History of the Housatonic NRDAR

Under the Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration (NRDAR) provisions of the Superfund Act, the General Electric Company settled with Natural Resource Trustees (USFWS, NOAA, Massachusetts and Connecticut) for $15 million in 1999 for historic releases of PCBs to the Housatonic. Funds are being used to restore injured natural resources at a variety of projects throughout the watershed.

Project Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Types</th>
<th>Number of Projects (CT, MA)</th>
<th>Expected Acres/Miles (CT, MA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land Protection</td>
<td>6 (1)</td>
<td>300 ac (78 ac)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fisheries Restoration</td>
<td>8 (4)</td>
<td>11 mi (8 mi)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wetland Restoration/Invasive Species Mgmt</td>
<td>6 (3)</td>
<td>523 ac (390 ac)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boat Launches</td>
<td>7 (4)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
<td>8 (2)</td>
<td>4.5 mi (2 mi)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

MA also funded rare species inventories, educational programs and assistance to Towns for wetlands protection.

Restoring Aquatic Resources

Funds are being used to remove several dams, repair existing fishways and enhance riparian buffers to improve cold water fisheries.

Partnerships Make the Difference

Partners throughout the watershed implement restoration projects and bring additional funds and expertise to enhance and expand Trustee-funded efforts. We celebrate the efforts of everyone involved, including:

- Berkshire Natural Resources Council
- Berkshire Regional Planning Commission
- Connecticut Audubon Society
- Connecticut Bass Federation
- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
- Crane & Company, Inc.
- ESS Group, Inc.
- Flying Cloud Institute
- Great Barrington Land Conservancy
- Housatonic River Initiative
- Housatonic Valley Association
- Kamoopoa Bog Stewardship Committee
- Mass Division of Ecological Restoration
- Mass Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
- Massachusetts Audubon Society
- Naromi Land Trust
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Northwest Conservation District
- Project Native, Inc.
- Schaghticoke Tribal Nation
- Sheffield Land Trust
- Simon’s Rock College
- Stantec
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Trustees of Reservations
- Trout Unlimited
- Valley Council of Governments
- Webster Ingersoll

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  (617) 918-1499

Vernal pools are protected on the 25-acre Indian Fields parcel in New Milford, CT.

Increasing Public Use

Numerous canoe launches, fishing platforms and walking trails will increase public access to the River and adjacent natural areas. These features promote public enjoyment and appreciation of the outdoors.

Housatonic River Walk, Great Barrington, MA.