



North Fork Newaukum,
King County.

AFTER



BEFORE

Family Forest Fish Passage Program

2015 IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

A Cost-Share
Program for Small
Forest Landowners
to Improve Fish
Passage



Washington
Department of
**FISH and
WILDLIFE**



WASHINGTON STATE
Recreation and
Conservation Office



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources



AFTER
Little Deer Creek,
Spokane County



BEFORE

Investment in Removal of Fish Barriers Pays Many Dividends



Small woodland owners own 3.2 million acres of Washington's

forests—about half of the private forestland in the state. Their income contributes to Washington state's annual \$16 billion forestry economy and helps sustain many rural communities. At the same time, these family forests provide cold, clean water to thousands of miles of fish-bearing streams. Crossing those streams, in many cases, are roads.

With the 1999 Forests and Fish rules, new regulations were established that required all forest landowners to remove fish barriers on streams associated with forest road crossings. To a small forest landowner, the cost can be substantial and potentially influence their decisions about converting their forestland to another use. Recognizing these potential impacts, the 2003 Washington State Legislature created the Family Forest

Fish Passage Program to help reduce the regulatory and monetary burdens on small family forest landowners and to restore habitat for fish.

Responsible owners of small woodlands and forests have been working with the state to take action. Since 2003, the program has paid dividends: 804 miles of fish habitat have been reconnected and 353 fish barriers have been eliminated. It is estimated that for every \$100,000 invested in fish passage projects, 1.57 local jobs are created during the construction season. This estimate does not include the additional indirect jobs created, such as manufacturing culverts and bridges. Thanks to a new round of funding from the legislature, the program is poised to do a lot more.

353

FISH BARRIERS HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED SINCE 2003

804 miles

OF FISH HABITAT HAVE BEEN RECONNECTED SINCE 2003

“ I FEEL BLESSED EVERY DAY TO HAVE THIS NEW BRIDGE ON MY PROPERTY.”

