

REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Annual Report For July 1, 2006 - June 30, 2007



"DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY-BASED SALMON ENHANCEMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE"



Photo by Cheri Scalf - WDFW

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“DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY-BASED SALMON ENHANCEMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE”

The Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups are a statewide network of non-profit community-based salmon enhancement organizations. In 1990, the Washington State Legislature created the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Program to involve local communities, citizen volunteers and landowners in the state's salmon recovery efforts.

The 14 Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups (RFEGs) share the unique role of involving communities in salmon enhancement activities across the state. The RFEGs have a common goal of enhancing salmonid populations and habitat in their regions and leveraging contributions and support from local communities. The RFEGs create dynamic partnerships with local, state and federal agencies, Native American tribes, local businesses, citizen groups and landowners. Through these collaborative efforts RFEGs help lead their communities in successful enhancement, restoration, assessment, education and monitoring projects.

Each RFEG works within a specific geographic region based generally on watershed boundaries (see map on page 10). Every group is a separate, non-profit organization led by their own board of directors and supported by their members. The RFEG Advisory Board, made up of citizens appointed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Director, advocates for and helps coordinate the efforts of the RFEG Program.

Individual donations and in-kind contributions from local community members and businesses are essential to the success of each RFEG. While partial funding for the RFEG Program comes from a portion of commercial and recreational fishing license fees and egg and carcass sales administered by the WDFW. Individual RFEGs also obtain many grants from other government and private entities. In recent years the RFEG Program has successfully worked with U.S. Representatives and Senators to secure funding from the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

During the 2006-2007 fiscal year, the RFEGs collectively completed 234 projects ranging from education and outreach to monitoring and, of course, on the ground salmon enhancement projects. RFEG volunteers donated over 83,000 hours to these salmon enhancement efforts in 2006-07. Half of the RFEGs participated in fish production projects, releasing 2.6 million fish into local watersheds. 63 fish passage improvement projects opened 88 miles of habitat for migrating salmon. 13 miles of habitat was enhanced and restored for salmonids and 40,000 salmon carcasses were returned to streams to add nutrients to local watersheds for juvenile salmon, bears, eagles and over 130 other species of wildlife.

Over a 12-year history, these accomplishments add up to:

- » 2,600 total salmon projects;
- » 885,000 volunteer hours;
- » 61.5 million salmon released into Washington waters;
- » 600 fish passage problems fixed;
- » 650 miles of fish habitat opened;
- » 400 additional miles of habitat restored;
- » 671,000 fish carcasses placed back in streams for nutrient enhancement;
- » \$87.5 million in additional leveraged funding for salmon restoration efforts.

The RFEG program makes a special contribution to Washington's salmon recovery efforts by:

- » leveraging local and private money;
- » promoting stewardship through volunteer involvement;
- » working cooperatively with diverse interest groups; and,
- » building on each year's successes.

In addition to on-the-ground habitat restoration, outreach and education, Washington's Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups (RFEGs) regularly implement scientific monitoring programs to assess salmon populations, salmon habitat, and salmon habitat restoration projects.

RFEGs use scientific protocols to measure project effectiveness, to quantify salmon populations, assess long-term impacts of projects, and analyze cost effectiveness of projects and progress.

Scientific monitoring activities currently performed by RFEGs include:

- » spawning ground surveys
- » habitat assessments
- » adult and juvenile fish counts
- » macro invertebrate surveys
- » nutrient enhancement monitoring
- » pre- and post project vegetation monitoring for riparian planting projects
- » water quality data collection and analysis
- » effectiveness of large woody debris placement and in-stream projects
- » nearshore habitat monitoring

RFEGs utilize staff, interns, volunteers, and contractors, in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and other agencies, to implement scientific monitoring protocols, projects, and programs.

The monitoring activities of each RFEG are presented within their respective RFEG section in this report.

MISSION

The Board acts in an advisory capacity to the department in setting operational and financial policies to promote and support the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Program.

OVERVIEW

The RFEG Advisory Board is made up of nine members. The Director of the Department of Fish and Wildlife appoints seven members, of which two represent commercial fishing interests, two represent recreational fishing interests, and three are at-large positions. At least two of the advisory board members are required to be members of a regional fisheries enhancement group. The two tribal fisheries commissions also may each nominate one board member.

The Board, at its quarterly public meetings, reviews RFEG project proposals and makes recommendations to the director for funding approval. The Board operates under a committee structure with representatives from the RFEGs and board members. These committees are:

- 1) Administration & Finance
- 2) Project Review
- 3) RFEG Representative

BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Ancich - Commercial Fishing Interest - Fircrest, WA

Vince Hoiby - Commercial Fishing Interests - Everett, WA

Brian Johnson - Recreational Fishing Interest - South Prairie, WA

David Ladd - Recreational Fishing Interest - Redmond, WA

Jeanne Robinson - At-Large Position - Shelton, WA

David Mills - At-Large Position - Bremerton, WA

Gene Jenkins - At-Large Position - Selah, WA

Terry Wright - Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission - Olympia, WA

Vacant Position - Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission - Portland, OR

MISSION

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) provides financial and technical resources to the RFEGs to engage citizens and their communities in salmon recovery.

OVERVIEW

The Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups provide grassroots salmon recovery efforts. These efforts include conducting outreach and education, maintaining relationships with citizens and landowners, and building local support for salmon recovery. The groups are also invaluable project sponsors, working with landowners, volunteers, and local contractors to complete on-the-ground restoration and enhancement projects. Much of the progress and success in salmon recovery is due to local citizen-driven actions such as those conducted by the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups.

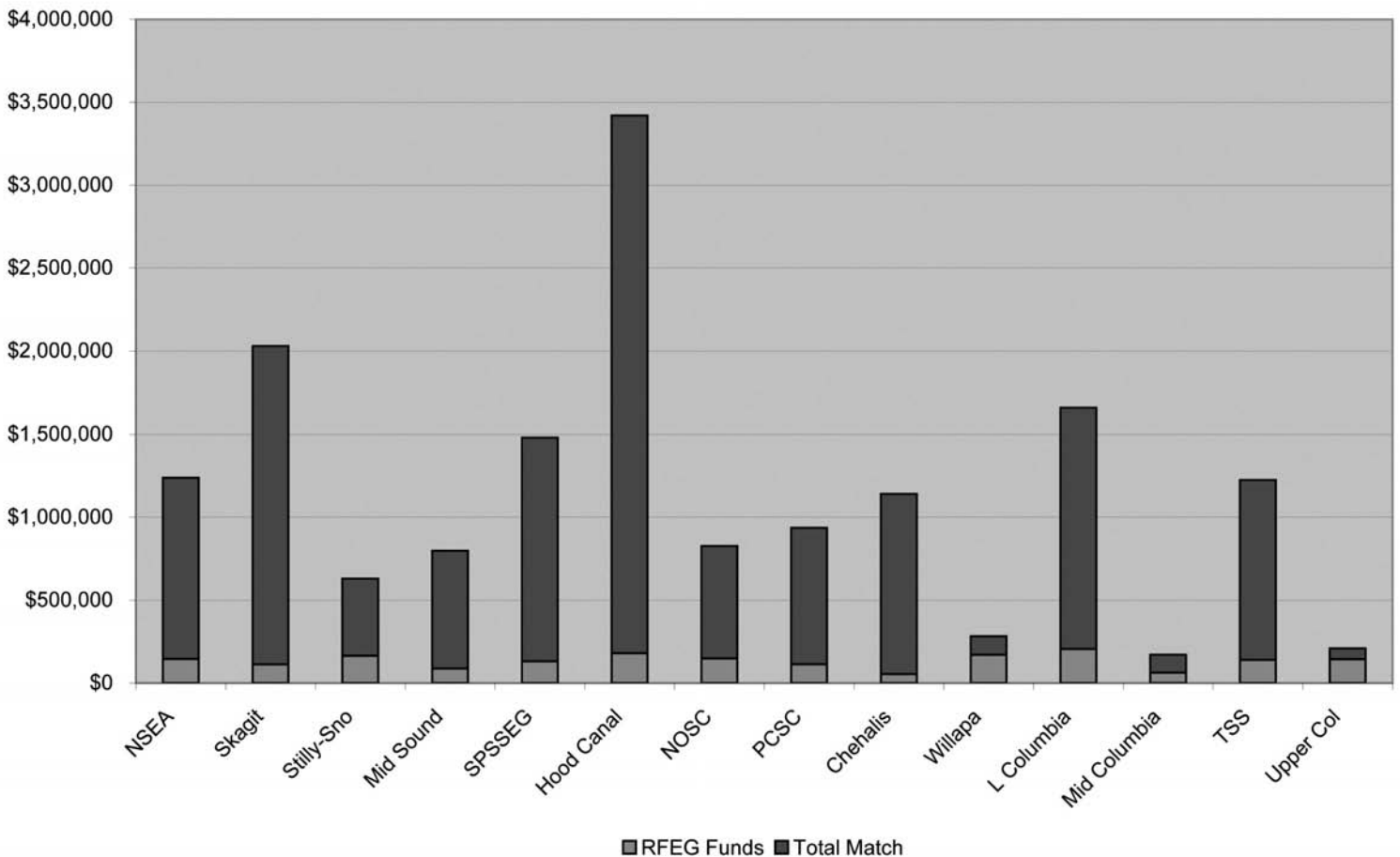
Funding for the RFEG Program comes from several sources, including a percentage of salmon license revenue (both commercial and recreational) and egg and carcass sales from state-funded hatcheries. WDFW also manages annual federal contracts granted to the RFEG Program. RFEG funds administered by WDFW are equally apportioned to the groups. In turn, the individual RFEGs utilize state and federal funding to attract tremendous local support for their work often recruiting upwards of nine or ten times their base funding in additional grants.

In addition to its fiduciary (contracting and accounting services) responsibility to the RFEG Program, WDFW reviews all RFEG project proposals to ensure compatibility with existing laws, WDFW policies, co-management, and other salmon recovery efforts conducted within a specific watershed.

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program Expenditures: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007					
Group	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars*	Funds Leveraged	Total Spent
NSEA	\$145,145	24,377	\$365,655	\$728,208	\$1,239,008
Skagit	\$112,346	8,035	\$120,525	\$1,797,541	\$2,030,412
Stilly-Snohomish	\$164,313	8,202	\$123,132	\$343,356	\$630,801
Mid Sound	\$87,508	960	\$14,400	\$696,905	\$798,813
SPSSEG	\$131,908	1,046	\$15,690	\$1,332,680	\$1,480,278
Hood Canal	\$180,155	6,247	\$93,705	\$3,053,106	\$3,326,966
NOSC	\$148,320	3,450	\$51,742	\$626,509	\$826,571
PCSC	\$112,961	2,021	\$30,345	\$792,538	\$936,444
Chehalis	\$54,126	6,994	\$105,496	\$981,691	\$1,141,313
Willapa	\$170,008	1,965	\$58,518	\$53,553	\$282,079
Lower Columbia	\$205,630	17,875	\$268,125	\$1,187,580	\$1,661,335
Mid-Columbia	\$62,242	314	\$4,710	\$104,381	\$171,333
TSS	\$140,134	1,665	\$24,975	\$1,060,079	\$1,225,188
Upper Columbia	\$143,784	129	\$1,935	\$63,752	\$209,471
Total	\$1,858,580	83,280	\$1,279,553	\$12,915,583	\$16,053,716

* Volunteer Dollars is based on an average of \$15 for every volunteer hour worked.

Ratio of RFEG Funds to Total Match



Region 1: Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

Includes most of WRIA 1: The major watershed is the Nooksack River. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds located from the Canada-U.S. border south to Oyster Creek in Samish Bay and also watersheds flowing from Whatcom County to the Fraser River.

Region 2: Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Includes WRIAs 2, 3 and 4, and parts of 1 and 6: The major watersheds are the Skagit and Samish Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds located from Samish Bay, south of Oyster Creek, south to and including, Penn Cove on Whidbey Island, out to and including, the San Juan Islands.

Region 3: Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

Includes WRIAs 5 and 7 and parts of 6 & 8: The major watersheds are the Stillaguamish and Snohomish Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds located; south of Penn Cove on Whidbey Island, including Camano Island; the mainland south to the Edmonds ferry dock.

Region 4: Mid-Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

Includes WRIAs 8 and 9 and part of 15: The major watersheds are those entering Lake Washington and the Green/Duwamish River. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds located from the Edmonds ferry dock south to Brown's Point, across to the north side of Gig Harbor, and north around Foulweather Bluff down to the Hood Canal Bridge.

Region 5: South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

Includes WRIAs 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and parts of 15: The major watersheds are the Puyallup, Nisqually, and Deschutes Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds draining into Puget Sound south of a line between Brown's Point and the north side of the entrance to Gig Harbor.

Region 6: Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

Includes WRIA 16 and parts of 14, 15 and 17: Major watersheds include the Skokomish, Hamma Hamma, Duckabush, Dosewallips, and Quilcene Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds located in Hood Canal south of the Hood Canal Bridge.

Region 7: North Olympic Salmon Coalition

Includes WRIAs 18 and 19 and part of 17: Major watersheds include the Dungeness, Elwha, Lyre, Pysht, Clallam, and Hoko Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds located north and west of the Hood Canal Bridge, to Cape Flattery.

Region 8: Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

Includes WRIAs 20 and 21: Major watersheds include the Sooes, Ozette, Quillayute, Hoh, Queets, and Quinault Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds entering directly into the Pacific Ocean between Cape Flattery and the north side of Grays Harbor.

Region 9: Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force

Includes WRIAs 22 and 23: Major watersheds include the Humptulips, Hoquiam, Wishkah, Johns and Chehalis Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat within, and other watersheds flowing into Grays Harbor.

Region 10: Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

Includes most of WRIA 24: Major watersheds include the North, Willapa, Palix, Nemah, Bear, Long Island and Naselle Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat within, and other watersheds flowing into Willapa Bay.

Region 11: Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group

Includes WRIAs 25, 26, 27 and 28 and parts of 24 and 29: Major watersheds include the Chinook, Grays, Elochoman, Cowlitz, Kalama, Lewis, and Washougal Rivers. This region also includes Columbia River habitat and other watersheds entering the Washington side of the Columbia River below Bonneville Dam.

Region 12: Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

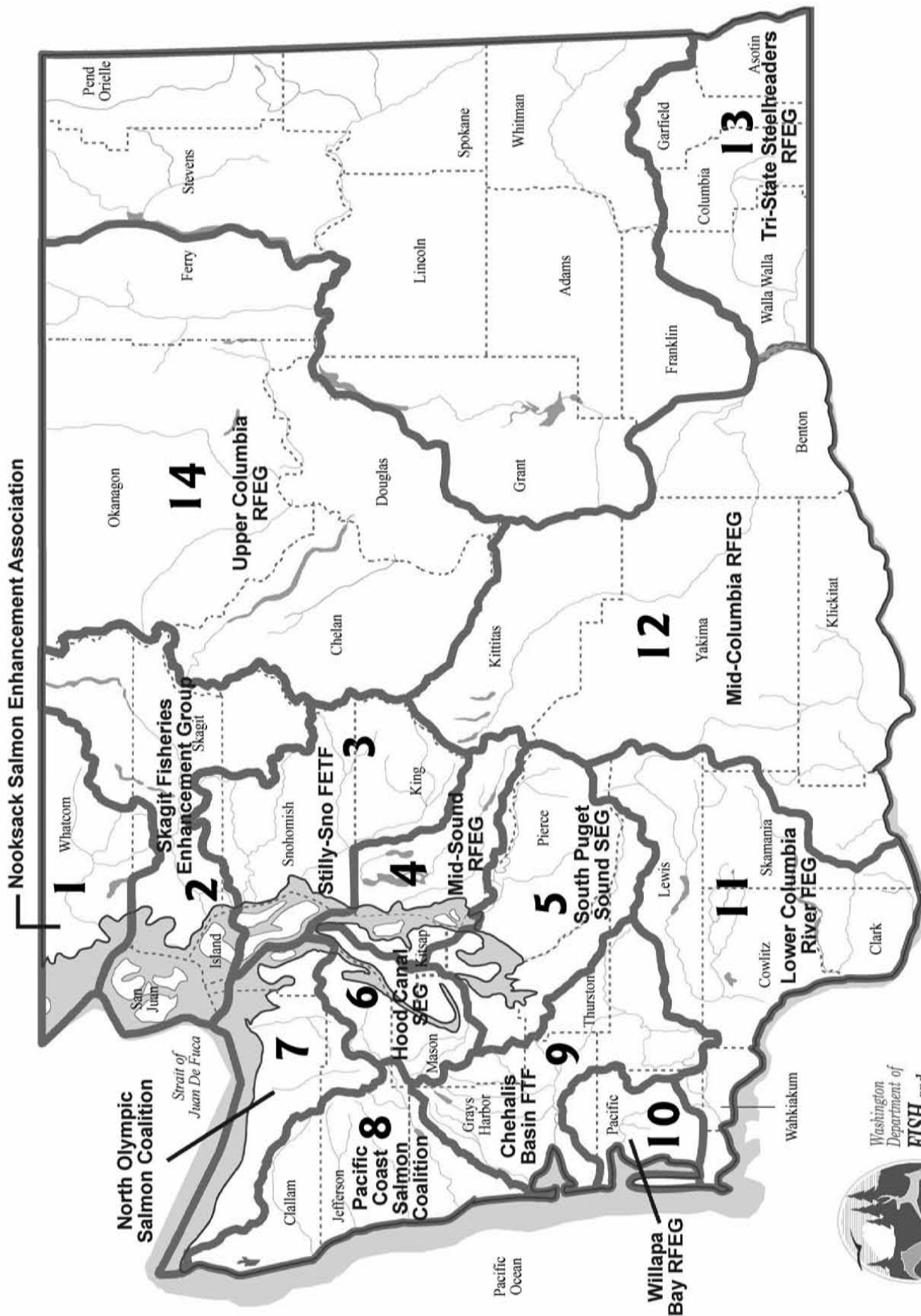
Includes WRIAs 30, 31, 37, 38, 39 and 40 and most of 29: Major watersheds include the Little White Salmon, White Salmon, Wind, Yakima, and Klickitat Rivers. This region also includes Columbia River habitat and other watersheds entering the Columbia River from the north and west above Bonneville Dam, up to Rock Island Dam.

Region 13: Tri-State Steelheaders Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

Includes WRIAs 32, 33 and 35 and parts of 34 and 36: Major watersheds include the Snake and Walla Walla Rivers. This region also includes Columbia River habitat and other watersheds entering the Columbia River from the east between McNary Dam and the Interstate 182 Bridge at Richland.

Region 14: Upper Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

Includes WRIAs 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51 and 52: Major watersheds include the Wenatchee, Entiat, Methow, Okanogan and San Poil Rivers. This region also includes Columbia River habitat and other watersheds entering the Columbia River above Rock Island Dam up to and including the San Poil watershed.



Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Boundaries



Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

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Phone: 360-715-0283
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Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

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Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

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North Olympic Salmon Coalition

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Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

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Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Lower Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Tri-State Steelheaders Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Upper Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Email: info@ucrfeg.org

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Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

MISSION STATEMENT

The Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association is a community-based nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring sustainable wild salmon runs in Whatcom County.

RFEG OVERVIEW

Established in 1990, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA) works cooperatively with landowners, agencies, tribes, businesses, service organizations, students, schools, and community volunteers in order to increase involvement in community-based salmon recovery projects. The active and diverse 16-member Board of Directors has created a strong vision for NSEA, with a new strategic plan adopted in late 2005. The board and staff work closely together to efficiently manage operations, projects, and fiduciary responsibilities with grants and contracts funded by local, state and federal sources. NSEA launched a new initiative in early 2006 to increase membership and partners in 2006. Business partners, volunteers, and donors significantly supported NSEA's mission through labor, cash, and in-kind donations. NSEA remains committed to the long-term work it will take to restore habitats to support sustainable wild salmon runs in Whatcom County.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Students for Salmon: Elementary Education Program

50 classes located in 15 different schools throughout Whatcom County participated in NSEA's Students for Salmon educational program during in 2006–2007. 1,153 students participated in classroom and field activities: learning about salmon, salmon habitat and planting trees for restoration projects.



Students from Fisher Elementary look for macroinvertebrates on a Students for Salmon field trip.

Participating schools included: Bayside Montessori, Bellingham Cooperative School, Bernice Vossbeck Elementary, Blaine Elementary, Central Elementary, Columbia Elementary, Eagle Ridge Elementary, Fisher Elementary, Happy Valley Elementary, Isom Intermediate, Kendall Elementary, Lowell Elementary, Northern Heights Elementary, Parkview Elementary, and Tenmile Elementary.

Middle School Service Learning Program

NSEA worked as a community partner with Shuksan and Whatcom Middle Schools to provide service learning projects through Project Connect. This program is a partnership program involving Western Washington University education students, eighth grade students, and several community partners. These groups spent 66 hours restoring riparian habitats along Squalicum Creek with NSEA.

High School Streamside Science Program

From October 2006 through March of 2007, NSEA worked with 23 high school students from Sehome, Squalicum, Bellingham, and Blaine High Schools. Students met at NSEA for six Saturdays and spent 405 hours learning about salmon and stream ecology, water quality, macroinvertebrates and the Squalicum Creek Watershed. Students apply their knowledge by designing and implementing a riparian restoration project.

Higher Education: College Programs

NSEA provided service learning experience, volunteer opportunities, and internships for students from Whatcom County colleges including: Northwest Indian College (NWIC), Western Washington University (WWU), Bellingham Technical College (BTC), and Whatcom Community College (WCC).

Service learning projects are designed to enhance academic learning through relevant and meaningful service within the community. NSEA works the Service Learning Advisory Committee for NWIC and with WWU's Center for Service Learning. NSEA staff members give presentations to the classes. Students from WWU, NWIC, and WCC completed projects ranging from riparian restoration to implementing a fundraising silent auction.

NSEA also offers students volunteer opportunities and internships, providing students with valuable experience in the field. Some of these projects included BTC students assisting with scientific monitoring programs and WWU Huxley College students assisting with Students for Salmon field trips.

Adult and Community Education

44 presentations were made to a variety of groups, including Boy Scouts troops, Rotary Clubs, neighborhood associations, and others. NSEA provided colorful and informative education displays at the Northwest Washington Fair, WWU, REI, Birch Bay Days, and other local events. Exhibits provided citizens

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

with information about NSEA and facts relating to salmon, stream restoration, and local volunteer opportunities for wild fish recovery.

Stream Stewards

NSEA's Stream Stewards program supports five watershed steward groups: Terrell, Schell, Squalicum, Whatcom, and Padden Creeks. With the help of other partners in our local watersheds, the Stream Stewards concept aims for each sub-basin (watershed) within Whatcom County to have a grassroots, sustainable Stream Stewards group to coordinate its own restoration efforts.

River Stewards

In summer of 2006, NSEA continued to partner with the United States Forest Service to provide education and outreach to recreational users of the Nooksack River and surrounding areas. This program was staffed by interns and volunteers who spent 242 hours connecting with more than 2,000 visitors to the North Fork of the Nooksack River and giving 27 presentations on the salmon of the Nooksack River, including information on their lifecycle, their habitat needs, and ways that visitors to the area can lessen their impacts on fragile riverine ecosystems. In September of 2007, NSEA's Nooksack River Steward program received National recognition when it earned the Rise to the Future award from the US Forest Service Director in Washington D.C.



Families make a day of planting trees together at a community work party on Squalicum Creek.

Liam Wood Flyfishing and River Guardian School

For the third summer, The Art, Science and Ethics of Flyfishing course was offered through Huxley College. The class is a project of the Liam Wood Flyfishing and River Guardian School, implemented by NSEA with partner Western Washington University. Community supporters included: Patagonia, Sage Manufacturers, Fourth Corner Fly Fishers, H&H Outdoor Sports, Marlene Robinson and Bruce Brabec, Glenn Brackett, and David James Duncan.

