

GEORGIA PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

ACFHP works to restore and conserve fish habitat in GA and along the Atlantic Coast.

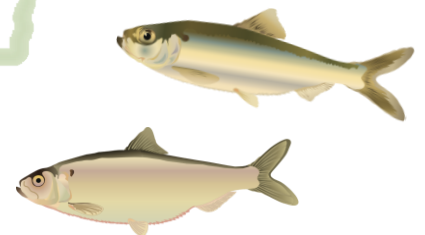


BACK RIVER BRIDGE OYSTER RESTORATION PROJECT - **ENDORSED**

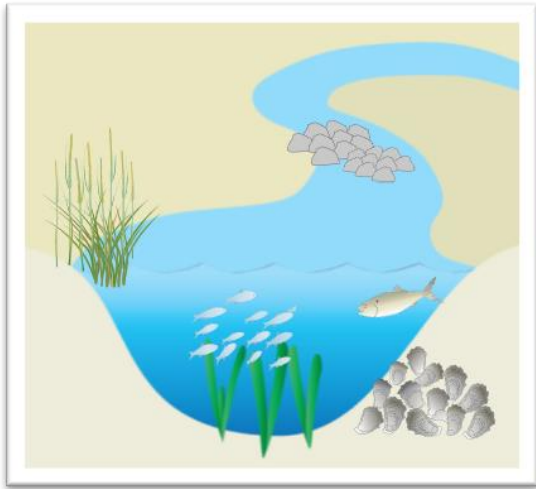
PROBLEM: In Georgia, estuarine waters have an ample supply of young oysters, but not enough hard substrate for them to attach and grow. Keeping hard substrate exposed for attachment is challenging due to the state's extreme tidal amplitude and tremendous sediment input from river systems.

ENHANCE: Low relief cultch materials were deployed which mimic natural shorelines to promote oyster spat recruitment. Oysters serve as natural breakwaters to protect the coast from erosion, improve water quality, and are a keystone species responsible for providing habitat for many fishes and invertebrates throughout different stages in their life cycle. This project will increase recreational fishing opportunities, stabilize shorelines, engage citizens, and support state and regional partnerships. The Back River Bridge oyster restoration project will create Essential Fish Habitat for species such as red drum, spotted sea trout, and sheepshead.

PROJECT LED BY: Georgia Department of Natural Resources, in partnership with the Coastal Conservation Association of Georgia



ACFHP's PRIORITY HABITATS IN GA



Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

Tidal Vegetation

Riverine Bottom

Marine and Estuarine Shellfish Beds

ACFHP's GEORGIA PARTNERS

Lisa Havel, ACFHP

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science for a changing world

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GEORGIA
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION

U.S. FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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