# Partnering to Improve Fisheries Habitat in Reservoirs across the Nation

A Plan for Building and Growing Capacity to Improve Fish Habitat in our Nations Reservoirs



Jeff Boxrucker Coordinator Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership



5 FISH HABITAT

ABOUT

THE PARTNERSHIPS

WATERS TO WATCH

SCIENCE & RESOURCES

S N

CONTA

DONATE NOW

## **ABOUT**

The National Fish Habitat Action Plan is an unprecedented attempt to address an unseen crisis for fish nationwide: loss and degradation of their watery homes.

Q



#### RESERVOIR FISHERIES HABITAT PARTNERSHIP

Reservoirs are inextricable parts of our natural landscapes; they cannot be isolated or dismissed in conservation management. Constructed to meet a variety of human needs, they impact almost every major river system in the United States, affecting to various degrees habitat for fish and other aquatic species and, in turn, affected by the health of the watershed in which they reside. Reservoirs, their associated watersheds, and their downstream flows constitute interdependent, functioning systems. Effective management of these reservoir systems — maintaining their ecological function and biological health — is essential to the conservation of our nation's aquatic resources and their habitats. It requires that we minimize the adverse impacts of reservoirs on their watersheds (and watersheds upon reservoirs) and maximize their utility for aquatic habitat.

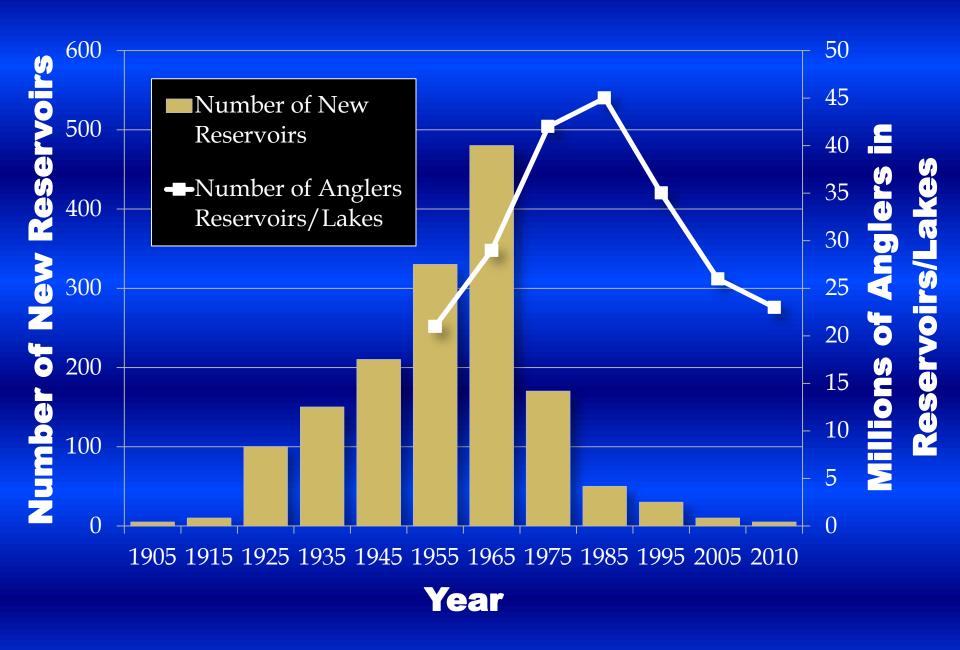






WATER. HABITAT. LIFE.

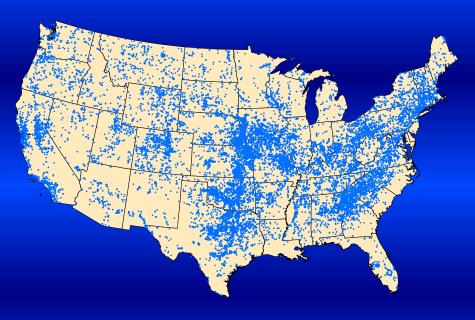




## What is FOR?

 A grass-roots effort to improve fish habitat in our nation's reservoirs

 Connects public partners with agencies on habitat projects





## Partner Benefits

#### 1. Financial Benefits

- eligibility to use FOR 501(c)(3) designation
- enhanced fundraising capacity by part of a national organization (RFHP and NFHP); guidance and assistance; organization and capacity development
- banking services

## 2. Project Assistance

- eligibility for project funding by the RFHP priority points
  - Small projects grants (\$1000) exclusively for FOR members
  - Mossback projects grants (\$1000 of product wholesale) exclusively for FOR members
- grant writing/application assistance
  - 2-totaling \$70,000 grants from Shell Oil to help PFBC with habitat work
  - Working with Wichita Falls Foundation to secure grants for Lake Wichita restoration
- some grants require non-profit status (FOR)

## Partner Benefits

#### 3. Technical Support

- Web site and other services
  - Developing a BMP site
  - BMP manual
- Educational forums and meetings (RFHP annual meeting)
- Access to reservoir inventory and assessments
- Networking with others

#### 4. Recognition

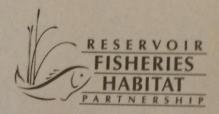
- FOR logo, bumper stickers and other materials
- Annual "Friend of Reservoirs" awards
- NFHP's Ten Waters to Watch program gives projects national exposure
  - Table Rock, MO; Lake Conroe & Lake Livingston, TX; Lake
    Bloomington, IL, Lake Wichita, TX, Roosevelt Lake, AZ, Shelbyville
    Lake, IL, Elephant Butte, NM
- Club highlights on FOR website and newsletter





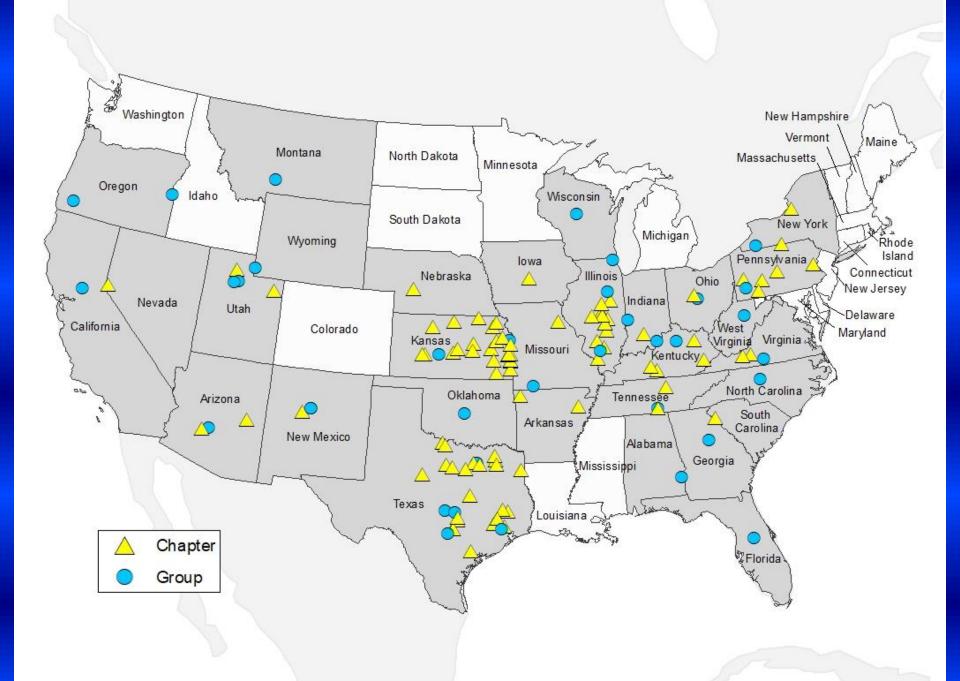
## Reservoir Fish Habitat Management

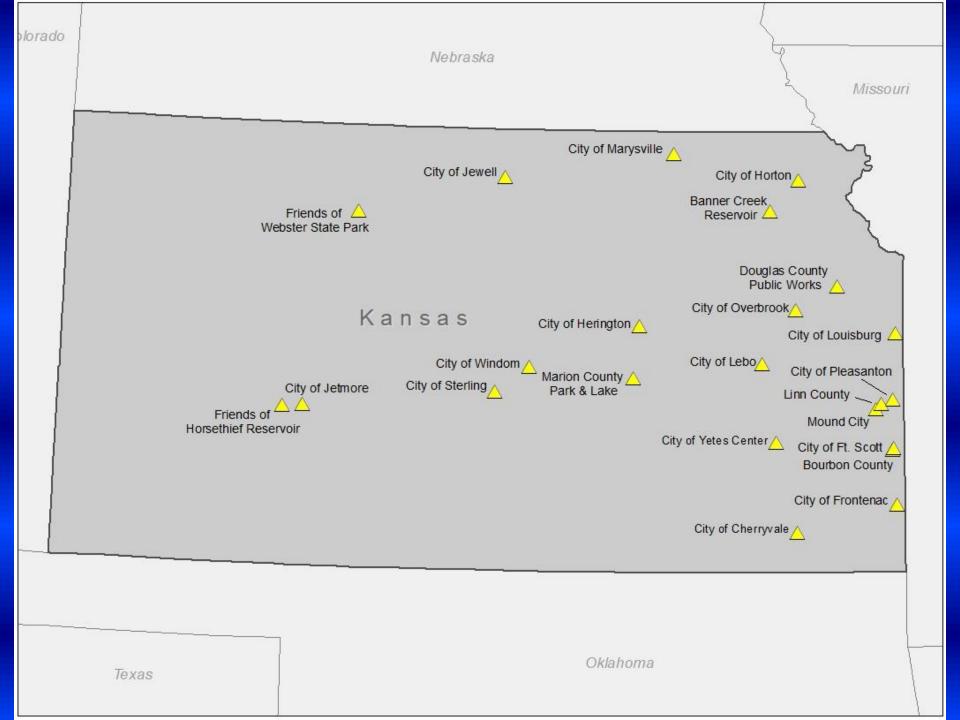
a project of the



#### Suggested citation

Miranda, L.E. 2016. Reservoir fish habitat management. Lightning Press, Totowa, New Jersey. 296 pp.





# Project Partners

- 58 projects in 19 states
  - FOR: 36 projects

\$935,000:5.7 million (1:6 funds leveraged)





#### RFHP funded 10 projects in TX

- 20% of TX reservoirs are "moderately to high" or "highly" impaired by lack of structure
- All TX projects have structure component
  - Most have been native vegetation restoration
  - All have FOR partners









## Patterns of deposition









## **QUESTIONS?**