Habitat Restoration Project Highlights

Creek	Landowner	Project
Anderson	Harmon	Remove 60-foot barrier culvert and provided fish passage to over 1.5 miles of upstream habitat
Bertrand	Loop	Placed LWD and planted native riparian vegetation along 500 feet of stream
Bertrand Tributary	Sheedy	Replaced barrier culvert and improved fish passage to over 1 mile of upstream habitat
Bertrand Tributary	Hawes	Replace 3 barrier culverts and improved fish passage to over 1.3 miles of upstream habitat
Caron	Nielsen	Replaced barrier culvert and improved fish passage to over 0.5 miles of upstream habitat
Dakota	Honrud	Replaced failed bridge and improved fish passage to over 3 miles of upstream habitat
Dakota	Ruhl	Replaced 2 barrier culverts and improved fish passage to over 0.5 miles of upstream habitat
Dakota	Freeman	Replaced barrier culvert and improved fish passage to over 0.7 miles of upstream habitat
Deer	Neufeld	Installed nose pump and eliminated instream watering station for livestock
Fishtrap	Edaleen	Placed LWD and planted native riparian vegetation along 100 feet of stream
Haynie	Hunsiker, Whatcom County	Removed 2 barrier culverts and replaced one barrier culvert and provided fish passage to over 0.6 miles of upstream habitat
Landingstrip	Chivers	Modified 400 feet of stream channel, placed LWD and planted riparian vegetation
McCauley	Multiple	Completed topographic survey and habitat assessment of McCauley Creek
Multiple	Multiple	Maintained and monitored over 30 past habitat enhancement project sites
Scott Ditch	Hoksbergen	Modified 300 feet of stream channel
Scott Ditch	Ellenbaas	Replaced barrier culvert and improved fish passage to over 1.4 miles of fish habitat
Terrell	Cherry Point Refinery	Continued riparian planting at 1000 foot long 5 acre habitat enhancement project

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

The class took place from June 19–July 16, 2006. WWU Huxley College professor Dr. Leo Bodensteiner taught students about stream ecology, fish, and macroinvertebrates, flyfishing arts, materials and methods, and about ethics and stewardship issues during in-class lecture. Lab sessions included casting practice and tying flies, with field trips to local watersheds where students studied stream ecology and tried their hand at fly fishing.

This year NSEA provided a new flyfishing class for 10 students at Home Port Learning Center from September 5 – 14, 2006 as a part of the Liam Wood Flyfishing and River Guardian School. This course was also taught by Dr. Leo Bodensteiner and focused teaching students about salmonid species, identification, habitat needs, stewardship, and flyfishing. Students, teachers and volunteers affiliated with Home Port spent 456 hours working with NSEA and this new program.

Birch Bay State Park

NSEA provided a total of 10 campfire talks and stream walks at the state park focusing on salmon and restoration efforts in Terrell Creek through a weekly summer program scheduled at Birch Bay State Park.

Salmon at the Bay

This year NSEA held a fundraiser that celebrated salmon through art and music. Many local artists donated pieces that were displayed at Boundary Bay Brewery in July and August.

Salmon Summit

NSEA supported conference planning, registration, displays and speakers for the Nooksack Recovery Team’s Annual Salmon Summit Conference, held at the Best Western Lakeway, involving over 270 attendees on November 2, 2006.



Freeman Dakota Creek culvert after.

Monitoring Water Quality

Student interns from Western Washington University monitored water quality in Terrell Creek, recording data on dissolved oxygen levels, pH, temperature, conductivity, salinity, and stream-flow. Due to poor water quality, Terrell Creek has experienced recent fish-kills in the creek and recreational shellfish harvest closures at the mouth of the creek in Birch Bay.

Spawner Surveys

During October 2006 to January 2007, NSEA staff, interns, and volunteers from Bellingham Technical College worked with WDFW staff to survey 19 lower mainstem Nooksack River tributaries. The survey data collected includes counts of live and dead fish by species, length measurements, number of redds, and sex of the fish. DNA tissues were collected from Chinook and Coho to determine where various stocks of salmon are spawning, as well as to compare genetic differences between salmon in the river.



County Haynie Creek Culvert installation.

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteers Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Alcoa Foundation –Environmental Internships				\$9,927	\$9,927
ALEA – Water Quality Monitoring		72	\$1,080	\$1,728	\$2,808
ALEA – Support of Students for Salmon		188	\$2,820	\$10,197	\$13,017
ALEA – Habitat Restoration Materials		1,538	\$23,070	\$56,190	\$79,260
ALEA – Fish Monitoring		257	\$3,855	\$2,840	\$6,695
Allmen Foundation – Operating Support				\$9,158	\$9,158
Anderson Creek – Harmon Culvert Removal				\$48,914	\$48,914
Birch Bay State Park – Education/ Presentations				\$914	\$914
BP Cherry Pt. Refinery – Support for Terrell Creek				\$22,747	\$22,747
BP Cherry Pt. Refinery – Students for Salmon				\$9,372	\$9,372
Bertrand Creek W.I.D. – Water Quality Monitoring				\$23,284	\$23,284
Caitac – Development Support				\$15,000	\$15,000
DOE CCW – Lower Nooksack Trib Restoration				\$21,705	\$21,705
DOE CCW – Squalicum Creek				\$5,050	\$5,050
DOE CCW – South Fork Trib Riparian Restoration				\$76,311	\$76,311
DOE CCW Tenmile Creek – Riparian Restoration				\$30,781	\$30,781
Conoco/Phillips – Middle School Service Learning		66	\$990	\$383	\$1,373
Durbin Estate – Membership Program				\$9,471	\$9,471
Ferguson Foundation – WCC Crew Support				\$3,000	\$3,000
Flyfishing Program – Brabec/Robinson				\$4,066	\$4,066
WDFW – Landowner Incentive Projects				\$10,654	\$10,654
NFWF – Community Salmon Fund				\$53,109	\$53,109
NFWF – Stream Stewards Program		1475	\$22,125	\$82,432	\$104,557
NFWF – Washington Conservation Corps Match				\$3,517	\$3,517
Nooksack Tribe Fish Passage				\$10,499	\$10,499
Nooksack Recovery Team Support				\$6,200	\$6,200
Pacific Salmon Commission – WCC Support				\$20,355	\$20,355
Patagonia Foundation – WWU Flyfishing Program				\$3,408	\$3,408
NFWF– Pioneers in Conservation – Fish Passage				\$10,054	\$10,054
SRFB – Family Forest Fish Passage				\$28,500	\$28,500
Terrell Creek Community Fund				\$3,402	\$3,402
USFS – Nooksack River Stewards				\$4,532	\$4,532
USFWS– Partners for Fish & Wildlife				\$7,095	\$7,095
WDFW S– RFEG Funds– Administration	\$70,075				\$70,075
WDFW– RFEG Funds– Ed, Volunteer, Monitoring	\$30,325				\$30,325
WDFW– RFEG Funds– Habitat Rest.– Generic	\$44,745				\$44,745
Whatcom Comm. Foundation – Stream Stewards				\$965	\$965
Waste Action Project – Fishtrap Creek				\$14,034	\$14,034
Yamato Engines Fine Recovery – Streamside Science Ed.				\$4,590	\$4,590
NSEA Community Volunteers		5481	\$82,215		\$82,215
AmeriCorps – WA Conservation Corps Crew		10,200	\$153,000		\$153,000
AmeriCorps – WA Service Corps		5100	\$76,500		\$76,500
Cash Donations				\$87,035	\$87,035
Donated Services				\$16,789	\$16,789
Totals	\$145,145	24,377	\$365,655	\$728,208	\$1,239,008

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Dave Barker
John Hymas
Leif Swanson
Dan Weeks

WASHINGTON CONSERVATION CORPS/AMERICORPS PLACEMENTS

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Crew Supervisors: Justin Lamb
Crewmembers: Alex Karpoff, Emily Pease, Megan Brady, Andrew Cutter, Annalisa Barron

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Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group is to build partnerships that educate and engage the community in habitat restoration and watershed stewardship in order to enhance salmonid populations.

RFEG OVERVIEW

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group is dedicated to involving our community in restoring wild salmon populations for future generations. Our region is very large including the Skagit and Samish River watersheds as well as the watersheds of the San Juan Islands and Northern Whidbey Island. The Skagit River is the largest river in Puget Sound and has the largest populations of Chinook salmon, pink salmon and bull trout. Our watersheds are relatively un-urbanized for Puget Sound and maintain a rural character. Population growth is one of the largest threats to salmon resources in our watershed, along with how to maintain economically viable farming while accommodating our growing population and habitat restoration efforts.

Due to the large geographic size and diversity of habitat types in our region, we have identified eight Focal Areas where we feel we can have the greatest benefit to salmon with limited financial resources. The purpose of identifying these Focal Areas is to better integrate our education and restoration programs and make both programs more effective. By developing education programs to engage community members and landowners within these focal areas, we hope to garner greater support for habitat restoration projects and ultimately have an increased impact on the health of salmon populations.

Focal areas in which we concentrated work this year were the Upper Skagit Floodplain, Middle Skagit Floodplain, Nookachamps Creek, Day Creek and Finney Creek watersheds. In each of these focal areas, a number of restoration actions took place this year. Projects ranged from large scale riparian restoration projects, building fences, installing large woody debris and community planting parties. SFEG has launched outreach and education programs which are targeted to the particular community living in each of these focal areas. By specifically tailoring our education programs to these communities we intend to increase engagement and action with local landowners and volunteers. In addition to significant work in these focal areas, SFEG was thrilled to finally implement the McElroy Slough Estuary Restoration project in partnership with Skagit County in 2006! Replacing these traditional tide gates with "fish friendly" ones under a County road was a very expensive project. For the first year ever, SFEG's budget soared to over \$1 million, and over \$2 million including the in-kind contributions. SFEG also launched our new middle school education program, Junior Stream Stewards this year with 130 Concrete students. This new program was a great success and has doubled in size for 2007. We said goodbye to one long time field staff member, Bob Keller, and created a new staff position for a Finance Manager to keep things in our office running smoothly. In all SFEG had a fantastic year of work thanks to our great staff, effective partnerships, willing landowners, hard working board members, dedicated volunteers and generous donors.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

ESTUARY AND NEARSHORE

McElroy Slough

In October 2006, saltwater was reintroduced to McElroy Slough after many years of perseverance by project partners and community members to restore tidal function to this small Puget Sound estuary. The project uses an innovative approach for restoring tidal action to the slough, through the installation of a self regulating tide gate. The self regulating tide gate allows saltwater to enter the slough, but only to a predetermined height which will not flood the surrounding landscape at high tide. McElroy Slough flows through the lowland areas surrounding the Blanchard community and drains into Samish Bay. Three salmon bearing creeks drain into McElroy Slough: Whitehall, Colony and Harrison Creeks. SFEG has worked with landowners on both Colony and Harrison Creeks to do salmon enhancement work in the 1990's. The self regulating tide gate restores tidal flushing, fish passage and estuary rearing area for chinook, coho, chum and cutthroat within the McElroy Slough watershed. Restoring the estuary functions to McElroy Slough will greatly enhance the fish and wildlife use of this watershed as well as reduce flood hazards to the Blanchard Community. The project opens 1 mile in length or approximately 9 acres of estuary area



Volunteers assist SFEG staff and Upper Skagit Indian Tribe partners with seining McElroy Slough to document the presence of juvenile salmonids.

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

for anadromous fish use within the slough. It also improves access to 5 miles of Colony Creek used by anadromous fish, a half mile of Whitehall Creek and 3 miles of Harrison Creek. The implementation of this project is very exciting, as it has taken 10 years of hard work by many individuals. Original funds design funds were received for the McElroy Slough project in 1997 from the first allocation of US Fish and Wildlife Service funds to the RFEG program through WDFW. After a decade of struggle, it is very rewarding to reach agreement with the diverse parties involved and see this unique and important project take place. The community and project partners were very excited to document juvenile salmonid use, especially chinook, in the newly restored estuarine environment of McElroy Slough in 2007.

Thatcher Bay

Thatcher Bay is located on the southwest side of Blakely Island in the San Juan Islands. SRFB funds are being used to assess the potential for removing wood waste deposited by an old saw mill and the restoration possibilities that may exist. Wood waste deposition creates an inhospitable environment for most near-shore life. Graduate students at the University of Washington are studying the impact of the wood waste on the nearshore environment, the costs and impacts associated with its removal and the potential for eelgrass (valuable rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids) to reestablish itself if the wood waste were removed.

Deepwater Slough

SFEG is using new grant money from the US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program to install additional native plants and continue invasive species control at this WDFW owned restoration site. SFEG is partnering with the WDFW and the Skagit River System Cooperative to continue this native vegetation restoration project at Deepwater Slough along Skagit Bay where dikes were removed in 2000 to reestablish valuable estuary habitat.

River Awareness Month

Funding from Skagit County's Clean Water Program allowed SFEG to sponsor River Awareness Month at the Children's Museum of Skagit County in October 2006. Over 2,000 children visited the museum during the month of December learning about the Skagit River, its salmon and water quality through exhibits and activities.

NOOKACHAMPS WATERSHED

Riparian Restoration

SFEG is using a Centennial Clean Water Fund Grant from the Department of Ecology to implement restoration projects to improve water quality in the Nookachamps watershed. SFEG has used these funds to leverage additional monies from the

Pioneers in Conservation to work with local farmers to protect water quality. Riparian restoration projects were focused on four sites this year (Murray, DeVries, Tewalt and Verdoes). An inventory of lands in private ownership conducted by the Skagit Land Trust helped to prioritize where future restoration and/or protection actions are needed to occur in order to help improve water quality. This prioritized list of properties will aid in the development of future projects and is being used to initiate contact with new landowners for protection and restoration projects by SFEG, the Skagit Land Trust and other partners.

Nookachamps Outreach

SFEG hosted a series of workshops and tours in 2007 to engage Nookachamps residents in learning more about their watershed, the salmon that live there and what they can do to help protect and improve habitat and water quality. One workshop combined natural and cultural history along with sites visits, a Septics 101 class was offered in partnership with Skagit County and a watershed tour was given for area residents. Volunteers and school groups all contributed to revegetation efforts along local streams in order to reduce water temperature for salmonids.



Girl Scout volunteers plant trees along Nookachamps Creek to earn their conservation badge.

DAY CREEK COMMUNITY WATERSHED

Morgan Creek

Several fish passage issues were identified through assessment work in the Morgan Creek area over the last several years. Funds were secured this year to fix the fish passage problem nearest the outlet to Ross Island Slough. This culvert is located on Draper Valley property and is funded to be replaced with a bridge in the summer of 2007 with funding from the FishAmerica Foundation. This project will improve fish passage to 3 miles of habitat. A second fish passage problem was identified on a tributary to Morgan Creek which has been proposed for funding to the SRFB.

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group**Native Plants**

Riparian restoration work was implemented by volunteers with new property owners along Stevens Creek. Several plantings along Day Creek were maintained by staff and volunteers.

Outreach and Education

Funding from the National Fish and Wildlife's Community Salmon Fund continued to fund outreach to local landowners to learn more about the creeks in the Day Creek Community Watershed. Workshops and field trips were held in 2006 to share information and help the community learn more about the valuable resources within their watershed. Signs for stream crossings were created this year, as well as a booklet which summarizes the highlights of the Day Creek Community Watershed for local residents.

FINNEY CREEK WATERSHED**Habitat Restoration**

SFEG continued it's partnered with the US Forest Service and National Park Service to restore degraded habitat in Finney Creek. New partnerships were formed with Sierra Pacific Industries, Goodyear Nelson Timber and private landowners to install log jams in Lower Finney Creek in 2006. Funding from the Department of Ecology's Centennial Clean Water Fund was used to install 359 logs into 17 jams through a 1.5 mile reach of Finney Creek. As of June 2007, our partnerships have restored 6 miles since 1999 for this incredibly valuable lower Skagit tributary. Additional restoration efforts are planned for the summer of 2008 with new timber partners, Hampton Affiliates.

Outreach and Education

An outreach and education program continued in the Finney Creek watershed utilizing funding from the Department of Ecology. A watershed tour and fish viewing workshop were held for local residents. Volunteers were engaged in collecting macro-invertebrates to track stream health. And the first ever Finney Family Day was held in cooperation with a local farm in order to better engage local kids and their parents in the conservation of Finney Creek.

MIDDLE SKAGIT WATERSHED**Wiseman Creek Feasibility Study**

SFEG worked with a large group of partners including WDFW, Skagit County, NRCS and the Skagit River System Cooperative to develop restoration alternatives for Wiseman Creek. Six alternatives were developed and were taken to the public for input. Restoration actions are needed to improve habitat for coho and steelhead. SFEG is hopeful of future work in this important area.

Anderson Creek Habitat Enhancement

A partnership with Seattle City Light is restoring 125 acres of land protected around Anderson Creek and Ross Island Slough. SRFB funds are being used to develop a restoration plan for Anderson Creek in partnership with City Light.

Iron Mountain Ranch Habitat Enhancement

SFEG is working with Seattle City Light to protect and restore 2 miles of riparian habitat along the Skagit River. This property is adjacent to prime Chinook spawning habitat. The Skagit Land Trust holds the conservation easement for City Light and a local farmer continues to lease land that is currently not being restored. Volunteers and staff worked to plant the west end of the property this year. Restoration funds are primarily coming from SRFB.

Education

A new and unique watershed education and stewardship program was launched this year for 130 middle school students in Concrete. The Junior Stream Stewards is a 9 month program that challenges students to apply classroom lessons with a stream restoration project in their backyard. In a combination of classroom programs and field study trips, students learn all about salmon and the stream habitat that supports them by studying water quality, native plants, aquatic insects, the salmon life cycle and much more. The program culminates in a community service-learning project to protect and enhance their local stream, in partnership with local organizations, businesses and governments. This successful program will double in size for 2007.

UPPER SKAGIT WATERSHED**Nutrient Enhancement**

Volunteers distributed 1,200 carcasses from the Marblemount State Hatchery back to natural streams. Partners contributing to this nutrient enhancement effort include: the USFS, Wild Steelhead Coalition, Puget Sound Anglers, and ALEA Volunteer Cooperative Funds.

Cascade River Tributaries

Landowners in the Cascade River Community Park partnered with SFEG to fix 4 fish passage barriers with funding from the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program. Two culvert crossings were completely removed and two other culvert crossings were replaced with new culverts in order to provide better fish access to this Cascade River tributary.

Riparian Enhancement

Funds from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation were used to start revegetation efforts

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

at Howard Miller Steelhead Park. This Skagit County Park is a very popular spot for camping, boating and eagle viewing. Half the park is undeveloped for passive recreation use and in need of invasive removal and riparian enhancement. SFEG staff and volunteers have begun the battle with invasive species and are replanting the area with native plants.

Education and Outreach

SFEG worked with partners to train volunteers to give Hatchery Tours during the peak of eagle viewing season. These tours are meant to give visitors an opportunity to learn about salmon and how healthy salmon populations are vital to Skagit River eagle populations. Over 550 people attended the tours this winter. Several workshops and tours were focused on educating local residents including a fish viewing tour, Skagit River Family Fest and a Septics 101 class. Two 7th grade classrooms from Darrington were involved in a “mini” Junior Stream Stewards program.

SAMISH WATERSHED



Before picture of perched culvert at Parson’s Creek.

Ennis Creek Habitat Restoration

SFEG has been working for several years with the Whatcom Land Trust to restore Ennis Creek through its historic wetland path in the Upper Samish Watershed. During 2006, SFEG utilized National Fish and Wildlife Foundation funds in partnership with SRFB and LIP to excavate a new channel in the location of a historic pathway below the Innis Creek Road crossing. Large woody debris was placed in the channel and were partially buried in the channel without the use of cable or anchors. Since construction of the road crossing by Whatcom County was delayed until 2007, the newly excavated channel existed with minimal flow for about a year; however, standing water was present in the channel from groundwater and backwater from the Samish River providing rearing habitat for juvenile coho. Volunteers planted native vegetation along the future path of Ennis Creek during the fall of 2006. When Whatcom County fixes the Innis Creek Road crossing in 2007 and reroutes the creek through its new path (instead of its current path in a roadside ditch) thousands of adult coho salmon are expected to benefit from this restoration project.

Parson Creek Fish Passage Improvement

Grants from the Family Forests Fish Passage Program and American Rivers made fish passage possible again on Parson’s Creek. The project removed a culvert perched 4 feet above Parson’s Creek and replaced it with a fish passable culvert. This was an expensive project due to the large sized culvert needed and the large quantity of fill associated with the logging road crossing. An 18-foot wide pipe arch was needed to replace the existing 4 foot wide perched culvert. The new culvert is set on 22 concrete foundation blocks and backfilled with a roughened channel. The new pipe is 66 feet long and required excavation of a hole about 30 feet deep. The fixed crossing enables access to 0.5 miles high quality spawning habitat favorable to coho and steelhead trout with a well developed forest canopy.



After picture of new culvert at Parson’s Creek crossing to improve salmon and steelhead access to upper watershed habitat.

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

PROJECT EXPENDITURES						
Project Name	RFEF Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	In-Kind Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Administration	\$38,803.67	402	\$6,030	\$574		\$45,407
Anderson Creek		20	\$293	\$7,410	\$13,141	\$20,843
Barnes/Dittrich Creek					\$13,956	\$13,956
Berry Patch					\$77	\$77
Nutrient Enhancement		36	\$536		\$5,382	\$5,919
Cascade River Park		84	\$1,260		\$16,060	\$17,320
Childs Creek					\$398	\$398
Day Creek Watershed		137	\$2,051		\$8,906	\$10,957
Darrington Education		132	\$1,976		\$4,939	\$6,916
Deepwater Slough		21	\$308	\$180	\$3,492	\$3,979
Edgewater					\$833	\$833
Education & Outreach	\$15,743.96	517	\$7,751		\$10,331	\$33,826
Ennis Creek and NP Creeks		251	\$3,758	\$32,769	\$51,930	\$88,457
Elysian Meadows					\$376	\$376
Finney Creek		430	\$6,443	\$29,792	\$96,002	\$132,237
Fundraising		479	\$7,185			\$7,185
General Restoration		103	\$1,538		\$4,448	\$19,168
Upper Skagit Watershed		1,127	\$16,898	\$45	\$31,502	\$48,444
Iron Mountain Ranch		386	\$5,786		\$32,384	\$38,170
Junior Stream Stewards		240	\$3,600		\$7,325	\$10,925
Parson Creek		76	\$1,140		\$134,340	\$135,480
Thatcher Bay		24	\$360	\$210	\$24,648	\$25,218
McElroy Slough		25	\$368	\$698,936	\$454,700	\$1,154,004
Monitoring	\$33,739.60	1,277	\$19,159		\$2,024	\$54,922
Morgan Creek Assessment		25	\$375		\$14,051	\$14,426
Nookachamps Riparian Restoration		771	\$11,561	\$5,016	\$72,473	\$89,050
Native Plant Nursery		471	\$7,069	\$231	\$4,806	\$12,106
Project Development	\$13,182.98	418	\$6,263			\$19,445
Suiattle Slough		22	\$323		\$728	\$1,051
WCC/WSC Americorps	\$10,876.21	526	\$7,890			\$18,766
Wiseman Creek		41	\$608		\$13,127	\$13,735
Totals	\$112,346.42	8,035	\$120,525	\$775,162	\$1,022,379	\$2,043,595

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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**SKAGIT FISHERIES
ENHANCEMENT GROUP**

MISSION STATEMENT

The Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force's (Task Force) mission is to ensure the future of salmon in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish Rivers, and Island County watersheds. To achieve our mission, we pursue the following goals:

- To restore and enhance salmon and salmon habitat.
- To become the leading community-based salmon recovery advocate in our region.
- To facilitate the cultural shift necessary to complete our mission through public education and other means.
- To protect habitat through better regulation, acquisition, easements, and other means.
- To increase the capacity for change by partnering with other groups and agencies.

