



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Partners For Fish & Wildlife



Protecting, enhancing, and restoring habitat on private lands

Partners Program

Partners for Fish and Wildlife (PFW) is a national program that was established in 1987 to promote and implement habitat improvement projects that benefit Federal Trust Species (e.g., migratory fish) on private lands. Introduced to Alaska in 1995, the Alaska PFW Program invests in partnerships and projects that protect, restore or enhance habitat for Alaska's native fish and wildlife on private lands.

The PFW Program provides direct conservation assistance: we pay up to 50 percent of project costs and local Service biologists provide assistance ranging from informal advice on the design and location of potential projects to on-the-ground project implementation and monitoring. This level of personal attention and follow-through is a significant strength of the PFW Program that has led to national recognition and its wide use by rural landowners.

Typical Projects

The PFW Program can provide direct conservation assistance to any type of project that leads to the protection, restoration, or enhancement of habitat for native migratory birds and fish, threatened and endangered species, and marine mammals on private lands.

For example, restoring and protecting streambanks, or removing or upgrading culverts, can provide suitable spawning habitat or reconnect upstream rearing



Waterfront property (before restoration).



Riprap was replaced with live willows and cabled trees that provide riparian/instream habitat for fish at high tide.

habitat for migratory fish. These projects also oftentimes solve chronic maintenance problems and enhance property aesthetics and value.

We also like to see projects that complement activities on conservation lands (e.g., National Wildlife Refuges) or help resolve habitat impacts caused by practices on adjacent lands. Priority projects include those that help address species and habitat priorities that

have been identified by the Service or in collaboration with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, are sustainable over time, and are the most cost effective.

Typical partners include private land owners, Tribes, municipalities, boroughs, schools, and non-profit organizations. Landowners may also receive assistance from a wide array of other partners, including the Natural Resources Conservation Service and businesses.

Questions about the Alaska Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program welcome at any time!

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