project Amount: .....\$328,823

Restore full fish passage to 8 miles of high quality spawning and rearing habitat within the North Fork Eagle Creek sub-basin of the Clackamas River for ESA-listed Lower Columbia River winter steelhead, Coho salmon and spring Chinook salmon. Project will restore natural channel processes and increase watershed resilience and connectivity.

**Upper Sandy River Basin Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Restoration (WA)**

Grantee: The Freshwater Trust

Grant Amount: .....\$59,303.43

Matching Funds: .....\$60,000

Total Project Amount: ..... \$119,303.43

Restore 0.88 miles of side channel habitat and place a total of 450 pieces of large wood in habitat structures and single- and multi-piece placements in the restored channels and stream margins of Salmon River, Boulder Creek and Zigzag River in the Upper Sandy River basin. Project will restore habitat for native salmon and steelhead and restore ecological function in the Sandy basin at scale.

**Reconnecting Floodplains for Native Fish in the Lower Snake and Mid-Columbia Headwaters (OR)**

Grantee: Trout Unlimited, Inc.

Grant Amount: .....\$72,346.76

Matching Funds: .....\$72,631

Total Project Amount: ..... \$144,977.76



Lamprey

Build woody debris and beaver dam analogues using roving hand crews to improve habitat resiliency and restore ecological function for native fish species in the Lower Snake and Mid-Columbia Headwaters. Project will implement low-tech, high-impact approaches to restore ecosystem groundwater storage capacity, thereby improving habitat for Columbia River Basin steelhead, Chinook salmon, Pacific lamprey and Bull trout.

**Balm Grove Dam Removal and Stream Enhancement for Pacific Lamprey, Winter Steelhead, Coho Salmon and Native Migratory Fish (OR)**

Grantee: Clean Water Services

Grant Amount: .....\$69,734.04

Matching Funds: .....\$688,645

Total Project Amount: ..... \$758,379.04

Remove Balm Grove Dam to open up to 87 miles of instream habitat for native steelhead, coho salmon, Pacific lamprey and several other native species in Gales Creek, Oregon. Project will improve instream aquatic habitat and floodplain connectivity and enhance approximately one-quarter mile of the Gales Creek riparian area in the vicinity of the dam.

**Barrier Replacement and Apache Trout Recovery on Squaw Creek (AZ)**

Grantee: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Arizona Fisheries Resources Office

Grant Amount: .....\$100,000

Matching Funds: .....\$491,747.20

Total Project Amount: ..... \$591,747.20

Replace an old, non-functioning nonnative species barrier in Squaw Creek to separate the third largest Apache trout recovery population from managed sportfish downstream. Project will increase the availability of high-quality, protected Apache trout recovery habitat by approximately 9 miles and benefit several native fish species including Apache trout, speckled dace and desert sucker.