RFEG OVERVIEW

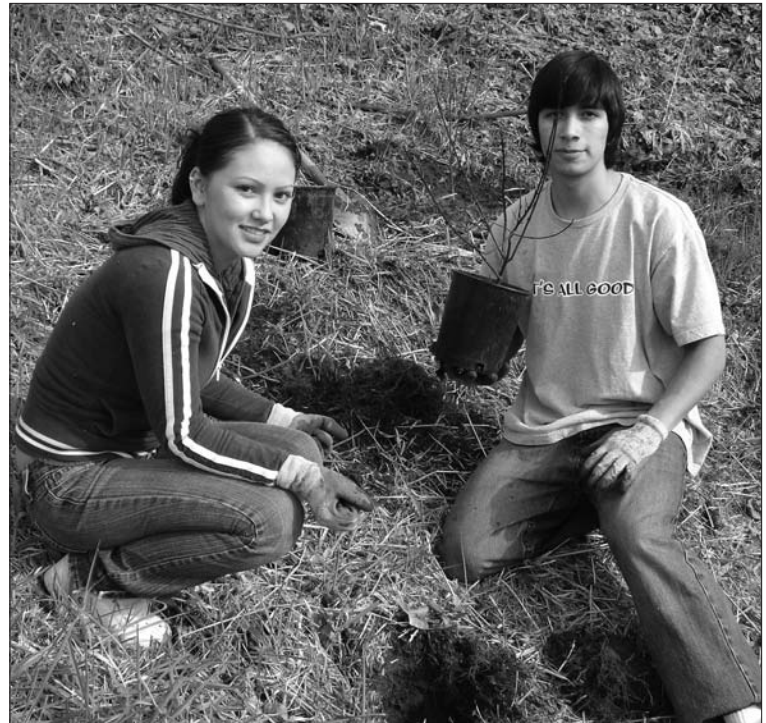
The Task Force is a 501(c)(3) public non-profit community-based and volunteer-supported organization with a dedicated base of members, volunteers, local business partners and donors, and private and public landowners. We cooperate with a large number of federal, State, county and city agencies, tribes, non-profit organizations, Conservation Districts, community colleges, local school districts, scout troops and fishing clubs. These alliances provide an invaluable source of donated labor, in-kind services, and cash match to support our many projects and activities in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish Rivers, and Island County watersheds. The Task Force continues to expand its opportunities in habitat restoration and enhancement activities for volunteers to include invasive plant surveys, river and beach cleanups, macroinvertebrate and vegetation monitoring, and on-the-job training for AmeriCorps members and college interns. Over the past year, Task Force staff coordinated 1,827 volunteers for over 8,200 hours of community volunteers and students in the past year to create long-lasting results for future generations.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

RIPARIAN PLANTING

Canyon Creek, Fall City

Canyon Creek runs through the Members Club at Aldarra, a private golf course on land previously owned by the Boeing family.



Tulalip Heritage School students restoring Allen Creek at Jennings Nature Park in Marysville.

The Task Force is working with the Club to restore vegetation in the lower floodplain of the property, place instream LWD to create stream sinuosity and channel diversity, and improve fish passage over an old concrete dam. A total of 58 Task Force volunteers donated 150 hours (valued at \$2,250) and planted 3,050 native plants along 650 feet of stream, restoring 1.5 acres of riparian buffer. In summer and fall 2007, the concrete dam will be notched to improve fish passage, LWD will be placed in lower Canyon Creek, and riparian re-vegetation will continue.

Landowner: Members Club at Aldarra

Partners: Members Club at Aldarra, Washington Conservation Corps-AmeriCorps (WCC) crew, Washington State Dept. Of-Corrections (WSDOC)

Funders: National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) King County Waterworks Community Salmon Fund (CSF)

Snoqualmie River Floodplain Restoration, Duvall

McCormick Park is a 175 acre highly visible and well-used park owned and managed by the City of Duvall. With more than a mile of river front property covered in Himalayan blackberry and reed canary grass, and directly connected to the Snoqualmie Valley trail system, this site is community restoration heaven. The Task Force has received three grants totaling \$100,000. Two from King Conservation District (KCD) and one from the US Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS). Over three large planting events, 2,200 native plants were installed along 1,500 linear feet of river, restoring over 4.5 acres with an average riparian buffer width of 100 feet. Over 360 volunteers donated 1,317 hours, valued at \$19,755.

Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

Landowner: City of Duvall

Partners: City of Duvall, WCC, WSDOC

Funders: KCD, USFWS

Kissee and Barr Creeks, Monroe

Kissee and Barr Creeks flow through a private tree farm, and then directly into a side channel of a braided reach of the Skykomish River. The Task Force worked with Trout Unlimited-Northshore Chapter and the Stillaguamish BankSavers to install 50 pieces of LWD along 300 feet of Kissee Creek, and 2,500 native plants along 1,000 feet of stream over 1.25 acres. Over 130 volunteers donated 476 hours at a value of \$7,140.

Landowner: Richard Barr

Partners: Trout Unlimited-Northshore Chapter, Stillaguamish BankSavers, WCC

Funders: NFWF Snohomish Basin CSF, RFEG Funds

Allen Creek, Marysville

Jennings Nature Park is a jewel in the heart of the City of Marysville. Used for passive recreation, the edges of Allen Creek have become overrun by blackberry. The Task Force teamed up with Marysville Parks Department to restore 1,000 feet of stream and 0.7 acres with 1,700 native plants. With a value of \$12,900, 430 volunteers, including seven local 5th-7th grade classes, donated 860 hours of service toward this project. Recreation Equipment Incorporated (REI) provided funding to support volunteer plantings, and education and outreach to local students, with an emphasis on working with Tulalip tribal youth.

Landowner: City of Marysville

Partners: Marysville Parks; WCC; Liberty and Tulalip Elementary Schools, Tulalip Heritage School

Funding: REI



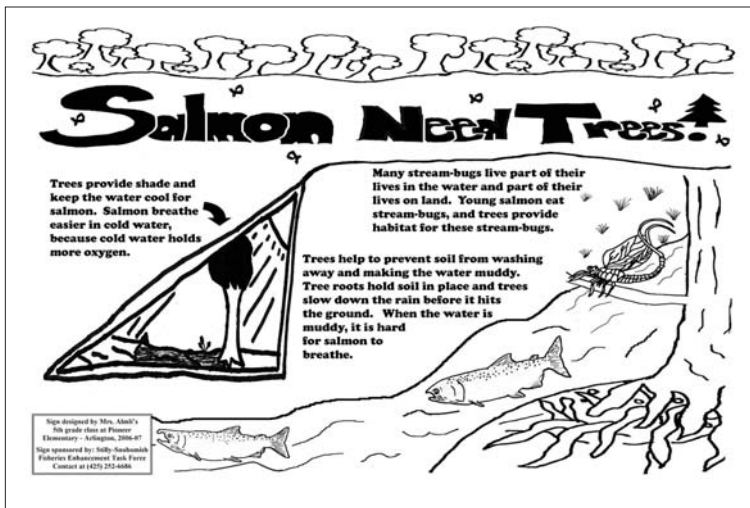
Pioneer Elementary students in Arlington demonstrating proper shovel safety at Prairie Creek restoration site.

Education

Education is an important piece of the salmon conservation puzzle. From brief demonstrations at volunteer events and presentations to community groups, to more in-depth lessons at local schools, the Task Force's Education Program serves to inform and engage community members on several levels.

One highlight of our educational and outreach efforts is the Restoration Education for Young Stewards (REYS) program, an integrated series of eight classroom or field-based lessons, for grades 4-8, about salmon biology, watersheds, and ecology in general. REYS offers students the opportunity to learn about ecosystems, enhance their scientific inquiry and investigation skills, and design solutions for real-world restoration problems. We use inquiry-based learning techniques, allowing students to discover concepts on their own, through personal experience, instead of through reading or lectures. REYS has proven to be an exemplary curriculum, effective in improving students' critical thinking skills, science test scores, and environmental awareness.

REYS activities include collecting and analyzing water quality and plant data, performing controlled investigations using models, and creating keys to sort organisms by physical characteristics. Students also design and implement their own experimental stream restoration projects. Finally, students design interpretive signs for their restoration area.



Sign designed by students at Pioneer Elementary School in Arlington as part of the REYS program.

Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

In the 2006/7 school year, 11 classrooms of 4th-7th graders (nearly 275 students) throughout Marysville, Arlington, and Snohomish School Districts participated in REYS. Examples of some of the student-directed questions for their experimental restoration project included: "How does saltwater affect the growth of invasive Scotch broom" or "How do evergreen versus deciduous trees affect the growth of reed canary grass?" Ultimately, students applied what they learned by planting 1,450 native trees and shrubs along local salmon-bearing streams including Jones, Allen, and Prairie Creeks, and the Snoqualmie River.

In addition to the REYS students, another 450 students participated in other educational opportunities offered by the Task Force. Students from Weston, Lynnwood, and Monroe High Schools, Tulalip Heritage School, and Stanwood, Highland, Tulalip, and Allen Creek Elementary Schools, spent a day in the dirt, planting trees and restoring salmon habitat in their community. In addition, the Task Force has engaged students from Mariner High School in Mukilteo, Liberty Elementary in Marysville, as well as several local Girl and Boy Scout troops and home-school groups, in hands-on learning about watersheds and water quality.

The Task Force also makes educational opportunities available to adults. Beyond presentations to community groups, we recruit students from local community colleges and four-year universities as volunteer interns. Several college students in the past year have taken advantage of this opportunity, thereby developing on-the-job skills while providing valuable data collection and project support to the Task Force's staff and programs. Overall, the Task Force strives to offer a wide variety of educational opportunities, which both suit the needs of community members, and help facilitate the cultural shift necessary to complete our salmon-saving mission.

Community Outreach

Because aquatic debris poses a potential threat to the quality of habitat and the survival of salmon in Puget Sound and our watersheds, the Task Force established a River and Beach Clean-up Program in the summer of 2005. We have since helped establish the Snohomish-Camano Nearshore Cooperative Committee (NCC), a cooperative group that brings partners together to coordinate efforts and create synergistic relationships between like-minded organizations. Other participants in this committee include: WSU Beach Watchers/Skagit and Snohomish Counties (Beach Watchers), People For Puget Sound, Snohomish County Marine Resources Committee, Puget Soundkeeper Alliance (PSA), Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Puget Sound Action Team, City of Edmonds Parks, City of Everett Parks, Edmonds Community College, Snohomish County Surface Water Management, Tulalip Tribes, and Port of Everett. The primary goal of the River and Beach Clean-up Program is to provide citizens with education about, and involvement in, river and beach stewardship.

The Task Force worked with NCC partners to host "Beach Expos" at 3 of 5 beach cleanups, and one river cleanup. Over 420 volunteers donated 1,720 hours of time (a value of \$25,800), as they collected 4,500 pounds of beach and river debris, learned about the nearshore environment by experiencing touch-tanks, and taking low tide "beach walks" with Beach Watcher naturalists. At the NCC Cooperative's United Way Day of Caring event at Jetty Island alone, 230 volunteers tagged creosote logs for removal, collected over 3,000 pounds of marine debris, and removed over an acre of invasive plants. NCC members returned to Jetty Island in May 2007 to continue garbage collection and removal of Scotch broom.

In addition to the Beach Expos and river and beach clean-ups, the Task Force worked with PSA to coordinate a Citizen Soundkeeper Training. The training educated beach and river aficionados, about how to spot and report illegal pollution harmful to Puget Sound waters.

Volunteers: 489

Volunteer Hours: 1,807

Volunteer Value: \$27,105

Lbs. of Garbage Collected: 4,500

Acres Invasive Weeds Removed: 1.5

Funder: Tulalip Charitable Foundation

The Task Force decided it was time to perform direct outreach through presentations to Rotary Clubs and Fishing Groups throughout our region. We visited four Rotaries and three fishing clubs, with a goal of presenting to every Rotary and fish group in our area by the end of 2008. The Task Force is also working to meet with local city council and staff in the municipalities that have benefited from Task Force staff and volunteer efforts.



LEAF School instructor and Task Force Board Member, Tom Murphy, tosses a chum carcass to waiting volunteers.

Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

The Lead Entity Process is an effort the Task Force takes seriously, as well. Staff members sit on two citizen-based policy forming committees, the Stillaguamish Implementation Review Committee (SIRC) and the Snohomish Forum, and three technical groups, the Stillaguamish Technical Advisory Group, Snohomish Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee, and the Island County Technical Advisory Group (TAG). The Task Force plays a significant role in reviewing and prioritizing project proposals.

In a relatively new program, the Task Force is partnering with the Learn-n-serve Environmental Anthropology Field (LEAF) School at Edmonds Community College, which consists of a sequence of courses in Human Ecological Stewardship. LEAF classes run fall, spring and summer quarters, and the Task Force's programs feature prevalently in their curriculum. These students not only gain salmon habitat restoration knowledge through hands-on experience, but also provide a valuable volunteer service for the Task Force, helping to set up volunteer planting events, monitoring vegetation survival, knocking down knotweed, working at volunteer events, salvaging native plants for future projects, and flinging fish to aid with nutrient enhancement. It is collaborative efforts such as this that makes a difference to the Task Force program.

Nutrient Enhancement

The Task Force began its Nutrient Enhancement program in the winter of 2003 in cooperation with the Stillaguamish Tribal Hatchery. Salmon carcasses are an important source of marine-derived nutrients for the freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems, and play a key role in maintaining their productivity. Due to reduced salmon numbers, many streams and rivers have become deficient in marine derived nutrients such as carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorous. Dead salmon serve as direct and indirect energy sources to many species, including juvenile salmon, birds, mammals, and macroinvertebrates.



Washington Conservation Corps AmeriCorps crew member sprays knotweed in the Stillaguamish basin.

During the winter of 2006, volunteers from the Washington Conservation Corps and Edmonds Community College distributed 520 carcasses provided by the Stillaguamish Tribal Hatchery to Harvey and Kunz Creeks within the Stillaguamish River Basin. These streams are located on private forestland, owned and maintained by Pilchuck Tree Farm.

Assessment, Monitoring, Research

Stillaguamish Knotweed Control Project

The Stillaguamish River basin is quickly becoming infested with invasive knotweed, an aggressive noxious weed. The Task Force and other members of the Stillaguamish Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) have surveyed, and are working to control, knotweed throughout the basin in both the mainstems and the tributaries of the Stillaguamish. The initial efforts of the Task Force were funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation's Pulling Together Initiative, the U.S. Forest Service, and a Department of Ecology Coastal Protection grant. Focusing on Stillaguamish tributaries, the Task Force surveyed for the upstream sources of knotweed on tributaries throughout the basin. In 2007, control of this noxious weed will focus on Jim, Canyon, and Turlo Creeks. The Task Force and its partners work with willing landowners to treat knotweed in riparian areas. The ultimate goal of this project is to revegetate treated sections of these tributaries.

Number of Willing Landowners: 102

Length of Stream Surveyed: 22 Miles

Length of Stream Treated: 4 Miles

Partners: US Forest Service – Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie Forest; Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians; WA Dept. of Natural Resources; WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife; WA Dept. of Agriculture; Snohomish County; Noxious Weed Control Board, Surface Water Management and Parks Dept.; Skagit County Noxious Weed Control Board; Snohomish Conservation District; The Nature Conservancy.

Funders: NFWF Pulling Together Initiative, US Forest Service

Vegetation Monitoring

Vegetation Monitoring is important to the success of habitat restoration projects. Task Force staff and volunteers, including Edmonds Community College's LEAF School, assisted with measuring plant survival and health at several planting sites. Replanting occurs if plant survival is below 90 percent.

PROJECT EXPENDITURES						
Code	Project	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	RFEG Funds	Other Funds	Total Spent
PM0	Administration	0	\$0	\$2,780	\$0	\$2,780
PM 00	Executive Director	568	\$8,520	\$15,233	\$3,634	\$27,387
PM01	Volunteer & Education Coordinator	57	\$855	\$11,129	\$563	\$12,547
PM10	Project Equipment	0	\$0	\$1,374	\$115	\$1,489
PM11	Program Infrastructure	0	\$0	\$41,755	\$275	\$42,030
PM18	Project Manager	0	\$0	\$2,696	\$0	\$2,696
PM29	Habitat Restoration Technician (WCC IP's)	0	\$0	\$2,709	\$17,525	\$20,234
PM31	Grant Writing	0	\$0	\$8,102	\$0	\$8,102
PM32	Lead Entity Process	0	\$0	\$4,705	\$81	\$4,786
PM33	RFEG/CAB Meetings, Reports, etc.	0	\$0	\$2,757	\$0	\$2,757
PM73	Fundraising	0	\$0	\$1,692	\$90	\$1,782
PM74	Restoration Coordinator	0	\$0	\$8,022	\$0	\$8,022
PM79	Annual Meeting	0	\$0	\$4,309	\$4,728	\$9,037
	Program Management Totals	625	\$9,375	\$107,263	\$27,011	\$143,649
E00	Education – General	0	\$0	\$458	\$0	\$458
E03	Volunteer Stipend*	0	\$0	\$1,094	\$0	\$1,094
E25	Krueger Creek	133	\$1,995	\$1,172	\$206	\$3,373
E36	Classrooms/Presentations	33	\$495	\$6,826	\$316	\$7,637
E37	Jones Creek	48	\$720	\$0	\$1,965	\$2,685
E62	Restoration Education for Young Stewards	412	\$6,180	\$4,633	\$18,893	\$29,706
E65	Quilceda/Allen Education	0	\$0	\$0	\$10,895	\$10,895
	Education Program Totals	626	\$9,390	\$14,183	\$32,275	\$55,848
H00	Habitat – General	0	\$0	\$1,981	\$0	\$1,981
H05	Buck Island	112	\$1,680	\$1,076	\$0	\$2,756
H06	Portage Creek Stewardship	373	\$5,595	\$0	\$1,329	\$6,924
H07	Prairie Creek Revegetation	508	\$7,620	\$0	\$5,743	\$13,363
H12	Nursery	216	\$3,240	\$2,493	\$23,109	\$28,842
H13	Hecla's Wetland	4	\$60	\$15	\$0	\$75
H19	Sno-Isle Stream Habitat	335	\$5,025	\$5,097	\$13	\$10,135
H23	Stillaguamish Stream Habitat	0	\$0	\$997	\$0	\$997
H27	WCC Crew	0	\$0	\$11,279	\$45,000	\$56,279
H40	Canyon Creek/Aldarra Golf Club	150	\$2,250	\$0	\$18,496	\$20,746
H45	Blue Slough	0	\$0	\$236	\$0	\$236
H47	Stilly Knotweed CWMA	0	\$0	\$1,467	\$0	\$1,467
H49	City of Snohomish – Habitat	0	\$0	\$0	\$511	\$511
H50	Pilchuck River - Dahl	0	\$0	\$369	\$1,658	\$2,027
H55	Kissee & Barr Creek Restoration	476	\$7,140	\$4,632	\$14,105	\$25,877
H55	Tychman Slough Restoration	34	\$510	\$0	\$0	\$510
H57	Smokes Farm	0	\$0	\$0	\$741	\$741
H59	River & Beach Cleanups	1807	\$27,105	\$1,414	\$11,725	\$40,244

Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

PROJECT EXPENDITURES - Continued						
Code	Project	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	RFEF Funds	Other Funds	Total Spent
H64	Quilceda Creek-Mustach	0	\$0	\$0	\$2,589	\$2,589
H66	Snoqualmie River-Duvall	1317	\$19,755	\$0	\$35,806	\$55,561
H67	West Fork Woods Creek-Gerdes	0	\$0	\$0	\$1,938	\$1,938
H71	Quade Creek	68	\$1,122	\$3,001	\$588	\$4,711
H75	Allen Creek - Jennings Nature Park	860	\$12,900	\$0	\$30,163	\$43,063
H77	Stillwater Restoration	0	\$0	\$1,560	\$0	\$1,560
H80	Pilchuck River - Reach	0	\$0	\$889	\$0	\$889
X01	NW Pipeline	0	\$0	\$0	\$4,555	\$4,555
	Habitat Program Totals	6260	\$94,002	\$36,506	\$198,069	\$328,577
M51	Stilly Monitoring	3	\$45	\$0	\$0	\$45
M54/ H60	Stilly Knotweed Monitoring & Control	132	\$1,980	\$1,590	\$31,612	\$35,182
M72	NF Stillaguamish ELJ Wood Budget Monitoring	0	\$0	\$1,415	\$0	\$1,415
	Monitoring Program Totals	132	\$1,980	\$3,005	\$31,612	\$36,597
N30	Carcass Distributions	27	\$405	\$1,096	\$23	\$1,524
	Carcass Distributions Totals	27	\$405	\$1,096	\$23	\$1,524
P00	Fish Production – General	0	\$0	\$194	\$0	\$194
P02	Possession Bait Coho Rearing Pond	307	\$4,605	\$1,620	\$30,723	\$36,948
P14	Everett Net Pen	225	\$3,375	\$446	\$23,643	\$27,464
	Fish Production Totals	532	\$7,980	\$2,260	\$54,366	\$64,606
	Totals	8,202	\$123,132	\$164,313	\$343,356	\$630,801

*Note: Hours donated for volunteer stipend awards are incorporated in the projects themselves.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Franchesca Perez, Vice President
Suzi Wong Swint, Treasurer
Andy Loch, Secretary
Kip Killebrew, Director
Tom Murphy, Director
Chris Grieves, Director

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Snohomish County Surface Water Management Outreach Steward
Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
Snohomish County Surface Water Management Adult Education
City of Bothell Surface Water Management
Stillaguamish Tribe Hatchery Biologist
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Wild Steelhead Coalition; Fly Fisherman; Fly Fishing Guide

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Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group is to conserve and restore self-sustaining salmonid populations through close involvement with diverse community interests.

OUR VISION

To the benefits of future generations, we envision that robust populations of naturally spawning salmonids will thrive in our region for the use and enjoyment of all.

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group (Mid Sound), founded in 1991 as a 501 (c)(3) tax-exempt non-profit organization, includes volunteer members representing businesses, local governmental agencies, tribal interests and environmental organizations.

Mid Sound directly supports the enhancement of salmonid populations and habitat throughout our region. The geographic region includes the Lake Washington basin (WRIA 8), Green/Duwamish River basin (WRIA 9), streams draining along the King County shoreline and Kitsap County streams flowing into the Sound from the Northeast end of the Hood Canal Bridge, south to the Kitsap-Pierce County line (WRIA 15).

Since 1991 Mid Sound has completed more than 270 projects, including streambank fencing, native tree and shrub plantings, fish blockage removal, wetland restoration, fish enhancement

and monitoring, education and training events. Each of these projects serve as a catalyst to building community partnerships in Puget Sound. Together, these partnerships contribute invaluable time and resources for the recovery of salmon in the Pacific Northwest. It is our belief that community-based salmon recovery develops educational opportunities for volunteers to learn about, and become part of the interwoven complexities of our environment.

HABITAT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Olalla Creek Tributary/Stream Channel & Fish Passage

In 1986 a small pond (3,760 sq. ft.) was dug in a pasture adjacent to unnamed tributary (stream # 15.0111) to Olalla Creek. The creek was routed through the pond to provide a source of water. The outlet from the pond was put through an 18" metal culvert and concrete fish ladder before returning to the original channel. Coho, Steelhead and cutthroat trout have been observed in the vicinity of the fish ladder but it's doubtful they were ever able to pass through it. In 1996 the fish ladder began to fail and became a complete blockage to upstream fish passage.

