



National Marine Fisheries Service

Habitat Conservation and Restoration

Community-based Restoration Program

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) FY 2009 budget request includes \$13.1 million for NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program. This request serves as the foundation for partnerships and community-led projects that restore thousands of acres of fish habitat which are essential to sustaining commercial and recreational fisheries, and help build resilient coastal communities.

Overview

The Community-based Restoration Program supports restoration of important habitats through partnerships and local, hands-on participation. These projects result in revitalized habitat and long-term stewardship of our nation's marine and coastal resources. In the past decade, the Program has leveraged \$50 million with approximately \$120 million additional non-NOAA resources from partners to support important on-the-ground habitat restoration projects across the nation.

Program Highlights

Since 1996, the Community-based Restoration Program has funded more than 1,300 habitat restoration projects in 26 states, the Caribbean and the Pacific. Thanks to 132,000 volunteers contributing more than 840,000 hours, these projects have restored over 33,000 acres of fishery habitat and opened more than 1,400 miles of stream for migratory fish. By restoring wetlands, barrier islands, and other habitats that buffer impacts of floods and storms, the Program also helps build hazard resilient coastal communities. NMFS staff around the country provides partners with technical assistance on engineering, site evaluation, restoration planning, monitoring, and environmental compliance to ensure effective design and implementation of successful projects.

The Community-based Restoration Program is authorized by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to implement and support the restoration of fishery and coastal habitats. This includes special initiatives such as removal of marine debris from oceans and coasts and projects to restore access of migratory fish to historic river habitat.

NOAA's Community-based Restoration Program — working with partners at the national, regional, and local level — brings life back to degraded habitats and empowers communities to act as stewards of the nation's valuable coastal habitats.

These habitats are enjoyed by countless Americans and are critical to sustaining healthy populations of fish, shellfish, and wildlife. Community-based restoration projects also support regional NOAA Fisheries priorities, such as recovery of Endangered Species Act listed salmon in the Northwest, Atlantic Salmon in the Northeast, as well as numerous other non-listed fish species nationwide.



Volunteers plant marsh grass to restore 45 acres of Louisiana's Lafourche Parish wetlands.

NOAA FY 2009 Budget Request (\$ in Millions)			
BUDGET LINE: Habitat Conservation and Restoration	FY2008 Enacted	FY2009 Program Change	FY2009 Pres Bud Request
FISHERIES HABITAT RESTORATION Community-based Restoration	\$12.9	\$0	\$13.1

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