

2003 Annual Report (FY03: July 1, 2002 through June 30, 2003)

Mission Statement

Our mission is to protect, restore and increase salmon stocks in North Olympic Peninsula Watersheds.

RFEG Overview

As a non-profit community-based salmon recovery organization 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, from Hood Canal Bridge west to Neah Bay. We work cooperatively with the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, Jefferson and Clallam County Conservation Districts, Point No Point Treaty Tribes, a variety of agencies, schools, community organizations, volunteers and landowners. Funding from ALEA Cooperative grants, WA Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB), National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), FishAmerica, Trout Unlimited /Embrace-a-Stream, and Jefferson County augmented the RFEG funds. Technical support from WDFW, US Navy, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Jamestown and Port Gamble S' Klallam Tribes and JCCD are critical components to our project success.

Fish Enhancement

During the past year NOSC volunteers continued their efforts to restore Summer Chum in three watersheds, Salmon, Chimacum and Jimmycomelately Creeks. The results continue to show success from the broodstock supplementation program funded by a WDFW Cooperative Grant. NOSC and Wild Olympic Salmon volunteers logged over 1200 hours tending the summer chum to release size. Salmon Creek posted record summer chum returns of over 5000. The Salmon Creek return has been so successful it will last only 2 more seasons as a single remote site incubator (RSI).

In-stream habitat projects

A key to maintaining sustaining summer chum runs is to identify and improve habitat problems that have lead to poor natural spawning. Over the past 15 years NSOC and our partners have been successful in identifying and completing habitat improvements to increase natural spawning success.

Salmon Creek 2003 construction of approximately 3000 feet of new stream channel on Salmon Creek includes extensive meanders, clean spawning gravels, deep pools and placement of large log structures. The project will be augmented next year with planting of the new flood plain riparian zone. Turning the years of planning for the Salmon Creek project into a reality became possible after WDFW with US Fish and Wildlife Service Funds, purchased the 100 acre Larrance Farm. NOSC provided financial support to the Salmon Creek restoration project partnering with Jefferson County Conservation District (JCCD), SRFB and WDFW. WDFW provided engineering and construction services on the project.

Houck Creek Pond. In order to assure the upstream sediment loads are reduced in Salmon Creek, NOSC partnered with People for Salmon/NOAA and Jefferson County Conservation District to repair a major erosional scarp below the Houck Creek Pond. The project consisted of filing the drainage ravine with rock and planting willow stakes. Increasing the vegetation on the remaining scarp slope will reduce erosion, stabilize the slope and help filter the sediment before it reaches summer chum spawning gravels downstream. JCCD measurement of turbidity before and after has validated the project's immediate success.

West Fork of Chimacum Creek NOSC completed a ¾ mile channel reconfiguration project along the West Fork of Chimacum Creek with funds from Trout Unlimited, SRFB, NFWF and generous contributions from Pilchuck Excavating and Smayda Environmental Associates. The project reconnected the stream channel to abandoned farmed wetlands, added wood and planted with volunteer labor 3,500 trees and shrubs. Reed canary grass was pulled back with extensive excavation of over 5 acres of root mass. The area was reseeded with native wetland plant seed. The remaining canary grass is held at bay with extensive mowing in the project area.

Valley Creek In Port Angeles, the City, Port, Rotary, Daishowa and Peninsula Trails Coalition partnered with WDFW and NOSC to pool funding, volunteers and materials and engineering to reconfigure 800 feet of channelized stream in the heart of Port Angeles, remove weeds and replant the riparian area on City land. This is Phase 2 of a large scale watershed restoration effort from the estuary to the pristine reach in the Olympic National Park.

Riparian plantings

Volunteers from 4-H, Waterwatchers and Trout Unlimited are valuable partners on these projects. Residents of Discovery View Assisted Living folded "blue tubes" for use on new plants. The many hours logged to West Fork

Chimacum Creek and Valley Creek for habitat revegetation are directly connected to the Project Management Coordinator's efforts at outreach, site preparation and volunteer training.

Monitoring

Macroinvertebrate study NOSC has established a macroinvertebrate monitoring program on Salmon and Chimacum Creeks to gauge improvements in biological integrity post restoration. Analysis of stream insect populations at each restoration site is compared to control sites on each stream. The 2002 study marks the beginning of the first long term study of macroinvertebrates in East Jefferson County streams. The project is dependent on volunteers from the community, Americorps and Chimacum School 6th Grade Science Classes for its early accomplishments.

Education and Outreach

NOSC continued participation in a variety of annual festivals and events in the region including North Olympic Land Trust Streamfest, Joyce Daze, Jefferson County Fair, Port Townsend Marine Science Center Low Tide Fest. NOSC began a partnership with Jefferson 4-H After School and summer camp programs and Chimacum and Port Townsend Schools occupational classes. NOSC continued its partnership with Wild Olympic Salmon coordinating the travels of Fin, the Giant Salmon.

Community Outreach

NOSC initiated the outreach effort on Salt Creek in WRIA 19. NOSC attended community meetings and created and distributed a Salt Creek brochure to explain salmon habitat needs and assessment goals to landowners. Staff worked to obtain access permission from all landowners along the study reaches. NOSC representatives made presentations to the Jefferson County Marine Resource Committee, and to various nearshore community organizations including Ludlow Village Council, Discovery Baywatchers, Beckett Point Owners Assoc, Kline Spit Duck Club, Jefferson County Marine Resources Committee, Jefferson County Parks Committee and planning groups in WRIA 17, 18, 19.

