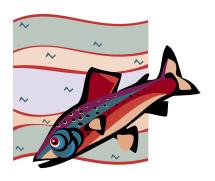
# REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006









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#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

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#### DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY BASED SALMON ENHANCEMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE

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

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

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

Individual donations and in-kind contributions from local community members and businesses are essential to the success of each RFEG. Partial funding for the RFEG Program comes from a portion of commercial and recreational fishing license fees and egg and carcass sales administered by the WDFW. Individual RFEGs also must obtain many grants from other government and private entities to supplement declining license sale income provided through the WDFW program.

During the 2005-2006 fiscal year, the RFEGs collectively completed 256 projects ranging from education and outreach to monitoring and of course on the ground salmon enhancement projects. RFEG volunteers donated over 72,000 hours to these salmon enhancement efforts in 2005-06. Half of the RFEGs participated in fish production projects, releasing 2,500,000 fish to their local watersheds. 55 fish passage improvement projects opened 98 miles of habitat for migrating salmon. 28 miles of habitat was enhanced and restored for salmonids and 68,770 salmon carcasses were returned to streams to add nutrients to local watersheds for juvenile salmon, bears, eagles and over 130 other species of wildlife.

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

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

Contact your local RFEG and learn how you can contribute to local salmon enhancement efforts.

### REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUPS SCIENTIFIC MONITORING

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

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

Scientific monitoring activities currently performed by RFEGs include: spawning ground surveys, habitat assessments, adult and juvenile fish counts, macro invertebrate surveys, nutrient enhancement monitoring, pre- and post project vegetation monitoring for riparian planting projects, water quality data collection and analysis, effectiveness of large woody debris placement and instream projects, and nearshore habitat monitoring.

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

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

### REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP ADVISORY BOARD

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#### MISSION

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

#### OVERVIEW

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

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

1) Administration and Finance, 2) Project Review, and 3) RFEG Representative.

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Paul Ancich - Commercial Fishing Interests, Fircrest, WA

Gene Jenkins - At-Large Position, Selah, WA

Vince Hoiby - Commercial Fishing Interests, Everett, WA

David Mills - At-Large Position, Bremerton, WA

Jeanne Robinson - At-Large Position, Shelton, WA

Paul Szewczykowski - Recreational Fishing Interests, Bothell, WA

Terry Wright - Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Olympia, WA

Brian Johnson - Recreational Fishing Interests, South Prairie, WA

Vacant - Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission

### WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE AND THE RFEG PROGRAM

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### MISSION

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

#### OVERVIEW

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

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

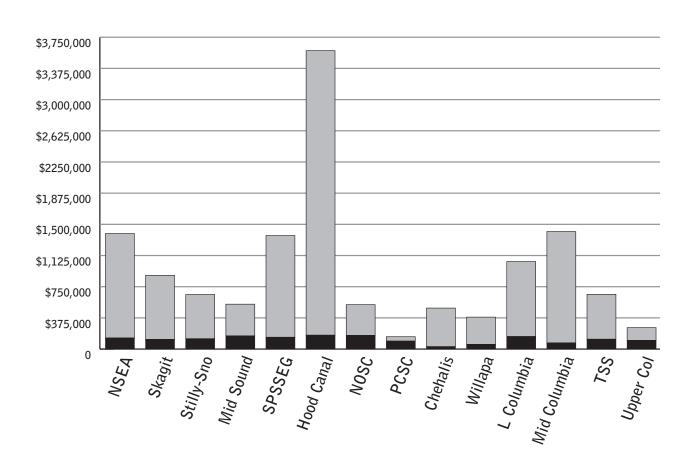
In addition to its fiduciary (contracting and accounting services) responsibility to the RFEG Program, WDFW reviews all RFEG project proposals to ensure compatibility with existing laws, WDFW policies, co-management, and other salmon recovery efforts conducted within a specific watershed.

### TABLES AND GRAPHS

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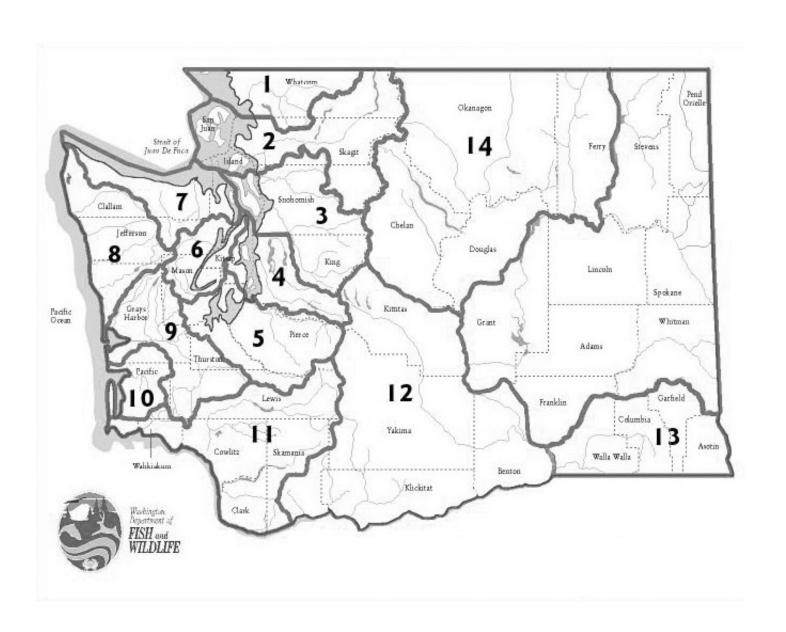
### REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM EXPENDITURES: ANNUAL REPORT FOR JULY 1, 2005-JUNE 30, 2006

Group	RFEG Fund	Volunteer Hrs	Vol Dollars*	<b>Funds Leveraged</b>	<b>Total Spent</b>
NSEA	\$133,501	31,032	\$465,480	\$790,300	\$1,389,281
Skagit	\$117,114	9,020	\$135,300	\$634,702	\$887,116
Stilly-Sno	\$124,309	8,970	\$135,126	\$396,684	\$656,119
Mid Sound	\$159,291	1,778	\$26,670	\$353,841	\$539,802
SPSSEG	\$142,051	851	\$12,765	\$1,209,885	\$1,364,701
Hood Canal	\$166,917	4,866	\$72,986	\$3,348,745	\$3,588,648
NOSC	\$164,730	3,726	\$55,890	\$313,372	\$533,992
PCSC	\$95,783	2,281	\$34,215	\$18,434	\$148,432
Chehalis	\$28,831	5,230	\$78,680	\$385,451	\$492,962
Willapa	\$56,100	550	\$31,920	\$296,100	\$384,120
L Columbia	\$150,754	1,212	\$18,180	\$883,119	\$1,052,053
Mid Columbia	\$74,172	1,176	\$17,640	\$1,321,374	\$1,413,186
TSS	\$118,445	2,368	\$35,513	\$504,295	\$658,253
Upper Col	\$104,149	145	\$2,175	\$151,427	\$257,751
Total	\$1,636,147	73,205	\$1,122,540	\$10,607,729	\$13,366,416



# REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP BOUNDARIES

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006



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

### REGION 3: STILLY-SNOHOMISH FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT TASK FORCE

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

#### REGION 4: MID-SOUND SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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

#### REGION 5: SOUTH PUGET SOUND SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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

#### REGION 6: HOOD CANAL SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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

#### REGION 7: NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

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

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### RFEG OVERVIEW

Established in 1990, Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA) works cooperatively with landowners, agencies, tribes, businesses, service organizations, students, schools, and community volunteers in order to increase involvement in community—based salmon recovery projects. The active and diverse 18—member Board of Directors has created a strong vision for NSEA, with a new Strategic Plan adopted in late 2005. The board and staff work closely together to efficiently manage operations, projects, and fiduciary responsibilities with 50 grants and contracts. NSEA launched new initiative in early 2006 to increase membership and partners in 2006, Business partners, volunteers, and donors significantly supported NSEA's mission through labor, cash, and in—kind donations. NSEA remains committed to the long—term work it will take to restore habitats to support sustainable wild salmon runs in Whatcom County.

#### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### SOUTH FORK NOOKSACK AND TRIBUTARIES

Landingstrip Creek

- Landowner Reed.: Riparian planting and livestock exclusion along 400 feet of stream.
- Landowner Ohern: Replaced failed stream crossing with bridge. Improving passage to over 10,000 ft of fish habitat.

#### Toss Creek

Toss Creek before

- Landowner –Walker. Removal of fish passage barrier. Improved fish passage to over 500 ft of stream and 20 acres of beaver ponds.
- Landowner –Gates. Removal of fish passage barrier. Improved fish passage to over 1000 feet of stream.





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#### NORTH FORK NOOKSACK AND TRIBUTARIES

#### North Fork Mainstem

■ Landowner – USFS: Placement of 3 ballasted LWD structures.

#### Kendall Creek

■ Landowners— Seid /King: Removal of two fish passage barriers and erosion control on 1500 feet of forest road. Improved fish passage to over 1000 feet of stream.

#### MAINSTEM NOOKSACK TRIBUTARIES

#### Tenmile Creek

- Landowners Tarr, Sinlan and Robson: 5000 feet of channel reconfiguration and LWD placement.
- Landowners Burns: Riparian planting along 300 feet of stream.
- Landowners -Sundstrom: Riparian planting and LWD placement along 1000 feet of stream.
- Landowner Gitts: Removal of fish passage barrier and riparian planting along 300 feet of Tenmile Creek Tributary. Improved fish passage to over 300 feet of stream.
- Landowner Meidal: Riparian planting along 400 feet of stream.

#### Deer Creek

- Landowner Larson: Riparian planting along 400 feet of stream.
- Landowner Splendora Huizenga: Riparian planting along 400 feet of stream.
- Landowner Barb Casort: Riparian interplanting along 500 feet of stream.
- Landowners Livestock exclusion along 500 feet of stream.

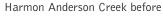
#### Starry Creek

■ Landowners — Heaps: Riparian planting along 200 feet of stream.

#### Bertrand Creek

- Landowner —Francisco: Riparian planting and LWD placement along 2000 feet of stream. Fish passage barrier removal on unnamed Bertrand Creek Tributary: Improved fish passage to 600 feet of stream.
- Landowner Lauren Clark: Riparian planting and LWD placement along 200 feet of stream.
- Landowner Dale Vander Giessen: LWD placement along 2000 feet of stream.







Harmon Anderson after

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#### FRASER RIVER TRIBUTARIES

Breckenridge Creek

■ Landowner -Kortlever: Fish passage barrier removal.. Improved fish passage to 600 feet of stream. Kinney Creek - Fish barrier removal. Improved fish passage to over 1500 feet of stream

**Fish Passage Projects:** NSEA has design and permit over 10 culvert replacement projects in 2005-2006.

#### MAINTENANCE

NSEA+WA Conservation Corps crews maintained 30+ previously planted NSEA riparian sites.

#### NSEA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

#### Students for Salmon: Elementary Education Program

- 41 classes located in 18 different schools throughout Whatcom County participated in NSEA's Students for Salmon educational program in 2005–2006. 850 students participated in classroom and field activities, learning about salmon, salmon habitat and planted trees for restoration projects
- NSEA received the Community Partnership award from the Bellingham School District.
- Participating schools included: Alderwood Elementary, Bellingham Cooperative School, Bernice Vossbeck Elementary, Carl Cozier Elementary, Central Elementary, Columbia Elementary, Happy Valley Elementary, Kendall Elementary, Lowell Elementary, Lummi Tribal School, Nooksack Valley Elementary, Northern Heights Elementary, Isom Intermediate, Parkview Elementary, and Sunnyland Elementary.

Middle School Service Learning Program: NSEA worked as a community partner with Shuksan and Whatcom Middle Schools to provide service learning projects through Project Connect. This program is a partnership program involving Western Washington University Education students, eighth grade students and several community partners. NSEA worked with 223 students who contributed a total of 618 hours restoring riparian habitats along Squalicum Creek.

**High School Streamside Science Program:** From October 2005 through March of 2006, NSEA worked with 28 high school students from Sehome, Squalicum, Bellingham, and Blaine High Schools .Students met at NSEA for six Saturdays and spent 470.5 hours learning about salmon and stream ecology, water quality, macroinvertebrates and the Squalicum Creek Watershed. Students apply their knowledge by designing and implementing a riparian restoration project.

#### High School Earth Service Corps

NSEA received grants from the Whatcom Community Foundation and the Alcoa Foundation to support the second year of the Earth Service Corps (ESC) program. The grant supported the expansion of the ESC program to Windward High School in Ferndale, as well as continued support to the Sehome ESC club. The two clubs have 30–35 members and receive support from the YMCA. The Sehome ESC club continued native planting projects and organized a Connelly Creek trail litter–pickup. The club continues to work on creating a school–wide recycling program and on bringing healthier food to the school. Windward's ESC club has been working to clean up litter and restore native vegetation to nearby Schell Creek.

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#### Higher Education: College Programs

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

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

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

**Adult and Community Education:** 82 presentations were made to a variety of groups, including Realtors, Elderhostel classes, Scouts, Rotary Clubs, Neighborhood Associations, and others.

Exhibits: Information about salmon, stream restoration, and NSEA was displayed at the Northwest Washington Fair, Bellingham Farmer's Market, Walk for Wildlife, WWU, Haggens, Shucking on the Spit (Semiahmoo), Ski to Sea, Birch Bay Days, and other local events.

#### Stream Stewards:

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

**River Stewards:** In summer of 2005, NSEA staff implemented a new partnership program with the United States Forest Service to provide education and outreach to recreational users on the Nooksack River. This program was staffed by interns and volunteers.

Liam Wood Flyfishing and River Guardian School
For the third summer, The Art, Science and Ethics of Flyfishing was offered through Huxley College. The class is



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a project of the Liam Wood Flyfishing and River Guardian School, implemented by NSEA with partner Western Washington University. Community supporters included: Patagonia, Sage Manufacturers, Fourth Corner Fly Fishers, H&H Outdoor Sports, Marlene Robinson and Bruce Brabec, Glenn Brackett, and David James Duncan.

The class took place from June 20–July 17, 2005. Huxley professor Dr. Leo Bodensteiner taught students about stream ecology, fish, and macroinvertebrates; about flyfishing arts, materials and methods; about ethics and stewardship issues during in–class lecture, and held lab sessions for casting practice and tying flies, as well as field trips to local watersheds to fish and study stream ecology.

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

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

**Salmon Summit:** NSEA supported conference planning, registration, displays and speakers for the Nooksack Recovery Team's Annual Salmon Summit Conference, held at the Best Western Lakeway, involving over 350 attendees on November 17th, 2005.

#### MONITORING

Water Quality: Students from Western Washington University monitored water quality in three streams: Terrell Creek; McClellan Creek; and the west tributary of Bertrand Creek. Due to poor water quality, Terrell Creek has experienced recent fish–kills in the creek and recreational shellfish harvest closures at the mouth of the creek in Birch Bay. Both McClellan and Bertrand Creek's west tributary have been converted into a series of small ponds that are used for agricultural water on local farms. Water quality data was collected on both streams to determine whether these ponds could be used as coho rearing habitat.

**Smolt Traps:** During the spring of 2005, NSEA worked with Western Washington University students to operate smolt traps on two streams: Silver Creek and Terrell Creek. The traps were designed to catch all outmigrating fish in each stream with the goal of determining the species composition of each stream. Students, volunteers and NSEA employees checked the traps twice daily during the time they were operating.

**Spawner Surveys:** During October 2005 to January 2006, NSEA staff, interns and volunteers from Bellingham Technical College worked with WDFW staff to survey twelve lower Nooksack tributaries. The survey data collected includes counts of live and dead fish by species, length measurements, number of redds, and sex of the fish. DNA tissues were collected from chinook and coho to determine where various stocks of salmon are spawning, as well as to compare genetic differences between salmon in the river.

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#### PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

Project Name	RFEG Funds	#Volunteer Hours	Volunteers @\$15.00/hr	Other Funds	TOTAL
Alcoa Foundation- Support for Earth Service Corps				1,899	1,899
Alcoa Foundation - Environmental Internships				32,532	32,532
ALEA - Water Quality Monitoring				9,272	9,272
ALEA – Support of Students for Salmon				9,453	9,453
ALEA – Habitat Restoration Materials				21,715	21,715
ALEA – Fish Monitoring				7,126	7,126
Birch Bay State Park - Education/ Presentations				750	750
BP Cherry Pt. Refinery – WA Cons. Corps Support				4,597	4,597
BP Cherry Pt Refinery – Terrell Creek Restoration				14,363	14,363
BP Cherry Pt. Refinery – Students for Salmon				9,572	9,572
Bertrand Creek W.I.D. – Water Quality Monitoring				9,004	9,004
DOE CCW – Lower Nooksack Trib Restoration				52,281	52,281
DOE CCW – Squalicum Creek				10,309	10,309
DOE CCW – South Fork Trib Riparian Restoration				29,415	29,415
DOE CCW Tenmile Creek – Riparian Restoration				46,792	46,792
Ducks Unlimited/NRCS- Marietta Restoration				22,688	22,688
Flyfishing Program – Liam Wood River Guardians				441	441
Georgia Pacific – Students for Salmon					
WDFW – Landowner Incentive Projects				2,000	2,000
				69,177	69,177
NFWF - Community Salmon Fund				25,357	25,357
NFWF – Stream Stewards Program				15,892	15,892
NFWF – Washington Conservation Corps Match				12,684	12,684
NOAA – Ocean Trust – Squalicum Creek				16,428	16,428
Nooksack Recovery Team Support				7,115	7,115
Pacific Salmon Commission – WCC Support				63,626	63,626
Patagonia Foundation – WWU Flyfishing Program				8,926	8,926
NFWF- Pioneers in Conservation - Fish Passage				8,906	8,906
SRFB – Nooksack Road Erosion Control				5,480	5,480
SRFB – USFS North Fork Nooksack LWD				13,416	13,416
SRFB – Family Forest Fish Passage				12,001	12,001
SRFB – Fish Passage Assessment				23,296	23,296
Terrell Creek Community Fund				612	612
USFS – NF Nooksack Instream Monitoring				10,000	10,000
USFS – Nooksack River Stewards				16,710	16,710
USFWS – 10 Mile Riparian Restoration				18,882	18,882
USFWS- Partners for Fish & Wildlife				61,313	61,313
USFWS- Jobs in the Woods: North Fork Tributaries				939	939
WDFW S- RFEG Funds- Administration	79,879				79,879
WDFW- RFEG Funds- Ed, Volunteer, Monitoring	24,051				24,051
WDFW- RFEG Funds- Habitat Rest Generic	29,571				29,571
Whatcom Comm. Foundation – Stream Stewards	,			3,979	3,979
Whatcom Co. – AmeriCorps: WA Service Corps				36,483	36,483
NSEA Community Volunteers		15732	235,980	,	235,980
AmeriCorps – WA Conservation Corps Crew		10200	153000		153000
AmeriCorps – WA Service Corps		5100	76,500		76,500
Cash Donations			. 2,300	66,805	66,805
Donated Services				8064	30,003
TOTAL	133,501	31,032	465,480	790,300	1,389,281
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#### NOOKSACK SALMON ENHANCEMENT ASSOCIATION

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dr. Bert Webber, President, Professor (Retired), Western Washington University

Philip Humphries, Vice President, Retired Boeing Engineer/Marketing Analyst

Tina Mirabile, Treasurer, Wetlands Specialist/Wildlife Consultant

Gregg Dunphy, Secretary, Fisheries Biologist, Lummi Natural Resources, Lummi Nation

Dr. David Beatty, Professor of Zoology (Retired) University of Alberta

Jeremy Brown, Commercial Fisherman

Analiese Burns, Biologist/ Landscaper Designer, Common Ground Environmental

Hester L. Dingle, Student on Board, Sehome High School

Criss Forslund, Science Teacher, Bellingham School District

Brady Green, Aquatic Biologist and Environmental Consultant, DB Green Environmental Consulting, Inc.

Dr. David Hooper, Western WA University Biology Dept.