The project benefits anadromous fish by creating nearly 500ft of naturalistic stream channel designed to provide spawning and rearing habitat through the installation of large woody debris and the establishment of a riparian buffer. The new channel provides fish access to 1.5 mi of stream habitat, 2 acres of wetland complex and Mace Lake, and also the small man made pond. By working with long time residents of the area, we encouraged future restoration efforts within the Olalla Creek Watershed.

This project was funded by a WDFW Volunteer Cooperative Grant and a National Fish & Wildlife Foundation Community Salmon Fund Grant.

Cool Creek Culvert Replacement Project

This project sponsored by the Family Forest Fish Passage Program was to improve fish passage by replacing a fish blockage culvert and failing road with a larger culvert on a private roadway serving seven different homeowners. The roadbed near the culvert was unstable, at immediate risk of washout. The roadbed was built of used tires, rubble and refuse. The culvert replacement improves fish passage for coho, chum, cutthroat and steelhead.

The project was originally designed to replace the 36" existing culvert with a no-slope option design 11' pipe arch culvert. Pilchuck Excavating was hired to do the installation of this pipe, and upon installation the pipe failed, resulting in reconfiguring of the design. The new design ended up being a 16' wide bottomless multi-plate arch design using 5 gauge steel plates. Mid Sound hired Pilchuck Excavating to reinstall the 50' structure.



Picture Caption

Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group



Picture Caption

The end result is a newly stabilized road crossing and adequate fish passage for salmon migration.

Beaver Creek Phase 3

The Beaver Creek Estuary Restoration is a project located on US Navy property at Fleet Industrial Supply Center, Manchester Fuel Depot (MFD) near Manchester. During 2003 MFD completed the first phase of an extensive fish passage and habitat enhancement project for the portion of Beaver Creek that runs through the Navy's property. Our project initially started in 2005 with rough excavation of the floodplain. This work, known as Phase 2 was suspended at the end of 2005 while funding was secured and designs were finalized for the estuary and fish passage components (Phase 3). The goals of phase 3 were to provide natural stream meanders for the lower reaches of Beaver Creek, increase the estuary area and remove 2 fish blocking structures. This stream work was based upon extensive analysis of the hydrology, geomorphology, and topography of the Beaver Creek System.

Prior to connecting the stream to the estuary and Puget Sound, a 32 foot long concrete arch span bridge was installed in six pieces that had to be lifted by a large crane and placed around and under the existing utilities. Upstream of the bridge, the stream channel now more closely resembles natural conditions. Various habitat features were incorporated into the design, including riffles, large woody debris, pools, etc. Once the stream and bridge sections were completed the lower fish ladder was removed and the connection to the Puget Sound was complete.

Planting of the flood plain and stream banks occurred in February and March of 2007. The project was deemed completed after the plantings this year, although additional plantings are still planned.

This project was funded through a grant from the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board in the amount of \$485,050. Matching funds in the amount of \$208,950 were largely provided by the Navy.

This project has received several awards, and has been presented at 2 conferences:

- Chief of Naval Operations Environmental Quality Award (2006) for Industrial Installations,
- Secretary of the Navy Environmental Quality Award (2006) for Industrial Installations,
- American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) – Silver Award for Excellence in the category of “Social, Economic & Sustainable Design Considerations”
- National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration (NCER) – April, 2007, Kansas City, MO
- Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS) 2007 International Conference – June, 2007, Sacramento, CA.

Special Thanks goes to the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board, the East WRIA 15 Lead Entity and the various technical and citizen review panels, The US Navy, specifically Glenn Schmidt, GeoEngineers Inc., Aquatic Contracting, LLC, The Suquamish Tribe, The Boy Scouts, and Dan Larsen and his group of student volunteers.

Kitsap County Fish Passage Design Projects

Indianola/Miller Bay

Kitsap County has acquired several land parcels around Miller Bay to protect the uplands, streams flowing through these parcels and the Miller Bay Estuary. One such parcel is 3.5 acres of nearshore located near Indianola and known as the Indianola Waterfront Preserve. This parcel includes significant estuarine habitat that historically was part of Miller Bay. This parcel is located on the Port Madison Indian Reservation. The estuarine habitat is currently restricted to a 15” culvert under Chief Sealth Drive.



Picture Caption

Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

Mid Sound is working with GeoEngineers, The Suquamish Tribe Fisheries Department, Kitsap County and the Indian Bay Homeowners Association to come up with a bridge design to replace the culvert, and restore the natural ecological function of the estuary. This project will deliver preliminary design plans to a level sufficient to begin the permitting process.

Harper Estuary

Currently Harper Estuary is a pocket estuary with most of the habitat being salt marsh and intertidal mudflat. The estuary has one main channel and a disconnected fresh water wetland. As it stands Harper Estuary provides little habitat for migrating juvenile salmon due to periodic barrier caused by high ebb tide velocities with in the existing 36" culvert and very little habitat within the main channel of flow. Restoration opportunities in the estuary are related to improving the hydrologic function, geomorphic composition and specific habitat that is found within the estuary.

The Harper Estuary Culvert Feasibility/Design is a project, which will provide all analytical information, design plans and permits needed to do a culvert replacement project in Harper Estuary. The feasibility and design will build upon an Army Corps of Engineers study (Harper Estuary Section 206 Restoration) and incorporate an analysis of both upstream and downstream habitat. We will do engineering to determine gradient, drainage, flows and bank full width. A feasibility study will allow for geomorphic analysis to be conducted, which will be important in determining bed load for road and culvert design. This project would include a final design and would allow for monies to be located for acquisition of permits. Feasibility would also include county input on future road improvements, and tribal collaboration in identifying culturally sensitive areas in or adjacent to project premises.

Beaver Creek – Phase 4

This project will build on the work performed during the first 3 phases, including the SRF Board funded project detailed above. Specifically, this project will provide the funds for the design and permitting of an additional culvert at the upstream boundary of the US Navy property. This main-channel culvert is a partial barrier to fish migration. Additionally, the project will design removal of an instream sediment trap/pond that was created as part of the project's first phase. This sediment trap is not needed, forces the need for constant maintenance and is starving the lower stream reaches of needed sediment load. This design project is funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Matching funds are coming from the Navy and Mid Sound's allocation of RFEG funds.

2007 Pacific Salmon Foundation Auction

Due to staffing constraints in early 2007, Mid sound had to cancel our Annual Fundraising Gala. This event was our celebratory "thank you" and was a highly anticipated night for our partners and members. In attempt to replace the fundraising portion of our event, and increase awareness of Mid Sound and the RFEG Program, we partnered with the Pacific Salmon Foundation from British Columbia on their auction, held in April. This even was attended by over 150 guests, and raised \$3,000 for Mid Sound. Additional funds were raised that night, and will be distributed to on-the-ground habitat restoration in British Columbia.



Picture Caption

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Administration	\$51,909	144	\$2,160		\$54,069
Habitat Restoration	\$47,581	816	\$12,240	\$851,633	\$911,454
Outreach & Education	\$15,365				\$15,365
Training	\$245				\$245
Totals	\$115,100	960	\$14,400	\$851,633	\$981,133

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Al Barrie, Trout Unlimited, Green/Duwamish River (WRIA 9) Steering Committee Member
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 Rob Fritz, King County DOT
 Robert Johnson, Washington Wildlife Federation
Willy O'Neil, In Memorium

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South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group**MISSION STATEMENT**

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group (SPSSEG) is a non-profit organization committed to increasing salmon populations in the South Puget Sound Region through habitat restoration, community education, and volunteer involvement.

RFEG OVERVIEW

SPSSEG covers a large, diverse area with several counties, watersheds and opportunities for salmon restoration. The area includes the Puyallup, Nisqually, and Deschutes River systems, their respective tributaries and hundreds of small streams draining directly to South Puget Sound. From July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007, we completed seven in-stream restoration projects, conducted and/or participated in numerous education projects and have seventeen projects in progress.

In the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) Round 7, four SPSSEG projects were funded, including five National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and four US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) grants. SPSSEG has submitted four proposals for SRFB Round 8 funding consideration.

A nine-member board provides a wealth of technical expertise and institutional knowledge for this 16 year-old RFEG. The Group has well established partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies including USFWS, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), NFWF, SRFB, Department of Ecology, Pierce County, Thurston County, Mason County, Kitsap County, Pierce Conservation District, Thurston Conservation District, Mason Conservation District, Green Diamond Resources, Taylor Shellfish, South Sound Fly Fishers, Squaxin Island Tribe, Nisqually Indian Tribe, Puyallup Indian Tribe, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission. SPSSEG employs four full-time employees, one full-time Washington Conservation Commission (WCC) intern, and a part-time accounts manager.

Numerous property owners, the businesses, families and other salmon supporters comprise SPSSEG membership. The membership is complimented by non-member donors and volunteers who contribute valuable time and money. A newsletter and quarterly meetings help the membership, staff, and board keep in touch.

RIPARIAN PLANTING**Horn Creek (in progress)**

This USFWS funded project will plant approximately 3.5 acres of riparian area along Horn Creek, on Wilcox Farm property.



Engineered Log Jams on the Mashel River.

This planting will partner with the Nisqually Tribe to create a 100 foot buffer along the lower 1,000 feet of Horn Creek that was degraded due to historical farming practices. Project completion is scheduled for fall 2007. *WRIA 11*

Mashel (in progress)

This NFWF funded project will plant approximately 3 acres of riparian area on and around SPSSEG-built log jams projects on the Mashel River. Project completion is scheduled for fall 2007. *WRIA 11*

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**IN-STREAM HABITAT PROJECTS****Silver Creek Dam Removal (in progress)**

This project will remove a defunct wooden dam built in the 1930s for a federal fish hatchery on Silver Creek, a tributary to the Upper White River. SPSSEG staff will oversee construction activities under the direction of the Project Engineer. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service funded the project, and will provide employees to monitor turbidity during the construction period and monitor streambed conditions through a full cycle of high and low flows. Construction is scheduled to take place in fall 2007. *WRIA 10*

Greenwater ELJ and Road Removal (in progress)

The Greenwater Engineered Log Jam (ELJ) and Road Removal project, funded by SRFB and the USDA Forest Service, will continue the restoration efforts in this clear-water tributary of the Upper White River. The project is still in pre-design phase,

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

with a design team hard at work refining locations for ELJ structures and surveying decommissioned road segments to remove from the floodplain. Construction is scheduled for the summer of 2009. *WRIA 10*

Mashel River Restoration (in progress)

The Mashel River Restoration project, funded by SRFB, NFWF, FAF, and others, is scheduled for completion by mid-October 2007 with the construction of the final three ELJs designed for the project reach. Log jams placed last year have weathered high flow events, and are currently functioning well as geomorphic features and habitat structures. Ongoing monitoring will yield valuable information for upcoming projects. *WRIA 11*

Nisqually Pines Fish Passage (in progress)

Nisqually Pines is a large community development on the Nisqually River near Yelm. The community has preserved a forest buffer between the river and housing development as a wildlife corridor and community green space for hiking trails and recreation. SPSSEG, along with the community members, will be removing an undersized culvert and replacing it with a small walking bridge. SPSSEG received funding from South Sound Fly Fishers and NFWF to cover materials, project management and engineering costs. *WRIA 11*

Ohop Restoration (in progress)

The Ohop Restoration project, funded by SRFB, USFWS, PCD, and others, will correct historic ditching and draining of a one-mile reach of Lower Ohop Creek, one of two major tributaries to the Nisqually River. A new channel will be constructed to recreate a sinuous stream that is hydrologically connected to the floodplain, the floodplain will be replanted with native vegetation, and the formerly ditched channel will be backfilled and planted. Construction on the Ohop project is scheduled to begin in 2008, but will continue in phases for years to come. *WRIA 11*

McLane Creek Restoration (in progress)

This NFWF funded project will install four small LWD jams on McLane Creek near the confluence of Swift Creek. Two acres of riparian area will also be improved by an invasive plant removal and native planting. Construction is scheduled for summer 2007. *WRIA 13*

Little Fish Trap (in progress)

This SRFB-funded nearshore project will repair a modified spit and estuary in Puget Sound. SPSSEG will utilize historical information to repair past human disturbances. The project will restore the tidal channel to its original location and reconfigure the spit to function naturally. Construction is scheduled for 2009. *WRIA 13*



Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail.

Skookum Inlet Restoration (in progress)

This SRFB-funded project will replace a small barrier tidal culvert with a wooden bridge. Post project conditions will increase tidal inundation and fish passage to a small estuary. Construction is scheduled for summer 2007. *WRIA 14*

Schneider Creek LWD and Riparian (completed)

This NFWF-funded project removed tons of concrete from the channel and installed several pieces of LWD along a degraded stream bank. In tandem with the in-stream restoration component hundreds of trees were planted along the riparian corridor. Construction was completed in 2006. *WRIA 14*

Perry Creek Tributary Repair (completed)

This SRFB-funded project initially removed two barrier culverts on a small tributary to Perry Creek. During peak flooding events in 2004 and 2005 several log weirs were damaged, compromising upstream fish passage. In summer 2006, SPSSEG returned to repair stream continuity at the site. All of the damaged weirs were removed and the stream channel was restored using LWD and cobbles. *WRIA 14*

Little Skookum Valley LWD (completed)

This SRFB-funded project installed 20 pieces of LWD in a small, ditched stream channel. The LWD will increase habitat complexity along a 700 foot stream reach. Construction was completed in summer 2006. *WRIA 14*

Sherwood Creek Berm Removal (completed)

This NFWF-funded nearshore project removed portions of an abandoned shellfish barrier berm near the mouth of Sherwood Creek. The berm was lowered to improve local estuary conditions. Construction was completed in summer 2006. *WRIA 14*

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

Frye Cove Restoration (in progress)

SPSSEG is partnering with a private landowner and many agencies to develop and install a 'soft' shoreline armoring alternative along the Puget Sound nearshore. An encroached, concrete block bulkhead will be removed and replaced with an appropriate LWD alternative. Construction is scheduled for 2008. *WRIA 14*

Frye Cove County Park (in progress)

This SRFB-funded nearshore project will remove 400' of a rock rip rap bulkhead along a local Puget Sound beach. Several pieces of LWD will be incorporated into the final design. The project is located at a Thurston County Park. Construction is scheduled for 2008. *WRIA 14*

Pirates Cove Restoration (in progress)

This SRFB-funded nearshore project will repair a human-modified spit and remove a tidal road prism from Puget Sound. The project will improve natural tidal conditions and restore a historical barrier spit and estuary. Construction is scheduled for 2008. *WRIA 14*

Walker Boat Ramp (in progress)

This NFWF-funded project will remove a derelict concrete boat ramp from the Puget Sound. The project is located at a Mason County Park. Construction is scheduled for summer 2007. *WRIA 14*

Hiawata Creek Fish Passage in Progress)

SPSSEG has been awarded a SRFB grant (partially matched by Mason County) to replace an impassable culvert on Hiawata Creek, a tributary to South Puget Sound in Mason County. The project will support substantial salmon and cutthroat trout population in the creek and Puget Sound. Construction is scheduled for summer 2008. *WRIA 14*



Nearshore Culvert Barrier Assessment.

Jarrell Cove (in Progress)

SPSSEG has been awarded a SRFB grant (partially matched by Mason County) to replace an impassable culvert at the tide-water mouth of Jarrell Cove Creek, a tributary to South Puget Sound in Mason County. The project will support a more substantial salmon and cutthroat trout population in the creek and Puget Sound. Construction is scheduled for summer 2008. *WRIA 14*

Malaney Creek Fish Passage (completed)

SPSSEG partnered with Mason County to remove a 4 foot culvert and install a 20 foot concrete box culvert on Agate Road. The SRFB-funded project opened up 2.5 miles of habitat. Construction was completed in 2006. *WRIA 14*

Huge Creek (completed)

This FFFPP and LIP funded project removed a partial barrier culvert and installed a full spanning, pre-fabricated 60' steel beam-bridge, improving fish passage to approximately 15 miles of habitat. Construction was completed in summer 2006. *WRIA 15*

Rocky Creek (in progress)

In partnership with Pierce County, SPSSEG will replace a 7.5-foot round pipe with a 30-foot concrete box culvert on 144th Street KPN on the Key Peninsula. This collaborative funding effort between SRBD, USFWS, and Pierce County addresses the last barrier to fish migration in the Rocky Creek basin. Expected completion date is fall 2007. *WRIA 15*

Rocky Creek – McColm and Robinson (completed)

With funding from FFFPP and LIP, SPSSEG replaced two 3-foot barrier culverts on adjacent private driveways on the Key Peninsula with two 12-foot diameter ellipse culverts. These two projects restored access to 3 ½ miles of spawning and rearing habitat on the west fork of Rocky Creek. Construction was completed in summer 2006. *WRIA 15*

ASSESSMENTS, MONITORING, RESEARCH

WRIA 11-12 Nearshore Assessment (in progress)

This project will assess the shoreline between Point Defiance and the Nisqually Reach for quantity and quality of nearshore habitat available to support salmonids. Project goals and objectives include: compilation of new and existing data; restoration recommendations for the project reach; a list of potential restoration projects; and preliminary design for two to three site-specific projects. Data collection for the assessment is nearly complete. Data analysis, formulation of restoration recommendations, and project design are expected to continue through

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group



Salmon mural in Olympia.

2008. Project partners include: the Nisqually Indian Tribe, Pierce County, WDFW, Burlington Northern-Santa Fe Railway Co. and others.

Mashel River Effectiveness Monitoring (in progress)

The Mashel Monitoring Project is funded by the Nisqually Indian Tribe as a pilot study to assist in the development of a Nisqually Basin Chinook Recovery Monitoring Plan. The Mashel River is the largest tributary to the Nisqually River and has been the focus of a myriad of restoration projects completed and in progress by SPSSEG. *WRIA 11*

WRIA 13 Prioritization and Development Project (completed)

This SRFB-funded project provided fourteen conceptual and/or preliminary fish passage designs creating a diverse suite of projects for the Lead Entity. Several of these projects will be targeted by local project sponsors for future salmon restoration opportunities. This project was completed in 2007.

WRIA 13 Nearshore Restoration Design (in progress)

Assessments in the WRIA 13 nearshore have been conducted by other entities; SPSSEG will build upon these assessments to identify beneficial salmon projects along the nearshore environment. At least five projects will be selected and designed to a preliminary design level.

WRIA 14 Nearshore Project Development (in progress)

Assessments in the WRIA 14 Nearshore have been conducted by other entities; SPSSEG will build upon these assessments to identify beneficial salmon projects along the nearshore environment. These projects may include bulkhead removal, wood and gravel recruitment, restoring estuaries function, dam and levee removal, tidal culverts, and others.

WRIA 15 Nearshore Restoration Design (in progress)

This project will utilize the Key Peninsula-Gig Harbor-Islands nearshore habitat assessment to identify high priority restoration areas and target specific salmon habitat restoration projects along WRIA 15 shorelines in Carr Inlet, part of Case inlet, Anderson Island, McNeil Island, and Fox Island. Up to 10 projects will be selected and designed to preliminary levels.

EDUCATION

Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail (on-going)

The trail provides public access to one of the South Sound's healthiest chum salmon runs. Taylor United Shellfish Co. donated a 20-year land lease for a half-mile interpretive trail along Kennedy Creek. Over 50 volunteer trail guides educate school groups and visitors. During the 2006 season the trail saw 3,000 total visitors. SPSSEG partners with Mason Conservation District, Taylor Shellfish and Green Diamond Resources, and the Kennedy Creek Management Committee to organize the trail. *WRIA 14*

Kids with Conservation Knowledge (KWICK) (on-going)

SPSSEG supports Mason Conservation District by teaching salmon ecology classes at their annual KWICK program. Over 300 Mason County 3rd graders take part in the two day event located at Little Skookum Shellfish Growers farm near Shelton. *WRIA 14*

Education and Outreach (on-going)

SPSSEG staff, Board, and volunteers are always looking for ways to provide salmon education and outreach for our community. This year SPSSEG participated in Point Defiance Zoo Earth Day, Tacoma-Pierce County Children's Water 4 Life Festival, Nisqually Watershed Festival, and numerous other educational and outreach events. SPSSEG engaged several hundred volunteers and students in its Horn Creek and Mashel River plantings. Partnering with a local business Capitol Theater, SPSSEG sponsored a mural event: over 500 people painted four large chum salmon on the side of the theater during Olympia Arts Walk in April 2007.

Generic Projects (on-going)

Our Riparian Restoration, Office Operations, Project Management, Project Engineering, and Project Construction project funding allows SPSSEG to utilize RFEG funds for all our individual on-the-ground and education projects as well as to maintain and build our organizational infrastructure.

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

PROJECT EXPENDITURES								
	Project Name	RFEF Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent	State	Federal
4	Lower Mashel Restoration				\$9,982	\$9,982		
5	Lower Yelm Creek Restoration	\$298			\$952	\$1,250		\$298
7	Mashel Restoration	\$1,047	150		\$319,406	\$320,453		\$1,047
9	Perry Creek Fish Passage	\$1,480			\$9,805	\$11,285	\$980	\$500
19	Little Skookum Valley: Riparian				\$12,914	\$12,914		
20	Malaney Creek Fish Passage				\$293,398	\$293,398		
21	WRIA 13 Prioritization & Dev				\$31,572	\$31,572		
22	Perkins Creek Fish Passage				\$118	\$118		
23	WRIA 11/12 Nearshore				\$57,689	\$57,689		
24	WRIA 13 Nearshore				\$22,109	\$22,109		
25	Adams Creek				\$2,450	\$2,450		
26	WRIA 14 Nearshore				\$16,939	\$16,939		
27	Hiawata Creek				\$79,432	\$79,432		
28	Frye Cove Bulkhead				\$34,919	\$34,919		
29	Skookum Inlet				\$17,331	\$17,331		
30	Lower Ohop				\$92	\$92		
31	Rocky Creek				\$35,418	\$35,418		
32	Jarrell Cove				\$3,403	\$3,403		
34	Greenwater				\$24,376	\$24,376		
35	Mashel River Assessment				\$943	\$943		
36	WRIA 15 Prioritization				\$690	\$690		
37	Frye Cove Park				\$127	\$127		
38	Little Fish Trap				\$126	\$126		
39	Pirates Cove				\$1,128	\$1,128		
F10	McKenna Creek				\$50,065	\$50,065		
F7	Schaller-Huge Creek				\$103,667	\$103,667		
F8	Robinson-WF Rocky Creek				\$51,013	\$51,013		
F9	McColm-WF Rocky Creek				\$46,137	\$46,137		
A2	Kennedy Creek Stations				\$3,991	\$3,991		
A3	Volunteer/Education/Outreach				\$19,511	\$19,511		
NF3	Mashel Restoration				\$3,801	\$3,801		
NF4	Schneider Creek				\$15,676	\$15,676		
NF5	Sherwood Berm				\$15,580	\$15,580		
NF6	McLane Creek				\$1,439	\$1,439		
NF7	Spurgeon Creek				\$11	\$11		
NF8	Walker Boat Ramp				\$60	\$60		
NF10	Frye Cove Bulkhead				\$9,312	\$9,312		
NF11	Clover Creek/Shera's Falls				\$471	\$471		
N1	EPA Mashel Monitoring				\$17,415	\$17,415		
PC7	Ohop				\$2,236	\$2,236		
PCD	Project Development				\$1,329	\$1,329		
U8	Horn Creek		150		\$3,793	\$3,793		
U9	Silver Creek				\$1,636	\$1,636		
NLT	Powell Creek				\$9,423	\$9,423		

PROJECT EXPENDITURES - Continued								
Generic Projects	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent	State	Federal	
Riparian Restoration	\$132				\$132	\$45	\$87	
Office Operations	\$114,728	106	\$1,590		\$116,318	\$41,041	\$73,686	\$114,728
Project Management	\$8,003				\$8,003	\$4,832	\$3,171	\$8,003
Project Engineering								
Education & Outreach	\$3,980				\$3,980	\$3,455	\$525	\$3,980
Project Construction	\$715				\$715		\$715	\$715
Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail	\$1,524	640	\$9,600	\$16,484	\$27,608		\$1,524	\$1,524
Totals	\$131,908	1,046	\$11,190	\$1,348,370	\$1,491,468	\$50,354	\$81,554	\$131,907



Huge Creek Bridge.

