

# Handshake Grants

**Chad Eller**

Park Ranger

W. Kerr Scott Reservoir

March 18, 2010



US Army Corps of Engineers  
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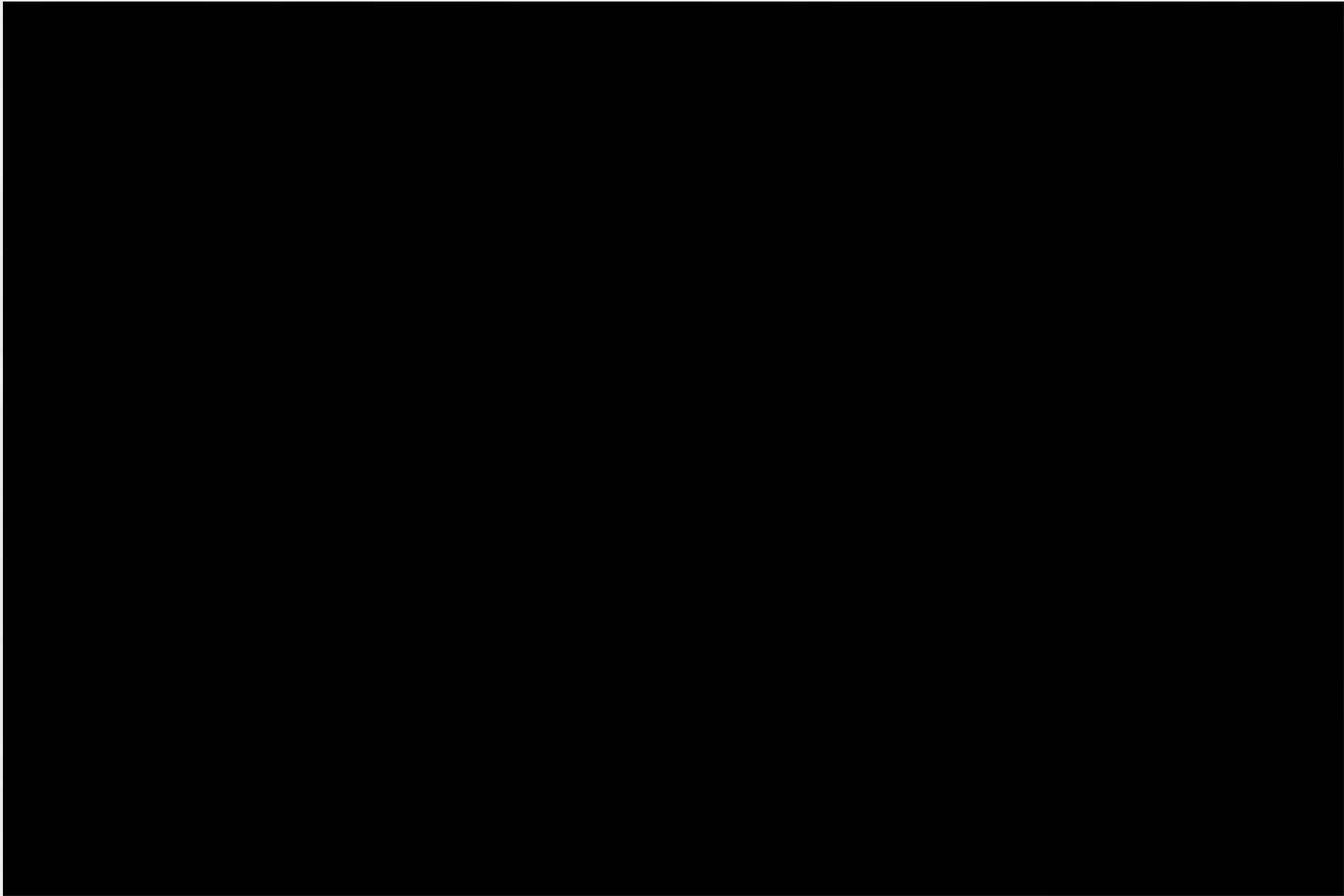


