



FEDERATION OF FLY FISHERS™

Conserving – Restoring – Educating Through Fly Fishing



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“In the end we will conserve only what we love. We will love only what we understand. We will understand only what we are taught.”

- Baba Dioum, Senegalese Poet

Mr. Dioum’s powerful assertion – that conservation and education are inextricably linked – reflects the 45-year old mission of the Federation of Fly Fishers. With our focus on conserving, restoring, and educating through fly fishing, FFF conservation programs seek to educate others to understand the value of our resources and the threats they face. Our work begins and ends with fly fishing – the sport we all love, and the reason we continually fight to conserve fly fishing resources.

Our conservation programs depend on you and the money you generously donate every year. Because of your support, the FFF can provide national leadership on major conservation issues, and national support to local FFF club activities. It is because of your help that the FFF can offer its unique brand of conservation that combines love of a sport, with respect for natural resources.

Here are just a few ways your donations have helped FFF conservation projects:

Raising Awareness and Fostering Understanding

The FFF is a national leader in raising awareness of major issues that affect fly-fishing. We are leaders in a watershed-based approach to managing native fish species and provide a voice for our fisheries whether warmwater, coldwater, or saltwater fish. We are committed to preventing the spread of aquatic invasive species and continually work to educate anglers and the general public about preventing the spread of invasives through the Clean Angling Pledge. Finally, the FFF provides support in the form of expert advice, materials, and small grants to the hundreds of FFF fly fishing clubs who work to protect fisheries across the United States. Our effort helps members understand complex issues and facilitates action for the benefit of our fly-fishing resources.

FFF conservation programs rely on local experts to get the job done

A major strength of our conservation initiatives is that they often rely on the local expertise and knowledge of the fly-fishing community. Here are just a few of the victories from the past year:

- After a five year battle to rescue Gunpowder Creek from the ravages of de-icing fluid discharged by the Cincinnati / Northern Kentucky International Airport, the Northern Kentucky Fly Fishers are happy to report that Gunpowder Creek, once

completely void of aquatic life, is now back to a healthy smallmouth bass stream. The victory comes as a result of diligence on the part of the local club, who identified the problem, undertook a major letter-writing campaign and volunteered extensive hours of water quality testing and data gathering.

- The Central Coast Fly Fishers teamed up with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Longview Hills Fishing Club to restore a small riparian area in Seal Rock. This collaborative project made significant strides in restoring a native cutthroat trout stream that had been impaired.
- The FFF Southwest Council is a leader in monofilament recycling – an effort to educate the public about the risks that discarded fishing line pose to birds and other marine animals and to reduce an environmental hazard created by anglers. The program involves construction of monofilament recycling tubes that are strategically placed at fishing access locations and marinas to provide information and a point for collection for harmful waste monofilament line. The council has placed and maintains 23 recycling tubes and has a commitment of 27 new tubes this year.

These are just a few examples of local level conservation work the FFF undertakes every day. Without your support much of this work would never have begun. This year, we hope we can count on you to help us develop better educational materials, better advice and improved monetary support to local conservation initiatives, and to help us with high-impact projects such as our goal of creating a national FFF sponsored monofilament recycling program in your community.

The effectiveness of our work depends on your support and we hope that you give generously this year. A donation of any amount will go a long way toward protecting our resources. Please use the enclosed form to make a donation to FFF conservation efforts. Your donation is fully tax-deductible and will advance our conservation programs. With your support we can and will do much more to secure the future of fly fishing.

With much gratitude,



R.P. VanGytenbeek
CEO and President
Federation of Fly Fishers

P.S. This year, individuals donating over \$250 will receive an autographed copy of Lani Waller's River of Dreams and Steelhead Legacy DVD.