May 1st, 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Floodplains by Design: Accelerating integrated floodplain management across Puget Sound

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Floodplains by Design: Accelerating integrated floodplain management

Bob Carey, The Nature Conservancy
Themes

- Why a multiple benefit approach to floodplains?
- What are the most significant barriers and how are you overcoming them?
- What results have been attained?
Floodplains by Design PARTNERSHIP

Project Advisory Team
Federal Emergency Management Agency
King County
Master Builders
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Pierce County
Skokomish Tribe
Snohomish County
Snohomish County Sustainable Lands Strategy
Tulalip Tribes
United States Army Corps of Engineers
United States Environmental Protection Agency
United States Geological Survey
Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division
Washington State Dairy Federation
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Project Proponents
City of Orting
City of Stanwood
Clallam Conservation District
Jamestown S’klallam Tribe
King County
Mason County Conservation District
North Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon
Pierce County
Skokomish Tribe
Snohomish Conservation District
Snohomish County Dike District 7
Snohomish County Surface Water Management
Stillaguamish Tribe
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District
Figure 1. Number of natural-origin Chinook spawners observed in Puget Sound watersheds for 22 populations. Shown are total numbers of natural-origin spawners observed each year (points) and a fitted line derived from locally weighted scatterplot smoothing.

Source: NWFS Salmon Population Summary database
Well, ma'am, you can't drive around in 1st gear. You have to shift your paradigm sometimes.
Stillaguamish Annual Peak Flows

5 highest flows
Goals

- Dramatically accelerate the rate of floodplain restoration in support of the Puget Sound floodplain recovery target and to improve salmon productivity.

- Significantly reduce flood risks to floodplain farms and communities through the restoration of natural processes and upgrading of critical infrastructure.
Challenges

- Complex and time-consuming
- Capital funding
- Stovepiped programs
- Lack of political support
FbD Priorities

- Support the development of integrated floodplain visions and project plans
- Enhance funding opportunities
- Align agency program and policies
- Build political support
Local Integration / Project Development

Decision Support Tool

Catalyze Conversations • Assess Risk • Identify Solutions

Fish

Flood

Farm
Funding

Coordinated Investment for Floodplains Initiative

- Canyon Creek Integrated Flood-Fish Project
- Lower Stillaguamish Fish, Farm and Flood Management
- Lower Dungeness Floodplain Recovery
- Lower Snohomish River Restoration and Infrastructure Assessment
- Snoqualmie River Fall City Corridor Project
- Lower Cedar River Integrated Floodplain Restoration
- Skokomish River Floodplain Restoration and Sediment Management
- Calistoga Reach Setback Levee and Side-Channel Construction
- Neadham Road Setback Levee
Align programs

- Coordinated Investment Plan
- Permit team

July 1990 - Before

May 2013 - After
Political Support
With Funding Support from:

Washington Department of Ecology, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Puget Sound Partnership, Boeing Company, Russell Family Foundation

Floodplains by Design

- REDUCING RISK, RESTORING RIVERS -