

# ***Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program***

**Summary Report For July 1, 2009 - June 30, 2010**



"DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY-BASED SALMON

ENHANCEMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE"



### ***“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. Each RFEG works within a specific geographic region based generally on watershed boundaries (see map on page 6). Every group is a separate, non-profit organization led by their own board of directors and supported by their members.

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.

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

During the 2009-2010 fiscal year, the RFEGs collectively completed 146 projects ranging from education and outreach to monitoring and, of course, on the ground salmon enhancement projects. RFEG volunteers donated over 63,000 hours to these salmon enhancement efforts in 2009-10. One-half of the RFEGs participated in fish production projects, releasing 1.9 million fish into local watersheds. Fifty-three fish passage improvement projects opened 65 miles of habitat for migrating salmon. Fifty-two miles of habitat was enhanced and restored for salmonids and 85,000 salmon carcasses were returned to streams to add nutrients to local watersheds for juvenile salmon, bears, eagles and over 130 other species of wildlife.

Over a 15-year history, these accomplishments add up to:

- » 3,073 total salmon projects;
- » 1,073,669 volunteer hours;
- » 68 million salmon released into Washington waters;
- » 720 fish passage problems fixed;
- » 823 miles of fish habitat opened;
- » 507 additional miles of habitat restored;
- » 893,292 fish carcasses placed back in streams for nutrient enhancement;
- » \$129,703,000 in additional leveraged funding for salmon restoration efforts.

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

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



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

RFEs 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 RFEs include:

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

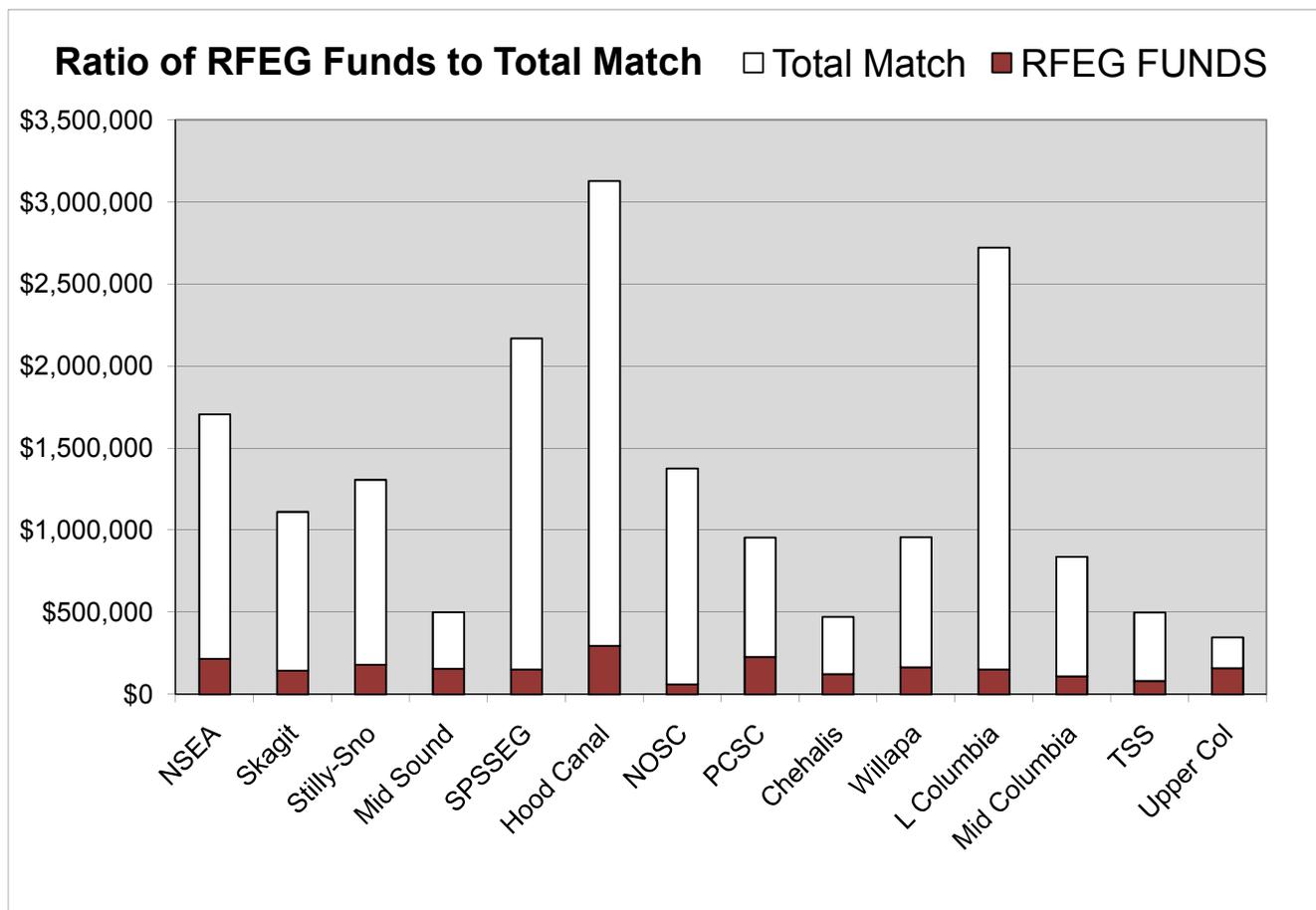
RFEs utilize staff, interns, volunteers, and contractors, in collaboration with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, and other agencies, to implement scientific monitoring protocols, projects, and programs.

