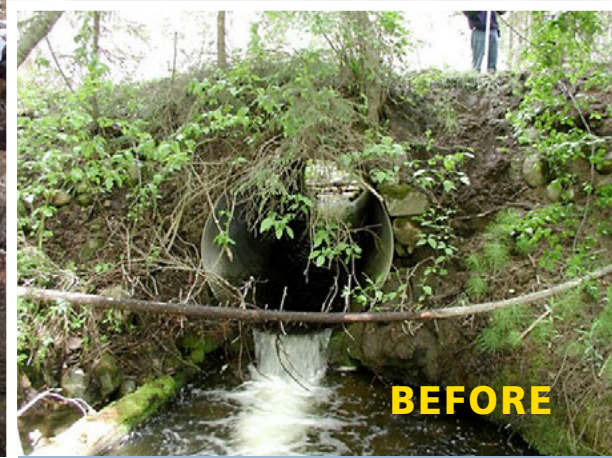




AFTER

North Fork of Trout Creek, Ferry County.



BEFORE

Family Forest Fish Passage Program

2014 IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

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



Washington Department of **FISH and WILDLIFE**



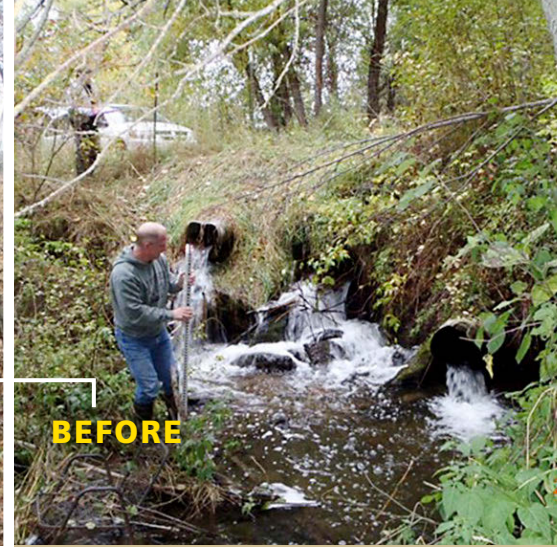
WASHINGTON STATE Recreation and Conservation Office



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF **Natural Resources**



AFTER
South Fork of Chewelah
Creek, Stevens County.



BEFORE

Investment in Removal of Fish Barriers Pays Many Dividends



Small forest landowners own 3.2 million acres of Washington's

forests – about half of the private forestland in the state. Their income helps contribute 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.

Road culverts and other stream-crossing structures that are aging, too small, or improperly installed can block fish from reaching their spawning grounds. These same barriers then impede the migration of young salmon from forest streams to the ocean.

With the 1999 Forests and Fish rules, new regulations were established that required all forest landowners to replace fish barriers on streams associated with forest road crossings. To a small forest landowner the

cost can be substantial and can potentially impact conversion of their forestland. Recognizing these potential impacts, the 2003 Washington State Legislature created the Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) to help reduce the regulatory and monetary burdens on small family forest landowners and 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: 763 miles of fish habitat have been reconnected, and 343 fish barriers have been corrected. 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 by culvert and bridge manufacturing.

Jobs in the Environment

Nearly 100 private owners of forestland took part in salmon recovery efforts through the Family Forest Fish Passage Program. During the 2013-2014 biennium the Legislature, as part of the Jobs Now Act, funded an additional 99 fish barrier projects, reconnecting 261 miles of habitat for fish. These barrier correction projects create construction jobs in rural communities, help revive salmon and trout populations, and are a great asset to landowner's property.

“ I HAVE A BEAUTIFUL BRIDGE ON OUR TREE FARM THAT WOULDN'T BE THERE IF IT WASN'T FOR FFFPP.”

