



CLEAN WATER HEALTHY FISH THRIVING COMMUNITIES

At Trout Unlimited, “infrastructure” means fixing rivers.

Thanks to more than \$230 million in federal investments, we are scaling up our efforts to restore rivers and streams, recover fisheries, and make communities healthier and economically stronger.

We are restoring and reconnecting rivers on national forests, Bureau of Land Management holdings and other key landscapes alongside the Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA, the Bureau of Reclamation, and our partners – from tribes, farmers, ranchers and landowners to local communities, state and local governments, and conservation allies.

Our approach translates into cleaner water, healthier fisheries, and thriving local economies. We help towns recover from wildfires and floods. We help farmers improve operations and look after rivers running across their land. This work creates family-wage jobs for our restoration crews and the local contractors who work with us, many of them in rural communities.

With these historic investments in conservation, we are working at a scale that matches the challenges America’s rivers, fisheries and communities face.

TROUT UNLIMITED PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS: UTAH

WEBER RIVER ECOLOGICAL RESILIENCE:

While TU has long been focused on the Weber River, \$1.8 million in federal funding is allowing us to ramp up our efforts to a scale not seen before in this watershed. TU, our partners, and more than 100 volunteers will construct up to 2,000 man-made beaver dams across 9 miles of the headwaters of the Upper Weber River by 2025.

The Bonneville cutthroat trout, which is Utah's state fish and calls the Weber home, is a natural beneficiary of the effort to restore the Weber in the face of increasingly hotter and drier summers across the West. The wetlands created by these structures can also act as natural fire breaks and harbor trout during wildfires. By modernizing irrigation diversions, reconnecting key habitats, and improving floodplains, the Weber should also become more drought resilient and offer local wildlife a more sustainable environment as well.

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BEAR RIVER RESTORATION:

For more than two decades, TU's on-the-ground staff have been offering win-win solutions to the dueling needs of fish and people on the Bear. With private, state and federal funding—including recent critical investments from the Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service—TU and partners have completed over 100 projects that have reconnected, restored and rebuilt hundreds of miles on the Bear River and its tributaries.

This work often makes life easier, more economical, and healthier for ranchers and local communities. Rather than drawing untreated drinking water from an abandoned diversion, residents have newly drilled wells and a healthy, free-flowing river. Instead of building river-wide diversion dams every season with heavy machinery, ranchers may need only to open their headgate to access water or turn on new center-pivot sprinklers.

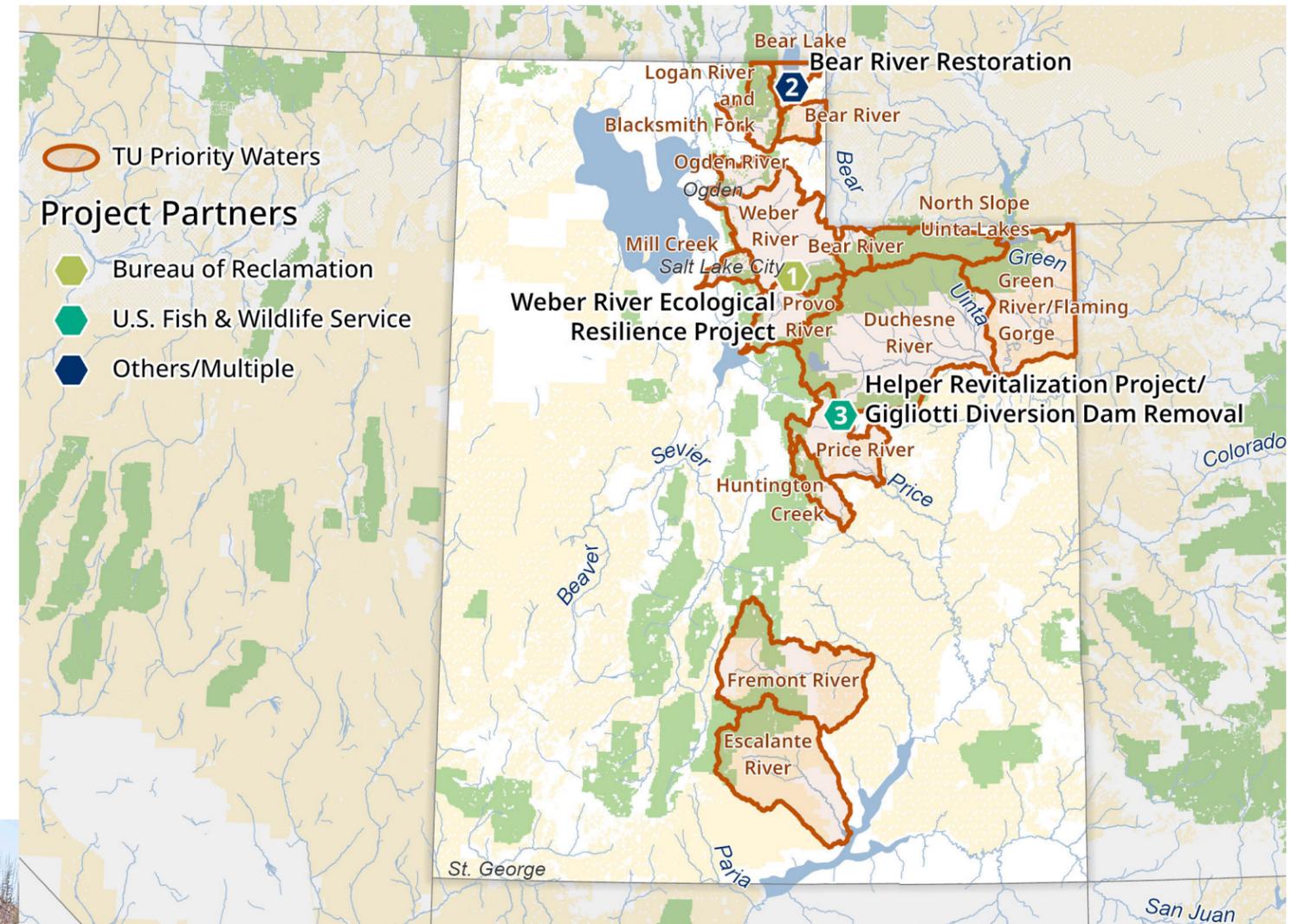
HELPER REVITALIZATION PROJECT/GIGLIOTTI DIVERSION DAM REMOVAL:

Helper City, Utah, is an old rail and mining town making a transition to an economy built around tourism and recreation. The centerpiece of that is the Price River, which flows through town. Dammed for more than a century, the river now flows free for six miles for fish, anglers, and river floaters thanks to key federal funding and a decade of work by Trout Unlimited and partners culminating in the removal of Gigliotti Dam and the \$3.5 million Helper Revitalization Project in 2023.

The work opened healthy habitat for priority species such as the Colorado cutthroat trout and bluehead sucker, boosted the local economy by creating dozens of family-wage jobs.

"We are so excited that these important projects were selected for funding through the Bureau of Reclamation B2E program. Investing in the continued maintenance and improvement of habitat is crucial for the health of Utah's fish and wildlife species, so we are grateful to our many partners, including Trout Unlimited, who partnered with us on these grant applications and will assist with the upcoming projects."

*UTDWR habitat conservation coordinator
Daniel Eddington*



"A project of this scale (Helper Revitalization Project/Gigliotti Diversion Dam Removal) can only happen with significant federal and state investments. The restoration of the Price River was possible because of a \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service funded by the federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. This grant, along with funding from the Utah Division of Outdoor Recreation and the Utah Watershed Restoration Initiative, have dramatically improved both the health of the river and the local community."

Mayor Lenise Peterman of Helper, Utah, on the Gigliotti dam removal



Trout Unlimited's Priority Waters are the 200+ rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds where we are directing our energies to care for and recover wild and native trout and salmon watersheds. Rooted in science and developed in collaboration with our supporters and trusted partners, these shared Priority Waters are the foundation of an ambitious strategic roadmap.



PARTNERSHIPS THAT WORK

Forest Service: We are working on a \$40 million, five-year initiative that is increasing the pace and scale of watershed restoration on national forests, including the Unita-Wasatch-Cache National Forest and Ashley National Forest in Utah. These forests are home to many of America's most important trout species, including the Bear River cutthroat trout, Bonneville cutthroat trout, Yellowstone cutthroat trout, and Colorado River cutthroat trout.

BLM: In the Colorado River, California-Great Basin, and Columbia-Pacific Northwest, we are making watersheds more resilient to drought.

Fish and Wildlife Service: In every corner of trout and salmon country, we work with the National Fish Passage Program to reconnect streams and reduce flood risks.

NOAA: The long-running fish passage program at NOAA Fisheries supports our work to restore trout, salmon and steelhead populations across the country, including addressing barriers in Utah.

Bureau of Reclamation: WaterSMART funds allow TU to improve fish passage, water quality and aquatic habitat in many states across the West, including Utah, Montana, Idaho, Wyoming and Colorado.

Natural Resources Conservation Service: By providing technical assistance to the NRCS, TU helps landowners identify and prioritize critical conservation needs that can be addressed through several programs that engage landowners as investment partners.

“Our partnership is not just about cleaning a stream or increasing fish populations. It’s life-sustaining work that is as vital to aquatic species as it is to people and communities. When our natural resources are healthy, we are healthy as a nation and as individuals.”

*– Randy Moore, chief of the U.S. Forest Service,
on its TU partnership*