

Beyond the Pond Update

NFHP Board Meeting



September 18, 2025

New Board of Directors

- New Board of Directors met for the first time on July 31, 2025
- Officers elected
 - Julie Carter, Arizona Game & Fish Dept./National Fish Habitat Board (Chair)
 - Jesse Trushenski, Riverence/National Fish Habitat Board (Vice-Chair)
 - Daniel Wagner, First Commonwealth Bank (Treasurer)
 - Debbie Hart Pederson, Coordinator/SE AK Fish Habitat Partnership (Secretary)
 - Carter Kruse, Turner Conservation Trust/National Fish Habitat Board
 - Jake Slager, The Coca-Cola Company/National Fish Habitat Board
- NFHP Board Members – terms on BtP Board match NFHP Board terms

Work Underway

- Therese Thompson on contract through December 2026
- 2024 IRS 990 tax return completed and submitted
- Full review of accounting and funds classification
 - Goal is to report funds balance to FHPs by December
- Moved our banking to First Commonwealth Bank with active relationship manager and ability to earn interest on our funds
- Reviewing Beyond the Pond Bylaws
- Administration – implementing planning and operational systems to enhance Board oversight
 - Policies/procedures in place for grant processing, approving invoices, banking, etc.
- Still need two additional Board members to get to BtP Bylaws' required minimum of 8
 - A list of potential Board members is being vetted
 - Ready for NFHP Board approval on Nov 18?



2025 Outdoor Fund Grant

- Beyond the Pond was awarded a \$500,000 grant from Bass Pro Shops Outdoor Fund in July 2025
- 9 projects prioritized for funding by Reservoir FHP - Reservoir FHP will decide how to allocate the funds
- Requested \$50,000 for BtP indirect(10%), including \$3,500 for video highlighting project accomplishments
- Bass Pro Shops priority is still reservoirs



2025 Outdoor Fund Grant

Project Name	State	Funding amount	Partner
Upper Bull Shoals Lake Habitat Improvement Project	AR/MO	75,000	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
East Lynn Lake Habitat Development Program	WV	33,697	USACE
East Branch Clarion River Lake Multi-Purpose Pier	PA	75,000	East Branch Fish Friends
Mark Twain Lake Fisheries Enhancement Development Project	MO	66,000	USACE
Lake Brownwood Fish Habitat Enhancement Project	TX	40,000	Texas Parks and Wildlife
Lake Hartwell Fish Habitat Enhancement Project	SC	75,000	South Carolina DNR
Rock Lake Habitat Enhancement	WY	40,000	The WYldlife Fund
Canyon Lake Habitat Enhancement	AZ	30,000	Arizona Game and Fish Dept.
Habitat Renovations at Chickamauga Reservoir	TN	75,000	Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency

First Process to Develop:

Guidance for Using Beyond the Pond as Fiscal Agent

- Create process for FHPs/NFHP Board to request BtP grant or sponsorship assistance
- Provide BtP Board enough info to assess capacity
- Use form for real-time Q&A on requests
- Track and report requests annually to NFHP Board
- Draft completed; review by Partnerships Committee Oct 8

Thank you, Ryan!

- The Beyond the Pond Board of Directors wants to acknowledge and thank Ryan Roberts for all he has done the past 10 years to support the organization
- We are hoping to have Ryan continue to support communications and coordination with the NFHP Communications Committee for the NFHP anniversary in 2026



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<http://fishhabitat.org>



<http://beyondthepondusa.com>