SAM MADSEN
LANDOWNER

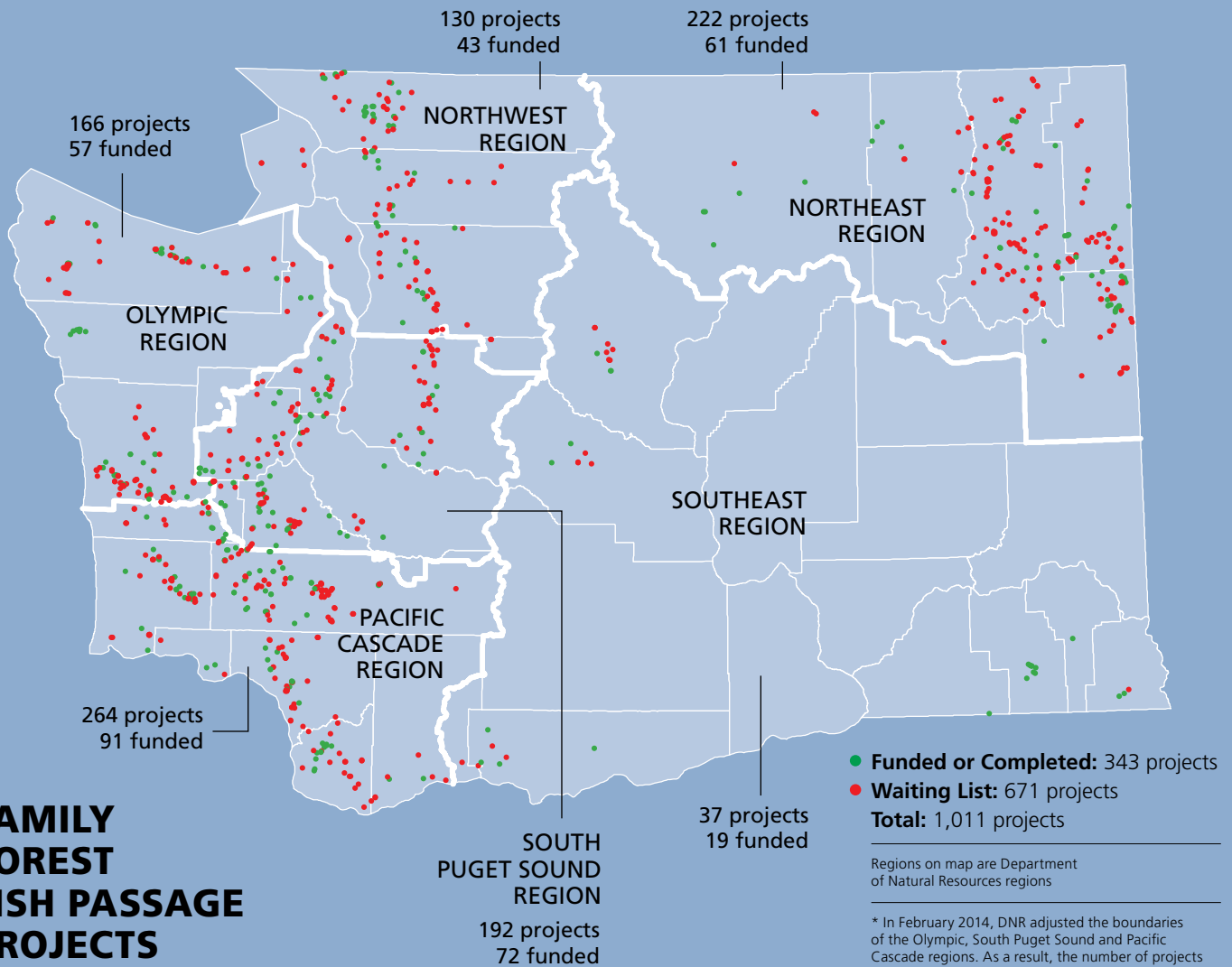


BEFORE



AFTER

Thomson Creek,
Chelan County.



FAMILY FOREST FISH PASSAGE PROJECTS 2003-2014*



dnr.wa.gov/fffpp

Video Highlights Program Benefits

A continued outreach effort to locate the highest quality projects is key to the success of the FFFPP. 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 to our stakeholders, and assist in promoting the program.

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



ABSOLUTELY SATISFIED! SHORTLY AFTER THE BRIDGE WAS COMPLETED, SALMON RETURNED TO SPAWN AND MAKE THEIR WAY FURTHER UPSTREAM.”

JOHN AND VICKI MAY
LANDOWNERS

ROAD TO RECOVERY

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program is implemented by three state agencies: the Washington State Departments of Fish and Wildlife and 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 small family forest landowners’ play in restoring salmon and trout populations.

It also recognizes the important role of small forest landowners and their economic benefits to the state of Washington. The Family Forest Fish Passage Program benefits are seen through:

- 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 in forested watersheds by reducing sediment delivery to streams and spawning areas.
- Minimizing flooding and the downstream harm to habitat and property.
- Helping the recovery of Puget Sound.

Local Groups are the Cornerstone to the Program

Local groups experienced in fish passage corrections sponsor most of the projects. Sponsors manage the project design, construction oversight, permitting, billing, and grant management. A sponsor may be a conservation district, regional fisheries enhancement group, local fish-related non-profit organization, tribal entity, 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, Spokane, Stevens, Thurston, Underwood, Wahkiakum.

REGIONAL FISHERIES ENHANCEMENT GROUPS

- Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
- Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force
- Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group
- Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group
- Mid-Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
- Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Group
- Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
- South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
- Stilly-Snohomish Task Force
- Tri-State Steelheaders
- Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group
- Landowners
- Kittitas Conservation Trust
- Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition,
- Wild Fish Conservancy

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.