Assessment and Research

Salt Creek Assessment NOSC initiated the Salt Creek Assessment, a SRFB project in partnership with the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe. LEK is providing a stream crew and donating the time of a senior biologist and GIS support for this effort. The outcome in 2003 will be a prioritized project list and increased community stewardship in the rural watershed near Joyce.

Chimacum Beach Baseline In 2002 NOSC staff and volunteers produced the Chimacum Beach Baseline Assessment for Jefferson County Public Works Department as part of the County's shoreline acquisition project in Port Hadlock. The project used the Puget Sound Beach Seine Protocol to determine seasonal fish use and measured eelgrass resources and seasonal change in beach profiles. The project documented juvenile Chinook use of the inner shoreline in Port Townsend Bay.

Forage Fish Assessment NOSC staff and Volunteers also continued the East Jefferson County Forage Fish Assessment with SRFB support. In the 2002-3 winter spawning season, NOSC sampled 110 miles of beach in Jefferson County, 23 miles in Kitsap County and 15 miles of shoreline in Mason County. NOSC members and WDFW donated significant skiff time to make sampling of multiple beaches an easier task throughout the winter.

Fish monitoring NOSC volunteers assisted Lower Elwha Tribal staff in the install of smolt traps on Deep Creek, Hoko and Little Hoko Rivers. Spawning Surveys for summer chum and coho took place with volunteers in the Chimacum watershed in cooperation with Wild Olympic Salmon, WDFW and the Point No Point Treaty Council. NOSC volunteers continued to provide extensive 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.

Acquisition

Chimacum Estuary Acquisition of a key marine shoreline bluff and forested headland at the mouth of the Chimacum Estuary was completed with grants to NOSC from the SRFB and Jefferson Conservation Futures Fund. These funds matched a WDFW grant from IAC. The acquisition was completed just days before the WDFW funding would have expired. The 13 acre area will be dedicated as the Witmer Preserve and joins 100 acres of contiguous protected nearshore, estuary and summer chum spawning habitat. This acquisition was accomplished with significant amount of the Project Management Director funds.

REGION 7 - NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2002- June 30, 2003

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2002 - JUNE 30, 2003

Project #	Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
8	Houck Pond erosion Control	16,769.62	38.5	481.25	18,000.00	35,250.87
9	Office Operations	9,413.26	43.5	543.75	2,767.29	12,724.30
10	Nutrient Enhancement	204.56	60	750		954.56
11	Project Management Director	7,070.64	169	2,112.50	28,300.00	37,483.14
12	Project Management Coordinator	5,349.93	19	237.5	7,218.79	12,806.22
14	Salmon Creek	40,853.30			550,000	590,853.30
16	Valley Creek	25,825.05	135	1,687.50	87,000.00	114,512.55
17	Habitat Revegetation	8,256.16				8,256.16
18	Habitat Restoration	359.24				359.24
	East Fork Chimacum Creek		89.5	1,118.75	27,000.00	28,118.75
	West Fork Chimacum Creek		470	5,875.00	34,889.85	40,764.85
	Spawning Surveys		95	1,187.50		1,187.50
	Hatcheries		1,258.50	15,731.25	6,500.00	22,231.25
	Forage Fish		272.5	3,406.25	61,000.00	64,406.25
	Salt Creek Assessment				2,000.00	2,000.00
	Chimacum Estuary Acquisition				970,000.00	970,000.00
	Chimacum Beach Baseline Assessment		59.5	743.75	7,100.00	7,843.75
	Snow Creek Coho Recovery		753	9,412.50		9,412.50
	Smolt Traps Deep Ck, Hoko River		57	712.5		712.5
		114,101.76	3520	44000	1,501,775.93	1,959,877.69

Habitat Revegetation volunteer hours are included in specific restoration sites listed above.

NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

OFFICERS 2002

BOARD CHAIR: Tom Ammeter – Chimacum School staff, Snohomish Tribal Council
VICE CHAIR: Pete Schroeder – Marine mammal veterinarian, Dungeness River landowner
SECRETARY: Ray Lowrie – Shoreline landowner, retired school teacher and fisherman
TREASURER: Lige Christian – Organic farmer, Jefferson County Conservation District Commissioner
PROJECT CHAIR: Walt Blendermann – Sport fisher, retired engineer

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2002

Harry Bell - Silviculturist, Green Crow Partnership
Dick Schneider - Shoreline owner, retired biologist
Andy Driscoll - Organic farmer, marine ecologist
Marty Peckman - Owner, Chimacum Creek Printing, and coho spawning habitat
Doug Morrill - Biologist, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe

STAFF MEMBERS 2002:

Paula Mackrow Executive Director
Kevin Long Project Coordinator
Sarah McNulty Project Assistant
Craig Isenberg Outreach Coordinator
Howie Barnhouse and Alisa Meany – Americorps volunteers

CONTACT US:

North Olympic Salmon Coalition
P.O. Box 699 Port Townsend WA 98368
Ph. 360 379-8051
e-mail: nosc@olympus www.nosc.org



4. Table of Accomplishments by WRIA

As a part of the introduction, I would like to include a table that shows the results of a variety of activities by WRIA. If you provide the information by WRIA, I will incorporate it into a table.

Categories:

- a) Number of barriers removed and miles of fish habitat opened up. 1 barrier was removed on Valley Creek, WRIA 18
- b) NOSC planted, monitored and maintained over 5,280 feet of streambank revegetation. The planting area width averaged about 75 feet wide in Chimacum Creek, WRIA 17
Another 800 feet was planted in Valley Creek in Port Angeles, WRIA 18
- c) Feet/miles of fencing -0
- d) Number of screening projects-0
- e) Number of carcasses placed for nutrient enhancement.- 400 WRIA 18,19