Phelps McIlvaine, Principal, Saturna Capital

Tom McLaughlin, CEO, Seafood Producers Coop

Dr. Michael McRory, Retired Dentist

Bret Simmons, Attorney at Law

Ian Smith, Student on Board, University of Washington

Julia Spencer, Student on Board, Western Washington University

Tom Thornton, Owner, Cloud Mountain Farm

#### STAFF MEMBERS

Wendy Scherrer, Executive Director

Darrell Gray, Project Manager

Rachel Vasak, Program Director

Kenneth Bronstein, Finance Manager

#### NSEA Stream Restoration Technicians

Dave Barker, John Hymas, Leif Swanson, Dan Weeks

#### Washington Conservation Corps/AmeriCorps placements

Individual Placements: Martha Moritz, Julia Spencer, Maya Groner

Crew Supervisors: Isaiah Webb

Crewmembers: Justin Lamb, Rose Woofenden, Jennnifer Gosselt, Kyle Parker, Mike Misch

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

2445 East Bakerview Road, Bellingham, WA 98226

Phone: 360–715–0283 Fax: 360–715–0282 Web site: www.n–sea.org Email: info@n–sea.org



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#### WRIA 1- Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

Number of barriers removed and miles of fish habitat opened up in WRIA 1

10 barriers repaired, opening up more than 3 miles of habitat

Feet/miles of streambank revegetation	30,600
Feet/miles of fencing	900 ft
Number of screening projects	0
Number of carcasses placed for nutrient enhancement.	0

Alcoa-Intalco Works Alcoa Foundation Allied Arts

#### **NSEA Business Partners:**

American Alpine Institute Anchor Environmental LLC. Applied Digital Imaging Arlis's Restaurant Arrowac Fisheries Bank of America Barker's Woodchipping Service Barnes and Noble Base Camp Adventures Bellewood Acres Bellingham Business Journal Bellingham Cold Storage Bellingham Health and Fitness Bellingham Tennis Club Blue Earth Monuments & Design Blue Moon Salon Blythe Plumbing and Heating Bornstein Seafoods Boundary Bay Brewery BP Cherry Point Refinery **BP** Foundation Brenthaven Caitac USA Corporation Callen Construction Co.

Cantrell and Associates

Cascade Natural Gas

Chocolate Necessities

Cloud Mountain Farm

Chuckanut Gallery

Chmelik, Sitkin and Davis, P.S.

Cascade Cuts

Community Food Co-op Curt Mayberry Farms Dakota Art Dancing Dog Tile & Clay Works Data-Link West Dibble Engineering Dr. Steven Kimberly, D.M.D. Edaleen Dairy Everybody's Store Fairhaven Frames Fairhaven Red Apple Fairhaven Runners FishKing Processors Fourth Corner Nurseries Geiger Engineering Geo Engineers Georgia-Pacific Foundation Great Harvest Bread Co. Greenfrog Nursery Growsource, Inc. H & H Farms H and H Outdoor Sports Hannegan Seafoods Hardware Sales Harkness Construction Harmony Farms Harmony Motorworks Hohl Feed and Seed **Humboldt Automotive** Icy Strait Seafoods, Inc.

Coastal Geologic Services

Joe's Garden Johnson Outdoors Jones Engineers Inc. La Fiamma Langara Fishing Adventures Legoe Bay Fisheries Lewis and Robertson LFS—Lummi Fisheries Supply Ludtke Pacific Trucking Management Services NW, Inc. McEvoy Oil Co. Mountain Veterinary Hospital Metcalf, Hodges, and Co. Microsoft Milanos Moore Fish Company Moss Adams Mount Baker Ski Area Mount Baker Vineyards Natural Health Clinic Nielsen Bros, Inc. Northwest Smoking and Curing Pacific Marine Exchange Pastazza Patagonia People's Bank Pepper Sisters

REI-Recreational Equipment Inc. Rice Insurance Roy and Simmons Sage Manufacturing Saturna Capital Corporation Starbucks Stir Crazy Mama's Artworks Sunbreak Nursery The Bagelry Tony's Coffees and Teas Tree Frog Farm Trident Seafoods Trillium Corporation U&Me Dance Co. Urban Forester Vanboven Gravel Village Books Vis Fisheries, Inc Wal-Mart Foundation Whatcom Ed. Credit Union Whidbey Island Bank Wilder Construction Company Wilson Motors Windermere Realty Wisner-Otto Medical Clinic

#### **NSEA Organization Partners**

Bellingham Bay Rotary
Bellingham Benefits LLC
Bellingham Sunrise Rotary
Bellingham Technical College
Black Mountain Forestry
Columbia Neighborhood Association

FishAmerica Foundation Fourth Corner Fly Fishers Meridian School District Northwest Women Flyfishers University of Washington Western Washington University

Piper Jaffray

Puget Sound Energy

Redden Marine Supply

Rasmussen's Marine Electric

Whatcom Community College Whatcom Community Foundation Whatcom County North Rotary Whatcom Environ. Services Whatcom Land Trust Whatcom Volunteer Center

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### MISSION STATEMENT:

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

#### RFEG OVERVIEW

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

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

Focal areas in which we concentrated work this year were the Nookachamps, Day Creek and Finney Creek watersheds. In each of these watersheds, a number of restoration actions took place this year. Projects ranged from large scale riparian restoration projects, building fences, installing large woody debris and community planting parties. SFEG has launched outreach and education programs which are targeted to the particular community living in each watershed. By specifically tailoring our education programs to these communities we intend to increase engagement and action with local landowners and volunteers. SFEG also spent particular time investigating additional problems that exist in these watersheds, in order to identify future restoration projects. Assessing habitat above fish passage problems was a priority throughout the Skagit Watershed, not just these three watersheds. In all, 79 miles of habitat were assessed in order to identify and prioritize future restoration actions.

#### SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2005-2006:

Habitat Enhancement:	Riparian plantings	10,630 teet
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Riparian maintenance 50 acres
Riparian fencing installed 1,973 feet
Instream habitat improved 1.5 miles
Isolated habitat reconnected 2.25 miles
Habitat assessment above blockages 79 miles

Nutrient enhancement 9,976 carcasses

Community Outreach: Community education 1,253 individuals

Volunteer involvement 9,020 hours

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### LOWER SKAGIT WATERSHED

*River Awareness Month:* Funding from the Skagit Community
Foundation and USBancorp allowed SFEG to sponsor River Awareness
Month at the Children's Museum of Skagit County. Nearly 2,000 children visited the museum during the month of October learning about the Skagit River and its salmon through exhibits and activities.

*Trumpeter Stream Stewards:* Volunteers living in the Trumpeter Creek Watershed in the City of Mount Vernon remained active conducting stewardship projects to ensure that salmon continue to thrive in the urban creeks that flow through their neighborhood.

#### NOOKACHAMPS WATERSHED

Riparian Restoration: Riparian restoration projects were conducted at six sites in the Nookachamps watershed. Projects were primarily funded by a Centennial Clean Fund Grant from the Washington State Department of Ecology. Volunteers, staff and school groups all contributed to revegetation efforts in order to reduce water temperature for salmonids.



Cade and Levi Younger proudly show off the tree they planted along Day Creek.

**Nookachamps Stream Stewards:** A new Stream Stewards program was launched in 2005 for Nookachamps watershed residents with Centennial Clean Water Funds from the Department of Ecology. Twelve Stream Stewards attended nine workshops and field trips to learn what they can do to be good stewards of the watershed and take actions to help keep their watershed clean and healthy for salmon.

#### DAY CREEK COMMUNITY WATERSHED

Anderson Creek Habitat Enhancement: A partnership with Seattle City Light is restoring 125 acres of land protected around Anderson Creek and Ross Island Slough within the Day Creek Community Watershed. SRFB funds are being used to develop a restoration plan for Anderson Creek in partnership with City Light. In the mean time community volunteers have begun a riparian planting effort along Ross Island Slough.

*Iron Mountain Ranch Habitat Enhancement:* At the far east end of the Day Creek Community Watershed, Seattle City Light has permanently protected 235 acres along 2 miles of the Skagit River. This property is adjacent to prime Chinook spawning habitat and in desperate need of riparian restoration in areas. The Skagit Land Trust holds the conservation easement for City Light and a local farmer continues to lease land that is currently not being restored. This project is an excellent example of how farming can continue in partnership with restoration efforts. Volunteers and staff restored nearly 2,000 feet of riparian area during this past year and restoration will be continuing for the next several years. Restoration funds are primarily coming from SRFB.

*Morgan Creek:* A grant from the Resource Action Council through the US Forest Service funded an assessment of Morgan Creek to determine restoration options. A restoration plan has been developed to fix a fish passage problem and enhance stream habitat. Grants have been requested to fund this future project.

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**Day Creek:** A feasibility study funded by the SRFB in partnership with the US Forest Service and National Park Service was completed. The study identified and prioritized actions within the lower Day Creek watershed that would enhance salmon habitat. The projects include installation of large woody debris, planting riparian areas, correction of fish passage barriers and removal of riprap. Several riparian projects have already been started along Day Creek with local landowners and one fish passage project is funded on Day Creek Slough.

**Outreach and Education:** Funding from the National Fish and Wildlife's Community Salmon Fund has provided an excellent opportunity to engage local landowners in learning more about the creeks in the Day Creek Community Watershed. Workshops and field trips have been held to share information and help the community learn more about the valuable resources within their watershed. The hope is that through this community outreach project, more landowners will become interested in taking actions to protect and enhance the Day Creek watershed.

#### FINNEY CREEK WATERSHED

Habitat Restoration: SFEG partnered with the US Forest Service to continue to restore degraded habitat in Finney Creek. A new partnership was formed with Olympic Resource Management, a local timber manager. Funding from SRFB and Department of Ecology's Centennial Clean Water Fund were used to install roughly 250 logs in a one- mile reach of Finney Creek. As of June 2006, our partnerships have restored 4 miles since 1999 for this incredibly valuable lower Skagit tributary. Additional restoration efforts are planned for the summer of 2006 with new timber partners.

**Outreach and Education:** An outreach and education program began in the Finney Creek watershed for the first time utilizing new funding from Department of Ecology. Workshops and field trips are scheduled to occur throughout the summer in order to engage community members in habitat restoration efforts and teach them stewardship actions that will help protect and enhance their watershed for salmon.

#### MIDDDLE SKAGIT WATERSHED

Childs Creek Habitat Enhancement: With funding from The Mountaineers Foundation, the Trout and Salmon Foundation and the FishAmerica Foundation, SFEG completed enhancement work on Childs Creek. Large woody debris was installed through a 600-foot section of creek and volunteers planted the riparian area to improve habitat for coho salmon.

**Red Creek Habitat Enhancement:** SFEG assisted the Upper Skagit Indian Nation to install large woody debris on Red Creek to improve habitat for coho salmon.

Wiseman Creek Feasibility Study: SFEG worked with a large group of partners including WDFW, Skagit County, NRCS and the Skagit River System Cooperative to develop restoration alternatives for Wiseman Creek. Six alternatives have been developed and will be taken to the public for input later this summer. Restoration actions are needed to improve habitat for coho and steelhead.



Two Earthwatch Institute volunteers measure a culvert that is a barrier to fish passage as part of a survey to assess salmon habitat above man-made barriers to fish passage.

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Brickyard Creek Stream Stewards: SFEG continued to work with volunteers living in the Brickyard Creek watershed in Sedro Woolley on stewardship and enhancement projects.

#### SAUK AND SUIATTLE WATERSHEDS

Berry Patch Fish Passage Improvement: The Landowner Incentive Program funded a project to improve fish passage on this Sauk River tributary. A culvert which blocked fish passage was removed and the stream banks replanted by volunteers.



SFEG works with the Upper Skagit Tribe to install large woody debris in Red Creek.

**Suiattle Slough Fish Passage Improvement:** SFEG partnered with the Skagit River System Cooperative, WDFW and the US Forest Service to replace a dysfunctional fishway off the Suiattle River. The fishway was replaced with log weirs opening 3,100 square meters of excellent off channel habitat to salmon.

#### **UPPER SKAGIT WATERSHED**

*Nutrient Enhancement:* SFEG continued to work with volunteers from the Fidalgo Fly Fishers to help with nutrient enhancement this year. Fidalgo Fly Fisher volunteers distributed 9,976 carcasses from the Marblemount State Hatchery back to natural streams. Other partners contributing to these nutrient enhancement efforts include: the USFS, Wild Steelhead Coalition, Puget Sound Anglers, and ALEA Volunteer Cooperative Funds.

*Cascade River Tributaries:* SFEG received funding through the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program to work with landowners in the Cascade River Community Park to fix 4 fish passage barriers. During the summer of 2006, SFEG will completely remove two culverts and replace two other culverts in order to provide better fish access to this Cascade River tributary.

**Salmon and Eagle Education:** A new partnership with WDFW, US Forest Service and the Upper Skagit River Eagle Festival resulted in SFEG volunteers giving Hatchery Tours during the peak of eagle viewing season. These tours are meant to give visitors an opportunity to learn about salmon and how healthy salmon populations are vital to Skagit River eagle populations. Over 400 people attended the tours.

#### SAMISH WATERSHED

*NP Creek Fish Passage Improvement:* A long planned project to correct a fish passage problem and provide better access to 1.5 miles of habitat was finally implemented in 2005. Funding from the SRFB and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation made this project possible, along with a willing property owner. Several thousand coho salmon are expected to utilize this reconnected habitat.

*Ennis Creek Habitat Restoration:* SFEG continued to work with the Whatcom Land Trust to restore the historic path of Ennis Creek through 50 acres of protected wetland in the Upper Samish Watershed. SFEG is working with Whatcom County to implement this project in 2006. Riparian restoration efforts have already begun with staff and volunteers. Funding is provided by SRFB, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Landowner Incentive Program. Thousands of adult coho salmon will benefit from this restoration project.

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#### **ESTUARY AND NEARSHORE:**

**Thatcher Bay:** Funding was received through the San Juan Salmon Recovery Process to study the restoration potential of Thatcher Bay on Blakely Island. SRFB funds will be used to assess the removal of wood waste deposited by an old saw mill. Removal of the wood waste may make it possible for valuable eelgrass to reestablish itself in the near shore area providing juvenile rearing habitat for salmonids. Pacific Lutheran University and the University of Washington are both major partners on this project.

**Deepwater Slough:** SFEG has partnered with the WDFW and the Skagit River System Cooperative to restore native vegetation to portions of Deepwater Slough where dikes were removed in 2000 reestablishing estuary habitat. While funding for invasive species control and planting from the SRFB expired in 2005, SFEG received a new grant from the US Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program to install additional native plants and to continue invasive species control.

**Storm water Education:** SFEG worked with four local Girl Scout troops, two Skagit County youth groups, and one high school class to educate participants about storm water, non-point source pollution, and what individuals can do to reduce pollution to Puget Sound. Between October 2005 and June 2006, 99 students stenciled 144 storm drains in La Conner and Anacortes with the stencil "Dump no Waste- Drains to Bay" in order to raise awareness in these communities and to decrease non-point source pollution. In all, participants contributed 73.5 hours of volunteer service to storm water awareness.

#### ASSESSMENT AND MONITORING

*Habitat Assessment:* Funding from the Pacific Salmon Commission's Southern Endowment Fund was used to assess habitat conditions above man-made fish passage barriers in high priority areas throughout the Skagit Watershed. Over 79 miles of streams were walked by SFEG staff and volunteers to assess habitat conditions above 54 fish passage barriers. Barriers were then prioritized based on the amount and quality of habitat that exists above them. This habitat assessment project fills a major data gap for the Skagit Watershed. With over 900 barriers that have been identified and 150 of these barriers thought to be a high priority, this inventory supplies a priority list of which projects should be the highest priority for salmon.

**Volunteer Monitoring:** Four monitoring workshops were held, and 86 volunteers were trained to assist SFEG staff with spawner surveys, habitat assessment, and biological monitoring. Monitoring has become an essential component of all restoration projects. Documenting results from projects provides much needed data to funders and partner organizations. We continued to nurture a partnership with the Earthwatch Institute to train their volunteers from around the world to assist with collecting data.

Skagit River Stewards: During its final year, the Skagit River Stewards program engaged volunteers who contributed 335 hours for training and collecting biological samples at restoration sites. This program has been a successful partnership with the Forest Service and North Cascades Institute to conduct monitoring to track the health of tributaries to the Wild and Scenic Corridor of the Skagit River. Volunteers have primarily collected aquatic macroinvertebrates to track stream health, but must also be trained to collect a variety of other physical parameters in order to make the biological data useful.

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#### PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars (@ \$15.00/hr)	Other Funds	Total
Administration	42,847	1,377	20,655	18,908	82,410
Anderson Creek		106	1,590	23,773	25,363
Berry Patch		64	960	4,377	5,337
Nutrient Enhancement		146	2,190	2,000	4,190
Cascade River Park		0	-	506	506
Childs Creek		27	405	9,126	9,531
Day Creek Watershed		543	8,145	67,449	75,594
Deepwater Slough		25	375	4,883	5,258
Edgewater		0	-	4,412	4,412
Education & Outreach	17,832	1,877	28,155	9,491	55,477
Ennis and NP Creeks		114	1,710	110,884	112,594
Finney Creek		76	1,140	153,084	154,224
Fundraising		84	1,260	_	1,260
General Restoration		85	1,275	4,051	32,690
Habitat Assessment		445	6,675	32,438	39,113
Iron Mountain Ranch		394	5,910	29,294	35,204
Parson Creek		0	-	5,833	5,833
Thatcher Bay		62	930	331	1,261
Marblegate Slough		14	210	1,618	1,828
McElroy Slough		50	750	4,363	5,113
Monitoring	17,708	1,367	20,505	7,692	45,905
Morgan Creek Assessment		38	570	4,196	4,766
Nookachamps Riparian Restoration		761	11,415	55,696	67,111
Native Plant Nursery		384	\$5,760	6,512	12,272
Project Development WDFW-06	27,363	779	11,685	_	39,048
Samish Riparian		91	1,365	4,845	6,210
Spartina Removal		0	_	9,168	9,168
Suiattle Slough		10	150	17,109	17,259
WCC/WSC Americorps	11,364	0	-	-	11,364
Wiseman Creek		101	1,515	42,663	44,178
TOTAL	\$ 117,114	9,020	\$ 135,300	\$ 634,702	\$ 914,479

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### NAME OF RFEG: SKAGIT FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006:

Arn Thoreen, President, Retired Commercial Fisher
Dan Ballard, Vice President, Retired Insurance Agency Owner
Stephen Hopley, Treasurer, Port of Anacortes Commissioner
Jim Johnson, Secretary, Retired High School Teacher
Deene Almvig, Retired Educator
Lyn Bishop, Elementary Teacher
Bob Carey, The Nature Conservancy -Skagit River Program Manager
Ned Currence, Nooksack Tribe - Fisheries Biologist
Bruce Freet, Environmental Mediator
Jeanne Glick, Printwise, Inc.-Owner
Dick Knight, Retired Environmental Engineer
Ken Urstad, Retired Forester

#### STAFF MEMBERS:

Alison Studley, Executive Director Lucy Applegate, Outreach Coordinator Perry Welch, Project Manager Erin Donahue, Finance Manager

#### RESTORATION STAFF INFORMATION

Kevik Rensink, Restoration Technician Coordinator
Bob Keller, Restoration Technician
Dwayne Massey, Restoration Technician
Joel Breems, Restoration Technician
Reid Armstrong, Restoration Technician
Danny Cain, Restoration Technician through Washington Conservation Corps
Liz Leavens, Education Assistant through Washington Service Corps

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group PO Box 2497 – 407 Main Street, Suite 212

Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Phone: 360-336-0172 Fax: 360-336-0701

Web site: www.skagitfisheries.org Email: sfeg@skagitfisheries.org



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#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

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

#### RFEG OVERVIEW

The Task Force is a 501(c)(3) public non-profit community-based and volunteer-supported organization with a dedicated base of members, volunteers, local business partners and donors, and private and public landowners. We cooperate with federal, State, county and city agencies, tribes, non-profit organizations, Conservation Districts, community colleges, local school districts, scout troops and fishing clubs. These alliances provide an invaluable source of donated labor, in-kind services, and cash match to support our many projects and activities in WRIA's 5, 6 and 7. The Task Force continues to expand its opportunities in habitat restoration and enhancement activities for volunteers to include invasive plant surveys, river and beach cleanups, macroinvertebrate monitoring, and on-the-job training for AmeriCorps members and college interns. Task Force staff coordinated nearly 7,700 hours of community volunteers and students in the past year to create long-lasting results for future generations.

#### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### Riparian Revegetation and Instream Projects

#### Portage Creek Wildlife Area, Arlington

A 157-acre stream and wetland complex on the outskirts of Arlington, this was an old dairy farm purchased for passive recreation and flood water storage by Snohomish County in 1996. Staff and materials were funded through a \$15k Starbucks Neighborhood Parks Program grant, NRCS paid for permitting and plants; Snohomish County Surface Water Management (SWM) provided large woody debris (LWD) and Snohomish County Parks Department (Parks) provided placement of LWD, site maintenance, planting prep, and volunteer project support. Edmonds Community College students and interns performed vegetation and baseline monitoring. All told, 60 pieces of LWD and 5 engineered large woody debris (ELWd) structures were placed along 1,800 feet of streem, 5,100 native trees and shrubs were planted by 268 volunteers who provided 1,457 hours of work at a value of \$21,855.

Landowners: Snohomish County; easement owned by National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS).

Partners: Parks, SWM, NRCS, City of Arlington, Stillaguamish Tribe, Washington State Department of Corrections Community Volunteer Crew (WSDOC), Edmonds Community College, Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) AmeriCorps crew, Starbucks.

Feet of Stream Restored: 1,800 feet Riparian/Wetland Area Planted: 4 acres

**#Plants Installed:** 5,100

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#### Snoqualmie River Floodplain Restoration, Duvall

McCormick Park is a 175 acre park owned by the City of Duvall. With more than a mile of river front property covered in Himalayan blackberry and reed canary grass, and directly connected to the King County trail system, this is restoration heaven. The Task Force has received two grants of \$25k each from King Conservation District and USFWS, respectively. In two large plantings, nearly 3,000 plants were installed along 2,200 linear feet of river, and over 2.5 acres. Volunteers have donated 445 hours at a value of \$6,675.

Landowner: City of Duvall Partners: City of Duvall, WCC crew, KCD, USFWS

# Plants: 2,965 # Acres: 2.5 Feet of Stream Restored: 2,200

#### Tychman Slough, Sultan

Tychman Slough is an active floodplain side channel located within the braided reach of the Skykomish River that provides important spawning, rearing, migration, and refugia habitat for Chinook, chum, coho, and pink salmon. Funded by a Snohomish Basin Community Salmon Fund grant through NFWF and the SRFB, the Task Force worked with a private landowner to remove invasive plants, intall fencing, re-establish riparian buffers, and place 30 pieces LWD for habitat complexity. Maintenance activities in the summer, and a volunteer planting in the fall brought out lots of volunteers who donated 278 hours at a value of \$4,170.

Landowners: Palmer/Leong Project Partners: Leong, WSDOC, WCC crew

Feet of Stream Restored: 900 feet # Plants Installed: 1,595 Area Planted: 1 acre

#### Buck Island, Monroe

Buck Island is a 90 acre floodplain at the confluence of Woods Creek and the Skykomish River in the heart of the city of Monroe. The Task Force has worked with the City since 2001 to control noxious weeds, restore riparian vegetation, increase plant species diversity, and re-establish a multi-layered canopy with a conifer component. The Task Force received a \$23,600 grant from USFWS for staff time and materials.

Landowner: City of Monroe # Plants Installed: 1,500 understory conifer trees; 800 riparian plants

Partners: City of Monroe, WSDOC, WCC crew, Snohomish & Monroe Schools / USFWS

#### Canyon Creek, Fall City

Members Club at Aldarra is a private golf club with Canyon Creek running through it. The Task Force is working with the Club to restore vegetation in the lower floodplain of the property, place instream LWD to create stream sinuousity and channel diversity, and improve fish passage over an old dam. Funded by a King County Community Salmon Fund grant, the Task Force brought 130 volunteers that planted 2,000 native trees and shrubs along 900 feet of stream. Next year, the fish passage barrier will be addressed and the LWD will be placed.

Landowner: Members Club at Aldarra Partners: Members Club at Aldarra, WCC crew / NFWFCSF

Number of Plants Installed: 2,000 Feet of Stream Restored: 900



Professional fish-tossers from Pike Place Market join other Task Force volunteers in our nutrient enhancement efforts.

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#### **EDUCATION**

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

One highlight of our educational and outreach efforts is the Restoration Education for Young Stewards (REYS) program, an integrated series of eight lessons about habitat restoration and watershed ecology. REYS is both inquiry-based and project-based, and for the 2005/2006 school-year, was one of only three programs the State funded through the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction under the Natural Science, Wildlife and Environmental Education Grant Program. REYS offers students the opportunity to learn about salmon biology, conservation, and ecology, and then provide an opportunity for students to aid in the restoration of salmon habitat within their local communities. Students collect and analyze observational data, perform controlled investigations using models, create keys to sort organisms by their physical characteristics, and engage in a capstone project where they design and implement their own experimental stream restoration projects.

This year, eleven classrooms (ranging from 4th through 10th grades) throughout Marysville, Arlington, and Snohomish School Districts, participated in REYS. That's nearly 300 students, all learning about salmon and watershed ecology. Some of their restoration projects were designed to test questions such as: "Do plants grow better when they are near their own species, or near lots of other plant species?" or, "How do different amounts of mulch, or the spacing of plants, affect the growth of reed canary grass?" Ultimately, students applied what they learned by lending a hand in the Task Force's restoration efforts: this spring they planted 1,200 native trees and shrubs along local salmon-bearing streams including Jones, Krueger, Woods, and Portage Creeks.

Besides our year-long program, other classrooms elected to participate in the many other educational opportunities offered by the Task Force. Students from Lynnwood and Mariner High Schools, and from Kent Prairie, Evergreen, and Allen Creek Elementary Schools, spent a day in the dirt, helping to plant trees and restore salmon habitat in their community. In addition, the Task Force engaged students from Liberty Elementary in Marysville, as well as several local Girl and Boy Scout troops and home-school groups, in handson learning about watersheds and water quality. Overall, we worked with 27 classrooms from 12 local schools, reaching over 725 students.

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



Young stewards help to restore salmon habitat in their community. The Task Force worked with over 700 students during the 2005-6 school year.

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#### Assessment, Monitoring, Research

College interns and dedicated volunteers have supported a large part of the monitoring and assessment activities that the Task Force has performed this year. With a second Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, staff and volunteers have busied themselves creating project site and survey maps for an increasingly varied monitoring program. This included an intense effort to inventory populations of Japanese knotweed along the tributaries to the Stillaguamish River, and these data were later used to guide control efforts. Volunteers and interns have also performed culvert assessments for fish barriers and vegetation monitoring at project sites.

#### River and Beach Cleanups

Urged on by a Stillaguamish River resident, the Task Force established a new program of river and beach cleanups last year. With a new grant of \$5k from the Tulalip Charitable Foundation, and cooperation from Snohomish County Parks, Snohomish County Public Works, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the City of Mukilteo, the Task Force held two beach cleanups, one Jetty Island cleanup, and one Stillaguamish River cleanup. The cleanups were a big hit with volunteers, attracting 460 hours of donated labor at a value of \$6,900, while collecting over 1,000 pounds of garbage, including an entire bathroom set (tub, toilet and sink). With the establishment of the Snohomish-Camano Nearshore Cooperative Committee, the Task Force looks forward to engaging more citizens through beach expos and guided nature walks in coordination with beach cleanups.

#### Community Outreach

This past year, the Task Force worked to establish and organize the Snohomish-Camano Nearshore Cooperative Committee, a group of local agencies and organizations interested in the nearshore environment. Our mission is to work together to expand stewardship and education in the Snohomish / Camano nearshore environment. Our goals are to: Support and enhance the missions of member organizations; Expand educational opportunities for the public; Connecting people to volunteer opportunities; and Fostering stewardship where the water meets the shore.

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

#### **Nutrient Enhancement**

The Task Force continued its carcass distribution program with the sustained assistance of the Stillaguamish Tribal Hatchery. Staff and volunteers distributed more than 270 chum carcasses in Harvey, Kunz and Rock Creeks, returning over 3,000 lbs. of marine-derived nutrients to streams otherwise blocked to the salmon's return due to fish passage barriers. The Task Force plans to continue the carcass distribution program this fall.



Students build models to conduct a scientific investigation on how trees affect erosion in the Task Force's REYS Education Program.

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PROJECT	Total Volunteer Hours	Total Value Vol Time	RFEG Funds	Other Funds	Total
Administration	0	\$0.00	\$4,513.00	\$0.00	\$4,513.00
Executive Director	911	\$13,665.00	\$10,936.00	\$653.00	\$25,254.00
Volunteer & Education Coordinator	59	\$885.00	\$9,192.00	\$0.00	\$10,077.00
Project Equipment	0	\$0.00	\$1,524.00	\$232.00	\$1,756.00
Program Infrastructure	0	\$0.00	\$34,249.00	\$6,204.00	\$40,453.00
Project Manager	0	\$0.00	\$11,501.00	\$0.00	\$11,501.00
Habitat Restoration Technician (WCC IP's)	0	\$0.00	\$1,669.00	\$17,965.00	\$19,634.00
Grant Writing	0	\$0.00	\$4,586.00	\$0.00	\$4,586.00
Lead Entity Process	0	\$0.00	\$2,014.00	\$81.00	\$2,095.00
RFEG/CAB Meetings, Reports, etc.	0	\$0.00	\$3,708.00	\$0.00	\$3,708.00
Fundraising	0	\$0.00	\$2,684.00	\$0.00	\$2,684.00
Program Management Totals	970	\$14,550.00	\$86,576.00	\$25,135.00	
Education – General	0	\$0.00	\$2,253.00	\$0.00	\$2,253.00
Krueger Creek	272	\$4,080.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,080.00
Classrooms/Presentations	112	\$1,680.00	\$7,405.00	\$0.00	\$9,085.00
Jones Creek	448	\$6,720.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$6,800.00
Portage Creek Wildlife Area Signs	0	\$0.00	\$1,686.00	\$0.00	\$1,686.00
Restoration Education for Young Stewards	400	\$6,000.00	\$179.00	\$38,183.00	\$44,362.00
Quilceda/Allen Education	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,057.00	\$7,057.00
Education Program Totals	1232	\$18,480.00	\$11,523.00	\$45,320.00	\$75,323.00
Habitat – General	0	\$0.00	\$5,633.00	\$0.00	\$5,633.00
Buck Island	984.5	\$14,767.50	\$1,152.00	\$9,852.00	\$25,771.50
Portage Creek Stewardship	2999	\$44,985.00	\$128.00	\$52,983.00	\$98,096.00
Maxwelton Creek Revegetation	0	\$0.00	\$315.00	\$0.00	\$315.00
Nursery	141	\$2,115.00	\$1,650.00	\$15,763.00	\$19,528.00
Hecla's Wetland	114	\$1,710.00	\$293.00	\$0.00	\$2,003.00
Sno-Isle Stream Habitat	72	\$1,080.00	\$7,710.00	\$50.00	\$8,840.00
Stillaguamish Stream Habitat	1	\$15.00	\$1,202.00	\$29.00	\$1,246.00
WCC Crew	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
Maxwelton Creek Culvert	0	\$0.00	\$5,030.00	\$16,450.00	\$21,480.00
Canyon Creek/Aldarra Golf Club	130	\$1,950.00	\$0.00	\$15,920.00	\$17,870.00
Blue Slough	0	\$0.00	\$326.00	\$13,527.00	\$13,853.00
Stilly Knotweed CWMA	0	\$0.00	\$148.00	\$0.00	\$148.00
Woods Creek	123	\$1,845.00	\$1,317.00	\$13,718.00	\$16,880.00
City of Snohomish – Habitat	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,954.00	\$1,954.00
Tychman Slough Riparian Restoration	455	\$6,825.00	\$0.00	\$50,300.00	\$57,125.00
Smokes Farm	0	\$0.00	\$32.00	\$0.00	\$32.00
River & Beach Cleanups	460	\$6,900.00	\$0.00	\$5,135.00	\$12,035.00
Quilceda Creek-Mustach	85	\$1,275.00	\$0.00	\$933.00	\$2,208.00
Snoqualmie River-Duvall	445	\$6,675.00 \$0.00	\$0.00	\$36,541.00	\$43,216.00
West Fork Woods Creek-Gerdes	0		\$0.00	\$307.00	\$307.00
Quade Creek	384	\$6,336.00	\$165.00 \$0.00	\$4,944.00	\$11,445.00 \$599.00
Eagle Creek Lord Hill	0 91	\$0.00 \$1,365.00	\$0.00	\$599.00 \$548.00	\$1,913.00
Habitat Program Totals	6484.5	\$97,843.50	\$25,101.00		
Monitoring – General	0	\$0.00	\$26.00	\$0.00	\$26.00
Stilly Monitoring	0	\$0.00	\$18.00	\$0.00	\$18.00
Stilly Knotweed Monitoring & Control	243.5	\$3,652.50	\$0.00	\$32,472.00	\$36,124.50
NF Stillaguamish ELJ Wood Budget Monitoring	0	\$0.00	\$1,320.00	\$23,965.00	\$25,285.00
Monitoring Program Totals	243.5	\$3,652.50	\$1,364.00	\$56,437.00	\$61,453.50
Carcass Distributions	40	\$600.00	\$614.00	\$239.00	\$1,453.00
Carcass Distributions Totals	40	\$600.00	\$614.00	\$239.00	\$1,453.00
Fish Production – General	0	\$0.00	\$353.00	\$0.00	\$353.00
Everett Net Pen	0	\$0.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$120.00
Fish Production Totals	0	\$0.00	\$473.00	\$0.00	\$473.00
SSFETF ORGANIZATION TOTAL	8,970	\$135,126	\$125,651	\$396,684	\$657,461

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#### DIRECTORS AND AFFILIATION

Dave Ward, President Snohomish County Surface Water Management;

Pilchuck Audubon Society; Snohomish County Trustee of the Cascade Land

Conservancy

Franchesca Perez, Vice President Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians; RFEG Coalition Member

Suzi Wong Swint, Treasurer Snohomish County Surface Water Management Adult Education; People

For Puget Sound

Andy Loch, Secretary City of Bothell Surface Water Management; Woods Creek Resident

Kip Killebrew, Director Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians, Fisheries Biologist

#### STAFF

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Cara Ianni Volunteer & Education Coordinator 425-328-6415 cell phone cara@stillysnofish.org email

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### OUR VISION

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



"South King County Boy Scouts Planting along Newaukum Creek and Tributary"

#### HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

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

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

Since 1991 Mid Sound has completed more than 265 projects, including streambank fencing, native tree and shrub plantings, fish blockage removal, wetland restoration, fish enhancement and monitoring, education and training events. Each of these projects serve as a catalyst to building community partnerships in Puget Sound. Together, these partnerships contribute invaluable time and resources for the recovery of salmon in the Pacific Northwest. It is our belief that community-based salmon recovery develops educational opportunities for volunteers to learn about, and become part of the interwoven complexities of our environment.

#### HABITAT PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

Kelsey Creek Fish Passage & Bank Stabilization - Bellevue, WA (WRIA 8)

This project started with the removal of invasive Himalayan Blackberry and Japanese Knotweed. The streambanks were laid back and 40 pieces of large woody debris were installed along with spawning gravel and cobble. Banks were stabilized with coir fabric lifts. As part of this project, a passage-blocking weir was made passable, which re-opened additional habitat to migrating fish. This project was made possible through the cooperation and support of the Glendale Country Club (landowner), the City of Bellevue (permitting, data collection, planting design & community involvement) and Interlake High School (planting design and implementation). The project was funded through the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation/King County Community Salmon Fund and Glendale County Club.

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Middle Green River/Kanaskat Riparian Restoration - King County, WA (WRIA 9)

This project is part of a large-scale restoration effort on the Green River, conducted by King County, and will help protect important salmon habitat on an area of over 150 acres between River Miles 58 and 60. The Green River supports spawning and rearing habitat for Pacific Salmon, including Chinook, Chum, Coho, Sockeye and Pink, as well as Steelhead and Cutthroat Trout and possibly Bull Trout. The protection of this watershed, ints tributaries and its riparian area in crucial for the survival of those species. The transfer of property from private to public ownership through a WA State Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant has made such a large-scale restoration effort possible.

Mid Sound is under contract with King County to control Himalayan Blackberry on the site and to replant the wetland and riparian area with native trees and shrubs. This project has been accomplished with the assistance of King County, neighboring landowners, Wabash Farms, Washington Conservation Corps, Stewardship Partners, community volunteers and the WA SRF Board.

#### Newaukum Creek Off-Channel & Wetland Habitat - Enumclaw, WA (WRIA 9)

This project was the second phase of habitat restoration to occur on this horse farm, and focused on enhancing off-channel Coho habitat in a spring-fed ditch flowing into Newaukum Creek. Specific activities included the removal of one culvert, the replacement of another, addition of large woody debris into the ditch, riparian area planting and livestock exclusion fencing. The project was made possible through a grant from the Fish America Foundation & the Brunswick Public Foundation, local area Girl Scouts and volunteers from the community. Additionally, materials (LWD and rock) were donated by Wabash Farms, a native plant nursery located in Enumclaw.

#### May Creek Basin Plan Implementation - Renton, WA (WRIA 8)

In the fall of 2005, Mid Sound took leadership on this large-scale stream restoration plan for May Creek. Specific actions during this initial phase of the project will be directed by the Final Adopted May Creek Basin Action Plan, April 2001. This project directly involves more than 50 streamside landowners between State Route 900 and Coal Creek Parkway in Renton, WA. With this large number of neighboring streamside properties involved, the consideration and combination of many different interests is crucial to the success of the project. Restoration activities need to be planned so as not to negatively impact downstream properties.



"Finished Instream Project on Kelsey Creek - Hole #6 at Glendale Country Club"

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While May Creek supports populations of various salmonids (Sockeye, Coho and Chinook salmon, as well as Cutthroat Trout), streamside landowners face concerns such as heavy flooding and erosion of streambanks. Mid Sound's first step in this project will be to create a valley-wide conceptual restoration plan, building upon the Basin Plan and existing data. This plan will guide all future restoration activities in the valley, while ensuring that negative downstream impacts are avoided. To date, Mid Sound has held 1 public meeting with residents of the May Creek corridor, and has retained the services of a professional engineering firm to develop this conceptual plan. Our goal is to implement at least 1 restoration project in the Valley during 2007. This project is funded through King County Water & Land Resources Division.

#### Fish Flings 2005

Mid Sound operates this volunteer-based project with a focus on community involvement, outreach and public relations. Currently, we are not able to implement the project on a scale that would actually increase nutrients from placed carcasses in the watershed. However, we have found that this project is a highly sought after volunteer event, and that it offers us the opportunity to educate the community about salmon ecology and the importance of having naturally produced fish in the streams and rivers of the Pacific Northwest.

In the fall of 2005, Mid Sound, along with our partners, distributed 24,768 pounds of Chinook and 9,541 pounds of Coho throughout the Green River Watershed. This task was accomplished with the support of a King County Rural Community Partnership grant, Wabash Farms & Sylvia Feder (truck donations), the King Conservation District, Enumclaw High School students, Girl & Boy Scout groups, and a host of community volunteers and Mid Sound boardmembers.