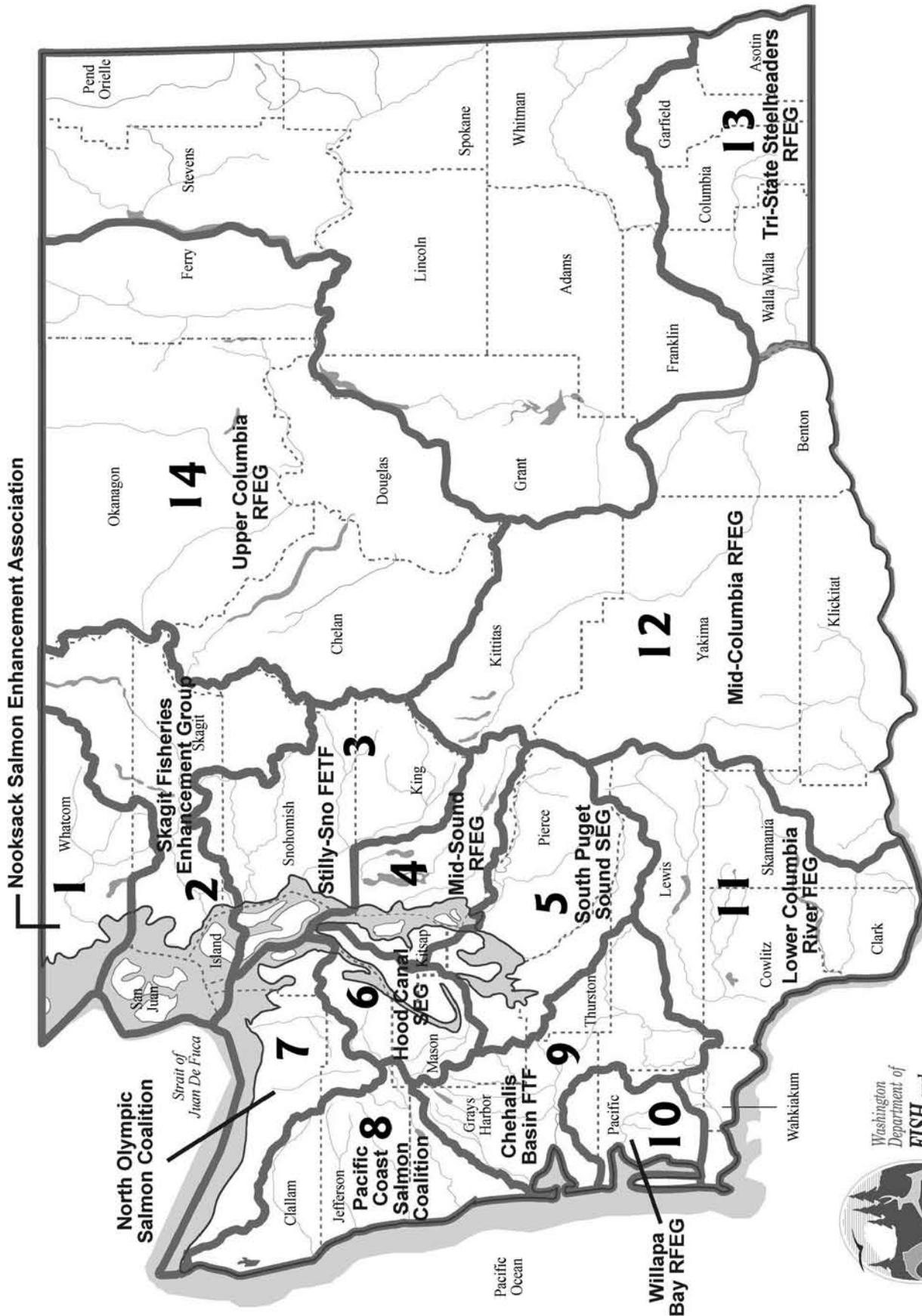


Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Program Expenditures: July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