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

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Christine Garst, Accounts Manager
Eli Asher, Project Manager
Kimberlie Gridley, Project Manager
Kristin Williamson, Project Manager
Lance Winecka, Acting Executive Director / Project Manager
Sarah Clarke, WCC Individual Placement
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South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
Committed to restoring South Puget Sound salmon habitat

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

MISSION STATEMENT

To perpetuate and enhance the genetic diversity and stocks of Wild Salmon in Hood Canal through the protection and restoration of Salmon habitat, stewardship and research for watershed and marine ecosystems, community education and outreach, and any other means appropriate. Adopted in 1990, modified in 1999, 2002, and 2003.

RFEG OVERVIEW

The region covered by the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (HCSEG) includes all streams emptying into Hood Canal south of the Hood Canal Floating Bridge. Among them, the Skokomish River is the largest drainage into Hood Canal but the Dosewallips, Duckabush and the Hama Hama, and Quilcene Rivers are also significant. These snow and glacier fed streams start high in the Olympic Mountains and descend steeply into the west side of the Hood Canal, creating very specific rearing conditions for salmon. Not surprisingly, most Hood Canal stocks are genetically distinct from Puget Sound and Coastal Salmon.

On the eastside of the Hood Canal, flowing from the Kitsap Peninsula, the streams are smaller than those of the westside of Hood Canal and include some of the most intact salmon habitat on the Kitsap Peninsula. Among them are Big Beef Creek, Dewatto, Tahuya and Union Rivers. These streams generally have more accessible spawning habitat and more extensive estuaries.

The Hood Canal region supports Fall Chinook, Summer Chum, Pinks, Fall Chum, Coho, Steelhead and Sea-run Cutthroat. Projects and goals of the HCSEG are developed in conjunction with the managers of the Salmon Resource including Dept of Natural Resources, Ecology, Hood Canal Coordinating Council, Hood Canal Tribes, RCO, Jefferson, Kitsap & Mason Counties, Long Live The Kings, Mason Conservation District, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, NOAA Fisheries, Puget Sound Action Team, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, US Forest Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, UW/Applied Physics Lab, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department Of Transportation, and others. Seventeen years of working together to make a better future for the wildlife and communities of Hood Canal.

As an organization, we've utilized our state and federal pass through funds for basic infrastructure and support for the programs and projects we undertake. Each year, we become better at creative financing and doing more projects for Salmon restoration.



Picture Caption

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

In the time period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007, the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group:

- Partnered with Hood Canal Institute (HCI) in hosting Environmental Explorations, where over 700 students from the Hood Canal region spent the day at Belfair State Park
- Partnered with Hood Canal Institute and DNR for Students in the Watershed, where 400 4th graders are taught by high school students at Theler Community Center Wetlands
- Community Outreach by staff and interns at Oysterfest and Allyn Days and Kitsap Water Festival



Picture Caption

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group



Picture Caption

- Held Day Camp and Overnight Salmon Adventure Camps for 32 Students
- Took part in the development of the Pacific Northwest Salmon Center providing Board participation, staff support and logistics for the 4th annual Wild Salmon Hall of Fame which was held on September 23rd, 2006 at the Kitsap Conference Center. The 2006 Recipient was Jay Nicholas, Oregon Dept Fish & Wildlife Biologist.
- Continued the Anreadamous Challenge, which challenges all 550 students at Belfair Elementary to read. For five weeks, each student became a salmon (an anadromous fish) traveling their full life cycle and migrating on the mural developed. North Mason High School science teacher Karen Lippy and her students at the Hood Canal Institute were instrumental in the development and implementation of the reading program.
- Completed the 8th year of the Dewatto Nutrifcation Project – conducting adult Coho surveys, dumping carcasses according to the study, operating 10 smolt traps, and analyzing benthic sampling.
- 8th year of the Union River / Tahuya River Summer Chum Project – Partnering with WDFW George Adams Hatchery – Returns to the trap have been as follows:

2000	744
2001	1,491
2002	872
2003	11,916

2004	5,976
2005	1,987
2006	2,836
2007	1,780 (thru 9/17/07)

- Released another 111,000 Summer Chum fry into the Tahuya River
- Peak count of Summer Chum in the Tahuya so far is 390 (917-07)!
- Distributed over 5,000 carcasses in WRIA 15
- Completed the 12th year of our all species Salmon Restoration on the Hama Hama River partnering with LLTK, WDFW, NMFS and USFWS
- Continued working with Department of Ecology on the Molluscan Study Phase I and DNR for Molluscan Phase II & III, which included collaborating with the Hood canal Dissolved Oxygen Program Coordination Committee, Legislators, DNR, USS, Tribes and Shellfish growers.
- Completed the Donovan Creek Bridge at Little Quilcene partnering with USFWS, IAC, and NRCS
- Removed the majority of the Big Mission dike at Belfair State Park and restored estuary beach area partnering with Washington State Parks, Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Natural Resources, USFWS, IAC now know as RCO (Recreation and Conservation Office) and Zephyr's Inc.



Picture Caption



Picture Caption

- Completed Ghost Net project which included removing over 40 nets from the Skokomish River and partnering with the Skokomish Tribe and RCO.
- Conducted weekly dissolved oxygen sampling at 15 sites along the Hood Canal with many partners, including Ecology, UW, WDFW, USGS, HCCC, DOH, Skokomish Tribe, USFWS, PSAT and the Naval Underwater Warfare Center
- Conducted water quality sampling of Mission Creeks under an Ecology grant
- Provided summer internships for eight Hood Canal region high school students and graduates in 2006
- Our staff and interns continued the gridding and baseline monitoring of several Hood Canal rivers and their tributaries
- Participated in and coordinated the NFWF Maine Exchange event bringing together fish and habitat enhancement folks on the West Coast and the East Coast
- Awarded 7 - \$1,500.00 Scholarships to students in the Hood Canal Watershed
- Participated in the Puget Sound Shared Strategy Program
- Participated and supported the Skokomish Tribal Nation Canoe Journey
- Participated and supported the S'Klallam Tribal Nation Canoe Journey

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

PROJECT EXPENDITURES						
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Match	Total Spent
WDFW #05-1706	\$180,154.75					\$180,154.75
USFWS #134104J002				\$9,542.69		\$9,542.69
USFWS #134106J001				\$157,369.87		\$157,369.87
NFWF #2005-0012-003 Belfair State Park					\$70,000.00	\$70,000.00
NFWF #2005-0085-000 Quilcene Estuary					\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
UW/APL HCDOP #978561- Year 1		546	\$8,190.00		\$79,951.00	\$88,141.00
UW/APL HCDOP #978561- Year 2					\$291,800.00	\$291,800.00
RCO #05-1608 Belfair State Park					\$127,729.07	\$127,729.07
WDFW #06-1392 Belfair State Park					\$200,000.00	\$200,000.00
DNR #IAA 07-57 Belfair State Park					\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
IAC #02-1523 Ghost Net Removal					\$71,250.00	\$71,250.00
IAC #01-1426 LeBar Rd Decommis - USFS				\$365,000.00	\$293,232.35	\$658,232.35
ECY #C0500079 Hood Canal Molluscan Phase 1					\$5,091.79	\$5,091.79
DNR Molluscan II #PSC 06-242					\$128,192.55	\$128,192.55
DNR Molluscan III #PSC 07-101					\$13,026.69	\$13,026.69
ECY #C0300094 Lower Union River Restoration					\$33,602.84	\$33,602.84
RCO #04-1647 Little Quilcene					\$133,556.56	\$133,556.56
ECY #G0600304 Mission Cks WQ				\$4,972.77	\$12,783.61	\$17,756.38
NRCS #66-0546-5-008 Little Quilcene					\$806,442.17	\$806,442.17
RCO #06-2225 Quilcene - Schinke					\$50,000.00	\$50,000.00
RCO FFFPP #05-1655 Toodie - Pigott Bridge					\$55,972.00	\$55,972.00
NFWF #2005-0197-060 Maine Exchange					\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00
NOAA #NFFP7230-6-00041 Steelhead					\$5,085.00	\$5,085.00
IAC FFFPP #04-1734 Ludvick Lk					\$6,251.69	\$6,251.69
Experience Salmon Camp 2006					\$17,528.07	\$17,528.07
Experience Salmon Camp 2007 thru 6-30-07					\$6,649.43	\$6,649.43
Students in the Watershed - HCI Project 2007		14	\$210.00		\$1,200.00	\$1,410.00
Environmental Explorations 2007 May		1,002	\$15,030.00		\$9,000.00	\$24,030.00
Volunteer Hours July 31, 2006		262	\$3,930.00			\$3,930.00
Volunteer Hours October 31, 2006		474	\$7,110.00			\$7,110.00
Volunteer Hours January 31, 2007		780	\$11,700.00			\$11,700.00
Volunteer Hours April 30, 2007		357	\$5,355.00			\$5,355.00
Union Summer Chum Trap Aug 2006 thru Oct 06		2,569	\$38,535.00			\$38,535.00
Nutrition (Carcasses)		243	\$3,645.00			\$3,645.00

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

PROJECT EXPENDITURES - Continued						
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Match	Total Spent
Steelhead Project Screw Trap				\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00
PNWSC - Education, outreach, WSHF, support				\$20,000.00		\$20,000.00
Hama Hama Restoration - Engineering				\$2,328.10		\$2,328.10
Bear Creek Design				\$820.51		\$820.51
Donovan Ck II design & grant writing				\$8,707.75		\$8,707.75
Twano Community Club Bulkhead Removal				\$3,880.00		\$3,880.00
WDFW Dike - Big Quilcene				\$3,880.00		\$3,880.00
WDFW Duckabush				\$3,880.00		\$3,880.00
Bailey Appraisal - Quilcene				\$500.00		\$500.00
McClanahan Appraisal - Quilcene				\$500.00		\$500.00
Schinke - Quilcene				\$12,726.58		\$12,726.58
Tahuya River LIP				\$3,880.00		\$3,880.00
Walcott Estuary Restoration				\$5,477.50		\$5,477.50
Totals	\$180,154.75	6,247	\$93,705.00	\$623,465.77	\$2,523,344.82	\$3,420,670.34



Picture Caption

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

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Eileen Sande, Office Manager
Chris Daniel, Education and Outreach Coordinator
Renee Rose-Scherdnik, Water Quality Specialist / HCDOP
Matt Korb, Shellfish Biologist / Molluscan Project
Mendy Harlow, Wildlife Biologist, Field Assistant / Dewatto Nutrification
Teresa Sjostrom, Environmental Biologist / Ghost Nets and Steelhead Project
John Husted, Field Tech
Julie Easton, Personnel Assistant
Sean Hildebrandt, Field Specialist
Kim Gower, Office Assistant – Personal Service Contract

CREW INFORMATION

Interns July 2006

Nicholas Barrantes	Spencer Cooper
Nick Holm	Peter Kauhanen
Adriana Lippy, High School Intern	MaryAngel Lytle, High School Intern
Ryan Mortensen	Leah White, High School Intern

CONTACT INFORMATION

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North Olympic Salmon Coalition

MISSION STATEMENT

North Olympic Salmon Coalition mission is to protect and restore the stocks of salmonids in the streams of the North Olympic Peninsula promoting community understanding, cooperation and volunteer stewardship. We provide funding, guidance, technical assistance and ongoing support for salmon habitat restoration and enhancement on public and private land.

RFEG OVERVIEW

As a non-profit community-based salmon recovery organization, North Olympic Salmon Coalition provides funding, guidance, technical assistance and ongoing support for salmon habitat restoration and enhancement. Our region includes the watersheds along the coast of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, extending from the Hood Canal Bridge west to Neah Bay. This year we continued our partnerships with the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Jefferson and Clallam County Conservation Districts (JCCD and CCD), Point No Point Treaty Tribes, a variety of agencies, schools, community organizations, volunteers and landowners through our cooperative work on key areas of wildlife habitat areas in Morse, Snow-Salmon and Chimacum Creeks. NOSC and our partners have actively assisted WDFW in acquiring these conservation areas and are providing assessment funds, staff time and community outreach on WDFW owned parcels. NOSC and WDFW initiated a plan to create an interpretive center at Morse Creek in Port Angeles. Funding from ALEA Cooperative grants, WA Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), augmented the RFEG funds. Technical support from WDFW,

US Navy, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Jamestown and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes and JCCD are critical components to our project success.

We participate in Salmon Recovery Funding Board processes in two lead entities. In Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity we participate in technical review, citizen project ranking and strategy development. In 2007 North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity invited NOSC to join the Technical Review Group. NOSC's priority watersheds are Morse Creek in WRIA 18 and the variety of rural watersheds in WRIA 19. The Salmon-Snow watershed in Discovery Bay is our action priority in the Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity. From the Eaglemount headwaters to Port Townsend Bay, the Chimacum watershed remains a high community priority for NOSC in the HCCC lead Entity Area. The Regional Recovery Plan for Hood Canal and Straits of Juan de Fuca Summer Chum is lead by HCCC who looks to NOSC and the rest of the "Chumsortium" as the local outreach partners to develop community support for recovery of ESA listed summer chum in these watersheds. We provide project identification, landowner contact and project management through these partnerships.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

FISH ENHANCEMENT

During the past year, NOSC volunteers continued their efforts to restore ESA listed summer chum in three watersheds: Salmon, Chimacum and Jimmycomelately Creeks. The program was adopted by NOAA as part of the Summer Chum Salmon Recovery Plan, 2007. The results continue to show success from the broodstock supplementation program. Salmon Creek and Chimacum Creek are no longer dependent on broodstock programs. NOSC volunteers will continue to monitor the population with WDFW assistance to ensure broodstocking does not need to occur in the future. WDFW otolith mark analysis is funded by the ALEA cooperative grant to NOSC.

IN-STREAM HABITAT PROJECTS

A key to maintaining self-sustaining native summer chum, coho and steelhead runs is to identify and improve habitat problems that have lead to poor natural spawning and rearing. Over the past 16 years NOSC and our partners have been successful in identifying and completing habitat improvements to increase natural spawning success as well as watershed and estuary rearing.

Lee Miller's conservation easement on the upper Mainstem of Chimacum Creek at Eaglemount is a beautiful stretch of well-shaded native habitat. However a significant lack of instream



A new introduction! Volunteer Jean Erreca introduces a healthy spawning chum salmon to N.O.S.C.'s youngest volunteer, Jack, as he helps pass fish through the Salmon Creek Trap.

North Olympic Salmon Coalition



Beach seining volunteers work in the beautiful morning light, sampling at Chimacum Beach Restoration Site this spring.

large woody debris reduced the quality of spawning habitat for coho. A grip-hoist project was completed with volunteers help. LWD was relocated from the surrounding forest floor to instream creating riffles and pools, improving habitat for spawning and juvenile rearing.

At Shold's on Chimacum Creek. NOSC planted trees as a riparian buffer improvement effort following in-stream habitat improvement project partnering with Jefferson County Conservation District. Planting was conducted by 80 6th grade students with our Americorps intern as a service learning project, additional planting was done by volunteers to complete the planting of close to 400 trees and shrubs, after placement of 20 instream log and rootwad structures.

Salt Creek habitat was improved when the DNR and Lower Elwha Tribe removed 20 fish passage barriers identified in the Salt Creek Assessment, opening 12 miles of stream. NOSC provided funds to match construction funding from BIA and engineering by DNR.

RIPARIAN PLANTING

Volunteers from Jefferson Land Trust, 4-H, WSU, Water/Beach-Watchers, Greywolf Ranch, Port Angeles Rotary, Americorps, Trout Unlimited, and local schools are valuable partners on these projects. Many volunteer hours were logged to Chimacum Creek and its tributaries including East Fork, Putaansuu's Ck, Naylor's Ck, as well as Salmon and Snow Creeks in Discovery Bay, and in urban Port Angeles at Morse Creek and Valley Ck for habitat revegetation. NOSC continues to also maintain three plant nurseries one on donated farmland, another at Chimacum School both located in Jefferson County. A third in Port Angeles, which was planted in 2006 with NFWF funds. Combined, these

nurseries hold over 6,000 native trees and shrubs. NOSC is maintaining over 18 acres of riparian plantings at this time to reduce weed competition and encourage growth of the young trees, has planted 1,108 trees/shrubs, and manually cleared 2 miles of invasive weeds in stream habitat during the '06-'07 fiscal year.

Pataansuu Creek Rearing Pond

This year NOSC put in additional riparian plants with volunteers to improve shade at the pond on a tributary to Chimacum Creek. High water temperatures in the summer months are common, limiting the amount of available dissolved oxygen. The landowner has taken responsibility to maintain the 400 plants.

Salmon/Snow Creeks

The freshwater riparian buffer area has undergone extensive restoration efforts since 2003. NOSC conducted supplemental plantings of the floodplain riparian zone augmenting CREP plantings close to the streambank.

Valley Creek

Valley Ck continues to be a valuable service-learning site for conducting education and outreach programs. Students and community volunteers continue to help maintain native vegetation and clear invasive species in effort to improve riparian habitat adjacent to a restoration project reach. NOSC volunteers are monitoring for the presence of salmonid species in this reach. Anadromous salmonid use is in question due to a 700 ft culvert at the mouth of the creek, blocking fish access so it continues to be a popular deposit area for Salmon in the Classroom programs in Port Angeles schools. Additional restoration is pending bridge re-construction and property acquisition by the City of Port Angeles.



Grip-hoist project at Lee Miller's property on upper west fork of Chimacum Creek ~ these logs were moved by hand with the use of the grip-hoist! Thank you to great volunteers!

North Olympic Salmon Coalition



Volunteers gather scale and otolith data from dead summer chum carcasses during chum surveys on Chimacum Creek.

Morse Creek

This site is another valuable service-learning site with easy public access and high visibility as US Hwy 101 and the Olympic Discovery Trail cross it. A community based nature center will be located in an existing log cabin. NOSC, along with local volunteers have maintained a native plant nursery, which was planted in the '05 – '06 fiscal year. The area had been highly impacted due to off-highway vehicles. The nursery will serve as an expanded riparian buffer between Hwy 101 and Morse Cree as trees are thinned for planting elsewhere on the WDFW property. The project continues to be supported by NFWF Community Salmon Fund.

Chimacum Creek (Mainstem and East Fork)

Planting and maintenance of project sites continued on Chimacum Creek and tributaries, covering approximately 15 acres of riparian habitat. Problematic weed species, such as reed canary grass, nightshade, poison hemlock, and watercress, are maintained through mowing and hand clearing. Planting, tree watering, and weed control were completed at these sites with help from Americorps, NCCC, WCC, Greywolf Ranch members, and community volunteers. Additionally, NOSC received a NFWF Community Salmon Fund grant to clear stream habitat of invasive weeds, such as European bittersweet/nightshade, watercress, and reed canary grass in order to help improve water quality and fish passage issues.

Clallam Bay

NOSC provided 260 trees for Lower Elwha Tribal riparian projects and volunteer Pysht River riparian plantings.

Monitoring

Macroinvertebrate Study

NOSC completed the 5th year of the baseline macroinvertebrate monitoring program established in 2002 on Salmon and Chimacum Creeks to gage changes in biological integrity pre and post summer chum recovery and habitat restoration. Analysis of stream insect populations at each restoration site is compared to control sites on each stream. This year NOSC added 3 new monitoring sites in areas of dense forest canopy to increase control for the B-IBI scores. This remains the only comprehensive study of instream benthic macroinvertebrates in East Jefferson County streams. The project has been dependent on volunteers from the community, Americorps and Chimacum School 6th grade science classes for its accomplishments. NOSC began data analysis to correlate B-IBI scores with Jefferson County Conservation District water quality monitoring data.

Water Quality Monitoring

For the 6th year, NOSC funded an Americorps intern to work with JCCD's water quality monitoring program in Chimacum, Salmon, Snow and other watersheds. This work adds to the continuous 18-year data set documenting watershed conditions throughout East Jefferson County.

Vegetation Monitoring

Conducted on Chimacum Creek and Valley Creek. This year NOSC volunteers focused on controlling the spread of invasive species, as well as survival inventory of plantings at Valley Ck. In Chimacum watershed, the areas monitored included over 100 acres of contiguous protected nearshore, and estuary habitat. European bittersweet/nightshade, watercress, and Himalayan blackberry were found to be a problem in Chimacum. Japanese knotweed, Himalayan blackberry, English Ivy, and herb Robert are problems on Valley Ck. Volunteer efforts to remove such species are ongoing.

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

NOSC continued participation in a variety of annual festivals and events in the region including the North Olympic Land Trust Streamfest, Hadlock Days, Trout Unlimited Fly Fishing Expo, Port Townsend's Earthday Everyday Festival and Joyce Daze. NOSC continued involvement with 4-H after school programs and summer camps in Jefferson County, YMCA summer programs in Jefferson and Clallam Counties, and Chimacum and Port Townsend school science classes, Billings Middle School from Seattle, as well as continuing to work with private schools and home-school groups. NOSC also provided service learning and training for Americorps NCCC who worked with NOSC on our restoration, monitoring, and education projects. As in previ-

North Olympic Salmon Coalition

ous years, NOSC provided education and training for volunteers aiding in our annual B-IBI macroinvertebrate stream surveys, summer chum spawning surveys and winter coho spawning surveys. We continued our role coordinating the travels of FIN, the Giant Salmon that promotes watershed education, and distribution of Tracking the Dragon, a education watershed based learning book and WDFW Salmon Trunk materials.

Through our education programs, NOSC has provided 1,942 contact hours through presentations, interactive projects and activities to 720 individual students in 14 schools and youth programs.

NOSC continues to build on our long-term partnership with WDFW, Peninsula College and other local non-profit natural resource organizations to develop an education and public interpretive site at the WDFW Morse Creek Wildlife Area. associated with an existing log building at a key site on Hwy 101 in Port Angeles. Recent focus is on Riparian restoration and stormwater improvements funded by NFWF.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

NOSC representatives made presentations to the Jefferson County Marine Resource Committee and to various nearshore community organizations such as Puget Sound Anglers, Discovery Baywatchers, WSU Cooperative Extension Water/Beach Watchers classes in two counties, participated in Watershed planning in WRIA 17, and participated in two Shoreline Landowner Workshops co-sponsored by WSU Jefferson Co. Cooperative Extension/WBW and the Hood Canal Coordinating Council Marine Riparian Initiative program. The program is designed to reach private landowners to encourage and promote retaining and restoring native vegetation along shorelines and bluffs for their ecological value, as well as erosion protection.



This past spring, FIN the Migrating Salmon took a multi-state west coast tour, called "Extinction Stops Here! 2007 Road Show for Salmon Recovery" through the non-profit group Save our Wild Salmon. FIN is pictured here at an event in Reno...

ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH

Chimacum Estuary/Irondale Beach Baseline

NOSC staff and volunteers continued post project data acquisition for the WDFW Baseline Assessment as follow-up to pre-project baseline assessment surveys. The restoration project was completed by WDFW in March 2006. The Puget Sound Beach Seine Protocol was used to investigate seasonal fish use, and the upland and intertidal beach profiles were measured. Natural re-vegetation and invasive weeds are also being monitored with NOSC volunteers. The site offers excellent service learning opportunities.