"Underplanting with conifers along the Green River"

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#### PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total
Administration	70,630.71	324	4,860.00	3,373.69	78,864.40
Habitat Restoration	62,521.18	1,128.5	16,927.50	334,803.65	414,252.33
Outreach & Education	24,144.18	325.5	4,882.50	15,663.85	44,690.53
Training	1,995.00				1,995.00
TOTAL	\$ 159,291.07	1,778	\$ 26,670.00	\$ 353,841.19	\$ 538,802.26

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Miller President, Trout Unlimited, East Kitsap County (WRIA 15) Salmon Habitat

Restoration Committee Member

Al Barrie Vice-President, Trout Unlimited, Green/Duwamish River (WRIA 9) Steering

Committee Member

David Burger Secretary/Treasurer, Stewardship Partners
Paul Dorn Salmon Recovery Coordinator - Suquamish Tribe

Rob Fritz King County DOT
Bill Lee Puget Sound Anglers

Robert Johnson Washington Wildlife Federation

Willy O'Neil In Memorium

#### STAFF

Executive Director Troy Fields
Project Manager Andrew Pavone

Megan Matthews Outreach/Volunteer Coordinator

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

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#### ADVISORY COUNCIL

Senator Slade Gorton - Preston, Gates & Ellis, LLP

The Honorable Ken Jacobsen - Chair,

Senate Natural Resources & Parks Committee

Merle Hayes – Tribal Elder, Suguamish Tribe

Rollin Fatlund - President, RF&A

Business & Public Affairs Consulting

The Honorable Margaret Pagelar,

Seattle City Councilmember

Bill Robinson

The Honorable Cheryl Kincer,

Port of Bremerton Commissioner

Gene Colin – CEO Ferguson Construction

Kay Gabriel – Manager, Government

Affairs, Weyerhaeuser, Company

Lee Keller – Managing Partner, APCO

The Honorable Tim Clark – President, Kent City Council



### REGION 5 - SOUTH PUGET SOUND SALMON ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### RFEG OVERVIEW

SPSSEG covers a large, diverse area with several counties, watersheds and opportunities for salmon restoration. The area includes the Puyallup, Nisqually and Deschutes River systems, their respective tributaries and 100's of small streams and creeks draining directly to south Puget Sound. From July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006, we completed 17 fish passage and inventory projects, conducted and/or participated in seven education projects and have 14 projects in progress.

In SRFB Round 6, nine SPSSEG projects were funded, including four FFFPP grants. SPSSEG has submitted seven proposals for SRFB Round 7 funding consideration.

A nine member board provides a wealth of technical expertise and institutional memory for this 15 year-old RFEG. The group has well-established partnerships with Pierce County, Thurston County, Mason County, Kitsap County, Pierce Conservation District, Thurston Conservation District, Mason Conservation District, Green Diamond Resources and Squaxin Island, Nisqually and Puyallup Indian Tribes. There are four full time SPSSEG employees, a full-time WCC intern and usually another three to five interns from our local colleges in Olympia and Tacoma.

Numerous 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.

#### RIPARIAN PLANTING

Adams Creek (Completed) – Revegetation of a fish passage barrier replacement, completed summer 2005, occurred this past fall. The project in whole provided an additional one mile of upstream habitat for coho, chum and cutthroat.



Mashel River ELJ #2, layer 3 of 6.



Mashel River ELJ #2, post-construction.

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Horn Creek Revegetation (Completed) — Planting the riparian area of Horn Creek provided cover, sediment control, temperature control and regulation, large woody debris recruitment, and riverside development. This creek is located in the McKenna Reach, the highest priority category for restoration in the WRIA 11 recovery strategy. This project paid for staff to implement a riparian planting with the help of community volunteers and school children. A 100 foot buffer on Horn Creek and a 50 foot buffer in the surrounding wetlands was planted in spring 2006. Partners on this project were the Nisqually Indian Tribe, Nisqually Stream Stewards and the Nisqually River Education Project, with funding provided by USFWS.

Lower Yelm Creek Restoration (Completed) – This project improved rearing and spawning habitat by adding wood to the creek to scour pools, sort and retain gravel, slow bank erosion and provide cover for juvenile salmonids. A pond/wetland area - filled with sediment by a debris flow several years ago - was reconstructed and a logjam/cascade in a canyon - which made salmon passage to the upper basin impossible - was modified to restore salmon access to over 10 miles of stream and tributary habitat. An existing fence was improved to ensure livestock exclusion from the creek and riparian areas improved by planting barren areas and inter-planting vegetated areas. Additional planting and monitoring occurred in 2005 while actual construction was in 2004.

### IN-STREAM HABITAT PROJECTS

Lower Mashel Enhancement (Completed) – This project is located on the lower 0.7 miles of the Mashel River, which includes vital spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook, coho, pink, steelhead and cutthroat trout. This project included the modification of 0.5 miles of a washed-out road to prevent future fine sediment input and the addition of seven log jams for the purpose of gravel sorting, pool formation, bank erosion reduction and to increase cover. An intensive monitoring study is continuing for another two years to measure the effectiveness of the LWDs. So far, we have seen an increase of 50% in salmon smolt in the river around the log jams, which are also collecting more woody debris. Construction was completed 2005 and monitoring will continue through 2007. WRIA 11

**Little Skookum Valley LWD (above Eich Road) (Completed)** - Seven small log jams and pocket pools within the ditched channel were constructed summer 2006. This is the third of three projects in Little Skookum opening up fish passage and creating habitat in this ecosystem. WRIA 14

Little Skookum Valley Riparian (Completed) – This project improved stream habitat on Skookum



McKenna culvert barrier.



McKenna culvert post-construction.

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Valley Creek for salmonids and other resident species through the implementation of large woody debris (LWD) placement, riparian fencing and riparian plantings upstream of the Eich Road Fish Passage Project (completed in summer 2004). Construction was completed summer 2006. WRIA 14

Mashel Restoration (In progress) – Thirteen engineering log jams will be placed in the river to create pools, large woody debris collection, velocity reduction and bank stabilization. Partners include the Town of Eatonville, the Nisqually Indian Tribe, USFWS, Pierce County, Pierce County Conservation District, SRFB and FishAmerica. Two and a half miles of river will be enhanced, including the city's park. Construction will be completed fall of 2006 with revegetation occurring winter 2007. WRIA 11

### FISH PASSAGE PROJECTS

**96th Street Oxbow (Completed)** – This project installed a 6' diameter fish friendly culvert on the Puyallup River levee and open up historic oxbow and backwater habitat on the right bank mainstem Puyallup River (river mile 14.5). Partners included Pierce County and Pierce Conservation District. WRIA 10/12

**Huge Creek-Schaller Bridge Project (Completed)** – A FFFPP project funded in 2006 removed a partial barrier culvert and replaced it with a full spanning pre-fabricated steel beam bridge, opening up three miles upstream. The existing culvert was in of three sections - all that is remaining of an old, washed out road grade – and was clogged with debris, creating several hydraulic drops and high velocities. The culvert was also impacting natural stream functions including the transport of LWD and gravel. Construction was completed in summer 2006. WRIA 15

**Lynch Creek (Completed)** – This project is funded by FFFPP and replaced a salmon barrier culvert on a tributary to Skookum Inlet. Completion was summer 2005. WRIA 13

Malaney Creek Fish Passage (Completed) – This project replaced a small 4' culvert with a 20' box culvert, restoring historical upstream access for several species of salmonids. The existing culvert has been a significant salmon barrier for several years. This construction was completed summer 2006. SPSSEG partnered with Mason County on this project. WRIA 14

McDonald Creek (Completed) – This is another FFFPP project which replaced two salmon barriers on a tributary to Skookum Creek. Construction was completed summer 2005. WRIA 15

McKenna Creek Fish Barrier Replacement (Completed) – This project was a partnership between the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group (SPSSEG), the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP), Nisqually Indian Tribe, and a private small forest landowner in order to restore access to critical off-channel habitat for salmonids in McKenna Creek, a tributary to the Nisqually River at RM 20. By replacing an undersized and perched blockage with a larger diameter half-arch culvert, 120 feet of McKenna Creek and a 12-acre spring fed wetland at its headwaters were opened up as habitat for over-wintering juvenile salmonids. This project was completed summer 2006. WRIA 11

Minter Creek Watershed Fish Passage Project (Completed) - This project employs a watershed based approach to the selection and removal of three fish passage barriers in the Minter Creek watershed. Barriers were replaced with structures that allow migration of all species and life stages and allow transport of sediment, LWD and high flows. Accessible habitat is utilized by chum, Coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout. The lower barrier was

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replaced in summer 2004 and the other two were replaced in summer of 2005. This project opens nearly ten miles of spawning and rearing habitat. WRIA 15

Rocky Creek-McColm Culvert Replacement (Completed) – A FFFPP funded project replaced a barrier culvert and opened up 8,600 feet habitat upstream on the main stem, along with additional 4,300 feet of habitat on the western tributary of Rocky upstream of this culvert. Construction completed in summer 2006. WRIA 15

Rocky Creek-Robinson Culvert Replacement (Completed) – A sister project to the McColm culvert – the two driveways are side by side - opened up 8,600 feet habitat upstream on the main stem, along with additional 4,300 feet of habitat on the western tributary of Rocky upstream of this culvert. Construction completed in summer 2006. WRIA 15

Perry Creek Fish Passage Project (Completed) – This project removed two fish barriers on a small tributary to Perry Creek and replaced them with fish friendly alternatives. During the winter run, salmon were in parts of the river they hadn't been able to access in 80 years. Two above average rain seasons resulted in head cut upstream of the culvert and compromised the five log weirs. Repair, funded in part by RFEG base funding, will remove the existing log weirs, place appropriate onsite wood into the banks, bolster a slide with large boulders and place fish gravel in stream to improve habitat and reduce future head cut. This work will be completed late summer 2006. WRIA 14

**Sportsmen's Oxbow (Completed)** – This project was a partnership with Pierce Conservation District and Pierce County. SPSSEG coordinated permits, engineering and project implementation. The project is located on the Puyallup River, replaced a blocking culver through the dike and opened up habitat for salmonids. Construction was completed summer 2005. WRIA 10/12

Hiawata Fish Passage (In Progress) – This project will install a pre-stressed concrete bridge structure on this small drainage that supports chum, Coho, coastal cutthroat and resident fish. The downstream channel will need to be re-graded and the channel alignment reconstructed to provide sufficient flow depth for fish passage during low flow. The remainder of the stream channel will receive LWD & boulders to assist in facilitating natural channel formation. This project is scheduled for construction in summer 2007. WRIA 14

Skookum Inlet Estuary Restoration (In Progress) - Several tons of concrete beach armoring and pilings will be removed; an old stream crossing made with timbers will be replaced with a 30' timber bridge to allow for better fish passage, stream continuity and tidal inundation. The freshwater stream habitat will be treated with LWD and a small 2-acre wetland/salt marsh area will be re-established with native vegetation. Many salmon species rely on these small nearshore/freshwater areas for transition to saltwater (especially Chinook and chum). Partners include DOE and Mason Conservation District. This project will also improve fresh water access for juvenile and adult salmonids and is scheduled for construction summer 2007. WRIA 14

Ohop Valley Restoration (In Progress) – An extensive study and assessment of the Ohop Valley watershed, in partnership with the Nisqually Indian Tribe, has identified a multi-faceted plan to restore the entire Ohop Valley south of the lake. Projects submitted for funding include road decommissioning, stream realignment, riparian revegetation, wetland reconnection and increased salmon habitat. Progress continues to raise additional funding in order to construct this restoration by 2010. WRIA 11

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### ASSESSMENT, MONITORING, RESEARCH

WRIA 13 Prioritization and Development Project (In Progress) - Ten projects will be prioritized and selected from the WRIA 13 culvert inventory that was completed summer 2005. The current SRFB funded culvert inventory identifies and evaluates anadromous barrier culverts on private roads and driveways. The top ten projects have been selected and four have received 30% engineered designs, cost estimates, landowner information, GIS maps and site photographs. We are continuing to move forward on engineering for an additional five projects.

WRIA 11/12 Nearshore Assessment (In Progress) – This project will assess nearshore habitat between the Nisqually River and Point Defiance covering the last substantial shoreline in South Puget Sound that has not been assessed and filling a crucial data gap. Goals are: restoration recommendations for the project reach detailing current habitat conditions of specific sites and the predicted response of the sites to restoration; a prioritized list of recommended restoration projects based on benefit to salmon; preliminary engineering designs and landowner agreements for estuarine restoration at two to three specific project sites; and, compilation of new and existing data into an accessible database. Partnerships include the Nisqually Indian Tribe, Burlington-Northern Railroad and Pierce County. In summer 2006, we begun data collection of the shoreline, eelgrass and beach profiles and will continue with this collection through 2007.

WRIA 13 Nearshore Restoration Design Project (In Progress) – Assessments in WRIA 13 nearshore have been done by other entities; we will build on these assessments to identify priority projects in critical areas for salmon habitat enhancement and restoration. These will focus on restoring nearshore processes including restoring sediment and wood recruitment, estuaries and other shoreline processes. Up to five projects will be selected and designed to a 30% level by an experienced and licensed engineer.

WRIA 14 Nearshore Project Development (In Progress) – Assessments in WRIA 14 nearshore have been done by other entities; we will build on these assessments to identify projects that provide the greatest benefit to salmon, high likelihood of success and landowner willingness. These projects may include bulkhead removal, wood and gravel recruitment, restoring pocket estuary function, dam and levee removal, tidal culverts and others. Two projects have already received funding - one a bulkhead removal and the other an estuary restoration.

EPA Mashel Monitoring (In Progress) – A supplemental grant which supports ongoing monitoring of the Mashel watershed; funds are used to conduct data collection and research over the remaining two years of the study.

### **EDUCATION**

### Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail (Ongoing)

The trail provides public access to one of the South Sounds healthiest chum runs. Taylor United Shellfish Company donated a 20-year land lease for a half-mile interpretive trail along Kennedy Creek (WRIA 14). Over 44 volunteer trail guides educate school groups and visitors. During the 2005 season, the trail saw 3,014 visitors on four weekends and 2,650 school children on weekday field trips. We were able to complete the final two stations of the trail with an ALEA grant in 2005. SPSSEG partners with Mason Conservation District, Taylor Shellfish, South Sound Green and Green Diamond Resources in the management of the trail.

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## Kids with Conservation Knowledge (Ongoing)

SPSSEG assists Mason Conservation District with teaching salmon ecology classes at their annual Kids with Conservation Knowledge (KWICK) program. Over 300 Mason County 3rd graders take part in the two day program located at the Little Skookum Shellfish Growers farm near Shelton.

### Education and Outreach (Ongoing)

SPSSEG board, staff, partners and volunteers are always looking for ways to provide salmon education and outreach. Staff and volunteers were involved in several great opportunities including Kids with Conservation Knowledge, South Sound Green, Roy Salmon Homecoming Days, sponsorship of SalmonPeople by Peter Donaldson and the Nisqually Water Festival. We use these funds to update our website, create and distribute newsletters and organize our annual meeting/general membership meetings.

### Generic Projects (Ongoing)

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

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

# PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

	Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent	State	Federal
4	Lower Mashel Restoration			-	7,580	7,580		
5	Lower Yelm Creek Restoration		42	\$630	12,469	13,099		
6	Nisqually Off-Channel Project			-	10,493	10,493		
7	Mashel Restoration		132	1,980	126,811	128,791		
8	Minter Creek Fish Passage			-	575,951	575,951		
9	Perry Creek Fish Passage	4,037		-	3,763	7,800	2,386	1,652
19	Little Skookum Valley: Riparian			-	2,579	2,579		
20	Malaney Creek Fish Passage			-	18,408	18,408		
21	WRIA 13 Prioritization & Dev			-	11,612	11,612		
22	Perkins Creek Fish Passage			-	744	744		
23	WRIA 11/12 Nearshore			-	45,792	45,792		
24	WRIA 13 Nearshore			-	15,376	15,376		
25	Adams Creek		29	435	55,918	56,353		
26	WRIA 14 Nearshore			_	14,979	14,979		
27	Hiawata Creek			_	26,000	26,000		
28	Skookum Inlet				8,145	8,145		
29	Goat Hill			_	4,674	4,674		
31	Rocky Creek			_	244	244		
F10	McKenna Creek			_	8,719	8,719		
F11	Barrier Evaluation			_	63	63		
F2	Frye Cove				(1,929)	(1,929)		
F3	Lynch Creek				43,165	43,165		
F4	McDonald Creek				60,848	60,848		
F6	Wynne				42,461	42,461		
F7	Schaller-Huge Creek				30,419	30,419		
F8	Robinson-WF Rocky Creek				5,678	5,678		
F9	McColm-WF Rocky Creek				5,704	5,704		
A3	Volunteer/Education/Outreach				3,704	3,704		
NF4	Schneider Creek				2,916	2,916		
NF5	Sherwood Berm				5,420	5,420		
N1	EPA Mashel Monitoring			_	12,852	12,852		
PC2	Moorelands Estuary				602	602		
P1	Sportsman Oxbow				5,202	5,202		
P7	Ohop			-	10,505	10,505		
U8	Horn Creek				7,753	7,753		
U9	Silver Creek				2,967	2,967		
Generi	ic Projects						State	Fed
	Office Operations	111,836	108	1,620		113,456	25,273	86,563
	Project Management	14,522		-		14,522	2,596	11,926
	Project Engineering	.,		-			,	,0
	Education & Outreach	9,059				9,059	3,406	5,652
	Project Construction	,,00,		_		-	-,.00	-/002
	Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail	2,597	540	8,100	21,451	32,148		2,597
	Totals	\$ 142,051	851	\$ 12,765	\$ 1,209,885	\$ 1,364,701	\$ 33 661	\$ 108,39

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

### BOARD

Joe Williams, President, Retired WA Dept. of Ecology Terry Wright, Vice President, NWIFC Dan Wrye, Treasurer, Pierce County Water Programs Marc Wicke, Tacoma Power Blake Smith, Puyallup Tribe of Indians Suzy Lutey, USFWS Bill Graeber, Stillwater Sciences

### STAFF

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### CONTACT INFORMATION

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Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

In the time period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006, the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group:

- Partnered with Hood Canal Institute (HCI) in hosting Environmental Explorations, where over 900 students from the Hood Canal region spent the day at Belfair State Park
- Partnered with Hood Canal Institute and DNR for Students in the Watershed, where 400 4th graders are taught by high school students in the Tahuya Watershed



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- Community Outreach by staff and interns at Oysterfest and Allyn Days and Kitsap Water Festival
- Held Day Camp and Overnight Salmon Adventure Camps for 32 Students
- Took part in the development of the Pacific Northwest Salmon Center providing Board participation, staff support and logistics for the 3rd annual Wild Salmon Hall of Fame which was held on September 24th, 2005 at the Kitsap Conference Center. The 2005 Recipient was Wendy Scherrer of Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association
- Created the Anreadamous Challenge, which challenges all 550 students at Belfair Elementary to read. For five weeks, each student became a salmon (an anadromous fish) traveling their full life cycle and migrating on the mural developed. North Mason High School science teacher Karen Lippy and her students at the Hood Canal Institute were instrumental in the development and implementation of the reading program.
- Completed the 7th year of the Dewatto Nutrification Project – conducting adult Coho surveys, dumping carcasses according to the study, operating 10 smolt traps, and analyzing benthic sampling
- 7th year of the Union River / Tahuya River
   Summer Chum Project Partnering with
   WDFW George Adams Hatchery Returns to
   the trap have been as follows:

2000 - 744

2001 - 1,491

2002 - 872

2003 – 11,916

2004 - 5,976

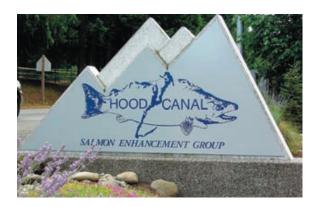
2005 - 1,987

2006 - 2,837

- Released another 111,000 Summer Chum fry into the Tahuya River
- Counted 34 Summer Chum and 4 redds in the Tahuya last week of August 06!









