

What is Good Salmon Habitat?

Different life stages for Atlantic salmon require different habitats.

Spawning Habitat

Salmon spawn in sections of the river where there are clean, sediment-free gravels. Adults usually spawn in the tails of pools. If sand or silt clogs spawning gravels, salmon eggs may be suffocated or fry trapped in the gravels. Well-aerated water should pass through spawning beds to provide oxygen and remove wastes.



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Rearing Habitat

Riffle structure provides a combination of gravel, rocks and boulders that make good juvenile Atlantic salmon habitat after they emerge from the redd. Juveniles are very territorial and minimize energy by hiding among rocks and darting into swifter currents to feed.



Shared Streams is a national riparian conservation program of the American Forest Foundation