

Reminder: EBTJV RFP open

The deadline for *initiating* contact with your state fish and wildlife agency representative is January 9, 2024.

The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) is **requesting project proposals** that are focused on Brook Trout conservation actions. Federal funding is available through the **National Fish Habitat Partnership** - up to \$50,000/project, with a 1:1 nonfederal to grant match. EBTJV will score and rank proposals for consideration by the NFHAP board and the Department of the Interior.

The deadline for **initiating** contact with your fish and wildlife agency representative is **January 9**. Check here --> **EBTJV State Contact List**

You will need to request a letter of support from this person in order to attach the letter to your application by the final due date of February 9, 2024. This letter will address multiple aspects of the project and applicant's readiness, including the objectives, location (including if the habitat can or will support brook trout, and if invasive species that could access the project site are considered), whether genetic data have been collected or referenced where appropriate, thoughtfulness of a monitoring plan, and potential for long-term success.

Examples of eligible projects include (but are not limited to):

- restoring aquatic connectivity by removing small dams and replacing undersized culverts;
- executing strategies that eliminate competition from non-native species (including removal);
- planting native shrubs and trees in riparian zones to provide shade and stream bank stabilization;
- adding large woody material to streams to add complexity, improve sediment sorting, and reconnect groundwater;
- restoring native brook trout to watersheds where it has been extirpated; and
- implementing watershed conservation practices that reduce sediment and nutrient pollution.

Projects are evaluated in context of whether the **root causes of brook trout decline have been or will be addressed as a first step**, and if available physical and biological data have been considered. Additionally, efforts to maintain or improve public access, educate the public and other stakeholders about the conservation actions, and monitor project outcomes should ideally be included as components of a successful project (but are not eligible as a stand alone project).

Proposals MUST show

- pertinent sponsor experience and project management
- ecological benefits
- measurable goals and objectives
- appropriate monitoring and evaluation plan
- how project will address at least one EBTJV objective; and
- 1:1 nonfederal match

Coordination with your state representative is meant to help you with ensuring your project is a good fit for EBTJV funding. More details can be seen in the RFP and EBTJV's Project Scoring Criteria. Past funded projects are highlighted on our website.

The **deadline** for submitting your Brook Trout conservation project proposal is **5:00 pm (Eastern Time) on February 9, 2024, via the EBTJV website**.

Thank you for your work. The EBTJV review team looks forward to your application.

Lori Maloney, EBTJV Coordinator

Email me here! Learning about your projects is a highlight of my position.

https://easternbrooktrout.org

The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture (EBTJV) is a geographically focused, locally driven and scientifically based effort to protect, restore and enhance aquatic habitat throughout the brook trout's Eastern US native range.

Our mission is to secure resilient populations of wild Brook Trout by protecting, enhancing, and restoring aquatic habitat and increasing human connections to, and stewardship of, our natural environment.



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