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- Distributed over 5,000 carcasses in WRIA 15
- Completed the 11th year of our all species Salmon Restoration on the Hama Hama River partnering with LLTK, WDFW, NMFS and USFWS
- Completed the Lower Union River Restoration Study Centennial Clean Water Grant contracting for water quality sampling and analysis. Other Partners included Mason Conservation District and WS Department of Ecology, and the Mason County Department of Health
- Continued working with Department of Ecology on the Molluscan Study Phase I which included collaborating with the Hood canal Dissolved Oxygen Program Coordination Committee, Legislators, DNR, USS, Tribes and Shellfish growers.
- Completed the Shine Creek Estuary Bridge partnering with USFWS, IAC, NOAA, NRCS
- WDOT completed the Skobob Bridge on Hwy 106 a project we provided design and permitting
- Assisted and funded the emergency repair of Bear Creek, tributary of the Union River, after heavy rains
- Completed the Big Quilcene Bank Stabilization Project
- Completed the Big Quilcene Dike Removal Project
- Design and Permitting for the Little Quilcene Estuary Restoration
- Completed Blacksmith Creek Culvert Replacement Project
- Developed a database for four existing flow gages on four rivers in a partnership with Kitsap County PUD and the USGS.
- Conducted weekly dissolved oxygen sampling at 15 sites along the Hood Canal with many partners, including Ecology, UW, WDFW, USGS, HCCC, DOH, Skokomish Tribe, USFWS, PSAT and the Naval Underwater Warfare Center
- Partnered with HCCC in monitoring evaluation protocols in the Cascades of Oregon and Washington
- Provided summer internships for eight Hood Canal region high school students and graduates in 2005
- Our staff and interns continued the gridding and baseline monitoring of several Hood Canal rivers and their tributaries
- Awarded 7 \$1,500.00 Scholarships to students in the Hood Canal Watershed
- Participated in the Puget Sound Shared Strategy Program
- Participated and supported the Skokomish Tribal Nation Canoe Journey
- Participated and supported the S'Klallam Tribal Nation Canoe Journey

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# PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

Project #	Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Match	Total Spent
1	WDFW #03-1292 Admin	\$28,549.90	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,				\$28,549.90
2	WDFW #05-1706	\$138,367.27					\$138,367.27
3	USFWS #134101J016					\$40,932.77	\$40,932.77
4	USFWS #134104J002					\$182,457.56	\$182,457.56
5	NFWF #2004-0054-000 HC Wild Salmon IV					\$34,279.59	\$34,279.59
6	NFWF #2004-0178-000 HC DO Restoration				\$23,000.00	\$36,299.30	\$59,299.30
7	NFWF #2005-0012-003 Belfair State Park					\$30,000.00	\$30,000.00
8	NFWF #2005-0085-000 Quilcene Estuary					\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
9	UW/APL HCDOP #978561- Year 1				\$341,000.00		\$341,000.00
10	IAC #05-1608 Belfair State Park				\$128,237.00		\$128,237.00
11	IAC FFFPP #04-1130R Blacksmith				\$4,004.41		\$4,004.41
12	IAC #02-1523 Ghost Net Removal		106	\$1,590.00	\$23,750.00		\$25,340.00
13	IAC #01-1426 R LeBar Rd Decommis - USFS						\$0.00
14	ECY #C0500079 Hood Canal Molluscan Phase 1				\$69,767.12		\$69,767.12
15	WDOT - Skobob Ck Bridge					\$1,400,000.00	\$1,400,000.00
16	ECY #G0300094 Lower Union River Restoration				\$47,045.06	\$10,818.14	\$57,863.20
17	IAC #04-1648 Big Quilcene Dike Removal				\$144,772.00		\$144,772.00
18	IAC #00-1070 Quilcene Bank - Colyott(Simon)					\$8,583.62	\$8,583.62
19	USFS Title II #NS-DG-11060900-001 Quil Simon				\$166,700.00	\$11,543.33	\$178,243.33
20	IAC Little Quilcene #04-1647R				\$15,478.96		\$15,478.96
21	IAC #02-1475R Shine Estuary Restoration				\$248,387.76	\$9,623.13	\$258,010.89
22	NOAA #NFFKH300-5-00233 Shine Bridge					\$64,619.37	\$64,619.37
23	NRCS #68-0546-5-010 Shine				\$194,984.00		\$194,984.00
24	Experience Salmon Camp 2005				\$4,270.18		\$4,270.18
25	Experience Salmon Camp 2006 thru June 30 06				\$3,420.06		\$3,420.06
26	Students in the Watershed - HCI Project 2006				\$1,422.81		\$1,422.81
27	Environmental Explorations 2006 May		683	\$10,245.00	\$9,125.23		\$19,370.23
28	Volunteer Hours July 31, 2005		143	\$2,145.00	\$9,000.00		\$11,145.00
29	Volunteer Hours January 31, 2006		282	\$4,230.00	. ,		\$4,230.00
30	Volunteer Hours April 30, 2006		378	\$5,670.00			\$5,670.00
31	Volunteer Hours June 30, 2006		1,138	\$17,070.00			\$17,070.00
32	Union Summer Chum Trap Aug 2005 thru Oct 05		2,136	\$32,036.25			\$32,036.25
33	Quilcene Tidelands Acquisition				\$10,223.67		\$10,223.67
	Totals	\$166,917.17	4,866	\$72,986.25		\$1,904,156.81	\$3,588,648.49

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### HCSEG BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Burgess, President – Retired Attorney Dan O'Neal, Vice President – Retired Attorney Dick Evans, Treasurer – SAIC at Keyport Dewayne Vetter, Secretary – Retired Welder Al Adams, Board Member - Retired Dentist Mike Dully, Board Member - Engineer Rick Endicott, Board Member – Long Live the Kings Bob Hager, Board Member – Retired Boeing Space Program Vice President Michelle Licari, Board Member – Olympic College Earl Sande, Board Member - Earl's Marine Bob Sund, Board Member – Retired School Administrator

#### STAFF

Neil Werner, Executive Director Dan Hannafious, Assistant Director / Co-manager HCDOP Eileen Palmer Sande, Office Manager Chris Daniel, Education and Outreach Coordinator Renee Rose-Scherdnik, Water Quality Specialist / HCDOP Matt Korb, Shellfish Biologist / Molluscan Project Mendy Tarwater, Wildlife Biologist, Admin & Field Assistant / Dewatto Nutrification Teresa Sjostrom, Environmental Biologist / Ghost Nets and Steelhead Project Nate Ackley, Projects Field Supervisor Julie Easton, Personnel Assistant Sean Hildebrandt, Field Specialist

#### CREW INFORMATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

Interns July 2005

Denison, Michael Hildebrandt, Sean Kauhanen, Peter - High School Lippy, Adriana - High School Masters, Benjamin - High School

Rommen, Ethan Smith, Kelsie

Bayard, Nick

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group P0 Box 2169 22881 NE State Route 3 Belfair, WA 98528 (360)275-3575 (360)275-0648 Fax E-mail: Eileen@hcseg.org Website: www.hcseg.org



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#### MISSION STATEMENT

North Olympic Salmon mission is to protect, restore and increase stocks of salmon from North Olympic Peninsula watersheds promoting community understanding, cooperation, and volunteer stewardship.

#### RFEG OVERVIEW

As a non-profit community-based salmon recovery organization, North Olympic Salmon Coalition provides funding, guidance, technical assistance and ongoing support for salmon habitat restoration and enhancement. Our region includes the watersheds along the coast of the Strait of Juan de Fuca, extending from the Hood Canal Bridge west to Neah



Kevin Long gives students history on Summer Chum spawning in Chimacum Creek before heading off to survey and sample the fish—October 2005.

Bay. Important partnerships are maintained with WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Jefferson and Clallam County Conservation Districts, a variety of agencies, schools, community organizations, volunteers and landowners. Our work has taken a watershed scale approach through our cooperative work on WDFW Wildlife Areas in Morse, Snow-Salmon and Chimacum Creeks and in Salt Creek. NOSC and our partners have been active in establishing conservation areas and are providing assessment funds, staff time and community outreach on WDFW owned parcels and private lands. This year NOSC was awarded a ninth grant from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The Deep Creek project will provide funds in a new partnership with US Forest Service to augment road decommissioning in an important watershed in WRIA 19. NOSC sponsored a National Civilian Community Corps crew for the third year in partnership with Admiralty Audubon Society. Our education program expanded in partnership with Olympic Park Institute

#### FISH ENHANCEMENT

During the past year, NOSC volunteers continued their efforts to restore ESA listed summer chum in three watersheds: Salmon, Chimacum and Jimmycomelately Creeks. The results continue to show success from the broodstock supplementation program. While the Salmon Creek and Chimacum Creek broodstock programs were discontinued in 2004, the Jimmycomelately program is still in operation. NOSC volunteers will continue to monitor these populations with WDFW assistance to ensure broodstocking does not need to occur in the future. WDFW otolith mark analysis is funded by an ALEA cooperative grant.

### IN-STREAM HABITAT PROJECTS

**Pysht River Habitat Restoration** NOSC constructed 2 log jams on the Pysht River in order to provide LWD to an erosion prone reach of the Pysht river. The jams will improve hiding and resting habitat for coho and Chinook as well as bank stabilization for a nearby homeowner. NOSC received a Community Salmon Fund grant from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation to build the log jams. Merrill Corp provided access to their shoreline and replanted the riparian zone. NOSC will continue to monitor cross sections at reference points established before restoration with local volunteers. The result of the project is a 200' continuous log jam along the eroding

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bank, another smaller jam. Juvenile salmon began using the structure for cover immediately after its completion, and during the extreme low flows we experienced this winter adult spawners also used the refuge while spawning in the area or waiting for flows to increase so they could continue upstream.

#### RIPARIAN PLANTINGS

Volunteers from Jefferson Land Trust, 4-H, WSU, Water/ BeachWatchers, Greywolf Ranch, Port Angeles Rotary, Americorps, YMCA, Boy and Girl Scouts, and local schools are valuable partners on these projects. Many volunteer hours were logged to Chimacum Creek and its tributaries including E.



October 2005—Olympic Discovery Nature Center work party. Volunteers work together to remove deck material.

Fork, Putaansuu's Ck, Naylor's Ck, as well as Salmon and Snow Creeks in Discovery Bay. In urban Port Angeles at Morse Creek and Valley Ck these partnerships help with riparian revegetation.

NOSC also maintains two plant nurseries on donated farmland and at Chimacum School, and started a third nursery in Port Angeles. Combined, these nurseries hold over 6,000 native trees and shrubs. NOSC is maintaining over 16 acres of riparian plantings at this time to reduce weed competition and encourage growth of the young trees. NOSC planted 3674 trees/shrubs, and manually cleared 2 miles of invasive weeds in stream habitat during the '05-'06 fiscal year.

**Putaansuu Rearing Pond** Last year, NOSC staff and volunteers worked with excavation contractors to repair and subsequently replace a worn out weir at the outlet of a constructed coho rearing pond. This year



'Waitin' in Line' — Salmon Days at Grant Street Elementary School, Spring 2006 — kids get to tour FIN the Migrating Salmon and see the watershed mural inside.

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we followed up with riparian planting with Chimacum students and WCC to improve shade to the pond and to the creek. High water temperatures in the summer months are common at this pond, limiting the amount of available dissolved oxygen downstream. Planting was completed by 28 students from Chimacum assisted by NOSC's Americorp intern and WCC crew as part of an Olympic Park Institute service learning program.

**VanHoover's on Chimacum Ck**NOSC planted trees as a riparian buffer improvement effort following in-stream habitat improvement project from the Jefferson County Conservation District. Planting was conducted by 60 6th grade students and 12 Americorps NCCC crewmembers as a service learning project.

**Salmon/Snow Creeks** These project area riparian zones have undergone extensive restoration efforts since 2003. NOSC conducted supplemental plantings of the floodplain riparian zone this year.

**Valley Creek** Valley Ck continues to be a valuable service-learning site for conducting education and outreach programs. Students and community volunteers continue to help plant native vegetation and clear invasive species in effort to improve riparian habitat in a restoration project reach associated with WDFW Salmon in the Classroom program.

Morse Creek This site is another valuable service-learning site with easy public access and high visibility as US Hwy 101 and the Olympic Discovery Trail cross it, in addition to having a building on site that will eventually become a community-based nature center. NOSC, along with the partnership from WDFW and local volunteers, have started a native plant nursery in an area that had been highly impacted highway fill. The area is now gated, maintained by volunteers, and growing plants very well.

Chimacum Creek (mainstem and E. Fork) Planting and maintenance of project sites continued on Chimacum Creek and tributaries, covering approximately 13 acres of riparian habitat. Problematic weed species, such as reed canary grass, nightshade, poison hemlock, and watercress, are maintained through mowing and hand clearing. Planting, tree watering, and weed control were completed at these sites with help from Americorps, NCCC, WCC, Greywolf Ranch members, and community volunteers. Additionally, NOSC received a Community Salmon Fund Grant to clear stream habitat of invasive weeds to help improve water quality, fish passage and riparian health issues.

#### MONITORING

Macroinvertabrate study NOSC completed the 4th year of the baseline macro-invertebrate monitoring program established in 2002 on Salmon and Chimacum Creeks to gage changes in biological integrity pre and post summer chum recovery and habitat restoration. Analysis of stream insect populations at each restoration site is compared to control sites on each stream. This is the first, and only, long-term study of macro-invertebrates in E. Jefferson County streams using the B-IBI index. The project has been dependent on volunteers from the community, Americorps and Chimacum School 6th grade science classes for its accomplishments.

Chimacum Coho spawning surveys Volunteer effort in these coho surveys have increased substantially over the past few years, as it is the coho, observed traveling all the way up to river mile 11.8 on the mainstem of Chimacum, who benefit most directly from NOSC's stream restoration projects to provide additional rearing habitat, riparian cover

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and high flow refugia. The increase in volunteer effort in these surveys helps give us a better idea of just how many fish are making it up to spawn in Chimacum. Each year we are able to survey a greater percentage of the stream. Some year to year differences in return may be due to streamflow and storm timing.

**Water Quality Monitoring** For the 5th year, NOSC funded an Americorps intern to work with JCCD's water quality monitoring program in Chimacum, Salmon, Snow and other watersheds. This work adds to the continuous 17-year data set documenting watershed conditions throughout East Jefferson County.

**Vegetation Monitoring** Conducted on Chimacum Creek and Valley Creek riparian planting. This year also focused on controlling the spread of invasive species. Spartina, an inter-tidal exotic plant, found in the Chimacum estuary of the previous fiscal year has not reappeared.

#### EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

NOSC continued publication of an annual newsletter and participation in a variety of annual festivals and events in the region including the North Olympic Land Trust Streamfest, Jefferson Land Trust's "Festival of the Trees", Port Townsend's "Earthday Everyday Festival". NOSC engaged 4-H after school programs, summer camps in Jefferson County, YMCA summer programs, and Chimacum and Port Townsend school science classes NOSC worked with private schools, home-school groups, and Scout service days. NOSC and Trout Unlimited cosponsored a Salmon Day event at Grant Street Elementary School in Port Townsend.

NOSC also provided service learning and training for through several projects for Americorps NCCC as well as volunteers. Special training comes to volunteers and students in our annual B-IBI macroinvertebrate stream surveys and summer chum spawning surveys. We continued our role coordinating the travels of FIN, the Giant Salmon that promotes watershed education, and distribution of Tracking the Dragon, a watershed game. Through our education programs, NOSC has provided 1,990 contact hours through presentations, interactive projects and activities to 710 individual students in 13 schools and youth programs.

NOSC continues to build on our long-term partnership with WDFW, Peninsula College and Surf Riders to develop an education and public interpretive site at the WDFW Morse Creek Wildlife Area developing the log cabin nature center on Hwy 101 in Port Angeles. NOSC ,Surf Rider Foundation and PSAT created an educational display about the Elwha River Restoration Process housed at the Lower Elwha Tribal Center in Port Angeles.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH

NOSC representatives made presentations to the Jefferson County Marine Resource Committee and to various nearshore community organizations such as Puget Sound Anglers, Discovery Baywatchers, WSU Cooperative Extension Water/Beach watchers classes in two counties, and co-sponsored Discovery Bay Day, with PSAT. NOSC participated in Watershed Planning in WRIA 17 and co-sponsored 3 landowner outreach events in the Salt Creek Watershed near Joyce working with the Clallam CD CREP program and North Olympic Land Trust to identify conservation easements and foster increased community stewardship in this rural watershed in WRIA19.

With WSU's Water/Beach Watcher's program and the Port Townsend Marine Science Center, NOSC co-

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sponsored and coordinated a special public presentation on biological monitoring, with Dr. James Karr as the keynote speaker.

NOSC began a new partnership with the Hood Canal Coordinating Council in their Marine Riparian Initiative program to train private landowners to promote retention and restoration of native vegetation along marine shorelines and bluffs for ecological value and function, beauty, as well as erosion control. Kala Point and Port Ludlow homeowners associations received technical assistance from NOSC after the co-sponsored WSU/HCCC/NOSC workshop training.

### ASSESSMENT AND RESEARCH

**Salt Creek Assessment** NOSC continued to partner with the Lower Elwha K'lallam Tribe (LEKT) assessment team in the Salt Creek Watershed, with SRFB funds. LEKT stream crew, senior biologist and GIS support for this effort continued to identify high priority projects for implementation. Final project funds were used to engineer openings in a road blocking 18-20 acres of estuarine salt marsh from salmonid use.

**Irondale Beach Baseline** With construction project complete in March 2006, NOSC staff and volunteers collected data for the WDFW post-project Baseline Assessment. Previously NOSC conducted the pre-project baseline surveys using Puget Sound Beach Seine Protocol to document seasonal fish use. Upland and intertidal beach profiles were measured against reference points for future use.

**Fish monitoring** NOSC volunteers assisted Lower Elwha K'lallam Tribal staff in the installation of smolt traps on Deep Creek and West Twin Rivers. NOSC volunteers continued to provide extensive volunteer labor support for the WDFW Snow Creek Coho Recovery Program,

Morse Creek Feasibility Study Partnering with Harbor Consulting Engineers, NOSC is using SRFB funds to create a hydraulic model of the lower river to create a restoration design plan to improve fish habitat on the WDFW wildlife area and engage the streamside landowners in dialog about riparian restoration.

Snow Salmon Watershed Restoration NOSC and partners continued to guide WDFW in future actions on the site as well as prioritize additional acquisition in partnership with landowners, JCCD, Jefferson Land Trust and the Cascade Land Conservancy. JCCD has completed CREP planting with NOSC/SRFB matching funds.



January 2006 — Chimacum Beach beginning excavation of fill.

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## TABLE OF PROJECT EXPENDITURES

# PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

PROJECT	RFEG Funds	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent	Vol hrs
Project Director	42,142.00	1,507.50		43,649.50	100.5
Project Coordinator	69,387.00	6,007.50		75,394.50	400.5
Macroinvertebrate Study	_	1,830.00		1,830.00	122
Chimacum Coho Spawning Surveys		5,677.50		5,677.50	378.5
Snow Creek Coho Recovery		3,442.50		3,442.50	229.5
Smolt Trap: Deep Creek, Ease, West Twin Rivers	_	-		-	0
West Fork Chimacum		1,500.00		1,500.00	100
Morse Creek Riparian Restoration	1928	1,770.00			118
Olympic Discovery Nature Center	3,509.00	2,505.00		2,505.00	167
Habitat Restoration 05	15,899.00	-		15,899.00	
Chimacum Revegetation	4,469.26	1,890.00	13,036.89	19,396.15	126
Summer Chum Hatcheries		19,725.00	14,831.00	34,556.00	1315
Salmon Snow Watershed Restoration		3,000.00	98,982.00	101,982.00	200
Morse Creek Feasibility Study	4,975.00	16,115	91,326.81	107,441.81	
Forage Fish	2,397.00	-		-	0
Irondale/Chimacum Beach Assessment		2,505.00	5,900.00	8,405.00	167
Chimacum Estuary	376.00	60.00	3,938.17	3,998.17	4
Salt Creek Habitat Assessment		-	35,452.00	35,452.00	0
Pysht River Restoration	5,360.00	4,470.00	48,000.00	57,830.00	298
Office Operations	14,288.00		1,905.00	16,193.00	0
TOTAL	164,730.26	72,005.00	313,371.87	535,152.13	3726

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### OFFICERS 2005

BOARD CHAIR: Tom Ammeter - Chimacum School staff, Snohomish Tribal Council

VICE CHAIR: Josey Paul - Streamside landowner, journalist, retired

SECRETARY,

TREASURER: Richard Wojt - Teacher, county commissioner, retired

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2005

Harry Bell - Silviculturist, Green Crow Partnership

Marty Peckman - Owner coho spawning habitat, business owner

Doug Morrill - Biologist, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe

Terry O'Brien - Sport fisherman,

Gwen Bridge - Hydrologist, Makah Tribe
Kim Fairbanks - Educator, shoreline landowner
Ron Deisher - Sport Fisherman, executive, retired

Mike Langley - Shoreline owner
Jim Hackman - talented volunteer

#### STAFF MEMBERS 2006:

Paula Mackrow Executive Director
Kevin Long Project Coordinator
Audrey Miles Cherney Restoration Steward
Alisa Meany Volunteer Coordinator
Rebecca Benjamin Project Manager

Funding partnerships include, WA Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), and ALEA Cooperative Program, WDFW and the U.S. Forest Service.