Fish Monitoring

NOSC volunteers assisted Lower Elwha K'lallam Tribal staff in the installation of smolt traps on Deep Creek and West Twin Rivers. Spawning surveys for summer chum and coho took place with volunteers in the Chimacum watershed in cooperation with WDFW and the Point No Point Treaty Council. NOSC volunteers continued to provide extensive volunteer labor support for the WDFW Snow Creek Coho Recovery Program, a research based broodstock and RSI effort using multiple rearing and release strategies in the Discovery Bay watershed. NOSC volunteers attended adult traps at Jimmycomelately and Salmon Creeks and walked Chimacum Creek counting summer chum and coho runs. Volunteers collect tissue samples for DNA and identification analysis.

Morse Creek Feasibility Study

Partnering with Harbor Consulting Engineers, NOSC is using a SRFB grant to create a hydraulic model of the lower reach in order to create a restoration design plan. The final report was issued in March 2007 generating conceptual restoration designs to improve fish habitat on WDFW wildlife area while addressing concerns of streamside landowners. Extensive community outreach will be the next activity.

Snow Salmon Watershed Restoration

Coordinating through the Snow- Salmon Technical Advisory Group, NOSC continued restoration design while exploring the ramifications of extensive deposits of woodwaste on the estuarine ecosystem. Extensive core drilling and tidal channel sampling were used to define the extent of previously unrecognized habitat impacts of woodwaste in partnership with University of Puget Sound and Kennedy/Jenks Consulting. WDFW, DNR and Jefferson County collaborated with NOSC to develop a funding plan for removal of creosote pilings and marine debris from a collapsed structure in Olympia oyster beds.

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Project Director	\$39,214.55	147.00	\$2,205.00		\$41,419.55
Project Coordinator	\$52,976.00				\$52,976.00
Macroinvertebrate Study		71.00	\$1,065.00		\$1,065.00
Chimacum Spawning Surveys		59.50	\$892.50		\$892.50
Snow Creek Coho Recovery		236.00	\$3,540.00		\$3,540.00
Smolt Trap: Deep Creek,		13.00	\$195.00		\$195.00
HCCC Marine Riparian	\$107.00	10.00	\$150.00		\$257.00
East Fork Chimacum				\$2,486.00	\$2,486.00
Olympic Discovery Nature Center	\$266.00	63.50	\$952.50		\$1,218.50
Habitat Restoration	\$25,721.00	495.50	\$7,432.50		\$33,153.50
Morse Creek Riparian Restoration	\$1,654.00	119.50	\$1,792.50		\$3,446.50
Chimacum Riparian Restoration	\$3,649.00	508.00	\$7,620.00	\$22,247.00	\$33,516.00
Summer Chum Hatcheries		1,543.50	\$23,152.50	\$15,242.00	\$38,394.50
Salmon Snow Watershed Restoration	\$2,500.00	26.00	\$390.00	\$91,031.00	\$93,921.00
Morse Creek Feasibility Study	\$3,477.00			\$75,500.00	\$78,977.00
Deep Creek Road Decommissioning			\$124,646.00	\$124,646.00	
Chimacum Estuary	\$1,890.00	151.00	\$2,265.00	\$17,048.00	\$21,203.00
Salt Creek Habitat	\$10,000.00			\$276,819.00	\$276,819.00
Membership and Fin	\$890.00	6.00	\$90.00	\$1,490.00	\$2,470.00
Office Operations	\$16,865.00				\$16,865.00
Totals	\$148,319.55	3,449.50	\$51,742.50	\$626,509.00	\$826,571.05

North Olympic Salmon Coalition

OFFICERS

Board Chair: Tom Ammeter - Chimacum School staff, Snohomish Tribal Council
Vice Chair: Terry O'Brien - Sport fisherman, brewmaster, retired
Secretary:
Treasurer: Richard Wojt - Teacher, county commissioner, retired

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Jean Erreca - Sport fisher, shoreline resident, landscaper, retired

STAFF MEMBERS

Paula Mackrow, Executive Director
Kevin Long, Project Coordinator
Audrey Miles Cherney, Restoration Steward
Alisa Meany, Volunteer Coordinator
Alicia Aguirre, Restoration Steward
Joss Whittaker, Americorps Intern

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition is a regional fisheries enhancement group actively involved in local volunteer-based habitat restoration to achieve a healthy salmonid resource within our region.

VISION STATEMENT

- We envision a restored environment that maintains a healthy self-sustaining salmonid population.
- We envision having a salmonid resource we can utilize and enjoy far into the future.
- We see a local community that not only utilizes the resource but one that takes responsibility and is actively involved in the well being of that resource.
- We envision a strong working relationship with all relevant entities that have a vested interest in salmonid habitat restoration.

RFEG OVERVIEW

The coverage area for the Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition (PCSC) includes the western portion of the Olympic Peninsula north of the Chehalis River drainage and south of Cape Flattery. This region covers parts of three counties: Clallam, Jefferson, and Grays Harbor. There are several significant rivers in this region including the Sol Duc, Calawah, Dickey and Bogachiel - Quillayute River complex, the Hoh River, the Queets River and the Quinault River. These rivers are glacial fed and have short, but steep drops to ocean. High levels of precipitation characterize the region and streams with cold water, high average flows, and relatively long duration peak flows, including a second peak later in the year from snow melt.

Much of this area is within the Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest, the state Experimental Forest, or one of several Native American reservations. The majority of the land base in the river drainage is in timber production. The remaining land base is primarily a mixture of national park and Native American reservation.

One of the primary challenges for PCSC is obtaining volunteers in a very large area with a very low population density. The challenges for the volunteers are to blend the needs of salmon with the area's economic dependence on logging and fishing and because so much of the region is in public lands their efforts must be coordinated with various state, federal, and tribal land managers.

However, because of this unique circumstance several beneficial partnerships have formed. To date, the Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition has formed partnerships with the Quillayute tribe, the Hoh tribe, the Makah tribe, Quinault tribe, USDA Forest Service, National Park service, WDF&W, DNR, Forks School system, Rayonier, Green Crow, Blodell, the City of Forks and numerous small private landowners.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Quillayute Nutrient Enhancement Project

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition, the Bogachiel Salmon Hatchery and the Sol Duc River Salmon Hatchery are working together to enhance the food chain for salmon in the Quillayute Nutrient Enhancement Project. The Sol Duc, Bogachiel, Calawah, and Dickey rivers were enhanced with over 13,000 surplus salmon carcasses dispersed by volunteers using their own vehicles in almost 630 hours of volunteer service. Hatchery personnel gather and spawn the necessary fish for next years run. Several thousand food-quality salmon are collected for the local areas food banks, senior centers and tribal centers. The remaining salmon, nearing the spawning stage, are too old for the area food banks. These salmon are collected and their tails are removed for identification as hatchery fish. Volunteers work with the hatchery employees to place these fish into the river systems. As these fish decay, they release nutrients that make their way up the food chain. Aquatic insects such as caddis flies, stoneflies, and midges, feed on these Coho salmon carcasses. The aquatic insects are an important part of a Coho fry's diet. Salmon have five life stages; eggs, fry, smolt, adult and carcasses. So here we have the fifth stage helping to improve the second stage. As we put these carcasses in streams they deposit marine derived (Pacific Ocean) nitrogen, carbon, and phosphorous. Juvenile Coho, steelhead, and cutthroat in small western Washington streams obtain 25% to 40% of these elements from Coho salmon carcasses. Besides feeding on



Volunteers planting trees out along Fossil Creek.

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition



Volunteers clearing a beaver dam to allow juvenile fish passage into an off-channel over wintering site.

aquatic insects, Coho fry have been seen feeding directly on the carcasses. Salmon are called a “keystone” species. They have a positive impact on 138 species of wildlife in Washington and Oregon. WDFW, Rayonier USDA Forest Service Olympic Region, and DNR are important partners in this project.

Thomas Springs Project

The Thomas Springs Project was one of the sites WDF&W created several years ago that we continue to monitor and repair as necessary. This year we added gravel to the overflow and repaired it. The overflow is cobble with gravel over the top as this earthen dam is also a road that allows access around the site.

Borde Pond Project

The Borde Pond Project is an ongoing RSI project. The intent of the project is to augment the existing Coho run in Mill creek. Borde pond is an ongoing supplementation project being done in partnership with a private landowner (Phil and Bev Borde) and WDFW. The project has been done in cooperation with WDF&W for several years now.

Forks School Water Quality and Enhancement Project

The FS Water Quality and Enhancement Project (Forks School) is a wonderful on-going project that gets kids interested in salmon and educates them not only in the classroom, but out of it as well. This project provides funds for water quality education, how to do water quality testing, which they do, and why water quality is important to salmon, which they learn. The Forks Middle School has taken the ball and run with this outreach, education and monitoring program. The Alternative school has also provided an enormous amount of data they have collected, and continue to collect, on water quality in the Bogachiel and tributaries.

Fossil Creek Bridge Replacement

The Fossil Creek Bridge Replacement was a cooperative project between Jefferson County and PCSC. We assisted with permitting, reviewed plans and replanted the area. The bridge replaced an old undersized bridge that was nearing the end of its life span. One end of the bridge had been completely isolated from the road in a flood. Several in stream structures were added when the bridge was replaced along with the new span and footings and the whole area has now been replanted.

N.F. Calawah LWD Project

The N.F. Calawah LWD Project is a multi-phase project. The project is a cooperative effort with USDA Forest Service Olympic Region and involves the placement of LWD within the stream channel of the N.F. Calawah River. The N.F. project seeks to place woody debris in a specific section of river that have been monitored for a number of years and are known to have a significant number of spawning salmon. The areas the engineered logjams are being placed in lack the complexity and gravels that are created by the added woody materials. The ultimate goal of this project is to increase the wood within the channel, increase the successful spawning of salmonids, increase channel complexity and decrease bank erosion. This year we continued on our path of restoration converting alder forests, planting and creating stream diversity.

Administrative and Executive Director Projects

The Administrative and Executive Director Projects are, unfortunately, some of the least glamorous of the projects P.C.S.C. has. However, without these projects none of the other “dirt turning” jobs could be accomplished. It is these vital funds that all other things depend on.

Lake Pleasant Project

The Lake Pleasant Project is an ongoing project in which we place gravel along one of the most prolific spawning areas of Lake Pleasant. We partner with a small private landowner to



Placing carcasses in a “bucket” to be flown by helicopter to remote sites for nutrient enhancement.

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

provide the gravel for Sockeye to spawn in. There is an upwelling in this area that attracts the Sockeye so the area is extremely sensitive to disturbance. For that reason, all gravel is placed onsite by hand, wheel barrel loads of gravel are transported several hundred feet to the shore where the Sockeye spawn. Volunteers then carefully rake the gravel out along the shoreline.

Monitoring and Maintenance Project

The Monitoring and Maintenance Project involves the on-going responsibility of monitoring and maintaining over forty WDF&W restoration sites. Due to WDF&W dwindling involvement in the area we were asked to step in and assist with the upkeep of these constructed sites, which we have done and will continue to do. The sites are a variety of different restoration activities including fish ways, log and rock weirs, and roughened channels. Primarily, we will ensure the sites are functioning properly and allowing access, fish ways are clear of debris, beaver dams are fish-passable and that ponds have proper cover where needed. We also have continued to repair and replace structures where necessary.

Shale Creek Project

The Shale Creek Project was a cooperative project in which WDF&W received funding from the SRF Board to remove a facility along Shale creek. The project to remove an abandoned in-stream fish collection facility on Shale Creek, tributary to Clearwater River, was recently completed by members of the Capital Projects & Engineering Division construction crew and TAPPS staff. The facility was originally built in 1987 in cooperation with the Quinault Tribe to provide a site for collecting Coho brood stock to be used as seed for their planned full-scale hatchery. Once the hatchery at Salmon River on the Queets was built, the Shale Creek site was abandoned. Woody debris began to collect on the instream structure and became a fish passage problem. Eventually erosion lowered the streambed level downstream and created a significant fish passage problem. With staff from TAPPS taking the lead, a grant proposal was

submitted to and approved by the SRF Board to remove this facility and restore the stream to it's natural condition. WDFW, the Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition, and the Quinault Tribe provided matching funds. The two-phase removal project began in 2005 and was completed this year. This is a good example of a successful cooperative project.

M&R Springs Project

The M&R Springs Project rerouted a section of water to the lower end of the project site to increase the flow throughout the project area. M&R Springs is another of the WDF&W project sites we repaired, in cooperation with the department, this year. M&R Springs is a spring fed off-channel over wintering beaded pond created for juvenile salmonid. We will continue to monitor the project for appropriate flow and insure the pond is not losing the water elsewhere.

Hammerquist Bridge Removal Project

The Hammerquist Bridge Removal Project removed an undersized and failing bridge from Hammerquist creek a tributary to the Pysht River. This project was a cooperative project with a small landowner. The bridge had collected up wood debris because it was so low in the stream and was restricting fish access as well as threatening to cause the stream to jump its banks and pull the bridge downstream.

Sol Duc Project

The Sol Duc Project removed trees and shrubs at facility that made it dangerous for volunteers and staff. Trees had grown near the processing area of the pond that restricted the tractors ability to maneuver in the area, putting people at risk. The trees and a pile of dirt were removed to allow more room for the tractor, and other vehicles, to move around while fish were being processed for enhancement.



Before and after of Thomas springs, placed gravel on overflow at outlet of channel.

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Quillayute R. N.E.	\$8,112	635	\$9,525	\$4,225	\$21,862
Thomas Springs	\$4,881	35	\$525	\$1,548	\$6,954
Borde Pond RSI	\$44	65	\$975		\$1,019
FS Water Quality	\$1,071	223	\$3,345	\$3,785	\$8,201
Fossil Bridge Replacement	\$217	163	\$2,445	\$623,548	\$626,210
N.F. Calawah LWD	\$4,990	25	\$375	\$12,214	\$32,416
Admin. Cost	\$25,861	204	\$3,060		\$28,921
Executive Dir. 07	\$47,207				\$47,207
Lake Pleasant	\$289	35	\$525	\$3,285	\$4,099
Monitoring and Maint.	\$5,740	538	\$8,700		\$13,810
Shale Creek	\$6,197			\$137,587	\$143,784
M&R Springs	\$6,218	41	\$615	\$1,235	\$8,068
Hammerquist Bridge Removal	\$1,464	57	\$855	\$3,271	\$5,590
Sol Duc	\$670			\$1,840	\$2,510
Total	\$112,961	2,021	\$30,945	\$792,538	\$950,650

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wayne Haag	President	Retired Centurytel
Don Nordstrom	Vice President	WSDOT
Terry Sullivan	Treasurer	Retired Teacher
Steve Allison	Secretary	Biologist
Phil Borde	Board Member	Retired Teacher
Ron Shearer	Board Member	Retired Centurytel
Ron Thompson	Board Member	Retired Teacher

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Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force

MISSION STATEMENT

The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force is dedicated to producing salmon for sport and commercial fisheries; enhancing Steelhead and sea run Cutthroat trout resources; and restoring, enhancing and protecting stream habitat critical to these anadromous species.

RFEG OVERVIEW

The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing populations of salmon, Steelhead, and searun Cutthroat trout by and for the citizens and the communities in the Chehalis River Basin.

Operations are governed by a twenty member (maximum) Board of Directors. Core staff consists of one Administrative Director, and one Bookkeeper. The volume of work accomplished by the CBFTF could never be accomplished by the small paid staff. This provides the volunteers opportunity to be active in the numerous fish enhancement projects. The main focus of the Task Force involves functioning as a funding organization, coordinating technical resources, providing public education and assisting with permitting processes. The Task Force grants funding to projects that assist in the accomplishment of Task Force enhancement goals and promote its mission. Another function provided by the Task Force is that of technical assistance. Project participants can receive support in coordinating with government agencies, project design, permit acquisition, stock selection, coordinated facility operation equipment, and volunteer management, among private citizens, other volunteer organizations and local governments.



Satsop Springs Project volunteers from the Elma Game Club and Grays Harbor Poggie Club are pictured packing 6 lb. Rainbows out of Mitchell Creek Pond for delivery to local lakes.

The area served by the Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force encompasses the entire Chehalis River watershed; the second largest river system in the state of Washington. This basin includes 90% of Grays Harbor, 30% of Mason, 55% of Thurston, 50% of Lewis, and small parts of Pacific, Jefferson, Cowlitz, and Wahkiakum Counties; encompassing 1,694,951 acres. This region consists of two major and a number of minor, independent drainages and 1,391 rivers and streams containing 3,353 linear stream miles. The Hoquiam and Humptulips Rivers, plus several smaller systems, enter Grays Harbor from the north; the Chehalis River from the east; and the Johns and Elks Rivers, along with a number of smaller drainages, from the south.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

“Enhancement” is a general term used to denote projects that support and/or increase fish populations and their habitat. Enhancement projects are as individual and unique as the surrounding terrain. These types of projects can be as simple as constructing egg boxes or as complex as total streambed restorations. Within the Chehalis Basin there are a vast array of completed and ongoing enhancement projects including; stream bed clearing, stream bank restoration, road and trail abandonment, erosion control, culvert replacements, spawning channel restoration, rearing ponds, hatcheries, broodstocking, and educational outreach programs.

Carlisle Project

The Carlisle Project partners with local schools and educational programs each year. The Carlisle facility has two sites being used by the Onalaska High School Future Farmers of America Aquaculture Program, providing field and class study and hands on experience. Students learn proper sanitation methods, genetics, temperature unit measurements, picking of eggs and daily upkeep of incubation techniques, water quality monitoring, water sampling techniques in temp, ph, and fecal coliform, and boating safety. The students raise 100,000 Coho in Carlisle Lake, and adult returns for coded wire tags, and plant carcasses in area streams for nutrient enhancement. 8,000 rainbow trout are also incorporated into the curriculum. Student volunteers play a large part in the success of the project.

Satsop Springs

With assistance from local volunteers, the 2007 releases of 198,300 Chum smolt, and 450,000 Coho smolt went as planned. The program reared 2,500 rainbow “trophy” trout at Satsop Springs and 1,500 at Mitchell Creek. These Rainbows averaged 6 lbs. each, with the biggest at 20 lbs. 8 oz. and were planted local area lakes.

Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force

Satsop Nutrient Enhancement Project

Conducted during salmon runs between the months of October and December, 6,279 fish carcasses were distributed within the Satsop River Watershed last fall. The project seeks to enhance nutrient levels of the West Fork Satsop River, the Middle Fork Satsop River, and a number of their primary tributaries by distributing fish carcasses in strategic areas. The intent is to increase ocean-derived nutrients in areas of the basin with adult salmon.

HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS

“Restoration” is defined as an activity that results in improving habitat, including both physical and functional restoration, with a goal towards a self-sustaining, ecologically based system that is integrated with its surrounding landscape. Habitat restoration projects are driven by the goal to return an ecosystem to a close approximation of its condition prior to disturbance.

Forest Road Project

This project addressed two stacked culverts under a roadway. The lower culvert was a 4 foot wide, round, corrugated steel pipe. It was undersized for the width of the stream. The downstream end of this culvert was 18 inches higher than the upstream end, cutting its water capacity almost in half. The upper culvert was 2 feet wide and acted as an overflow culvert to pass high peak flows. During the culvert assessment in March of 2005 by LWC Consulting for Grays Harbor County, the lower culvert was totally buried and water was only flowing through the rock road fill and the upper, smaller culvert. The objective of this fish barrier correction was to remove it, and install a larger culvert that will provide fish passage for all species and life stages, and



The Tosland Project addressed three parallel culverts that were 33% passable with a 40 ft. long, 14 ft. wide bridge (shown above), opening 1.3 miles of habitat for Coho, Cutthroat, Searun Cutthroat, and Steelhead at a cost of \$101,000.

allow natural streambed functions such as substrate and LWD transport. A pre-assembled 12 ft. diameter culvert was installed under the county road. A thick carpet of reed canary grass from the stream edge upstream of the culvert was pulled back to expose soils. Large stumps for LWD and some trees with root wads provided by the contractor were installed. Later this fall we will plant some native shrubs. In addition to these efforts, the existing road was widened, ditched, and asphalted. This project opened 5 miles of habitat for Chum, Coho and Cutthroat Trout. The total cost for this project was \$70,632.

Huber Project

This project addressed a 3 foot diameter corrugated culvert that was a total barrier due to a 3 foot outfall drop and a 2% slope. The barrier was replaced with a 50 ft. bridge. The cumulative mapped gain is 2.14 miles with 1.29 miles of habitat gained to the next barrier up stream. This project opened up habitat for Coho, Cutthroat Trout, and Searun Cutthroat Trout. The total cost of this project was \$113,500.

Tosland Project

This project addressed three culverts that were 33% passable. The site is located on an unnamed tributary to the Wishkah River. The road over the culverts was eroded to a narrowest width of 7 ft. An old growth log, embedded in the road alongside of the culverts created a 2.5 ft. drop downstream and a 1.5 ft. step upstream of the culvert. Debris in the stream included a 3 car bodies, tires, and washer - all of these items were removed. The fish barrier was corrected with a 40 ft. bridge, addition of stream bed gravels and rip rap along the banks for protection from erosion. This project opened 1.5 miles of habitat for Coho, Cutthroat, Searun Cutthroat, and Steelhead. The total cost for this project was \$101,000.

Vance Creek Riparian (Phase 2)

More than 140 students, parents and teachers contributed to help restore areas along Vance Creek. Participating schools were the Elma Elementary School, Simpson Avenue Elementary School in Montesano, St. Mary's School in Aberdeen, Elma Middle School and East Grays Harbor High School in Elma. To prepare for tree planting, students learned how trees help provide healthy salmon habitat, the difference between coniferous and deciduous trees, what the term riparian zone means, as well as proper tree planting techniques. On a farm owned by Sherman and Alice Potts, high school and middle school students mentored elementary students and braved the winter weather to plant over 600 Red-Osier Dogwood, Cascara, Oregon Ash and Sitka Spruce trees along the banks of the creek. Vance Creek is in desperate need of such riparian to protect the banks from erosion, provide shade for salmon, crowd out the invasive reed canary grass, help filter pollutants and prevent flooding. Without the assistance of the volunteers, and Chehalis Basic Education Consortium, the Task Force could not have accomplished this project.

Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Administration	\$54,126	1,459	\$21,885	\$12,423	\$88,434
Carlisle Environmental Ed.		665	\$9,975	\$819	\$10,794
Education & Outreach				\$2,494	\$2,494
Forrest Rd. Project				\$23,505	\$23,505
Huber Project				\$6,102	\$6,102
Mayr Bros. Hatchery		518	\$7,770	\$40,846	\$48,616
Satsop Nutrient Enhancement				\$7,158	\$7,158
Satsop Springs		3,834	\$57,510	\$73,587	\$131,097
Tosland Project				\$9,551	\$9,551
Upper Chehalis FEA		102	\$1,530		\$1,530
Vance Ck. Riparian		416	\$6,826	\$11,772	\$18,598
Newaukum Project				\$2,170	\$2,170
Dekay Rd. Project				\$360,781	\$360,781
Gerhard Project				\$28,001	\$28,001
Lentz Project				\$55,393	\$55,393
Vance Creek Bridge				\$17,832	\$17,832
Wishkah Sedimentation Reduction				\$329,257	\$329,257
Totals	\$54,126	6,994	\$105,496	\$981,691	\$1,141,313

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Upper Basin Representatives

Chanele Holbrook, Heernett Environmental Foundation, Seat #1
Michael Munsell, Friends of the Chehalis, Seat #2
Rainey Reeves, Carlisle Environmental Education, Seat #3
Ronn Schuttie, Carlisle Environmental Education, Alternate Seat #3
Dennis Morr, TransAlta Centralia Mining, LLC, Seat #5

Middle Basin Representatives

Bob Balcombe, Seat #7 Lloyd Case, Alternate Seat #7
Max Durward, Elma Game Club, Seat #8
Greg Jones, Elma Game Club, Alternate Seat #8
Commissioner Bob Beerbower, Grays Harbor County, Seat #9
Commissioner Al Carter or Commissioner Mike Wilson, Grays Harbor County, Alternate Seat #9
Frank Jongenburger, Weyerhaeuser, Seat #10 Steve Barnowe-Meyer, Weyerhaeuser, Alternate Seat #10

Lower Basin Representatives

Allan Hollingsworth, Grays Harbor Gillnetters, #14
Steve Berggren, Seat #15
Randy Lehr, Grays Harbor College, Seat #16
Doug Fricke, Alternate Seat #16
Joe Durham, Grays Harbor Trout Unlimited, Seat #17
Mike Larsen, Grays Harbor Trout Unlimited, Alternate Seat #17
Commissioner Stan Pinnick, Port of Grays Harbor, Seat #18
Ken Rausch, Port of Grays Harbor, Alternate Seat #18
Dave Hamilton, Seat #19
Keith Burns, Grays Harbor Poggie Club, Seat #20
Bob Muhlhauser, Grays Harbor Poggie Club, Alternate Seat #20

STAFF MEMBERS

Ellie McMillan, Administrative Director
Steven Franks, Satsop Springs Facility Worker

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group

MISSION STATEMENT

Return sustainable natural spawning salmon to rivers and streams of Willapa Bay, WRIA 24. Assist local communities/organizations with project development.

