



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Riparian Habitat Restoration



Vermont Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program restores, enhances and protects important fish and wildlife habitat on private lands through partnerships. We focus our efforts in priority landscapes to achieve the greatest conservation benefit for federally listed species, candidate and at-risk species, migratory birds and interjurisdictional fish.

Priority species such as the golden winged warbler, monarch butterfly, wood turtle and brook trout benefit from riparian habitat restoration projects.



Figure 1. Priority species from top left: golden winged warbler, monarch butterfly, wood turtle, brook trout. Photo credit: USFWS

Habitat Restoration

The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program provides financial and technical assistance to design and implement riparian habitat restoration projects in Vermont. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service staff work with local partners to conduct site assessments and design restoration plans.



Figure 2. Before restoration project implementation on left and after restoration on the right. Photo credit: USFWS

Working with Landowners and Partners

- Projects occur on private land in partnership with willing landowners
- Many projects occur on agricultural land in conjunction with USDA Farm Bill programs such as the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- The Partners Program regularly works with over 30 Federal, State and NGO partners to implement habitat restoration projects



Figure 3. A landowner and his children plant a riparian buffer. Photo credit: USFWS

Conservation Success

- 660 projects have been completed with voluntary landowners in Vermont
- Restoration and enhancement of over 2,200 acres of riparian habitat
- Over 515 miles of streambank habitat to benefit Federal Trust Resources and water quality



Figure 4. Restoration project before (left) planting and exclusion and 8 years after project completion (right). Photo credit: Vermont Agency of Agriculture

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