**66** VERY SATISFIED. THE NEW BRIDGE IS FANTASTIC AND LOOKS GREAT! THERE ARE ALREADY FISH SWIMMING IN THE POOLS BELOW THE STRUCTURE."

WAYNE GOMBOTZ LANDOWNER

## ROAD TO RECOVERY

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program is implemented by three state agencies: Department of Fish and Wildlife, 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.

• Helping implement salmon recovery plans.

### 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, Kittitas, Lewis, Mason, Okanogan, Pacific, Pend Oreille, Skagit, Snohomish, 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** 

COUNTIES

Chelan County Department of Natural Resources

#### 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 PO Box 47012 Olympia, WA 98504-7012 360-902-1404 www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo

### PROJECT EVALUATION & RANKING

Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Program 600 Capitol Way Olympia, WA 98501-1091 360-902-2352 TTY: 360-902-2207 www.wdfw.wa.gov

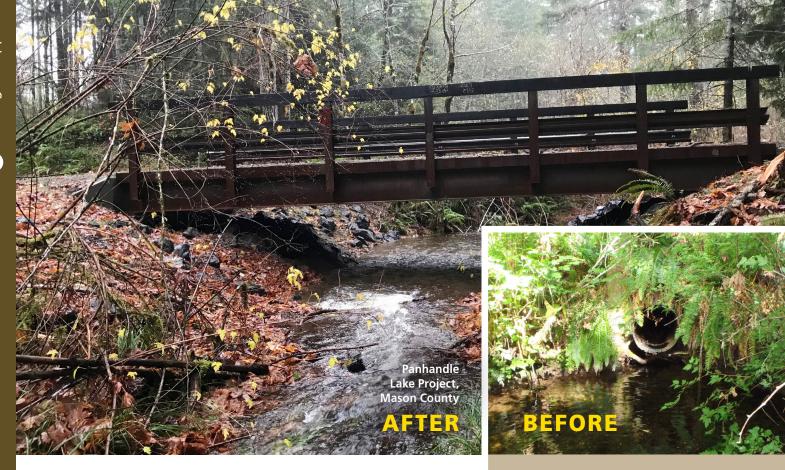
#### **PROGRAM FUNDING**

Recreation and Conservation Office PO Box 40917 Olympia, WA 98504-0917 360-902-3000 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.



# Family Forest Fish Passage Program

2017 IMPLEMENTATION REPORT





washington state Recreation and Conservation Office



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



# 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 small forest landowners, the cost can be substantial and, potentially, influence their decisions about converting their forestlands to other uses. 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: 910 miles of fish habitat have been reconnected and 385 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.

# **385** FISH BARRIERS HAVE BEEN ELIMINATED SINCE 2003

**910 miles** of fish habitat have been reconnected since 2003

Generation for a potentially devastating situation for a small forest landowner and converted it into a long term fix."

GREG & DEBBIE BINDER LANDOWNERS







dnr.wa.gov/fffpp

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/fffpp**