



Scope of Work for  
Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership, Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership, and  
Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture  
Under a Multistate Conservation Grant to Promote Strategic Fish Habitat Conservation  
through Regionally-coordinated Science and Collaboration

**Introduction**

This statement of work details how the Fish Habitat Partnerships (FHPs) named above will implement specific activities in collaboration with the National Fish Habitat Board and the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies.

This project will support and enhance the communication and outreach, steering committee operation, and scientific assessments of the ACFHP, SARP, and EBTJV, and provide for increased coordination within and between Partnerships, and with the NFHP Board and Science Data Committee. Funding will allow the FHPs to build upon projects initiated or completed under a 2012 MSCGP grant.

We have summarized the activities of the FHPs to match as closely as possible with the objectives laid out in the *National Fish Habitat Action Plan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*.

**Objective 1: Fill gaps in the National Fish Habitat Assessment and its associated database to empower strategic conservation action supported by broadly available scientific information.**

Action: Collectively advance each partnership's habitat assessments through identification of mutual data needs, data acquisition and landscape-level-analysis techniques for the benefit of fish, mussels, and other aquatic animals. Assist the National Fish Habitat Science and Data Committee in improving the 2015 status report by filling major data gaps with regional-specific fish population, habitat, and human impact monitoring data.

Milestones:

- The FHPs will actively contribute data and participate in the development and refinement of the National Fish Habitat Assessment (coastal and freshwater) and Decision Support tools.
- The FHPs and LCCs will collaboratively develop effective methods of collecting, compiling, and managing regional fish population and aquatic habitat data that will provide a platform to develop consistent decision support tools for aquatic habitat restoration and conservation actions.
- Produce refined conservation focus area maps and list of priority criteria for each FHP based on latest habitat assessment information and best available data.

**Objective 2: Communicate the conservation outcomes produced collectively by the Eastern Fish Habitat Partnerships, as well as new opportunities and voluntary**

**approaches for conserving fish habitat, to the public and conservation partners and broaden the community of support for fish habitat conservation.**

Action: Coordinate ACFHP, SARP, and EBTJV partner engagement and outreach activities to strengthen and expand an already robust base of on-the-ground conservation partners. Implement strategies developed previously by the Whitewater to Bluewater partnership and via the National Fish Habitat Partnership Fish Habitat Excellence Workshop, to enhance their organizational capacity.

Milestones:

- FHPs will implement individual and joint outreach efforts, using strategies previously developed via the Whitewater to Bluewater partnership .
- Continue to implement Sustainable FHP plans developed through a previously conducted organizational review/capacity assessment with knowledge gained via participation in the national workshop to enhance the effectiveness and capacity of the FHPs to achieve their missions and goals.

**Objective 3: Achieve measurable habitat conservation results through strategic actions of the Eastern Fish Habitat Partnerships that improve ecological condition, restore natural processes, or prevent the decline of intact and healthy systems leading to better fish habitat conditions and increased fishing opportunities.**

Action: Retain and enhance critical capacity to implement each of the individual FHP’s Partnership Strategic Plans by facilitating completion of prioritized, on-the-ground, partner-led fish habitat conservation projects that achieve measurable results towards National Fish Habitat Action Plan goals and interim strategies and are easily communicated and understood.

Milestones:

- Support regular meetings of the individual FHPs to engage with partners, identify opportunities to implement the FHP Strategic Plans, and prioritize actions toward protection and restoring function of eastern aquatic habitats.
- Develop and implement a consistent mechanism for evaluating and reporting the benefits of fish habitat conservation projects to a wide range of audiences by monitoring region-specific variable(s) that will inform and add to the National Fish Habitat Action Plan tracking effort.

Budget:

	ACFHP	SARP	EBTJV
Personnel	\$29,697	\$36,500	\$48,666
Fringe Benefits	\$9,012	\$8,875	
Travel	\$12,068	\$10,000	\$10,000
Supplies	\$985	\$2125	\$425
Contractual		\$7500	
Other			
<b>TOTAL DIRECT CHARGES</b>	<b>\$52,000</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>\$59,091</b>
Indirect Charges	\$13,000		\$5909
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>	<b>\$65,000</b>