

REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

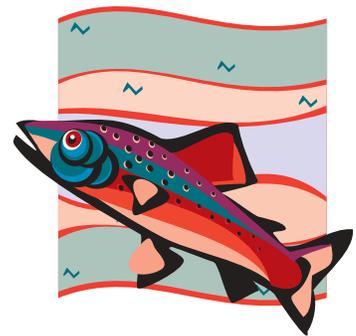




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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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“The salmon is the living icon of the quality of life in the Pacific Northwest.”

—Honorable Gary Locke, Governor of the State of Washington

OVERVIEW

In 1990, the Washington State Legislature created the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program to involve local communities, citizen volunteers, and landowners in the state’s salmon recovery efforts. Initially there were twelve groups, all but one in Western Washington; two more Eastern Washington groups formed in 2000.

The fourteen Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups (RFEs) perform a unique role. They are the only organizations statewide dedicated solely to restoring salmon and steelhead populations. In addition, the RFEs create dynamic partnerships with state and federal agencies, Native American tribes, and local businesses and landowners. Through these collaborations, the RFEs help lead communities in successful restoration programs.

ANNUAL REPORT: JULY 1, 2001 – JUNE 30, 2002

All information comes directly from the RFEs and from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s contract summaries. Volunteer dollars are calculated at the rate of \$12.50 per hour.

RFE PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The overall program has a multi-tiered structure:

- The groups function as fourteen separate non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations, each with a Board of Directors and, for most, staff overseeing their activities.
- Each Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group has a specific geographic area based on watersheds.
- Within each RFE, members develop and propose projects.
- The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and tribal staff of the region review project proposals for compatibility with laws and other recovery efforts in the particular watershed.
- The RFE Advisory Board, appointed by the director of WDFW, advises the Washington Fish & Wildlife Commission and WDFW. The Advisory Board advocates for and coordinates the Program, making recommendations for funding RFE project proposals.

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- Funding for the RFEG Programs, administered through WDFW, comes from a portion of fees assessed to commercial and recreational fishing licenses. Revenues generated by the state's sale of salmon eggs and carcasses also go toward the program. In recent years the RFEG Program has received substantial funding from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.
- RFEGs form an integral part of the local salmon recovery Lead Entity processes. The Lead Entities include municipal and county governments, conservation districts, tribes, and non-profits; their make-up varies from region to region. Lead Entities prioritize projects for funding by Washington's Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB).
- The groups also obtain grants from government agencies and private entities. Individual donations and gifts in kind are also crucial. In the 1999-2001 biennium, RFEGs received donations and in-kind contributions from thousands of different businesses, agencies, and individuals.
- The involvement of local volunteers and the participation of landowners willing to have projects on their property form the key features of the RFEG Program.
- The RFEGs create numerous partnerships, bringing diverse interests together.

THE REGIONS

The organizations share the common goal of restoring fish populations and habitat to their regions, relying on support in local communities. However, the geographic areas and therefore the groups vary widely.

The regions of Puget Sound—Nooksack, Skagit, Stilly-Snohomish, Mid Sound, and South Puget—all have lower watersheds situated in the populated Interstate-5 corridor. Their upper watersheds include private and publicly owned forested lands. Consequently, these regions deal with the combined environmental pressures of logging, farming, industry, and urban growth. In addition, many estuaries fall within their borders, and some have cities on their major rivers.

The areas along the Olympic Peninsula and Washington coast—Hood Canal, North Olympic, Pacific Coast, Chehalis, and Willapa Bay—all have resource-based economies. The groups play a key role in helping balance the needs of both the human community and the salmon. A significant portion of the area is managed by state, federal and tribal agencies, and private timber companies. Most of these regions receive substantial rainfall.

The Lower Columbia group also serves an area heavily impacted by forestry practices, operating in an economy dependent on logging. The group is one of three along the Columbia River. The others are located in Eastern Washington. Mid Columbia and Upper Columbia, along with Tri State Steelheaders, formed new regions January 2001. The regions east of the Cascade Mountains are characterized by low rainfall, irrigated lands, and hydropower projects—all affecting fish habitat.

REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP ADVISORY BOARD

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MISSION

The Board acts in an advisory capacity to the department and legislature in setting operational and financial policies to promote and support the program and foster cooperation between the Enhancement Groups.

OVERVIEW

The Board has seven members appointed to three-year terms by the Director of the WDFW; three at-large positions, two represent recreational fishing interests, two represent commercial salmon fishing interests. The two tribal fisheries commissions each nominate one Board member.

The Board, at its quarterly public meetings, reviews the RFEGs' project proposals and makes recommendations to the Director of WDFW for funding approval. The Board operates with a committee structure with representatives from the RFEGs and Board members. These Committees are Administration, Finance/Budget, Project Review, and RFEG Representative Committee. Each have standard operating procedures.

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeanne Robinson — At-Large Position, Finance Committee, *Shelton, WA*

Vacant Position — At-Large Position

Geoff Lebon — Commercial Fishing Interests, Project Review Committee, *Olympia, WA*

Diane Jones — At-Large Position, Administration and Project Review Committees, *Hansville, WA*

Bob Lake — Commercial Fishing Interests, Project Review Committee, *Grayland, WA*

Jason Scott — Recreational Fishing Interests, Board Chair, Project Review and Finance Committees, *Spokane, WA*

Paul Szewczykowski — Recreational Fishing Interests, Project Review Committee, *Bothell, WA*

Terry Wright — Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Board Chair, Administration Committee, *Olympia, WA*

Vacant Position — Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission

WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AND THE RFEG PROGRAM

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MISSION

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

OVERVIEW

Funding for the RFEG Program is provided from a portion of the fees assessed to commercial salmon licenses (\$100 per license) and to recreational fishing licenses (\$1 per freshwater, saltwater or combined license; of these licenses, it is the proportion whose purchasers indicated, in a survey, that they will fish for salmon and steelhead). Revenues generated by the state's sale of salmon eggs and carcasses also go to the RFEG Program.

This WDFW administers this dedicated state funding and retains 20% to administer the Program. The fourteen RFEGs equally divide the remaining 80%. Each RFEG receives the allocation of funds when the Director approves an RFEG project proposal. In recent years, the RFEG Program has also received substantial funding, equally apportioned to the Groups and administered by WDFW, from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

In addition to its fiduciary (contracting and accounting services) responsibility to the Program, the WDFW is required to review all RFEG project proposals to ensure compatibility with existing laws, WDFW policies, co-management and other salmon recovery efforts conducted in a specific watershed. An RFEG's project proposals are reviewed by the WDFW Watershed Steward in that region prior to submission to the Advisory Board. Watershed Stewards also provide on-site technical assistance including identifying projects, designing projects and permitting.

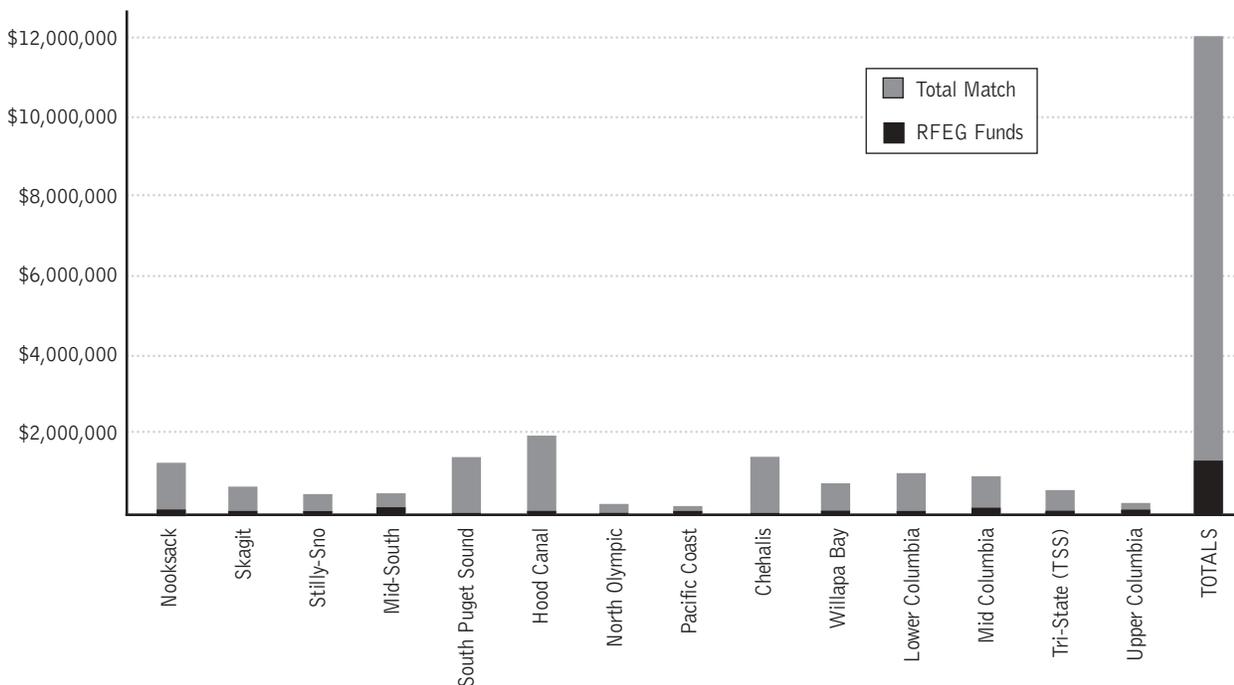
TABLES AND GRAPHS

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REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM EXPENDITURES: ANNUAL REPORT FOR JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

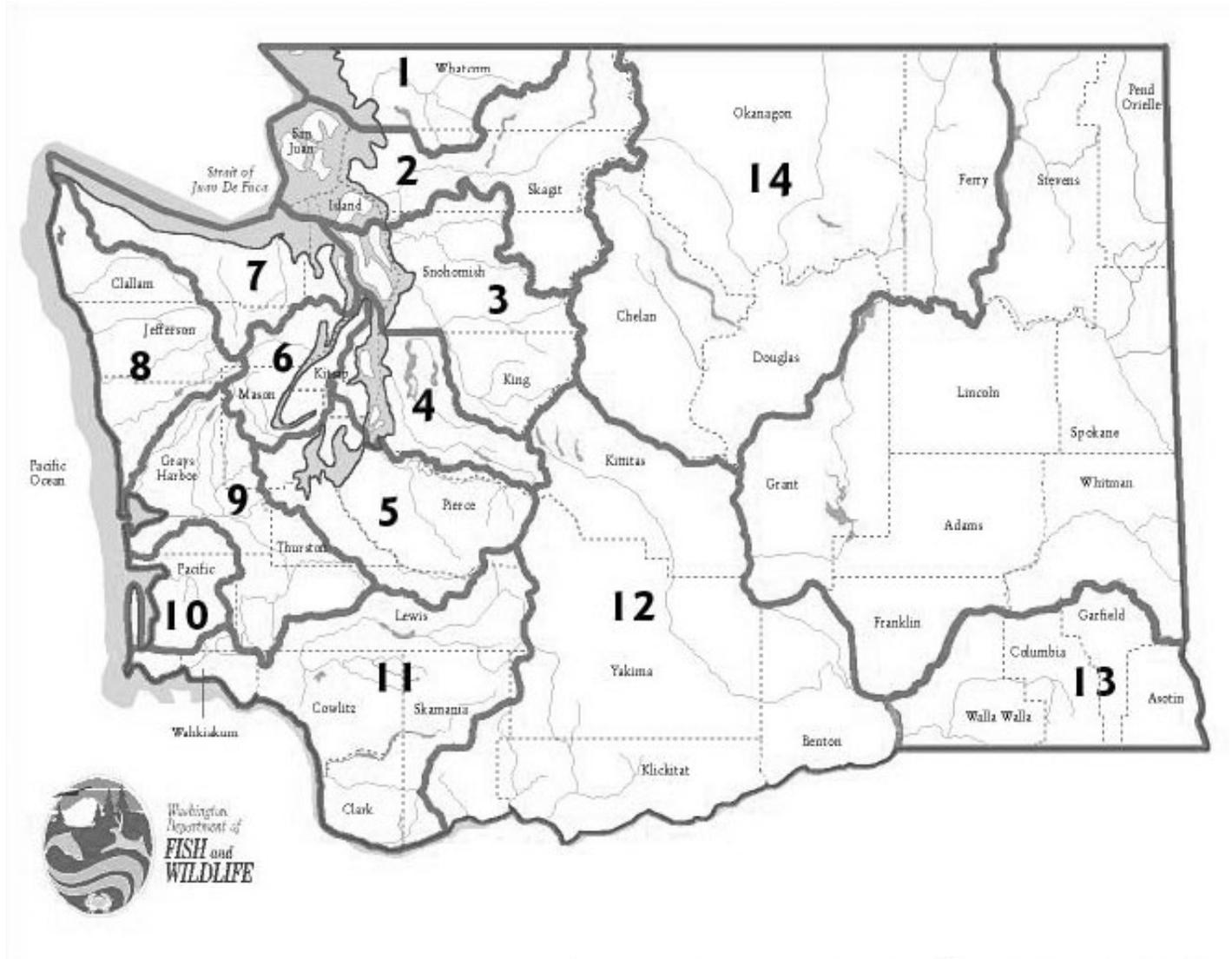
GROUP	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total
1) Nooksack	\$ 122,396	20,078	\$ 328,393	\$ 717,337	\$ 1,168,126
2) Skagit	\$ 78,181	4,715	\$ 58,938	\$ 467,989	\$ 605,108
3) Stilly-Sno	\$ 89,028	5,561	\$ 69,508	\$ 265,563	\$ 424,099
4) Mid-Sound	\$ 171,853	3,891	\$ 49,157	\$ 150,704	\$ 371,714
5) South Puget Sound	\$ 55,850	3,954	\$ 63,758	\$ 1,279,206	\$ 1,398,814
6) Hood Canal	\$ 92,919	10,758	\$ 134,476	\$ 1,849,478	\$ 2,076,873
7) North Olympic	\$ 41,833	3,689	\$ 46,101	\$ 104,032	\$ 191,966
8) Pacific Coast	\$ 87,252	1,854	\$ 23,176	\$ 10,000	\$ 120,428
9) Chehalis	\$ 44,029	11,527	\$ 144,088	\$ 1,207,522	\$ 1,395,639
10) Willapa Bay	\$ 105,058	1,766	\$ 82,679	\$ 505,076	\$ 692,813
11) Lower Columbia	\$ 86,971	1,400	\$ 17,500	\$ 831,141	\$ 935,612
12) Mid Columbia	\$ 183,505	1,585	\$ 16,410	\$ 566,000	\$ 765,915
13) Tri-State (TSS)	\$ 65,487	2,232	\$ 27,908	\$ 462,109	\$ 555,504
14) Upper Columbia	\$ 120,735	682	\$ 33,308	\$ 4,819	\$ 158,862
TOTALS	\$ 1,345,097	73,692	\$ 1,095,400	\$ 8,420,976	\$ 10,861,473

RATIO OF RFEG FUNDS TO TOTAL MATCH



REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP BOUNDARIES

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REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUPS GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

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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 WRIs 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 WRIs 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 WRIs 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 WRIs 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 WRIs 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.

REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUPS GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES

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REGION 8: PACIFIC COAST SALMON COALITION

Includes WRIAs 20 and 21: Major watersheds include the Sooes, Ozette, Quillayute, Hoh, Queets, and Quinalt 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 CONTACT LIST

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Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

2445 E. Bakerview Rd.
Bellingham, WA 98226-7694
(360)715-0283 Office (360)715-0282 Fax
e-mail: wscherrer@n-sea.org
website: www.n-sea.org

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Post Office Box 2497, 407 Main St. STE 212
Mt. Vernon, WA 98273
(360)336-0172 Office (360)336-0701 Fax
e-mail: astudley@skagitfisheries.org
website: www.skagitfisheries.org

Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

Post Office Box 5006
Everett, WA 98206
(425)252-6686 Office (425)259-6873 Fax
e-mail: ann@stillysnofish.org
website: www.stillysnofish.org

Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

7400 Sand Point Way NE
Bldg 30 Room 202
Seattle, WA 98115
(206)529-9467 Office (206)529-9468 Fax
e-mail: troy@midsoundfisheries.org
website: www.midsoundfisheries.org

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

6824 Pioneer Way E
Puyallup, WA 98371
(253)446-1824
e-mail: SPSSEG@quest.net
website: www.spsseg.org

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

Post Office Box 2169
Belfair, WA 98528
(360)275-3575 Office (360)275-0648
e-mail: hcseg@hctc.com
website: www.hcseg.com

North Olympic Salmon Coalition

Post Office Box 699
Port Townsend, WA 98368
(360)379-8051 Office (360)379-3558 Fax
e-mail: nosc@olympus.net

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

Post Office Box 2527
Forks, WA 98331
(360)374-8873 Office
e-mail: pacsac@olyphen.com
website: www.cohosalmon.com

Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force

2109 Sumner Ave #202
Aberdeen, WA 98520
(360)533-1766 Office & Fax
e-mail: fishery@techline.com

Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

Post Office Box 46
South Bend, WA 98585-0046
(360)875-6402 Ron (360)875-5802
e-mail: ron@leta@willapabay.org

Lower Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

2041 NE Birch Street
Camas, WA 98607
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(360)817-9044 (Tony)
e-mail: lcfeg@attbi.com

Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

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website: www.midcolumbiarfeg.com

Tri-State Steelheaders Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

Post Office Box 1375
216 N Roosevelt
Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509)529-3543 Office
e-mail: tssf@bmi.net

Upper Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

Post Office Box 921
847 Havillah Rd
Tonasket, WA 98855
(509)486-2400 Office (509)486-4835 Fax
e-mail: larry@ucrfeg.org
website: www.ucrfeg.org

RFEG OVERVIEWS AND PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

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REGION 1 – NOOKSACK SALMON ENHANCEMENT ASSOCIATION

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PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Tools and materials - ALEA				\$ 4,428	\$ 4,428
2) Safety Equipment--ALEA				\$ 3,103	\$ 3,103
3) Students for Salmon		803	\$ 10,038	\$ 17,986	\$ 28,024
4) NF Spring Chinook Acclimation		5,087	\$ 63,588	\$ 18,226	\$ 81,814
5) Birch Bay State Park				\$ 450	\$ 450
6) Whatcom County Beaver Research Project				\$ 13,674	\$ 13,674
7) Centennial Clean Water: Bertrand Creek Assessment		133	\$ 1,662	\$ 8,165	\$ 9,960
8) Centennial Clean Water: Water Quality Priorities				\$ 2,002	\$ 2,002
9) Centennial Clean Water: Restoration and Monitoring				\$ 1,854	\$ 1,854
10) Centennial Clean Water: South Fork Nooksack				\$ 1,122	\$ 1,122
11) Centennial Clean Water: Drainage Improvement Dist.				\$ 50,553	\$ 50,553
12) Centennial Clean Water: Tenmile Creek		984	\$ 12,300	\$ 40,613	\$ 52,913
13) CREP Project--Cavan				\$ 62,502	\$ 62,502
14) Stream Monitoring Supplies and Equipment	\$ 3,945				\$ 3,945
15) Habitat Restoration-Generic Projects	\$ 51,933			\$ 2,980	\$ 54,913
16) Education and Outreach	\$ 4,131				\$ 4,131
17) Monitoring, Assessment and Res.	\$ 1,357	114	\$ 1,425		\$ 2,782
18) Washington Conservation Corps	\$ 24,572			\$ 25,000	\$ 49,572
19) Volunteer Support	\$ 2,015	3,623	\$ 45,283	\$ 51,000	\$ 109,295
20) Nursery	\$ 3,624				\$ 3,624
21) Administration	\$ 30,820	971	\$ 12,122		\$ 55,073
22) Rutzatz Road project				\$ 968	\$ 968
23) Jobs for the Environment projects		240	\$ 5,220	\$ 84,711	\$ 89,931
24) Jobs in the Woods Projects			\$ 30,452	\$ 121,810	\$ 152,263
25) Squalicum Creek project		4,814	\$ 60,179	\$ 53,144	\$ 113,322
26) Whatcom, Bertrand and Kamm Creek Restoration-NFWF		3,310		\$ 68,425	\$ 111,076
27) Wells Creek - USFS-Sediment Control-SRFB				\$ 84,621	\$ 84,621
28) Padden Creek Daylighting project				\$ 86,126	\$ 86,126
TOTALS	\$ 122,396	20,078	\$ 328,393	\$ 717,337	\$ 1,234,039

REGION 1 – NOOKSACK SALMON ENHANCEMENT ASSOCIATION

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association is a nonprofit, community-based organization dedicated to restoring economically productive, self-sustaining salmon runs in Whatcom County through habitat restoration, education, community participation, and the production of salmon.



Photo: Smolt trap for monitoring Smolts on Deer Creek

RFEG OVERVIEW

NSEA worked cooperatively with private landowners, public agencies, tribes, businesses, service organizations, students, schools, and volunteers in Whatcom County, WA in many federal, state, local, public, and private partnerships. In 2001, NSEA contributed over \$930,000 to the local economy and worked on 92 on-the-ground project sites. A strategic plan was completed and adopted with support from WA Department of Fish and Wildlife. NSEA's strategic plan provides focus, direction and strategies to work effectively for local salmon recovery efforts. 14 volunteer members served on the Board of Directors in 2001.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Riparian plantings

NSEA crews and volunteers worked on riparian vegetation projects on 57 projects sites and maintained 35 previously planted project sites in Whatcom County. Improved site preparation, planting and maintenance methods have increased success and plant survival on all sites. 4000' of livestock exclusion fencing was installed and 63,965' (over 12 miles) of riparian planting was completed on the following streams: Bertrand (2 sites), Black Slough (2 sites), Bonners, Cougar, Deer (3 sites), Fishtrap, Fourmile, Kendall (3 sites), Mainstem Nooksack (6 sites), Old Hutchinson, Padden (2 sites), Saar (6 sites), Schell (2 sites), Scott Ditch (2 sites), Silver (3 sites), Smith, Schneider Ditch (6 sites), South Fork Nooksack (4 sites), Squalicum (4 sites), and Whatcom (5 sites).

NSEA maintains two native plant nurseries with an inventory of 35,000 native plants.

In-Stream habitat projects were conducted on Bertrand Creek (Dehaan), Bonners Creek (VanDyke), and Old Hutchinson Creek (Jacoby).

Fish passage projects

Fish passage projects were conducted on the following streams: Canyon Creek, Fishtrap Creek, and Squalicum Creek. Two feasibility/engineering studies were conducted for two future fish passage projects, on Padden and Squalicum Creeks. Jones Engineers donated \$82,000 in Engineering Services to NSEA for a study on Padden Creek for a 2200' fish passage barrier in place since 1896.

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Education

School education: NSEA staff worked with 1,200 4th to 8th grade students throughout Whatcom County in the Students for Salmon program. 41 participating teachers and 42 classes contributed 7,139 participating educator training and student hours to the program. Five teacher training workshops were held and each teacher received a Students for Salmon curriculum guide. Each class received a classroom presentation, one field trip to study stream ecology, and a second field trip to conduct a hands-on stream restoration project.

Internships and student projects: Interns and students from Western Washington University, Bellingham Technical College, Whatcom Community College, and Northwest Indian College staffed NSEA's monitoring program and conducted assessments.

Community outreach

NSEA staff and volunteers make 20 presentations to community groups. NSEA coordinated the program and registration for the 6th annual Salmon Summit, a conference for 300 participants to discuss methods and ideas for watershed restoration in Whatcom County.

NSEA volunteers also distributed brochures and signage to educate recreational users on the South Fork Nooksack about disruption of spring chinook spawning. NSEA staff made 20 presentations to community, church, school, and business groups. NSEA produced and distributed 2,000 copies of Fish Tales newsletters every quarter. A "Student Page" was added to included regular submissions by and for educators and students.

The NSEA exhibit and brochures were displayed at many sites, including the NW Washington Fair, WWU, and at many business, stores, and volunteer work parties. The NSEA Annual meeting in March included about 150 participants.

Fish enhancement

Over 1 million North Fork Nooksack spring chinook fry, listed as "Threatened" under the Endangered Species Act were released to the wild after being allowed to acclimate at three different sites in the upper reaches of the North Fork Nooksack River and tributaries. 25 volunteers fed the fish and staffed the three acclimation ponds in 24 hour shifts, for a total of 2,352 donated hours, a donation valued at \$29,400. Two meetings were held for training and orientation of volunteers, staff and the public, and a wrap up meeting was also conducted for volunteers. Approximately 150 public contacts were also made at the ponds. Down to a low of 10 natural spawning threatened North Fork spring chinook in 1990, 2185 of this stock returned to the North Fork Nooksack spawning grounds in 2001.

NSEA supported the Bellingham Technical College's Fisheries Technology Program through support for hatchery operations and technical training for students and the Whatcom Creek—Maritime Heritage Center Hatchery.

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Assessment, monitoring, research

Salmon spawning surveys were completed on 15 streams throughout the lower Nooksack basin in winter 2001. Tissue samples from chinook carcasses were taken for DNA analysis by WA Dept of Fish + Wildlife. Monitoring of streams throughout Whatcom County also involved vegetation, water quality, water quantity, hydrology, physical processes, vegetation and macroinvertebrates monitoring. Research on methods of beaver management was also conducted on Schneider Ditch through a contract with Whatcom County.



Photo: NSEA crew working on instream project

Other

NSEA received funding from the WA Salmon Recovery Funding Board to treat Forest Service Roads in the upper Middle Fork Nooksack sub-basin to prevent sedimentation and mass wasting. Water-bars, culverts, and other sediment reduction structures were installed by an NSEA contractor in 13 miles of Wells Creek Roads for the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie NF.

REGION 1 – NOOKSACK SALMON ENHANCEMENT ASSOCIATION

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gregg Dunphy, President, Lummi Nation—Fisheries Biologist
Braelan Barnett, Secretary, Student, Sehome High School
Tina Mirabile, Treasurer, Wetlands Specialist/Wildlife Consultant
Steve Ayers, Lummi Fishing Supplies, Inc.
Dr. Bob Barker, Biochemistry Professor and Provost Emeritus, Cornell University
Jeremy Brown, Commercial Fisherman
Pete Granger, Program Leader, Marine Advisory Services, WA SeaGrant
Ben Hart, Sehome High School Student
Dr. David Hooper, Western WA University Biology Dept.
Phelps McIlvaine, Principal, Saturna Capital
Dr. Michael McRory, Retired Dentist
Bret Simmons, Attorney at Law
Tom Thornton, Owner, Cloud Mountain Farm
Dr. Bert Webber, Professor, Western Washington University, Huxley College

STAFF MEMBERS

Wendy Scherrer, Executive Director
Carl Ekstrom, Finance Manager
Darrell Gray, Project Manager
Rachel Deryckx, Program Coordinator
Shannon Moore, Special Projects

CREW INFORMATION

Dislocated Natural Resource Worker Crew
Pete Ivceovich, John Hymas, Dave Barker, Leif Swanson, and Dan Weeks

AMERICORPS INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENTS

Anne Brenchley, AmeriCorps Monitoring Coordinator
Susanna Stodden, AmeriCorps Education Coordinator
Erin Harwood, AmeriCorps Volunteer Coordinator

WA CONSERVATION CORPS CREWS

Crew #1: Frank Corey, Supervisor
Crew #2: Angela Nelson, Supervisor

WHATCOM COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPT. ALTERNATIVE CORRECTIONS CREW

Gary DeBeld, Supervisor

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REGION 2 – SKAGIT FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Administration	\$ 29,124	585	\$ 7,313	\$ 16,043	\$ 52,480
2) Carcass Distribution	\$ 276	138	\$ 1,725	\$ 276	\$ 2,277
3) Education-Walmart, Verizon, Boeing, BofA, NWWFF	\$ 8,673	244.5	\$ 3,056	\$ 19,650	\$ 31,379
4) Lake Creek-SRFB			\$ -	\$ 4,515	\$ 4,515
5) Lorenzan Creek-SRFB & NFWF			\$ -	\$ 46,195	\$ 46,195
6) Macroinvertebrate Monitoring	\$ 1,300	461	\$ 5,763	\$ 1,637	\$ 8,699
7) Monitoring	\$ 16,187	977.5	\$ 12,219	\$ 19,131	\$ 47,536
8) Native Plant Nursery-NFWF	\$ 1,919	756	\$ 9,450	\$ 3,538	\$ 14,907
9) Project Management	\$ 12,489	157.5	\$ 1,969	\$ 10,660	\$ 25,118
10) Riparian Planting	\$ 1,726	248	\$ 3,100	\$ 1,507	\$ 6,333
11) RSIs			\$ -		-
12) Skagit Watershed Council		108.5	\$ 1,356		\$ 1,356
13) Stream Signs			\$ -		\$ -
14) WCC Match	\$ 4,769		\$ -		\$ 4,769
15) Watershed Restoration			\$ -		\$ -
16) West Sound Creek-FishAmerica	\$ 1,521	8.5	\$ 106	\$ 1,800	\$ 3,427
17) Fidalgo Net Pen Maintenance	\$ 835		\$ -		\$ 835
18) Alder Creek Fish Passage-NFWF	\$ -	9.5	\$ 119	\$ 59,620	\$ 59,739
19) Aldon Creek Riparian Restoration-PFS	\$ -	100	\$ 1,250	\$ 16,750	\$ 18,000
20) Boyd Pond Fish Passage-JFE & SRFB	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 2,543	\$ 2,543
21) Hansen Creek Riparian Restoration-JFE	\$ -	276	\$ 3,450	\$ 30,036	\$ 33,486
22) Lyle Creek Riparian Restoration-JFE	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 11,097	\$ 11,097
23) Murray Creek Riparian Restoration-JFE	\$ -	15.5	\$ 194	\$ 10,418	\$ 10,612
24) Stormwater Education-City of Mount Vernon	\$ -	209	\$ 2,613	\$ 9,905	\$ 12,518
25) McElroy Slough Estuary -USFWS, County, SRFB	\$ -	50.5	\$ 631	\$ 53,282	\$ 53,913
26) Shoeshell Fish Passage-SRFB	\$ -	14.5	\$ 181	\$ 5,203	\$ 5,384
27) Samish Watershed Riparian-SRFB	\$ -	142	\$ 1,775	\$ 1,851	\$ 3,626
28) Deepwater Slough Riparian-SRFB	\$ -	41.5	\$ 519	\$ 491	\$ 1,010
29) Spartina Removal-SRFB	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 10,331	\$ 10,331
30) Ennis Creek Design-JFE	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 13,010	\$ 13,010
31) Samish Anadomous Barriers-JFE	\$ -	114.5	\$ 1,431	\$ 8,600	\$ 10,031
32) Fishwheel-LGL	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 16,188	\$ 16,188
33) Lucas Slough-The Nature Conservancy, CREP	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 53,300	\$ 53,300
34) CREP-Kennedy Creek, Silver Creek	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500
35) WRP: Monger, Paul, Wester, Tewalt	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 12,270	\$ 12,270
36) East Fork Nookachamps Creek-JFE & SRFB	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 10,020	\$ 10,020
37) Finney Creek Restoration-SRFB		57.5	\$ 719	\$ 2,895	\$ 3,614
38) Salmon Trunk Education-ALEA	\$ -		\$ -	\$ 728	\$ 728
TOTALS	\$ 78,818	4,715	\$ 58,938	\$ 467,989	\$ 605,745

REGION 2 – SKAGIT FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

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 involves communities in restoring watersheds of Skagit County, the San Juan Islands and Northern Whidbey Island. The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group's region offers unique restoration opportunities that do not exist in the other more heavily urbanized Puget Sound watersheds. Our role is challenging in the statewide recovery of salmon since the Skagit watershed alone is the largest Puget Sound drainage and it supports the largest wild runs of chinook salmon, pink salmon, and bull trout in Puget Sound. This year SFEG implemented restoration projects at 12 sites throughout our region. Four grants were awarded by the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board and other grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Jobs For the Environment program contributed to our income. Major projects were implemented through partnerships with the City of Mount Vernon, Wetlands Reserve Program, People for Salmon and the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Community members contributed 4,715 hours to salmon enhancement this year by planting native trees, monitoring restoration sites, designing new restoration projects, counting returning salmon, distributing salmon carcasses, educating the community, and much more.



