Dedicated to
Community-Based
Salmon Enhancement
in Washington State

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program
Annual Report for July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011
Regional Fisheries
Enhancement Program

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Executive Summary

“Dedicated To Community-Based
Salmon Enhancement In Washington State”

The Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups (RFEGs) are a statewide network of non-profit community-based salmon enhancement organizations. In 1990, the Washington State Legislature created the RFEG Program to involve local communities, citizen volunteers and landowners in the state’s salmon recovery efforts. The purpose of the RFEG program is to engage local communities in activities and projects that increase salmon populations throughout Washington State.

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

Each RFEG works within a specific geographic region based generally on watershed boundaries (see map on page 6). Every group is a separate, non-profit organization led by their own board of directors and supported by their members. The long term vision of the RFEG program is that Washington State communities actively care and are good stewards for abundant salmon populations for future generations.

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 Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. 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 2010-2011 fiscal year, the RFEGs collectively completed 117 projects ranging from education and outreach to monitoring and, of course, on the ground salmon enhancement projects. RFEG volunteers donated over 85,836 hours to these salmon enhancement efforts in 2010-11. One-half of the RFEGs participated in fish production projects, releasing 1.2 million fish into local watersheds. Fifteen fish passage improvement projects opened 23.47 miles of habitat for migrating salmon. Seventeen miles of habitat was enhanced and restored for salmonids and 69,601 salmon carcasses were returned to streams to add nutrients to local watersheds for juvenile salmon, bears, eagles and over 130 other species of wildlife.

Since 1995, these accomplishments add up to:
- 3,190 total salmon projects;
- 1,159,505 volunteer hours;
- 69.2 million salmon released into Washington waters;
- 735 fish passage problems fixed;
- 846 miles of fish habitat opened;
- 524 additional miles of habitat restored;
- 962,893 fish carcasses placed back in streams for nutrient enhancement;
- $144,234,575 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.
The Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups provide grassroots salmon recovery efforts. These efforts include conducting outreach and education, maintaining relationships with citizens and landowners, and building local support for salmon recovery. The groups are also invaluable project sponsors, working with landowners, volunteers, and local contractors to complete on-the-ground restoration and enhancement projects. Much of the progress and success in salmon recovery is due to local citizen-driven actions such as those conducted by the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups.

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

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

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Mission for the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) provides financial and technical resources to the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups to engage citizens and their communities in salmon recovery.
Scientific Monitoring

In addition to on-the-ground habitat restoration, outreach and education, Washington’s RFEGs regularly implement scientific monitoring programs to assess salmon populations, salmon habitat, and salmon habitat restoration projects.

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

Scientific monitoring activities currently performed by RFEGs include:

- Spawning ground surveys
- Habitat assessments
- Adult and juvenile fish counts
- Macro invertebrate surveys
- Nutrient enhancement monitoring
- Pre- and post project vegetation monitoring for riparian planting projects
- Water quality data collection and analysis
- Effectiveness of large woody debris placement and in-stream projects
- Nearshore habitat monitoring

RFEGs utilize staff, interns, volunteers, and contractors, in collaboration with the Washington 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 Program Expenditures: July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>RFEG Funds</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Volunteer Dollars*</th>
<th>Funds Leveraged</th>
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Volunteer Dollars is based on an average of $16 for each volunteer hour worked.

Volunteers and agency staff salvage fish from the old confined channel of Reecer Creek before water is turned into the newly constructed channel, 2011.
Geographic Boundaries

Region 1 - Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association
Region 1 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
Region 2 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 - Sound Salmon Solutions
(formerly Stilly-Snohomish FETF)
Region 3 includes WRIAs 5 and 7 and parts of 6 and 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 and the mainland south to the Edmonds ferry docks.

Region 4 - Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
Region 4 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
Region 5 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
Region 6 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
Region 7 includes WRIAs 18 and 19 and part of 17 – major watersheds include the Dungeness, Elwha, Lyre, Pysht, Clallam, and Hoko Rivers. This region also includes nearshore habitat and other watersheds located north and west of the Hood Canal Bridge to Cape Flattery.

Region 8 - Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition
Region 8 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
Region 9 includes WRIAs 22 and 23 – major watersheds include the Humptulips, Hoquiam, Wishkah, Johns, Wynoochee, Satsop, Skookumchuck, Newaukum, Black 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
Region 10 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
Region 11 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
Region 12 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
Region 13 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 - Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Region 14 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.
Contact List

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Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition
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Mission Statement

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

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association Overview

Established in 1990, the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA) works cooperatively with landowners, agencies, tribes, 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 grants, contracts, and an annual budget.

Project Highlights - 2010

Riparian Restoration: 4,900 ft. of riparian habitat planted with native trees and shrubs.

In-stream habitat projects: 97 large woody debris structures were installed; improving 21,648 ft. of instream habitat.

Fish passage projects: 7 fish passage barriers were removed; improving fish access to over 4 miles of stream.

Education: 1,269 students in Whatcom County participated in NSEA education programs spending 15,930 hours becoming more aware of their environment through hands-on learning and were active participants in NSEA’s restoration efforts.

Community outreach: Community members contributed 11,959 hours to salmon enhancement activities in 2010 by planting native vegetation, monitoring water quality, counting returning salmon, and supporting NSEA’s capacity to operate as a vibrant nonprofit organization.

Fish enhancement: 16 salmon habitat enhancement projects.
NSEA Program Highlights - 2010

Monitoring:
Under the direction of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), NSEA conducted its twelfth year of spawning grounds surveys for late-run Chinook salmon, coho salmon, and chum salmon in 16 streams in the Nooksack River Basin. Additional surveys were conducted on Terrell Creek (an independent drainage of the Strait of Georgia), and on two streams (independent drainages) within the city limits of Bellingham – Padden and Squalicum creeks. The spawner survey season lasted from September 2010 through January 2011. Spawning grounds surveys are implemented by NSEA to provide data to the fisheries co-managers of the Nooksack River Basin (the Lummi Nation, the Nooksack Indian Tribe, and WDFW). Survey data is used to help measure pre- and post-rehabilitation success in areas where riparian restoration projects are planned or located. The survey results also provide insight into the health of Nooksack River Chinook salmon, coho salmon, and chum salmon populations over time.

Water Quality:
The Ferndale Stormwater Monitoring Program began in 2007 through a partnership between the City of Ferndale (COF), Windward High School (WHS), and the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA). The purpose of the program is to monitor stormwater runoff from the city of Ferndale into the Schell Creek and Nooksack River watersheds to ensure fecal coliform bacteria levels comply with Department of Ecology (DOE) standards. Project goals also include teaching real-world science skills to WHS students and involving the Ferndale community in citizen science monitoring and salmon habitat restoration. WHS students have helped restore riparian habitat along reaches in both the Schell and Deer creek watersheds, and hundreds of students have become aware of the issues local salmon are facing and taken action to address them. WHS Water Quality Intern Erin Weisenhorn, NSEA Graphic Design Intern Daniel Ruiz, and NSEA staff have compiled this monitoring data and other watershed information into a State of the Watershed Report for Schell Creek. This publication is scheduled for print and distribution in spring 2011.

Washington Conservation Corps:
The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) is a Washington Department of Ecology program. NSEA sponsors one of 34 crews in Washington State. The WCC crew implements riparian restoration by planting trees, building fences, cabling large woody debris, and maintaining NSEA's extensive native plant nursery. These dedicated individuals brave cold weather, snow, rain, and other forces of nature to ensure NSEA's salmon habitat restoration mission is accomplished.

Environmental Internships:
Western Washington University students, Whatcom Community College students, and recent graduates worked with NSEA as interns to increase their skills and experience in the nonprofit environmental field. Intern positions include assisting with administration, advancement, scientific monitoring, environmental education, and volunteer coordination. Our internship program increases NSEA's capacity to serve more volunteers. Stream monitoring, education programs, restoration projects, GIS mapping, graphic design work, fundraising, and NSEA's newsletter are completed with the help of these amazing interns.

Washington Service Corps:
In 2010 three Washington Service Corps (WSC) placements joined the NSEA team. These year-of-service positions gave much-needed support to NSEA's education, outreach, monitoring, and volunteer programs; allowing NSEA to expand and work with more community members and students. WSC placements aid in educational program development, in-class and community presentations, spawning grounds surveys, community work parties, field trips, development of outreach and membership materials, water quality monitoring, and many other crucial tasks.

Students for Salmon: Elementary Education Program
NSEA's elementary Student for Salmon (SFS) program grows steadily each year, reaching 1,118 students from 42 classes in 2010. Students spent a total of 12,732 hours studying salmon and watershed science both in the classroom and out in the field with the guidance of
NSEA educators. SFS students volunteered 777 hours and planted 642 native trees on degraded stream sites to help restore habitat for salmon! This is the twelfth year of NSEA’s 4th grade watershed science education program. SFS instills values of stewardship towards the watershed while helping students meet Washington State standards for science through hands-on explorations of local stream ecology. In 2010 NSEA provided 42 teachers with SFS curriculum manuals, supplemental classroom materials, a pre-trip visit, and an NSEA-led student stream exploration; helping teachers connect their students to the ecology of their local streams.

Middle School Service Learning Program:
In 2010, NSEA worked with 22 8th grade students from Shuksan and Whatcom Middle Schools to implement service learning projects in the Squalicum and Whatcom Creek watersheds. With help from NSEA educators, these students were able to apply the academic skills and knowledge they acquire in the classroom to address the real-life need to ensure watershed health for salmon here in their own community. NSEA’s Middle School Service Learning program provides students with a compelling reason to learn about something new, teaches them the skills of salmon habitat restoration, and develops an ethic of stewardship, service, and civic responsibility.

Streamside Science and Swimming Upstream: High School Education Programs
In 2010, NSEA worked with 22 high school students from Squalicum and Bellingham High Schools. Students participating in Streamside Science met at NSEA on seven winter Saturdays and spent over 484 hours learning about salmon and stream ecology, water quality, macroinvertebrates and the Squalicum Creek watershed. Additionally, students applied their knowledge by designing and implementing a riparian restoration project on Squalicum Creek. NSEA also continued our Swimming Upstream Program (SUP) to help reach underserved high school youth throughout Whatcom County with meaningful science and stewardship activities. SUP includes a flyfishing component that deepens awareness and appreciation for our local watershed ecosystem through recreation. In 2010, SUP participants included students from Ferndale High School, Squalicum High School, and Options High School. Through this program a total of 103 students devoted 2,416 hours to learning about salmon and streams in addition to helping improve streamside salmon habitat through invasive species removal and riparian re-vegetation.

NSEA Education Programs Funded by: BP Cherry Point Refinery and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife:
In 2010 the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) awarded NSEA a grant of $10,000 to help fund our elementary Students for Salmon program. Students for Salmon also received $25,000 from BP Cherry Point Refinery to support further development of our hands-on environmental science programs that work with over 1,000 Whatcom County youth annually. Through support from BP, NSEA has been able to devote more staff time and resources to our education programs. The increased focus on these programs has enabled us to expand our educational reach within the community, helping more students meet state learning standards while learning to take care of their watersheds.

Liam Wood Flyfishers and River Guardians:
For the sixth summer, 18 students and community members in Whatcom County were able to participate in two sessions of the Art, Science and Ethics of Flyfishing course, offered through Huxley College at Western Washington University (WWU). This three-credit upper-division environmental science class is a program of the Liam Wood Flyfishers and River Guardians and is implemented by WWU in a partnership with NSEA. Huxley College professor and department chair Dr. Leo Bodensteiner focuses this hands-on course on stream ecology concepts and uses flyfishing as a window into the structure, function, and restoration of river ecosystems and human interaction with these systems. Labs and field trips
teach students about fish species and macroinvertebrates while community volunteers from the Fourth Corner Fly Fishers club instruct students during casting practice and fly tying sessions. NSEA staff members act as guest lecturers throughout the course and speak on the ethics and stewardship issues, as well as the restoration goals for the Nooksack River Basin. New this year was an additional summer course offered at WWU for 7 lucky students; Advanced Flyfishing: River Stewardship, Reflection, and Native Trout. This two-credit course was also taught by Dr. Bodensteiner and immersed students in a wilderness river setting for one week of hands-on study involving flyfishing techniques, literature, stream ecology, conservation ethics, and individual relationships with nature.

**Nooksack River Stewards Program:**

NSEA renewed its partnership with the United States Forest Service (USFS) Mount Baker Ranger District to implement the sixth year of the award-winning Nooksack River Stewards Program in 2010. This program is a collaboration designed to provide salmon-focused environmental educational opportunities to recreational users of the Nooksack River. The 2010 River Stewards team consisted of one NSEA staff member and four interns; three from Western Washington University and one from Whatcom Community College. River Stewards are recruited and trained at the beginning of the summer recreation season and maintain a strong presence in the North Fork Nooksack Basin throughout the summer; operating out of a field base at the USFS Public Service Center in Glacier, WA. River Stewards promote stewardship and provide information about native wild fish and their habitat requirements to people visiting the river; including giving presentations to commercial white water rafting groups, campgrounds guests, fishermen, and other recreationists. More than 2,041 contacts were made with the public and 46 presentations were given. Volunteer interns and Glacier community volunteers contributed more than 880 hours to the program.

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REGION 1: The Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

Board of Directors

**President:** John Thompson, VP Communications, Western Washington University  
**Vice-President:** Philip Humphries, Retired Boeing Engineer/Marketing Analyst  
**Treasurer:** Russ Wilson, Partner, certified Public Accountant, Moss-Adams

Analiese Burns, Biologist, NW Ecological Services Inc.  
Bret Simmons, Attorney at Law, Roy, Simmons, Smith, and Parsons  
Stan Smith, Retired Engineer  
Don Hunger, Senior Director for Partnership Development, Student Conservation Association  
Leif Emberton, River Engineer, Geo Engineers  
Gregg Dunphy, Fisheries Biologist, Lummi Natural Resources  
Jeremy Brown, RFEG Coalition Representative, Commercial Fisherman  
Brady Green, Aquatic Biologist and Environmental Consultant, DB Green Environmental Consulting  
Phelps McIlvaine, Principal, Saturna Capital  
Jerry Smith, Controller, Seafood Producers Cooperative  
Kelly Martin, Student Board Member, WWU  
Kati Reid, Student Board Member, WWU  
Julia Pena, Student Board Member, WWU

NSEA STAFF

**Executive Director:** Rachel Vasak  
**Project Manager:** Darrell Gray  
**Finance Manager:** Kate Underwood  
**Program Coordinator:** Annitra Ferderer  
**Stream Restoration Technicians:** Dave Barker, John Hymas

Washington Conservation Corps/AmeriCorps placements

**Crew Supervisor:** Justin Lamb  
**2009-2010 Washington Conservation Corps Crew Members:** Erica Bachiniski, Taylor Currier, Jonathan Downey, Deborah Molsberry, Andrew Ryznar  
**2010-2011 Washington Conservation Corps Crew Members:** Rachel Allison, Ashley Gullicksen, Stephanie Huck, Alex Vaughn, Sam Wiggins  
**2009-2010 Washington Service Corps AmeriCorps Placements:** Gwendolyn DuVall, Eleanor Hines  
**2010-2011 Washington Service Corps AmeriCorps Placements:** Amanda Allen, Monica Blanchard, Colin Riordan
REGION 2:
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Mission Statement

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

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Overview

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group is pleased to present its 2010 accomplishments of salmon habitat restoration and stewardship projects throughout our region. 2010 marked a year of geographic growth for SFEG. For the first year ever, we had projects funded in all three of the watersheds in our region (Skagit River, Whidbey Island and San Juan Islands). Our spawner surveys expanded to include documenting sockeye salmon returning to Baker River tributaries. And we renewed our activities and enthusiasm for education and stewardship programs in the Samish Basin as part of Skagit County’s Clean Samish Initiative. To accomplish some of these new endeavors we added a new Stewardship Manager position, as well as employed a Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) crew. We are fortunate to gain this cost effective labor crew eager to learn, work with our professional Restoration Technicians, and make a difference for the future of our salmon populations. While funding remains a challenge for our education programs, our Junior Stream Stewards program for middle school students continues to thrive. We also began offering elementary students the opportunity to participate in a new Salmon in the Classroom program. Although most of our funding goes towards on-the-ground salmon habitat restoration projects, the value of these and other educational programs is priceless to ensure that our next generation of stewards cares about the future health of our watersheds.