Group	RFEG Funds	Volunteer Hours	Volunteer Dollars*	Funds Leveraged	Total Spent
NSEA	\$216,114	12,577	\$188,655	\$1,085,161	\$1,489,930
Skagit	\$143,997	6,988	\$104,820	\$719,430	\$968,247
Stilly-Sno	\$180,947	8,576	\$128,640	\$816,013	\$1,125,600
Mid Sound	\$155,223	843	\$12,645	\$178,198	\$346,066
SPSSEG	\$151,207	1,340	\$20,100	\$1,846,048	\$2,017,355
Hood Canal	\$295,167	6,691	\$100,365	\$2,436,933	\$2,832,465
NOSC	\$61,016	2,975	\$44,625	\$1,209,647	\$1,315,288
PCSC	\$226,883	3,222	\$48,330	\$453,747	\$728,960
Chehalis	\$122,643	5,534	\$83,010	\$143,015	\$348,668
Willapa	\$164,542	1,540	\$23,100	\$604,992	\$792,634
L Columbia	\$151,027	9,526	\$142,890	\$2,276,834	\$2,570,751
Mid Columbia	\$108,997	181	\$2,715	\$617,595	\$729,307
TSS	\$80,378	3,112	\$46,680	\$290,377	\$417,435
Upper Col	\$159,655	172	\$2,580	\$25,055	\$187,290
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,217,796</b>	<b>63,277</b>	<b>\$949,155</b>	<b>\$12,703,045</b>	<b>\$15,869,996</b>

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





# Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Boundaries



### **Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association**

2445 East Bakerview Road  
Bellingham, WA 98226  
Phone: 360-715-0283  
Fax: 360-715-0282  
Website: [www.n-sea.org](http://www.n-sea.org)  
Email: [info@n-sea.org](mailto:info@n-sea.org)

### **Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group**

P.O. Box 2497 – 407 Main Street, Suite 212  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273  
Phone: 360-336-0172  
Fax: 360-336-0701  
Website: [www.skagitfisheries.org](http://www.skagitfisheries.org)  
Email: [sfeg@skagitfisheries.org](mailto:sfeg@skagitfisheries.org)

### **Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force**

P.O. Box 5006  
Everett WA 98206  
Phone: 425-252-6686  
Fax: 425-252-6686  
Website: [www.stillysnofish.org](http://www.stillysnofish.org)  
Email: [info@stillysnofish.org](mailto:info@stillysnofish.org)

### **Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group**

7400 Sand Point Way NE, Suite 202 North  
Seattle, WA 98115  
Phone: 206-529-9467  
Fax: 206-529-9468  
Website: [www.midsoundfisheries.org](http://www.midsoundfisheries.org)

### **South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group**

6700 Martin Way East Suite 112  
Olympia, WA 98516  
Phone: 360-412-0808  
Fax: 360-412-0809  
Website: [www.spsseg.org](http://www.spsseg.org)  
Email: [spsseg@spsseg.org](mailto:spsseg@spsseg.org)

### **Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group**

600 Roessel Rd., P.O. Box 2169  
Belfair, WA 98528  
Phone: 360-275-3575  
Fax: 360-275-0648  
Website: [www.hcseg.org](http://www.hcseg.org)  
Email: [hcseg@hcseg.org](mailto:hcseg@hcseg.org)

### **North Olympic Salmon Coalition**

P.O. Box 699  
Port Townsend WA 98368  
Phone: 360 379-8051  
Website: [www.nosc.org](http://www.nosc.org)  
Email: [rbenjamin@nosc.org](mailto:rbenjamin@nosc.org)

### **Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition**

P.O. Box 2527  
Forks, WA 98331  
Phone: 360-374-8873  
Fax: 978-359-0478  
Website: [www.cohosalmon.com](http://www.cohosalmon.com)  
Email: [pacsac@olyphen.com](mailto:pacsac@olyphen.com)

### **Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force**

115 S Wooding Street  
Aberdeen, WA 98520  
Phone: 360-533-1766  
Fax: 360-533-1766  
Website: <http://www.cbfff.com>  
Email: [cbfff@reachone.com](mailto:cbfff@reachone.com)

### **Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group**

P.O. Box 46  
South Bend, WA 98586  
Phone: 360-875-6402  
Fax: 360-875-5802  
Website: [www.wbrfeg.org](http://www.wbrfeg.org)  
Email: [rcraig@willapabay.org](mailto:rcraig@willapabay.org)