Photo: Volunteers with the Skagit River Stewards learn to take flow measurements as well as collect macroinvertebrate samples.

SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2001-2002:

Habitat Enhancement:	Riparian plantings	16,015 feet
	Fencing to exclude livestock	3,715 feet
Fish Passage Projects	Improved stream access	12 miles
Education & Community Outreach:	Community education	2,226 individuals
	Volunteer involvement	4,715 hours
Nutrient Enhancement:	Carcass distribution	9,543 carcasses
Fish Enhancement:	Remote site incubators	675,000 eggs

Fish Passage Projects: SFEG completed 3 fish passage improvement projects this past year restoring salmon access to over 12 miles of creek and wetland habitat. The Alder Creek project was identified as the #1 fish passage improvement priority in Skagit County. A perched, undersized culvert was replaced with a bridge to improve fish passage in partnership with Trillium (a private timber corporation) and NFWF. Approximately 10 miles of high quality spawning & rearing habitat exist upstream of the new bridge. Spawning surveys in 2001-02 documented use by over 3,000 chinook, coho, pink & chum salmon upstream of the old barrier. Other fish passage projects were implemented

REGION 2 – SKAGIT FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

at Lake Creek, near Big Lake and Lorenzan Creek near Concrete. These projects were funded by SRFB and NFWF.

Habitat Enhancement Projects: SFEG completed 9 new riparian projects this year to restore salmon habitat and protect water quality. People for Salmon funded a riparian restoration project at Aldon Creek which builds upon a Skagit County Fish Passage project completed in 2000. SFEG built 3,000 ft of fence to exclude livestock along both sides of the creek and community members planted 3.5 acres of native plants to improve the riparian and water quality conditions. Other riparian projects were completed with JFE funds at Hansen Creek, near Sedro Woolley, and Lyle Creek, a tributary of the Sauk River. SFEG also partnered with local landowners, CREP, USDA Wetlands Reserve Program, The Nature Conservancy and the Skagit Conservation District to implement riparian enhancement projects on local farmland. SFEG crews planted native vegetation and built fences to exclude livestock at 6 new sites as well as worked to maintain previously implemented revegetation projects at many other sites. SFEG volunteers watered, weeded, maintained, transplanted and potted native plants at our native plant nursery to produce a higher quality plant to use for riparian restoration projects.



Photo: Volunteers assist SFEG's Restoration Crew to build a fence to protect the riparian area at Aldon Creek.

Nearshore Projects:

Spartina Removal: Skagit Dig Days were organized to remove the noxious weed spartina from Skagit County's estuaries. Volunteers learned how spartina damages the native estuary ecosystem and helped remove spartina manually at several sites in Skagit County. The Skagit County Noxious Weed Control Board also used mechanical means to control the growth of spartina. Infested areas were reduced from 45 acres to 35 acres.

McElroy Slough Estuary Restoration: A final design was completed and all permits were secured to restore saltwater functions to this Samish Bay slough. Monitoring wells were installed to track salinity content and elevation of the groundwater. Construction plans for 2002 were put on hold by Skagit County while they undergo additional studies.

Education and Community Outreach:

Stormwater Education: The City of Mount Vernon funded SFEG to develop a program to teach students about the connection between stormwater and salmon habitat. Students installed Grate Mate filters in stormdrains and also stenciled stormdrains to help teach their community about pollution. 22,000 "Home Tips for Healthy Streams" brochures were developed and mailed to local residents in partnership with Dept of Ecology and Skagit Conservation District.

Other education projects included working with the North Cascades Institute to implement the Skagit Watershed Education Project (SWEP). This project educated over 1,000 local students about salmon ecology and restoration. Participation in the US Forest Service's Skagit River Stewards program trained adult volunteers to collect macroinvertebrates in streams. This was the 5th year for the program with approximately 100 volunteers going through the program. Forest Service biologists are

REGION 2 – SKAGIT FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

analyzing the data in order to develop a biological index of water quality for Skagit River streams and monitor SFEG restoration sites. SFEG continued to make excellent use of the resources included in the "Wild Salmon Education Trunk" created by WDFW. SFEG received ALEA funds to duplicate popular materials and activities for better distribution.

Nutrient Enhancement: For the past 5 years SFEG has worked in partnership with the Wildcat Steelhead Club to add nutrients to the Skagit watershed by distributing carcasses from the Marblemount Hatchery. Last year volunteers placed 9,543 carcasses into tributaries of the upper Skagit River. To date volunteers in the Skagit watershed have distributed over 30,000 carcasses.

Fish Enhancement: In cooperation with the Wildcat Steelhead Club, 675,000 chum eggs were raised in 3 remote site incubators (RSIs) on tributaries to the Samish River. The chum eggs are provided by the Maritime Heritage Hatchery in Bellingham. Volunteers maintained the spring fed reservoirs, the RSIs, walkways and trails throughout the winter months to see that salmon eggs hatch.

Monitoring: Volunteers assisted SFEG's monitoring coordinator to perform spawner surveys, monitor vegetation, conduct instream habitat monitoring, collect macroinvertebrates and take photos at reference points. Data was entered into a database and shared with other agencies and organizations. A report was compiled containing an analysis of the 3 years of data collected at restoration sites.

Project Design: A conceptual design report was completed for an East Fork of Nookachamps Creek project to maximize coho rearing habitat. A conceptual design report was completed for Ennis Creek in the upper Samish Basin. Designs were completed for Boyd Pond, off the Sauk River, to restore access to 12,000 sq. meters of rearing habitat. A fourth design report was completed for Shoeshell Road fish passage project near Sedro Woolley.

Samish Watershed Anadromous Fish Barrier Assessment: 40 tributaries were surveyed by SFEG crews to identify natural salmon barriers. Natural salmon barriers consist of falls, steep cascades, or diminished stream flows. All 187 tributaries in the Samish Watershed have now been surveyed and have been added as a layer to the Skagit Watershed Council's GIS database.

Fishwheel Research Project: SFEG worked with WDFW and LGL, Ltd to implement an experimental research project on the Skagit River to assist fishery managers with establishing salmon escapement goals. The fishwheel catches adult salmon as they migrate back to their spawning grounds. It allows the fishery managers to count returning salmon and gain an accurate count of salmon numbers while keeping the salmon alive. Unfortunately after two field seasons with the fishwheel, no adequate spot to catch significant numbers of adult salmon could be identified for the Skagit River and the research project ended in 2001.

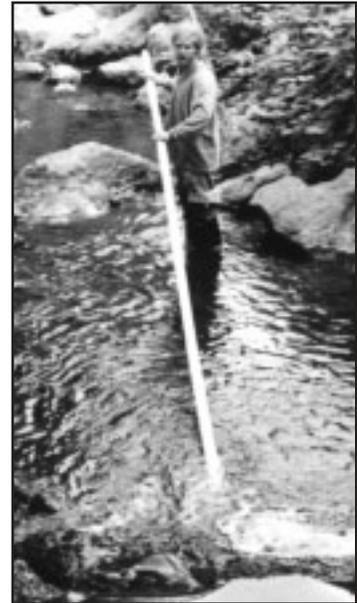


Photo: Geoff Martin, Washington Conservation Corps Member, measures the pool depth as part of SFEG's effectiveness monitoring at project sites.

REGION 2 – SKAGIT FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

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Grace Hubenthal, Education Assistant

CREW:

Dave Holt, Crew Supervisor
Bob Keller, Technician
Dwayne Massey, Technician
Geoffrey Martin, Technician through Washington Conservation Corps 2001-02

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REGION 3 – STILLY-SNOHOMISH FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Volunteer Coordinator	\$ 19,062	123	\$ 1,538	\$ 1,175	\$ 21,775
2) Possession Bait Coho Rearing Pond	\$ 2,664	282	\$ 3,526	\$ 57,682	\$ 63,872
3) Volunteer Stipend Pilot Program	\$ 600	307	\$ 3,838	\$ 0	\$ 4,438
4) Alberg Farm Restoration	\$ 2,917	114	\$ 1,419	\$ 14,321	\$ 18,657
5) Buck Island Restoration	\$ 4,072	266	\$ 3,325	\$ 3,016	\$ 10,413
6) Portage Creek Stewardship	\$ 2,912	0	\$ 0	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,912
7) Prairie Creek LWD & Revegetation	\$ 2,711	304	\$ 3,800	\$ 5,780	\$ 12,291
8) Maxwellton Creek Revegetation	\$ 1,328	280	\$ 3,500	\$ 0	\$ 4,828
9) Quilceda/Allen Project Support*	\$ 684	821	\$ 10,263	\$ 26,307	\$ 37,254
10) Project Equipment	\$ 750	0	\$ 0	\$ 524	\$ 1,274
11) Infrastructure	\$ 22,723	193	\$ 2,413	\$ 9,306	\$ 34,442
12) Native Plant Nursery	\$ 3,047	0	\$ 0	\$ 5,307	\$ 8,354
13) Hecla Wetland Restoration	\$ 8,537	1,124	\$ 14,050	\$ 1,130	\$ 23,717
14) Everett Net Pen	\$ 810	587	\$ 7,338	\$ 22,673	\$ 30,821
15) Glendale Culvert Replacement	\$ 9,000	0	\$ 0	\$ 109,068	\$ 118,068
16) Kisse/Crissy Creek Restoration	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
17) North Fork Stilly Monitoring	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
18) Project Manager	\$ 25,707	20	\$ 250	\$ 0	\$ 25,957
19) Snohomish/Island Stream Habitat**	\$ *1,093	108	\$ 1,350	\$ 27,703	\$ 30,146
20) Groeneveld Creek Restoration	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
21) Stevens-Howell Restoration	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
22) Stilly-Stream Habitat Improvement	\$ 328	534	\$ 6,675	\$ 12,238	\$ 19,241
23) Weber Revegetation Project	\$ 50	248	\$ 3,100	\$ 4,270	\$ 7,420
24) Kristoferson Crk/Triangle Cove Rest	\$ 96	0	\$ 0	\$ 2,020	\$ 2,116
25) Krueger Creek Restoration	\$ 2,089	664	\$ 8,300	\$ 0	\$ 10,389
26) O'Hanley Habitat Restoration	\$ 173	0	\$ 0	\$ 15,883	\$ 16,056

Other Funding Sources

* Quilceda/Allen Citizens Grant
(see Quilceda/Allen Project Support above)

** Snohomish Conservation District
(see Snohomish/Island Stream Habitat above)

Snohomish County Surface Water

Management Education Projects	\$ 0	298	\$ 3,725	\$ 3,017	\$ 6,742
TOTALS	\$ 89,028	5,561	\$ 69,508	\$ 265,563	\$ 424,099

REGION 3 – STILLY-SNOHOMISH FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

MISSION

Our mission is to ensure the future of salmon in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish rivers and Island County Watershed. 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.

INTRODUCTION TO THE TASK FORCE AND A SUMMARY OF OUR HISTORY:

The Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force is a 501(c)(3) public not-for-profit corporation, registered as a charitable organization with the Washington Secretary of State. Our membership represents commercial, tribal, and recreational fishing interests, conservation organizations, the agricultural community, and area businesses.

The Task Force is dedicated to the restoration of viable salmonid populations and their habitat in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish watersheds, a combined land area of more than 2,400 square miles. This region also includes the nearshore habitat and other watersheds located south of Penn Cove on Whidbey Island, including Camano Island, and the mainland south to the Edmonds ferry dock.

Since its beginning in 1990, the Task Force has directed its resources and energy to the challenge of developing community partnerships and strategies to improve and restore the recreational and commercial fisheries of the Pacific Northwest. We frequently collaborate with federal, state, tribal and local agencies, businesses, community organizations, and individuals to achieve our goals. We regard local community involvement as essential to our success.

The Stilly-Snohomish Task Force is a hands-on membership organization with hundreds of volunteers supporting our three full-time staff members. Our programs and projects focus on salmon habitat improvement and protection, public outreach, and education. Since its inception, the Task Force has planned, designed, and implemented dozens of enhancement and restoration projects. In addition, we have collaborated with other organizations and alliances on many more. These projects include in-stream work, riparian and wetland restoration, culvert replacement and weir placement, and improvements to agricultural lands and their management.



Photo: Large woody debris at Hecla's wetland on Portage Creek placed to channelize water and to provide habitat diversity.

REGION 3 – STILLY-SNOHOMISH FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Approximate numbers of sites where we worked – 21
Feet of streams restored – 8,800
Number of trees and other vegetation planted – 9,300
Acres of wetlands planted – 10 acres
Acres of island forest planted – 2 acres
Number of fish produced – 76,600
Area Planted (square feet) – 539,250
Number of Pieces of LWD Placed – 40
Number of Culverts Replaced – 2
Feet of Stream Opened Up – 7,280



Photo: Volunteers work hard rain, shine or snow. Local families planting trees along Coho Creek, tributary to Allen Creek in Marysville.

RIPARIAN PLANTINGS:

Buck Island Floodplain Forest Restoration – Skykomish River and Woods Creek, Monroe – This 90 acre park sitting in the floodplain of the Skykomish River has an extensive noxious weed problem, including Japanese knotweed, Himalayan blackberry, and English ivy. The island also lacks forest canopy diversity, and has extensive erosion problems. The Task Force is working toward controlling the spread of knotweed by mechanical suppression, brush cutting the knotweed back, covering with cardboard and mulch, and livestaking the affected areas, and planting fast growing deciduous trees. Over 1,500 conifers were planted in the understory to increase canopy diversity. The erosion problems will be assessed for possible solutions while working with the City of Monroe's Parks Department. This is a multi-year project.

