

2004 Annual Report (FY04: July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2004)

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, North Olympic Salmon Coalition 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, extending from the Hood Canal Bridge west to Neah Bay. We work cooperatively with the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), Jefferson and Clallam County Conservation Districts (JCCD and CCD), 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.

We participate in Salmon Recovery Funding Board processes in two lead entities. In Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity we participate in technical review, citizen project ranking and strategy development. In North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity, NOSC's priority watersheds are Morse Creek in WRIA 18 and the variety of rural watersheds in WRIA 19.

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. The Salmon Creek return has been so successful that this is the last season broodstock enhancement will occur on this creek. The Chimacum Broodstock Program was also ended at this time due to high return levels. NOSC volunteers will continue to monitor the population to ensure broodstocking does not need to occur in the future.

In-stream habitat projects

A key to maintaining self-sustaining summer chum and native coho and steelhead runs is to identify and improve habitat problems that have led to poor natural spawning and rearing. Over the past 15 years NSOC and our partners have been successful in identifying and completing habitat improvements to increase natural spawning success as well as watershed and estuary rearing.

Salmon Creek Approximately 3000 feet of new stream channel was constructed in 2003 on Salmon Creek. The project area riparian zone was augmented this year with planting of the new flood plain riparian zone. The initial 25' wide riparian planting was done by JCCD and the WCC Crew from Port Angeles. NOSC provided financial support to the Salmon Creek restoration project partnering with JCCD, SRFB and WDFW. WDFW provided engineering and construction services on the project as the final construction was completed in mid-June. The concrete weir was removed and the old channel filled; it is now ready for the 2004 summer chum run to begin.

East Fork of Chimacum Creek NOSC and JCCD completed 1.75 miles of channel reconfiguration projects along the East Fork of Chimacum Creek with funds from Trout Unlimited, SRFB, NFWF and engineering contributions from JCCD. The project reconnected the stream channel to abandoned farmed wetlands, added wood, and planted 5000 trees and shrubs in riparian areas (with volunteer labor). Reed canary grass was pulled back to allow for the riparian planting over 12 acres. The riparian area includes 2 conservation easements held by the Jefferson Land Trust and 3 in Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) contracts.

Pysht River Habitat Restoration NOSC began design and implementation of a log jam construction project in order to provide LWD to an erosion prone reach of the Pysht river. The jams will improve hiding and resting habitat for coho and Chinook as well as bank stabilization for a nearby homeowner. NOSC received Community Salmon Fund grant from National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. to build the log jams, Lower Elwha Tribe donated key pieces of wood. Volunteers have been essential to site preparation.

Riparian plantings

Volunteers from Jefferson Land Trust, 4-H, WSU, Waterwatchers, Greywolf Ranch and Trout Unlimited are valuable partners on these projects. Residents of Discovery View Assisted Living rolled “blue tubes” for use on new plants for the second year in a row. The many hours logged to East Fork Chimacum Creek, Louie Lee Creek, the Pysht River and Valley Creek in urban Port Angeles for habitat revegetation, are directly connected to the Restoration Steward’s efforts at outreach, site preparation and volunteer training. NOSC also maintains 3 plant nurseries on donated land from 2 farmers and Chimacum School. NOSC is maintaining over 16 acres of riparian plantings at this time.

Monitoring

Macroinvertebrate study NOSC continued the macroinvertebrate monitoring program established in 2002 on Salmon and Chimacum Creeks to gauge improvements in biological integrity pre and 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. The project is supported by the WDFW Volunteer- Cooperative ALEA grant and targets ESA listed summer chum spawning habitat.

Water Quality Monitoring For the third year, NOSC funded an Americorps intern to work with JCCD’s water quality monitoring program in Chimacum, Salmon, Snow and other watersheds. This work adds to the continuous 15 year data set documenting watershed conditions throughout East Jefferson County.

Vegetation Monitoring The 13 acre area on the bluff overlooking the mouth of Chimacum Creek was picked by the SRFB as a sample acquisition monitoring site. Working with the consultants’ protocol, NOSC’s Restoration Steward and volunteers extended the sampling across a representative set of transects throughout the protected properties in lower Chimacum Creek. The area includes over 100 acres of contiguous protected nearshore, estuary and 0.5 miles of summer chum spawning habitat. Spartina an invasive inter-tidal exotic plant was also identified and removed during this monitoring effort.

Education and Outreach

NOSC continued participation in a variety of annual festivals and events in the region including the North Olympic Land Trust Streamfest, the Port Townsend Marine Science Center Low Tide Fest, Port Townsend Farmers Market and Alternative Christmas Fair. NOSC continued involvement with 4-H after school programs, Girl Scout Service Days, and Chimacum and Port Townsend school science classes. NOSC continued its partnership with Wild Olympic Salmon coordinating the travels of FIN, the Giant Salmon and distribution of Tracking the Dragon a watershed game. A new partnership with Pacific Northwest Trails Association brought kids from Quilcene Ranger Corps and Clallam County Skill Center to work on restoration sites.

Community Outreach

NOSC representatives made presentations to the Jefferson County Marine Resource Committee, and to various nearshore community organizations such as Puget Sound Anglers, Discovery Baywatchers, WSU Cooperative Extension Waterwatchers Class and participated in Watershed planning groups in WRIA 17, 18, 19. NOSC provided technical expertise to the City of Port Townsend for its Shoreline Master Plan Advisory Group.