### **Lower Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group**

12404 SE Evergreen Highway  
Vancouver, WA 98683  
Phone: 360-882-6671  
Website: [www.lcfeg.org](http://www.lcfeg.org)  
Email: [info@lcfeg.org](mailto:info@lcfeg.org)

### **Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group**

P.O. Box 1271  
White Salmon, WA 98672  
Phone: 509-281-1322  
Website: [www.midcolumbiariefeg.com](http://www.midcolumbiariefeg.com)  
Email: [fish@midcolumbiariefeg.com](mailto:fish@midcolumbiariefeg.com)

### **Tri-State Steelheaders Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group**

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P.O. Box 1375  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
Phone: 509-529-3543  
Fax: 509-529-3543  
E-mail: [tssfifish@tristatesteelheaders.com](mailto:tssfifish@tristatesteelheaders.com)

### **Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group**

PO Box 3162 Wenatchee, WA 98807  
509.476.3444  
[jason@ucrfeg.org](mailto:jason@ucrfeg.org)  
[www.ucrfeg.org](http://www.ucrfeg.org)

# Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

Region 1

## 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. NSEA works cooperatively with private landowners, public agencies, tribes, local businesses, service organizations, students, schools, and community volunteers in order to increase the awareness of, support for, and involvement in salmon restoration and education. The NSEA Board of Directors meets monthly, using a Strategic Plan to implement projects and programs and address goals. NSEA's Board and staff manage operations and the fiduciary responsibilities of over 50 grants and contracts and an annual budget of over \$1 million.

## HIGHLIGHTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- NSEA implemented 15 salmon habitat riparian restoration projects on 5,800 linear feet of stream.
- NSEA designed, permitted, and implemented 7 fish passage barrier removals in 2009 which opened or improved access to over 5.8 miles of stream.
- NSEA placed 51 LWD structures to improve habitat complexity along 9,700 feet of stream.
- Nearly 1,200 people chose to spend their free time volunteering for NSEA at community work parties; devoting 3,540 hours of time.
- NSEA educational programs reached just over 1,200 students in 57 classes located in 22 different schools throughout Whatcom County



# Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

## Region 2

### 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.

### SFEG OVERVIEW

2010 marks the twentieth year for the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group (SFEG) engaging our local community in salmon enhancement activities. We are fortunate to have many accomplishments to celebrate over this 20 year period, none of which would be possible without our volunteers, members, private landowners, and incredible partnerships that exist throughout our region. What started as a small group of passionate volunteers in the Skagit Basin has become a staff of 11 highly skilled and educated individuals working in three watersheds (Skagit, Whidbey and San Juan Islands) as well as hundreds of community members contributing thousands of hours annually to restore miles of habitat each year.

SFEG's habitat restoration program has grown by leaps and bounds since our beginning in 1990, planting nearly 40,000 native plants in riparian areas in 2009. We have developed educational programs that utilize local hatcheries as a learning opportunity to teach visitors and students about the salmon life cycle and wild salmon habitat needs. And since 1997 we have re-distributed over 91,000 adult salmon carcasses returning to the Marblemount Hatchery to streams in the Upper Skagit Watershed to provide much needed nutrients to our aquatic ecosystem. We have a well established monitoring program that trains volunteers to collect data that is shared with state agencies to track the effectiveness of restoration projects and the number of salmon returning to our watersheds. We have developed a highly successful education program for local middle school students, Junior Stream Stewards, which engaged 350 students this year in learning about their watershed and implementing stewardship projects. And our outreach programs as a whole in 2009 reached over 11,425 individuals of all ages from throughout our region. And while funding for education and outreach programs may remain difficult in the near term, we are very excited and optimistic about our future, in most part because of the support we receive from our volunteers, members, landowners and project partners.



### SUMMARY OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

#### **Habitat Enhancement:**

Riparian plantings	39,192 plants
Riparian maintenance	200 acres
Isolated habitat reconnected	2 miles
Nutrient enhancement	5,536 carcasses

#### **Community Outreach:**

Community education	11,425 people
Volunteer involvement	6,988 hours

# Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force

Region 3

## MISSION STATEMENT:

The Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force's mission is to ensure the future of healthy salmon runs in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish River basins and Island County watersheds.

## RFEG OVERVIEW:

The Task Force is a community-oriented, volunteer-supported organization with a dedicated base of volunteers, members, local business partners and donors, and private and public landowners. We cooperate with Federal, State, county and city agencies, tribes, other non-profits, Conservation Districts, local community colleges, school districts and fishing clubs and other interested groups. These alliances provide an invaluable source of donated labor, in-kind services, and cash match to support our projects and activities in the Stillaguamish and Snohomish Rivers, and Island County watersheds. The Task Force provides opportunities in habitat restoration and enhancement activities for volunteers that include streamside plantings, native plant salvages, salmon carcass distributions, invasive plant surveys, river and beach cleanups, macroinvertebrate and vegetation monitoring, and on-the-job training for AmeriCorps members and college interns. Over the past year, Task Force staff coordinated nearly 8,600 hours of donated time from community volunteers and students to create long-lasting results for future generations.

## HIGHLIGHTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Removed 3 impassable culverts to open up 2.5 miles of stream habitat for Coho salmon.
- Restored 14 acres of stream habitat by planing nearly 10,000 native trees and shrubs.
- Thousands of volunteers donated over 8,600 hours of their time towards habitat restoration and watershed education, valued at more than \$128,000, or close to 4 full-time employees.
- Provided watershed education to more than 4,500 local school students.
- For every RFEG \$1 spent, an additional \$4.50 was generated through grants, volunteers and other donations.

## CONTACT INFORMATION:

Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force  
P.O. Box 5006, Everett WA 98206  
phone: 425.252.6686  
web: [www.stillysnofish.org](http://www.stillysnofish.org) email: [info@stillysnofish.org](mailto:info@stillysnofish.org)



# Mid Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

## Region 4

### 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.

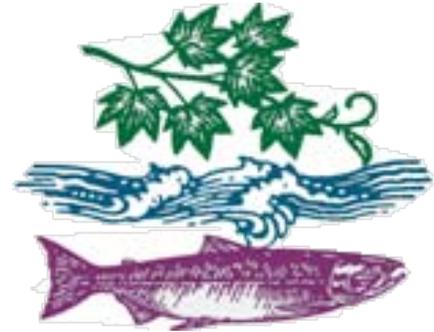
### OUR VISION

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.

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).

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 4 habitat restoration projects completed
- Nearly 4 miles of habitat opened to upstream salmon migration
- Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group funds leveraged at over 2:1
- Over 1,600 salmon carcasses distributed throughout the Green River Watershed



# South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

Region 5

## MISSION STATEMENT

To protect and restore salmon populations and aquatic habitat with an emphasis on ecosystem function through scientifically informed projects, community education, and volunteer involvement.

## SPSSEG OVERVIEW

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group (SPSSEG) is a local voice for regional salmon recovery. From the highest peaks in the Cascades, to the fertile shorelines and estuaries of South Puget Sound, SPSSEG restores salmon habitat while working with willing landowners. SPSSEG believes that by collaborating with local communities, schools, and individuals in King, Pierce, Kitsap, Thurston, and Mason Counties, we can increase salmon numbers in our rivers and streams. Working closely with local, state, federal, non-profit, and tribal agencies, SPSSEG provides education opportunities, technical assistance, construction services, and pursues grant funding to find win-win solutions for people and salmon. Our non-profit, non-governmental, non-political, status helps SPSSEG get real results, real quick.

SPSSEG completes many assessments, monitoring, education, and on-the-ground restoration projects each year with a professional staff that is based in Olympia, WA. Currently there are 5 employees and the annual budget ranges from \$1million-\$2.5million dollars per year. Projects vary in size, scope, and complexity. Some organizational base funding comes from state and federal sources but the majority comes directly from competitive grants and in-kind donations. SPSSEG overhead expenses are proportionally very low compared to our program budget.

SPSSEG's primary education and outreach activity includes the popular Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail. Each year, approximately 5,000 people visit the Trail to learn more about the salmon life cycle. In 2009, the Trail was featured in National Geographic Traveler magazine.

## CONTACT:

SPSSEG Martin Way East Suite 112, Olympia WA, 98516.  
Phone: 360-412-0808  
Email: [spsseg@spsseg.org](mailto:spsseg@spsseg.org) Web: [www.spsseg.org](http://www.spsseg.org)



# Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group

## Region 6

### **MISSION STATEMENT & OVERVIEW**

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.



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 and the Dosewallips, Duckabush, Hamma Hamma 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 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, pink salmon, fall chum, coho, steelhead and sea-run cutthroat.

As an organization, we have 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 approaching more extensive projects for salmon restoration.

### **PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS**

For the time period of July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, the following are project highlights of the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group.

