



NFWF

Bring Back the Natives 2019 Grant Slate

NFWF CONTACTS

Kirstin Neff, Ph.D.
Manager,
Southwest Rivers Program
kirstin.neff@nfwf.org
303-222-6485

Kate Morgan
Coordinator,
Water Investments
katherine.morgan@nfwf.org
202-595-2469

FUNDING PARTNERS

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- Brunswick Public Foundation

ABOUT NFWF

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores our nation's fish and wildlife and their habitats. Created by Congress in 1984, NFWF directs public conservation dollars to the most pressing environmental needs and matches those investments with private funds. Learn more at www.nfwf.org

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

1133 15th Street NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20005
202-857-0166



Cutthroat trout

OVERVIEW

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service and the Brunswick Public Foundation announced 2019 funding awards for Bring Back the Natives program. Seven new native fish conservation and restoration project grants totaling \$510,000 were awarded, leveraging \$675,788 in match from the grantees and generating a total conservation impact of \$1.19 million.

The Bring Back the Natives program invests in conservation activities that restore, protect and enhance native populations of sensitive or listed fish species across the United States, especially in areas on or adjacent to federal agency lands. 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, increase of in-stream flows and partnerships that benefit native fish species throughout the United States. This funding opportunity also provides grants to implement the goals of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan.

Restoration activities that address key limiting factors for focal species are priorities for the Bring Back the Natives program. 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 these particular threats.

Fish Barrier Construction in North Elk Creek (CO)

Grantee: White River National Forest, U.S. Forest Service

Grant Amount:\$50,000

Matching Funds:\$50,000

Total Amount: \$100,000

Construct a fish barrier to facilitate a Colorado Parks & Wildlife chemical reclamation to remove non-native fishes and to eradicate whirling disease from the upper watershed of North Elk Creek, a tributary to the White River near Meeker, Colorado. Project will increase the likelihood that the North Elk Creek Colorado River cutthroat trout population can persist indefinitely.

(continued)



Cutthroat trout

Riparian Restoration and Steelhead Recovery at Camp Creek (OR)

Grantee: USDA U.S. Forest Service - Malheur National Forest
 Grant Amount: \$105,375
 Matching Funds: \$105,375
Total Amount: \$210,750

Protect riparian habitat to allow full expression of streamside and floodplain vegetation through enclosure fencing along designated critical habitat for Mid-Columbia River summer steelhead. Project will allow streamside sedges and grasses to grow to over 30 inches, and protect native hardwoods shrubs, increasing critical shade to cool existing water temperatures.

Reconnecting Migratory Pathways for James River Alosines (VA)

Grantee: James River Association
 Grant Amount: \$70,000
 Matching Funds: \$165,873
Total Amount: \$235,873

Facilitate the removal and replacement of a culvert on Flowerdew Hundred Creek in the James River watershed in partnership with the Virginia Department of Transportation. The culvert acts as a critical barrier to native Alosine fish passage. Project will target American Shad and river herring by restoring aquatic connectivity for these native anadromous fish.

Snake River Cutthroat Trout Fish Passage Restoration in Spread Creek (WY) - IV

Grantee: Trout Unlimited
 Grant Amount: \$60,000
 Matching Funds: \$90,000
Total Amount: \$150,000

Support native fisheries conservation by addressing impacts of irrigation on native fish passage. Project will eliminate entrainment of native fish including Snake River cutthroat trout and bluehead suckers into the Spread Creek irrigation system and ensure unimpeded migration between the Snake River and upper Spread Creek.

Replacing a Barrier on Big Bonito Creek to Support Apache Trout Recovery (AZ)

Grantee: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Arizona Fisheries Resources Office
 Grant Amount: \$83,128
 Matching Funds: \$83,500
Total Amount: \$166,628

Replace an existing gabion structure, which no longer functions as a barrier to upstream movement of non-native trout, with a barrier designed for a 50-year performance life. Project will separate Apache trout recovery populations from managed sportfish downstream and increase the availability of high-quality protected Apache trout recovery habitat.

Reconnecting Blood Creek (MI)

Grantee: Conservation Resource Alliance
 Grant Amount: \$64,000
 Matching Funds: \$100,000
Total Amount: \$164,000

Fully restore connectivity on Blood Creek by opening the remaining 2.8 miles of stream for native fish passage. Project will replace existing culverts to improve water quality, increase spawning, rearing and refuge habitat, and restore hydrology and natural sediment movement.

San Juan Cutthroat Trout Watershed Restoration Assessment (CO)

Grantee: Trout Unlimited
 Grant Amount: \$77,497
 Matching Funds: \$81,040
Total Amount: \$158,537

Conduct a landscape-scale watershed assessment to examine the potential for flow improvement and landscape-based water storage projects in the upper San Juan River basin in southwest Colorado in the Wolf Creek and Navajo River watersheds for the benefit of San Juan cutthroat trout. Project will outline an appropriate monitoring protocol to verify the expected impact of treatments.