Hecla Wetland on Portage Creek, Arlington – Nearly 8 acres of wetland, this site was 50% covered by Himalayan blackberry, and had a fish blockage preventing hundreds of migrating coho from finding their spawning grounds. Large woody debris placed in the wetter areas provides habitat for amphibians, a carbon source and nurse logs for future plants, and redirection of the stream to create a deeper, more consistent channel in high flows. Approximately 2,000 trees, shrubs and livestakes were planted in two major events, including Earth Day 2002, with more than 100 volunteers in attendance. The stream will be redirected into its old channel during the 2002 in-stream season. The Task Force is working with the City of Arlington, Washington State Department of Corrections, and the Stillaguamish Tribe on this project.

IN-STREAM HABITAT PROJECTS AND FISH PASSAGE PROJECTS:

Prairie Creek, Portage Creek Watershed, Arlington – A partially blocking culvert was replaced, thirty pieces of LWD placed, and nearly 200 trees planted in coordination with the City of Arlington, the Snohomish Conservation District, and Adopt-A-Stream Foundation. This opened up approximately 2,000 feet of stream.

REGION 3 – STILLY-SNOHOMISH FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

Glendale Creek, Culvert Project, Glendale, Whidbey Island – This project opened up 1 mile of upstream spawning habitat for coho. The culvert replaced was at a 60 degree grade preventing fish from getting up stream. This project was in cooperation with Island County Public Works.

EDUCATION & OUTREACH:

One-time hands-on activities – The Task Force envisions being the go-to organization for teachers in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish watersheds for hands-on, one-time projects for local students. We worked cooperatively and in support of Snohomish County Surface Water Management and the Snohomish Conservation District in these endeavors. The Task Force also incorporated classroom visits to supplement the field activities. Task Force staff worked with 1,100 students in the class as well as in the field.



Photo: Students from Allen Creek Elementary make observations at Jones Creek, as part of the year-long salmon habitat restoration curriculum program.

Year long school projects – The Task Force created a year long salmon habitat restoration curriculum. For the 2001-02 school year, the Task Force worked with two classrooms: Voyager Middle School, 6th-8th grade alternative classroom restoring Krueger Creek in Arlington, and Allen Creek Elementary School, 5th grade classroom restoring Jones Creek in Marysville.

Working with specific groups in the community – This last year found the Task Force working with several community groups that formed an incredible core of volunteers for our projects. Washington State Department of Corrections, Snohomish County Community Diversion Program, Washington State Juvenile Rehabilitation Program, Washington Native Plant Stewards, Snohomish County Watershed Keepers, several local YMCA teen groups, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Stillaguamish Valley School, Sky Valley Education Center, Boeing Employees, Evergreen Flyfishers, Northwest Women Flyfishers, and the list goes on. The Task Force cooperates with a number of other organizations and agencies, including Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Snohomish County Surface Water Management, Snohomish Conservation District, Adopt-A-Stream Foundation, King County Department of Natural Resources, and Island County Public Works.

FISH ENHANCEMENT:

The Task Force supports two Puget Sound Anglers Chapters in pen raising up to 75,000 coho for sports fishing purposes in Puget Sound each year. A net pen is located in Everett, and a rearing pond is situated on Whidbey Island at Possession.

MONITORING:

The Task Force continues to review and improve its implementation of monitoring protocols. We have several projects in varying degrees of monitoring and maintenance, and have plans to expand the monitoring program direction with dedicated monitoring volunteers.

REGION 3 – STILLY-SNOHOMISH FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Photo: Culvert replacement and large woody debris installation on Prairie Creek in Arlington



REGION 4 – MID-PUGET SOUND FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Project Support - Kitsap County Projects	\$ 10,276			\$ 15,842	\$ 26,118
2) Harper Estuary Design	\$ 0				
3) Mahler Park Side Channel	\$ 0				
4) North Fork Newaukum Creek	\$ 24,435	696	\$ 8,700	\$ 15,852	\$ 48,987
5) Dogfish Creek Restoration	\$ 0				
6) McDonald Side Channel	\$ 0				
7) Dogfish Creek/Crum Fencing	\$ 0				
8) Salmonberry Creek Habitat	\$ 0				
9) Dogfish Creek/Baskins	\$ 0				
10) Project Support - Monitoring	\$ 19,293	790	\$ 10,400	\$ 8,622	\$ 38,315
11) Strategic Plan	\$ 500				
12) Project Support - Director 2001	\$ 42,106	0		\$ 20,269	\$ 62,375
13) Project Support - Administration 2001	\$ 10,800	240	\$ 3,000	\$ 4,250	\$ 18,050
14) Project Support - Volunteer Coordinator	\$ 48,654	1,067	\$ 13,331	\$ 21,439	\$ 83,424
15) Carcass Distribution	\$ 568	196	\$ 2,450		\$ 3,018
16) McLarty Fence	\$ 845	45	\$ 563		\$ 1,408
17) Little Bear Creek	\$ 0				
18) Project Support - Stewardship	\$ 14,376	857	\$ 10,713	\$ 64,430	\$ 89,519
TOTALS	\$171,853	3,891	\$ 49,157	\$150,704	\$ 371,214

REGION 4 – MID-PUGET SOUND FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group is to create and implement strategic actions, in partnership with the community, to maximize the productive capacity of salmonid habitat. These actions are aimed at achieving healthy ecosystems that will support genetically diverse, self-sustaining salmon populations in the mid-Puget Sound region for the benefit of all users.



Photo: Before photograph of the last remaining perched culvert on North Fork Newaukum Creek, near Enumclaw, WA.

R F E G O V E R V I E W

Mid-Sound directly supports the enhancement of salmonid populations and habitats throughout our region. This geographic region includes the Lake Washington basin, Green/Duwamish River basin, streams draining along the King County shoreline and Kitsap County habitat from the Hood Canal Bridge to Kitsap-Pierce County line.

Since 1991 Mid-Sound has completed more than 200 projects, including streambank fencing, native tree and shrub plantings, fish blockage removals and installing remote site incubators as well as monitoring, educational projects and trainings. Each of these projects serve as a catalyst to building community partnerships in the Puget Sound. Together, these partnerships contribute invaluable time and resources for the recovery of salmon in the Pacific Northwest.

F Y 2 0 0 2 P R O J E C T H I G H L I G H T S

Mid-Sound continued to grow and implement valuable salmonid habitat restoration projects in 2001. The addition of a 6-person, Washington Conservation Corps crew in August dramatically increased our ability to implement and maintain these activities. Mid-Sound continues to focus its work on Newaukum Creek, one of the most productive tributaries of the Green River. We also continued our support of habitat restoration in eastern Kitsap County. Highlighted projects for each area follows:

Newaukum Creek

North Fork Newaukum Creek Culvert Replacement

In September and October, Mid-Sound replaced the only remaining perched culvert on the north fork of Newaukum Creek. This culvert was a total barrier to juvenile passage, a partial barrier to adult passage, and was so undersized that high water often flows over the road. By choosing to install a culvert with a natural bottom, this project provided a small amount of spawning habitat within the culvert itself. In fact, Coho salmon were observed digging redds inside the culvert during the fall of 2001. This project was a catalyst for habitat projects both upstream and downstream of this location.

North Fork Newaukum Creek Habitat Restoration Project

The restoration of North Fork Newaukum Creek has become a focus area for Mid-Sound over the past two years. Increased development has increased the number of people owning property along the creek. Mid-Sound conducted restoration activities on 7 different properties along this important coho stream. In September, Mid Sound staff, our WCC Crew, and an independent contractor conducted an in-stream project along 250 feet of North Fork Newaukum Creek. The project was on private land

REGION 4 – MID-PUGET SOUND FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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with very willing landowners. This stretch of the stream had 7-foot high vertical banks along a 100-foot section of the stream. These steep banks meant that during high flows the water could not spread out onto a floodplain but instead would speed up and erode further into the streambed, deepening the incised channel and scouring out salmon nests (redds). The section was primarily a long riffle (flat streambed) with only two pools. Mid Sound implemented appropriate restoration techniques including bank pull-backs to a 2:1 slope, creation of a floodplain "shelf", and placement of 11 pieces of large woody debris. In November, volunteers planted the riparian area with native trees and shrubs.

Kitsap County

Grover's Creek Livestock Exclusion Fencing Project, Kitsap County

Mid-Sound partnered with the Kitsap Conservation District, the Suquamish Tribe and the landowner to implement this fencing project on a tributary to Grover's Creek. In total, over 3,800 feet of livestock exclusion fencing and 3 bridges were installed by a private contractor and Mid-Sound's Washington Conservation Corps crew. In addition, several small wetland areas were fenced off to protect water quality. Large woody debris donated by RV Associates from a land clearing project were used in the final stream restoration phase of this project. Mid-Sound hopes to work with Kitsap Stream Team to plant this area in the fall of 2002.

Carcass Distribution

Mid-Sound continued to distribute Chinook and Coho carcasses from the Soos Creek hatchery throughout the Green River Watershed. In total, our staff, crew and volunteers distributed 3,400 carcasses, weighing in at over 18 tons. The number of carcasses would have been much higher if severe flood waters at the hatchery had not allowed the remaining Coho to "escape" over the hatchery rack and proceed upstream.

Monitoring

Mid-Sound has continued to build its Monitoring Program under the supervision of a full-time Monitoring Coordinator. Currently, we conduct monitoring of vegetation, habitat structures, macroinvertebrates, spawning activity and coho outmigration.

Stewardship

Mid-Sound has employed a Washington Conservation Corps crew from the WA Department of Ecology to assist with various restoration activities. While helping with project set-up and clean-up, education, monitoring, planting and several other activities, the crew has spent the bulk of their time on stewardship of past restoration projects. We hope to see a substantial improvement in the success of our riparian planting program as a result of the crew's hard work.

VOLUNTEERS

From involvement on the Board of Directors to providing the majority of the labor for riparian plantings to ensuring that our monitoring program and smolt trap are fully staffed, volunteers continue to be the backbone of the organization. During this time period, volunteers contributed almost 4,000 hours, totaling just under \$50,000.

REGION 4 – MID-PUGET SOUND FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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PARTNERSHIPS

Anchor Environmental
APCO
Basta Marine
Boy & Girl Scouts of America
City of Bothell
City of Enumclaw
ELWd Systems
Ferguson Construction
Ferguson Foundation
Great Peninsula Conservancy
Green River Community College
Green River Steelhead Association
Horizon's Foundation
King Conservation District
King County Department of Natural Resources
Kitsap Conservation District
Mentor Law Group
Montgomery Watson Environmental
Mountains to Sound Greenways Program
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
National Tree Trust
National Wildlife Federation
People For Salmon
Puget Sound Energy
RF&A Business and Public Affairs
Rock Bottom Brewery
RV Associates
Seattle University
Shoreline Community College
Stewardship Partners
Tetra Tech
The Seattle Aquarium
The Seattle Foundation
The Suquamish Tribe
Trout Unlimited
University of Washington
University of Washington Carlson Service Learning Center
Washington Association of Realtors
Washington Department of Ecology/WA Conservation Corps
Washington Department of Natural Resources/USDA Forest Service
Washington Native Plant Society
Weyerhaeuser Company
William O'Neil Sr.
YMCA Earth Service Corps
Youth Volunteer Corp/Camp Fire Boys & Girls



Photo: Before photograph of severe bank erosion along North Fork Newaukum Creek. This reach was also missing habitat features such as large wood.



Photo: After photograph of a habitat project on North fork Newaukum Creek. While this phase of the project was actually constructed during the summer of 2000, it is part of the larger North fork Newaukum Creek Habitat Restoration Project which included the culvert replacement detailed above.

REGION 4 – MID-PUGET SOUND FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Trout Unlimited
East Kitsap County (WRIA 15) Salmon
Habitat Restoration Committee Member

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Green/Duwamish Watershed
Basin Steward
King County Water & Land Resource Div.

Vice President

Al Barrie
Trout Unlimited
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Brian Lull
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Steering Committee Member

David Burger
Stewardship Partners

Paul Dorn
Suquamish Tribe

STAFF

Executive Director

Troy Fields

Project Manager

Fiona McNair

Monitoring Coordinator

Yarrow Murphy

Volunteer Coordinator

Laura Wilson

CREW

1 Washington Conservation Corps Crew – Mark Bennett, Crew Leader

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REGION 5 – SOUTH PUGET SOUND SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002 ⁽⁵⁾

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars ⁽⁴⁾	Other Funds	Total Spent
Houston Creek Barrier Regrade ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	8	\$ 120	\$ 0	\$ 120
Lower Mashel River ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	\$ 1,054	\$ 1,054
Lower Yelm Creek ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	\$ 373	\$ 373
11) Muck Lake/Lacamas Creek ⁽¹⁾	\$ 490	100	\$ 1,500	\$ 60,850	\$ 62,840
Salazar Culvert Replacement ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	\$ 4,033	\$ 4,033
Fuller Fish Ladder ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	40	\$ 600	\$ 5,450	\$ 6,050
5) Schumacher Creek Fish Passage ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	97	\$ 1,455	\$ 340,220	\$ 341,675
2) Jorgenson Creek Culvert ⁽¹⁾	\$ 10,200	22.5	\$ 338	\$ 54,145	\$ 64,683
Anderson Lake Creek ⁽¹⁾	\$ 178	194	\$ 2,910	\$ 40,398	\$ 43,486
1) Sherwood Creek ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	2313	\$ 34,695	\$ 665,164	\$ 699,859
7) Puget Creek Fishway ⁽¹⁾	\$ 178	200	\$ 3,000	\$ 0	\$ 3,178
WRIA 13 Fish Passage Inventory ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	18	\$ 270	\$ 3,153	\$ 3,423
WRIA 14 Fish Passage Inventory ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	148	\$ 2,220	\$ 65,949	\$ 68,169
WRIA 14 Project Development ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	32	\$ 4,800	\$ 2,514	\$ 7,314
3) Puyallup Feasibility Study ⁽¹⁾	\$ 95	0	\$ 0	\$ 24,130	\$ 24,225
Nisqually River Off-Channel ⁽¹⁾	\$ 0	40	\$ 600	\$ 7,354	\$ 7,954
Generic Projects					
Work Study	\$ 516	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 516
Office Operations	\$ 18,800	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 18,800
Project Management ⁽²⁾	\$ 17,478	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 17,478
Project Engineering	\$ 3,378	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 3,378
Education and Outreach	\$ 1,000	0	\$ 0	\$ 2,419	\$ 3,419
Pioneer Elementary School Education	\$ 1,371	750	\$ 11,250	\$ 0	\$ 12,621
6) Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail ⁽³⁾	\$ 2,166	0	\$ 0	\$ 2,000	\$ 4,166
TOTALS	\$ 55,850	3,954	\$ 63,758	\$ 1,279,206	\$ 1,378,608

Footnotes:

- (1) Some or all direct costs or match were billed to generic projects.
- (2) Most of the funding for this category was used for developing funding proposals.
- (3) Volunteer hours Oct. 15-Dec. 31, 2002 are expected to be 400 hours.
- (4) Volunteer hours were multiplied by \$15/hour, whether they were professional or non-professional.
- (5) SPSSEG's period includes January-October expenditures

REGION 5 – SOUTH PUGET SOUND SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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MISSION STATEMENT

SPSSEG's mission is to be a non-profit, volunteer-based organization that conducts salmon restoration, salmon enhancement, and community education to increase salmon populations in the South Puget Sound Region.

