



Fish & Wildlife Planner

Funding Available to Private Landowners to Fix Fish Barriers

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The Family Forest Fish Passage Program has \$1.35 million to help private landowners fix fish barriers on forestlands. Applications are being accepted through June 30th, 2006, for projects to be funded in 2007. The state pays 75-100 percent of the cost of correcting qualifying barriers.

Managed jointly by the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Interagency for Outdoor Recreation, the program provides both financial and technical assistance. Signing up for the program relieves a landowner of Forest Practices obligations to fix a barrier until the state determines it is a high priority.

The program addresses barriers on a worst-first basis within each watershed. Each year the highest priority projects are funded. The program has funded 101 projects since 2003, opening approximately 237 miles of fish habitat.

Landowners qualify for the program if:

- They are a private, small forest landowner who owns more than 2 acres of land and harvests less than an average of 2 million board feet of timber/year. You do not need to harvest timber to qualify.
- The fish barrier is on forestland, and the land is capable of supporting a merchantable stand of timber and is not being used for anything incompatible with growing timber.
- The structure is on a fish-bearing stream. Any stream wider than 2 feet in western Washington (3 feet in eastern Washington) with a gradient less than 20 percent is considered potential fish habitat.
- Qualifying barriers must be human-made and associated with a road crossing (e.g., culverts, puncheons, and dams).



Completed Lewis County project.

Photo by Brian Abbott

To find out more about the program, contact DNR's Small Forest Landowner Office at (360) 902-1404 or visit the Web link at <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo>.

Cooperative Project Brings Multiple Benefits

By Sandy Dotts, Watershed Stewardship Biologist, WDFW

On the morning of October 11, 2005, the aging Cedar Creek Dam, which provided a municipal water supply reservoir for the town of Ione from 1950-1988, was removed and allowed Cedar Creek to once again flow freely



Cedar Creek prior to dam removal.

WDFW File Photo

to the Pend Oreille River. The project was the result of nearly five years of collaborative effort between the small town of Ione in northern Pend Oreille County, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and 13 local, state, tribal, and federal partners.

The town of Ione decided to remove the dam after the Washington State Dam Safety Office issued Administrative Orders to the town requiring that safety deficiencies be corrected. The aging dam was at risk of failure in high flows and posed a risk to several downstream residences. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) were interested in seeing the dam removed to improve habitat conditions for bull trout, a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. The 19-foot

high, 95-foot wide dam was constructed without fish passage facilities and completely blocked fish migration. The Washington Department of Ecology also wanted to see the dam removed because the reservoir behind the dam was acting as a “heat sink,” raising the water temperature in Cedar Creek above state water quality standards.

With the help of WDFW, the town began the search for dam removal funding and in December 2004, after almost four years of pursuing various funding sources, Ione was awarded an \$810,000 grant from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board for dam removal. Other funding was received from the USFWS (Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program) and Washington State Department of Ecology (Coastal Protection Account and Flood Control Assistance Account Program) for the \$981,000 project.

“This project was truly a team effort,” said Water/Sewer Commissioner and City Council Member Leanna Powers, who spearheaded the project. In addition to grant funding, generous in-kind donations of labor,



Cedar Creek after dam removal.

WDFW File Photo

equipment, and materials were made by a wide range of project partners. For example, WDFW provide technical assistance for project management, permitting, and engineering. Washington State Department of Transportation donated logs to be used to create fish habitat structures in the creek. The Pend Oreille County Planning Department provided assistance to help Ione meet local permitting and State Environmental Policy Act requirements. “Captain” Ron Lundberg, a private citizen who lives near the dam, provided land to be used as

Please see **Cedar Creek** on Page 3

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the disposal site for the nearly 200,000 cubic yards of sediment removed from behind the dam. Forestry students from the Curlew Job Corps Center helped revegetate the site. “What really made the project successful was our relationship with WDFW and the other partner agencies. We are glad that we could help do our part to recover bull trout in Pend Oreille County and eliminate dam safety concerns at the same time,” said Powers.

