

Alta Harris Creek Restoration



Alta Harris Creek restoration began in 2005 and involved over 450 volunteers. Now there is a mile-long channel planted with willows, cottonwoods, sedges, and rushes. Photos over time on Trout Unlimited's web site show how the stream has taken shape as water infiltrated the channel. For more on this project and photos taken from 2005-2008, see <http://tedtruebloodtu.org/harrisranch.htm>

The Alta Harris Creek side channel project restores spawning, rearing, and over-wintering fish habitat by reconnecting the Boise River and Barber Pool, providing a steady flow of water between the two.

Project partners were Trout Unlimited, Harris Ranch, Idaho Fish and Game, the Land Trust of the Treasure Valley, and the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The Bureau of Reclamation was involved in the design and construction of the side channel. The creek is part of a 20-acre natural riverfront area under a Harris Ranch conservation easement.

Lessons learned from this project have been transferred to additional (smaller-scale) side channel and riparian/wetland habitat projects at downstream areas to restore habitat and connectivity along the Boise River.



Photo: Ted Trueblood Chapter, Trout Unlimited



Photo: Darryl Kuhrt, Ted Trueblood Chapter, Trout Unlimited