R F E G O V E R V I E W

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 100's of small streams and creeks draining directly to south Puget Sound. In 2002, we completed 1 instream project, 5 fish passage projects, and 2 education projects, with 10 projects in progress.

The organization has grown tremendously since spring 2001 and now has 5.5 employees. In 2002, the satellite office was moved from Mason to Thurston County, an Executive Director was hired and 10 SRFB projects were funded.

A 7-member board provides a wealth of technical expertise and institutional memory for this 11 year-old RFE G. The group has well-established partnerships with the Squaxin Island, Nisqually and Puyallup Indian Tribes and watershed planning processes (2496) through board members and the group's main office at the Puyallup tribal hatchery on Diru Creek.

Property owners, businesses, families and other salmon supporters comprise SPSSEG membership. The membership is complemented 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.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Riparian plantings – Riparian plantings were done as part of several projects listed below.

In-Stream habitat projects

Houston Creek Barrier Regrade (Completed)

This Thurston County project fixed an in-stream sediment barrier for returning chum by re-grading 70 feet of stream, adding streambed material and replanting the impacted site with 100 native conifers. The result is 1 mile of stream accessible to salmon at all life stages and improved riparian conditions.



Photo: The Anderson Lake Creek culvert replacement project in Mason County opened up about two miles of relatively pristine habitat for chum, coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout. This project was funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), NOAA/Community-Based Restoration Program and Mason County and relies on volunteer monitoring by the Allyn Salmon Enhancement Group (ASEG). Photo by Lenore Jensen

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Lower Mashel Restoration (In progress)

This project will decommission or modify 0.5 miles of a washed-out road in the lower Mashel River valley to prevent future fine sediment input and enhance vital spawning and rearing habitat for chinook, coho, pink, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. Large woody debris will be added for gravel sorting, pool formation, and bank erosion reduction, and to increase cover.

Lower Yelm Creek Restoration (In progress)

(Note: This project also is a Fish Passage Project)

The objectives of this Nisqually River watershed project are to re-construct an historic off-channel pond, add large woody debris for cover, fence out livestock from several hundred meters of creek, plant riparian vegetation, and restore access through a logjam. Restoring passage through the logjam will provide access to about 10 miles of important spawning and rearing habitat for chum, coho, steelhead, and cutthroat trout.

Fish Passage Projects

Muck Lake/Lacamas Creek (In progress)

(Note: This project is also an In-Stream habitat project.)

SPSSEG assists the Nisqually Tribe on this culvert replacement, reed canary grass removal, and revegetation project. During the time period covered by this report the permits were acquired. The culvert replacement will open about 5 river miles of habitat.



Photo: ASEG volunteer Dave Higgins and project engineer Paul Tappel, P.E. watch adult chum, cutthroat trout and a stray chinook salmon milling about the old plunge pool, waiting for the first freshet of the season just below the new box culvert on Anderson Lake Creek. Photo by Lenore Jensen.

Salazar Culvert Replacement (In progress)

This Woodland Creek project will replace two damaged culverts under the Salazar's driveway with a 40-foot bridge. The culverts are collapsing and partial barriers to anadromous fish. Approximately 2.5 miles of spawning and rearing habitat will be accessible to chinook, chum, coho and other fish.

Fuller Fish Ladder Weirs (Completed)

This Schneider Creek project added three log weirs downstream of a fish ladder to aid chum access into the ladder. The project provided access to approximately 1 mile of spawning and rearing habitat.

Schumacher Creek Fish Passage (Completed)

SPSSEG supported Mason County's replacement of a culvert with a road bridge on Schumacher Creek, tributary to Mason Lake. This project restored access to 5.0 river miles of spawning habitat including a 20+ acre rearing wetland. Allyn Salmon Enhancement Group volunteers monitor the site. Species include coho, steelhead, cutthroat, and potentially sockeye (pending reintroduction).

Jorgenson Creek Culvert (Completed)

A culvert under a private driveway crossing of Jorgenson Creek (Thurston County) was replaced with a squashed aluminum pipe arch and about 139,800 ft² of disturbed soils were replanted with native

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vegetation by Lacey Stream Team volunteers. The Thurston Conservation District drafted the monitoring plan and assisted with implementation. This project opened about 0.5 river miles of habitat for spawning salmonids and forged positive relations with neighbors.

Anderson Lake Creek Culvert (Completed)

This project replaced a Mason County culvert on Anderson Lake Creek, under Sherwood Drive. The old pre-cast structure was replaced with a pre-cast "bottomless" box culvert. Allyn Salmon Enhancement Group volunteers assisted with implementation and ongoing post-project monitoring. This project opened about 2.0 river miles of salmonid habitat.

Sherwood Creek Railroad Bridge (Completed)

A U.S. Navy-owned double-barrel culvert on Sherwood Creek (WRIA 14) was replaced. Under the high-use railroad crossing, old pre-cast structures were replaced with a 54-foot bridge, the stream channel was returned to its historic location, and access was restored to over 17 miles of fairly pristine spawning habitat. The riverbanks were bioengineered and stabilized with coir-wrapped coconut fabric, and have been partially replanted with native vegetation salvaged from the site. Allyn Salmon Enhancement Group volunteers assisted with the fish-out and baseline monitoring. This project was an unprecedented partnership between the U.S. Navy, Puget Sound and Pacific Railroad, the Mason Conservation District and SPSSEG.

Puget Creek Fishway (In progress)

SPSSEG is a supporting partner to the Puget Creek Restoration Society for replacement of a private driveway fishway with a fish-friendly structure in WRIA 12 (Chambers-Clover). In 2002, the permits were secured and additional funds were located, ensuring that the project will be completed in 2003.

Education

Pioneer Elementary School Environmental Education Program (Ongoing)

Staff supported Mr. William's 5th grade stream studies by teaching salmon ecology, water quality and spawning survey techniques, and initiating stream gravel experiments on Spring Creek (Mason County). Ms. Beckstead, a former instream project partner, provided creek access for the collection of data valuable to SPSSEG for long-term creek monitoring.

Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail (Ongoing)

The trail provides public access to one of the last remaining healthy chum runs in South Sound. Taylor United Shellfish Co. donated a 20-year lease to land for a half-mile interpretive trail along Kennedy Creek. Over 30 volunteer trail guides educate school groups and visitors. About 5,000 visitors visit in November-December.

Assessment, monitoring, research

WRIA 13 Fish Passage Inventory (In progress)

This assessment inventories fish passage structures on private roads and assesses habitat within WRIA 13, Deschutes Watershed (Thurston County). The inventory will result in priority index numbers useful for prioritizing anadromous fish passage barriers.

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WRIA 14 Fish Passage Inventory (In progress)

The project will provide a comprehensive inventory of all in-stream structures (culverts, dams, fishways, etc.) located on private and public lands within WRIA 14. The inventory will implement the WDFW Fish Passage criteria to determine barrier status.

WRIA 14 Fish Passage Project Development (In progress)

This project uses the WRIA 14 (Mason County) culvert inventory results to prioritize and rank anadromous fish passage barriers. The ranking will be completed by the WRIA 14 Salmon Recovery Habitat Committee and the top 10 projects will be submitted for preliminary engineering designs.

Nisqually Off-Channel Habitat (In progress)

This inventory surveys off-channel habitat and identifies sites with a potential to be restored or preserved. It will produce a parcel-specific prioritized list of sites with restoration or preservation potential and engineering design concepts for the top-ranked restoration sites. Information will be incorporated into the Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Inventory and Assessment Program (SSHIAIP) database.

Puyallup Feasibility Study (In progress)

This will identify 10 restoration projects for funding (WRIAs 10 and 12, Puyallup River and Chambers-Clover Creek). Eight projects have been identified and SPSSEG has entered into multiple partnerships to submit proposals to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (Round 4).

Generic Projects

Our Education and Outreach, Work Study, Riparian Restoration, Office Operations, Project Management, Project Engineering and Project Construction “projects” allow us to utilize RFEF funds for all of our individual on-the-ground and education projects as well as to maintain and build our organizational infrastructure.



Photo: Pacific Road and Bridge Co. and sub-contractors work on the bioengineered river banks at the relocated Sherwood Creek channel in Mason County. Our biggest project was funded by the SRFB and the U.S. Navy, who owns the track right-of-way, and relies on volunteer monitoring by the ASEG. Photo by Lenore Jensen.

REGION 5 – SOUTH PUGET SOUND SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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BOARD

Blake Smith, President, Puyallup Indian Tribe
Jeanette Dorner, Vice President, Nisqually Tribe Natural Resources
Richard Johnson, Treasurer/Sec., White River Hatchery
Amy Hatch, Mason Conservation District
Monty Mahan, Pierce Conservation District
Marc Wicke, Tacoma Power
Terry Wright, NWIFC

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REGION 6 – HOOD CANAL SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Administration	\$ 46,661				\$ 46,661
2) Habitat Design	\$ 32,564				\$ 32,564
3) Supplies	\$ 1,516				\$ 1,516
4) Outreach	\$ 2,871				\$ 2,871
5) Research					\$ 0
6) Monitoring	\$ 4,454				\$ 4,454
7) Travel	\$ 24				\$ 24
8) ALEA #038020383 HC Monitoring	\$ 4,829				\$ 4,829
9) USFWS #134101J016				\$ 178,835	\$ 178,835
10) NFWF #2001-0267				\$ 395,816	\$ 395,816
11) Big Beef Preservation #00-1181D				\$ 31,287	\$ 31,287
12) 101 Estuary Causeway #00-1806N				\$ 181,923	\$ 181,923
13) Ghost Net Survey #11-1339N				\$ 76,000	\$ 76,000
14) ID Limiting #01-1428R				\$ 45,000	\$ 45,000
15) Bullitt Foundation #011-3704				\$ 17,087	\$ 17,087
16) Skobob Ck FCAAP				\$ 63,438	\$ 63,438
17) Indian Geo Ck ALEA #AL-01-02				\$ 291,992	\$ 291,992
18) Indian Geo Ck #00-1802D				\$ 222,100	\$ 222,100
19) AmeriCorps Volunteers		8,550	\$ 106,875		\$ 106,875
20) Volunteers July-Sept 2001		1,273	\$ 15,913		\$ 15,913
21) Volunteers Oct-Dec 2001		515	\$ 6,438		\$ 6,438
22) Volunteers Jan-Mar 2002		300	\$ 3,750		\$ 3,750
23) Volunteers Apr-May 2002		120	\$ 1,500		\$ 1,500
24) Scholarships				\$ 21,000	\$ 21,000
25) Grata Creek Culvert - Kitsap County				\$ 325,000	\$ 325,000
Totals	\$ 92,919	10,758	\$ 134,476	\$ 1,849,478	\$ 2,076,873

REGION 6 – HOOD CANAL SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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HCSEG MISSION STATEMENT

To protect and enhance the genetic diversity and populations of Wild Salmon (naturally spawning Salmon) in Hood Canal by the protection and restoration of habitats, water quality, education, wild salmon incubators and other means to achieve an abundance of Wild Salmon. Adopted in 1990, modified in 1999 and in 2002.



Photo: Benthic Sampling

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 and the Dosewallips, Duckabush and the Hama Hama Rivers are also significant. These snow and glacier fed streams start high in the Olympic Mountains and descend steeply into the west side of 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 Hood Canal, flowing from the Kitsap Peninsula, the streams are larger than those of the Westside of Hood Canal and include some of the most intact salmon habitat on the Kitsap Peninsula. 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, Winter Steelhead and Searun Cutthroat. We do all projects and goals of HCSEG in conjunction with the managers of the Salmon Resource and the Technical Work Group: Long Live the Kings, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Hood Canal Tribes, Department of Natural Resources, U. S. Forest Service and local counties. Twelve years of working together have created a better future for Wild Salmon in 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 do more and more projects for Wild Salmon Restoration.

REGION 6 – HOOD CANAL SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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In the time period July 1, 2001 through June 30, 2002, the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group.

Removed derelict barges & restored Indian George Creek Estuary
Started survey of Hood Canal for Ghost Nets & Derelict Gear – removed 2 of 9 nets
Surveyed, sampled & mapped the 101 Causeway Estuaries
Erosion control for 200' spawning channel at Big Beef Creek completed
Design & permitting complete for Skobob Ck Culvert replacement
Gridded and completed baseline monitoring of several Hood Canal rivers
Conducted 20 outreach presentations
Completed 2nd year of Dewatto Nitrification Project
Completed 2nd year of Union Summer Chum Project
Released 86,000 Summer Chum, 190,000 Fall Chum, 315,000 Chinook, 198 Adult Steelhead
and 961 age 2 Steelhead smolts.



Photo: Interns gridding a stream

REGION 6 – HOOD CANAL SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Earl Sande, Board Member
Bob Sund, Board Member
Hap Leon, Board Member
Gary Cooper, Board Member
Deb Gillum, Board Member
Diane Jones, Board Member
Peggy Johnson, Board Member
Dave Gabe, Board Member
Gordy George, Board Member



Photo: Carcasses for nutrification

STAFF

Neil Werner, Executive Director
Eileen Palmer, Administrative Assistant
Dan Hannafious, GIS Technician
Melissa Palmer, Special Project Coordinator
Lee Boad, Salmon Project Director
Nathan Ackley, Monitoring Project Supervisor

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REGION 7 – NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

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PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Director	\$ 23,735	212	\$ 2,650	\$ 10,347	\$ 36,732
2) Coordinator	\$ 11,645			\$ 7,219	\$ 18,864
3) Office operations	\$ 4,486			\$ 2,767	\$ 7,253
4) Riparian Revegetation	\$ 1,471	139	\$ 1,731	\$ 1,673	\$ 4,875
7) Nutrient Enhancement	\$ 496	50	\$ 625		\$ 1,121
8) Spawning Surveys		169	\$ 2,113		\$ 2,113
9) Riparian Habitat Stewardship		40	\$ 494		\$ 494
10) E. Jefferson County Forage Fish		628	\$ 7,850	\$ 35,112	\$ 42,962
11) Summer Chum Hatcheries		1,879	\$ 23,488	\$ 12,024	\$ 35,512
12) Snow Creek Coho Recovery		572	\$ 7,150		\$ 7,150
13) West Fork Chimacum Creek				\$ 34,890	\$ 34,890
TOTALS	\$ 41,833	3,689	\$ 46,101	\$ 104,032	\$ 191,966

REGION 7 – NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

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MISSION

To protect, restore and increase salmon stocks in North Olympic Peninsula Watersheds.

The North Olympic Salmon Coalition (NOSC) is a non-profit community based salmon recovery organization that provides funding, guidance, technical assistance and ongoing support for salmon habitat restoration and enhancement. NOSC covers the watersheds along the coast of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, from the Hood Canal Bridge west to Neah Bay. Within its region, NOSC works on restoring and increasing the quality and quantity of spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook, Coho, Chum, Steelhead, and Cutthroat Trout. NOSC also provides outreach programs to local schools and supports efforts to protect and restore estuarine habitat.