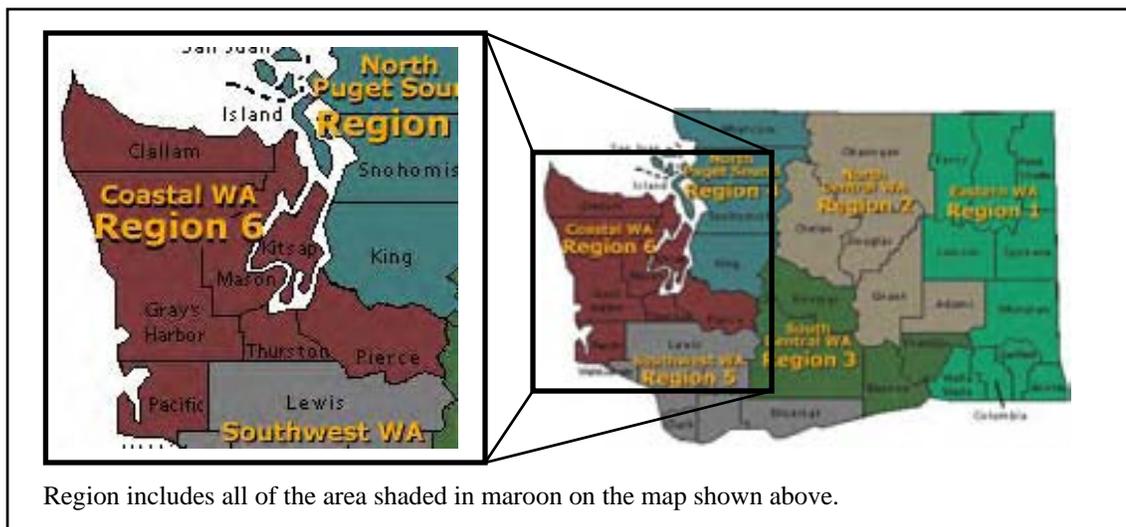
For more information on this project, please contact Leanna Powers with the town of Ione at (509) 442-3709, or Sandy Dotts with WDFW at (509) 684-2031 or dottssrd@dfw.wa.gov.

Project Partners

- Town of Ione
- Salmon Recovery Funding Board
- Washington Department of Ecology
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Dept. of Transportation
- Washington Dept. of Natural Resources
- Kalispel Tribe
- Pend Oreille County Planning Dept.
- Curlew Job Corps Forestry Program
- Federal Highways Administration
- Vaagen Bros. Lumber
- Colville National Forest
- “Captain” Ron Lundberg
- Fairchild Air Force Base Survival School

Biologist Available to Assist Olympic Peninsula Communities

Jeff Davis was recently hired to provide technical assistance to communities in and around the Olympic Peninsula (see Regional Map below). Jeff is available to advise cities and counties with GMA planning and he also will coordinate periodic reviews and updates of the agency’s Priority Habitat and Species database for his region.

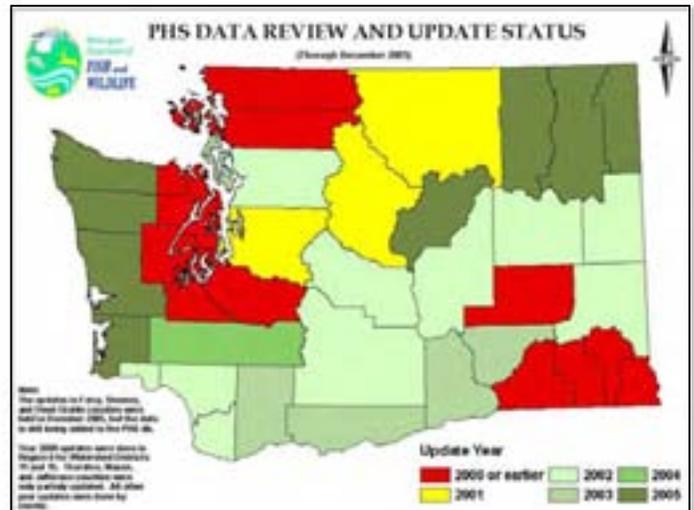


Jeff has worked for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as an Area Habitat Biologist for over five years. Prior to joining the agency, he spent five years working for various agencies and consulting firms in salmon recovery, wetlands and wildlife inventory, and habitat protection. Outside of work, Jeff keeps up on new science and conservation projects by maintaining memberships with the Audubon Society, Arbor Day Foundation, American Fisheries Society, The Wildlife Society, Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group, and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation. Jeff Davis can be reached by calling (360) 895-3965 or by emailing him at davisjpd@dfw.wa.gov.

