

The Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership

Supporting Department of the Interior



The Corporate Wetland Restoration Partnership (CWRP) has supported the mission of the Department of the Interior (DOI) since the CWRP inception in 2000. DOI agencies, such as the National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have implemented their habitat restoration programs in part through CWRP. Using restoration programs such as Coastal Grants, thousands of acres of important coastal and aquatic habitat have been restored. These agencies have also benefitted from the unique partnership and networking opportunity with other agencies such as National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Army Corps of Engineers, and Environmental Protection Agency at the national and regional levels. In addition, the unique outreach opportunities afforded by CWRP through the Coastal Ecosystem Learning Centers (CELC), such as the New York Aquarium, Baltimore Aquarium and Monterey Aquarium, have been invaluable to reach the more than 30 million visitors that pass through CELC doors. CWRP is a key link for DOI to implement the President's National Ocean Policy.

Gulkana River, Alaska Viewing Platform Construction Project

The Gulkana River is a major tributary to the Copper River and contains spawning beds that are critical to coastal fisheries – commercial, sport and subsistence. Large numbers of tourists visit the area to view spawning salmon. As a result, the stream bank vegetation is steadily being eroded by foot traffic and if allowed to continue the erosion could have severely affect the water quality and rearing habitat of these spawning beds. The Gulkana River project is a walkway and viewing platform that makes it possible for tourists and motorists to view salmon spawning habitat without degrading it. In addition, damaged portions of the stream bank were revegetated with native plants. This walkway is a habitat-friendly method of observing spawning fish in their natural habitat, and the viewing platform is a benefit to tourists for years to come.



Spruce-fir forest of Alaska

USFWS

Partners: Alaska Chapter CWRP, USFWS, Bureau of Land Management, Alaska Division of Government Coordination, Alaska Conservation Foundation, Alaska Department of Transportation, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Copper River Watershed Projects.

Hail Cove Living Shoreline

The Hail Cove project, on Maryland's Eastern Shore at the Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge was originally designed to be completed in three phases but thanks to the combined efforts of the partners was completed in record time. The overall project involved 17 separate partners in the construction of breakwaters, oyster habitat, and planting of submerged aquatic vegetation to protect Hail Cove, an important waterfowl site, from being lost to open water through erosion of the protective isthmus sandbar. Critical to the project was a major financial and in-kind services contribution from Vulcan Materials through the CWRP Maryland Chapter. Volunteer planting labor was provided through the Aquarium. The net effect of the large collaboration effort was completion of all project phases within one year rather than several.



Restoring Hail Cove

USFWS

Partners: USFWS: Chesapeake Marshlands NWR Complex and Chesapeake Bay Field Office, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Ducks Unlimited, The Brick Companies, The National Aquarium, Chesapeake Bay Trust, Vulcan Materials, Washington College Center for Environment and Society, NOAA, The Maryland Department of the Environment, The Campbell Foundation.

Scarborough Marsh Wildlife Management Area, Scarborough, Maine

3,100 acre Scarborough Marsh Wildlife Management Area is owned and managed by Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and includes nearly all 2,700 acres of Scarborough Marsh, Maine's largest and best known salt marsh. Recognized for its tremendous biological productivity, Scarborough Marsh supports seven state or federally listed threatened or endangered species and holds the distinction as the salt marsh with the greatest diversity of water-dependent birds statewide. However, barriers to tidal flow, undersized culverts, invasive plants, fill material and ditching have compromised the Marsh's biological vitality. Man-made ditches have excessively drained the Seavey Landing section of the marsh, lowering the natural water table and destroying permanent pool habitat that once supported a suite of species – aquatic plants, invertebrates, fish, shorebirds, wading birds and waterfowl. By installing ditch plugs in strategic locations, water will no longer drain through the ditches, allowing the water table on the marsh to rise and permitting the re-establishment of permanent pool habitat. The restoration project will include installation of 16 ditch plugs and the removal of 32 sumps to raise the water table on the marsh and re-establish permanent pool habitats. The project will include community outreach.



Scarborough Marsh

Partners: USFWS/Gulf of ME Program, Corporate Wetland Restoration Partnership, Natural Resources Conservation Service Wetland Reserve Program, Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Ducks Unlimited, Friends of Scarborough Marsh.



Restoration efforts along the Chattahoochee River

The Johnson Ferry Project

A significant partnership of private and federal partners worked with the National Park Service on the Johnson Ferry Project, located at the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, which targets the restoration of several eroding drainages along the Chattahoochee River. Partner efforts have included invasive plant removals, topography surveys, and surface water and wetland surveys. The project was feasible thanks to the large volumes of rock, gravel, and soil materials provided by Colonial Pipeline and the heavy equipment provided by Brent Scarbrough & Company to carefully recontour the eroded stream banks and place the rock and soil to stabilize the eroding banks. This project will not only provide enhanced aesthetic benefits to the many people who walk the trails along the river in this part of the park system but will also provide enhanced shoreline habitat and significantly prevent erodible soils sediments from washing into the Chattahoochee River. The Georgia CWRP is also working with the Georgia Aquarium to educate the residents of Georgia to the importance of restoration projects to the water quality and overall health of its citizens.

Partners: NPS: Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area, Georgia CWRP, CH2M Hill, ENSR/AECOM, Oldcastle, EPA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Georgia Aquarium, Brent Scarbrough & Company, and Colonial Pipeline Company.



Coastal America is a partnership among federal, state, and local governments and private alliances to address environmental problems along our nation's coasts. The federal partners are: Executive Office of the President, Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, Energy, Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development, Interior, Justice, Labor, State, Transportation, Environmental Protection Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the National Science Foundation.