



**USFWS-NRCS Farm Bill Summit 2009:  
Enhancing Strategic Partnerships for  
Riparian and Aquatic Habitat Conservation in New England**

*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Regional Office  
300 Westgate Center Drive  
Hadley, MA  
July 28, 2009*

**AGENDA**

- |               |   |
|---------------|---|
| 8:30 – 9:00   | Coffee & Check-In   |
| 9:00 – 9:05   | Welcome – Marvin Moriarty, Regional Director, USFWS   |
| 9:05 – 9:20   | Meeting Goals, Logistics & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr. Jaime Geiger, ARD-Fisheries, USFWS</li><li>• Moderator – Marci Caplis</li></ul>  |
| 9:20 – 10:10  | National Programs and Partnerships for Riparian and Aquatic Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NRCS - Greg Kidd (20 min)</li><li>• USFWS - Dave Walker and Jarrad Kosa (20 min)</li><li>• Q &amp; A (10 min.)</li></ul>      |
| 10:10 – 10:25 | BREAK   |
| 10:25 – 11:15 | New England Programs and Partnerships for Riparian and Aquatic Habitat <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NRCS - Beth Schreier (20 min)</li><li>• USFWS – Paul Pajak and Steve Hill (20 min)</li><li>• Q &amp; A (10 min.)</li></ul> |
| 11:15 – 11:30 | Distribute & explain worksheet for Facilitated Discussion session   |
| 11:30 – 1:00  | LUNCH* & Open Discussion<br>(* complete & send pre-order form by 7/22/09)   |
| 1:00 – 2:30   | Facilitated Discussion – Marci Caplis <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What's working?</li><li>• What do we change?</li></ul>  |
| 2:30 – 2:45   | BREAK   |
| 2:45 – 3:00   | Wrap Up & Next Steps  |
| 3:00 - 3:15   | Closing Remarks & Adjourn   |

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Meeting Goals:

- Achieve common understanding and vocabulary of landscape-level conservation programs of the USFWS and USDA, especially for riparian, riverine and estuarine habitat
- Address three important questions regarding current and future USFWS and NRCS/Farm Bill collaboration on riparian, riverine and estuarine habitat conservation and restoration in New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT):
  - What are we doing together now?
  - What should we be doing together in the future?
  - What specific actions should we take to ensure our agencies achieve our shared priorities?
- Maintain and enhance communication, coordination and effective working relationships within and between all levels of the USFWS and NRCS in New England

Participants/Target Audience:

- USFWS Northeast Region Directorate and NRCS State Conservationists for New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)
- Selected USFWS & NRCS staff and program experts

Meeting Outputs:

- Overview of key USFWS and NRCS/Farm Bill priorities, *programs* and practices with the greatest potential to restore and sustain riparian, riverine & estuarine habitats
- Summary and examples of current USFWS-NRCS/Farm Bill programs, partnerships and *projects* affecting riparian/riverine/estuarine habitat in the six New England states, including barriers to program success
- Identification of shared goals/criteria for USFWS & NRCS/Farm Bill programs to conserve and restore riparian, riverine and estuarine habitats and species
- List of key actions/"next steps" to maintain what's working well and to overcome barriers to improved interagency communication, coordination and implementation of USDA-Farm Bill programs benefitting riparian/riverine/estuarine habitats
- List of USFWS and NRCS meeting participants, key websites and agency contacts for Farm Bill implementation and riparian/riverine/estuarine habitat conservation in New England