



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 2013 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, 2nd 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 and assist the National Fish Habitat Science and Data Committee in improving the 2015 status report by filling data gaps with regional-specific fish population, habitat, and human impact monitoring data.

Milestones:

- Each FHP will further its resource assessment work and/or refine their science and data needs.
- 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.
- Building upon work from previous Whitewater to Bluewater grants the FHPs, in partnership with LCCs, will continue to collect, and compile regional fish population and aquatic habitat data for use in decision support tools for aquatic habitat restoration and conservation actions, and share data of mutual need.
- Efforts will focus on areas where SARP, EBTJV, and ACFHP overlap to determine current connectivity activities and identify gaps and will allow the FHPs to establish connectivity teams where applicable (internal and external to overlapping areas).

Objective 2: Broaden the community of support for fish habitat conservation by effectively communicating the conservation outcomes produced by the Eastern Fish Habitat Partnerships, as along with advancing new opportunities and voluntary approaches for conserving fish habitat.

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 to engage and sustain partners.

Milestones:

- Communicate the results of NFHP, FHP, and partner-led habitat conservation projects via web, print and in-person outreach, aided by 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 strategies.

Milestones:

- Support regular meetings of the individual FHP Steering Committees to engage with partners, identify opportunities to implement the FHP Strategic Plans, and prioritize actions toward protection and restoring function of eastern aquatic habitats.
- Support FHP staff who facilitate implementation of Strategic Plan activities towards protecting and restoring function of eastern aquatic habitats, communicating those accomplishments to stakeholders, and coordinate science objectives supporting fish habitat conservation efforts.

Budget:

	ACFHP	SARP	EBTJV
Personnel	\$25,000		
Fringe Benefits	\$6,667		
Travel	\$10,000	\$20,000	
Supplies		\$2,125	
Contractual		\$27,875	\$50,000
Other			
TOTAL DIRECT CHARGES	\$41,667	\$50,000	\$50,000
Indirect Charges	\$8,333		
TOTALS	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000