CONTACT INFORMATION
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
PO Box 2497 • 1202 South 2nd Street, Suite C
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Phone: (360) 336-0172
Fax: (360) 336-0701
Website: www.skagitfisheries.org
Habitat Restoration And Stewardship Projects

**Finney Creek**

In 2010 SFEG partnered with the Forest Service and local timber companies (Goodyear Nelson, Longview Timber and Sierra Pacific Industries) to install 30 log jams to improve water quality and stream conditions for 2 miles of habitat in Lower Finney Creek. Since 1999, seven in-stream have been completed directly enhancing 7.6 miles of Finney Creek. These projects have successfully installed 190 log jams putting more than 1,875 logs back into the stream. Historical salmonid use in Finney Creek was phenomenal. All 5 species of salmon used the creek in large numbers as well as steelhead and cutthroat trout. Temperature monitoring over the last decade indicates that slight reductions have been made and cross section and photo point monitoring indicate habitat improvements are taking place as well.

**Day Creek**

SFEG has been working with private landowners in the Day Creek Community to identify and implement salmon restoration projects since 2005. Our current efforts focus on restoring riparian vegetation along Lower Day Creek, and placing large woody debris structures in the stream to reduce temperatures and improve fish habitat. In 2010 we planted 3,600 plants along 0.6 miles of stream at four sites. R2 Resource Consultants were contracted to complete a hydraulic analysis and geomorphic risk assessment in support of the wood placement project planned for 2011.

**Iron Mountain Ranch**

SFEG continues to perform restoration work at this large Seattle City Light property along the south side of the Skagit River. A fence was installed along O'Toole Creek to reduce stream impacts from livestock. Volunteers, staff, and WCC members planted 906 trees and shrubs within the new 4 acre area. SFEG also explored the feasibility of a river reconnection project with Davis Slough located on the other side of the South Skagit Highway. Survey data from this effort has led to grant funds to design an in-stream project for the site.

**Anderson Creek**

Seattle City Light continued a partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service to restore this property surrounding Anderson Creek formerly owned by the Vandersar Dairy. Over 17,340 plants were installed on 30 acres in 2010 bringing the total plants on this 150 acre site to 37,000 plants. WCC crews greatly assisted with this planting effort. Work restores habitat for Anderson Creek, Ross Island Slough and Skagit River floodplain.

**Upper Skagit Knotweed Program**

In 2010, SFEG took on the leadership for the innovative and well respected Upper Skagit Knotweed Control Program. This program was developed by The Nature Conservancy in 2001 and is focused on a top-down strategic approach to controlling the invasive plant species knotweed in the Upper Skagit watershed. The project is part of a long-term, basin-wide approach to knotweed control that has been advanced by the Skagit Cooperative Weed Management Area. Knotweed is detrimental to freshwater ecosystems and natural riparian processes, which negatively impacts high priority salmon habitat. As of the 2010 season the effort has identified 1,812 patches of knotweed, achieved 58% control of knotweed in the Upper Skagit and is recognized as a model for invasive species work in Washington State. The project area starts at the confluence of the Skagit and Sauk Rivers, and includes the mainstem Skagit, Sauk, Suiattle and Cascade Rivers, their tributaries and surrounding landscapes. In the 2010 season, SFEG, TNC, WCC and other partners completed extensive surveys along 81 miles of river and streams, treated an estimated 3.5 solid acres of upland and riparian knotweed, as well as monitored a large percentage of previously recorded knotweed patches in the Upper Skagit watershed. SFEG and WCC also received on-the-ground assistance from U.S. Forest Service, Seattle City Light, North Cascades National Park, and the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe.
Howard Miller Steelhead Park
This Skagit County Park is located in the town of Rockport along the upper Skagit River. Since 2006, SFEG has been working to restore the riparian area along the river with native plants and create educational signage for the trail along the river. This year the Whatcom County Corrections Crew maintained the previously planted areas by removing blackberries and reed canary grass. A new project was investigated to reconnect a backwater slough to the Skagit River and improve habitat on a small tributary creek. Volunteers helped survey the new creek channel. Survey data from this effort has led to a grant funds to implement this restoration project and work with Skagit County Parks to build a trail.

Skagit Floodplain Riparian Project (SRFB-09 and 10)
The Skagit Floodplain Riparian Project represents a major effort to restore vegetation communities and floodplain function in the Skagit River floodplain. SFEG is working with 4 partner landowners who own conservation properties, including the US Forest Service, Seattle City Light, Skagit County and the Skagit Land Trust. The project has involved planting and maintaining riparian vegetation on 9 sites – Skiyou Slough, Ovenell Ranch, Marblemount Boat Launch, Diobsud Creek, the former Shaeffer property along the Sauk River, Ross Island Slough, Larsen property, Peterson property and Pressentin Park. 2010 work accomplishments include installation of 6,209 plants on 21.5 acres, and maintenance of 78 acres along 4,209 feet of river bank. SFEG has been assisted in our restoration efforts by volunteer work parties, contract crews from Whatcom County Department of Corrections and WCC.

Seattle City Light Stewardship Program
In 2010 SFEG began implementation of the Seattle City Light Stewardship Program. The purpose of this new program is to conduct quarterly visits to properties purchased through City Light’s ESA and Wildlife Land funds and to effectively detect any stewardship issues. 15 properties underwent stewardship assessments each quarter. Baseline data was collected during first visits. During later visits stewardship activities were recommended for 2011. The most common issue noted at the properties was the presence of invasive plant species and dumping. Funding has been secured for identified stewardship actions at 4 properties.

Swan Lake Feasibility Study - Whidbey Island
In 2010 SFEG partnered with the Swan Lake Watershed Preservation Group (SWWPG) and Coastal Geologic Services to complete a preliminary feasibility assessment
Juniper Stream Steward students plant trees for their service learning project in partnership with the Swinomish Tribe at Forsby Creek.

of the potential for restoring fish access to Swan Lake on the west side of Whidbey Island. This analysis concluded that the area was formerly a saltmarsh which was likely seasonally connected to the marine environment. Island County provided funds to collect additional data, and SFEG is applying for additional grant funds to complete an engineering analysis and design.

**Thatcher Bay Nearshore Restoration Project - Blakely Island**

Since the 1940’s wood chips from an old lumber mill have completely buried intertidal substrates suitable for forage fish spawning at Thatcher Bay on Blakely Island. This wood waste is releasing sulfide, a natural byproduct of wood decomposition, at levels that are toxic to benthic flora and fauna. The restoration of the area will include removing 12,000 cubic yards of wood waste and refilling the excavated area with sediments common to the surrounding areas. In 2010 permit applications were submitted and many of the approvals were granted. Funds were secured from DNR and SRFB for project implementation.

**Native Plant Nursery**

Volunteers led by Sarah Davis (WCC Intern) continued to operate a native plant nursery to grow plants to a larger size prior to installing them at restoration sites where competition with invasive species is very high. SFEG’s nursery holds over 8,000 potted plants. Over 5,000 plants from the nursery were planted at project sites in 2010. Volunteers pot plants, perform summer watering and work with Cascades Job Corps to involve students in nursery maintenance via weekly work parties.

**Education Programs**

**Junior Stream Stewards**

Junior Stream Stewards, a unique stewardship program for middle school students in the Skagit Watershed, continues to grow. In the 2010-11 school year, 415 students were involved in the program from 5 schools. Students learn from SFEG staff about watersheds and salmon through monthly classroom activities and several field trips. Classroom activities set the stage for a service-learning project, such as riparian planting, in the spring. Funds from Skagit County through an EPA grant have allowed added benefit to Samish schools such as being treated to a visit by Taylor Shellfish staff to dissect clams and oysters, and learn about the connection between land use and water quality.

**Salmon in the Classroom**

SFEG coordinated the placement of two 55-gallon fish tanks with 200 salmon eggs for students at Madison Elementary and Lincoln Elementary schools in Mount Vernon. Students toured the Marblemount Hatchery and learned where their coho eggs originated. These students will raise the coho salmon for a few months and release them in area streams in spring 2011. Students throughout the schools receive the added benefit of watching these salmon grow in common areas of the schools.

**Samish Watershed Outreach**

SFEG is one of many partners participating in the Clean Samish Initiative, an effort to raise awareness for water quality issues in the Samish Watershed and offer assistance to landowners wanting to implement corrective measures on their property. Community members attended Family Day at Donovan Park to learn about the critters that call Friday Creek home, and how poor water quality impacts critters and humans. A Samish Watershed tour treated participants to excellent salmon viewing. Signs were installed at 50 stream crossings and volunteers developed and installed an interpretive sign for Donovan Park. In all, SFEG engaged 783 youth and over 1,300 general community members within the Samish watershed in 2010.
Upper Skagit Outreach
Grant funds from ALEA this year provided for a Hatchery Outreach program, which entailed training volunteers to lead tours of the Marblemount Hatchery. This year twelve trained volunteers led tours for the public at the Marblemount Hatchery during eagle season, providing a learning opportunity for thousands of visitors from all over the world.

Monitoring Programs
Over 1,700 volunteer hours were documented assisting with SFEG’s monitoring programs in 2010. There are 3 primary monitoring programs which volunteers participate: Spawner Surveys, Vegetation and In-stream habitat. Data collected is very useful in documenting effectiveness to funders and project partners over time. Information is shared with co-managers. SFEG staff and volunteers conduct monitoring at over 30 sites.

Board of Directors:
Ned Currence, President, Fisheries Biologist- Nooksack Tribe
Jeanne Glick, Vice President, Nurse
Patrick O’Hearn, Treasurer, Retired CPA and part owner of Emerald Marine Carpentry
Chris Kowitz, Secretary, Biologist for Skagit County
Kurt Buchanan, Retired Fisheries Biologist
Bruce Freet, Retired Ecologist
Oscar Graham, Environmental Planner
Jim Johnson, Retired High School Teacher
Robin LaRue, Civil Engineer
Boshie Morris, Self Employed
Mike Olis, Tribal Forest and Fish Biologist - Skagit River System Cooperative
Jim Somers, Retired Orthodontist

Staff Members
Alison Studley, Executive Director
Lucy DeGrace, Outreach Coordinator
Sue Madsen, Restoration Ecologist
Mary Mae Hardt, Finance Manager
Michelle Murphy, Stewardship Manager

Restoration Technicians:
Andrew Beckman
Joe George
Kyle Koch
Bengt Miller
John Rohde

AmeriCorps Interns:
Anna Mostovetsky, Restoration Assistant, Washington Conservation Corps
Carolyn Feffer, Education Assistant, Washington Service Corps

Washington Conservation Corps Crew
Supervisor: Rob Crawford
Crew Members:
Caleb Dobey-Assistant Supervisor, Casey Clark, Matt Rowell, Aaron Minney, Taylor Barker
## REGION 2: Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

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REGION 3: South Sound Solutions

Mission Statement:
Sound Salmon Solutions’ mission is to ensure the future of healthy salmon runs in the Snohomish, Stillaguamish and Island County watersheds.

Sound Salmon Solutions RFEG Overview:
Sound Salmon Solutions is a diverse community based, volunteer supported not-for-profit organization with dedicated base of volunteers, donors and public and private landowners. We collaborate closely with federal, state, county and city agencies, as well as tribes, other non-profit organizations, conservation districts, community colleges and universities, local school districts and commercial and recreational fishing interests.

These collaborative efforts provide and invaluable source of donated labor and professional services, in-kind and cash donations and other forms of assistance to support our restoration and education efforts in the Snohomish, Stillaguamish and Island County watersheds and communities. The many habitat restoration and educational outreach activities Sound Salmon Solutions undertakes each year provide a multitude of volunteer opportunities in areas such as streamside plantings, native plant salvaging, salmon carcass distribution, invasive plant surveys, macroinvertebrate and vegetation monitoring and project design and development. We also offer on-the-job training for AmeriCorps members and community college and university interns.

During the past year Sound Salmon Solutions staff recruited and coordinated 6,386 hours of donated time from community volunteers, students and professionals which provided immense support and significantly contributed to measurable outcomes in salmon habitat recovery projects and educational programs in our watersheds.

Project Highlights:
Stillaguamish River Basin Knotweed Control
In 2010-2011, Sound Salmon Solutions continued to work with project partners on the Stillaguamish Knotweed Control Project. This project is coordinated by the Stillaguamish...
Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA), a working group of non-profit, state and federal agencies and organizations that cooperate in a strategic effort to control knotweed in the Stillaguamish River watershed. As a partner in the CWMA, Sound Salmon Solutions is working in tributaries to the North Fork, South Fork, and mainstem Stillaguamish Rivers to educate landowners and conduct on-the-ground knotweed monitoring and treatment.

Since 2005, Sound Salmon Solutions has surveyed over 250 miles of tributaries in the Stillaguamish River watershed for knotweed presence. Following Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategies, Sound Salmon Solutions performs outreach to targeted landowners and strategic knotweed control activities. The purpose of survey is two-fold: 1) to monitor previously-treated knotweed patches and streams, and 2) to identify patches on streams not yet surveyed. Control efforts focus on both newly discovered patches of knotweed, and re-treatment of any re-sprouting knotweed that was sprayed in previous years.

From July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011, Sound Salmon Solutions staff, AmeriCorps interns and crew members, and volunteers conducted knotweed monitoring surveys on 8 streams, surveyed 15 river miles and recorded 1.01 acres of knotweed during surveys. Sound Salmon Solutions reached out to over 200 property owners to share information about this invasive plant and offer assistance with its control. In 2010, we assisted 47 landowners with knotweed control by treating 0.98 acres of knotweed growing along 54,865 linear feet (10.38 river miles) on eight tributaries. Eighteen new landowners enrolled in the knotweed program, bringing the total number of landowners cooperating with the project to 140 landowners.

Funding for this program was provided by grants from Washington State Department of Ecology Centennial Clean Water Fund, Washington State Department of Agriculture, and the Stillaguamish Basin Salmon Recovery Funding Board funds.

**Jim Creek Design Project**

In 2010, Sound Salmon Solutions began an 18-month design project to address degraded habitat conditions along a 1 mile section of Jim Creek near Arlington; the project was funded by State Salmon Recovery Funding Board - Stillaguamish Watershed Council.

SSS worked with The Watershed Company to characterize existing habitat conditions and identify limiting factors within the project reach, and with input from the 8 landowners living along the project reach, designed 17 permit-ready salmon habitat restoration activities along Jim Creek. The designed project activities focus on restoring process and will address limiting factors identified in the Stillaguamish Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan and contribute to the Stillaguamish basin 10-year salmon recovery targets. Although the Plan and targets focus on Chinook salmon, it is expected that restoration activities will improve conditions for other salmon spawning and rearing in Jim Creek.