Status of Priority Habitat and Species Data

By Terry Johnson, WDFW Habitat Program

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Priority Habitat and Species (PHS) database contains information on the locations of important fish and wildlife resources. Priority species are those requiring special efforts to ensure their continuation because of low numbers, sensitivity to habitat alteration, tendency to form vulnerable aggregations, or because they are of commercial, recreational, or tribal importance. Priority habitats are areas that support diverse, unique, or abundant fish and wildlife communities. The agency regularly updates its PHS data, and the current status of the data is shown in this figure.



The PHS database was recently updated, and revised maps and digital information are available for Douglas, Stevens, Ferry, and Pend Oreille counties. In 2006, updates are planned for Southeast Washington and for counties in the Puget Sound area.

Other important fish and wildlife databases

Besides PHS, other databases managed by WDFW contain information commonly used by cities and counties throughout the state. The Wildlife Program manages the Wildlife Heritage, Spotted Owl, and Marbled Murrelet databases. The Heritage database contains data on numerous threatened, endangered, sensitive, and candidate species. The Fish Program maintains the Washington Lakes Rivers Information System (WLRIS) that contains 1:24,000 scale salmonid spawning, rearing, and distribution data. WLRIS will later be including resident fish species. All of these databases can inform the local planning process and are available to those who request PHS information.

Requesting PHS information

Directions for requesting PHS maps or digital data can found at <http://wdfw.wa.gov/hab/release.htm>, or by calling (360) 902-2543. A written request for ordering PHS information can be sent to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, PHS Data Release, 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, Washington 98501-1091.

New Bald Eagle Planning Resources Available

A [Bald Eagle Management Fact Sheet for Landowners](#) is now available on WDFW's website. The new fact sheet addresses frequently asked questions about Bald Eagle habitat management and lists WDFW contacts with primary responsibility for habitat protection in each county.

WDFW is also introducing a new web based Bald Eagle Data Download Package. Agency Wildlife Biologists and Information Systems staff created the download package and site in order to provide agencies with regulatory responsibility a means of downloading data and attributes for eagle nests, winter communal roosts, and management buffers.



WDFW File Photo

Accessing the data requires a user login and password. Those interested in accessing the site must email a request to phsproducts@dfw.wa.gov that includes your name, affiliation, county, phone number, and email address.

Conferences, Workshops, & Training

- **Washington Planners' Forums: Upcoming Events:**

- April 19, 2006 – Eastern Washington (Moses Lake: Hallmark Inn)
- April 20, 2006 – Southwest Washington (Vancouver: Water Resource Education Center)
- April 26, 2006 – Olympic Peninsula (Silverdale: Silver Valley Community Center)
- May 4, 2006 – Northwest Washington (Mount Vernon: Skagit Station)

All Forum sessions are 9 am - 3 pm with lunch on your own. Forums include guest presentations, jurisdictional sharing/report on GMA issues and progress, updates from the Growth Management Hearings Boards, and a report from CTED. Information on upcoming forums can be found at [CTED's](#) website. Please direct questions to Ted Gage at (360) 725-3049 or tedg@cted.wa.gov.

- **Annual Spring Planning Conference: Planning Association Of Washington:**

The Planning Association of Washington (PAW) invites you to join them for their annual meeting. The conference will be held at the Inn at Gig Harbor and Conference Center on May 4th and 5th. Topics include land conservation strategies, legal and legislative updates, GMA Hearings Board review, as well as much more. Contact Chris Parsons at parsoebp@dfw.wa.gov with questions. To register, contact Andrew Estep at pawoff@aol.com.