RFEG OVERVIEW

2007 has been a transitional year for our RFEG. We have been evaluating our strategy for the next few years, and completing monitoring of three stream/salmon blockages we completed in 2003, 2005, and 2006. Our Board has been alarmed with the steady decline of returning natural spawning salmon to the restored streams we have completed in the past 8 years which had good runs re-established, and have either had no returns or the returns have been very small. Because of this in 2006/2007 season we were only able to obtain about 300,000 Coho eggs for our RSI's, and no Chinook or Chum, a 60% reduction. Our board decided to work with other groups in our watershed who have been active in salmon enhancement projects: WDFW, The Nature Conservancy, Washington University, and Willapa National Wildlife refuge to get some answers. See Chum Investigation in section C.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Chum Investigation

We retained Stewart and Associates to investigate the loss of Chum salmon from our spawning grounds. We limited the scope to the investigation to Chum, because of budget limitations, and Chum is our target species in our strategic plan. The report is available to all upon request, which will be summarized: Our Board felt that we needed to know:

- A. The actual run size of the Chum in Willapa Bay
- B. Model used by WDFW to determine the run size.
- C. The quality of the data that is being used in the model
- D. The carrying capacity of our habitat in WRIA 24 (Willapa Bay).
- E. Escapement/Harvest calculations.

Findings:

- A. Chum run size-unknown with any certainty in the Willapa Bay.
- B. The math model used by WDFW is in need of up-grading and is fatally flawed.
- C. The quality of the data used in the modeling is not statcally representative of the 745 streams/rivers with 1,470 lineal miles of water for salmon. Only three streams known to have Chum are monitored by WDFW. Yet the results of those three streams are used to represent the productivity of the entire Willapa Bay. The productivity of the three streams are made based upon the attempts at Chum reproduction (Redd counts), not the number of smolt produced.
- D. The Carry capacity of our entire habitat is well over 200,000 Chum. We currently have less than an estimated 30,000 escapement. This 30,000 is based upon the flawed WDFW math model, the real number is unknown.
- E. Without good data and a math model that represents the entire salmon population very difficult to determine the run size. Therefore, it's just a guess at escapement and at what level to set the harvest levels. No data is No data. Yet for the past 30 years Harvest levels have been set for 50% of the run size, without knowing with any accuracy the run size.

Our Board is currently evaluating our strategy to move forward based upon this investigation. However, our stated objective is to have more salmon in the streams and rivers of the Willapa, not a steady declining number as we are currently experiecing.

Skidmore Slough Tide In-flow Project

This project was started in 2005, with a Habitat assessment and a salmon blockage PI. The results of that assessment showed about 4 miles of good spawning and rearing habitat is being blocked by a Tide Gate and a failed culvert. We have started on the design of a bridge to replace the blocked culvert. But the Tide Gate has presented some unique landowner issues. Recently a willing landowner has purchased some of the land adjacent to the tide gate, and the other landowners have agreed to have us evaluate the tide gate. To accomplish this we retained Herrera Environmental to perform a Tidal Inflow analysis look-



Trail along the restored estuary and salmon stream.

Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group

ing at: 1) removing the tide gate, 2) making the tide gate pass salmon 50% of the 24 hr tide cycle, or moving the tide gate to another location.

Findings:

- A. Removing the tide gate will have no effect on flooding the properties.
- B. New Tide Gate pass salmon 50% of the 24 hr tide cycle will speed up exit of watershed waters, no effect on flooding of properties.
- C. Moving the tide gate to another location down stream, will reduce the flooding of the properties by about two inches.
- D. For a 100 year flood, water inundation will match the FEMA flood plane that currently exists; tide gate has no role in preventing this event.

Our Board will be working with the adjacent landowners to determine our next move.

Skidmore Slough, Blocked City Culvert

We have retained an engineering consultant to design a bridge to replace blocking culverts. Survey work has been completed, and geotechnical testing accomplished. We are waiting for specific design requirements from FMEA to proceed.

Ellsworth Creek Blockage and Stream Restoration

In partnership with The Nature Conservancy WBRFEG initiated assessment/design for replacing the blocking culvert with a bridge and restoring about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile of the stream. We completed the assessment, geotechnical testing, and survey. The Nature Conservancy then decided to stop the design. They are going to abandon the present roads in the watershed. Therefore, the bridge will not be necessary. The stream will be restored as a part of the road abandonment activity. However, this will not occur until 2009.

Lost Creek

We completed stream restoration and installed a bridge in 2006, to allow this stream to connect with its historic channel. When the stream was diverted, about 60 years ago, into Chum Stream a very large gravel bar was built up. In our initial restoration efforts we were able to divert much of the gravel down stream, to the historic channel. However, in our stream survey this spring we could see more work needed to be accomplished. With assistance from US Fish & Wildlife we were able to reestablish the channel up-stream which will transport more gravel downstream.

US Fish & Wildlife has selected this stream to highlight in a national publication as community based project that has been successful.

Community Outreach projects Headquarters stream/estuary was restored 5 years ago, In partnership with Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, and Friends of the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, this stream restoration has been turned into a visitors center with a trail system designed by students for Washington State University. This year the trail system was up-graded with additional trails and signage and displays. This project has been featured in a number of news articles including the Sunset Magazine. Many students from Pacific County visit the site each year as an educational out-reach.



Lost Creek new channel.

Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Projects	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Lost Creeks	\$8,000			\$24,000	\$32,000
Tide In-Flow	\$16,900	35	\$2,030		\$18,930
Ellsworth Creek, design	\$25,000			\$14,400	\$39,400
Chum Investigation	\$47,500				\$47,500
Mill Pond Creek	\$5,000				\$5,000
Skidmore Slough design	\$14,000				\$14,000
Boat Launch Parking		142	\$8,232		\$8,232
6 Grant applications		100	\$5,800		\$5,800
Monitoring	\$6500			\$15,153	\$21,653
Fish Enhancement	\$8,900	1300	\$21,500		\$30,400
Board Members		36	\$540		\$540
Project Manager	\$5,200	252	\$14,616		\$19,816
Administrative	\$42,008	100	\$5,800		\$47,808
Totals	\$170,008	1,965	\$58,518	\$53,553	\$291,079

Report to Governor’s Salmon Team: Willapa Bay WRIA 24

Number of barriers replaced: 0
 Number of miles of stream restored: 0 (WRIA 24)
 Salmon Eggs Planted: 300,000
 Number of Carcasses placed: 2,000 (WRIA 24)
 Design/Assessments completed: 6

Chum Salmon Investigation: Eight month study completed by an independent consultant, shows that the present methods used by WDFW to determine salmon population is fatally flawed. Data used in their sample is taken from only three streams of the 745 streams/rivers that have the potential to support salmon, and those three streams are known to have salmon. No sampling is taken from random streams. The data is then used to project salmon for the entire 1,400 miles of streams in WRIA 24. The resulting run size, which is the bases for harvest and escapement, is not credible. The study has shown the habitat capacity for our WRIA is 200,000 Chum; estimates from the WDFW modeling have an escapement of only 30,000.

In Willapa Bay the actual salmon run size is unknown. WDFW sets the harvest of information that is flawed data. The same model and method is also used for Coho and Chinook, which brings the entire estimate for run size in Willapa Bay into question.

Other Projects:

Three streams - Post monitoring accomplished, all show very positive results for of increasing the spawning and rearing capacity of the restored streams.

Design/Assessments: Ellsworth Creek, Skidmore Slough Bridge, Skidmore Slough tide in-flow assessment.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Ashley, Commercial Fisherman
Ron Craig, Retired Senior Engineering Manager, the Boeing Co. Manager WBRFEG
Bruce Ogren, Commercial Fisherman
Bob Lake, Businessman and Commercial Fisherman
David Lewis, Businessman/Consulting Electrical Engineer
Jewel Hardy, Banking Manager

STAFF MEMBERS

We have no staff, our Manager volunteers much of his time in managing the organization, developing projects, design development, permitting, and oversight.

CREW INFORMATION

We have developed a qualified list of over 60 consultants we call upon to develop our designs, accomplish our assessments and perform the post construction monitoring. We also have over 16 pre-qualified construction contractors to accomplish our in-stream projects.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group

MISSION STATEMENT

To lead the process of salmon and steelhead recovery in a way that ensures community involvement in habitat restoration so that abundant, naturally self-sustaining runs occur throughout the Lower Columbia River region.

RFEG OVERVIEW

The Lower Columbia River region covers all or parts of Skamania, Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Wahkiakum, and Pacific Counties. Our region covers Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs) 25 through 28, extending from Bonneville Dam down the Columbia River to the Pacific Ocean. The major tributaries are the Cowlitz and Lewis River watersheds, both of which have extensive hydroelectric development. The Washougal, Kalama, Toutle, Grays and Elochoman River watersheds round out the remainder of our primary salmon producing watersheds.

Because each of these watersheds contains at least one salmon hatchery, the Lower Columbia RFEG is focusing on projects that benefit wild salmon production. The fish habitat in the region has been severely degraded by urban/ industrial development, timber harvest, road building, diking and drainage, railroads, and a host of other activities. We work closely with the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (our Lead Entity), WDFW Habitat and Fish Program Managers, USFS biologists, USGS scientists, local governments, private landowners, conservation districts, and volunteers to identify and implement priority habitat restoration projects.

In 2006/7, LCFEG continued implementation of both its new Strategic Plan and the new Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan and Watershed Sub-Basin Assessments for SW WA blessed by NOAA Fisheries in 2005 and currently implemented by our Lead Entity, the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB). In working to fulfill its intent to become the region's primary habitat restoration organization, LCFEG and its landowners/partners worked closely with the LCFRB to link projects



Placing logjam in upper Washougal River.

with regional Recovery Plan and Sub-Basin Assessment Priorities, and to follow the Six (6) Year Habitat Work Plan reflecting projects completed or underway and providing project priorities for the upcoming year.

2006/7's Education and Outreach Program involved numerous year-round activities including volunteer (student and/or citizen) planting parties at our various project sites, regular educational presentations on local salmon species and their habitat requirements to community programs and/or schools groups, on-site data collection by volunteers to meet LCFEG monitoring objectives, LCFEG displays and volunteer recruitment/sign-ups at local county fairs, watershed festivals, career fairs, salmon celebrations and community events and website updates.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Carcass Analog Study

LCFEG helped to fund and implement a Nutrient Assessment Study led by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to demonstrate the effectiveness of stream nutrient enhancement (via carcass

COMPLETED AND ON-GOING 2006-07 PROJECTS

Carcass Analogs I & II - Study
Cispus/Columbia Springs - Assessment
Lower Cowlitz - Assessment
Lower Kalama - Assessment
Woodard Creek - Assessment
Alder Creek - Restoration
Duncan Creek - Restoration
Elochoman River - Stabilization
Goble Creek - Restoration
Grays River - Restoration

Little Washougal II & III - Restoration
Lockwood Creek - Restoration
Lower Washougal I & II - Restoration
Muddy River - Restoration
Nutrient Enhancement I & II
Washougal Reach 8 - Restoration
Salmon Creek - Restoration
Steelhead Landing - Stabilization
Upper Washougal I - Restoration
Wildhorse & Gobar Creeks - Restoration

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group



Volunteers gathering willow cuttings.

analogs) to restore juvenile salmon production in watersheds previously identified as nutrient deficient. The final phase of the study has been completed and a final peer-reviewed report should be published shortly.

Project Development / Assessments

LCFEG is currently engaged in multiple assessments designed to identify habitat restoration projects. Locations where the assessments are underway include the lower Cowlitz River, Cispus River, Woodard Creek, Columbia Springs and Lower Kalama. Project types we are developing include spawning channels, in-stream structure and off-channel rearing habitat. Project partners include Washington State Parks & Recreation Committee, SRFB, LCFRB, USFWS, USFS and Columbia Springs Environmental Education Center.

Duncan Creek Rehabilitation

We began the early phases of work in this project wherein we will construct improvements to the existing Duncan Creek spawning channels, assess the habitat conditions and develop conceptual designs for habitat restoration in the watershed. Habitat within this reach has degraded and needs to be reconnected to the floodplain to provide spawning and rearing opportunities.

Grays River LWD Complexity

In early 2007 we initiated work on a project in the Grays River that is designed to enhance in-stream complexity necessary for improving adult holding cover and for improving juvenile rearing success in the highest priority reaches in the Grays River basin. This reach of the Grays River is characterized by lack of pools, lack of in-stream complexity and high depth-to-width ratios. The majority of the effort in the first half of 2007 included the acquisition of wood from Tacoma Power. Project funding is provided by SRFB with contributions from Naselle youth camp and Tacoma Power. The participating landowner is CJ Schmand.

Little Washougal Riparian

This project is a continuation of a multi-reach riparian planting effort that was started in 2003. Our crew and volunteers have removed extensive patches of non-native vegetation and planted over 10,000 native plants. Project partners have included the Stauffer and Marks families, NFWF/ SRFB and WDFW LIP.

Lower Washougal Restoration

In the summer of '06 we placed in-stream complexity on the lower Washougal River along with the construction of an engineered log jam. We also supplemented a large rock riffle containing approximately 10,000 tons of boulders which helped to re-meander the river. We also began extensive re-grading on a series of three off-channel gravel quarry ponds that will eventually be utilized as off-channel rearing habitat for juvenile salmo-

2006-07 PARTNERS

City of Camas
City of Vancouver Water Resources Center
Clark Public Utility
Clark Skamania Fly Fishers
Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania, Pacific, & Wahkiakum Counties
Columbia Springs Environmental Ed Center
Conservation Districts (Clark, Lewis, & Cowlitz)
Fish First
Longview Fiber
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board
Lower Columbia Fly Fishers
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Native Fish Society
NW Power and Conservation Council
Private Landowners (Multiple)
Salmon Recovery Funding Board
US Forest Service & USFS Resource Advisory Committee
SW WA Anglers
US Fish and Wildlife Service
US Geological Survey (Columbia River Lab)
WA Department of Fish & Wildlife
WA Department of Natural Resources
WA Department of Ecology
Washougal, Vancouver, Evergreen School Dist.
WSU Environmental Information Coop

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group

nids. Project funding is provided by SRFB, Burlington Northern Railroad and Georgia Pacific Corporation. Project partners include City of Camas, Georgia Pacific and WDFW.

Nutrient Enhancement (Multi-WRIA)

This is a continuation of a project that was initiated in 2004 with funding from a Community Salmon Fund grant as well as funding from ALEA. To date we have purchased several freezers to allow us to extend the nutrient enhancement over time and to allow us to “chip” the carcasses into bite size pieces. Chipping the carcasses reduces landowner complaints, reduces the chances of family dogs getting salmon poisoning and allows us to place the chips where we want them. We have underwater video showing how juvenile salmonids congregate around the chips and feed directly on the salmon flesh at a time of year when no other food is available. Partners include Fish First, Lower Columbia Fly Fishers, Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers, SWWA Anglers and WDFW.

Reach 8 Washougal Restoration

In the spring of '07 we initiated work on this project which will include the installation of one large logjam, five boulder clusters, restoring access to > 4,000' of tributary habitat, creation of 3 acres of off-channel rearing habitat, groundwater investigation and riparian plantings. This property has been the site of previous restoration by LCFEG in partnership with Washington Trout and Columbia Land Trust who completed a SRFB project on Schoolhouse creek upstream of the proposed work site. Funding is being provided by SRFB with partnerships from Gary and Dana Ostenson, WADNR and WDFW.

Steelhead Landing

This was a large bank stabilization project located on the lower five miles of the South Fork Toutle using bio-engineering techniques. The current project was funded by a fish friendly developer. The purpose of this project is to install in-stream structures that are durable and provide benefit to salmonids.



Bank stabilization on S. Fork Toutle River.



Volunteers fish flinging for nutrient enhancement.

Upper Washougal Restoration

This project was concluded in the summer of '07 with the creation of a large engineered log jam in the upper reaches of the Washougal River. In combination with the last two years of work this brings the total number of LWD jams to seventeen (17), the total number of rock structures to three (3) along with the placement of approximately fifteen (20) single logs.

Wildhorse / Gobar / Goble Creek

These three projects are similar in scope and are designed to showcase the function of wood placed in a bedrock channel to aggrade sediment. The project is funded by a NFWF/ SRFB Community Salmon Fund grant. School children from the Longview/ Kelso area assisted in the pre-project baseline data collection which we will use to compare post-project results. Partners include Longview Fiber, Longview School District, Cowlitz County and private landowner Randy Sweet.

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Project	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours (1)	Volunteer Dollars (2)	Other Funds (3)	Total Spent
Alder Creek - LWD				\$340	\$340
Carcass Analogs I & II - Study	\$8,000	24	\$360	\$130,630	\$138,990
Cispus/Columbia Springs - Assessment	\$6,000	2	\$30	\$52,590	\$58,620
Duncan Creek - Rehabilitation				\$5,070	\$5,070
Elochoman - Stabilization				\$230	\$230
Goble Creek - LWD		219	\$3,285	\$5,190	\$8,475
Grays - Complexity		8	\$120	\$9,590	\$9,710
Little Washougal - Riparian II & III		3,974	\$59,610	\$13,840	\$73,450
Lockwood Creek - LWD				\$60,660	\$60,660
Lower Cowlitz - Assessment	\$18,250	20	\$300	\$93,300	\$111,850
Lower Kalama - Assessment		366	\$5,490	\$7,810	\$13,300
Lower Washougal I & II - Restoration		2,810	\$42,150	\$190,680	\$232,830
Muddy River - Restoration			\$	\$2,830	\$2,830
Nutrient Enhancement I & II		2,916	\$43,740	\$38,120	\$81,860
Reach 8 Washougal - Restoration		177	\$2,655	\$7,590	\$10,245
Salmon Creek - LWD		200	\$3,000	\$61,950	\$64,950
Steelhead Landing - Stabilization		877	\$13,155	\$350,000	\$363,155
Upper Washougal I - LWD		4,216	\$63,240	\$100,540	\$163,780
Wildhorse/Gobar - LWD		1,187	\$17,805	\$12,040	\$29,845
Woodard Creek - Assessment	\$540	104	\$1,560	\$21,880	\$23,980
Habitat Projects	\$24,870	4	\$60		\$24,930
Equipment	\$5,560			\$22,700	\$28,260
Outreach/Education	\$10,850				\$10,850
Monitoring	\$2,170				\$2,170
Project Development	\$39,610				\$39,610
Operations	\$89,780	771	\$11,565		\$101,345
Totals	\$205,630	17,875	\$268,125	\$1,187,580	\$1,661,335
<i>(1) Includes DOC Crew. (2) Calculated at \$15.00 per hour. (3) If available includes estimated partner contributions.</i>					

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harry Barber, President
Hal Mahnke, Vice-President
Denny Way, Treasurer
Scott Donaldson, Director
Richard Kennon, Director
Ed McMillan, Director
Shannon Wills, Director
Jeff Wittler, Director
Donna Hale, WDFW Watershed Steward

STAFF MEMBERS

Tony Meyer, Executive Director
Nello Picinich, Operations Director
Mark Taylor, Project Manager
Peter Barber, Field Biologist
Darric Lowery, Project Assistant
Mike Hutchins, Full Time Volunteer/DOC Crew Supervisor

CREW INFORMATION

LCFEG utilizes a 10-person crew from the Department of Corrections - Larch Mountain facility.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group

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Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group is to restore self-sustaining salmon and steelhead populations through habitat preservation and restoration projects which assist landowners and promote community partnerships throughout our region.

RFEG OVERVIEW

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group is a non-profit (501c3) organization dedicated to restoring and protecting fish habitat. The Mid-Columbia region includes several important steelhead and salmon rivers, notably the Wind River, the White Salmon River, the Klickitat River, the Yakima River, and numerous tributaries to the Columbia River. Our region includes all of the waterways in seven of Washington's Water Resource Inventory Areas, fully encompassing all of Klickitat, Benton, Yakima, and Kittitas Counties, as well as portions of Skamania and Franklin counties.

Along with its large geographic size, this region has a diversity of watershed and fisheries issues unique to each of the individual rivers and watersheds. These watersheds provide habitat for seven salmonid species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, as well as a number of sensitive and culturally significant stocks. Population growth in the Yakima Basin is likely the biggest threat to salmonid resources in the tri-county (Kittitas, Yakima & Benton Counties) area. Water quantity and instream flows are critical issues on nearly all of the tributary streams in the arid portions of the region.

Mid-Columbia Fisheries takes a three-pronged approach to protecting and restoring fish habitat.

1. We sponsor and implement high-quality habitat restoration and protection projects throughout our region.
2. We help support the work of our partners by providing financial support for restoration and protection projects.
3. We help support educational and community outreach programs that will promote the long-term commitment our society needs to protect fisheries resources.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Yakama Nation, and the USDA Forest Service continue to be our strongest partners. Both of the co-managers provide technical assistance with individual projects. Additional partners include conservation districts, private landowners, local governments, federal agencies, schools and community groups.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Cle Elum River – Restoration and Protection

The Cle Elum River Restoration and Protection project is aimed at protecting high priority fish habitat along the river and in a side channel where ground water upwelling creates cold water refugia, particularly for Threatened bull trout. The upper Cle Elum River had been degraded by dispersed, unmanaged recreation. In cooperation with the Wenatchee and Okanogan National Forests, Mid-Columbia Fisheries hired a contractor to implement a protection and restoration project that was in the planning stages for a number of years. Completed restoration and protection actions include:

- Elimination of vehicle access to the active floodplain and river banks;
- Abandonment of unneeded roads and removal of associated culverts;
- Decompaction of soils and planting native vegetation along riverbanks;
- Improvement of floodplain roughness by placement of large wood; and
- Relocation of access, parking, and camping areas outside of the active floodplain.

This project was funded by a variety of sources including the USDA Forest Service, the National Forest Foundation, the Mountaineers, Plum Creek Foundation, RIDGE, and Regional Fisheries Enhancement program funding. Additional work at other priority sites in the upper Cle Elum River is planned.



Crew members roll this culvert to higher ground after removing it by hand from the Klickitat River. - October 2006

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group



Community volunteers and local students assisted with potting plants for use on next year's restoration projects.

Fogarty Ditch Fish Passage

Mid-Columbia Fisheries funded the replacement of an undersized, collapsed and failing culvert at the upstream end of Fogarty Ditch. The culvert replacement at the head of Fogarty Ditch was one component of a multi-faceted project designed to convert four-mile long Fogarty Ditch from an irrigation canal into a fish-bearing side-channel of the Yakima River. The larger project involves installing fish screens for individual water users and removing passage barriers. By screening individual users (rather than the ditch itself), Fogarty Ditch will provide safe side channel habitat that is connected to the mainstem Yakima River at both the top and bottom ends. Various components of the project were led by the Bureau of Reclamation, the Kittitas Conservation District, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, with coordination, funding, and technical assistance from the Yakima Tributary Access and Habitat Program.