The design project was the first phase of a reach scale restoration project. Sound Salmon Solutions is partnering with Snohomish Conservation District, The Watershed Company, and the landowners to secure funding for final design, permitting, and construction. The project will result in 6 acres riparian planting, ½ mile of livestock exclusion fencing, bank armoring removal, and construction of 6 – 8 large wood debris structures. Activities are expected to reduce water temperature, improve instream habitat complexity and pool quantity and quality, and reduce erosion and other pollutant inputs by filtering stormwater runoff.

**South Fork Stillaguamish Tributaries Stream Team**

Sound Salmon Solutions is working with the South Fork Stilly Stream Team to monitor water quality on 3 tributaries to the South Fork Stillaguamish: Jim Creek, Canyon Creek, and Turlo Creek. The South Fork Stilly Stream Team consists of volunteers from the local Evergreen Fly Fishing Club. The Stream Team and Sound Salmon Solutions visit each of the 3 streams annually to collect continuous temperature data and sample benthic macroinvertebrates – stream bugs visible without a microscope. Water temperature data is collected during the summer when temperatures can get critically high for young salmon. Volunteers are trained by Ecology staff on the Continuous Temperature Sampling Protocol, and then head into the field with Sound Salmon Solutions staff to deploy the loggers.

**Stillwater Restoration and Stewardship:**

During April, 2011, 2 acres of invasive weeds were cleared at the Stillwater Wildlife Area, located between the Cities of Duvall and Carnation in King County. The property
is owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Funding was provided by the King Conservation District, REI Incorporated and Ducks Unlimited. Sound Salmon Solutions staff, community volunteers, local school students, and Washington Conservation Corps/AmeriCorps and Washington Service Corps/AmeriCorps interns participated in this annual Earth Day event.

During the April 16 Earth Day tree planting, 95 volunteers (496 hours) participated in planting 1,259 native plants on 1.25 acres. In addition, 6 community groups (Snoqualmie Watershed Forum, Ducks Unlimited, KC Noxious Weed Control Board, National Wildlife Federation, Transition Snoqualmie Valley, and Puget Sound Energy) hosted booths during the Earth Day event to provide educational materials to volunteers. Fifteen local businesses also supported the event with donations of food and beverages.

**Pilchuck River Restoration at Hendrickson:**

Sound Salmon Solutions partnered with a rural landowner and successfully completed an aquatic and riparian habitat enhancement project along the Pilchuck River near Lake Stevens, Washington. Project accomplishments included placing 50 pieces of large wood along the bank using a bioengineering approach, designed by Snohomish County Surface Water Management engineers. Invasive weed control was completed and a riparian buffer was established. 2,400 native trees and shrubs were planted by community volunteers and local students along 1,600 feet of streambank. The project culminated in an “Open House” education event for the community and several neighbors who attended have expressed interest in future restoration efforts.

**Wattenbarger Culvert Replacement:**

During the summer and fall of 2010, Sound Salmon Solutions completed one culvert replacement project in partnership with the 162nd St SE Road Maintenance Association. The project was funded by the King Conservation District’s Opportunity Fund. Along with replacing the culvert on this un-named tributary in the Lower South Fork Snoqualmie sub-basin, two wood structures were placed along the stream bank to enhance fish habitat. Seventy neighborhood volunteers participated in a planting party where they installed 120 native trees and shrubs within the 0.10 acre project. This event provided an opportunity to share information about salmon and the importance of restoration efforts.

**Riparian Plantings:**

**South Fork Stillaguamish and Tributaries Riparian Restoration Projects**

Project Accomplishments

- Native Plants Installed: 1556
- Area Planted: 2.7 acres
- Landowners participating in the project: 6

Sound Salmon Solutions received funding to work on the South Fork Stillaguamish River and three tributaries to the South Fork: Jim Creek, Turlo Creek, and Canyon Creek hours to monitor water quality and improve riparian habitat along these three tributaries. Since 2008, Sound Salmon Solutions has worked with 835 volunteers who have donated 3,955 toward the project.

Project activities include invasive knotweed monitoring and control, streamside riparian planting, and water quality monitoring. Volunteers have assisted with temperature logger deployment (data loggers are deployed into the three streams to record water temperature every half hour during the summer); macroinvertebrate sampling where stream bugs are collected and used as indicators of water quality; annual knotweed survey and control; and with riparian planting. In three years, volunteers have planted 16.5 acres of riparian area with 4,746 native trees and shrubs. Over 140 landowners have cooperated with knotweed control and riparian planting activities. During the time period of July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011, Sound Salmon Solutions has worked with 6 landowners to complete riparian revegetation on 2.7 acres. Staff, landowners, and volunteers planted 1556 native plants.

This project is funded by grants from the Washington State Department of Ecology Centennial Clean Waters Fund and the Stillaguamish Watershed Council - State Salmon Recovery Funding Board.
South Sound Salmon Accomplishments for 2010-2011:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number Fish Released</th>
<th>Number Passage Projects</th>
<th>Miles Opened</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Hours Donated Labor*</th>
<th>Miles Restoration</th>
<th>Number Carcasses Distributed</th>
<th>Projects Completed</th>
<th>RFEG Fund</th>
<th>Funds Leveraged</th>
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<tr>
<td>80,000</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<td>530</td>
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Donated Labor in hours- Example: DOC work crews
*Included in Volunteer Hours

Board Of Directors:

Andy Loch, President, Aquatic Biologist, City of Bothell
Thomas Murphy, Vice President, Anthropologist, Edmonds Community College
Chris Grieve, Treasurer, Engineer, Northwest Fly Fishing Adventures
Gina Gray, Secretary, Botanist, Stillaguamish Tribe
Phil Taylor, Director, Engineer, Retired Boeing Company
Pamela Bond, Educator, Snohomish Tribe

Staff:

John Anderson, Executive Director
Kim Clark, Finance Manager
Susan Camarillo, Office Manager
Kristin Marshall, Habitat Restoration Program Manager, Stillaguamish Basin
Brian Boehm, Habitat Restoration Program Manager, Snohomish Basin
Cara Ianni, Education Program Manager
Christi Hardy, Website/Social Media Coordinator
Michele Harmeling, Volunteer and Membership Coordinator
Kevin Lee, Habitat Restoration Specialist
Kalem Howell, Habitat Restoration Technician
Sam Harb, Education Specialist Technician
Monique Silva-Crossman, Education Outreach Assistant
Sarah Nelson, Habitat Restoration Technician
Stephanie Leeper, Education and Outreach Assistant

Crew Information:

The majority of Sound Salmon Solutions field work is carried out by our in-house crew of Habitat Restoration staff, supported and supplemented by volunteers. On occasion we use DOC crews from Snohomish County.
REGION 4:
Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

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

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

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

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

Since 1991 Mid Sound has completed more than 270 projects, including streambank fencing, native tree and shrub plantings, fish blockage removal, wetland restoration, fish enhancement and monitoring, education and training events. Each of these projects serve as a catalyst to building community partnerships in Puget Sound. Together, these partnerships contribute invaluable time and resources for the recovery of salmon in the Pacific Northwest.

It is our belief that community-based salmon recovery develops educational opportunities for volunteers to learn about, and become part of the interwoven complexities of our environment.

Contact Information
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
Habitat Project Highlights

**Kelsey Creek**
Kelsey Creek is a highly urbanized creek in Bellevue, WA; one of the last urban streams to still have a wild Chinook salmon runs. Mid Sound restored approximately 200 feet of this creek where habitat and spawning potential were very low. With the cooperation and participation of four landowners, we were able to get a project designed and permitted in 2010/2011 and constructed September of 2011. The designs included widening a confined portion of the channel and large wood debris (LWD) installation to create a naturally functioning series of pools and riffles that Chinook desperately need for spawning. The series of pools and riffles include 3 logs weirs and 2 deep resting pool and large root wads installed on the bank sides to act as refuge habitat and sediment control. Invasive plant removal, native plantings and supplementing the site with additional spawning gravel are also included in the design plans.

**Seattle Urban Stream Initiative**
Mid Sound has been assisting private land owners and other organizations to get salmon friendly projects on-the-ground. These projects include fish passage barrier removals, bioengineered and habitat enhancing bank stabilization projects and invasive plant control. Within these projects, Mid Sound has offered project managing assistance, planting recommendations and installation and permitting support.

**Longfellow Creek**
During the summer of 2010, Mid Sound, along with many other non-profits and habitat focused organizations, was approached by Seattle Public Utilities to look into a project on Longfellow Creek. The project was to address a section of Longfellow Creek that had been covered by a series of four culverts that confined the channel into an approximate 3 foot wide ditch. During storm events, the confined channel can rise by several feet, eroding the banks and adding a huge sediment load to the system that suffocates local fish populations. Mid Sound was chosen by the land owners to manage a project to restore the natural functions to this section of creek. Mid Sound has met with several of the community members and written grants to fund the design work and find the best project approach for this system.

**North Fork Newaukum Creek**
Mid Sound, along with 8 volunteers, removed Himalayan blackberries and English Ivy alongside North Fork Newaukum Creek in Enumclaw; over 200 native species were planted in their place.

**Big Spring Creek Smolt Trap**
Mid-Sound has operated a Coho Smolt Trap near the mouth of important tributary to Newaukum Creek each spring through 2003 to 2006. In 2011, a two way trap was installed early spring and removed in the summer. The purpose of the Coho Smolt Trap was to track juvenile Coho numbers in Big Spring Creek prior to King County’s re-channelization project that will remove the creek from a low quality habitat ditch and direct it back into the historic creek channel. Information provided by the 2-way Smolt Trap survey will demonstrate how the re-channelization project has affected the Big Spring Creek juvenile salmon population in a before and after implementation of this habitat restoration project.

Our smolt trap was primarily ran by volunteers, checking the trap at least twice a day (more during storm events) counting and identifying captured fish species. Our volunteers came from a variety of places, from the local Enumclaw community and high school, to people from North Seattle and Duvall.

---

**Project Expenditures: July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>RFEG Funds</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Volunteer Dollars</th>
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24
REGION 5:
South Puget Sound
Salmon Enhancement Group

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.

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group 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 in King, Pierce, Kitsap, Thurston, and Mason Counties, we can increase salmon numbers in our rivers and streams. Working closely with state, federal, non-profit, local, 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 501 (c) (3) non-profit, non-governmental, non-political, status helps SPSSEG get real results, real quick.

SPSSEG completes many scientific assessments, monitoring, education, and on-the-ground restoration projects each year with a professional staff and volunteer base that is located in the center of our region, Olympia, WA. Other cities include Tacoma, Gig Harbor, and Shelton. In 2010-11 SPSSEG completed six on-the-ground projects and have thirteen on-going projects underway. Currently there are 5.5 employees and the annual budget ranges from $1million-$3million 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. In 2010-11, SPSSEG expended $157,029 of RFEG funds and $2,745,818 of other funds. SPSSEG leveraged RFEG funds 17:1.

Recent project highlights include: Greenwater River ELJ and Road Removal, Ohop Valley Restoration, Allison Springs Estuary, and several Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) bridge projects.

CONTACT INFORMATION
South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
Martin Way East Suite 112
Olympia WA, 98516.
Phone: (360) 412-0808
Email: spsseg@spsseg.org
Website: www.spsseg.org
SPSSEG’s primary education and outreach activity includes the popular Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail. Each year, 50 volunteer docents volunteer over 600 hours and thousands of people visit the Trail to learn more about the salmon life cycle. SPSSEG also sponsors one Washington Conservation Corp (WCC) Individual Placement position and attends many other festivals throughout the region.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>RFEG Funds</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Volunteer Dollars</th>
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## SPSSEG Project Expenditures: July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>RFEG Funds</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Volunteer Dollars</th>
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### Generic Projects

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<th>Project Name</th>
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REGION 6:
Hood Canal
Salmon Enhancement Group

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

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group 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. The Hood Canal region supports fall Chinook, summer chum, pink salmon, fall chum, coho, steelhead and sea-run cutthroat. Over our twenty year history, HCSEG has amassed well over one hundred partners at local, state and federal levels and we have become proficient at undertaking extensive restoration and research projects for improving wild salmon stocks in Hood Canal.

Project Highlights
For the time period of 7/1/10 through 6/30/11, the following are project highlights of the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group:

Lower Big Beef Creek Design
This watershed had subpopulations of ESA listed summer chum salmon extirpated but recently reintroduced as a cornerstone strategy to recovering this species in Hood Canal. Habitat capacity in the creek where summer chum salmon spawn, incubate, and rear is relatively poor given the stream’s straightening and simplification that occurred in 1969 along with the removal of large woody debris (LWD). Around that time, an access road built has inhibited the stream to passively recover from channel simplification.

HCSEG commissioned a conceptual project design seeking a restoration plan that would actively restore properly functioning floodplain and channel conditions within the lower one mile of the system. The design involves removing the access road that channelized the main channel, removing two buildings and fill material, and adding LWD to add complexity to the system. Additionally, this project will implement a corrective action in
a treatment watershed of the Hood Canal Intensely Monitored Watershed program. HCSEG has applied for funding to begin construction of this project in the summer of 2012.

**Big Quilcene River - Flood Plain Restoration**

In the past fifty years, this River has suffered adverse effects from loss of river connectivity with the floodplain due to extensive diking. The loss of sinuosity and connectivity with the floodplain has also reduced habitat complexity resulting in the loss of pools and a reduction in access to floodplain vegetation and wood recruitment. In 2010, HCSEG completed a combination of culvert replacements, 1,100 feet of dike removal and restructuring the delta cone for a collective sequencing of restoration. These restoration efforts will allow the river to re-establish a natural floodplain and provide a broader area of tidal exchange.

**Little Quilcene River – Brush Plant Road Reach Restoration**

The 1/3 mile reach of the Little Quilcene River between Center Rd. and Hwy. 101 has been channelized for agriculture and residential development, resulting in one long riffle that provides neither stable spawning nor rearing habitats. This restoration effort involves the installation of LWD to improve existing and create new in-stream, floodplain and riparian habitats for summer chum salmon and steelhead trout in particular. Additionally, several areas for riparian plantings, totaling approximately 4.5 acres, have been identified to reduce invasive species and increase riparian diversity and long term bank stability. Project construction is scheduled for fall 2011.

**Donovan Creek Restoration Design**

Pre-design work was completed for this project. Restoration actions will include re-meandering approximately 3,300 feet of the channelized portion of Donovan Creek, adding LWD for habitat value and replanting approximately 15 acres of riparian corridor along the newly meandered channel. The creek is home to ESA listed summer chum. HCSEG is now in the process of acquiring properties to commence project goals.

**Klingel Wetlands - Estuary Restoration**

This project reconnected isolated salt marsh habitats within the Klingel wetlands along the Union River estuary. During the mid-1900’s, this salt marsh area was modified with a dike and borrow ditch to support agricultural activities which severed several tidal channels. In 2010, approximately 1,300 feet of dike was removed in the estuarine environment of the Union River delta returning thirteen acres of priority habitat to the estuary. This restoration allows for complete tidal inundation, natural tidal formation, and improved re-vegetation to a high salt marsh community. It provides critical foraging and rearing habitat allowing for re-colonization by several imperiled species, specifically, Puget Sound Chinook and Hood Canal Summer Chum salmon as well as Puget Sound steelhead.