Technical support from WDFW, US Navy, Lower Elwha K'lallam Tribe, Jamestown and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes, Point No Point Treaty Council, Clallam Conservation District, Jefferson Co Conservation District, Jefferson Land trust, North Olympic Land Trust, Clallam and Jefferson Counties North Olympic Lead entity and Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity is critical to our project success

ESA INC, Mike Haggarty, MikeHagen, Andy Ritchie, Harbor Engineering, Northwest Hydraulics and Chimacum Creek Printing donated professional services.

## CONTACT US:

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Ph. 360 379-8051

e-mail: nosc@jefferson.wsu.edu www.nosc.org



Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

### VISION STATEMENT

We envision a restored environment that maintains a healthy self-sustaining salmonid population.

We envision having a salmonid resource we can utilize and enjoy far into the future.

We see a local community that not only utilizes the resource but one that takes responsibility and is actively involved in the well being of that resource.

We envision a strong working relationship with all relevant entities that have a vested interest in salmonid habitat restoration.



Volunteers giving a tour, as part of the outreach and education program, to the Forks Grade School 2nd grade classes at Sol Duc hatchery.

#### RFEG OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition, the Bogachiel Salmon Hatchery and the Sol Duc River Salmon Hatchery are working together to enhance the food chain for salmon in the Quillayute Nutrient Enhancement project. The Sol Duc, Bogachiel, Calawah, and Dickey Rivers were enhanced with over 29,000 surplus salmon carcasses dispersed by volunteers using their own vehicles in almost 850 hours of volunteer service. Hatchery personnel gather and spawn the necessary fish for next years run. Several thousand food-quality salmon are collected for the local areas food banks, senior centers and tribal centers. The remaining salmon, nearing the spawning stage, are too old for the area food banks. These salmon are collected and their tails are removed for identification as hatchery fish. Volunteers work with the hatchery employees to place these fish into the river systems. As these fish decay, they release nutrients that make there way up the food chain. Aquatic insects such as caddis flies, stoneflies, and midges, feed on these Coho salmon carcasses. The aquatic insects are an important part of a Coho fry's diet. Salmon have five life stages; eggs, fry, smolt, adult and carcasses. So here we have the fifth stage helping to improve the second stage. As we put these carcasses in streams they deposit marine derived (Pacific Ocean) nitrogen, carbon, and phosphorous. Juvenile Coho, steelhead, and cutthroat in small western Washington streams obtain 25% to 40% of these elements from Coho salmon carcasses. Besides feeding on aquatic insects, Coho fry have been seen feeding directly on the carcasses. Salmon are called a "keystone" species. They have a positive impact on 138 species of wildlife in Washington and Oregon. WDFW, Rayonier USDA Forest Service Olympic Region, and DNR are important partners in this project.

The **Bear Creek** project is a bank-stabilization project. The bank was stabilized over the last several years with LWD and gravel to reduce sediment. The project will provide ideal gravels for adults to spawn in and cover for juveniles to hide in. The project site has been replanted, maintained and fenced with the help of the landowner and volunteers.

The **Borde Pond** Project is an ongoing RSI project. The intent of the project is to augment the existing Coho run in Mill creek. Borde pond is an ongoing supplementation project being done in partnership with a private landowner (Phil and Bev Borde) and WDFW.



W,D,F&W personnel and volunteers sampling steelhead, at Bogachiel hatchery, that were later nutrient enhanced.

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The FMS Water Quality project (Forks Middle School) is a wonderful on-going project that gets kids interested in salmon and educates them not only in the classroom, but out of it as well. This project provides funds for water quality education, how to do water quality testing, which they do, and why water quality is important to salmon, which they learn. The Forks Middle School has taken the ball and run with this outreach, education and monitoring program.

The **Thomas Springs** project is an off-channel, over-wintering habitat project. Initially the Thomas Springs project was constructed by WDFW. Unfortunately, in the flood of 2003 the earthen dam and plank weirs were completely destroyed. We removed what little debris remained and replaced the structure with a concrete vault fishway and reconstructed the earthen dam. These structures create and maintain a large pond that provides refuge for juvenile salmonids. Some limited spawning is also available for adult salmon below the fishway.

The **Lower Hoh** project is a LWD project that also includes fencing and plantings. The in-stream LWD structures were constructed several years ago. The on-going portion of that project is to go in yearly to maintain the fencing and plantings. This year we went in and planted several more trees and mowed and weeded around the existing trees.

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

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

The **Smith Overwintering Pond** project is also an on-going project. The previous components of this project was the replacement of the outlet culvert, the placement of gravels and an on-site, under water camera system that monitors fish usage. This year volunteers placed more gravel, planted trees, erected fencing, maintained and operated the camera system and placed signage.

The Lake Pleasant Outlet project is project where a tributary at the outlet of Lake Pleasant was re-routed to provide gravels to the lake rather than choking off the outlet. Gravel flows at the outlet were constricting the outlet causing the flow of water from Lake Pleasant to Lake Creek to stop earlier in the year, which was stranding and killing thousands of smolt. By changing the flow of gravel the lake flows through Lake Creek later into the year allowing the smolt the time they need to reach the river and eventually the ocean.

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## TABLE OF PROJECT EXPENDITURES

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Vol. Hours	Vol. Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Quillayute R. N.E.	\$8,474	823	\$10,288		\$18,762
Bear Creek	\$1,150	21	\$263	\$3,700	\$5,113
Borde Pond RSI	\$193	136	\$1,700	\$500	\$2,393
FMS Water Quality	\$1,549	63	\$788	\$2,900	\$5,237
Thomas Springs	\$5,412	83	\$1,038	\$4,195	\$10,645
Lower Hoh	\$102	65	\$813	\$1,260	\$2,175
Admin. Cost	\$28,385	325	\$4,062		\$32,447
Executive Dir. 06	\$46,364				\$46,364
Monitoring and Maint.	\$3,349	429	\$5,363		\$8,712
Smith Overwintering	\$110	253	\$3,163	\$4,194	\$7,467
Lake Pleasant	\$695	83	\$1,038	\$1,685	\$3,418

WRIA 20

# Barriers removed	# ft/miles opened	Ft/miles revegatation	Ft/miles of fencing	# of carcasses placed	# LWD structures
15 barriers	2.5 miles	.75 miles	0 feet	28,863 carcasses	3 log structures



Volunteer maintaining one of the monitoring and maintenance sites.

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Wayne Haag President Retired Centurytel
Don Nordstrom Vice President WSDOT

Terry Sullivan Treasurer Retired Teacher Steve Allison Secretary Biologist

Phil Borde Board Member Retired Teacher
Ron Shearer Board Member Retired Centurytel

Ron Thompson Board Member Retired Teacher

### STAFF

Carl Chastain Executive Director

## CONTACT INFORMATION

P.C.S.C.

P0 Box 2527

Forks, WA 98331 Phone: 360.374.8873 Fax: 978.359.0478

Email: pacsac@olypen.com Website: Cohosalmon.com



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### MISSION STATEMENT:

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

### RFEG OVERVIEW:

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

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

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



Armstrong Project (Fairchild Creek): This is a photo of the downstream vantage of the installed bridge on the Armstrong Project. The Armstrong barrier was a 6 foot squash culvert that was 25 feet long. It had an outfall drop of approximately 2 feet, and was undersized for the 16.5 foot stream. The correction is this 30 feet long, 14 feet wide bridge. This project opened up 7 miles of habitat for coho, steelhead, searun cutthroat, and resident cutthroat trout.

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#### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

### **ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS**

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

### Carlisle Project

The Carlisle Environmental Educational Project has supported a number of activities and independent studies. Project participants designed and built the onsite school aquaculture study lab, hatchery and observation tanks with the capacity to raise 100,000 smolts. Fish net pens were added at Carlisle Lake to expose students to an actual working environment and business atmosphere. Each year, students raise 100,000 Coho salmon in Carlisle Lake, which are fed 3 times a week by hand and by solar powered feeders. The fish are monitored for weight gain to determine the amount of feed needed and to determine release times.

### Long Live the Kings

Since site operations began in 1986, Long Live the Kings has raised several million Chinook, Coho, Chum, and until recent years, Steelhead were also raised at the facility. In an effort known as broodstocking, a great number of volunteer man-hours are used to capture returning wild Chinook. The eggs are incubated and reared in a small hatchery near the new rearing pond. Fry are released and fed in the rearing pond through the winter; and smolts are released from the new pond in the spring. Production numbers for 2006: 30,000 Chinook, 200,000 Chum, and 300,000 Coho.

Last year was a very successful year for the Mayr/Long Live the Kings Project. In a collaborative effort between WDFW, DOE, USFW, LLTK, the City of Aberdeen, and Green Diamond Resource Co., on October, 7, 2005, with a budget of 55K, 4 major log jams were installed on the Wishkah River by dumping old growth fir logs into the waterway. The source of the material was from the old Malanaski Dam, which was built in 1927. It was implemented with the use of a helicopter (from Canada). The biggest log on the log deck was 67 feet long, and 17 on end (which was bucked up for lifting). Terry Baltzell, Facility Manager, chose the location and Gary Bell of WDFW engineered the log jams. Green Diamond Resource Co. has placed monitoring devices on the logs, which will be monitored for movement up and down the stream.

#### Satsop Springs

The Satsop Springs fully accomplishes the Task Force's original intent to "Provide fish for all users. In 2006 alone, these volunteers produced and released more than 230,000 Chum, 94,900 Chinook smolt, and 450,000 Coho smolt. The project also reared and released 4,000 trophy Rainbow trout into local lakes (averaging 6 lbs. each, with the biggest at 20 lbs. 8 oz.). In addition to these efforts, a juvenile passage was maintained to allow access to 3 acres of additional overwintering ponds, and continuing improvements to the fish ladder 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 flows. Many volunteers enjoy a great personal reward as they watch their release return to the project as adults.

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## Satsop Nutrient Enhancement Project

2005 was the second year for the Satsop Nutrient Enhancement Project. The project's goal is to enhance nutrient levels of the West Fork Satsop River, the Middle Fork Satsop River, and a number of their primary tributaries by distributing fish carcasses in strategic areas. The intent is to increase ocean-derived nutrients in areas of the basin with adult salmon. Adding nutrients to aquatic environments or watersheds is needed to help restore greatly depleted salmon runs in the Pacific Northwest. Nitrogen and phosphorus are the key limiting nutrients.

Between the months of October and December, 6,381 fish carcasses were distributed within the Satsop River Watershed. The Project was awarded a \$22,917 grant from the Community Salmon Fund, a joint effort between the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) largely for the purchase of a forklift (see right for picture) and some operational expenses. In addition, Green Diamond Resource Company donated \$2,500 to put toward the purchase of a rotator for the forklift (see right, the rotator is what is turning the tote filled with fish into the back of the dump truck). With the support of the NFWF, SRFB, and Green Diamond Resource Co., the project was able to purchase a slightly used 5,000 lb. forklift and rotator with low hours, which will be used to move fish carcasses from totes to the back of the dump truck that is used for distribution.



Satsop Nutrient Enhancement: This is a photo of nutrient enhancement on Canyon River, which is a tributary to the West Fork Satsop River. This predetermined carcass distribution point is one of few locations the fish are able to be returned to the ecosystem through the tailgate of the truck. Other locations are either delivered by a chute off of the truck, or are hand flung.

## HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS

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

**Armstrong Project:** This project was proposed as a high priority for funding under the Family Forest Fish Passage Program. It is located on Fairchild Creek, a tributary to Big Creek which flows into the Humptulips River. The CBFTF was awarded a grant of \$67,000 from the Family Forest Fish Passage Program, and \$35,000 from the Department of Ecology. The Armstrong barrier was a 6 foot squash culvert that was 25 feet long. It had an outfall drop of approximately 2 feet, and was undersized for the 16.5 foot stream. The correction is a 30 feet long, 14 feet wide Big R bridge. Removing this barrier opened up 6.6 miles of habitat for Coho, Chinook, Steelhead, Cutthroat, and Chum.

**Galyean Project:** Funded by the Family Forest Fish Passage Program, the Galyean Project concentrated on replacing two fish barrier culverts on unnamed streams which are tributaries to Garrard Creek. The primary tributary had an 18 inch barrier culvert elevated roughly 3 feet at the outfall. The replacement was a 6ft.

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round culvert made of 10 gage corrugated, galvanized steel, 40 ft. long. A second culvert was installed on the same road, but on a separated, smaller unnamed tributary. The barrier was a 12 inch culvert elevated roughly 12 inches at the downstream end. The replacement was a 4ft. diameter culvert made of 12 gage, corrugated, galvanized steel, 40 ft. long. The opening of this steam is most beneficial to juvenile Coho rearing; however it currently supports all life stages of Coho and Cutthroat. This project made an additional 1.2 miles of habitat accessible to fish and other resident aquatic species.

South Fork Newaukum Project: The Newaukum sub-basin is ranked as high priority for salmon restoration in the Chehalis Watershed Salmon Recovery Plan. It supports at least four species of anadromous salmonids, including spring and fall Chinook, Coho, and winter steelhead, as well as cutthroat trout. This project provided access to and improves habitat in an old river oxbows bordering the South Fork Newaukum River. Habitat has been improved by removing the fish barrier sediment plugs, reconnecting the downstream end of the channel to the Newaukum River, widening the channel to approximately 20 feet, exposing the existing streambed gravels, adding large woody debris (LWD) with root wads attached, and establishing riparian cover using potted deciduous native species such as alder and ash, as well as some spruce or hemlock. This reattached channel now supports several hundred spawning salmonids and provides off-channel rearing for all five species of salmonids as well as other fish species within the system.

Vance Creek Riparian Project: Funded by the SRFB, this project provides 12,500 feet of fencing and 16,000 feet of riparian planting to improve fish habitat in Vance Creek, a tributary to the Chehalis River. The creek is 8.6 miles long with 6 miles of documented salmonid spawning and rearing habitat. The first of three phases was completed this year with the help of volunteer and student labor from the Elma School District and the support of the Chehalis Basin Education Consortium. Over the next two years this project will continue working with students, other area volunteer groups and the landowners of the lower portion of Vance Creek to maintain riparian plantings and install fences to exclude livestock from the creek.



Taryn Kayser and her teacher, Scott Rockey break for a picture while planting native trees along the banks of Vance Creek. Taryn is one of several students that volunteered to plant approximately 400 trees to assist with the riparian effort for this area.

Wishkah Road Sedimentation Control: Funded collaboratively through the SRFB and Grays Harbor County, this project reduced the sediment that is impacting spawning in the Wishkah basin. Trucks hauling logs and gravel grind the roads gravel surfaces into fine particles. Incorrectly built road ditches were plugged, directing sediment-laden water into streams, which flow directly to the Wishkah River. Three gravel roads in the upper basin were contributing 86% of the sediment in the entire river basin. The river system has 452% sediment than is natural; of which only a few rivers in western Washington have levels this high. Improvements were made by adding cross drains to the ditches, directing storm water away from streams, elevating the road where needed and paving the road. This project improved spawning and rearing conditions for Chinook, Coho, and Chum salmon, Steelhead and Cutthroat Trout throughout the Wishkah River system.

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Doug Fricke, Boat Seafoods

Dick Good Boat Seafoods (Alternate)

Joe Durham, Grays Harbor Trout Unlimited, CBFTF Second Vice President

Commissioner Stan Pinnick, Port of Grays Harbor

Ken Rausch, Port of Grays Harbor (Alternate)

Dave Hamilton, Independent, CBFTF President

## STAFF MEMBERS

Linda Anderson, Bookkeeper/Accountant Lonnie Crumley, Project Coordinator Rick Copeland, Satsop Springs Facility Worker Ellie McMillan, Administrative Director

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### PROJECT EXPENDITURES

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Administration	18,435	1,193	17,895	43,734	80,064
Blazer Creek		16	240		240
Carlisle Environmental Ed.		58	870		870
Dekay Rd. Project (Poulson Ck.)				48,337	48,337
Armstrong Project (Fairchild Ck.)				81,277	81,277
Forrest Ck.				2,150	2,150
Galyean Project (Gerrard Ck.)				9,921	9,921
Gerhard Project (Forrest Ck.)				2,953	2,953
Huber Project (Pants Ck.)				1,098	1,098
Lentz Project (EF Hoquiam)				3,490	3,490
LLTK		351	5,265	22,812	28,077
Newaukum				68,141	68,141
Satsop Nutrient Enhancement	10,396	200	3,000	24,466	37,862
Satsop Springs		2,952	44,280	69267	113,547
Upper Chehalis FEA		201	3,015		3,015
Vance Ck. Riparian		259	4115	1,866	5,981
Vance Creek Bridge Project				4,825	4,825
Wishkah Sedimentation Reduction				1,114	1,114
Totals	\$28,831	\$5,230	\$78,680	\$385,451	\$492,962

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **Upper Basin Representatives**

Chanele Holbrook, Heernet Environmental Foundation, CBFTF Fist Vice President

Michael Munsell, Friends of the Chehalis, CBFTF Secretary/Treasurer

Ronn Schuttie, Carlisle Environmental Education

Dennis Morr, TransAlta Centralia Mining

# Middle Basin Representatives

Bob Balcombe, Independent

Lloyd Case, Independent (Alternate)

Max Durward, Elma Game Club

Frank Jongenburger, Weyerhaeuser

Steve Barnowe-Meyer, Weyerhaeuser (Alternate)

### Lower Basin Representatives

Terry Baltzell, Long Live the Kings, CBFTF At Large

Allan Hollingsworth, Grays Harbor Gillnetters; Grays Harbor Poggie Club

Steve Berggren, Independent



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### MISSION STATEMENT:

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

### RFEG OVERVIEW:

2006 has been productive year for our RFEG. We completed two habitat projects, completed assessments on two more potential future projects, and completed two community service projects, planted/released 393,720 salmon, partnered with 8 community organizations in completing our habitat projects. Volunteers contribute over \$46,000 in services. An OMB-133 audit was completed for our organization with very positive results, the audited administrative costs for our organization is 3.8%.

### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS:

In-stream/Passage. Two streams were restored including removing 3 barriers and installing two bridges. The barriers were blocking over four miles of spawning and rearing habitat. A road had diverted Lost Creek into Chum Creek losing over a mile of habitat.



Before Lost/Chum Creek



Before Lost Creek, diverted by road into Chum Creek



After New Bridge

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New Bridge/Channel on Lost Creek

Lost Creek historic channel reconnected/restored

**Community Partners:** City of South Bend, South Bend School Districts, Grays Harbor College, Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, Friends of Willapa National Wildlife Refuge, Weyerhaeuser, The Campbell Group, The Nature Conservancy, and US Fish & Wildlife.