# Fish Dam Creek Bridge 2005



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# Partnering Agencies



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# Fish Dam Creek Bridge

## Objectives

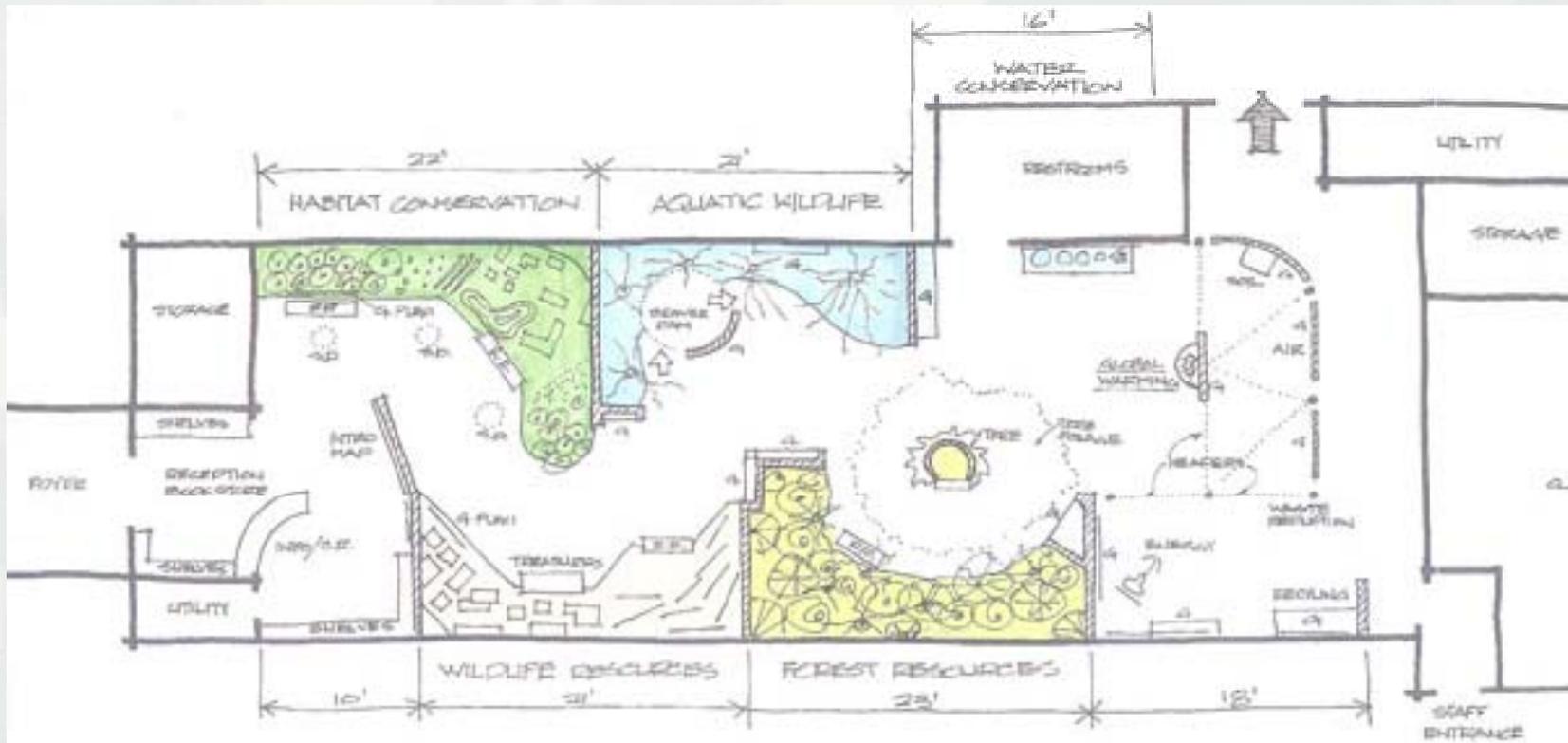
- **Cultural - an important aspect of local OVT history**
- **Environmental – a resource for educators to teach ecology and observe local flora and fauna**
- **Recreational – a connector between 3 trail systems for hikers and bikers to use**