**Lower Tahuya River Reach Assessment and LWD Design**

HCSEG commissioned a reach assessment and conceptual LWD placement along the lower 4.25 miles of the Tahuya River. The main goal of these efforts was to identify and prioritize areas in need of LWD placement to enhance salmonids fish habitat, with emphasis on Hood Canal Summer-run chum salmon. Summer-run chum had been extirpated from the river, but are now re-establishing via an eleven year supplementation project co-sponsored by the HCSEG. Funding and landowner permissions have been obtained to engineer and install LWD now that project designs are complete. LWD placement is scheduled for August 2011 in the Lower Tahuya River.

**Union River Estuary Johnson Farm Dike Design**

HCSEG commissioned the development of design plans for a project to breach an historic dike in the Union River Estuary and return nearly forty-five acres of wetlands to prime habitat for salmon species while maintaining trail access for the community. Community meetings have occurred in the summer and fall of 2010 to allow for public comment. Eleven alternatives have been considered, some of which were necessary for SEPA or other agency considerations. Final designs were selected in spring of 2011 by the project stakeholder team and construction is planned to occur in 2012.

**Knotweed Control and Riparian Enhancement**

Knotweed is an extremely aggressive, non-native plant that was imported from Asia as a garden ornamental. It smothers native species, lowers habitat biodiversity and degrades bank stability. From June - October of 2010, HCSEG treated 61.6 acres of knotweed on the Union, Dewatto and the Tahuya Rivers. Knotweed is treated using an herbicide that is formulated for aquatic use and knotweed control methods are employed by licensed HCSEG personnel which follow protocols defined by
the Hood Canal Regional Knotweed Control Strategy. Monitoring and resurveying of treated stands of knotweed for treatment effectiveness has been ongoing since fall 2009. HCSEG continues treatments for the 2011 season from summer through fall. Re-treatment of past knotweed stands will carry on since eradication of stands requires multiple treatments. After treatment, replanting riparian areas with native species is ongoing and occurred through fall and winter of 2010, spring of 2011 and will continue in fall and winter of 2011.

**The Dewatto Nutrification Study**

This study continued its eleventh year. The project has been designed to determine the potential populations of juvenile coho in eight tributaries of the Dewatto River and whether or not they can be self-sustaining based on available habitat. The project includes adult coho spawner surveys, 8 smolt traps for data collection, macro-invertebrate sampling, marine derived nutrient sampling, pool riffle surveys, carcass-analog distributions and transport, and data entry and statistical analysis. This study is evaluating the significance of marine-derived nutrients to the health of a watershed by monitoring the populations of macro invertebrates (aquatic bugs) and juvenile fish. Of the eight tributaries of the Dewatto River watershed included in the study, three are test streams. The test streams have received extra nutrients in the form of carcasses or carcass analogs. All tributaries have been monitored to assess the benefits of additional marine derived nutrients. Each spring, temporary smolt traps are installed near the mouth of each tributary. The traps catch juvenile fish migrating to salt water. Volunteers and staff weigh and measure the smolts. Macro invertebrate data is collected during the summer and used as an index to evaluate the health of the stream. Each fall, spawner surveys are conducted weekly by staff and volunteers to estimate adult coho salmon return. Samples of juvenile coho are collected from each stream during the summer months. These fish are sent to a laboratory for marine derived nutrient analysis to measure the levels of Nitrogen Isotope 15 in each tissue sample. The data is used to compare levels of marine derived nutrients found between test and control streams. The results are showing that the test streams are showing higher averages of marine derived nutrients in tissue after carcasses and/or carcass analogs have been added to the test streams. These findings appear to substantiate the need for nutrification to streams for salmon population sustainability.

**The Union River/Tahuya Summer Chum Project**

This project completed its eleventh year partnering with the WDFW George Adams Hatchery in the fall of 2010. The purpose of this project has been to increase the numbers of returning summer chum in the Union River to a sustainable level to enable reintroduction of summer chum to the Tahuya River system where they were previously extirpated. The Union River is one watershed south of the Tahuya River making it viable donor stock for the Tahuya River system. Supplementation efforts began in 2000 and achieved the goal to reach sustainable levels of returning summer chum on the Union River. Since relative stability of the Union River summer chum stock has been achieved, supplementation efforts have been focused on restoring summer chum to the Tahuya system since 2003. Each year since 2003, brood stock is collected in the Union River and the resulting fry are raised for release in the Tahuya system.

An adult fish trap on the Union River has been installed every fall from Aug. 15 – Oct.15 since 2000 to count all returning adults and provide brood stock for the Tahuya River system. It is manned by volunteers twenty four hours per day. The following lists final returning numbers of summer chum to the Union River through fall of 2010:

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Volunteers record the species and sex of each fish before releasing them upstream and also assist with trap maintenance, public outreach, spawning preparation and trap security. Volunteers logged nearly 2,572 hours of service at the trap site during the 2010 trapping season. At the Tahuya rearing site volunteers also logged 61 hours of service during the winter of 2010.

After spawning, different samples are taken from the brood stock including: ovarian, kidney, and spleen for detecting viruses; scale samples for age; heart, liver, body, and eye tissue for GSI (Genetic Stock Identification) data; and gill plate samples for DNA analysis and GSI.

Fifty pairs of Union River summer chum were collected for spawning at the Union River trap during the fall of 2010. During the winter of 2010, Union River fry were raised.
for spring release into the Tahuya system. Half of the eggs were kept at the George Adams Hatchery as a precautionary measure and half were raised at the rearing site on Tributary 9 of the Tahuya River. The major flood event in December of 2010 caused severe damage to the rearing site resulting in loss of fish fry and a lower number of project fish to be released into the Tahuya system. Approximately 22,000 summer chum fry were released into the Tahuya River system in February and March of 2011.

Crews conducted spawner surveys on the Tahuya River which included otolith sampling, gill plate sampling for DNA analysis and scale sampling. The summer chum return was estimated at 1,153 between August and September of 2010. This is heartening news that our repopulation efforts of summer chum on the Tahuya River are being realized. Rearing of summer chum fry will continue through the winter of 2011-2012 with subsequent release in the Tahuya system in spring of 2012.

**The Hood Canal Dissolved Oxygen Program**

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group (HCSEG) has served as a program co-manager and a significant project participant in the Hood Canal Dissolved Oxygen Program (HCDOP) since it was first funded in 2005.

The HCDOP was structured to serve as a science investigation and a guide for the process of corrective actions based on the science findings. From the onset of HCDOP in 2005, the HCSEG has contributed to the marine monitoring, stream monitoring, watershed ground-truthing, acoustic surveys for marine biota, deployment of buoy sensors, emergency response to fish kills and algal blooms, and correlated recreational dive reports with low oxygen events.

The science investigation came to a milestone in 2010. Science reports were provided from observations and modeling of the marine system, observations and modeling of the watershed, and observations of the marine biota. A synthesis report has been compiled for general distribution to the public, local stakeholder groups, and legislative decisions-makers. At this time, the report is under peer review. The information from the science investigation is being utilized to develop recommendations for corrective actions to legislative decision-makers. This process, guided by the Hood Canal Coordinating Council, is comprised of three Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) workgroups: Storm water/Land use, Wastewater/OSS, and Habitat/Biota. The TAC groups are comprised of experts and stakeholders in their respective fields to help develop the corrective action recommendations.

The work of the TAC workgroups is being integrated with the Aquatic Rehabilitation Action Plan for Hood Canal, which also aligns with the Puget Sound Partnership Action Agenda for the restoration and recovery of Puget Sound. For more information on the science results, visit the HCDOP website at www.hoodcanal.washington.edu. For more information about the TAC process visit the Hood Canal Coordinating Council website at hccc.wa.gov.

**Hood Canal Steelhead Supplementation Project**

The Hood Canal Steelhead Project aims to help rebuild steelhead populations in the Duckabush, Dewatto, and Skokomish Rivers while testing the effects of hatchery supplementation on natural populations. The Tahuya River, Big Beef Creek, and Little Quilcene River are control streams to test for differences between supplemented and non-supplemented populations. This project is led by NOAA Fisheries and is contributed to by WDFW, LLTK, the Skokomish Tribe, HCSEG, USFWS, USFS, and the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe. The focus of the HCSEG has been to carry out work on the Dewatto, Tahuya, and Little Quilcene Rivers. Field work includes redds surveys, embryo collections, fish releases, and out-migrant juvenile trapping. Redd counts are used to track adult steelhead abundance over time, and naturally spawned embryos are collected from a portion of the observed redds. The progeny are captively-reared; most of them are released as 2 year smolts and some are released as adult fish to spawn naturally in their natal rivers. 6,571 smolts were released into the Dewatto River in 2011. The 2011 estimated spawning abundance was down in the Tahuya (68 in 2010, 47 in 2011) and up in the Dewatto (13 in 2010 to 92 in 2011), an increase that likely reflects supplementation efforts. Trapping of out-migrating juvenile fish occurred throughout April and May. Data and tissue samples are used to monitor juvenile abundance, genetic diversity, and life history
characteristics. These characteristics will be tracked over the 16-year study in both supplemented and control populations to determine whether changes take place as a result of hatchery supplementation.

**Hood Canal GreenSTEM and Environmental Explorations**

For the past ten years, HCSEG has hosted Environmental Explorations for students in the Hood Canal Watershed. In 2011, Environmental Explorations was incorporated into the GreenSTEM program, an environmental education program which includes Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. The program works with local teachers and students integrating action-based outdoor science projects to increase student achievement and nature awareness.

Approximately, 250 students and 9 schools in the Hood Canal watershed (2nd – 12th grade) participated in the 2011 GreenSTEM program during the school year. A culminating GreenSTEM Summit was held on May 17, 2011 at the Pacific Northwest Salmon Center in order for these students to present their classroom projects. Student project topics were varied and included water quality, eco-friendly gardening, school composting, wildlife monitoring and organizing community beach cleanups. While at the summit, students also participated in activities which included eco-friendly gardening, presentations from Wild Birds Unlimited, NOAA and Taylor Shellfish. Students also participated in the Washington NatureMapping Program. This program is set to run again in 2011-12.

**Adventure Salmon Camp**

Adventure Salmon overnight camp was held for 6th – 9th graders in Aug. of 2010. Young people were given opportunities to explore Hood Canal’s diverse watershed while gaining knowledge of the salmon life cycle, its role in the ecosystem and salmon related issues. Some of the activities included kayaking the Dewatto Bay and the lower reaches of the river while snorkeling, swimming and identifying benthic macroinvertebrates. An afternoon was spent on the research vessel, Indigo, through Service Education Adventure, who provided scientific activities. A tour of the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribal Center led by a Tribal Elder also occurred. Campers partook in tracking games, a salmon scent blindfold game, crafts, journaling and discussions. Campers also created fused glass tiles during an art activity taught by a local artist. The influence of salmon to the culture of the northwest was portrayed throughout the camp session. An appreciation for the natural environment is gained while learning how to become a better steward at this unique camp.

**Boys and Girls Club Nature Camp**

The HCSEG partnered with the North Mason and South Kitsap County Boys and Girls Club in the summer of 2010 to provide the first ever environmental club for that youth group. HCSEG held a day camp program one day per week for five weeks for Boy and Girls Club members similar to Adventure Salmon Camp. Plans are underway to provide an expanded Boys and Girls Club Nature Camp in summer 2011.

**Stream Team Internship program**

This Internship program is awarded to graduating Hood Canal region high school students who will attend a two or four year college or university and major in environmental science, fisheries, biology, ecology or a related field. This paid internship requires a 400 hour commitment during the summer. Applicants are eligible to participate in the program for up to four years.

In the summer of 2010, nine paid StreamTeam internships were awarded. Four of the interns were returning to the program from previous years. StreamTeam Interns conduct stream surveys on the tributaries of the Tahuya and Dewatto River systems that involve gathering data along the entire length. Working together, the interns fulfill many tasks including measuring gradient, stream and channel width, pool depth and surface area and counting and measuring LWD. They also collect benthic macroinvertebrates for the Dewatto Nutrification project to help determine the health of a stream. The collection of this data allows changes in the watershed to be monitored and any threats to salmon habitat to be noted and managed.

**Scholarships**

During fall of 2010, HCSEG awarded nine $2,500.00 scholarships to college students who were selected to participate in the StreamTeam Internship program and successfully completed their 400 hour commitment during the summer of 2010.

**Research Interns**

HCSEG offers an additional internship program geared toward college undergraduates. From July 2010 - June 2011, HCSEG provided five research internships to college students pursuing degrees in the natural sciences. Research
Interns participate as field technicians for HSCEG research projects which include the Steelhead supplementation project, the Nutrification project and the HCDOP program. This is an excellent opportunity for college students to gain valuable field experience and earn college credit. These internships are typically offered quarterly and require a commitment of 100 hours, but may be extended as the project allows. Upon completion Research Interns are awarded a small stipend.

**Community Outreach**

HCSEG staff and interns participated in community outreach and education at over 25 local schools, clubs and regional events. NatureMapping events occurred during summer 2010.

**Pacific Northwest Salmon Center**

HCSEG continues to take part in the development of the Pacific Northwest Salmon Center as a major environmental and educational center in Belfair, WA. A public trail has been put in place since 2010 which connects to the Theler trail system. The large barn on the property is utilized for Salmon Center and HCSEG events and is also available to the community for meeting and event space.

In September of 2010, the Salmon Center held The Wild Salmon Hall of Fame on its new site for the first time. Dr. Al Adams was the 2010 Hall of Fame award recipient who was honored as one of the men who made the Salmon Center possible. In partnership with the Skokomish tribe, a traditional salmon celebration and ceremony to Hood Canal was also held on this same day.

**Board of Directors**

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Dan O’Neal, Vice President – Retired Attorney
Richard Chwaszczewski, Treasurer – SAIC
Michelle Licari, Secretary – Olympic College, Scientific Instr. Tech
Al Adams, Board Member – Retired Dentist
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Dan Hannafious, Assistant Director / Co-Manager HCDOP
Mona Pillers, Executive Assistant
Julie Easton, Volunteer Coordinator
Kimberly Gower, Project Administrator
Bonnie Organ, Administrative Assistant
Mendy Harlow, Habitat Biologist
Renee Rose-Scherdnik, Water Research Scientist / HCDOP
Teresa Sjostrom, Steelhead Biologist
Sean Hildebrandt, Stream and Debris Specialist, Field Biologist
Michelle Myers, Education and Outreach Coordinator / Research Assistant
Don Husted, Field and Maintenance Technician
Daniel Heide, Grounds Technician

**Crew Information**

**Stream Team Interns - summer 2010**

Nick Barrantes
Caelan Colyer
Rachel Fujimoto
Annie Gower
### Reg. 6 - Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Project Expenditures: July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

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REGION 7:
North Olympic Salmon Coalition

Mission Statement
The mission of the North Olympic Salmon Coalition is to restore, enhance and protect habitat of North Olympic Peninsula wild salmon stocks and to promote community volunteerism, understanding, cooperation and stewardship of these resources.

North Olympic Salmon Coalition Overview
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. Project areas include creek, river and nearshore ecosystems.

