



U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Nevada Fish and Wildlife Office

Conserving the Biological Diversity of the Great Basin, Eastern Sierra, and Mojave Desert



Restoring Habitat for Fish and Wildlife on the Truckee River



Stabilization of eroded streambanks improve habitat for fish and wildlife. Photo credit: J. Mosley/PLPT

The Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Environmental Department plays a large role in conservation of fish and wildlife along the lower Truckee River in western Nevada. In addition to riparian habitat for a multitude of avian species, the Pyramid Lake

Paiute Indian Reservation provides important habitat for two federally listed fish, Cui-ui (*Chasmistes cujus*) and Lahontan cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarki henshawi*). In 2010, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program teamed up with the Tribe to treat up to 200 acres of invasive plant species (e.g., tamarisk, tall whitetop) in key areas along the Truckee River as well as implement three streambank stabilization projects adjacent to their agricultural lands.

The Tribe has a dedicated staff that works to conserve and restore fish and wildlife along the lower Truckee River. In any given year, they have a number of activities and projects in the works. The Delta Project Site is one of the Tribe's invasive species program areas. It is located three miles above the mouth of the Truckee River and just below the Marble Bluff Fish Passage Facility. The Partners Program provided financial assistance to the Tribe to support removal and treatment of 60 acres of tamarisk trees within this area. The Tribe continues tamarisk removal within this large, infested site that encompasses a total of 906 acres below the dam.



River restoration in action. Photo: A. Salveeter/USFWS

In addition to the treatment of invasive plant species, the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program has worked with the Tribe to implement streambank stabilization projects. Many of the tribal members live on lands along the river and rely upon stable soils and thriving vegetation communities in order to maintain feed production for livestock. The Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program and Tribe continue to work together to identify opportunities to benefit habitat for fish and wildlife as well as maintain agricultural lands along the Truckee River.