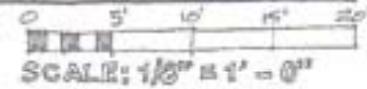
# Environmental Education Center



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**W. KERR SCOTT LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER**  
**CONCEPTUAL EXHIBIT PLAN**



LEGEND

XXXX	-
EP	-
G	-
SP	-
...	-



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# Environmental Ed. Center

- 1<sup>st</sup> handshake grant in 2007 to perform groundbreaking
- 2<sup>nd</sup> handshake grant in 2009 to create exhibits



# Partnering Agencies



**FRIENDS OF**  
**W. KERR SCOTT LAKE**

499 Reservoir Road • Wilkesboro, NC 28697 (336) 921-3390



**Let's Build Something Together™**



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# HABITAT CONSERVATION

## NATURAL FORESTS

Long ago settlers in this area discovered expansive areas of natural forest full of wildlife. Today most of the natural forests and many of the animals are gone. However, W. Kerr Scott Reservoir's forest management policies help protect some of the remaining forest by managing 2,279 acres of mature trees, standing snags, downed logs, and fruit and mast producing plants. Some of the animals that live in our forest require undisturbed forest to live include the black bear, bobcat, wild turkey, fox, deer and hundreds of other species of small mammals, birds, reptiles and insects.

Natural Forests in this area are thriving habitats for a wide variety of flora and fauna. Trees, plants and native wildflowers are an important source of nutrition in the ecosystem. Insects such as butterflies and bees are dependent on a large plant diversity to complete their lifecycle. Herbivorous mammals, such as deer, also depend on many different types of plants due to the changing seasons.

### UNDISTURBED FOREST

### DISTURBED FOREST

### WILDLIFE



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# WILDLIFE RESOURCES



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Animals as "nature's engineers" can alter natural habitats and significantly affect ecological processes. Flooding caused by beaver dams provides riparian areas for land animals and increases the biological diversity of the area. It can also recharge ground water reserves. The dams trap sediments in the water, turning rushing rivers into peaceful wetlands. When the dams break the sediment stays and rich meadows are formed.

Wetlands are also important for freshwater fish, because many of these species require the shallow water for breeding sites. The relatively thick vegetation associated with shallow wetlands provides protection for smaller fish against predatory fish like bass. Highly fertile wetlands can produce up to 300 pounds of fish per acre.

**NORTH AMERICAN BEAVER**  
The North American beaver (Castor canadensis) is a semi-aquatic rodent. It is known for its ability to build dams and lodges. The beaver's dam is a complex structure made of sticks, branches, and mud. The lodge is a dome-shaped structure made of sticks and mud. The beaver's dam and lodge are built in a stream or river. The beaver's dam and lodge are built in a stream or river. The beaver's dam and lodge are built in a stream or river.

