



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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Today we celebrate our shared commitment to our fish and wildlife resources in Maine. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is proud to be part of this historic partnership to restore sea-run fish to the Penobscot River basin, New England's second largest watershed. The Penobscot River restoration is unprecedented in its scale and success in balancing natural resource conservation goals, energy production, and economic interests. Nearly 1,000 miles of river habitat will open up for Atlantic salmon and other fish, including sturgeon and striped bass. Habitat restoration will be good for many other species, including bald eagles, ospreys, and other fish-eating birds.

Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne has honored 28 individuals and 15 organizations with the 2008 Cooperative Conservation Award commemorating their work with the Penobscot River Restoration Project to advance this important environmental accomplishment. This award signifies the importance we place on working together and underscores our belief that our accomplishments in working cooperatively surpass what we can do individually.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with the hydropower industry, State and Federal government agencies, as well as the Penobscot Indian Nation and conservation organizations that are part of the Penobscot River Restoration Trust.