NOSC participates in the Salmon Recovery Funding Board processes through two lead entities ~ the Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity and the North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity. NOSC’s priority watersheds are Morse Creek in WRIA 18 and the variety of rural watersheds in WRIA 19. The Salmon-Snow watershed in Discovery Bay is our action priority in the Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity. The Regional Recovery Plan for Hood Canal and Strait of Juan de Fuca Summer Chum is lead by HCCC who looks to NOSC and the rest of the “Chumsortium” as the local outreach partners to develop community support for recovery of ESA listed summer chum in these watersheds.
Project Highlights

Fish Enhancement

Previous efforts to restore ESA listed summer chum in Salmon and Chimacum Creeks have been successful, and these creeks are no longer dependent on broodstock programs. NOSC continues to monitor these populations with WDFW assistance and funding from ALEA to evaluate long term success. 2010 spawner returns for Chimacum Creek reached over 1900 adults. NOSC in partnership with WDFW continued into its 12th and final year of summer chum broodstocking supplementation on Jimmycomelately Creek, which continues to show positive returns with this year’s spawning run numbers reaching over 4,027 returning adults. This program was adopted by NOAA as part of the 2007 Summer Chum Salmon Recovery Plan. The Jimmycomelately broodstock supplementation program reached completion in June 2011. NOSC volunteers will continue to monitor the population with WDFW assistance to ensure the run is self-sustaining.

In-Stream Habitat Projects

Morse Creek Floodplain Reconnection

The Morse Creek Riverine Restoration Project was completed in Fall 2010. The project re-activated 1,700 feet of main channel, 700 feet of side channel and 9.3 acres of floodplain as it had existed around 1930 prior to the installation of a dike which pushed the river against the valley wall. The straightened channel conditions had resulted in high flow velocity, limited pool habitat and recruitment of large cobbles and boulders, which resulted in poor fish habitat for all life stages. Restoration included the removal of 1,100 feet of dike, the construction of 19 engineered log jams and the addition of side channels will provide wintering habitat for salmonids. Improvements will benefit ESA-listed steelhead, bull trout, pink salmon, coho salmon, chum salmon and out-planted Elwha Chinook.

Salt Creek Large Woody Debris Project

NOSC partnered with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe to provide outreach and project management support to the local community in preparation for large woody debris treatment on a ½ mile of Salt Creek in to take place in the summer of 2011.

Chimacum Creek – Bishop Dairy

Three years ago, NOSC secured a LIP USFW grant to remove an infestation of bittersweet nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*) along a 500 foot section of the upper East Fork that acted as a barrier to spawning salmon. NOSC continues to move forward with the permitting for the construction of a rearing pond and the installment of large woody debris treatment along this section of Chimacum Creek.

Riparian Planting And Maintenance

NOSC contracted its second Washington Conservation Corps crew in 2010. The crew’s focus is on riparian projects through East Jefferson County through partnerships with the Jefferson County Conservation District, Hood Canal Coordinating Council, Jefferson Land Trust, Jefferson County Noxious Weed Board, and our RFEG Partner to the south, the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group. In 2009 and 2010, the crew has planted over 9,600 trees, controlled invasive species and maintained plantings on over 172 acres of riparian habitat, and installed 5 in-stream habitat structures.

Volunteers from Jefferson Land Trust, WSU Water / Beach Watchers, Washington Conservation Corps, and local schools are valuable partners on these riparian planting projects. Many volunteer hours were logged in riparian plantings and site maintenance on Chimacum Creek, Chimacum Beach, Salmon Estuary, Snow Creek and Morse Creek riparian areas this fiscal year. NOSC also continues to maintain two plant nurseries using volunteer

NOSC volunteers planted a total of 1,500 conifers along the newly restored Morse Creek.
help in Jefferson County (one on donated farmland, another at Chimacum School). Combined, these nurseries hold over 780 native trees and shrubs. Within the various watersheds, NOSC continues to maintain nearly 24,000 plants and trees on 40 acres of riparian plantings. This past year, 6,436 new trees and shrubs were planted by volunteers with assistance from the crew.

**Estuary And Nearshore**

**Pfleuger Acquisition and Demolition**

Using Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) monies awarded to . A 6.51 acres estuary/upland parcel was appraised and purchased by the Jefferson Land Trust in 2011 for the purpose of conservation and restoration. After the site was acquired, NOSC used SRFB funds to remove the existing double wide trailer, barn and out buildings and remove contaminated soils left from a leaking oil barrel on the property. Future restoration plans on this site will involve improving the connectivity of Snow Creek to adjacent salt marsh and tidal channels. Invasive species will be removed and managed and the upland portion of the site will be further restored and planted with native vegetation.

**Maynard Nearshore Restoration Design**

NOSC has begun planning for future activities within the Maynard Nearshore. Project design engineering is approaching 60%. The goal of this project is to restore a naturally functioning estuary and shoreline including beaches and marine riparian areas, critical habitat for ESA listed summer chum salmon and steelhead, coho salmon, cutthroat trout, as well as numerous other fish and wildlife species such as Olympia oysters, birds and forage fish. The site is an important nearshore link to the 2008 Salmon Estuary wood waste removal project.

**Chimacum Beach**

NOSC continued beach restoration efforts at this site with plantings and site maintenance. Invasive weed removal continued this year with a focus on eradication of sweet white clover (Melilotus alba). The Jefferson County Sky Crew and Boy Scouts assisted in these eradication efforts.

**Monitoring**

**Water Quality**

For the 9th year, NOSC funded a Washington Conservation Corps intern to work with Jefferson County Conservation District’s water quality monitoring program in Chimacum, Salmon, Snow and other watersheds. Through this program, data was collected on temperature, flow, nitrates, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, and inter-gravel dissolved oxygen. This work adds to the continuous 20-year data set documenting watershed conditions throughout East Jefferson County.

**Fish Monitoring**

Spawning surveys for summer chum and coho took place with volunteers in the Chimacum watershed in cooperation with WDFW and the Point No Point Treaty Council. NOSC volunteers continued to provide extensive volunteer labor support for the WDFW Snow Creek Coho Recovery Program; a research based broodstock and RSI effort using multiple rearing and release strategies in the Discovery Bay watershed. NOSC volunteers attended adult traps at Jimmycomelately and Salmon Creeks and walked Chimacum Creek counting summer chum and collecting otoliths, scales and tissue samples for DNA and identification analysis.

**Pitship Pocket Estuary Restoration Monitoring**

With the help of NOSC volunteers, post-project construction monitoring continues on Pitship Pocket Estuary. NOSC followed monitoring protocols outlined in the ‘Pitship Pocket Estuary Monitoring Plan,’ which was developed specifically to describe recommended tasks for monitoring the overall health of the Pitship Pocket Estuary in regards to work completed with the Project.

**Salmon Creek Estuary Restoration Monitoring**

With the help of NOSC volunteers, post-project construction monitoring continued on Salmon Creek

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NOSC educated local students about stormwater pollution and students marked storm drains around their local watershed.
Estuary until June of 2011. NOSC published a monitoring report analyzing the data gathered pre-project and post-project from 2008-2011.

**Community Outreach And Education**

**Volunteers and Outreach**

NOSC again provided education and training for volunteers for all our monitoring and riparian projects. NOSC continued to provide watershed and salmon ecology educational opportunities to Chimacum Middle School science classes, Grant Street Elementary School, Jefferson Community School, and the North Olympic Skills Center. From summer 2010 to spring 2011, NOSC attended 10 local festivals in Jefferson and Clallam Counties to teach residents about the importance of salmon and habitat restoration. NOSC also gave presentations to at least five different community groups who had requested information about watershed stewardship. 75 people attended the ceremonial culmination of the Chimacum Summer Chum recovery program at Chimacum Beach Estuary and many dedicated volunteers gathered to celebrate the last fry release on Jimmycomealately Creek, concluding a 12 year project. NOSC continues to foster new partnerships; including helping local farmers achieve Salmon Safe Farm certification and promoting the Puget Sound Starts Here campaign with the Strait ECO Network. NOSC continued its general outreach efforts through publication of newsletters and a new e-newsletter, maintenance of its website and creation of blog sites to highlight special project activities.

**Chimacum Creek Stewards**

In the 2010-2011 school years, every 6th and 8th grade student at Chimacum Middle School participated in the Chimacum Creek Stewards program. The program began with classroom lessons on benthic macroinvertebrates, during which students had the chance to study and identify live stream insects using computers and microscopes. They then made predictions about the health of Chimacum Creek by studying the insects that were found. Next students worked with NOSC and the Jefferson County Conservation District (JCCD) to set and check smolt traps along the stretch of Chimacum Creek that runs behind their campus. Students checked the traps a total of nine times, gathering important data for NOSC and JCCD and learning firsthand which species inhabit that stretch of stream. Finally, students participated in a service learning project at Spring Rain Farm, where they planted native trees and shrubs which will provide a buffer and shade for Chimacum Creek, as well as flowering plants for the farm’s apiary.

**North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center at Morse Creek**

NOSC worked with alternative high school students from the North Olympic Peninsula Skills Center’s Natural Resource classes during the fall and winter months to teach them about different types of stream restoration activities and their ecological benefits. Students helped plant native trees along the newly completed Morse Creek Riverine project and also practiced creating geographic information systems to track changes in the stream’s morphology.

**Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program**

NOSC received one year of funding from the East Jefferson Watershed Council (formerly known as WRIA 17) to run a Stormwater Education Program during the 2010-2011 school year. The program consisted of delivering stormwater pollution education programming to 341 K-12th grade students at four separate schools. Students received a blank map of their school and surrounding area and worked together to create a legend of potential stormwater pollutants, then went outside to see if they could find any. After drawing their findings on their maps, students brainstormed ways to reduce the stormwater pollution. The program concluded with a trash pickup and storm drain marking session around the school’s neighborhood. 341 Students and community volunteers marked 73 storm drains around East Jefferson
County through this program. Many classes asked NOSC to return for a second or third time to mark more drains.

**FIN the Giant Salmon**

FIN is the name of the 25-foot-long, 2,000 pound female chum salmon sculpture that NOSC brings to schools and festivals around the region. Youth and adults can climb inside FIN to view a mural of a Pacific Northwest watershed, complete with over 100 different native plants and animals. This year NOSC brought FIN to Grant Street Elementary as part of their Salmon in the Classroom program. FIN made it to many other parades, festivals and events around Puget Sound and even in Eastern Washington. FIN can be rented for outreach events.

**Adult Education**

The WSU Beach Watchers of Jefferson County spent time with NOSC learning about salmon, their habitat needs and types of restoration in March 2011. They also visited restoration sites around the estuaries of Discovery Bay.

Gardeners and plant lovers attended the Native Plant Workshop offered by WSU, JCCD and NOSC in January 2011 and learned detailed information about individual native plants available to plant in their backyards. NOSC also offered educational talks at every tree planting and monitoring event in 2010 and 2011, including plant and smolt ID, stream hydrology and stewardship conservation.

**Grant Administration for Puget Sound Partnership ‘Puget Sound Starts Here’ (PSSH) Campaign**

NOSC served as fiscal agent/grant manager for two PSP EcoNet grants. The first grant provided support for Volunteer Event Coordination in support of PSSH campaign, and the other provided support for promotional tools for engaging the public in the PSSH campaign. NOSC monitored all budgets and expenditures and filed reimbursement requests. NOSC also assisted in preparation of final project reports.

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**Board Of Directors**

**Coalition Officers 2010-2011**

**President:** Terry O’Brien - Sport fisher, brewmaster, retired

**Vice President:** Mike Langley- shoreline landowner, dedicated volunteer

**Secretary:** Jean Erreca - Sport fisher, shoreline resident, irrigation contractor, WA Beach Watcher

**Treasurer:** Ron Deisher- Sport fisher, executive, retired

**Board Members 2010-2011**

Harry Bell - Silviculturist, Green Crow Partnership
Karolyn Burdick - Riparian project site landowner
Jim Hackman - Dedicated volunteer, former president of Wild Olympic Salmon
Andrew McGregor - Volunteer, retired Alaska Dept. of Fish and Game biologist
Hannah Merrill - Natural Resources planner, Clallam County
Sarah McMahan- Community organizer, artist, volunteer
Coleman Byrnes- Streamkeepers of Clallam County
Michael Blanton- Watershed Steward for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Staff Members 2010-2011**

Rebecca Benjamin - Executive Director
Kevin Long - Project Manager
Randy Pendergrass – Financial Manager
Kai Wallin – Education and Outreach Coordinator
Nancy Erreca - Administrative Assistant
Sarah Doyle – Stewardship Coordinator
Aliina Lahti- AmeriCorps Intern

**WCC Crew Members 2010-2011**

Owen French- Crew Supervisor
James House-Assistant Supervisor
Chris Viciana
AJ Garcia
Katie Moyer
Lynda Lou Brazan
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## Reg. 7 - North Olympic Salmon Coalition Project Expenditures: July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

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REGION 8:
Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

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.

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition 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, Hoh, Makah and Quinault Tribes, U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, National Park Service, Washington State Departments of Fish and Wildlife and Natural Resources, 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 food chain for salmon with the **Quillayute Nutrient Enhancement project**. The Sol Duc, Bogachiel, Calawah, and Dickey rivers were enhanced with over 17,793 surplus salmon carcasses dispersed by volunteers using their own vehicles in almost 685 hours of volunteer service. Hatchery personnel gather and spawn the necessary fish for next year’s 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. 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 **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 Beverly Borde) and WDFW. The project has been done in cooperation with WDFandW on private land for several years now.

The **Pole Creek** project is a multi phased project that encompasses drainage of 12,700 feet of historic salmonid habitat. The first phase of this project was addressed by the landowner, The Hoh River Trust, and involved the removal of twelve upstream blocking culvers and road decommissioning. Salmonid use at Pole Creek has been documented by USFS smolt trap records and anecdotal evidence. In 1996 USFS documented Coho, Steelhead, Cutthroat and Chinook in Pole Creek. This historically productive drainage has been impeded by blockages, mainly under county roads; as a result habitat had declined 90%.

The second phase entailed removing the last blockage between over 2 miles of upstream habitat and the main stem of the Hoh River. This was accomplished by removing a perched culvert that was badly deteriorated, and replaced it with a 35’, three sided bridge. The funding sources for this project were Salmon Recovery Funding Board and RCO, and match was provided by Title 2 and Jefferson County. This was an amazing partnership where several different organizations came together to make this project happen. The partners were Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition, Hoh River Trust, USDA Forest Service (Title 2), Hoh Tribe, Jefferson County, and WDFW. The most important achievement of this project to be recognized we restored an entire drainage. There are no blockages on the Pole Creek drainage.
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 Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition managed the project implementation and communicated closely with Smayda Environmental Associates, Inc. who designed the removal of the fish barrier and installation of the bridge and large woody debris correction. Additional project oversight was provided by staff implementing the Family Forest Fish Passage Program in Washington which is available to small forest landowners. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation provided match for the grant provided by the Family Forest Fish Passage Program and the Community Salmon Fund grant.

Upon the completion of the Fletcher Creek Salmon and Trout Passage Restoration project, 1) all native fish species including searun cutthroat, steelhead, and coho salmon, are able to fully access 2.11 miles of upstream habitat on Fletcher Creek; 2) a bridge was installed that will be able to pass fish and woody debris that moves down the stream during typical flows as well as storm events; and 3) the landowner has continued access over the stream to his forest land. Most of the components of this project were completed last year, although some funds and volunteer labor were utilized to complete and improve the after project planting this year.