David Willard  
May 22, 2010



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## ANATOMY OF A TREE



## NATIVE TREES OF THE BLUE RIDGE

**AMERICAN BEECH**

**FLOWERING DOGWOOD**

**SHORTLEAF PINE**

**PIGNUT HICKORY**

**WHITE OAK**

**SOURWOOD**

**COMMON PERSIMMON**

**GREEN ASH**

**CHESTNUT OAK**

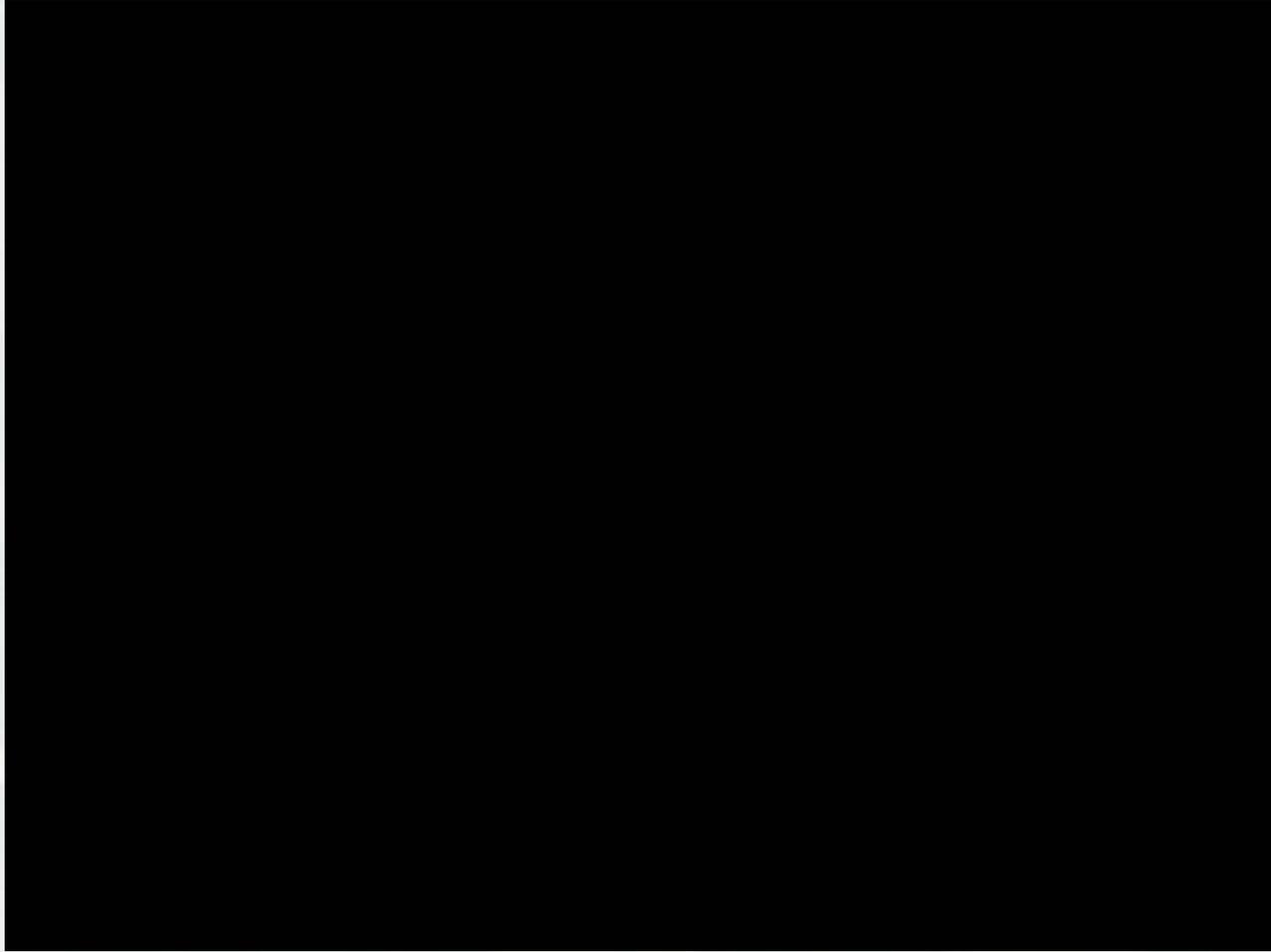
■ ACORN & NUT TREES  
 ■ COMMON TREES  
 ■ FRUIT & SEED TREES  
 ■ SCALE TREES



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