- Big Quilcene River - Channel Restoration**
- Little Quilcene River - Delta Cone Removal**
- Donkey Creek Restoration Design**
- Donovan Creek Restoration Design**
- Little Anderson Large Woody Debris**
- Tahuya River Assessment**
- Knotweed Control and Riparian Enhancement**
- The Dewatto Nutrifcation study**
- The Union River/Tahuya Summer Chum Project**
- The Hood Canal Dissolved Oxygen Program**
- The Molluscan Study**
- Hood Canal Steelhead Supplementation Project**
- Environmental Explorations**
- DogFest (A Water Quality Fair)**
- Adventure Salmon Camp**
- Summer Internships**
- Scholarships**
- Community Outreach**
- Pacific Northwest Salmon Center**

These wide ranging accomplishments would not be possible without our extraordinary volunteers, board of directors, members, staff and project partners that work diligently together to restore wild salmon populations throughout Hood Canal.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group  
P.O. Box 2169  
600 NE Roessel Rd.  
Belfair, WA 98528  
360-275-3575 Office  
360-275-0648 Fax  
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Website: [www.hcseg.org](http://www.hcseg.org)



### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As a non-profit, community-based salmon recovery organization, North Olympic Salmon Coalition (NOSC) 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 Cape Flattery. We partner with a variety of agencies, tribes, schools, community organizations, volunteers and landowners to work on key areas of wildlife habitat in Morse, Snow-Salmon, and Chimacum Creeks and the Pysht River and are seeking to expand into watersheds in the west end of our region.

The North Olympic Salmon Coalition has been bringing more focus to the nearshore in our region. During the last fiscal year, an undersized culvert blocking fish access to a 4.2 acre pocket estuary was removed and replaced with a 28' bridge to mimic the historic opening. In the first juvenile migration season after completion, ESA listed summer chum salmon were documented utilizing the estuary for refuge and feeding. Monitoring took place at the site of a 2008 project where 11 acres of fill were removed from the nearshore at the mouth of Salmon Creek. Monitoring shows heavy utilization by outmigrating summer chum and a stable system of tidal channels and a salt marsh surface with emerging vegetation.

Volunteers are the backbone of our organization and with their help, we planted over 22,000 trees and maintained over 92 acres of existing riparian plantings in 7 watersheds. Plans for our largest restoration project to date were completed this year. The Morse Creek Remeander will activate over a half mile of historic channel and 9 acres of floodplain in one of the Olympic Peninsula's historically most highly productive streams. Involvement in planning by two tribes, local government, several community members and with funding from multiple state, federal and tribal sources speaks to the support we have in the community as well as our capacity to leverage funds not only for the Morse Creek project but for all of our undertakings.



With just over \$61,015.00 in RFEG base funding expenditures, NOSC raised an additional \$1,196,090.00 for our 2009-2010 fiscal year expenditures; a leverage rate of 20 to 1. We are able to do this due to tremendous community support. We are a leader in the restoration community in our area and have trust of citizens, tribes, governments, agencies, non-profits, funders and our lead entities for salmon recovery. Our strong education and outreach programs are one reason for this broad based support. Staff provide formal and informal training on biological monitoring, planting and invasive control. Community members participated in over xx events this year, and donated over xx hours in the streams, the office and in classrooms across our region. We conduct extensive community outreach before undertaking our capital projects, and build community support for the projects we design.

Rebecca Benjamin  
Executive Director  
North Olympic Salmon Coalition  
205 B West Patison Street  
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## Region 8

### 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.

### RFEG OVERVIEW

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

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

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

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

### PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition, the Bogachiel Salmon Hatchery and the Sol Duc River Salmon Hatchery are working together to enhance the ecosystem with the **Quillayute Nutrient Enhancement project**. The Sol Duc, Bogachiel, Calawah, and Dickey rivers were enhanced with over 31,402 surplus salmon carcasses dispersed by volunteers using their own vehicles in almost 850 hours of volunteer service. The **Fletcher Creek** project had a 36" diameter culvert owned by a small forest landowner which was replaced by a 40' span steel bridge. About 35 pieces of large woody debris were added to stabilize the structure and banks. Upstream from the barrier correction there is some wetland habitat and a complex stream channel filled with existing large woody debris. In total, about 2.11 miles of habitat was fully opened to searun cutthroat trout, steelhead, and coho salmon. The **Boe Creek** project replaced a failed log stringer bridge on Boe Creek, a tributary to Big River, with a railcar bridge that was donated by Clallam County.



# Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force

Region 9

## MISSION STATEMENT:

The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force is dedicated to producing salmon for sport and commercial fisheries. Our goal is to conserve, enhance and protect salmonid in the Chehalis Basin.

## 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, the second largest river system in the state of Washington. Our organization was established to bring diverse interest groups together with the common goal of enhancing fisheries resources. Currently, membership includes recreational, tribal and commercial fishermen, concerned citizens, businesses, environmental organizations, economic development interests, organized labor, local government entities, and natural resource agencies.