The **Snider Creek Hatchery** project involved the maintenance of a facility in severe disrepair. The Snider Creek Hatchery is located on Snider Creek, in the Upper Sol Duc. The Snider Creek program was designed to become an important part of enhancing and augmenting the early run Native Steelhead stock on the Sol Duc River. The program uses wild Steelhead for the parent stock that are retrieved from the river, spawned, and then reared in the Snider Creek facility. Unfortunately, due to a lack of volunteers and funding, the facility had fallen to a state of severe disrepair. The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition using staff, volunteers, and individuals from the Summer Youth program spent better than a month restoring the entire facility. We replaced catwalks, cleaned mud and debris that had built up in the bottom of the pond, and removed vegetation in and around the facility. We repaired the bird netting and the intake to the facility. This facility is an important part of the recreation and sports fishing industry in our area and a very worth while endeavor.

The **Elk Creek/NOLT** project is a partnership between Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition and North Olympic Land Trust. For over 20 years, North Olympic Land Trust has been Clallam County’s foremost land conservation charity. In June of 2011, they celebrated what was considered the proudest day in both the PCSC and NOLT’s history with the grand opening of the 255-acre Elk Creek Conservation Area as a free public park for the use of the community of Forks. This lush temperate rain forest with its salmon-spawning stream is a testament to the natural splendor of the Olympic Peninsula and the passion of its inhabitants for preserving it. Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition, North Olympic Land Trust, local donors and volunteers, have prepared this beautiful property along Calawah Way for non-motorized public recreation and environmental education by restoring the natural habitat, putting in new trails, and building new bridges, interpretative signs, and an information kiosk. Since its opening, the Elk Creek Conservation Area has become a hub of activity where locals and tourists alike are hiking, biking, or riding the trails on horseback.

In addition to preserving vital habitat and providing recreation opportunities, the mission for the Elk Creek Conservation Area is to donate use of the property to local schools as an enhancement tool for environmental education programs. Olympic Peninsula educators will have the opportunity to utilize the Elk Creek Conservation Area to teach in Nature’s classroom — giving students free and exciting field trips that will provide hands-on field experience, up-close interactions with local wildlife, and a deeper appreciation of both the ecological and economic importance of local forests.

In an effort to better facilitate visiting student groups, PCSC and NOLT are constructing an Environmental Learning Shelter which will serve as both a learning center and rain shelter at the park. Partners on this project are PCSC, NOLT, the Clallam County SKY (Service, Knowledge, Youth) Program, Olympic Corrections Center inmate crews, Forks area businesses and volunteers to complete the shelter.

The Environmental Learning Shelter is scheduled for completion in November 2011 and will be ready for use by local teachers and students by the time the Coho start...
spawning in Elk Creek. North Olympic Land Trust and our partner organizations will do everything within our power to facilitate the use of the Elk Creek Conservation Area by local schools and youth groups, including guided hikes of the property and classroom activities and discussions if invited.

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

The Monitoring and Maintenance project involves the on-going responsibility of monitoring and maintaining over forty WDFandW restoration sites, as well as all of the past PCSC project sites. Due to WDFandW dwindling involvement in the area we were asked to step in and assist with the upkeep of constructed sites, such as Nolan Channel, Hoh Springs and Thomas Springs. The sites are comprised of a variety of structures, including fish ways, log and rock weirs, and roughened channels. Primarily, we will ensure the sites are functioning properly and allowing access, fish ways are clear of debris, beaver dams are fish-passable and that ponds have proper cover where needed. We also have continued to repair and replace structures where necessary due to the projects reaching the end of their life span or natural occurrence such as floods. Our volunteers have put in over 875 hours through-out the year, saving valuable dollars to be used on larger projects.

The Mill Creek Trail project involves creating an interpretive trail along Mill Creek. The project will create an area for the public to interact and be educated about salmon habitat and provide an area for recreation in town. The project would provide education opportunities for the school system as it is located within a mile of Forks High School. Currently, the Forks Alternative School does water quality testing on Mill Creek and this project will improve access for this program. This summer PCSC partnered with the SKY program, City of Forks, and the youth employment center to begin designing and implementing the trail. This project is still in the development stage and will provide a tremendous outreach and education opportunity in our local community.

The Mill Creek Preliminary Design involves a tributary of the Bogachiel River and is located in Forks in WRIA 20. This project will be a preliminary design project that will specifically address two issues, a WDFW constructed “carst” and the culvert crossing under Russell Road. Both structures are “in-channel.” The “carst” is a concrete fishway that was constructed in the mid 1970’s by WDFW. At that time dynamite was used to remove a small waterfall that was considered a passage barrier during low flows. Once the waterfall was removed several truckloads of concrete were placed in the stream bed to stabilize it. By the early 1980’s the edges of the carst were beginning to undercut as gravels were not naturally accumulating in that area. WDFW then designed a plan that included placing several two-man rocks throughout the span of the carst, using more concrete to hold them in place, allowing the creek to slow and deposit spawning gravels in a more natural way. The primary focus of the project will be to design an appropriate fish passage structure to replace the two deteriorated culverts that are currently at the Russell Road crossing. Also, we will be doing a habit survey along the length of the mainstem of Mill Creek, to ensure there are no other blockages, which may need to be addressed.

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

The **Administrative and Executive Director** projects are, unfortunately, some of the least glamorous of the projects Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition 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. As the organization continues to evolve and grow, and as we add staff, these funds become more and more critical. With the addition of staff, we have been able to increase our capacity and complexity of our projects.

### Reg. 8 - Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition Project Expenditures: July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>RFEG Funds</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Volunteer Dollars</th>
<th>Other Funds</th>
<th>Total Spent</th>
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### Board of Directors
- President: Wayne Haag, Retired Centurytel
- Vice President: Don Nordstrom, Retired WSDOT
- Treasurer: Richard Haberman, Retired Centurytel
- Secretary: Steve Allison, Biologist

### Board Members
- Phil Borde, Retired Teacher
- Ron Shearer, Retired Centurytel
- Ron Thompson, Retired Teacher
- Warren Scarlett, Biologist
- Tom Wells, Retired Professor

### Staff
- Carl Chastain, Executive Director
- Kendra Wilcox, Administrative Assistant
- Alex Huelsdonk, Project Assistant
- Joe Thompson, Field Staff
REGION 9:
Chehalis Basin
Fisheries Task Force

Mission Statement:
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.

Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force Overview:
The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force is a non-profit, community and volunteer based group accomplishing on the ground salmonid restoration, enhancement and protection efforts in the local communities of the Chehalis Basin.

Project Highlights:
Enhancement Projects
Carlisle Project
The Carlisle facility has two sites being used by the Onalaska High School Future Farmers of America Aquaculture Program, providing field and class study and hands on experience. Students learn proper sanitation methods, genetics, temperature unit measurements, picking of eggs and daily upkeep of incubation techniques, water quality monitoring, water sampling techniques in temp, ph, fecal coli form, and boating safety. The students raise Coho in Carlisle Lake, and adult returns for coded wire tags, and plant carcasses in area streams for nutrient enhancement. 8,000 rainbow trout and 35,000 Steelhead have also incorporated into the curriculum. Student volunteers play a large part in the success of the project.

Satsop Springs
2011 releases of 338,400 Chum smolt, 330,000 Coho smolt went as planned. The program reared 4,500 rainbow trout. 3,941 were planted in to Lake Sylvia, Vance creek ponds, Stump Lake, Lake Newatze, Duck Lake, Failor Lake.

Satsop Springs partners with Ocean Gold Seafood to surplus salmon. For 2011, 132,682 lbs of carcass and 154,282 lbs of roe were surplus. 1,693 carcasses are distributed within the Satsop River Watershed. The project seeks to enhance nutrient levels of the West Fork Satsop River, the Middle Fork Satsop River, and a number of their primary tributaries by distributing fish carcasses in strategic areas. The intent is to increase ocean-derived nutrients in areas of the basin with adult salmon.
### REGION 9: Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force Project Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Name</th>
<th>RFEG Funds</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Volunteer Dollars</th>
<th>Other Funds</th>
<th>Total Spent</th>
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<td>$ 54,712</td>
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<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$ 113,824</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 7,200</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 348,781</strong></td>
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</table>

### Board of Directors

**Upper Basin Representatives**
- Chanele Holbrook, Heernett Environmental Foundation, Seat #1
- Jim Tyner, Carlisle Environmental Education, Seat #3

**Middle Basin Representatives**
- Ron Schuttie, Seat #6
- Otto Aldridge, Seat #7
- Greg Jones, Elma Game Club, Seat #8
- Commissioner Herb Welch, Grays Harbor County, Seat #9
- Commissioner Al Terry Willis, Grays Harbor County, Alternate Seat #9
- Ron Dixon, Loyal Order of the Moose Seat #11,
  Lonnie Crumley, Streamworks, LLC, Seat #12, Chairman

**Lower Basin Representatives**
- Allan Hollingsworth, Grays Harbor Gillnetters, #14
- Commissioner Stan Pinnick, Port of Grays Harbor, Seat #18, Financial Team Leader
- Ken Rausch, Port of Grays Harbor, Alternate Seat #18
- Lloyd Case, Seat #19, Secretary
- Doug Warnken, Grays Harbor Poggie Club, Seat #20

### Staff Members

- Teri Liomin, Administrative Director
- Steven Franks, Satsop Springs Hatchery Manager
REGION 11: 
Lower Columbia 
Fish Enhancement Group

Mission Statement
To lead the process of salmon and steelhead recovery in a way that ensures community involvement in habitat restoration so that abundant, naturally reproducing salmon populations occur throughout the Lower Columbia River region.

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Overview
Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group has been actively involved in salmonid habitat restoration and enhancement activities since our inception in 1991. The Lower Columbia River region covers all or parts of Skamania, Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Wahkiakum, and Pacific Counties. Our region includes all or a portion of Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs) 24 through 29, 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.

To achieve our mission, LCFEG works with private and public land owners to restore salmon habitat and recover local salmon and steelhead populations. As a community-based non-profit organization, LCFEG receives valuable support from local citizens, students, NGOs, private property owners and local businesses who donate their time, materials and cash to help us leverage government grants. The support for our program is a reflection of our regions rich salmon history which has helped support our communities culturally as well as economically.

Because each of these watersheds contain at least one salmon hatchery, the Lower Columbia RFEG is focusing on projects that support wild salmon production. The fish habitat in the region has been severely degraded by over 150 years of urban/industrial development, timber harvest, rail and road building, diking and drainage and a host of other activities. We work closely with WDFW Habitat and Fish Program Managers, Federal resource agency biologists, our Lead Entity, scientists, local governments, private landowners, conservation districts, offender crews and volunteers to identify and implement priority habitat restoration projects.
In 2010/11, LCFEG continued implementation of both its Strategic Plan and the Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish and Wildlife Sub-Basin Plan approved by NOAA Fisheries in 2005. In working to fulfill its intent to become the region's primary salmon habitat restoration organization, LCFEG and its landowners/partners worked closely to link projects with regional Recovery Plan and Sub-Basin Plan Priorities, and to utilize the 6-Year Habitat Work Schedule reflecting projects completed or underway. When practical and feasible, these documents are also utilized to help prioritize projects for the upcoming year.

The LCFEG focuses on four key programs to help us achieve our mission:

1) Habitat Restoration
2) Nutrient Enhancement
3) Education and Outreach
4) Assessment, Monitoring, Development

These four programs are where we believe we can provide the greatest benefit to salmon with our limited financial resources. Implementing these programs allows us to identify how we can best leverage the most out of each salmon recovery dollar we spend in our local communities and to educate local citizens on why our work benefits them and the fish. In the future, it is our desire to better inform our local citizenry regarding fish response to all of the recovery work going on in SWWA. We feel this is especially important given the current depressed economy in our region.

**LCFEG Programs:**

**Nutrient Enhancement**

This is a continuation of a project that was initiated in 2004 with funding from a Community Salmon Fund grant as well as funding from ALEA. This project benefits fish, wildlife and the local riparian plant community by increasing the level of nutrients available in the watershed through salmon carcass placement. To date we have purchased several freezers to allow us to extend the nutrient enhancement over time and to allow us to “chip” the carcasses into bite size pieces. Chipping the carcasses reduces landowner complaints, reduces the chances of family dogs getting salmon poisoning and allows us to place the chips where they will be eaten by juvenile fish. 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 WDFW, Fish First, Lower Columbia Fly Fishers, Cowlitz Indian Tribe, Clark-Skamania Fly Fisher and Coastal Conservation Association.

**Outreach and Education**

2010/11’s Education and Outreach Program involved numerous year-round activities including volunteer (student and/or citizen) planting parties at our various project sites, regular educational presentations on local salmon species and their habitat requirements to community programs and/or schools groups, on-site data collection by volunteers to meet LCFEG monitoring objectives, LCFEG displays and volunteer recruitment/sign-ups at local festivals, fairs, salmon celebrations and community events along with website updates. The Better Living Show, a 3-day outreach and education program, brought in over 20,000 attendees giving them the opportunity to explore earth-friendly products and services from more than 250 exhibitors. Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group was able to explain our projects to those interested in learning about our area’s salmon and water quality. A big draw to our booth was the video showing a nutrient enhancement project. This event allowed us to gather a list of 90 people interested in learning more about Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group, volunteering on projects and providing financial support via donations for our riparian planting.

**Assessment, Monitoring, and Development**

LCFEG is continuously engaged in habitat assessments designed to identify habitat restoration projects. LCFEG staff, consultants and volunteers analyze the regional recovery plan to identify limiting factors and then conduct field based surveys to determine habitat restoration alternatives. The data collected provides the necessary information to funding sources, project partners, regulatory agencies and, perhaps most importantly, monitoring helps inform the development of future projects by LCFEG staff and our consultants.
2010-2011 Habitat Restoration Projects

Hamilton Springs I  
Dean Creek Restoration  
Lockwood Creek Restoration  
Woodward Creek Restoration  
Grays River Restoration  
Upper Washougal I Restoration  
Little Washougal River IV Restoration  
NFK Lewis Side-Channel Design  
NFK Lewis 13.5 Restoration  
WRIA 27 and 28 Nutrient Enhancement  
Kalama River Side-Channel Restoration

18,920 volunteer and offender crew hours were reported during the 2010-2011 fiscal year.

In-Stream Habitat Project Highlights

Upper Washougal River Restoration II  
This multi-phased project funded by SRFB involves restoring deeply incised channel conditions resulting from historical log drives and catastrophic fires beginning in the late 1800’s and lasting through 1940’s. The project entails installation of large wood structures designed to aggrade sediment, reduce channel width and to increase habitat diversity. The project has been underway since 2004 involving offender labor provided by the WA-DOCs’ Larch Mountain Correctional facility. The project directly benefits ESA-listed summer steelhead, Chinook, coho and Winter Steelhead. LCFEG recently received $557,000 to implement phase III of the project beginning in 2011.

SFK Toutle River Restoration  
This project funded by SRFB involved installation of numerous wood structures designed to increase channel stability, reduce stream bank erosion, and increase the number of pools and to increase habitat diversity. The piling frame structures were designed in consultation with ENTRIX geo-morphologist Tim Abbe and engineer Jack Bjork to capture wood debris carried by floods. Since the structures were installed in Fall 2009 the river has responded as predicted and in-stream habitat conditions are becoming more favorable for Chinook, coho and steelhead. The project was built by several (3) contractors using different types of pile drivers in an effort to determine the most cost-effective method of driving piling in this dynamic watershed which is a high priority for salmon recovery.

