

LKG Habitat Enhancement Project Summary for 2025

The following is a summary of the 2025 LKG Habitat Enhancement Project.

Participants: LGA Volunteers, NCSU, NC WRC, VA DWR

Date: June 24, 2025

On June 3, 2025 a survey of planned work for habitat enhancement on LKG was completed. The survey showed the 14 habitat enhancement locations on the lake to be in good condition, including the cages and native vegetation plants. The following locations were identified as recommended 2025 work locations:

- Great Creek cage removal
- East arm of Poplar Creek additional plantings (no cages)
- Stillhouse Creek additional plantings inside cages

On June 24, 2025 a total of 14 LGA volunteers, along with staff from NCSU, NCWRC and VADEQ personnel in 5 boats launched from the Great Creek Community Boat Launch Poplar Creek Boat Launch at approximately 9:00am.

Four boats proceeded to upper Great Creek. At this location, two work crews worked to remove 3 cage enclosures as the native vegetation in the area has taken hold to the point that the enclosures no longer serve a useful purpose. Cages #1 and #2 were removed by one crew while another crew removed cage #3. The cages were disassembled and the posts and fence material were taken away for proper disposal. Approximately 450 feet of fence material and 75 fence posts were removed. These work crews returned to the boat launch at approximately 12:00pm where they proceeded to conduct cleanup and recovery operations.

A third work crew collected plants from Great Creek and upper Poplar West and planted them in the east arm of upper Poplar Creek. Rooted floating leaf plants like white water lily, spatterdock and maybe watershield appeared to be growing sparsely along the shoreline throughout the cove. It may not be necessary to replant this cove in the future. The crew then returned to the boat launch for cleanup and recovery operations.

All participants ate pizza for lunch and had drinks provided by the LGWCC. The work crews departed the boat launch at approximately 2:30pm.

The following table outlines the work hours executed supporting the project:

Organization	Survey Hrs	# of Staff	Work Hours	Pre/Post Hours	Travel Hours	Total Hours	Value
LGA	16	14	84	30	10	140	\$4621.40
NCSU	8	7	42	20	14	84	N/A
NC WRC	10	6	36	20	20	86	N/A
VA DWR	0	1	6	0	2	8	N/A

LGA Volunteer hours value was calculated at \$33.01/hour (per Independent Sector data at <https://independentsector.org/resource/value-of-volunteer-time>).

Pictures from project:



