



## February 2010 WNTI Happenings

### **Western Native Trout Initiative Submits 2010 Slate of Projects to National Fish Habitat Board**

Robin Knox, Coordinator of the Western Native Trout initiative, reports that the Western Native Trout Initiative Steering Committee has approved 10 projects for submission to the National Fish Habitat Board and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director for their approval and funding in 2010.

The Initiative, started in 2006, has successfully acquired over \$2,600,000 in funding for 50 native trout conservation enhancement projects across the western United States.

For the 2010 National Fish Habitat project year, the WNTI is projected to once again to receive **\$600,000** for project implementation. This matches the allocations of the past two years and is great news for WNTI and its project partners. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service western regional offices prepared project lists for the WNTI Steering Committee to consider in December 2009. The WNTI Steering Committee selected a final list of projects, 10 this year that is forwarded to the FWS Washington office and then considered by the National Fish Habitat Board for their stamp of approval.

The following projects were selected for funding this year:

1. Deep Creek and Crazy Creek Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration Project (Crooked River), OR
2. Stream-bank Stabilization and Fish Screen for BCT St. Charles Cr, ID.
3. Lower Wenatchee River in-stream Enhancement Project on 15 miles of stream, WA
4. Barrier construction and Gila trout restoration in West Fork Oak Creek, AZ
5. Renovation of Barrier to Protect Rio Grande Cutthroat Trout in Tio Grande Creek, NM
6. 2.7 miles of Bear Creek Habitat Improvement for Greenback Cutthroat Trout, CO
7. Restoring Bull Trout stream habitat In the Therriault Creek Drainage, MT
8. Riparian Fence Exclosure on Middle Thompson Cr. For Colorado River Cutthroat, CO
9. Barrier construction and resoration of Yellowstone cutthroat trout to Four Mile Cr, MT.
10. WNTI - Protecting stream Habitat for Coastal Cutthroat Trout Via Water Reservations in SE AK

The partner match Associated with these projects totaled just over \$4,000,000.

### **The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation is Accepting Project Proposals for Funding from Funds Provided by the Jackson Hole One-Fly Foundation – Deadline February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) is a tremendous WNTI Partner. Chartered by Congress, the Foundation leverages money from a variety of sources to fund projects that benefit western native trout. Since 2005, NFWF has funded over 255 projects with approximately \$26,000,000 of Foundation funds matched to millions of other dollars.

NFWF receives money from a variety of sources, and serves as a clearing house for distributing



money to qualified science and habitat projects. NFWF works with NOAA, FWS, USFS, BLM, TU and others to fund aquatic wildlife projects across the country, and they have several native trout focus areas.

The Jackson Hole One Fly Foundation Board (JHOFF) and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) have entered into a conservation program partnership to co-fund stream improvement/native cutthroat trout conservation (protection, restoration, and enhancement) projects. We are requesting proposals for spring 2010 projects from eligible governmental, Tribal or non-governmental organizations. All proposed projects must advance the Jackson Hole One Fly Foundation and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's missions of conservation of native trout and their habitat watersheds and must meet the specific criteria outlined below. Preference will be given to projects in the tributaries and main stem Snake and Yellowstone basins of Idaho, Wyoming and Montana, and Upper Colorado basin, especially those that have been ranked as high priority by the Western Native Trout Initiative. Other native trout habitat conservation projects in the intermountain west may also be considered as funds allow. All applications must be received by



Applicants should log onto the Foundation's website: [www.nfwf.org](http://www.nfwf.org), go to the home page and selection the Jackson Hole One-Fly Foundation link. Pre-proposals will be evaluated and ranked by the BBN Review Committee according to the priorities and criteria described. If invited for a full proposal, applicants may be required to solicit peer reviews of their proposal by up to five qualified and objective reviewers. The Foundation also retains the right to require additional peer review of proposals by external experts.

For more information or questions about the application process, please contact:

Barrett Bohnengel  
806 SW Broadway, Suite 750  
Portland, OR 97205  
(503) 417-8700  
[barrett.bohnengel@nfwf.org](mailto:barrett.bohnengel@nfwf.org)

The NFWF has the specific details about applying for grants. If you are interested, please visit their site for more detailed information on the fish conservation programs.

### **WNTI 2008 Project Completion Reports Are Posted on WNTI Web Page**

WNTI recently received final project reports from 3 projects that were funded from the WNTI multi-state grant in 2008. The projects were a) updating the Westslope cutthroat trout Status Review; b) developing a redband trout status and data protocol evaluation in select areas of Washington State; and c) developing a coastal cutthroat trout web-based interactive database using the StreamNet technology. The final reports from these projects will be posted at [www.westernnativetrout.org](http://www.westernnativetrout.org) in the individual species projects list.



### Data Management for Western Native Trout

In 2009, WNTI signed a contract with Shannon Albeke and Seam Biometrics to look at ways to improve the compatibility of cutthroat population information that is used to develop conservation and enhancement actions for native trout. That effort is fully underway. The upgrading and maintaining of databases has consistently been one of the un-funded high priority actions. WNTI appreciates your cooperation in this effort as WNTI works to help with cutthroat trout data management and up-keep.

That project is fully underway. WNTI is planning on hosting a native cutthroat data meeting just prior to the start of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society meeting in Salt Lake City in April.

The tentative date of the workshop is April 19<sup>th</sup>, and the purpose will be to review the progress on the cutthroat data protocols, discuss future data needs of WNTI partners, and to learn about the role of WNTI in the National Fish Habitat assessment that is currently underway and scheduled to be completed in 2010.

Details about the data meeting will be posted on the WNTI web page as soon as they are completed.

---

### **WNTI T-shirts For Sale**

**Support WNTI through a tax-deductible donation and receive a free T-shirt. These handsome T-shirts are 100% cotton and available in sizes of Small to XX-Large. Visit the webpage for more details.**



[www.westernnativetrout.org](http://www.westernnativetrout.org)