Hamilton Creek Phase I Restoration  
This high priority restoration project funded by the SRFB installed a total of 15 engineered log structures (ELJ), created a new 800 ft side channel, increased floodplain width, and restored riparian corridor. The ELJ structures were placed in locations to protect a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife groundwater fed chum spawning channel in addition to creating excellent rearing/spawning conditions for ESA listed populations of Lower Columbia Fall Chinook, winter Steelhead, Coho, and Chum salmon.

2010-2011 Private Landowners in Salmon Recovery  
Schmand Family Trust, Kim and Bill Sherertz, Sam and Joan Kysar, Longview Timber LLC, Stauffer family, Skamania Landing Owners Association, Steelhead Landing PLC, Weyerhaeuser

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RFEG Accomplishments for FY11:</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Group</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
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Board of Directors  
Hal Mahnke, President  
Scott Donaldson, Vice President  
Jeff Wittler  
Rick Yahrmarkt, Secretary  
Harry Barber, Past President  
Jim Williams  
Larry PittEd McMillan, Treasurer  
Bob Morgan  
Shannon Wills  
Donna Bighouse, WDFW Watershed Steward

Staff Members  
Tony Meyer, Executive Director  
Tammy Weisman, Operations Director  
Peter Barber, Project Manager

Field Crew  
Ken Nyholm  
Jeff Stixrud  
Darric Lowery  
Glenn Saastad, intern
### REGION 11: Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Project Expenditures

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Functional Programs</th>
<th>RFEG FUNDS</th>
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#### 2010-2011 Partners in Salmon Recovery

- Bonneville Power Administration
- City of Camas
- Native Fish Society
- City of North Bonneville
- NW Power and Conservation Council
- NOAA fisheries
- City of Vancouver Water Resources Center
- Port of Kalama
- Pacifi-Corps
- Clark Public Utility
- Private Landowners (Multiple)
- Clark Skamania Fly Fishers
- Salmon Recovery Funding Board
- Clark, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania, Pacific, and Wahkiakum Counties
- Columbia Land Trust
- SW WA Anglers
- Columbia Springs Environmental Ed Center
- Tacoma Power
- Conservation Districts (Clark, Lewis, and Cowlitz)
- Costal Conservation Association
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Cowlitz Tribe
- US Forest Service and Resource Advisory Committee
- Department of Corrections
- US Geological Survey (Columbia River Lab)
- Department of Ecology
- WA Department of Ecology
- Fish First Forest Service
- Hudson’s Bay H.S
- WA Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Kalama Sportsman’s Club
- WA Department of Natural Resources
- Killian Pacific
- Watershed Stewards
- Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board
- Weyerhaeuser
- Lower Columbia Fly Fishers
- Williams Pipeline
- Mark’s Marine
- WSU Environmental Information Coop
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- ENTRIX, Waterfall Engineering, Inter-Fluve
- Mike Watters Excavation Skamania
- Landing Owners Association
- Port of Kalama
- Washougal, Vancouver, Evergreen School Dist.
- Longview Timber
REGION 12: Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

Mission Statement

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

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Overview

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group is a non-profit (501c3) organization dedicated to restoring and protecting fish habitat. Mid-Columbia Fisheries (MCF) takes a three-pronged approach to protecting and restoring fish habitat.

- We sponsor and implement high-quality habitat restoration and protection projects throughout our region.
- We provide educational and community outreach programs that promote the long-term commitment our society needs to protect fisheries resources.
- We help support high-quality restoration and protection projects by our partners.

The Mid-Columbia region includes several important steelhead and salmon rivers, notably the Wind River, the White Salmon River, the Klickitat River, the Yakima River, and numerous tributaries to the Columbia River. Our region includes all of the waterways in seven of Washington’s Water Resource Inventory Areas, fully encompassing all of Klickitat, Benton, Yakima, and Kittitas Counties, as well as portions of Skamania and Franklin counties.

Along with its large geographic size, this region has a diversity of watershed and fisheries issues unique to each of the individual rivers and watersheds. These watersheds provide habitat for eight salmonid species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, as well as a number of sensitive and culturally significant stocks.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
P.O. Box 1271
White Salmon, WA 98672
Phone: (509) 281-1322
Email: fish@midcolumbiarfeg.com
Website: www.midcolumbiarfeg.com

Planting willow cuttings along the new channel on Reecer Creek, 2011
Project Highlights

Reecer Creek Floodplain Restoration Project
This project relocated 4,000 feet of Ellensburg’s Reecer Creek to its historic floodplain. Suver levee, which constrained the creek, was set back in the fall of 2010 to allow for 58 acres of floodplain and upland habitat. The new channel was excavated during 2010 and 2011. Large woody debris structures were installed and the creek was diverted into the restored channel in July, 2011. Riparian planting is planned for fall and winter of 2011. Funding for the project is being provided by the City of Ellensburg, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Department of Ecology, Yakama Nation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and WDFW’s ALEA program. Key partners also include the South Central Washington RCandD, the Kittitas County Water Purveyors, Kittitas Reclamation District, WDFW, the Yakima Tributary Access and Habitat Program (YTAHP), the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board, and the Kittitas County Conservation District.

Cowiche Creek at Prospect
This project removed 1,400 feet of dikes and more than 600 cubic yards of concrete to improve habitat and floodplain function on Cowiche Creek. One thousand linear feet of stream was planted with native trees, shrubs, and grasses. After one growing season, survival of the new native plants at this site is exceeding our expectations. Cowiche Creek has been the focus of a multi-agency effort to improve watershed conditions for the benefit of salmonids. Key partners include the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy, the City of Yakima, Yakima County, US Fish and Wildlife Service, WDFW, North Yakima Conservation District, and National Fish and Wildlife Foundation.

Mercer Creek
The Mercer Creek Restoration project restored 180 feet of Mercer Creek in Ellensburg’s Kiwanis Park. Two Eagle Scout candidates played a key role in project coordination and implementation. The project removed a crumbling retaining wall, resloped the streambanks, added large wood to the stream, converted lawn into a native riparian buffer, and installed stepping stones and an interpretive sign. The project enhanced habitat for resident fish, and will serve as a demonstration project for the thousands of visitors annually. Key partners included Stephen, Nathaniel, Christian and John Cone, the Ellensburg Noon Kiwanis Club, Central Nursery, City of Ellensburg, WDFW, Central Washington University, Ellensburg Public Library, Thayer Excavation, WA Department of Ecology, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Ellensburg Cement Products, Wellspring Gardens, and Manastash Mapping.

Upper Rattlesnake Creek Restoration
In September, 2011, we completed an instream project to stabilize approximately 600 feet of Upper Rattlesnake Creek. This reach of the creek includes three active nick points. The goal of the project is to prevent stream incision and protect and restore the functionality of the adjacent floodplain and upstream wetlands. The project included construction of three large riffles and placement of approximately 80 large trees on the floodplain. The site will be planted in the fall. Partners on the project include the Department of Natural Resources, Yakama Nation, and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

Jack Creek Floodplain Restoration, Reach Two
In September of 2011, we worked with Herrera, Inc. and local contractor Belsaas and Smith to reslope streambanks and place large wood at five degraded streambends in Jack Creek, a tributary to the North Fork Teanaway River in the Upper Yakima basin. Historic railroad logging and road maintenance had prevented natural channel migration in multiple locations along a two-mile reach of land managed by American Forest Land Company, LLC. Our work is closely coordinated with the relocation of Forest Volunteers and agency staff salvage fish from the old confined channel of Reecer Creek before water is turned into the newly constructed channel, 2011.
Service Road 9738, and will continue in 2012 with the decommissioning of the old road bed. The project will benefit steelhead and Chinook, and will enhance critical habitat for bull trout. Funding for the project is being provided by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Forest Foundation, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program.

**Teanaway River Stream Survey**
Mid-Columbia Fisheries began a habitat survey of the North Fork Teanaway River in the fall of 2011, and will continue with surveys on the West and Middle Fork in 2012. The goal of the survey is to identify areas where large wood trapping structures could accumulate spawning gravels, increase pool quality, and provide channel roughness. Historic splash damming created large expanses of exposed bedrock in each of these rivers. The project is supported by a grant from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

**White Salmon River Clean-up at the Confluence**
In cooperation with Underwood Conservation District and the Yakama Nation, Mid-Columbia Fisheries helped organize a volunteer clean-up at the mouth of the White Salmon River. Thirty-five volunteers removed 12 sunken, dilapidated, and abandoned boats, a large dilapidated dock, and more than 40 cubic yards of trash. The event was timed to remove the garbage from the lower river ahead of the October, 2011 breach of Condit Dam. Many agencies and individuals provided assistance with the clean-up.

**Education and Outreach**
This year, Mid-Columbia Fisheries greatly expanded our education and outreach programs, adding both the White Salmon River Watershed Education Project and the Bull Trout Task Force to our existing programs to educate our communities about the habitat and riverine processes that support healthy salmon stocks. This year we also increased our volunteer efforts, adding multiple volunteer work parties and paid and unpaid internships with students from Central Washington University.

We sponsored two large educational events where students rotate through hands-on stations to learn about stream ecology and restoration. Salmon Education Days at the Diamond H side channel of the Yakima River reached approximately 200 students from Ellensburg. Another 380 students from Klickitat and Skamania counties participated in the Water Jam. Our staff also ran a station at the Salmon Summit in the lower Yakima, a two day event that reaches more than 1,000 students from Benton County.

**Backyard Conservation**
With the support of a Community Salmon Fund grant, Mid-Columbia Fisheries developed a large brochure and interpretive panel on backyard buffers. The brochure includes riparian buffer templates for three eco-types in the Yakima Basin: Northern Kittitas County, Ellensburg, and the Yakima/Tri-Cities areas. The brochure was mailed to more than 2,500 streamside landowners and has lead to multiple new project opportunities. The full brochure can be found at http://midcolumbiarfeg.com/what-we-do/backyard-riparian-buffers/. We presented the project to 240 people at Ellensburg’s E3 Winter Fair in January, and again at the Washington Water Trusts’ Teanaway Fest in July, 2011.

**White Salmon River Watershed Education Project**
The goal of the White Salmon River Watershed Education Project is to educate the local community about the White Salmon River and the removal of Condit Dam. The project is a collaboration between Mid-Columbia Fisheries, the Yakama Nation, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service – Spring Creek Hatchery. The project provided presentations to 14 White Salmon area classes, and field trips to the river and Condit Dam for thirteen classes. The project
reached more than 300 students in the spring of 2011, and additional presentations are planned for the fall. Additionally, we hope to take as many classes as possible back to the Condit Dam and reservoir site after the dam is removed. The White Salmon River Watershed Education Project also reached approximately 900 adults at three local fairs and festivals in the White Salmon area.

**Bull Trout Task Force**

The goal of the Bull Trout Task Force is to provide an on-the-ground crew to mitigate impacts to bull trout from river recreationists. The Bull Trout Task Force includes two Student Conservation Association volunteers, a number of community volunteers, and technical assistance from WDFW, the Forest Service, the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board and other agencies. Through August, 2011, the Bull Trout Task Force contacted 880 recreationists, completed creel surveys with 130 anglers, and removed ten recreation dams. The Task Force will also assist with monitoring and redd surveys.

**Project Planning and Development**

**Yakima Delta**

Mid-Columbia Fisheries has hired Intera, Inc. to model temperature, flow and sedimentation dynamics at the mouth of the Yakima River. Thermal imaging indicates that extreme temperatures in this area may act as a barrier to migrating salmon. The model results, coupled with fish utilization data from the Yakama Nation, will allow the Yakima Delta Technical Advisory Group to determine whether a modification to the Bateman Island causeway might be warranted. The Benton Conservation District is providing a key role in coordination and technical assistance to the project. The project is also supported the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, the Yakama Nation, WA Department of Ecology, and the Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group program.

**Swauk and Iron Creeks**

In 2011, our consultant, Inter-Fluve, Inc., completed an analysis of options to (1) increase groundwater storage and hyporheic connectivity in a two-mile reach of Swauk Creek, and (2) enhance groundwater storage potential along Iron Creek. Mid-Columbia Fisheries plans to implement the suggestion of large wood supplementation in Iron Creek in the near future. Our hope is to coordinate future restoration of Swauk Creek with Washington Department of Transportation’s potential mitigation needs related to future work on Highway 97.

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### Board of Directors

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<td>Glenn Miller</td>
<td>President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Doug Miller</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
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<td>Marc Harvey</td>
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<td>Tom Crawford</td>
<td>Board Member</td>
<td>Commercial Fisherman</td>
<td>Yakima Basin</td>
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### Staff

- Margaret Neuman, Executive Director
- Rebecca Wassell, Yakima Basin Program Manager
- Brenda Nass, Stewardship Coordinator
- Mo Phelan, Watershed Educator
- Cassandra Anderson, Intern
Mission Statement
At Tri-State Steelheaders, our mission is to restore sustainable populations of native salmonids by enhancing habitat, providing public education and promoting recreational angling for future generations.

Tri-State Steelheaders Overview
Tri-State Steelheaders has been actively involved in salmonid habitat restoration since its inception in the mid-1960s. 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, Tri-State Steelheaders receives valuable support from its diverse membership which includes property owners, local businesses, anglers and concerned citizens.

The Tri-State Steelheaders RFEG service district covers southeastern Washington, which includes Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield and Asotin counties comprising WRIAs 32 and 35 with major watersheds that include the Snake and Walla Walla Rivers. Activities include restoration projects such as 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 Tri-State Steelheaders.

During the 2011 fiscal year Tri-State Steelheaders completed nine habitat restoration projects, two fish passage projects, and one physical model study. In total, our volunteers donated 2,005 hours working on habitat enhancement projects and educational programs.
Project Highlights

Creating Urban Riparian Buffers (CURB)

Since 2007, Tri-State Steelheaders has partnered with Walla Walla County Conservation District, Kooskooskie Commons, WA Dept of Ecology, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and local streamside property owners to improve water quality and riparian habitat on Walla Walla’s urban creeks by installing native plant buffers on private, business, and city properties. Volunteers remove sod and invasive species and assist with planting native trees, shrubs, forbs, and grasses while property owners assume responsibility for maintenance of their native plant buffers over a 10 year period. This year, seven new urban riparian buffers were completed, bringing the program total to 29 projects. Outreach included presentations to the Audubon and Native Plant Societies, macro invertebrate sampling at a Cub Scout campout, water quality testing with high school students, project tours, and a presentation in an adult education class at Walla Walla Community College. Volunteers and participating homeowners contributed over 1,500 hours this year to enhance water quality and riparian habitat on Walla Walla’s urban streams.

Bridge to Bridge Levee Removal Final Design

The final design and permitting got underway in 2010 for this project that will remove one-half mile of levee on the Walla Walla River. The levee, on WDFW property, prevents meander formation and isolates the floodplain. The preferred alternative of the Bridge to Bridge Restoration Design included levee removal, enhancement of off channel habitat, and large wood placement for improved instream habitat.

Whitney Creek Bridge

This project was brought to completion by replacing two barrier culverts with a pre-cast modular concrete bridge to eliminate hydraulic drops and passage impediments associated with both culverts. The project site is on Whitney Creek, a tributary to the Wolf Fork, which is a North Fork Touchet River tributary in Columbia County. Both pipes at the site were installed as a result of flood damage in the late 1990s. Inlet drops, outlet drops, and slopes over six percent created passage barriers to each culvert. Both pipes were replaced with a single bridge, resulting in opening roughly 2.2 miles of stream for steelhead, rainbow and bull trout to utilize. The project was funded by the Family Forest Fish Passage Program.

