

Managing Resources: The Re-Wilding of Bowens Creek

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<http://naturechange.org/2016/01/10/bowens-creek-restoration/>

The Conservation Resource Alliance (CRA) began a project to restore the aquatic habitat of Bowens Creek in 2010 under a partnership with Ducks Unlimited and Grand Traverse Regional Land Conservancy. Once a cold water trout stream, the creek had been directed into a ditch along an old railroad grade cutting through Arcadia Marsh, destroying any useful habitat.

In this video, CRA's Nate Winkler describes how the stream was re-routed back into its original channel and given the woody structure needed for the restoration of habitat. Today, the stream runs cool again and supports a diversity of life, from the smallest plants and algae at the bottom of the food chain to the bugs or macroinvertebrates that feed the returning trout.

Topics Covered

Stream Ecology; Biology; Water Quality; Fish; History; Habitat

Next Generation Science Standards

- 2-LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.
- 3-LS4-3. Construct an argument with evidence that in a particular habitat some organisms can survive well, some survive less well, and some cannot survive at all.
- MS-LS1-5. Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for how environmental and genetic factors influence the growth of organisms.
- MS-ESS3-3. Apply scientific principles to design a method for monitoring and minimizing a human impact on the environment.
- HS-LS2-6. Evaluate the claims, evidence, and reasoning that the complex interactions in ecosystems maintain relatively consistent numbers and types of organisms in stable conditions, but changing conditions may result in a new ecosystem.
- HS-LS2-7. Design, evaluate, and refine a solution for reducing the impacts of human activities on the environment and biodiversity.
- HS-LS4-6. Create or revise a simulation to test a solution to mitigate adverse impacts of human activity on biodiversity.