

Coldwater Heritage Partnership Final Report

Year: 2021
Grant Round: 26

Organization: Trout Unlimited

Stream Name: Beaverdam Run

Project Title: Beaverdam Run Habitat Improvement and Sediment Reduction Phase III

Grant expenditures: Grant Funds: \$8,000 Cash Match: \$174.00 In-Kind Match: \$19,100.00

Project Summary:

TU staff provided construction oversight for the installation of structures on September 27-29, 2021 (see attached asbuilt documentation). The installed devices included 58 “Chop and Drop” and 16 “Toe Wood” Large Wood Additions. The devices were installed strategically to maintain the thalweg in the center of the channel and increase toe stability of actively eroding banks. Additional benefits of this project include increased overhead cover, complex woody material, and additional pool habitat. Together the devices stabilized approximately 4.57 miles of Beaverdam Run, eliminating approximately 10,920 pounds of sediment a year. Further benefits of this project include increased overhead cover, complex woody material, and additional pool habitat. A contractor was hired by TU to complete the machine work and DCNR and TU staff provided sawyers to fell the trees.

Project Outcomes:

The specific goals and objectives of the project were to improve habitat and stabilize actively eroding streambanks along 4.5mi of Beaverdam Run. The initial project design included the installation of 158 PFBC-approved instream fish habitat structures (approximate spacing of 150ft) reducing approximately 13,180lbs/year of sediment from entering Beaverdam Run. TU encountered more naturally occurring large wood jams than expected when constructing this project. The average spacing was increased to approximately 250ft. Additionally, spacing was increased to approximately 500ft in the section above Austin Hollow to reduce threat to DCNR infrastructure. In sum a total of 74 structures were installed in the 4.57mi treatment reach reducing a total of 10,920lbs of annual sediment contribution. While the total number of structures installed was less than planned, the original objectives of this project have been achieved. The attached final report prepared under Trout Unlimited’s Nonpoint Source Technical Assistance program details these outcomes.

Project Sustainability / Next Steps:

In the long-term, this project is expected to need little to no maintenance. Monitoring will occur on at least a yearly basis and following extreme storm events that could damage the project structures. If maintenance needs are identified, TU will work with Kettle Creek Watershed Association and other partners to address the problems.

Partners and Volunteers:

This project was completed with support from Kettle Creek Watershed Association, Clinton County Conservation District, and DCNR Bureau of Forestry. DCNR provided staff support during the installation of chop and drop enhancement structures. No volunteer support was used due to the nature of construction and the Covid19 pandemic.