

# Family Forest Fish Passage Program



## FACT SHEET

### Removing Barriers

More than 804 miles of streams have been opened for salmon to feed, grow, and reproduce.

### Who may apply?

Private, small forest landowners, if:

- They harvest less than 2 million board feet of timber each year from land they own in Washington.
- The fish barrier is on forested land and on a fish-bearing stream.

### Types of Projects Funded

- Removal of fish passage barriers, such as replacing a culvert

### Funding

Funding comes from the Legislature through the sale of general obligation bonds.

### Partners

- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Recreation and Conservation Office

### Recreation and Conservation Office

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Olympia WA 98504-0917  
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TTY: (360) 902-1996  
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## Helping Salmon Find their Way Home

Salmon are a vital part of Washington's economy, recreation, culture, and heritage. Salmon also play an important role in our environment, supporting more than 130 species, including orca whales, who rely on them for food.

But salmon populations are in peril. As people settled the Northwest and built cities, they modified the streams and waterways. Roads that cross streams sometimes block adult salmon from getting upstream to spawn or block juvenile salmon from getting out to sea.

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program focuses on helping small forest landowners fix inadequate or blocked culverts on logging roads in order to get salmon to or from the headwater creeks.

### Purpose

Removing blockages so salmon can reach places to feed, grow, and reproduce is an effective way to increase salmon numbers. Because correcting fish passage barriers can be costly, the 2003 Legislature created the Family Forest Fish Passage Program to provide financial and technical resources to families who own small tracts of forest land.

Under the program:

- The state provides 75-100 percent of the cost of correcting fish barriers.
- Barriers are repaired on a worst-first basis.
- Work is done by local engineers, construction companies, and other contractors

### How are Projects Selected?

Once an application is received, a field technician evaluates the barrier and determines if it meets the fish passage criteria. A team from the three partner agencies ranks the projects in each watershed based on several criteria, including the habitat opened, the benefit to salmon, and the cost.

After all projects are prioritized, a steering committee prepares the final list. Those projects providing greatest benefit are funded for construction in September each year. Lower priority projects remain in the program to be funded once they become a high priority and money is available.



A pipe perched this high above the stream makes it impossible for salmon to migrate upstream.

# Family Forest Fish Passage Program Fact Sheet

## Grant Recipients 2003-2015

### Conservation Districts

Asotin County Conservation District  
Cascadia Conservation District  
Central Klickitat Conservation District  
Clallam Conservation District  
Clark Conservation District  
Cowlitz Conservation District  
Ferry Conservation District  
Grays Harbor Conservation District  
Jefferson County Conservation District  
King Conservation District  
Kitsap Conservation District  
Kittitas County Conservation District  
Lewis County Conservation District  
Mason Conservation District  
Okanogan Conservation District  
Pacific Conservation District  
Pend Oreille Conservation District  
Skagit Conservation District  
Snohomish Conservation District  
Spokane Conservation District  
Stevens County Conservation District  
Thurston Conservation District  
Underwood Conservation District  
Wahkiakum Conservation District

### Fish Passage Professionals

Anchor Environmental, LLC  
Chinook Engineering  
Cunningham Engineers, Inc.  
Devine Tarbell & Associates  
Fisheries Engineers, Inc.  
Key Environmental Solutions  
Riversong Engineering and Consulting  
Streamworks, LLC  
Tetra Tech, Inc.  
Waterfall Engineering, LLC

### Landowners

Frame, LLC  
Hoh River Trust  
Pacific Forest Management  
PB Lumber  
Ron and Sara Pursley  
Stewardship Partners

### 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 Fisheries Enhancement Group  
Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association  
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group  
South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group  
Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

### State Agencies

Department of Fish and Wildlife  
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

### Other

Adopt A Stream Foundation  
Kittitas Conservation Trust  
LWC Consulting  
Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation  
North Olympic Salmon Coalition  
Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition  
Pacific County Anglers  
Sound Salmon Solutions  
Tri-State Steelheaders, Inc.  
Wild Fish Conservancy



The Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Conservation District used a \$69,000 grant to remove four pipes on Baxter Creek, opening 12 miles of habitat to coho, chum, and steelhead.