## HIGHLIGHTS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

### Carlisle Project

Students raise 105,000 Coho in Carlisle Lake, and adult returns for coded wire tags, and plant carcasses in area streams for nutrient enhancement. Additionally, 8,000 rainbow trout and 35,000 Steelhead have been incorporated into the curriculum. Student volunteers play a large part in the success of the project.

### Education & Outreach Project

Our goal is to provide field trips to Satsop Springs rearing facility and Mayr Bros. Hatchery for each grade school throughout Grays Harbor County. We participate in the Chehalis Watershed Festival. The CBFTF provides a trout pond

### Satsop Springs

Surplussed over 20,000 Coho carcasses from Bingham Creek and Satsop Springs. Nutrient enhanced over 1,800 carcasses; overall roughly 17,000 lbs into the outlying streams of the Satsop River system. Released 130,000 Chum 330,000 Chinook and 450,000 Coho. Raised 4,500 trophy rainbows.

## CONTACT:

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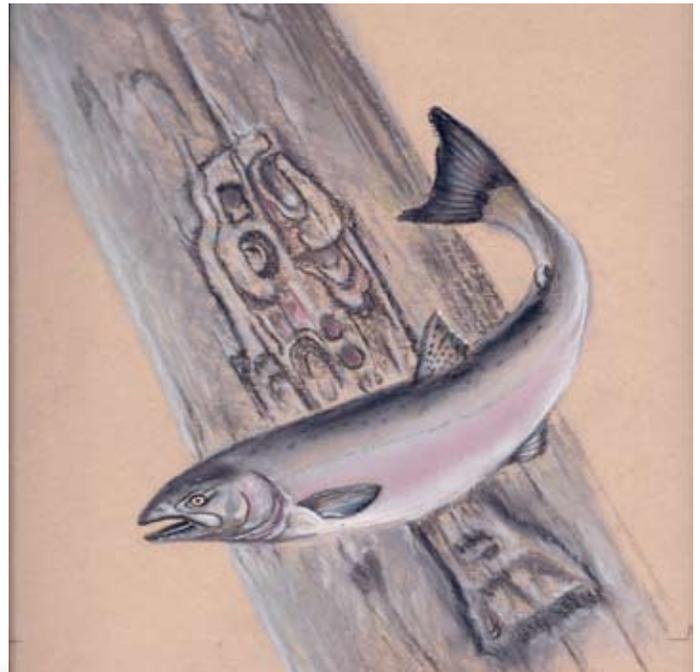
## Region 10

### **RFEG OVERVIEW**

Two significant projects were completed this year: South stream restoration, we completed the project that was started in 2009, with funding from Salmon Recovery Funding Board. This project restored about 3.5 miles of salmon bearing waters in the Bear River Watershed.

Bear River Estuary restoration, the design for the Bear River Estuary was completed. The design covers 760.2 acres in the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge. 5.74 miles of dikes, two foot bridges, two fish ladders, two tide gates, 38 culverts, will be removed. 18 tidal channels will be reconnected, and three streams will be re-aligned to their historic channels. This is a three year phased project, scheduled to start in 2011.

Eggs and carcasses were not received this year from WDFW, although we requested 910,000 eggs, Jan 2010. The current WDFW Cooperative Fish Production Approved Process, is dysfunctional, and has been for 10 years. In the past ten years the natural spawning populations of salmon in our 746 streams have sharply decreased. Chum salmon are at their non-sustainable levels, Coho, Chinook, Steelhead are approaching the non-sustainable levels. The WDFW proposed plan to sell more eggs and carcasses will further decrease the natural spawning salmon. WDFW implemented a catch and release in Willapa Bay for both Sports and Gill Netters, this has decimated the natural spawning salmon populations, local fishers estimates are over 50% of the natural spawning salmon caught and released were observed to be dead.



# Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group

## Region 11

### **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

### **LCFEG OVERVIEW**

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group has been actively involved in Salmonid habitat restoration and nutrient enhancement since its inception in 1991. 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 LCFEG works with Private and Public land owners to restore habitat and recover the salmon and steelhead populations. Our region spans five counties, diverse watersheds, and both rural and densely populated communities. The Lower Columbia watersheds have a rich history of salmon and steelhead runs with whole communities depending on salmon as a cultural and economic resource that sustain the communities.

Because each of these watersheds contains at least one salmon hatchery, the Lower Columbia RFEF 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 WDFW Habitat and Fish Program Managers, USFS biologists, our Lead Entity, USGS scientists, local governments, private landowners, conservation districts, and volunteers to identify and implement priority habitat restoration projects.

The LCFEG has five focus areas when doing restoration work and public education. By utilizing these areas we can identify how to leverage the most out of each project and contribute best to it. It is our greatest hope that we are able to provide public education and gain landowner continued support and trust for future projects.