Yakama Nation staff assisted with coordinating the replacement of the upstream culvert, and the water users provided a large match. The water users supported the fish passage goals of this project, but also benefit from improved function at the inlet, which increased the users' ability to flexibly manage irrigation water. Because this project was a "win-win" for fish and farmers, it serves as an example of fish interests working with the agricultural community to accomplish goals that are mutually beneficial. With assistance from the water users and Yakama Nation, we were able to complete this project for less than one third the originally estimated budget.

Holmes Restoration

This year Mid-Columbia Fisheries continued our multiple year commitment to restoration at the Yakima River side channel - Holmes site. In early summer, Mid-Columbia Fisheries helped fund improvements to the irrigation system needed for the success of the riparian planting along the side channel. We are

also helping to fund improvements to fish passage at the outlet of the rearing pond.

The Holmes parcel was purchased by the Yakama Nation in 2005 and is being managed as fish and wildlife habitat. The property includes a 1,300 foot long side channel and wetlands associated with the Yakima River. Habitat restoration along the side channel began in the spring of 2006. Restoration activities include decommissioning and decompacting farm roads along the side channel, riparian planting, weed control, and placement of instream habitat features (woody debris and gravel). The Holmes site is part of the Yakama Nation's highly successful Coho re-introduction program.

Klickitat River Restoration

This year, Mid-Columbia Fisheries was able to sponsor a number of projects in the Klickitat Basin.

- We re-constructed and maintained nine miles of livestock exclusion fencing on tributaries to the Klickitat River (Swale Creek, Simmons Creek, and Chapman Creeks).
- We planted 600 feet of the Little Klickitat River with native trees and shrubs. The landowner at this site committed more than fifty hours of maintenance and watering at this project.
- Community volunteers planted native trees along Spring Creek, a tributary to the Little Klickitat River.
- Volunteers and Americorps members removed debris from the Klickitat River in October. A five foot diameter culvert was removed from the river by hand. The culvert had blown out of an upstream tributary a number of years ago and was temporarily lodged in branches that were overhanging the active river channel.



Crew members constructing a livestock exclusion fence on Swale Creek, a tributary to the Klickitat River. - April, 2007

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

- Mid-Columbia Fisheries continued our commitment to riparian restoration at the two properties at the River Mile 12 site, where crew members added additional plants and maintained plants installed in 2006. Improvements were made to the drip irrigation system, and first year survival of many species was good.
- Six sites along the Klickitat River were planted with a hydraulic stinger in 2006 in a cooperative project with the Yakama Nation. First year survival data was collected and survival rates are high. We are planning additional stringer plantings in 2008. With assistance from the Yakama Nation, this spring we began a small nursery that will provide rooted plants for the upcoming stinger sites and other restoration projects.

Little Wind River Sediment Reduction

Volunteers and Americorps crew members planted trees on three landslides above the Little Wind River. Graduate students from Portland State University studied the landslides and prepared recommendations for reducing sediment from the landslides to the Little Wind River, an important lower watershed tributary to the Wind River. Road stormproofing is planned for forest roads associated with the landslides.



Americorps team leader installing a mesh plant protection tube to protect newly planted trees from browse on Spring Creek, Klickitat County.
- April 2007

Education

Community volunteers assisted with a number of planting projects, including projects in the Wind River, Klickitat River, and Yakima Basin.

This year, Mid-Columbia Fisheries helped staff the Benton Conservation District's Salmon Summit, an event attended by 1,000 local students who learn about watershed and fisheries issues and release classroom-reared salmon into the Lower Yakima. Based on the success of this event, Mid-Columbia Fisheries is helping lead the planning for a similar (but smaller) event in the Columbia Gorge for the spring of 2008.

Mid-Columbia Fisheries staff also helped provide support to Whitson Elementary School's watershed monitoring and education project on lower Jewett Creek.

Other

This year our board revisited and reaffirmed our mission statement. We adopted a project evaluation checklist and a conflict of interest policy. We also formalized our policy regarding projects that have mitigation components.

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

PROJECT EXPENDITURES						
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other in-kind Donations	Other Funds	Total Spent
Little Wind River Sediment Reduction	\$190	33	\$495	\$16,570	\$648	\$17,936
Klickitat Tributaries Restoration	\$735	34	\$510	\$2,489	\$28,961	\$32,729
Cle Elum River Restoration & Protection	\$9,000	0	\$0	\$10,000	\$11,117	\$30,117
Klickitat River Mile 12 Riparian Restoration	\$0	0	\$0	\$0	\$5,335	\$5,335
Klickitat River Riparian Restoration	\$0	60	\$900	\$1,100	\$1,036	\$3,096
Holmes Side Channel, Yakima River	\$8,472	0	\$0	\$0	\$15,000	\$23,472
Fogerty Ditch, Yakima River	\$9,412	40	\$600	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$18,052
Administration / Project Mgmt / Travel / Insurance	\$33,993	144	\$2,160	\$0	\$4,125	\$40,422
Outreach	\$440	3	\$45	\$0	\$0	\$488
Totals	\$62,242	314	\$4,710	\$35,159	\$69,222	\$171,647

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Name	Position	Affiliation	Watershed
Glenn Miller	President	Construction Manager, Yakima County Road Department	Yakima Basin
Doug Miller	Secretary	Klickitat PUD	Klickitat Basin
Mark Harvey	Board Member	Environmental compliance & management	Klickitat Basin
Blake Murphy	Treasurer	Washington Dept. of Natural Resources, White Salmon Watershed Management Committee	White Salmon Basin

STAFF MEMBERS

Margaret Neuman, Director

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Tri-State Steelheaders Fisheries Enhancement Group, by completing habitat enhancement projects, crafting coalitions with conservation organizations, conducting educational outreach, securing volunteer assistance, and promoting sustainable recreational angling will perpetuate salmonid populations and create measurable increases in their habitat in southeastern Washington, northeastern Oregon and north central Idaho.

RFEG OVERVIEW

The Tri-State Steelheaders has been actively involved in salmonid habitat restoration since its inception in the mid-1960's. The group was granted 501(c)3 status by Washington State in 1989 and was designated a Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group in December 2000. As a community-based non-profit organization, the Tri-State Steelheaders receives valuable support from its members—property owners, local businesses, and concerned citizens.

The Tri-State Steelheaders' RFEG district covers southeastern Washington, WRIs 32 and 35. Major watersheds include the Snake and Walla Walla Rivers. Restoration projects include in-stream and riparian habitat enhancement as well as community outreach and education programs. Creating partnerships with landowners, government agencies, and other conservation organizations is of paramount importance to the Tri-State Steelheaders.

During the 2006-07 fiscal year the Tri-State Steelheaders participated in 10 habitat restoration projects. Volunteers donated a total of 1,664 hours working on habitat enhancement projects and educational programs.



Volunteer labor was a significant component of restoration efforts in the last year.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Lower Walla Walla River Restoration

Two engineered log-jams and four log barbs were installed to protect 500 feet of highly erodible streambank on the lower Walla Walla River. The stream's six foot high vertical banks lacked any vegetation as a result of having been cleared for pasture. The value of riparian vegetation for bank stability was obvious where adjacent reaches with healthy riparian buffers did not show the same bank instability. The large woody debris installed during this project is intended to provide bank protection until native riparian vegetation can be planted and grow to provide natural bank holding function. The large woody debris will also provide instream habitat in the form of pools and cover, which are lacking in the lower Walla Walla River. In May, spring chinook were seen using pools formed by winter flows in the project reach. The area adjacent to the project site, including the newly planted riparian buffer, will be protected in a permanent conservation easement, to be donated by the landowner. Project partners are the landowner, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and US Fish and Wildlife Service.

North Fork Touchet Riparian Restoration

About 400 feet of rootwad revetment was installed on the North Fork Touchet River, just upstream of Dayton, WA. This project was designed to improve instream and riparian habitat, and remedy emergency repairs installed in response to high flows years ago. The reach had marginal benefit to steelhead and bull trout due to land use practices and recent flood events. Large wood and riparian cover were lacking, and the stream offered little habitat value. The rootwad revetment provides bank stability and has already provided several large scour pools. Project partners were the two landowners and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Jim Creek Culvert Replacement

A prefabricated, modular concrete bridge replaced an undersized culvert to improve fish passage on Jim Creek, a tributary of the North Fork Touchet River in Columbia County. This was the last of six barrier culverts to be replaced in this steelhead rearing stream. The five foot diameter culvert was undersized for the stream, leading to a flow dependent velocity barrier, and a lack of streambed material in the culvert. The bridge provides 20 feet of free span, allowing greater conveyance of peak flows, streambed material, and woody debris. Fish moving under the bridge will now encounter a natural stream bottom, where before they encountered corrugated steel. Project partners were Columbia Conservation District, Columbia County Public Works, with NRCS funding through the Walla Walla Watershed Alliance.

Tri-State Steelheaders Fisheries Enhancement Group



Before – Undersized culvert in Jim Creek.

Hofer Dam Fish Passage

Hofer Dam was built in the early 1900s to provide irrigation water for agricultural use to two irrigation districts. The dam spans the river about four miles above its confluence with the Walla Walla River. The apron of the dam extends downstream, preventing the formation of a jump pool. Just downstream of the dam, a pipe and concrete structure conveys water across the river. Downcutting associated with this pipe and remedial actions taken by irrigators created a second dam-like passage barrier. The barriers associated with the dam were considered by many to be the biggest and most complex passage barrier for adult steelhead, bull trout, and spring chinook migrating into 186 miles of streams in the Touchet River basin upstream of the dam. Juvenile fish were in jeopardy from fish screens installed in the 1950s. The project improved the withdrawal station by relocating the pumps and installing a NMFS compliant fish screen and cleaning device. Fish passage was improved by installing a pool and chute fishway, and a roughened channel below the fishway. Sponsored by Walla Walla County Conservation District, other partners include Bonneville Power Administration, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council. Tri-State Steelheaders provided non-federal match from State RFEG funds.

Stream Flow Monitoring

Continuing with efforts started in 2002, Tri-State Steelheaders provided assistance and on-the-ground support for the Washington Department of Ecology's stream gauging network in WRIA 32.

Tri-State Steelheaders technicians visited 14 stations weekly to take measurements and provide maintenance. These monitoring efforts provided data used for Watershed Planning and HCP planning efforts. Stream gauge data are available for public

viewing at Ecology's website, <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wrx/wrx/flows/regions/state.asp>.

Russell Creek Riparian Restoration

Two acres of riparian vegetation were planted within the Urban Growth Area of Walla Walla County. Russell Creek is a steelhead rearing stream just outside the city of Walla Walla. Open space and riparian buffers are vanishing as development is rapidly expanding in this area. Volunteers from two local colleges volunteered 243 hours in site preparation and planting. Watershed Plan Implementation Funding was provided by Washington Department of Ecology through Walla Walla County Watershed Planning.

Community Outreach and Education

The past year was another successful for the Tri-State Steelheaders' efforts to involve community members in salmon and steelhead restoration activities. Five hundred people attended this year's annual Crab Feed, which recognizes salmon and steelhead restoration efforts across the watershed. Through this and other events, and by working with local schools, the Tri-State Steelheaders delivered the message of salmon and steelhead restoration throughout the community.

Community education continued to be an important issue to the Tri-State Steelheaders in the past year. In June, the Tri-State Steelheaders hosted Kids' Fishing Days at Bennington Lake. The annual program, which is free and open to the public, is oriented towards children ages 3 to 14. Every child who registered received a bag full of fishing gear as well as a chance to participate in the Casting Contest. The event is intended to encourage children to become excited in recreational fishing, while also promoting safe and environmentally responsible fishing practices. Ninety-two students at five area schools participated in student stream monitoring program, learning principles of water quality in field and classroom settings.



After – Culvert replaced by bridge to eliminate passage barrier.

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Project	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Administration	\$19,855	89	\$1,335	\$0	\$21,190
Community Outreach & Education	\$16,853	1,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$31,853
Create Urban Riparian Buffers	\$0	40	\$600	\$13,500	\$14,100
Doan Creek Restoration	\$0	78	\$1,170	\$14,383	\$15,553
Enhanced Flow Monitoring	\$0	0	\$0	\$20,050	\$20,050
Hofer Dam Fish Passage	\$18,813	0	\$0	\$808,038	\$826,851
Jim Creek Culvert Replacement	\$0	0	\$0	\$46,574	\$46,574
Johnson/Lower Walla Walla River Restoration	\$0	0	\$0	\$72,648	\$72,648
McEvoy Creek Restoration	\$53	199.5	\$2,993	\$40,088	\$43,134
North Fork Coppei Creek Easement	\$0	0	\$0	\$13,372	\$13,372
North Fork Touchet Riparian Restoration	\$0	0	\$0	\$12,691	\$12,691
Project Development & Management	\$82,761	0	\$0	\$0	\$82,761
Russell Creek Riparian Restoration	\$1,323	243	\$3,645	\$8,735	\$13,703
Training	\$431	0	\$0	\$0	\$431
Yellowhawk Creek Riparian Restoration	\$45	15	\$225	\$10,000	\$10,270
Totals	\$140,134	1,664.5	\$24,968	\$1,060,079	\$1,225,181



A rootwad revetment on the North Fork Touchet River has provided pools and habitat diversity previously lacking in this reach.

Tri-State Steelheaders Fisheries Enhancement Group

OFFICERS

President: Larry Zalaznik, Vice-President, Banner Bank
Vice-President: Kirk Klicker, Owner-Operator, Klicker's Strawberry Acres
Treasurer: Mike Loney, Coachman Body and Frame Service
Secretary: Rick Johnston, Chiropractor, Johnston Chiropractic

DIRECTORS

Bob Carson, Ph.D., Professor, Whitman College
Jon Cole, Ph.D., Professor, Walla Walla University
Kevin Crum, R.A., Architect, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rick Jones, Director, Walla Walla County Conservation District
Matt Mahan, Herring Groseclose Funeral Home

STAFF MEMBERS

Vacant, Executive Director
Brian Burns, Project Manager
Steve Gwinn, Outreach Coordinator
Cheryl Cockerline, Secretary
Alex Amonette, Flow Monitoring Technician

Tri-State Steelheaders project partners July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007: Asotin High School, Berney Elementary School, Burbank High School, Clarkston High School, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Cooperative Trout Enhancement Program, DeSales Catholic High School, Farm Service Agency, Garrison Middle School, Hook N' More Sports, National Marine Fisheries Service, National Park Service, National Resource Conservation Service, Opportunity Program, Palouse Community School, Pepsi-Cola of Walla Walla, Royse Hydroseeding, Sportsman's Warehouse of Kennewick, Touchet Elementary School, Touchet High School, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Waitsburg Elementary School, Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council, Walla Walla Community College, Walla Walla County Watershed Planning, Walla Walla University, Walla Walla Watershed Alliance, Walla Walla County Conservation District, Walla Walla High School, Walla Walla YMCA, Wal-Mart, Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Whitman College, and many additional local and regional businesses that supported the Tri-State Steelheaders' projects.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Upper Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group (Upper Columbia RFEG) works with willing landowners to protect good habitat and to facilitate and implement fish restoration projects. UCG also informs the public through education, training, and public information to improve the health of our region's environment, increase fish populations, promote a more sustainable and environmentally sound regional economy, and minimize community conflicts over natural resource management.

RFEG OVERVIEW

As a non-profit community based salmon recovery organization, the Upper Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group provides funding, guidance, technical assistance and ongoing support for fisheries habitat restoration and enhancement. The UCRFEG is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated since 2000 which covers RFEG area #14 (Okanogan, Douglas, Chelan and Ferry Counties), and includes nine WRIA regions (numbers 44 through 52). The UCRFEG Strategic Plan developed by our Board guides all our fisheries programming and projects, and includes the following categories: Regional Economic Development, Landowners, Agencies, Volunteers, Members, Restoration Projects, Facilitation, Public Information, Education, Accountability, Improving Social Climate, and Strategic Plan Implementation. UCRFEG's major programmatic and project areas, further described below, include landowner networking, education and outreach, projects, and partnership development.

UCRFEG's landowner networking occurs through regular contact with residents and businesses throughout Okanogan, Doug-

las, Chelan and Ferry Counties. Without this, UCRFEG would not be able to develop or implement any initiatives due to public opinion in the region about salmon recovery. One of the many mechanisms for working with landowners is that UCRFEG has developed its "Landowner Watershed Committee" Program, which provides support and facilitation for smaller, semi-formal groups of landowners interested in their respective tributaries, and involves multi-purpose watershed planning and a variety of processes as selected by the landowners. UCRFEG has also developed an Interdisciplinary Science Team made of various government agency representatives to support both UCRFEG projects and advise landowner committees and their processes.

UCRFEG's education and outreach occurs through our events, programs and other opportunities as they arise. Examples of some of our education and outreach venues include community events such as garbage cleanups and creek awareness nights, interpretive signage and trail plans, county fairs, plus other opportunities arising from our Landowner Watershed Committee program.

UCRFEG undertakes a wide variety of projects because landowner opinion in this region demands flexibility in approach. To date UCRFEG projects have included in-stream and riparian planting and fencing, biological and engineering assessments, employment of alternative stock-watering techniques, irrigation water source replacements, economic development of fisheries eco-tourism, watershed planning, school and community group projects, and more. Initially many of our field-only projects are used as a starting point for broader education and outreach, and vice versa. UCRFEG education and outreach programs opportunistically capitalize on various projects, but we are currently developing standard volunteer monitoring and assessment program projects. UCRFEG does not undertake carcass replacement as many areas of our regions have had stocks cut off by downstream dams. Hatchery programs are run by the Colville Confederated Tribes and other agencies who have their own nitrification programs.

UCRFEG has engaged in partnership development with a large number of both government and non-government organizations (too many to list by name) in the course of delivering its programs and projects. UCRFEG works with city, county, state, federal, and tribal governments, whose roles range by project to include: project partners, funding source, scientific advice, field support, inter-coordination of parallel initiatives, and more. In addition to government organizations, strong key partnerships have been made with trails, land conservancy, water rights, economic development, and other types of non-profit organizations. UCRFEG makes many presentations to other groups, examples of which are Okanogan Conservation District, Kiwanis, Cattleman's Associations, County Commissioners, Chambers of Commerce, Economic Alliance, and Tourism Councils.



Youth Corps Crew on Chiwawa River projects.

Upper-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group



Chiwawa River campsite prior to restoration.

We participate in the Salmon Recovery Funding Board processes in the Okanogan County/Colville Confederated Tribe lead entity. The UCRFEG participates in the technical review, citizen project ranking and strategy development.

In addition to paid staff time, the above progress has been made due to the efforts of our volunteer Board and others, who have contributed 129 hours of volunteer time.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Respect the River – Chiwawa River

Respect the River is a multi-faceted restoration program designed to balance the need for preserving riparian function (and endangered species) with the recreational needs of people. It works on the premise that restoration, combined with education, leads to success. Ten years of program development and the restoration of more than 500 acres of riparian habitat have earned Respect the River regional and national recognition. Through Respect the River, we are learning how to enhance outdoor opportunities for people and maintain excellent fish and wildlife habitat. UCRFEG and the US Forest Service have worked together on the Chiwawa River project.

The Chiwawa River site is a popular recreation area on land managed by the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests. As such, it contributes economically to the tourist industry of the local community. Identified as a Key Watershed in the Northwest Forest Plan, the Chiwawa River is critical to the conservation of several fish listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The River also provides cool, clean water to the Wenatchee River and the Columbia River system downstream from the Grand Coulee Dam. There are 14 developed campgrounds and several dispersed sites along the Chiwawa. The

River suffers from common problems of overuse including:

- Increased bank erosion and sediment delivery due to user built roads and trails
- Decreased floodplain function due to loss of vegetation and soil compaction
- Loss of large woody debris in the floodplain
- Disturbance to redds and spawning fish through recreational dams and, in some cases, illegal harvest of ESA protected fish
- Presence of garbage and uncovered human waste

Using Respect the River, we have addressed these problems through stewardship, surveys, restoration, and partnerships. Knowing that restoration will neither be successful nor sustainable without understanding and acceptance by the recreating public, we incorporate contact rangers and interpretive signing into each of our project areas.

Our goals are to:

- Restore fish and riparian habitats that have been degraded by heavy recreational use
- Educate the public about habitat, and about ongoing restoration projects
- Create a program that is easily adaptable to all open lands
- Create community partnerships

During the 2006 field season, we completed Phase I of the project, restoring campgrounds at three sites to enhance fish and riparian habitat while retaining recreational activities. In 2007, we will move to Phase II, working at the Phelps Creek Campgrounds. Specifically, we will relocate two campsites away from the river; construct buck and pole fences along the river to facilitate vegetative recovery; build one common access trail to the river and rehabilitate excessive trails; decompact soils in riparian areas to facilitate floodplain revegetation; replant ri-



Chiwawa River campsite after restoration.

riparian areas with native shrubs, trees, and forbs; confine parking to graveled parking spurs; close and rehabilitate additional parking spurs by decompacting soils and planting native vegetation; surface access roads and parking spurs with gravel; use boulders to delineate parking; and use Respect the River Contact Rangers to help campers and visitors understand the importance of riparian areas, recognize redds, and realize that their camping practices can move a site toward recovery. The project will maintain public access to an outstanding example of habitat used by listed spring Chinook salmon, bull trout, and steelhead in the inland Pacific Northwest

Tonasket Elementary School – Classroom Education

This year the UCRFEG partnered with the Tonasket Elementary School and worked with a 3rd grade class to provide fisheries education in the classroom. Supplies were provided for the students to grow fish in the classroom, observe their growth, and then release the fish into the wild. The students also learned about water quality and hardness through the US Forest Service on a field trip to a local stream where they were able to perform water quality tests hands on. This partnership and program provide education and outreach that might not otherwise we obtained.

Okanogan Conservation District – Various Projects

There are numerous projects that the Okanogan Conservation District (OCD) and the UCRFEG are able to partner on each year. This year we worked together on the Black Canyon, Stokes Weir, and Tripod Fire Rehabilitation projects. The Black Canyon project was to replace an irrigation diversion. The irrigation diversion box was replaced, a significant upgrade, and the diversion itself was made fish friendly. The Stokes Weir project consisted of the re-construction of a weir that was washed out during a high flow period in 2005. During the summer of



Tonasket Elementary School student testing for water quality, pH, and hardness.

2006 the Tripod Fire Complex burned approximately 175,000 acres of forest land. Within the burn area there are numerous watersheds and streams that were affected. The UCRFEG and OCD partnered together to coordinate meetings with government and forest personnel to discuss the impact that the fire would have during the upcoming spring runoff in 2007 and what precautionary measure were being addressed to limit the impact on the watersheds, as well as find out information on how the OCD and UCRFEG would be of assistance in the process.



Tonasket Elementary School students doing water quality testing.

Upper-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

PROJECT EXPENDITURES					
Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Admin & office expenses	\$98,616	55	\$825	-	\$99,441
Partnerships & Project Development	\$13,085	-	-	-	\$13,085
Habitat Projects Assessment, Restoration & Monitoring *	\$20,770	10	\$150	\$63,752*	\$84,672*
Education & Outreach	\$9,808	64	\$960	-	\$10,768
Training, Travel & Conferences	\$1,505	-	-	-	\$1,505
Totals	\$143,784	129	\$1,935	\$63,752	\$209,471

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jerry Kendrick, Software Developer
 Bill Colyar, Operations Director, SES Americom Earth Station
 Marcus Bertrand, Retired Mayor
 Mark Cookson, WDFW Watershed Steward

STAFF MEMBERS

Daphne Booker, Program Manger
 Andrea Field, Administrative Assistant

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