



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission

Bureau of Fisheries
Division of Fisheries Management
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Friends of Reservoirs
Jeff Boxrucker, Coordinator
405-659-1797
jboxrucker@sbcglobal.net

Dear Jeff Boxrucker and Friends of Reservoirs Grant Affiliates,

I am writing to you to express my full support of the Salmon Creek Fish Habitat Restoration Project on behalf of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission have been working in partnership to promote a healthy fishery across Tionesta Lake and its tributaries for many years and this project is in line with our partnership goals and objectives.

The Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission also has a variety of experience working with the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy who is partnering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to complete the fish habitat restoration project. We have previously used methods as described for this project to improve fish habitat and they have been very successful.

Due to the effect Tionesta Lake has had on the natural environment the need for restored fish habitat is evident. Salmon Creek has suffered from siltation, poor water quality, and an overall lack of sustainable fish habitat. In our partnership efforts we have done previous work to restore fish habitat in Ross Run. There is also a combined effort to install fish habitat throughout Tionesta Lake. We want to champion these efforts by continuing to improve the fish habitat across Tionesta Lake.

The Salmon Creek Fish Habitat Restoration Project will not only benefit the health of aquatic species, but also the local community. Many businesses within the area rely on a healthy fishery because it has economic value to them. It will also open a door of opportunity to increase the knowledge of people visiting by using educational tools to promote healthy fisheries.

Our Mission:

www.fish.state.pa.us

To protect, conserve and enhance the Commonwealth's aquatic resources and provide fishing and boating opportunities.



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The PFBC is committed to being an active partner in the project and will provide support in accomplishing the following: 1) share historical fisheries and water quality data of the watershed, and 2) conduct routine fish population assessments in the watershed as staff and time permits.

Upon reviewing the project objectives, overview, methods, and monitoring plan I am confident that Salmon Creek will see an increase of healthy aquatic species, reduced siltation, and more littoral structure.

The Commission looks forward to continued efforts with USACE, WPC and your organization regarding habitat protection opportunities as well as, future habitat restoration within the Salmon Creek Watershed that may ultimately become available.

Sincerely,

Brian A. Ensign

Brian A. Ensign | Fisheries Biologist – Area 2
Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission