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Driftless Area Restoration Effort

Fish Habitat Partnership

Driftless Area Restoration Effort Partners

Trout Unlimited is working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, Natural Resource Conservation Service and other federal agencies, Department of Natural Resources from Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Illinois, Resource Conservation and Development Councils, Land and Water Conservation Departments, The Nature Conservancy and other conservation organizations, local angling groups, academic institutions, foundations, private landowners, tribal communities, local businesses, and industry.

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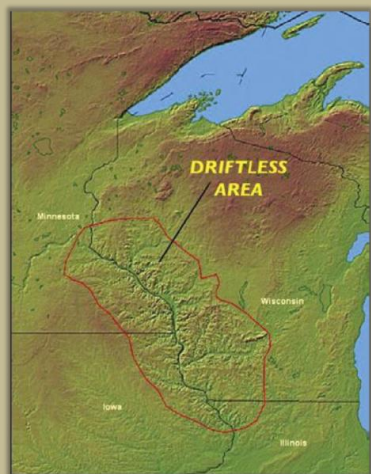


A Landscape of Opportunity

WHO WE ARE

The Driftless Area Restoration Effort (DARE), coordinated by Trout Unlimited, is a geographically-focused, scientifically based, broad partnership operating in support of the National Fish Habitat Partnership to improve rivers and streams throughout the Driftless Area region.

The partnership was formed to jointly address the issues of habitat loss, degradation, fragmentation and alteration of cold, cool and warm water rivers and streams in the Driftless Area of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois.



WHAT WE DO

- Promote collaboration in watershed and project planning.
- Promote monitoring and evaluation of conservation actions.
- Foster new public-private relationships and strengthen existing ones.
- Implement on-the-ground riparian and stream enhancement and restoration activities.

- Promote climate change studies and research.
- Support goals of the National Fish Habitat Partnership.
- Support national efforts to secure long-term funding.
- Provide a forum to share information and network with Driftless Area partners.

DARE GOALS

- *Reduce sediment and nutrient inputs to Driftless Area rivers and streams.*
- *Conserve and restore habitats that increase the natural abundance, diversity and health of fish and other aquatic life through landscape-scale community restoration and land protection efforts.*
- *Increase the quantity and quality of angling and other recreational opportunities.*
- *Increase public awareness about Driftless Area resources and the importance of aquatic conservation and restoration through outreach and education.*

Healthy streams,

diverse aquatic life,

happy people



DARE PRIORITIES

Priority: Link upland and riparian conservation efforts with in-stream enhancements and restoration activities.

- Work with farmers to improve land management practices while improving water and habitat quality for fish and other aquatic life.

Priority: Protect, maintain, and expand self-sustaining trout and smallmouth bass populations.

Priority: Increase abundance of non-game fish and herptile species.

- Improve quality of habitat for sculpin, daces, darters, frogs, turtles and snakes.

Priority: Monitor and evaluate projects.

- Provide feedback on the effectiveness of conservation actions and share information.

Priority: Recreational use.

- Increase angling and other recreational opportunities and experiences.

Priority: Aquatic invasive species.

- Prevent, control and reduce the spread of aquatic invasive species.

Priority: Communication, outreach & education.

- Communicate partnership activities through brochures, outreach events, newsletters, web pages, local media and other avenues.

DARE Mission

Working together to protect, restore and enhance cold, cool and warm water streams for fish and other aquatic life in the Driftless Area region for future generations.