Assessment and Research

Ambient Monitoring The Hood Canal Coordinating Council contracted with NOSC and JCCD to complete a habitat assessment of the entire known summer chum spawning reach of Chimacum Creek. This includes 2.1 miles of stream reach and 37 reference points set using TFW ambient monitoring protocols, with GIS linked to past data sets.

Salt Creek Assessment NOSC partnered with the Lower Elwha K’lallam Tribe (LEKT) assessment team in the Salt Creek Watershed, with SRFB funds. LEKT is providing a stream crew and donating the time of a senior biologist and GIS support for this effort. The outcome in 2004 is a draft watershed assessment identifying projects for local prioritization. NOSC is working with the North Olympic Land Trust to identify conservation easements and foster increased community stewardship in the rural watershed near Joyce.

Irondale Beach Baseline In 2003-2004 NOSC staff and volunteers began data acquisition for the WDFW pre-project Baseline Assessment. 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 and forage fish use of the site proposed for intertidal fill removal in 2004-05.

Forage Fish Assessment NOSC staff and volunteers also continued the East Jefferson County Forage Fish Assessment with SRFB support. Since 2002, 2,060 samples have been taken of which 1,800 have been analyzed for spawn. 59 new

sites for surf smelt have been identified, and 47 known surf smelt sites have been redocumented. 5 new sites for summer spawning surf smelt have been located. 27 new sites for sand lance have been identified, and 47 known sand lance sites have been redocumented. All known positive sample site locations have been delivered to WDFW for inclusion in their PHS database. NOSC sampled in Jefferson County, Kitsap County and North Mason County. NOSC volunteers and WDFW donated significant skiff time to make sampling of multiple beaches an easier task throughout the winter and spring. The project will continue to sample selected areas in summer 2004.

Fish monitoring NOSC volunteers assisted Lower Elwha K'lallam Tribal staff in the installation of smolt traps on Deep Creek, East Twin, and West Twin 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.

Page 3: Table of project expenditures

REGION 7 - NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program / Annual Report for July 1, 2003- June 30, 2004

PROJECT EXPENDITURES: JULY 1, 2003 - JUNE 30, 2004

Project Name	RFEF Funds	Vol Hours	Vol Dollars	Other Funds	Total Spent
Office Operations	\$ 12,647	23.5	\$ 293.75	\$ 376	
Nutrient Enhancement	\$ 213	22	\$ 275.00		\$ 275.00
Habitat Revegetation	\$ 1,318				\$ 1,318
Habitat Restoration	\$ 666				\$ 666
Pysht Restoration	\$ 1,385	99.5	\$ 1,243.75		
Project Management Director	\$ 21,036	88.5	\$ 1,106.25	\$ 18,587	
Project Management Coordinator	\$ 19,998	1,516.5	\$18,956.25	\$ 17,385	
Macroinvertebrate Study		40.0	\$ 500.00		\$ 500.00
Chimacum Estuary		62.5	\$ 781.25		\$ 781.25
Spawning Surveys		522.0	\$ 6,525.00		\$ 6,525.00
Snow Creek Coho Recovery		420.0	\$ 5,250.00		\$ 5,250.00
Smolt Traps: Deep Creek, East & West Twin Rivers		56.0	\$ 700.00		\$ 700.00
West Fork Chimacum Creek		69	\$ 862.50	\$ 8,051	
East Fork Chimacum Creek		600.0	\$ 7,500.00	\$174,635	
Hatcheries		1,328.5	\$16,606.25	\$ 3,145	
Forage Fish		209.0	\$ 2,612.50	\$ 30,272	
Irondale Beach Baseline Assessment		4.0	\$ 50.00	\$ 930	
Salt Creek Habitat Assessment				\$ 33,880	
TOTAL	\$57,263				

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

NORTH OLYMPIC SALMON COALITION

OFFICERS 2003

BOARD CHAIR: Tom Ammeter - Chimacum School staff, Snohomish Tribal Council
VICE CHAIR: Andy Driscoll - Organic farmer, marine ecologist
SECRETARY: Dick Schneider - Shoreline owner, retired biologist
TREASURER: Lige Christian - Organic farmer, Jefferson County Conservation District Commissioner

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2003

Harry Bell - Silviculturist, Green Crow Partnership
Richard Wojt - Retired teacher, former county commissioner
Ray Lowrie - Shoreline landowner, retired school teacher and fisherman
Marty Peckman - Owner, Chimacum Creek Printing, and coho spawning habitat
Doug Morrill - Biologist, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Josey Paul - Streamside landowner, journalist
Terry O'Brien - Sport fisherman

STAFF MEMBERS 2003:

Paula Mackrow Executive Director
Kevin Long Project Coordinator
Audrey Miles Cherney Restoration Steward
Alisa Meany Project Assistant, Water Quality Technician and Americorps volunteer

CONTACT US:

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



4. Table of Accomplishments by WRIA

Categories:

- a) Number of barriers removed and miles of fish habitat opened up:
1 barrier was removed on Salmon Creek, WRIA 17
- b) Riparian Planting:
NOSC planted, monitored and maintained over 72,00 feet of streambank revegetation. The planting area width averaged about 75 feet wide in Chimacum Creek, WRIA 17
An 800 foot-long section was re-planted in Valley Creek in Port Angeles, WRIA 18
- c) Feet/miles of fencing:
2,500 –WRIA 17
- d) Number of screening projects-**0**
- e) Number of carcasses placed for nutrient enhancement:
8,578 WRIA 18