Photo: NOSC volunteers sample beaches in Eastern Jefferson County for forage fish eggs.

The NOSC Board has representation from sport and commercial fisherman, tribal, timber, environmental, agricultural and business interests throughout the region. The membership and volunteer base is approximately 350 people.

Cooperative partnerships include the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Jefferson County Conservation District, Wild Olympic Salmon, Trout Unlimited -Rainshadow Chapter, Jefferson County, Clallam Conservation District, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Lower Elwha S'Klallam Tribe, Chimacum Schools, Port Townsend High school, Blue Heron Middle School and Jefferson Land Trust.

Funding assistance comes from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, People for Salmon, Jefferson County Marine Resource Committee, NOAA, Northwest Straits Commission, Smayda Environmental Associates, Pilchuck Excavating and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

RFEG PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2002

Riparian Revegetation

Chimacum Creek

Deciduous and conifer tree seedlings were planted along Chimacum Creek to provide a riparian corridor. Tree tubes were placed around trees to promote tree survival. Trees donated by Green Crow were placed in donated nursery space and at local school nurseries. Port Townsend Paper donated several truckloads of mulch for nursery maintenance. The funding was also used to support a shared Americops position with Jefferson County Conservation District.

Instream Habitat

Houck Pond Erosion Control

Project engineering and permitting began for an instream erosion control project to limit sedimentation in an artificially created erosional headwater discharge from reaching summer chum spawning grounds in Salmon Creek by installing 1000 cubic yards of rock, check dams and willow staking for bioengineering stabilization. The project is a partnership with People For Salmon and NOAA, with community volunteers.

REGION 7 – NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

Education & Community Outreach

Executive Director, Project Coordinator & Project Assistant

Developed community outreach and education opportunities in salmon enhancement. Presentations to schools & general public included WSU Jefferson County Cooperative Extension Waterwatchers and Realtors classes. Spawning surveys, establishment and maintenance of 3 native plant nurseries, riparian plantings, monitoring and maintenance in a variety of watersheds were completed. Outreach events included Trout Unlimited Kid's Fishing Day, Wild Olympic Salmon Festival, Port Townsend Alternative Christmas Fair. Plantings and noxious weed control events were conducted at Kah Tai Lagoon Park, Froggy Bottoms Wetland, and Blue Heron Middle School with Admiralty Audubon Society volunteers.



Photo: Original Culvert on West Fork of Chimacum Creek



Photo: New Railcar Bridge for road crossing Chimacum Creek

Nutrient Enhancement

Dungeness & Elwha Rivers Nutrient Enhancement:

Project provided travel expense compensation to volunteers placing carcasses in the Dungeness and Elwha watersheds under supervision by WDFW hatchery staff.

Fish Enhancement

Jimmycomelately Summer Chum

NOSC used RFEG funds to cover rent expenses for the Wild Olympic Salmon broodstock program for summer chum on Jimmycomelately Creek. WDFW provided technical assistance to the volunteer operation.

NON-RFEG PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS IN FISCAL YEAR 2002

Fish Passage Projects

Culvert replacement on West Fork of Chimacum Creek:

A railcar bridge replaced a concrete culvert that posed an erosion threat and was a barrier to fish passage at high flows. Project is funded by the Trout Unlimited, Salmon Recovery Funding Board and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Monitoring supported by Jefferson County Conservation District.

Assessment, monitoring and research

Forage Fish Survey: Over 2300 informational brochures were mailed to landowners along the Eastern Jefferson County coast. Volunteers and project biologists sampled 340 stretches of beach for surf smelt and sand lance eggs. Project is funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and Jefferson County Marine Resource Committee through NOAA and the Northwest Straits Commission. GIS services donated by Jefferson County Conservation District.

Spawning Surveys:

North Olympic Salmon Coalition volunteers took part in spawning surveys. Volunteers surveyed coho and chum in Chimacum Creek, Salmon Creek and Snow Creek. People counted salmon by live/dead counts and a total number redds were counted. In Chimacum Creek and Salmon Creek where

REGION 7 – NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

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endangered chum are present, the dead salmon were measured, scales taken, and the otolith was taken for identification purposes to provide monitoring data for the Summer Chum Broodstock and supplementation hatchery programs.

Snow Creek Coho Recovery

In cooperation with the WDFW Remote Site Incubators (RSIs) for coho were set up on Snow Creek. Volunteers set up and monitored this RSI throughout the rearing season. Volunteers also helped with smolt trapping at Snow Creek Research Station (WDFW) to monitor the success of their efforts and participate in spawning surveys.

Fish Enhancement

Summer Chum Broodstock and Supplementation Hatcheries

Since 1992, NOSC partners have worked together to rebuild Summer Chum stock in Salmon Creek and reintroduce the stock to Chimacum Creek where they were extirpated in the 1980's. The program was extended to the Jimmycomelately hatchery in 2001. This project is included in the NMFS approved Hood Canal/ Straits of Juan De Fuca Summer Chum Recovery Initiative. The hatchery program is funded by a grant from the WDFW ALEA fund.



Photo: NOSC volunteers help with summer chum hatchery for Chimacum Creek.

REGION 7 – NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

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Sarah McNulty	Project Assistant

NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION (NOSC)

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REGION 8 – PACIFIC COAST SALMON COALITION

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Quillayute River Nutrient Enrichment	\$ 5,193	939	\$ 11,738	\$ 10,000	\$ 26,931
2) Administrative cost FY 2001-02	\$ 14,642	657	\$ 8,213	\$ 0	\$ 22,855
3) Executive Director	\$ 39,116	0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 39,116
4) Bear Creek Bank Stabilization	\$ 25,227	56	\$ 700	\$ 0	\$ 25,927
5) FMS Water Quality	\$ 3,074	92	\$ 1,150	\$ 0	\$ 4,224
6) Borde Pond	\$ 0	110	\$ 1,375	\$ 0	\$ 1,375
TOTALS	\$ 87,252	1,854	\$ 23,176	\$ 10,000	\$ 120,428

Partners

- 1 WDF&W, PFS, NOAA, USFS, DNR, and Rayonier
- 4 WDF&W and Private land owners
- 5 WDF&W and Forks Middle and High Schools
- 6 WDF&W and Private land owners

REGION 8 – PACIFIC COAST SALMON COALITION

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

MISSION STATEMENT

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition's mission is to be actively involved in local volunteer-based habitat restoration in order to achieve a healthy salmonid resource within our region.

OVERVIEW OF PACIFIC COAST SALMON COALITION

The coverage area for the Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition (PSCS) 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, Bogachiel, Calawah and Dickey - Quillayute complex, the Hoh River, the Queets River, and the Quinault River. These rivers are glacial-fed and have short, but steep drops to marine water. 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 resulting from snow melt.

Much of this area is within the Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest, the state Olympic 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.

Volunteers in this region face two major challenges. First, they must blend the needs of salmon with the area's economic dependence on logging and fishing. Second, because so much of the region is in public lands, they must coordinate their efforts with various state, federal, and tribal land managers.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Photo: Senior students installing exclusionary fencing at the Hoh Humm Ranch

The Quillayute River Nutrient Enrichment project continues to be one of PCSC most significant projects. This project has a significant positive impact on the Quillayute complex by providing nutrients for numerous species on the Olympic Peninsula from salmon to bears and many in between. The nutrient enrichment project provides an excellent opportunity to educate people on the importance of salmon to the ecosystem, to recruit volunteers and for those volunteers to see results of the activities they're involved in.



Photo: Volunteers doing their senior project by planting at the Bear Cr. Bank Stabilization project

REGION 8 – PACIFIC COAST SALMON COALITION

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

The Borde Pond Remote Site Incubator (RSI) provides augmentation of a native Coho run. Native brood stock eggs are hatched in the RSI then released to borde pond. The program will help increase the run back to the self supporting Coho runs that historically occurred on this Mill Creek tributary. Forks Middle school water quality project provided need equipment to the school while providing an educational opportunity for PCSC. The kids at the school are learning more about why water quality is important which has prompted them to ask why salmon are important.

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Photo: Volunteers marking salmon carcasses to be returned to the Quillayute River System

STAFF

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and Project Manager

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REGION 9 – CHEHALIS BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Long Live the Kings	\$ 13,500	1,237	\$ 15,463	\$ 147,292	\$ 176,255
2) Muller/Satsop Springs	\$ 10,774	3,177	\$ 39,713	\$ 279,450	\$ 329,937
3) Upper Chehalis Fish Enhan Assoc.	\$ 1,000	1,295	\$ 16,188	\$ 60,000	\$ 77,188
4) Satsop Native Steelhead Brood Stock Effort	\$ 10,000	2,491	\$ 31,138	\$ 69,629	\$ 110,766
5) Carlisle	\$ 2,400	1,528	\$ 19,100	\$ 40,000	\$ 61,500
6) Hoquiam Coho Rearing		80	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000
7) Unnamed Creek			-	\$ 267,041	\$ 267,041
8) Singer Creek			-	\$ 191,000	\$ 191,000
9) Remunds Revegetation			-	\$ 9,997	\$ 9,997
10) EDT			-	\$ 100,500	\$ 100,500
11) Creamers Smolt Trapping			-	\$ 7,795	\$ 7,795
12) Admin	\$ 6,355	1,719	\$ 21,488	\$ 34,818	\$ 62,661
TOTALS	\$ 44,029	11,527	\$ 144,088	\$ 1,207,522	\$ 1,395,638

REGION 9 – CHEHALIS BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force is dedicated to:

- Producing salmon for sport and commercial fisheries; and
- Enhancing steelhead and sea run cutthroat trout resources; and
- Restoring, enhancing and protecting stream habitat critical to these Anadromous species.

R F E G O V E R V I E W :

The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force represents an innovative approach to restoring this dwindling resource. Local commercial, sport and tribal groups as well as the community at large are dependent on many aspects of fishery resources for its economic well being. Serving as an interface to combine forces, the Task Force has merged opposing facets of Basin communities in order to deal proactively with the real issues confronting the people of the watershed. Through mandates insisting that harvest allocation issues and other user specific differences be set aside, the Task Force has experienced great success in fish enhancement for everyone.

The Area served by the CBFTF encompasses the entire Chehalis River watershed; the second largest river system in the state of Washington. This basin includes Grays Harbor, Mason, Thurston and Lewis Counties with 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 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, facility design, permit acquisition, stock selection, coordinated facility operations equipment, and volunteer management, among other resources.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

Riparian Plantings

Remund Fencing and Revegetation project addressed sedimentation and water temperatures on Lincoln Creek a tributary to the Chehalis River completed 34,000 feet of streamside livestock fencing, stream revegetation and four livestock hard crossings. Benefiting Coho, Cutthroat Trout and Steelhead habitat.

Fish Passage Projects: Culvert Replacements

Singer Creek, a tributary to West Fork Satsop River we replace a 5-foot culvert with a 12-foot diameter culvert where we set it on a prepared level grad made of fill from excavating the old culvert. A cement pour was then made on each side of the culvert evenly and in tree stages to bring it to the proper elevation. Then filled the culvert with streambed gravel. Completed plunge pool rock/lwd placement for fish passage and culvert water backup opening up 3.5 miles of habitat. Started the morning of the 21st and had road open the evening of the 24th finishing the project 5 ? days early as



Photo: To avoid handling stress, Coho fry are siphoned from a tank truck at several planting sites along North River

REGION 9 – CHEHALIS BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

Simpson and other timber companies were loosing \$6,000.00/day with the road closed. Finished with a topcoat of crushed rock and planted trees in October/November.



Photo: Original Fish Trap Built in 1989

Unnamed Creek, a tributary to the Middle Fork Satsop we replaced a 4-foot culvert with a 16-foot diameter culvert placing it at zero grade. It was filled with washed drain rock. We poured CDF concrete around base of new culvert. Placed large and Lwd at lower end of culvert. Then we completed downstream end of culvert armoring and stream bank armoring of north side of stream where we added loose fill to cover overflow culvert plunge pool. Then moved to upstream end of new culvert to continue LWD and large rack placement in stream and completed culvert armoring at upstream end opening up 4+ miles of habitat for Coho, Steelhead Chinook, Chum and Cutthroat Trout. Finished with a topcoat of crushed rock.

Creamers Spawning and Rearing Channel Barrier Removal On the East Fork of Satsop River the existing spawning channel was separated from the Satsop River during the 1996 flood year. The Barrier was removed and the channel reconstructed. Channel is 2500 feet long and currently supports 2000 chum spawners each year plus providing overwintering and juvenile rearing for salmonids during winter months. Prior to the repair the channel supported under 300 spawning chum.

Gaddis Creek a tributary of the Lower Chehalis River we replaced a 4-foot elevated culvert with a 12-foot diameter culvert. Opened over 4 miles of habitat for Coho, Cutthroat Trout, Steelhead and Chum Salmon.

Education

Lake Carlisle The Onalaska FFA has been busy preparing for this years run of adult Coho. The school has hired an aide to assist in the fisheries program and we have 8 students taking Advanced Natural Resources and two of those students are also taking independent aquaculture. The new Aqua Center is getting moved into and students are building a model stream next to the fish center. A walking bridge was installed two weeks ago and the area will be finished by spring. Students are also performing water tests and just finished completing a lab on fecal coliform with 10 sites in the Gheer Creek drainage being tested. Results with pictures will be posted on the Onalaska FFA WebPages. This year the Chapter is excited to be working with WDF&W raising Steelhead and working with the Chehalis Tribe with Chum.

Ecosystem Diagnosis and Treatment - EDT

Spatially Enabled Assessment of Salmonid Habitat in the Chehalis Basin The CBFTF, WDFW and numerous volunteer organizations have joined in an innovative partnership to maximize the benefits of habitat restoration and salmon production projects, and engender public support for salmonid recovery. Together, we have defined an integrated package of assessments, projects, and monitoring designed to provide a framework for adaptively managing salmonid recovery in the Chehalis Basin. By defining this framework we facilitate an incremental, Additive approach that provides cost effective solutions for salmon recovery. Our project will build upon existing information and apply cutting edge scientific analyses to develop improved tools for salmon recovery.

REGION 9 – CHEHALIS BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

Fish Enhancement

Long Live the Kings on the Wishkah River continued in its effort to restore native Chinook and began to provide greater support to the Coho net pens at the Port of Grays Harbor; with an additional emphasis to the wild Chum restoration with an expanded native Chum broodstocking program.

Blazer Creek Coho Project received 20,000-eyed Coho eggs from Humptulips Salmon Hatchery to be placed in a hatch box beside Blazer Creek. The eggs hatched and the fry were raised to approximately 400 per pound. With the help from the Aberdeen High School "Earth Service Corp" and several neighbors under the direction of the WDFW fin clipped approximately 19,000 of the fed fry for release. This is an ongoing enhancement project that includes hatching and spawning beds in Blazer Creek that were accomplished with funds from CBFTF.



Photo: Muller/Satsop Springs Coho Rearing Project

Muller/Satsop Springs The 2000 releases of approximately 160k of zero age smolt went as planned with no disease or other problems. The fall broodstocking effort has been hampered by weather and low adult returns. Low flows result in the major portion of the Chinook run remaining in tidewater until the late October. This obstacle was overcome by utilizing 2 separate locations to broodstock. The same conditions are present this year which has slowed broodstocking efforts. Current egg take is 40k.

