

NATIONAL FISH HABITAT CONSERVATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS ACT OF 2019



WHAT WILL THE ACT DO?

The National Fish Habitat Conservation Through Partnerships Act (NFHCTPA) (S.754) and (H.R. 1747) establishes a national framework for advancing partnerships among public agencies and other interested parties to promote on-the-ground fish habitat conservation projects. NFHCTPA implements the National Fish Habitat Action Plan and focuses attention on local, science-based and strategic fish habitat conservation by:

- Establishing Fish Habitat Partnerships to implement locally-led, on-the-ground fish habitat conservation projects.
- Codifying the National Fish Habitat Board to make conservation project funding recommendations to the Department of the Interior based on local and strategic fish habitat conservation priorities.
- Continuing support for an over decade-old U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grant program for fish habitat projects.
- Encouraging grassroots-driven partnerships to restore, conserve, and enhance fish habitat; improve fisheries; and, rebuild the connection between healthy and vibrant fish habitat and fish populations and economic contributions to local communities.

WHY TODAY?

The United States is home to a diverse array of freshwater and marine fish, shellfish, and other aquatic species. More than 3,000 species of fish inhabit America's freshwater and saltwater habitats. The U.S. is also home to more than 300 million people, all depending on the same water that fish depend upon.

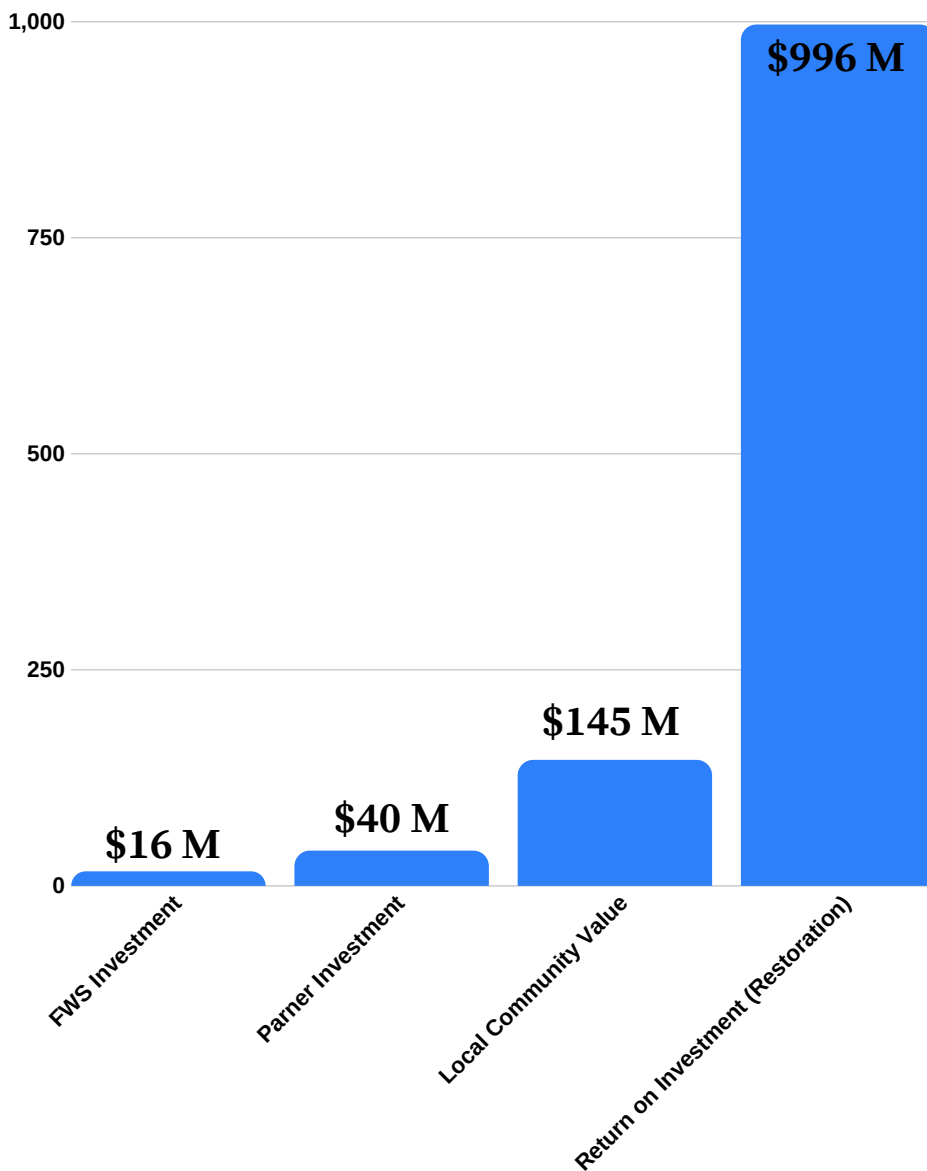
Healthy habitats are essential for sustainable fish populations. Unfortunately, in many places across the country, fish and the habitats on which they depend are in decline.

In 1997, Congress declared that one of the greatest long-term threats to the viability of commercial and recreational fisheries is the continuing loss of marine, estuarine, and other fish habitats.

CONSIDER THIS...

According to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, **35.8 million** licensed anglers generate more than **\$50 billion** in retail sales with a **\$125 billion** impact on the nation's economy and creating jobs for more than **800,000 people**. At least **60 million** anglers fished at some point over the past five years, consider themselves to be anglers, and rely on healthy fish habitat for their recreational pursuits.

National Fish Habitat Partnership Value (2006 - 2009)



Partnership by the #'s

- The direct economic value of the National Fish Habitat Partnerships exceeds \$150 million and has created more than 1,100 jobs with the \$34 million invested by the partnerships since 2006.
- The National Fish Habitat Partnership has a perceived long-term value to local communities of \$851.6 million with 19,300 jobs created— projection is based on habitat restored by NFHP to date.

About us: fishhabitat.org @fishhabitat

Facts & Figures

> Completed 2010 and 2015 National Assessments on Fish Habitat

> Formed 20 Fish Habitat Partnerships covering all 50 states

> Conducted over 840 conservation projects in 50 states

> Highlighted over 110 key projects through “Waters to Watch” initiative, tracking project progress and improvement

> Created a map and data web tool analyzing conditions of habitat through USGS

> Signed MOU implementing the National Fish Habitat Action Plan between the U.S. Departments of the Interior, Commerce and Agriculture

> Developed a Project Tracking database providing information on projects implemented by our 20 Fish Habitat Partnerships Across the Country