- **Restoring Greenspace: Ecological Reuse of Contaminated Properties**

The Wildlife Habitat Council is hosting the conference that will provide a first-hand look at innovative programs, new initiatives, and case studies. The conference will be held on May 3rd and 4th at the Red Lion Hotel (1415 5th Ave., Seattle). For more information call (301) 588-8994, send an email to greenspace@wildlifehc.org, or visit the [WHC](#) website.

- **Short Courses/Planning Education:**

One of several ways in which Growth Management Services provides direct assistance to communities is through short courses on local planning. These three-hour workshops explain the legal basis of planning in Washington, the basics of comprehensive planning and plan implementation, and the role of the planning commission. There is no charge for the courses. The schedule for 2006 is available on [CTED's website](#). Courses are scheduled at the request of local communities, and are always open to the public. Everyone who attends a short course receives a copy of the short course manual. Call Ted Gage with questions at (360) 725-3049 or tedg@cted.wa.gov.

Grant Opportunities

- **Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA):**

WDFW is accepting applications until March 31 from individuals and groups seeking financial support for volunteer projects that benefit fish and wildlife. The department expects to award about \$120,000 in grants from the Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) for projects undertaken between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007. ALEA grants may fund up to five major categories of projects conducted by volunteers. These include artificial production, education and outreach, facility improvements, research, and habitat restoration projects. Applications are available on the WDFW website (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/volunter/vol-7.htm>) or by calling the department at (360) 902-2700.

- **Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP):**

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program has \$1.35 million to help private landowners fix fish barriers on forestlands. Applications are being accepted through June 30th, 2006, for projects to be funded in 2007. See page one of this issue of the *Fish and Wildlife Planner* for more details about this funding opportunity.

Critical Areas Help Is On The Way

A new technical assistance tool on implementing critical areas ordinances is being designed by the state Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development for cities and towns with limited planning staff. CTED is looking for interested city and town staff, planning commissioners, and elected officials to form an advisory group to assist with the project this year. Those interested in participating or learning more should contact Doug Peters at 360-725-3046 or douglasp@cted.wa.gov.

WDFW Planning Contacts

Growth Management Issues

Eastern Washington – Jeff Lawlor, 509.456.4082, (Pend Oreille, N. Spokane); Karin Divens, 509.255.6103, (S. Spokane, Lincoln, Whitman); Allen Palmanteer, 509.738.2364 (Ferry, Stevens); Mark Grandstaff, 509.527.4141 (Walla Walla); Tom Schirm, 509.382.1266 (Garfield, Columbia, Asotin)

North-central Washington –Chris Parsons, 509.754.4624 Ext. 12 (Chelan, Okanogan, Douglas, Grant, Adams)

South-central Washington – Mark Teske, 509.962.3421, (Kittitas, Yakima, Benton, Franklin)

Southwest Washington – Sam Kolb, 360.906.6731, (Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Lewis, Clark, Skamania, Klickitat)

Puget Sound – Pam Erstad, 425.379.2308, (Whatcom, Skagit, Snohomish, King, Island, San Juan)

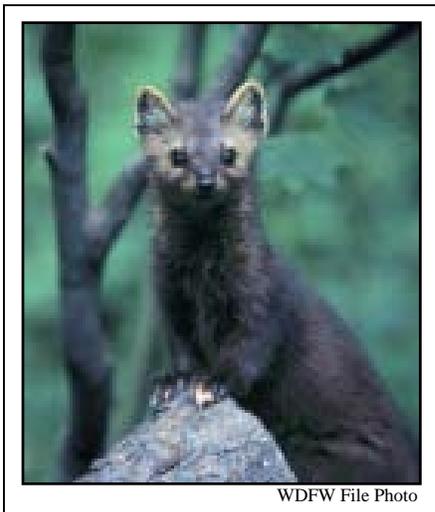
Olympic Peninsula – Jeff Davis, 360.895.3965, (Clallam, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Kitsap, Mason, Pacific, Pierce, Thurston)

Ecoregional Assessments

George Wilhere – 360.902.2369

Local Assessments

Erik Neatherlin -- 360.902.2559



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