Little Tucannon Bridge

This project replaced an undersized culvert near the mouth of the Little Tucannon River with a free-span bridge. The Little Tucannon, a steelhead and bull trout rearing stream, is a tributary of the Tucannon River, which is home to ESA-listed steelhead, bull trout, and spring Chinook in eastern Columbia County. The undersized culvert created a partial barrier due to slope and velocity. The culvert also created a constriction in the stream, causing deposition of streambed material and interference with natural stream forming processes. The new bridge eliminates velocity barriers to juvenile salmonids and now provides for a natural streambed under the crossing, thereby providing unrestricted passage to over two miles of high quality habitat. The bridge also eliminates the stream constriction and accommodates greater discharge, bedload, and woody debris. The U.S. Forest Service provided all design, engineering and permitting. Construction was funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the U.S. Forest Service.

Touchet River LWD

Four engineered logjams and bioengineering treatments were installed on the banks of the Touchet River to improve instream and riparian habitats, improve water quality, reduce streambank erosion, and preserve farmable ground. This reach of the Touchet has several water quality impairments, including sediment and temperature due to eroding banks and lack of riparian vegetation. At the completion of the project, sediment delivery was reduced by sloping and geotextile treatment of the bank. Trees and shrubs planted in the bank will provide additional bank stability and will provide stream shading. Pools and cover created by the log structures have improved instream habitat for migrating steelhead, spring chinook, and bull trout. Shortly after project completion, fall Chinook were observed spawning in the project reach. Construction was funded by the Tri-State Steelheaders RFEG funds and by grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation’s Pioneers in Conservation and the WA Dept of Ecology’s Husseman Fund.

Mud Creek Livestock Fencing and Riparian Buffer

Volunteers and the Department of Ecology Washington Conservation Corps team installed livestock fencing and a riparian buffer along 2,000 linear feet of Mud Creek in Walla Walla County. This project improves water quality by installing native plants and shrubs, keeping livestock out of the creek, filtering runoff from adjacent pastures,
providing shade, and stabilizing streambanks. The project was funded by the Department of Ecology’s Coastal Protection Fund.

Brewer Wetland

This project is an in-lieu fee mitigation project funded by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) as mitigation for impacts to existing wetlands during improvements to Highway 12. The project was conducted by the Priority Projects Group (PPG), a local partnership that includes Tri-State Steelheaders, the Blue Mountain Land Trust, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Walla Walla County Conservation District, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Tri-State Steelheaders entered into an agreement with WSDOT to provide mitigation required by state and federal regulators, and in turn, received in-lieu fee mitigation funds for the project. This type of agreement is a first for WSDOT and came about because WSDOT saw efficiency and cost effectiveness in working with the expertise of local partners.

Three ponds were excavated to create over two acres of new wetlands within a 23-acre site. An existing cattail wetland of roughly two acres will be enhanced by controlling weeds and planting aquatic vegetation. Following construction, the ponds were seeded with aquatic species. The adjacent upland areas were seeded with native grasses, and woody vegetation will be planted throughout the site after the grasses become established. During a five year period of performance, WSDOT will monitor the site to ensure performance goals are met. Blue Mountain Land Trust, which holds the easement in perpetuity, will be responsible for maintenance and monitoring thereafter.

Mill Creek Physical Model Passage Study

The Mill Creek flood control channel in Walla Walla contains a two mile concrete-lined section that presents a wide range of complex passage problems. The amount of risk, work, and cost to correct passage in this long section led the Mill Creek Working Group, a collaboration of local, state, federal, tribal and conservation organizations to initiate development of a physical model to study passage improvement designs. The 50 foot long model simulated a 400 foot linear section of the concrete channel with simulated flows up to 1,000 cubic feet per second. Depths and velocities were measured for each of the proposed design elements to assure their performance met the design criteria for improved passage without negatively impacting flood control capabilities. The model was constructed and tested by Northwest Hydraulic Consultants at their lab in SeaTac, with oversight by Waterfall Engineering. Funding for the physical model study was provided by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Mill Creek Sills Passage

The Mill Creek flood control channel in Walla Walla includes four miles of levee-confined, open bottom channel with channel-spanning stabilizers (sills). The sills are six feet wide (upstream to downstream dimension) and provide for energy dissipation. The Mill Creek Barrier Assessment completed in 2009 identified the sills as low flow barriers to aquatic species including ESA-listed adult and juvenile summer steelhead and bull trout, as well as reintroduced spring Chinook. Depth over the sills represents a problem in that many sills exceed the 0.8 foot jump height passage criterion. This project involves final design and construction of passage improvements for four of the existing 263 sills. A primary goal of the project is to provide better estimates of costs and time required to improve passage at the remaining sills. Funding is provided by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Mill Creek Flume Transitions

The Mill Creek flood control channel includes two miles of concrete lined channel. The Mill Creek Barrier Assessment completed in 2009 found depth to be a low flow barrier, and high velocity and swimming fatigue to be high flow barriers to aquatic species including ESA-listed adult and juvenile summer steelhead and bull trout, in addition to reintroduced spring Chinook. This project will provide final designs based on the physical model study, with construction of passage improvements at both ends of the concrete channel. Depth problems at low flow will be addressed by reconfiguring baffles in the bottom of the channel. High flow problems will be addressed by adding surface roughness to provide lower velocity water and pools where fish can rest and regain energy. Funding is provided by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

Kids Fishing Day

Tri-State Steelheaders sponsored an annual Kids Fishing event designed to bring families together to enjoy the outdoors and to introduce local youth to a life-long sport that supports conservation of natural resources. The annual Kids Fishing Day at Bennington Lake in Walla
Walla was held on free fishing weekend in June. Each year at the event tackle, bait, rods and reels are available for kids at no cost. Young anglers vie for prizes at a casting contest and are treated to free hot dogs and soda. The collaboration of many volunteers, businesses, and agencies made the event possible, including TSSFEG board members and club members, WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

**Project Success Monitoring Through the Use of WHEP (Watershed Health Evaluation Procedure)**

Teacher/student teams from eight 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 thirteenth year, this ongoing monitoring program provides students with hands-on science experience and teaches watershed health concepts. Participating teachers were trained in monitoring protocols, furnished with professional quality monitoring equipment, and provided workbooks and lab manuals for student use. The students measured water temperature, stream flow, dissolved oxygen, pH level, macro invertebrate presence, stream bank profiles, and canopy coverage at their assigned project site. Each year the students dedicate approximately 1000 hours towards data collection.

**Board Officers**

- **President:** Larry Zalaznik, Vice-President, Banner Bank (retired)
- **Vice President:** Mark Brotherton, Walla Walla Valley Transit
- **Treasurer:** Mike Loney, Coachman Body and Frame Service (retired)
- **Secretary:** Kevin Crum, R.A., Architect, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**Board Members**

- David Cowles, Ph. D., Professor of Biology, Walla Walla University
- Mike Denny, CREP Coordinator, Walla Walla County Conservation District
- Ron Dunning, Owner, Dunning Irrigation Supply
- Jay Grantier, Participating Landowner, CURB Program
- Steve Hamilton, Owner, Steve’s Archery and Fly Shop
- Scott Landwehr, Treasure Valley Coffee
- Mike Mahan, Professor of Biology, Walla Walla Community College
- Bill Neve, Owner, Water Right Solutions
- Dan Vernon, Ph. D., Professor of Biology, Whitman College
- Jed Volkman, Fish Biologist, Confederated Tribes of Umatilla Indian Reservation

**Staff**

- Mike Bireley, Executive Director
- Brian Burns, Project Manager
- Nichole Curet, Executive Assistant
- Cheryl Cockerline, Secretary
- Thomas Ewing, Flow Monitoring Technician
- Steve Gwinn, Outreach Coordinator
- Tara Patten, Habitat Restoration Technician

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### Project Partners

- AmeriCorps
- Asotin High School
- Berney Elementary School
- Blue Mountain Land Trust
- Burbank High School Clarkston High School
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Cooperative Trout Enhancement Program
- DeSales Catholic High School
- Garrison Middle School
- Lincoln High School
- Knowles General Contracting
- Kooskooskie Commons
- Lyons Ferry Hatchery Complex
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- National Park Service
- Palouse Community School
- Pepsi-Cola of Walla Walla
- Prescott High School
- Snake River Salmon Recovery Board
- 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 Community College, Water and Environmental Center
- Walla Walla County
- Walla Walla County Conservation District
- Walla Walla High School
- Walla Walla University
- Walla Walla Juvenile Justice Center
- Walla Walla Watershed Management Partnership
- Washington Department of Ecology
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Recreation and Conservation Office
- Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Whitman College
- and many additional local and regional landowners, businesses, and individuals that supported Tri-State Steelheaders in its role as a Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group.
REGION 14: Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

Mission Statement
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.

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Overview
As a non-profit community based salmon recovery organization the Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group provides funding, and technical assistance to private landowners for habitat restoration and ongoing support outreach and education activities in our community. CCFEG is an independent 501(c) (3) non-profit organization incorporated since 2000 which covers Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Region 2, RFEG area #14 (Okanogan, Douglas, Chelan and Ferry Counties), and includes nine Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA) (numbers 44 through 52). At our annual retreat the CCFEG Board adopts a strategic plan which guides our habitat restoration projects and education and outreach activities. CCFEG’s major programmatic and project areas, further described below, include habitat restoration, education and outreach, and membership and partnership development.

CCFEG undertakes a wide variety of projects because landowner opinion in this region demands flexibility in approach. Past CCFEG projects have included in-stream and riparian planting and fencing, biological and engineering assessments, alternative stock-watering techniques, irrigation water source replacements, economic development of fisheries eco-tourism, watershed planning, school and community group projects, and more.

Partnerships and collaboration is the key to our success. CCFEG is engaged in partnerships with a number of local, state and federal government agencies, non-profit organizations, and Native
American Tribes in the course of delivering its programs and projects. The roles of these partnerships vary by project or program and may include; funding, technical assistance, and collaboration and sharing of resources.

We participate in the Watershed Action Teams (WAT) and Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) processes in the Okanogan County/Colville Confederated Tribe, and Chelan County Lead Entities. 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 288 hours of volunteer time.

**Current Projects:**

**Driscoll Island Riparian Planting** – 
Lands in the Okanogan Valley have been utilized for agriculture for many years. Many stream banks are denuded of natural riparian vegetation as a legacy of this activity. Healthy, mature riparian vegetation such as cottonwoods and red-osier dogwood provide shade, bank stability, sources of wood for instream habitat, hiding cover and many other benefits to salmon. This project, near the confluence of the Okanogan and Similkameen Rivers, will help address limiting factors (water temperature and habitat complexity) identified in the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan by planting 2,000’ of riparian vegetation along the Similkameen River.

**Partner:** WDFW. Funding provided by National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Expected completion: June 2012

**Driscoll Island Cold Water Refuge – Design** –
This project presents an opportunity to design cool water off-channel refuge for juvenile salmonids. These channels would be available during a critical time of year when water temperatures in the main-stem Okanogan and Similkameen rivers are not favorable to salmonid growth and survival. High temperatures currently drive these fish to less favorable habitats, and can result in mortality. Our objective is to collect appropriate data to inform an alternatives analysis and engineered design.

**Partners:** Colville Confederated Tribe and WDFW. Funding provided by SRFB (pending). Expected completion: June 2013

**Napeequa and White River Riparian Planting and Interpretive Trail** –
This project is located at the confluence of the Napeequa and White Rivers on the 133 acre Tall Timber Ranch. Tall Timber Ranch hosts some 6,000 guests during the year, including youth of various ages and adults in camps throughout the year. In the fall, TTR hosts approximately 1,000 students from middle schools who come from for multi day camping experiences. The objective of this project is to restore native riparian vegetation along approximately 600’ of the Napeequa River, and install six interpretive signs along the White River on existing trails. Topics for the signs will include; Native American and settlement history in the basin, the salmon lifecycle, native fish species, local geology/glaciation, and river processes including the importance of floodplains and wood. Restoring native vegetation along the Napeequa River will improve habitat for fish and wildlife and help naturally stabilize the eroding bank.

**Partners:** Tall Timber Ranch, Chelan Douglas Land Trust. Funding provided by Chelan Douglas Land Trust and SRFB. Expected completion: June 2012

**Nutrient Enhancement Feasibility Study** –
The objective of this project is to investigate logistical and technical aspects of collecting, storing, screening, transporting, and distributing excess hatchery-origin salmon carcasses throughout the Upper Columbia, including the Wenatchee, Entiat, and Methow basins. This report will provide useful logistical information for stakeholders interested in implementing nutrient enhancement in the Upper Columbia salmon recovery region.

**Partners:** Yakama Nation, WDFW, Trout Unlimited – Washington Water Project, WDOE, USFWS. Funding provided by Chelan PUD/Rock Island Tributary Committee. Expected Completion: November 2011

**Wenatchee Nutrient Assessment – Treatment Design** –
The objective of this project is to determine the need for, and extent of, conducting nutrient enhancement in high priority tributaries in the Wenatchee basin (Nason Creek,
Little Wenatchee, White and Chiwawa Rivers) consistent with the Upper Columbia’s Biological Strategy. Our goal is to evaluate baseline conditions within the anadromous zone (water quality, periphyton, macro-invertebrates, etc.), establish goals or budgets for these indicators, develop a treatment and monitoring plan and secure approval from Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) for a pilot nutrient enhancement program in the Upper Wenatchee.

**Partners:** Trout Unlimited – Washington Water Project, Water Quality Engineers, WDFW, USFWS, WDOE. Funding provided by: Yakama Nation and the HCP Tributary Committee. Expected completion: July 2013

**White River Large Wood Atonement** –
The objective of the White River Large Wood Atonement project is to accelerate floodplain recovery and enhance instream function in the lower White River. This project will improve habitat for all salmonids that utilize the lower White River including: spring Chinook, steelhead, sockeye, and bull trout throughout the 3+ mi. treatment reach. This will be accomplished by installing vertical LWD pieces in specific locations where it is expected to collect and increase the retention time of wood that is currently floated quickly through the system.

**Partners:** Chelan Douglas Land Trust, WDFW, USFWS. Funding provided by: USFWS, HCP Tributary Committee, and SRFB (pending). Expected Completion: December 2014

**Wenatchee River Salmonfest** –
The Salmon Festival is an outdoor education event that connects youth and families to nature in a fun and entertaining by teaching about our natural resources and the incredible environment in which we live. CCFEG assists in a number of educational programs at Salmonfest, as well as running our own education and outreach booth.

**PUD/Dam Wood Collection** –
Over the past year CCFEG has been working with the local Public Utility Districts (PUD), who operates the Columbia main-stem dams (Wells, Rocky Reach and Rock Island), and exploring uses for woody debris that collects at their facilities.


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<th>Project Name</th>
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**Board of Directors:**

**Board Members**

**President:** Charles Brushwood, Fish and Wildlife Policy Analyst, Colville Tribe

**Treasurer:** John Arterburn, Fisheries Biologist, Colville Tribe

**Secretary:** Aaron Penvose, Project Manager, Trout Unlimited/WA Water Project

**Project Manager:** Greg Knott, Van Hees Environmental

**Executive Director:** Jason Lundgren

Don Bolstad, Wenatchee Valley Fly Fishers

Dick Evans, Retired Engineer, SAIC, US Navy Reserve

Bill Colyar, Operations Director, SES Americom

**Staff Members:**