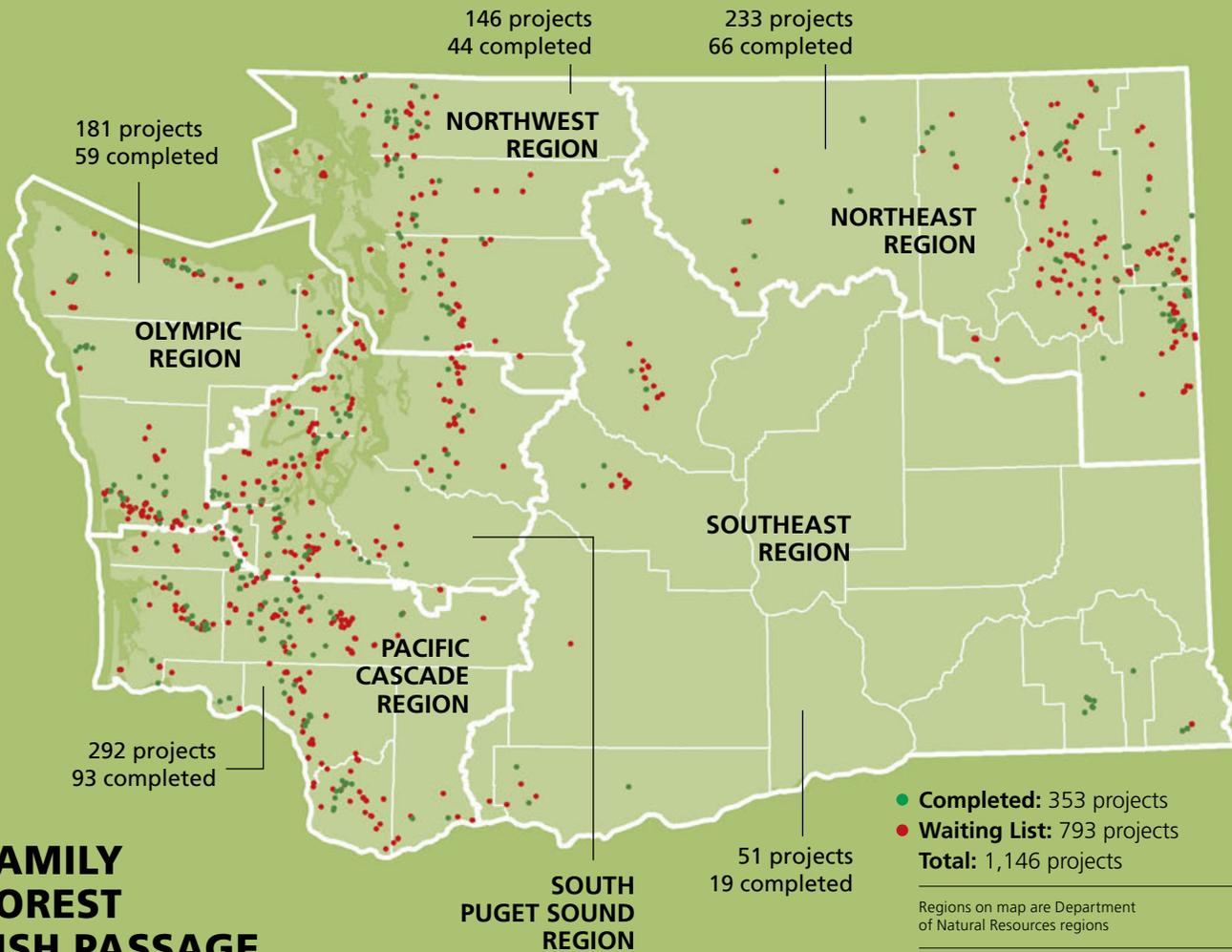
CHAD EAGLE
LANDOWNER



BEFORE



AFTER
 Mill Creek,
 Okanogan County.



FAMILY FOREST FISH PASSAGE PROJECTS 2003-2015*

● **Completed:** 353 projects
 ● **Waiting List:** 793 projects
Total: 1,146 projects

Regions on map are Department of Natural Resources regions

* Projects from June 30, 2003, to June 30, 2015. In February 2014, DNR adjusted the boundaries of the Olympic, South Puget Sound, and Pacific Cascade regions. As a result, the number of projects in each of the three regions differs from those published previously.



dnr.wa.gov/ffpp

Video Highlights Program Benefits

A continued outreach effort to locate the highest quality projects is a key to the success of the Family Forest Fish Passage Program. To assist with outreach, the program created an informational video showcasing the benefits to landowners, fish, and rural communities. This video is a tool to educate and inform landowners, provide information to the public, and help promote the program.

Watch the video online at: www.dnr.wa.gov/ffpp



**YOU HAVE
HARDWORKING,
GOOD PEOPLE
THAT CAN
INTERACT WITH
LANDOWNERS
TO PROVIDE
QUALITY
HABITAT.”**

ROBERTA MYERS
LANDOWNER

ROAD TO RECOVERY

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program is implemented by three state agencies: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and the Recreation and Conservation Office. Each agency brings its expertise to oversee the program’s operations, outreach, and project selection processes. A steering committee approves annual projects and keeps procedures current. The Washington Farm Forestry Association is an active member of the steering committee as a landowner organization.

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program recognizes the critical role that small family forest landowners play in restoring salmon and trout populations. It also recognizes the important economic benefits that small forest landowners provide Washington’s economy.

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program benefits include:

- Creating jobs and economic opportunities in rural communities,
- Honoring and implementing Indian treaty fishing rights,
- Sustaining our forest industry and encouraging renewable green products,
- Improving water quality by reducing the amount of sediment entering streams and spawning areas,
- Minimizing flooding and the downstream harm to habitat and property, and
- Helping the recovery of Puget Sound.

Local Groups are the Cornerstone to the Program

Most Family Forest Fish Passage Program projects are completed by local groups or sponsors experienced in fish passage corrections. These sponsors manage project design, construction oversight, permitting, billing, and grant management. A sponsor may be a conservation district, regional fisheries enhancement group, local fish-related nonprofit organization, tribe, or other interested organization.

PROJECT SPONSORS

COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

Asotin, Cascadia, Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, East Klickitat, Ferry, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Lewis, Mason, Okanogan, Pacific, Pend Oreille, Snohomish, Skagit, Spokane, Stevens, Thurston, Underwood, Wahkiakum.

FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUPS

- Adopt-a-Stream
- Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
- Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force
- Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group
- Kittitas Conservation Trust
- Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group
- Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation
- Mid-Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
- Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Group
- North Olympic Salmon Coalition
- Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition
- Pacific County Anglers Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
- South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
- Sound Salmon Solutions
- Stilly-Snohomish Task Force
- Tri-State Steelheaders
- Wild Fish Conservancy
- Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group

TRIBES

- Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
- Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
- Cowlitz Indian Tribe
- Kalispel Tribe of Indians
- Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
- Nooksack Indian Tribe
- Spokane Tribe of Indians
- Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
- Tulalip Tribes

Get More Information

Visit our website:
www.dnr.wa.gov/fffpp

Program Partners

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Department of Natural Resources Small Forest Landowner Office

Natural Resources Building
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 47012
Olympia, WA 98504-7012
(360) 902-1404
www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo

PROJECT EVALUATION & RANKING

Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Management Program

600 Capitol Way
Olympia, WA 98501-1091
(360) 902-2352
TTY: (360) 902-2207
www.wdfw.wa.gov

PROGRAM FUNDING

Recreation and Conservation Office

Natural Resources Building
PO Box 40917
Olympia, WA 98504-0917
(360) 902-3000
TDD: (360) 902-1996
www.rco.wa.gov

LANDOWNER ORGANIZATION

Washington Farm Forestry Association

PO Box 1010
Chehalis, WA 98532
Contact: Sam Comstock
(360) 736-5750
www.wafarmforestry.com

The above agencies are responsible for implementing the program. The Washington Farm Forestry Association joins the agencies on a steering committee.