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## Region 12

### **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. 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.



**Trout Creek and Hemlock Dam, 2008**



**After dam removal, Spring 2010**

### **HIGHLIGHTS – 2009-2010**

- *Hemlock Dam Removal & Trout Creek Restoration.* This project removed an obsolete dam (112 ft. wide), improved fish passage, and restored natural channel and sediment transport conditions. The Forest Service managed the project with grant support from Mid-Columbia Fisheries.
- *Cowiche Creek Restoration.* This project removed approximately 500 feet of dikes to improve the floodplain function. Native trees and shrubs were planted along 700 feet of streambank and more than 40,000 cubic yards of garbage and debris were removed from the project area.
- *Naches River Off-channel Habitat Restoration* created a new channel and restored wetlands to improve off-channel rearing habitat adjacent to the Naches River.
- *Riparian Planting Projects.* Mid-Columbia Fisheries planted streambanks and floodplains on the Yakima River, Wilson Creek, Swauk Creek, Coleman Creek, Cowiche Creek, and Simmons Creek.
- Multiple projects are planned for implementation later in 2010 or 2011, including restoration work at Jack, Reecer, Mercer, and Cowiche Creeks.
- *Education & Outreach.* MCF sponsored and staffed a number of educational events for youth and adults.



# Tri-State Steelheaders Fisheries Enhancement Group

Region 13

## **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.

## **TSSFEG OVERVIEW**

The Tri-State Steelheaders Fisheries Enhancement Group (TSSFEG) has a long history of serving the salmon and steelhead conservation interests and needs of sportsmen and communities in southeast Washington, northeast Oregon and north central Idaho. Since the mid-1960's TSSFEG members have contributed both financially and through volunteer work to enhance fish habitat, educate area youth, and acquire important data to support science-based watershed management. In 1989 Tri-State Steelheaders became a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization governed by a diverse community-based board of directors who provide guidance and oversight for a staff of two full-time and 4 part-time employees.

Board members are chosen by the organization's membership and represent sportsmen, academia, landowners, conservation agencies, local businesses, tribal resource managers and citizens at large. TSSFEG takes great pride in our ability to develop and sustain effective relationships with a broad range of conservation organizations, grantors, and state, federal and tribal governments that enable us to implement a variety of environmental restoration and enhancement projects that vary in scope, size and complexity.

Since 2000, TSSFEG has served as the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group (RFEG) for southeastern Washington, which includes watersheds in the Snake and Walla Walla River drainages of the Blue Mountains. Our location in Walla Walla provides us with a unique opportunity to work with highly capable educators and student volunteers from three higher education institutions that include Whitman College, Walla Walla University and Walla Walla Community College.

While our staff is small, our work is big. During the past fiscal year TSSFEG staff and volunteers worked with landowners to implement CURB stream habitat projects (Creating Urban Riparian Buffers) on streams that run through Walla Walla, completed installation of a large woody debris project to reduce soil erosion and improve water quality in the Touchet River, replaced two fish passage culvert barriers with new bridge structures and worked on finalizing the assessment and physical model design phases of a multi-stakeholder, multi-year project to improve fish passage for ESA-listed species in a six mile portion of the Mill Creek flood control channel that flows through downtown Walla Walla. To promote awareness of our work and mission, TSSFEG hosts a community crab feed attended by over 500 people in May of each year. Proceeds from the event are used along with RFEG funding to supplement our organizations historically low overhead operations and to leverage additional public and private sector grant funding that allows us to design, develop and implement the types of stream habitat enhancement projects that represent the core activities of our organization.

## **CONTACT:**

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# Cascade Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

## Region 14

### OUR MISSION

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group is a non-profit organization working within Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan and Ferry counties to cooperatively facilitate sustainable fisheries enhancement projects for future generations. Our work is based on public trust, outreach, voluntary participation of willing landowners, best available science and best value management practices.

### GROUP PROFILE

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group works with willing landowners to protect good habitat and to facilitate and implement fish restoration projects. We inform the public through education, training, and events 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 issues.

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group has recently undergone significant changes including hiring new staff, recruiting new Board members, and has moved its office from Oroville to Wenatchee. Our organization is in the process of developing projects and programs that support salmon recovery in the Upper Columbia region.

The Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group (RFE) program is a legislative program designed to include citizens in salmon recovery efforts. Fourteen non-profit groups of volunteers cooperate with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) to improve salmon resources throughout the state. Dedicated funding supports project activities and administration.

The CCFEG geographic region is defined as Chelan, Douglas, Okanogan and Ferry counties.

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Antilon Lake Access



Bonaparte Creek



FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT  
GROUP



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