Adult Coho returns on the Satsop appear to be as predicted this fall. While it appears the above normal smolt out migration in 1998 resulted in higher wild adult returns, ocean survival appears to be the key to production. The project released 500k of Coho smolt in April of 2001 with no major disease or other problems. The Satsop Springs facility had 600k Coho fingerings that were released in the spring of 2002.

This year we broodstocked 70 pair of native Chum that we reared and released 200k Chum smolt. We achieved our egg take goal of 230 this year.

Phase 4 of the overwintering project was completed last summer. Juvenile passage was created to allow for fry access to 3 acres of additional overwintering ponds. The continuing improvements to the fish ladder and allowed for 2 acres of additional overwintering ponds at the southern entrance to the facility. With these improvements nearly 8 acres of overwintering habitat is now available to wild salmonid use during times of high flow.

Adult spawned hatchery Steelhead will be transferred to Muller's where they are to recondition. Starting in late March 600 fish were transported to Vance Creek ponds & Sylvia Lake and released. A portion will be transported to Satsop Springs and placed in a specially constructed pond where handicapped fly fishing classes are to be developed.

The program is currently rearing 2500 rainbow trout at Satsop Springs and 3000 rainbow trout at Mitchell Creek were released at 3 lbs each. These fish were planted in the Vance Creek Ponds, Sylvia Lake, and Aberdeen Lake. Several hundred were supplied to the Mill Creek pond for Trout Unlimited's youth fishery.

REGION 9 – CHEHALIS BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

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Photo: Tree planting at the revegetation site

REGION 10 – WILLAPA BAY FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Admin	\$ 22,920	1766.7*	\$ 82,680*		\$ 22,920
2) Grant Writing	\$ 14,411				\$ 14,411
3) Elk Creek	\$ 11,261			\$ 74,306	\$ 85,567
4) Butte Creek	\$ 10,000			\$ 71,464	\$ 81,464
5) Mill Pond Creek	\$ 12,200			\$ 78,523	\$ 90,723
6) Trap Creek	\$ 4,400			\$ 152,907	\$ 157,307
7) Assessments	\$ 10,000			\$ 127,876	\$ 137,876
8) RSI	\$ 19,866				\$ 19,866
TOTALS	\$ 105,058	1,766	\$ 82,679	\$ 505,076	\$1,197,889

* all Volunteer combined into this one entry

REGION 10 – WILLAPA BAY FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group is to enhance and restore salmon in the Willapa Bay Watershed. This involves working with all parameters, which directly affect salmon in the Willapa Bay Watershed. Key to accomplishment of our mission is the involvement of local citizens and local landowners in the development of projects that are beneficial to salmon and cost effective.



OVERVIEW

Volunteers accomplish the majority of our work. The Board of Directors has set our goal which is to operate with the lowest possible administrative costs. We wish to maximize the amount spent on habitat restoration and fish enhancement projects. This strategy will move us toward our stated vision to restore natural spawning salmon to the rivers and streams of the Willapa Bay. Covering all the streams draining into Willapa Bay, our area includes most of Pacific County and a small part of Grays Harbor County.

HIGHLIGHTS

Green Creek

Two improperly placed culverts on Green Creek were blocking salmon access to roughly 3 miles of upstream spawning and rearing habitat. In-stream improvements and stream bank plantings are leading to restored salmon habitat.

Mid-Trap Creek

Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group put in roughly 38 – 20ft long, 25 inch minimum diameter logs with root wads to reduce stream flow and create pools of water. This was accomplished by a “high line” method, restoring a little over one mile of stream.

Honey Creek

This project required the replacement of an old tounge-in-groove hand made culvert that was sagging and likely to collapse in the near future. This existing culvert created a total barrier to the upward migration of salmon as well as movement of resident fish within the stream system. Placement of the new culvert opened up a little over one mile of spawning and rearing habitat for chum, coho, and chinook salmon as well as steelhead and cutthroat trout within the upper portion of Honey Creek.

REGION 10 – WILLAPA BAY FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

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REGION 11 – LOWER COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1 Fencing	\$ 10,918	200	\$ 2,500	\$ 13,500	\$ 26,918
2 Schoolhouse Cr./ Ostenson	\$ 10,000	250	\$ 3125	\$ 13,000	\$ 26,125
3 Schoolhouse Cr. Riparian		40	\$ 500	\$ 5,115	\$ 5,615
4 Schoolhouse Cr. SRFB	\$ 20,000	20	\$ 250	\$ 416,000	\$ 436,250
5 Nutrient Assessment	\$ 7,000	40	\$ 500	\$ 65,000	\$ 72,500
6 Longview Fiber culverts	\$ 10,200	200	\$ 2,500	\$ 256,847	\$ 269,547
7 S.Fk. Toutle waterline replace.	\$ 9,120	300	\$ 3,750	\$ 38,000	\$ 50,870
8 Culvert survey (Lewis CD)	\$ 10,701	20	\$ 250		\$ 10,951
9 Volunteer Outreach		20	\$ 250	\$ 22,979	\$ 23,229
10 Carcass Placement		100	\$ 1,250		\$ 1,250
11 Program Coordinator	\$ 6,380				\$ 6,380
12 Safety Equipment grant (ALEA)				\$ 700	\$ 700
13 Administration	\$ 2,434	200	\$ 2,500		\$ 4,934
14 Plant Materials	\$ 218	10	\$ 125		\$ 343
TOTALS	\$ 86,971	1,400	\$ 17,500	\$ 831,141	\$ 935,612

REGION 11 – LOWER COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

RFEG 11 PROGRAM SUMMARY 2001-2002

The lower Columbia River region is vast, covering all or parts of Skamania, Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Wahkiakum, and Pacific Counties. The Cowlitz and Lewis River watersheds are the largest tributaries in the region and there are many smaller watersheds, including the Washougal, Elocohman, and Grays Rivers. These watersheds have extensive hatchery programs that produce many millions of smolts for future harvest opportunity in the ocean and on local streams.



Photo: Volunteer flinging carcass for nutrient enhancement

Because of the extensive artificial production of salmon in the region, and the advent of ESA listings, the Lower Columbia FEG has begun to focus on habitat 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 are working closely with WDFW's habitat biologists, local governments, private landowners, and the Lead Entity to identify priority habitat restoration projects. LCFEG recently hired a full time staff person to coordinate these activities and to increase our project capacity.

In the fiscal year ended 6/30/02, LCFEG worked to identify and replace migration barriers in several key watersheds by partnering with Longview Fiber, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, USFWS, and Lewis County Conservation District. LCFEG recently submitted a region wide culvert inventory to the SRFB intended to identify and prioritize migration barriers on private lands in the region. This project was developed in partnership with the Lead Entity and multiple Conservation Districts.

LCFEG worked with private landowners and the Cowlitz/ Wahkiakum Conservation Districts to fence livestock out of streams, thereby helping to restore riparian habitat processes in the Cowlitz, Elocohman, and Grays Rivers. This project resulted in several miles of fencing that has reduced fine sediment input and shaded small streams to reduce water temperatures.

LCFEG used funding for nutrient monitoring to leverage funds from the USFS and Fish First to begin assessment work in the Wind, Washougal and Lewis River watersheds. LCFEG submitted an assessment project to the SRFB this year to measure current nutrient levels in the Cowlitz and Kalama River watersheds. The intent of the nutrient assessments is to identify whether or not a lack of Nitrogen or Phosphorous is limiting aquatic food webs needed by wild salmonids as food.

Preliminary analysis indicates a severe lack of Nitrogen is indeed limiting the amount of macro-invertebrate activity in the streams tested. The need for a comprehensive nutrient supplementation plan for the watersheds in our region is becoming a top priority for LCFEG and WDFW. We will create this plan based on the results of the assessment work so that future nutrient enhancement efforts are focused where they are needed most. LCFEG volunteers placed over 12,000 salmon carcasses into local streams last year! We also received a grant from WDFW this year to purchase a custom-built carcass trailer so we can haul and place carcasses more efficiently.

LCFEG began habitat restoration work last year on a small tributary to the Washougal River called

REGION 11 – LOWER COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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Schoolhouse Creek. The stream flows through a forested wetland partially owned by the Washougal School District. This type of low gradient, ground water influenced habitat is extremely rare in the Washougal River watershed and represents an ideal opportunity for restoration. Partners include multiple private landowners, Washougal School District, Skamania County, Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers, Camas-Washougal Wildlife League, National Wildlife Federation, People For Salmon, NOAA Fisheries, SRFB, WDFW, and Washington Trout. The project should be completed in Summer 2003.



Photo: LCFEG Volunteers and contractor replacing culvert with bridge at Ostenson project

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group made a decision this year to hire a full time Program Coordinator to help increase its presence in the region. This staff person will strengthen existing ties within local communities and form new partnerships in order to develop a greater capacity to implement habitat restoration projects. It is the intent of LCFEG to become the project implementation arm of the regions Lead Entity by working closely with their staff to identify regional priorities for restoration.

REGION 11 – LOWER COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

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Hal Mahnke, Director
Ted Farnsworth, Director
Richard Kennon, Director
Margaret Neumann, Advisor
Donna Hale, WDFW watershed steward
Gary Wade, LE liason
Tony Meyer, LCFEG staff



Photo: LCFEG President Sam Giese collecting data for the design of an off-channel pond at school house creek

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REGION 12 – MID COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Presher Springs	\$ 19,000	300	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 26,000
2) Klickitat Mill Restoration	\$ 20,000	0	0	\$ 515,000	\$ 535,000
3) Shaw Creek Restoration	\$ 5,000	100	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 7,000
4) Shaw Creek Fencing	\$ 10,000	100	\$ 1,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 26,000
5) Plants for Stream Restoration	\$ 5,000	200	\$ 2,000	0	\$ 7,000
6) Habitat Enhancement Monitoring	\$ 7,500	200	\$ 2,000	0	\$ 9,500
7) Habitat Project Maintenance	\$ 23,500	300	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 28,500
8) Swale Creek Assessment	\$ 19,900	0	0	\$ 15,000	\$ 34,900
9) Buckskin Slough Restoration	\$ 37,155	160	\$ 1,600	\$ 12,000	\$ 50,755
10) Yakima County Corrections	\$ 4,650	0	0	0	\$ 4,650
11) Boone Channel In-stream Structures	\$ 4,000	25	\$ 250	0	\$ 4,250
12) Chapman Creek II Fencing	\$ 24,300	140	\$ 1,400	\$ 2,000	\$ 27,700
13) Wide Hallow Creek Restoration	\$ 1,500	60	\$ 160	\$ 1,000	\$ 2,660
14) Website Development	\$ 2,000	0	0	0	\$ 2,000
TOTALS	\$ 183,505	1,585	\$ 16,410	566,000	\$ 765,915

Project # / Project Partners

- 1) Central Klickitat Conservation District
- 2) Yakama Nation, SSHEARR, SRFB, BPA
- 3) Yakima County, WDFW
- 4) Yakima County, WDFW
- 5) Rainshadow Nursery
- 6) Elizabeth Kinne
- 7) Northwest Service Academy
- 8) Interfluve, Inc., SRFB
- 9) Yakama Nation, WDFW, NWSA
- 10) Yakima County
- 11) Yakama Indian Nation, WDFW
- 12) Northwest Service Academy
- 13) J&M Perry Institute
- 14) Vanessa Dunn, Yakima-Herald News

REGION 12 – MID COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group is to enhance salmonid habitat in the Mid Columbia River basin tributaries.

1. Our goal is to preserve and enhance salmonid habitat in the mid Columbia River basin tributaries.
 - A. Our objective is to improve areas of stream habitat, throughout the river system, that will support and ecologically balanced ecosystem.
 1. Projects are to be spread throughout Yakima, Kittitas, Klickitat, Benton and part of Skamania counties.
2. Our goal is to assist and participate with landowners, all governmental agencies and the Yakama Nation.
 - A. Our objective is to actively pursue in-stream and riparian habitat projects that will directly benefit the salmonid population.
 - B. To provide communication for open solicitations of project funding.
 - C. To eliminate those projects subject to landowner mitigation.



Photo: Mill Creek – July 2001 BEFORE



Photo: Mill Creek – June 2002 AFTER

OVERVIEW

The Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group has focused primarily on habitat enhancement, assessment and land acquisition projects. Most recently a monitoring project was completed assessing all of the project work the Mid-Columbia group has funded since its inception in 1990. This resulted in a series of reports called, *A Snapshot In Time* by Elizabeth Kinne. The follow project highlights are excerpts from these reports.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Presher Springs Restoration

Legal Description: T5N, R3 Section 15E

Project Description: Presher Springs feeds Mill Creek, a tributary to the Little Klickitat River, which is a steelhead creek. Cattle have cut down the stream banks causing a problem with sediment. The stream banks were reshaped and re-vegetated and cattle exclusionary fencing was constructed leaving a 100-150 foot buffer. Off-channel watering was also constructed. Project Sponsor, the Central Klickitat Conservation District (CKCD), has organized the Natural Resources Conservation Service to perform the survey, design and construction supervision. The Northwest Service Academy (NWSA) constructed the fence and planted the native vegetation. The project is still on-going with the bulk of the work completed in the Spring of 2002. RFEF project budget totaled \$19,000 with \$600 for seedlings, \$5500 for excavation, \$8900 troughs and pipe and \$4000 for fencing. The Central Klickitat Conservation District provided \$3000 in-kind labor and support.

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Shaw Creek Restoration I & II

Legal Description: T13N, R17 Section 24

Project Description: The Shaw Creek project in the city of Yakima, began fall 2000 and is currently in-progress. Shaw Creek had been diverted to a road-side ditch for development reasons. It flows through several private landowners' property; which presented an organizing challenge for the sponsor, Yakima County. This project will enhance the water quality and create better fish passage for chinook and steelhead species.

Phase I, the re-routing of the stream channel from a roadside ditch has been completed. This also required the re-placement of a culvert. The construction of a fence on the north side and re-vegetation work is also completed (see photo 1). There are several 90-degree turns in the channel and 96th Ave. splitting the creek, which then flows under a culvert and surfaces on the other side of the road. The county diverted the roadside stream water to the newly dug stream channel on September 1, 2001.

Phase II, fence construction along the south side of the creek, was completed fall 2001. The Northwest Service Academy and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife performed the fence construction and native re-vegetation work. The RFEG project budget totaled \$15,000 where \$5,000 was spent in phase I for native plants and \$10,000 was spent in phase II for fence construction. Yakima County provided \$15,000 matching funds to cover the re-routing of the stream channel. Currently, additional native vegetation is needed on one of the private landowner's property.

Lmuma Creek Restoration I

Legal Description: T15N, R19E, Section 04

Project Description: Lmuma Creek is the only year-round creek in the Yakima Canyon. The creek feeds into the Yakima River which has wild chinook and wild steelhead trout species; both of which are "depressed or declining" (SASSI, 1996). The creek had been grazed by cattle for over 80 years and was completely void of riparian vegetation. The bank degradation has potential to increase the sediment load downstream.

The project objectives are to construct a cattle exclusionary fence along two miles of Lmuma Creek and one mile along the Yakima River; re-plant with native vegetation, remove noxious weeds, construct off-channel watering facilities and place rootwads on the north bank to divert the thal-wag and provide hiding refugia. This project will provide a restored riparian function while stabilizing the banks; thus lowering the potential for an increased sediment load downstream, while providing rearing habitat for salmonid species.