**Fish Enhancement:** This has been a great disappointment for our RFGE. In the past 5 years Region 6 management has limited our ability to obtain and plant salmon eggs. We have repeatedly tried to resolve the issue, with no success. We are currently looking at all options to obtain eggs for enhancement. It was necessary in 2001 for us to get a restraining order on WDFW to obtain our eggs. We are hoping to resolve the issue without again going to this method. The inconsistent management from WDFW has resulted in our volunteers quitting because of no clear information on eggs/fry/brood stock we will obtain. We are very disappointed with WDFW Fish management

Assessments: We completed two assessments: Skidmore slough, blocking culvert, and blocking tide gate, and Quarry Creek a rock quarry creek that has waters quality issues. In addition we have partnered with The Nature Conservancy to accomplish a design/assessment on Ellsworth Creek

#### OTHER PROJECTS:

Skidmore Slough Habitat assessment

Quarry Creek Habitat assessment

Two streams- Post monitoring accomplished

One stream baseline monitoring

10 Grant applications prepared, 8 received, one pending

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECTS:

- 1) Added 91 feet of floats to the South Bend Boat Launch, volunteered to manage, design, obtain funding and install floats.
- 2) Developed the design, applied for funding for a 3700 ft Nature Trail for City of South Bend

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## TABLE OF PROJECT EXPENDITURES:

Project	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hrs	Volunteer Skill (\$58/hr)	Other	Total
Chum & Lost Creeks	\$47,500	43	\$2,500	\$222,000	\$272,000
Skidmore Slough	\$8,600	40	\$2,320	0	10,920
Quarry Creek	0	20	\$1,160	2,500	\$3,660
Boat Launch	0	120	\$6,960	\$50,100	\$57,060
South Bend Trail	0	217	\$12,600	\$19,000	\$31,700
10 Grant applications	0	100	\$5,800	0	\$5,800
Monitoring	8,500	10	\$580	\$2500	11,580
Total	56,100	550	31,920	296,100	384,670

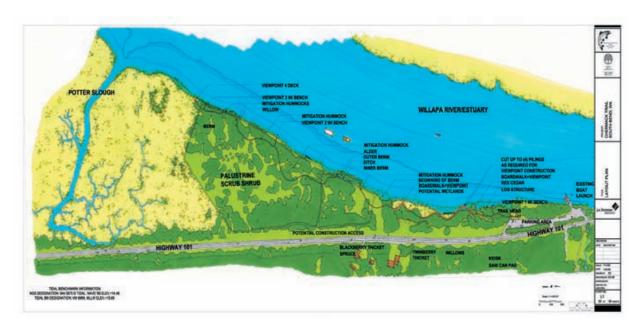
## REPORT TO GOVERNORS SALMON TEAM

Number of barriers replaced 4, two bridges installed (WRIA 24)

Number of miles of stream restored: 4.0 (WRIA 24)

Number of Carcasses placed: 5,000 (WRIA 24)

Number of Fish Released: Only 393,700 received, of over 1 million requested, WDFW Region 6 continues to mismanage this program for over 5 years now. Regardless of our requests WDFW Fish Management always gets the Brood Stock document wrong, and forces us to try and obtain salmon from streams which have no salmon. To restore a stream and then be refused eggs to be put into stream to start the salmon run is just a disaster. Salmon recovery will never be accomplished following this failed policy.



South Bend Nature Trail, 3700 feet trail

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

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

### STAFF MEMBERS:

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

### CREW INFORMATION:

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

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ron Craig, PO Box 46, South Bend, WA 98586; 360 875 6402 (V) 360 875 5802 (F), ron&leta@willapabay.org



Community Outreach projects: Designed and installed additional 91 feet of floats/pilings for the City of South Bend Boat Launch.

# REGION 11 - LOWER COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

### RFEG OVERVIEW

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

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

In 2005/6, LCFEG continued implementation of both its new Strategic Plan and the new *Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan and Watershed Sub-Basin Assessments* for SW WA blessed by NOAA Fisheries in 2005 and currently implemented by our Lead Entity, the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board [LCFRB]. In working to fulfill its intent to become the region's primary habitat restoration organization, LCFEG and its landowners/partners worked closely with the LCFRB to link projects with regional Recovery Plan and Sub-Basin Assessment Priorities, and to follow the first year of a Six (6) Year Habitat Work Plan reflecting projects completed or underway and providing project priorities for the upcoming year.

2005/6's Education and Outreach Program involved numerous year-round activities including volunteer (student and/or citizen) planting parties at our various project sites, regular educational presentations on local salmon species and their habitat requirements to community programs and/or schools groups, utilization of high school wood shop students to build and install fish ladders, on-site data collection by volunteers to meet LCFEG monitoring objectives, LCFEG displays and volunteer recruitment/sign-ups at local county fairs, watershed festivals, career fairs, salmon celebrations and community events, website updates, and a bi-annual newsletter showcasing LCFEG projects and upcoming volunteer activities.

#### COMPLETED AND ON-GOING 2005/06 PROJECTS

- Carcass Analogs Phase I & II
- Indian Mary Creek
- Little Washougal Riparian
- Lockwood Creek LWD
- Lower Washougal
- Nutrient Enhancement

# REGION 11 - LOWER COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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- Upper Washougal
- Wildhorse / Gobar / Goble
- Woodard Creek and Columbia Springs Assessment
- Lower Cowlitz and Cispus River Assessment

### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### Carcass Analog Study

LCFEG helped to fund and implement a Nutrient Assessment Study led by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to demonstrate the effectiveness of stream nutrient enhancement (via carcass analogs) to restore juvenile salmon production in watersheds previously identified as nutrient deficient. Initial phases of the study have been completed and work has begun on the final phase funded by SRFB.

### Project Development / Assessments

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

### Wildhorse / Gobar / Goble Creek

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

### Indian Mary Creek Fish Passage

This project replaced two culverts with a bridge and re-connected over 3,000' of rearing and spawning habitat in a small spring fed tributary to Franz Lake, a large backwater area in the Columbia Gorge. This creek is critically important to salmonids as it provides a significant thermal refuge when the Columbia River and Franz Lake are warm. In summer 2006, LCFEG staff counted thousands of juvenile salmonids in the creek for the first time since the original culvert was placed in the 1970's. Partners included the Carlson family, WDFW/ LIP, and USFWS.

#### Little Washougal Riparian

This project installed 5,000 new trees along the lower reaches of the Little Washougal River. In addition, our crew and volunteers removed extensive patches of non-native vegetation and maintained previous plantings. Project partners include the Stauffer and Marks families, NFWF/ SRFB and WDFW LIP.

## Lockwood Creek LWD

This project was given to us by Clark Public Utilities which received a grant from the Centennial Clean Water fund. The project involved placement of over fifty logs with root wads in a tributary to the East Fork Lewis River. The project was completed in three days due to the soil conditions which allowed us to stab the logs up to twenty feet into the stream banks. Previous work at this site included removal of a fish passage barrier

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and removal of a dike constraining over 3,000 feet of floodplain habitat. To date, Clark Public Utilities has planted over 25,000 native trees along the stream bank and we have received additional funds to continue the restoration upstream another mile. The landowner on this phase of the project is the Monahan family which received a Sammy award from Clark County for their restoration efforts.

#### Lower Washougal Restoration

In the summer of '05 we placed a large woody debris structure that has created a scour pool to facilitate adult fish passage during low flows. Monitoring shows 100% effectiveness through the first winter. We also created a large rock riffle containing approximately 4,500 tons of boulders which helped to re-meander the river. We have commenced work on a series of three off-channel gravel quarry ponds that will eventually be utilized as off-channel rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids. Project funding is provided by SRFB, Burlington Northern Railroad and Georgia Pacific Corporation. Project partners include City of Camas, Georgia Pacific and WDFW.

#### Nutrient Enhancement (Multi-WRIA)

This project was funded by NFWF/ SRFB with a Community Salmon Fund grant and by the ALEA. The project included a planning phase designed to identify the labor and infrastructure required to implement multi-basin nutrient enhancement using hatchery carcasses. In addition to the planning effort, we purchased several freezers to allow us to extend the nutrient enhancement over time and to allow us to "chip" the carcasses into bite size pieces. Chipping the carcasses reduces landowner complaints, reduces the chances of family dogs getting salmon poisoning and allows us to place the chips where we want them. We have underwater video showing how juvenile salmonids congregate around the chips and feed directly on the salmon flesh at a time of year when no other food is available. Partners include Fish First, Lower Columbia Fly Fishers, Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers, SWWA Anglers and WDFW.

#### **Upper Washougal Restoration**

This year we received a donation from DNR of approximately 100 logs which we used to create logjams in the upper reaches of the Washougal River. In combination with last year's work this brings the total number of LWD jams to sixteen (16), the total number of rock structures to three (3) along with the placement of approximately fifteen (15) single logs. We also removed a culvert and will be anchoring single logs in Reeder creek to catch gravel. We modified a previously placed rock structure at Reeder Creek and one in the lower section of Stebbins Reach based on monitoring of function last winter. Fish passage into Reeder Creek was confirmed via spawning surveys.





Chipping salmon into Washougal and Lewis Rivers

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Crew positioning logs in Gobar Creek



Award presented to landowner at Indian Mary Creek

#### 2005/06 PARTNERS

Bonneville Power Administration

City of Castle Rock

City of Camas

City of Vancouver Water Resources Center

Clark Public Utility

Clark Skamania Fly Fishers

Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania, Pacific, & Wahkiakum Counties

Clark-Skamania Fly Fishers

Columbia Springs Environmental Ed Center

Conservation Districts (Clark, Lewis, & Cowlitz)

Fish First

Longview Fiber

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

Lower Columbia Fly Fishers

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Native Fish Society

**NW Power and Conservation Council** 

Private Landowners (Multiple)

Salmon Recovery Funding Board

SW WA Anglers

US Forest Service & USFS Resource Advisory Committee

US Fish and Wildlife Service

US Geological Survey (Columbia River Lab)

WA Department of Fish & Wildlife

WA Department of Natural Resources

WA Department of Ecology

Washougal, Vancouver, Evergreen School Dist.

WSU Environmental Information Coop

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#### TABLE OF PROJECT EXPENDITURES

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours(1)	Volunteer Dollars(2)	Other Funds	Total
Alder Creek	\$ 0		\$ 0	\$ 14,900	\$ 14,900
Carcass Analogs	0			168,123	168,123
Carcass Freezers	0			20,013	20,013
Cispus/Columbia Springs	94			0	94
Goble Creek	0	14	210	9,900	10,110
Indian Mary	13,568	679	10,185	35,000	58,753
Little Washougal Riparian	382	6063	90,945	35,500	126,827
Lockwood Creek LWD	2,758			0	2,758
Lower Cowlitz Assessment	406			0	406
Lower Washougal	0	720	10,800	17,915	28,715
Nutrient Enhancement	9,959	2,452	36,780	39,800	86,539
TPEAC	0			6,016	6,016
Upper Washougal	0	4,705	70,575	230,379	300,954
Wildhorse/Gobar	49	6	90	9,900	10,039
Woodard Creek	3,611	78	1,170	0	4,781
Administrative	27,499	404	6,060	2,000	35,559
WDFW/Drought	0			61,459	61,459
Habitat Projects	4,714	261	3,915	0	8,629
Monitoring	1,171	64	960	0	2,131
Org. Development	7,306			705	8,011
Outreach/Education	35,289	159	2,385	2,508	40,182
Project Development	30,513	7	105	3,000	33,618
Other	13,435			10,000	23,435
TOTALS	\$ 150,754	15,612	\$ 234,180	\$ 667,119	\$ 1,052,053

(1) Includes DOC Crew. (2) Calculated at \$15.00 per hour. Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Harry Barber, President
Hal Mahnke, Vice-President
Denny Way, Treasurer
Scott Donaldson, Director
Sam Giese, Director
Richard Kennon, Director
Ed McMillan, Director

Donna Hale, WDFW Watershed Steward

#### STAFF MEMBERS

Tony Meyer, Executive Director Nello Picinich, Operations Director Mark Taylor, Habitat Restoration Project Manager Ty Fugate, Crew Supervisor Peter Barber, Field Biologist

#### CREW INFORMATION

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

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Vancouver Office 12404 SE Evergreen Highway Vancouver, WA 98683 (360) 882-6671 Longview Office 2933 Garfield Street Longview, WA 98632 (360) 200-3809

www.lcfeg.org info@lcfeg.org



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#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### OVERVIEW

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group is a non-profit (501c3) organization dedicated to restoring and protecting fish habitat. The Mid-Columbia region includes:

- Several important steelhead and salmon rivers, notably the Wind River, the White Salmon River, the Klickitat River, the Yakima River, and numerous tributaries to the Columbia River,
- All of the waterways in seven of Washington's Water Resource Inventory Areas, which includes all of Klickitat, Benton, Yakima, and Kittitas Counties and a portion of Skamania and Franklin Counties.

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

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

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

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Yakama Nation continue to be our strongest partners. Both of the co-managers provide technical assistance with individual projects. Additionally, Mid-Columbia Fisheries partners with conservation districts, private landowners, land trusts, local governments, federal agencies, schools and community groups.

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#### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### Klickitat Riparian Restoration

During the spring of 2006, Mid-Columbia Fisheries sponsored the following riparian plantings in the Klickitat basin:

- Four sites along the Klickitat River (between river mile 8 and river mile 18) were planted with a hydraulic stinger,
- Two sites along the Klickitat River were planted by hand,
- Three sites along the lower portions of tributary streams (Snyder, Logging Camp, and Swale Creeks) were planted with a hydraulic stinger.

All sites were planted with a mix of native trees and shrubs. The goals of these projects are to increase floodplain roughness, improve riparian cover, and increase the recruitment of large woody debris. The Yakama Nation provided project management assistance with the stinger planting projects.

In addition to the riparian plantings, two car bodies were removed for the river banks and two tons of additional garbage were hauled to the landfill.

In late spring, the Northwest Service Academy provided an Americorps crew to repair and maintain riparian exclosure fencing along Simmons Creek, another Klickitat River tributary.

#### **Taneum Creek Restoration**

In the fall of 2005, restoration activities were completed along approximately 900 feet of Taneum Creek, a tributary to the Yakima River near Thorp. The goal of the project was to improve fish habitat by increasing hydraulic roughness, stabilizing a head cut, and improving floodplain connectivity. The restoration activities were also designed to restore the ability of the channel to capture and store spawning-sized gravels. Restoration activities included the construction of four small riffles to create a pool-riffle sequence through what was formerly an armored plane-bed channel. Large anchored rootwads were incorporated, with root masses extending into the pools. The uppermost constructed riffle was placed to stabilize an active headcut. The riffles improve stream access to a high flow channel. The capacity of this high flow channel was increased and its profile lowered to provide greater floodplain connectivity. Large woody debris, including rootwad barbs were added to the channel to protect banks and improve channel complexity and habitat.

In the lower project area, two bank-protecting rootwad barbs were installed and a bedload plug was removed from a high flow channel to reduce the erosive forces on a high eroding, vertical bank. Disturbed and lightly vegetated banks throughout the site were replanted with black cottonwood and willow cuttings gathered on-site. This project was a partnership between a private landowner, Mid-Columbia Fisheries, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and was funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife's Private Stewardship Grant program.

#### Cowiche Creek Restoration

This large project involved a number of restoration and protection activities on Cowiche Creek, about six miles west of Yakima. An irrigation diversion (concrete dam) which created a full passage barrier to juvenile and adult fish was removed resulting in restored access to up to twenty miles of quality, upstream stream habitat

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for spawning and rearing for Coho, Chinook, and Mid-Columbia steelhead. As part of the project, the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy purchased 1,700 acres of riparian and upland habitat and a senior water right, which is being placed in trust for instream flow. The remaining water right diversion was moved downstream to a new pump diversion with a compliant fish screen. The area around the old diversion site was replanted and a weed abatement program was implemented to control noxious weeds within the riparian areas of the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy's property (100 plus acres).

This project was led by the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy and involved a number of partners, including a private landowner, the WA Department of Fish & Wildlife, the North Yakima Conservation District, the Washington Water Trust, and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. This project compliments other barrier removal and fish screening projects along Cowiche Creek that have funded through the Yakima Tributaries Access and Habitat Program.

#### **Holmes Restoration**

In the fall of 2005, Mid-Columbia Fisheries helped support the purchase of a fifty acre parcel along the Yakima River by the Yakama Nation. The parcel is located near Ellensburg and will be managed in perpetuity as fish and wildlife habitat. The property includes a 1,300 foot long side channel and wetlands associated with the Yakima River. Habitat restoration along the side channel began in the spring of 2006. Restoration activities include decommissioning and decompacting farm roads along the side channel, riparian planting, weed control, and placement of instream habitat features (woody debris and gravel). Fifty volunteers helped plant native trees and shrubs along the side channel.

Prior to restoration activities, the instream habitat complexity of the side channel was poor. Flow through the reach was generally slow moving, and channel width to depth ratio was higher than optimal for juvenile rearing habitat function. The area had been heavily grazed by livestock for many years and had received little or no rest. The goal of the project is to improve instream and rearing habitat function, leading to increased salmonid survival. The Holmes site is part of the Yakama Nation's juvenile Coho salmon supplementation program and Coho are reared and released in the side channel annually. Thirteen Coho redds have been observed in the channel over the last two years.

#### Little Klickitat Restoration

More than five hundred feet of the Little Klickitat River was restored on private property in the City of Goldendale. This was a cooperative project with two private landowners, the Central Klickitat Conservation District, and Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group. The project objectives were to address sedimentation and water temperature issues and to improve fish habitat. Rusty barrels, concrete pieces, a dilapidated shed and other garbage were removed from the north bank. The banks were re-shaped. Erosion control matting was installed on the banks. Logs were installed along the toe of some of the banks. Rootwads were secured to the banks and two spanning structures were installed. A "log crib" was constructed in one area to stabilize a steep bank. Volunteers, including the local chapter of Trout Unlimited planted the site with native trees and shrubs. The goals of the project were to limit sediment supply, increase riparian cover, increase the recruitment of large, woody debris, and increase in-stream complexity.

#### Whiskey Creek Revegetation

Volunteers planted native trees and shrubs along two hundred feet of Whiskey Creek, a tributary to the Wind River.

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#### **EDUCATION**

Community volunteers assisted with several restoration projects in the Mid-Columbia region. Adult volunteers and middle school students from Klickitat School helped collect willow cuttings for riparian revegetation projects on the Klickitat River. Volunteers also helped with planting projects at the Holmes Restoration project, on the Little Klickitat River, and on Whiskey Creek.

Mid-Columbia Fisheries is involved in a number of education projects in our region. This year, Mid-Columbia Fisheries helped fund transportation for students from the Ellensburg school district to the Holmes Restoration Project to attend an educational event and assist with restoration activities. Mid-Columbia Fisheries helped staff the Salmon Summit organized by the Benton Conservation District and attended by 1,000 local students who learned about watershed and fisheries issues and released classroom-reared salmon into the Lower Yakima. Mid-Columbia Fisheries staff also helped provide support to Whitson Elementary School's watershed monitoring and education project on lower Jewett Creek.



A volunteer helps re-plant the riparian zone on a tributary to the Wind River.



Kids plant a tree and learn about watershed health.



Removing an old car body from the banks of the Klickitat River, 2006.

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### PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Value	Other Funds	MCF Total	Contributions from Project Partners	Total Project Value
Klickitat Riparian	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$35,173.00	\$35,173.00	\$0.00	\$35,173.00
Klickitat RM 12	\$0.00	75	\$1,125.00	\$8,573.00	\$9,698.00	\$0.00	\$9,698.00
Klickitat Western Tributaries	\$0.00	622	\$9,330.00	\$11,937.00	\$21,267.00	\$0.00	\$21,267.00
Taneum Creek	\$0.00	0	\$0.00	\$28,125.00	\$28,125.00	\$0.00	\$28,125.00
Taneum Water Rights Acq	\$15,000.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$802,316.00	\$817,316.00
Little Klickitat	\$0.00	96	\$1,440.00	\$10,800.00	\$12,240.00	\$57,000.00	\$69,240.00
Whiskey Creek	\$50.00	72	\$1,080.00	\$0.00	\$1,130.00	\$0.00	\$1,130.00
Cowiche Creek	\$10,000.00	0	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$200,000.00	\$210,000.00
Holmes Acquisition & Restoration	\$5,651.00	200	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$8,651.00	\$167,300.00	\$175,951.00
Admin & Proj. Mgmt	\$43,471.00	111	\$1,665.00	\$150.00	\$45,286.00	\$0.00	\$45,286.00
Total	\$74,172.00	1176	\$17,640.00	\$94,758.00	\$186,570.00	\$1,226,616.00	\$1,413,186.00



Planting along the Klickitat River using the hydraulic stinger, 2006.

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#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

#### STAFF

Margaret Neuman, Director

#### CONTACT INFORMATION

 ${\bf Mid\text{-}Columbia\ Fisheries\ Enhancement\ Group}$ 

P.O. Box 1271

White Salmon, WA 98672 Phone: 541-806-0936

Email: fish@midcolumbiarfeg.com Website: www.midcolumbiarfeg.com



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#### MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### OVERVIEW

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

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

During the 2005-06 fiscal year the Tri-State Steelheaders participated in eight habitat restoration projects. Volunteers donated a total of 2348 hours working on habitat enhancement projects and educational programs.

#### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### Mill Creek Fish Passage at Kooskooskie

In August 2005, the Tri-State Steelheaders oversaw the removal of Kooskooskie Dam on upper Mill Creek. The dam, just 0.4 miles downstream of the Oregon-Washington border, was a passage barrier to all life stages of ESA-listed steelhead, bull trout, and reintroduced spring Chinook salmon.



A volunteer planting crew from Whitman College poses for a picture along Mill Creek at the site of the former Kooskooskie Dam.

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The dam was approximately 63 feet long and nine feet high. Records indicate that the dam was built in or around 1907. It was originally used as a municipal water diversion for the city of Walla Walla and was decommissioned several decades later. Abandoned since then, the dam blocked access to high-quality spawning and rearing habitat. When the city sold the surrounding land into private ownership, the dam also became private property.

Because the dam had been unmaintained for several years, the upstream side of the dam was completely filled with sediment. After the structure was removed, it was necessary to remove approximately 2,400 cubic yards of material that had deposited behind the dam. Additionally, 680 feet of stream channel was



Volunteers pass through a section of the Wooten Wildlife Area that was burned in the 2006 School Fire.

restored and allowed to adjust natually to different flow regimes. Design challenges included nearby infrastructure (road, water lines, and houses), a 14.5-foot elevation change within the project reach, and highly variable flows.

The removal of the dam created access to an additional 32 miles of high-quality salmonid habitat that had been blocked for appoximately 100 years. In addition to providing passage, another aspect of the project was to provide habitat features for juvenile salmonids and riparian buffers. Eight large logs were securely placed in the creek and fish were observed using these structures on the day after construction ended. Since the end of construction, several volunteer groups have visited the former dam site to plant native vegetation along the project reach. These trees will help anchor the banks of Mill Creek and will eventually provide additional shade for the stream.



A father and son show off their catch at the Tri-State Steelheaders' Kids' Fishing Day at Bennington Lake.

The funds for this project were provided by Washington State's Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Landowner Incentive Program (LIP), and the RFEG program.

#### McDonald Levee Removal

In late 2005, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, WDWF, and the Tri-State Steelheaders partnered to remove a levee along the Walla Walla River at McDonald Road. The removal of the levee provided floodplain connectivity, creating new off-channel habitat through the reach. In February 2006, community volunteers turned out to help plant over 1200 native trees and shrubs at the footprint of the former levee. The former levee stood on land owned by WDFW and the property remains open to the public. The area is respected by many as a popular and successful area for both fishermen and birdwatchers.

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#### Jim Creek Culvert Removal

In July 2005, the Tri-State Steelheaders were the sponsors of a project to remove an undersized culvert on Jim Creek, a tributary to the North Fork of the Touchet River. Five culverts along one reach of Jim Creek had been identified as fish passage barriers.

The Tri-State Steelheaders, in cooperation with a private landowner, sponsored the removal of one of the culverts. Three additional culverts were replaced by a neighboring landowner. The project was supported by funds from the Family Forest Fish Passage Program. The fifth and final culvert, on Columbia County property, was replaced in August 2006 with funds from NRCS. Now completed, the new culverts allow resident bull trout and migrating steelhead access to an additional 11 miles of healthy stream habitat.

#### Wooten Wildlife Area Replant

Throughout March 2005, an intensive replanting effort was made in the Wooten Wildlife Area. Parts of the wildlife area were severely burned during the August 2005 School Fire. The Tri-State Steelheaders, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian



Tri-State Steelheaders Board member Mike Taylor participates in a planting day along the Walla Walla River at the site of the former McDonald Levee.

Reservation partnered to replant key riparian areas. During every weekend in March, staff and volunteers from WDFW and the Tri-State Steelheaders visited the Wooten Wildlife Area to install trees purchased by CTUIR. Native plant species including quaking aspen, larch, red osier dogwood, snowberry, cottonwood, and a variety of willows were planted along sections of Cummins Creek and the Tucannon River. Approximately 10,000 trees were planted, representing the first step towards soil stabilization along these important spawning reaches.



Volunteers from Whitman College plant a tree along Mill Creek, in the former footprint of the Kooskooskie Dam.

#### Stream Flow Monitoring

Working under contract with Walla Walla County and Washington State Department of Ecology, the Tri-State Steelheaders continued monitoring water flow and temperature at 18 stream locations (14 year-round and four seasonal) in Columbia and Walla Walla counties during the past year. Tri-State Steelheaders technicians visited the stations weekly to take measurements and conduct needed maintenance. These monitoring efforts provided essential data used for sub-basin and HCP planning efforts.

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Data collected were provided to WDOE and used to construct flow curves reporting the water flow volume at each site on a year round basis. Flows information from the various sites may be viewed in near-real time at the Department of Ecology website, www.ecy.wa.gov.

#### Project Success Monitoring Using WHEP (Watershed Health Evaluation Procedure)

Teacher/student teams from nine regional public, private, and alternative schools monitored over twenty riparian restoration sites on streams ranging from Asotin Creek in the east to the Touchet River in the west. Currently in its seventh year, this ongoing monitoring project collects water quality information at appointed project sites. Participating teachers are trained in monitoring protocols by a scientist, furnished with professional quality monitoring equipment, and provided workbooks and lab manuals for student use. The students measure water temperature, stream flow, dissolved oxygen, pH level, macroinvertebrate presence, stream bank profiles, and tree coverage at their assigned project site. A scientist replicates a sample of the student tests to ensure accurate results. In the 2004-05 fiscal year, the students dedicated 1128 hours towards collecting this data.

#### COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

The past year was extremely successful for the Tri-State Steelheaders' efforts to involve community members in salmon and steelhead restoration activities. In addition to the annual Crab Feed, which recognizes salmon and steelhead restoration efforts across the watershed, the Tri-State Steelheaders delivered the message of salmon and steelhead restoration throughout the community. The Tri-State Steelheaders visited private and public elementary, middle, high schools, and colleges.

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



Before: Kooskooskie Dam as it appeared on Mill Creek.



After: Mill Creek at the site of the former Kooskooskie Dam. Approximately 32 miles of habitat were made available by the dam's removal.

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### PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2005 - JUNE 30, 2006

Project	RFEG Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Jim Creek Culvert Replacement	\$0	0	\$0	\$20,548	\$20,548
Johnson/Lower Walla Walla River Restoration	\$0	0	\$0	\$10,179	\$10,179
North Fork Coppei Creek Easement	\$0	0	\$0	\$698	\$698
Lampsen Restoration Maintenance	\$20	49.5	\$743	\$300	\$1,063
Flow Pulsing Study	\$26	0	\$0	\$848	\$874
Garrison Creek Clean-up	\$59	49	\$735	\$0	\$794
Enhanced Flow Monitoring	\$65	0	\$0	\$20,697	\$20,762
Dry Creek Restoration	\$80	81	\$1,215	\$3,670	\$4,965
Yellowhawk Creek Camera	\$110	87	\$1,305	\$0	\$1,415
Wooten/School Fire Riparian Replanting	\$117	189.5	\$2,843	\$25,000	\$27,960
South Fork Coppei Creek Maintenance	\$255	104	\$1,560	\$0	\$1,815
Yellowhawk Creek Riparian Restoration	\$330	178	\$2,670	\$3,249	\$6,249
Walla Walla River/McDonald Levee Removal	\$1,340	105	\$1,575	\$57,000	\$59,915
Hofer Dam Removal	\$4,154	0	\$0	\$115,080	\$119,234
Kooskooskie Dam Removal	\$11,274	150	\$2,250	\$232,566	\$246,090
Community Outreach & Education	\$22,713	1,213	\$18,195	\$12,108	\$53,016
Administration	\$21,320	161.5	\$3,423	\$1,550	\$26,293
Project Development & Management	\$54,586	0	\$0	\$802	\$55,388
Training	\$1,996	0	\$0	\$0	\$1,996
Totals	\$118,445	2367.5	\$35,513	\$504,295	\$652,335

#### TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS ACCOMPLISHMENTS FACT SHEET

Number of barriers repaired/replaced: 6 (WRIA 32)

Miles of fish habitat opened up: 32 (WRIA 32)

Feet/miles of river/stream restoration: ~1500 feet

Stream flow monitoring stations: 18

Volunteer hours: 1213

Partner schools in Watershed

Health Evaluation Procedure: 9

Students: 188

#### **WRIA 32**

Sites monitored: 39

Riparian maintenance: 6.25 miles; 137 acres

Stream miles opened:

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#### OFFICERS:

President: Larry Zalaznik, Vice-President, Banner Bank

Vice-President: Mike Taylor, Retired, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Treasurer: Mike Loney, Coachman Body and Frame Service

Secretary: John Geidl, Retired, Educator

#### DIRECTORS:

Bob Carson, Ph.D., Professor, Whitman College Jon Cole, Ph.D., Professor, Walla Walla College Rick Johnston, D.C., Chiropractor, Johnston Chiropractic Rick Jones, Director, Walla Walla County Conservation District Kirk Klicker, Owner-Operator, Klicker's Strawberry Acres

#### STAFF:

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

Tri-State Steelheaders project partners July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2006: Asotin High School, Berney Elementary School, Burbank High School, C.A.S.T. For Kids Foundation, City of College Place, Clarkston High School, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Cooperative Trout Enhancement Program, DeSales Catholic High School, Farm Service Agency, Garrison Middle School, Hook N' More Sports, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Park Service, NOAA, National Resource Conservation Service, Opportunity Program, Palouse Community School, Pepsi-Cola of Walla Walla, Royse Hydroseeding, Sportsman's Warehouse of Kennewick, Touchet Elementary School, Touchet High School, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Waitsburg Elementary School, Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council, Walla Walla College, Walla Walla Community College, Walla Walla County, Walla Walla County Conservation District, Walla Walla High School, Walla Walla YMCA, Wal-Mart, Washington Department of Ecology, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Whitman College, and many additional local and regional businesses that supported the Tri-State Steelheaders' projects.

#### CONTACT:

Tri-State Steelheaders, RFEG 216 N. Roosevelt P.O. Box 1375 Walla Walla, WA 99362 Phone (509) 529-3543 Fax (509) 529-3543





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#### UCRFEG MISSION STATEMENT

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

#### UCRFEG OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

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off by downstream dams. Hatchery programs are run by the Colville Confederated Tribes and other agencies who have their own nutrification programs.

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

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

In addition to paid staff time, the above progress has been made due to the efforts of our volunteer Board and others, who have contributed 144.5 hours of volunteer time.



Fall 2003 - Sediment flows down an earth boat access and into Dog Lake



June 2005 - A culvert underneath the Pacific Crest Trail restricts stream flow at the White Pass South Trailhead

#### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

#### Respect the River – Dog Lake and White Pass

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

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The effects of unmanaged recreation on natural resources can be very detrimental. Common problems of overuse include:

- Increased bank erosion and sediment delivery due to user built roads and trails
- Decreased floodplain function due to loss of vegetation and soil compaction
- Garbage and uncovered human waste

To rectify these problems, the Respect the River program encompasses a set of broad goals. Throughout all of our work, we strive to:

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

The Dog Lake Campground and Trailhead is located on White Pass of the Naches Ranger District on the Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests. Here on the Cascade Crest, flat land suitable for camping and recreational parking is at a premium. Accessible to the Seattle metropolitan area, this popular area has been enjoyed by campers, picnickers, and fishermen (4,500 of them in 2004) since the 1960s. The trailhead located within the campground provides hikers with parking and access to the William O. Douglas Wilderness area. During the 2004 season, 1,300 hikers registered at the site. Separate from the campground, the White Pass South Trailhead provides parking for hikers and horsemen accessing the Goat Rocks Wilderness via the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail.

The facilities at Dog Lake Campground were outdated and in various states of disintegration. The boat access area was deeply rutted, allowing sediment to run into the lake. There were no designated areas for camping, day use, or trailhead parking, and people parked and camped everywhere, including on the shoreline. This resulted in sedimentation, soil compaction and associated vegetation loss, and increased dust. It also resulted in social conflicts, with hikers parking in premium camping spots, people camping where fishermen park, etc. Through



July 2005 – The Student Conservation Association Volunteer Crew replaces the culvert with a bridge using materials donated from the UCRFEG

this project, we have designated camping units, parking areas, and a day use area. At the White Pass South Trailhead, an old culvert at the trailhead was impeding water passage, and we replaced it with a foot bridge. We also pulled vehicles back from the creek's edge.

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Our objectives were to:

- Reduce human caused bank erosion leading to excess sedimentation by 50% by 2007
- Increase the area of functioning floodplain by 25% by 2008
- Reduce instances of unsanitary disposal of human waste by 95% by 2006

We began work on the project in July of 2005. At the White Pass South Trailhead, volunteers from the Backcountry Horsemen of Central Washington removed the old culvert and Student Conservation Association crew members built a foot bridge across the creek. Parking barriers, (including boulders and commercially made bollards) were used at the Dog Lake campground and the White Pass South Trailhead to designate parking areas and to direct foot and vehicular traffic out of riparian areas. (A limited number of foot access points to the water remain, but the network of redundant trails has been removed.) Concrete



The Dog Lake Boat access area as of July 1, 2006.

planking was installed at the boat access area to stop erosion into Dog Lake. New vault toilets were installed, and riparian areas were seeded and planted where feasible. The White Pass South Trailhead remained accessible throughout the project except for one day in 2005, and Dog Lake facilities were reopened in time for the July 4th weekend in 2006.

#### **Rockview Diversion**

The Rockview surface water diversion is located on the Big Valley Ranch Unit of the Methow Wildlife Area in the Upper Methow River sub-watershed. The diversion is situated below the Weeman Bridge at Methow River mile 60.6, approximately 8miles northwest of the town of Winthrop, WA.

Lack of functioning side channel habitat and woody debris were identified as limiting factors for ESA listed fish in the Methow Subbasin (WSCC 2000). The identified Rockview screen, which was built in 1965, does not meet current NMFS or WDFW criteria for fish protection, including criteria for approach velocities, sweeping velocities, screen orientation or bypass return. The quantity of intact, and in some cases, nearly pristine habitat within the Methow sub-basin, in concert with the presence of six species of fish that are federally listed as endangered, threatened, or species of concern (spring Chinook – endangered, summer steelhead – endangered, bull trout – threatened, redband trout – species of concern, pacific lamprey – species of concern, and westslope cutthroat – species of concern), make the Methow sub-basin a regional priority for salmon restoration activities.

The UCRFEG partnered with WDFW to remove the Rockview surface water diversion and install a well, which would return 5.37 cfs of diverted water back into the Methow River. The work on this project was completed in June 2006.

#### Similkameen-Okanogan Confluence Project

The Project is designed to work cooperatively with affected landowners and natural resource agencies to scientifically assess river and riparian habitat conditions at the Similkameen / Okanogan River Confluence. The project will generate a plan for improving conditions where needed for landowners, fish and wildlife, as well as a

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broader Adaptive Management Plan to manage land use decisions in the area into the future. The specific goal of the funding for Phase I is to develop the concept drawings for restoration prescriptions for use in Phase II.

Currently to date we have completed the Surveying & Mapping of the area (including digital geo-referenced aerial photos, river cross- and longitudinal sections), Hydrological assessment (flow analysis), Biological assessment (riparian and in-stream habitat analysis), Landowner survey (questionnaires, interviews and public meetings with local Landowner Watershed Committee), Science reviews (Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) made of all pertinent county, state, federal and tribal agencies), Adaptive Management Plan (to direct future land management decision making in the project area), and the overall coordination of contractors, funding, programmatic linkages and communications. We have also identified, through the Landowner Watershed Committee and the IDT, the first set of priority projects for implementation and completed construction designs to 30% for those identified projects. We are currently seeking continued funding to bring design plans to 100% as well as implementation.

#### Sinlahekin Creek Restoration Project

The Sinlahekin Creek Restoration Project was a major project for the Upper Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group to be involved in. There was a large collaboration of partners working together to make this a successful project. There were two private landowners in the immediate area of work being done that were continuously involved in the project and decisions that were being made. Each landowner was given opportunities to voice their opinions and concerns with how the project was taking place and if it met their needs as private landowners and farmers adjacent to the stream. There is an extensive list of partnerships that have been developed and continued due to this project, including but not limited to: the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Okanogan Conservation District, Bureau of Land Management, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Trout Unlimited, Okanogan Similkameen Corridor Conservation Project, and the Landowner Incentive Program. Given the fact that there were so many agencies involved in this project, regular meetings and conference calls were set to keep everyone on the same page and working together effectively.

This habitat project involved 14,000 linear feet of a badly incised and eroded creek. It involved fencing, riparian planting and bank restoration including instream structures. Phase I of this project was completed in June 2005. All objectives were successfully implemented for this phase of the project. All tasks were completed to include 51 instream structures, out of stream excavations, and instream work totaling 5420 feet. Completed was 1.4 miles of fencing, irrigation system, 18.5 acres of riparian plantings and 3 livestock crossings.

Initially we anticipated completing work on the full 8000+ feet of stream, but due to the high water flows setting back production time on structure placement in conjunction with the cost overrun due to the increased work, it was decided by all agencies and landowners involved that it would be a more sensible approach to fully complete the 5420 feet of stream including all aspects of the project, instead of finishing the full 8000+ feet of stream with structures and then not having the funding to complete the planting, fencing, and irrigation.

On the remaining 2500+ feet of stream, instream work will begin Spring 2007 with the planting, fencing, and irrigation being completed by Summer 2008. Additional funding is still being sought for the final phase of this project.

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#### TABLE OF PROJECT EXPENDITURES

\* indicates totals are subject to change as they are the best estimates for project end totals at time of report writing, as project carries on until next fiscal.

Project Name	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars (unskilled @ \$15.00 / hr, professional @ ESD rates)	Other Funds	Total Spent
Admin & office expenses	\$77,720.71	83.5	\$1,252.50	\$3,001.50	\$81,974.71
Partnerships & Project Development	\$8,234.10	-	-	-	\$8,234.10
Habitat Projects Assessment, Restoration & Monitoring *	\$6,697.91	30	\$450.00	\$148,425.57 *	\$155,573.48*
Education & Outreach	\$8,991.86	31	465.00	-	\$9,456.86
Training, Travel & Conferences	\$2,504.36	-	-	-	\$2,504.36
TOTAL	\$104,148.94	144.5	\$2,167.50	\$151,427.07	\$257,743.51

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Jerry Kendrick, Software Developer
Bill Colyar, Operations Director, SES Americom Earth Station
Marcus Bertrand, Retired Mayor
Mark Cookson, WDFW Watershed Steward
Staff Members: Daphne Booker, Program Manger
Andrea Field, Administrative Assistant

#### CONTACT INFORMATION:

Phone: 509 476 3444 Fax: 509 476 2883 Email: info@ucrfeg.org

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Website: www.ucrfeg.org



## 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 Quinault Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds entering directly into the Pacific Ocean between Cape Flattery and the north side of Grays Harbor.

#### REGION 9: CHEHALIS BASIN FISHERIES TASK FORCE

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

### REGION 10: WILLAPA BAY REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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

#### REGION 11: LOWER COLUMBIA FISH ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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

### REGION 12: MID-COLUMBIA REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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

### REGION 13: TRI-STATE STEELHEADERS REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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

#### REGION 14: UPPER COLUMBIA FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP

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

### REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUP CONTACT LIST

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2005 - June 30, 2006

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

2445 E. Bakerview Rd. Bellingham, WA 98226-7694 (360)715-0283 Office

e-mail: info@n-sea.org website: www.n-sea.org

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Post Office Box 2497, 407 Main St. Suite 212

Mt. Vernon, WA 98273 (360)336-0172 Office

e-mail: sfeg@skagitfisheries.org website: www.skagitfisheries.org

Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

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

Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group 7400 Sand Point Way NE, Suite 202 N

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website: www.midsoundfisheries.org

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

6700 Martin Way, Suite 112 Olympia WA 98516 (360)412-0808 Office

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Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

22881 NE State Route 3 Belfair, WA 98528 (360)275-3575 Office e-mail: eileen@hcseg.org website: www.hcseg.org

North Olympic Salmon Coalition

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Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

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

website: www.cohosalmon.com

Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force

115 S. Wooding St Aberdeen WA 98520 (360)533-1766 Office e-mail: cbftf@reachone.com

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Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Lower Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

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Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

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# RFEG OVERVIEWS AND PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

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