

Habitat Enhancement



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The Duck Valley Indian Reservations Habitat Enhancement program is an ongoing project designed to enhance and protect critical riparian areas, natural springs, the Owyhee River and its tributaries, Bruneau River tributaries, native fish and wildlife habitat on the Reservation. The Habitat Enhancement and Protection Program(HEPP) was developed and implemented in 1997 in response to concerns about the impacts of the land use practices on fish and wildlife habitat. The project is designed to mitigate these impacts by enhancing and protecting critical riparian areas. These areas are enhanced by improving adjacent backcountry roads to reduce non-point source pollution, fencing and trough placement at natural springs and headwaters areas, restoring and protection the Owyhee River, its tributaries, wetland areas, and overall protection of native fish and wildlife habitat on the Duck Valley Indian Reservation (DVIR).

Staffing

- Fish Wildlife & Parks Dept. Director
- Habitat Project Manager
- Range Tech
- Laborer
- 2-4 Summer Youth Employees

Jinwon Seo

Chris Cleveland

Jesse Thomas

Clifford Sope

Some of our Projects

**Klein Kelly Summer Youth Worker
Doing repairs on fence**



**Summer Youth Workers
Doing Repairs on troughs**



Installing Trough



Summer School Students

Summer School Kids doing water quality at N Fork Skull Crk



Took Summer School kids out to our Solar Trough N Fork Skull Crk



Replacing trough

Replacing trough at Cold Springs



Put in new aluminum Trough at Cold Springs



Relocating Beavers



2 live trapped beavers



Two 4th graders sharing information on beavers



Future for Habitat

- Continue to work with and educate our youth in the community.
- Implement our projects at hand, and come up with new techniques to enhance our habitat.
- Work with conservations partners to improve our fish, and wildlife habitat.

Blue Creek Wetland Bird Monitoring

- Bird use of wetland area mostly not documented
- Ibis colony: nest timing and habitat requirements in anticipation of water use changes



Bird Monitoring Around Wetland

- Point Counts
- Secretive Marsh Bird Surveys



Ibis Colony Monitoring

- Observations and trail cameras
- Habitat/water requirements



Foraging in Agricultural Fields

- Surveys for ibis and other wetland birds using agricultural fields



Future Work

- Fall migration surveys
- Continue bird monitoring every year if possible
- Give wildlife managers best recommendations for continued bird use with changing water use