The Northwest Service Academy (NWSA) will perform the labor with assistance from the landowners and WDFW technical staff. Work is planned for fall 2002 through spring 2003. The RFEG budget for Lmuma Creek Phase I is \$20,000 with a match from the landowner for \$2,000 and the NWSA for \$5,000. Lmuma Creek Phase II SRFB proposal was submitted fall 2002 to continue the project objectives upstream.

REGION 12 – MID COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

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REGION 13 – TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Burlingame Diversion habitat enhancement and Maintenance	\$ 959	31.5	\$ 394	\$ 600	\$ 1,953
2) Lower Mill Creek Riparian Buffer Project	\$ 2,528	79	\$ 988	\$ 149,575	\$ 153,091
3) Project Success Monitoring	\$ 13,223	1,328	\$ 16,600	0	\$ 29,823
4) S.F. Coppei Creek Conservation Easement and Habitat Restoration Project	\$ 11,809	222	\$ 2,775	\$ 187,029	\$ 201,613
5) Nine Mile Project Riparian Buffer Enhancement and Maintenance	\$ 2,529	35	\$ 438	0	\$ 2,967
6) Yellowhawk Creek Fish Passage Barrier Assessment	\$ 1,362	24	\$ 300	0	\$ 1,662
7) Lower Mill Creek Project Interpretive Signing	\$ 227	8	\$ 100	\$ 265	\$ 592
8) Yellowhawk Creek Steelhead Counting Station	\$ 2,270	140	\$ 1,750	0	\$ 4,020
9) Assist CTUIR Walla Walla Watershed steelhead telemetry study	\$ 1,589	21	\$ 263	\$ 13,800	\$ 15,652
10) Stone Creek Riparian Habitat Enhancement and Maintenance Project	\$ 946	36	\$ 450	\$ 1,140	\$ 2,536
11) Patit Creek Dam Removal	\$ 5,454	0	0	\$ 16,000	\$ 21,454
12) Four Schools Riparian and In-Stream Habitat Restoration Project	\$ 5,448	0	0	\$ 68,250	\$ 73,698
13) Community Outreach and Education	\$ 6,810	308	\$ 3,850	\$ 1,450	\$ 12,110
14) WDFW Touchet River Telemetry Study	\$ 3,128	0	0	\$ 24,000	\$ 27,128
15) Administration	\$ 7,205	0	0	0	\$ 7,205
TOTALS	\$ 65,487	2232.5	\$ 27,908	\$ 462,109	\$ 555,504

Tri-State Steelheaders project partners July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002: City of College Place, College Place Firefighters Association, Wal-Mart, Hook 'N More Sports, Brent Knowles General Contracting, Royse Hydroseeding Walla Walla College, Whitman College, Walla Walla Community College, Gardena Farms Irrigation District, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, NRCS, FSA, Walla Walla County Conservation District, Columbia County Conservation District, Broughton Land Company, Asotin High School, Clarkston High School, Waitsburg High School, Burbank High School, Walla Walla High School, DeSales Catholic High School, School District 140 Opportunity Program, Garrison Middle School, Pioneer Middle School, Green Park Elementary School, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, USFS, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla BPOE, Walla Walla Pepsi-Cola, City of Walla Walla Housing Authority, Walla Walla YMCA, People for Salmon, Washington Department of Ecology Conservation Corp., Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, National Marine Fisheries Service, Berney Elementary School, and more than 75 local and regional businesses that supported Tri-State Steelheaders projects.

REGION 13 – TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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MISSION :

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

OVERVIEW :

The Tri-State Steelheaders has been actively involved in salmonid habitat restoration since being organized during the mid-1960's. The group was granted 501 (c) 3 status by Washington State in 1989 and made a regional fisheries enhancement group in December, 2000.



Photo: TSS member Wib Waggoner assists Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation fish biologist Brian Mahoney to install radio transmitters in adult Steelhead.

Tri-State Steelheaders engages in salmonid habitat restoration projects in WIRA 32, and 35. These projects include both in-stream and riparian habitat enhancement as well as community outreach and education projects. Creating partnerships with landowners, government agencies, and other conservation organizations is of paramount importance to the Tri-State Steelheaders.

During the 2001/2002 fiscal year the Tri-State Steelheaders participated in thirteen habitat restoration and nine educational/community outreach projects. Volunteers donated 2,232.5 hours of labor toward projects during this period, 1,028 students participated in educational activities, and 523 adults took part in community outreach events.

Washington State Department of Ecology presented their Environmental Excellence Award for 2002 to the Tri-State Steelheaders. This is the highest award WDOE presents to community based organizations involved in riparian habitat restoration and preservation of salmonid populations. According to Victoria Leuba, Ecology's lead staff person working on water issues in the Walla Walla Watershed, "This group [Tri-State Steelheaders] has done considerable work on riparian restoration and preservation. They are a group of hard-core volunteers, deeply committed to recovery and sustainability of fishery resources. They have brought together many diverse interests to participate in activities to improve riparian habitat."

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS :

Lower Mill Creek Project

Riparian and in-stream habitat work was completed on the Lower Mill Creek project. Five rock weirs were constructed on site, three ponds were created to act as natural bio-filters for irrigation water being returned to the creek, approximately 300' of vertical streambank was reshaped and planted to native grass and trees, and a large debris jam was constructed in Mill Creek. More than one mile of riparian buffer was installed on the project. Livestock were excluded from the stream as well. Project partners, in addition to multiple private landowners, were National Fish and Wildlife Foundation,

REGION 13 – TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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People for Salmon, FSA, NRCS, Walla Walla County Conservation District, WDFW, WDOE, and Tri-State Steelheaders.

Patit Creek Dam Removal

A 1930's era irrigation dam on Patit Creek (Columbia County) was removed, thus opening an additional seven miles of salmonid rearing habitat on the stream. Project partners, in addition to the landowner, were Columbia Conservation District, WDFW, SRFB, and the Tri-State Steelheaders.

South Fork of Coppei Creek Conservation Easement and Habitat Restoration Project

This ongoing project provided for restored or enhanced riparian buffers on approximately eight riverbank miles of the South Fork of Coppei Creek and selected cold water tributaries to that stream. Livestock was excluded from the restored and enhanced areas by a conservation easement. Control of noxious weeds including Yellow Star Thistle, blackberries and Nootka Rose, was undertaken on the project. A wooden livestock corral and loading chute was dismantled and hauled away along with debris from a barn destroyed during the 1996 flood. Project partners, in addition to the landowners, are SRFB, FSA, NRCS, Walla Walla CCD, WDFW, and Tri-State Steelheaders.

Project Success Monitoring Using WHEP (Watershed Health Evaluation Procedure)

Teacher/student teams from eight regional public, private and alternative schools and Walla Walla Community College monitored twenty-two riparian restoration sites on streams ranging from Asotin Creek in the east to the Touchet River in the west. Currently in its fourth year, this ongoing monitoring project provides information regarding water quality at project sites. Participating teachers are trained in monitoring protocols by a scientist, furnished sophisticated monitoring equipment, and provided work books and lab manuals for student use. A scientist replicates a number of the student tests to ensure the most accurate results. Ten teachers and 332 students participated in the program. Project partners, in addition to the landowners, include the teachers and students, Walla Walla CCD, People for Salmon, and Tri-State Steelheaders.



Photo: Students sort macro-invertebrates collected during their annual Walla Walla River project success monitoring event.

CTUIR Steelhead Telemetry Study

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation is conducting an ongoing telemetry study of steelhead migration and spawning patterns in the Walla Walla River Watershed. The Tri-State Steelheaders assists in the study by maintaining the Yellowhawk Creek counting station, notifying tribal biologists when steelhead enter the counting station and assisting when the biologist(s) fit steelhead with radio transmitters. Project partners include CTUIR, WDFW, NMFS, and the Tri-State Steelheaders.

REGION 13 – TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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Four Schools In-Stream and Riparian Habitat Restoration Project

An ongoing project, the "Four Schools" creates salmonid habitat in streams flowing through the campus of four local schools. Students assist with project design and installation where applicable. Each completed project will include an outdoor "classroom in the stream" where science teachers can incorporate stream health activities into their curriculum. Project partners include SRFB, Walla Walla CCD, NRCS, WDFW, and Tri-State Steelheaders.



Photo: Volunteer Coordinator Steve Gwinn teaches Hispanic families about the lifecycle of the salmon.

Yellowhawk Creek Steelhead Counting Station

This project, currently in its twelfth year, monitors the upstream passage of adult steelhead and downstream movement of kelts on Yellowhawk Creek. Yellowhawk Creek is an important migration route for ESA listed steelhead headed upstream to spawn in Mill Creek. Project partners include NMFS, WDFW and the Tri-State Steelheaders.

Yellowhawk Creek Fish Passage Barrier Assessment

Yellowhawk Creek, an important migration route for ESA listed steelhead, flows through a mix of suburban and agricultural lands. It is subject to blockages that prohibit adult steelhead from making their way upstream to spawn and restrict the movement of juvenile fish rearing in the stream. Volunteers periodically walk the seven mile length of Yellowhawk Creek checking for fish passage barriers. If barriers are detected, the volunteers contact WDFW, secure the necessary HPA, and then remove the fish passage barrier. Project partners include WDFW and the Tri-State Steelheaders.

REGION 13 – TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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REGION 14 – UPPER COLUMBIA REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2001-JUNE 30, 2002

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
1) Aeneas Creek	\$ 1,693	16	\$ 192	\$ 1,016	\$ 2,917
2) Membership	\$ 275				\$ 275
3) Administration	\$ 19,886				\$ 19,886
4) Education/Outreach Coordination	\$ 30,831				\$ 30,831
5) Habitat Coordination	\$ 28,587				\$ 28,587
6) South Fork Beaver Creek Fence	\$ 575	16	\$ 192	\$ 488	\$ 1,271
7) Black Pine Basin Fence	\$ 3,900	24	\$ 288	\$ 3,315	\$ 7,527
8) Okanogan County Barrier Survey	\$ 10,000				\$ 10,000
9) Facilitator Training	\$ 375				\$ 375
10) Project Acquisition Team	\$ 8,000	474	\$ 30,812		\$ 39,286
11) Watershed Committees	\$ 16,013	120	\$ 1,440		\$ 17,573
12) Belsby Stream	\$ 600	32	\$ 384		\$ 1,016
TOTALS	\$ 120,735	682	\$ 33,308	\$ 4,819	\$ 159,544

REGION 14 – UPPER COLUMBIA REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Upper Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group works with willing landowners to protect good habitat and to facilitate and implement fish restoration projects, and 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.

OVERVIEW

The Upper Columbia RFEG was incorporated on August 31, 2000. Our 501(c)(3) application was approved March 26, 2001. The state legislature added Upper Columbia RFEG and the Snake River group (Tri State Steelheaders) during the 2000 session. Our area was defined by the legislature as the Columbia River and its tributaries from Rock Island Dam up to and including the San Poil River. Our group's founders were landowners and business people who saw that salmon recovery would be best served through local involvement and that local communities had much to gain by becoming involved. Our founding petition was signed by all 3 Okanogan County Commissioners, one Ferry County Commissioner and numerous community leaders including the mayor of Omak and the president of the Okanogan County Economic Development Corporation. In 2001 we participated in a series of strategic planning workshops with the other RFEGs and WDFW and produced a strategic plan that has received high praise.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Riparian Plantings

A landowner on the Methow River contacted the RFEG for assistance with a project located within the town of Winthrop, WA. He has planted over 2000 trees along the banks and received funding from the RFEG for a drip line irrigation system to irrigate the new seedlings. With our help, he has achieved an 85% survival rate on the trees.

Habitat Protection

Three fencing projects were completed this year; two were partnerships with the US Forest Service and the other was brought forward by a local landowner.

The Black Pine Basin fencing project was designed to limit livestock access to Goat Creek. This project enhanced riparian resources within the watershed. Reduced access of livestock to Goat Creek allowed for re-growth and re-establishment of desired shade giving and soils retentive vegetation species. Soils now receive little to no impact from livestock hoof action- thereby increasing stream bank stability.

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The South Fork Beaver Creek fence project was designed to reduce riparian access by livestock and recreationists accessing South Fork Beaver Creek near National Forest Boundary with Washington State Dept of Wildlife lands. This allowed for rehabilitation and re-establishment of desired shade giving and soils retentive vegetation species. Soils now receive little to no impact from livestock hoof action- or vehicles accessing the stream.

Livestock exclusion fencing was placed near Aeneas Creek in Tonasket to protect headwater springs that feed Aeneas Creek and riparian areas on both sides of about 1500 feet of two forks of Aeneas Creek. By protecting the springs and the riparian areas, there has been an increase in stream bank stability and water quality downstream.

Assessment

The Upper Columbia RFEG was a partner in and partially funded an Okanogan County barrier survey which was conducted by a team of workers under the Jobs in the Woods Program and supervised by the Okanogan Conservation District. This survey has provided data on passage barriers on nearly every stream in the county and is a major asset to all project developers in the area.

Education

UCRFEG works with schools in our region to develop educational programs and projects and have conducted assemblies in most schools in the Okanogan Valley in conjunction with our Okanogan River Salmon Festivals, a series of five community celebrations of the importance of salmon in our area.

Community Outreach

Much of the effort of the UCRFEG in our first full year of operation was directed towards making our communities and landowners aware of our programs and the assistance available to them in developing restoration projects or protecting existing good habitat. We have met with most chambers of commerce in our region as well as the Okanogan Cattlemen's Association, the Okanogan Conservation District, Chelan Conservation district, Alliance 2005 (the Okanogan Economic Development Corporation) and many other groups.

To assist this effort UCRFEG conducted landowner workshops in the communities of Twisp and Winthrop in the Methow Valley. The Winthrop workshop was coordinated with a quarterly meeting of the Fish & Wildlife Commission and led to a very positive dialog about habitat restoration in an area which had become very hostile to the process due to NMFS cutting off water to a local irrigation district the preceding year.

Another important element of our outreach has been the formation of Watershed Committees in several areas including the San Poil River, Bonaparte Creek, the Sinlahekin Valley, the Okanogan-Similkameen Confluence, McLoughlin Canyon and other key habitat areas and support of similar groups in areas such as the Chumstick..

UCRFEG also has conducted several tours of projects and problems in our area which have attracted landowners, salmon recovery professionals, state legislators, US Senate staff, state and regional economic development staff and the media.

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UCRFEG media releases have been the basis of numerous articles in regional and statewide publications and in USA Today. We have made numerous live radio appearances and received frequent coverage by broadcast media.

Partnerships

UCRFEG has formed partnerships with many groups including Okanogan Conservation District, Chelan Conservation District, Okanogan Valley Lands Council and the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board. We also are part of an important trans-boundary partnership which also includes the Colville Confederated Tribes, the Okanogan Nations Alliance (Canadian Aboriginal Organization) and the Okanogan-Similkameen Boundary Fisheries Partnership (Canadian alliance of watershed groups.)

Conferences

UCRFEG has participated in and presented at a number of conferences including the Northwest Salmonid Recovery Conference, the Trans-boundary Ecosystem Conference (AFS,) and several economic development meetings

REGION 14 – UPPER COLUMBIA REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2001 - June 30, 2002

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