

Western Washington University
Western CEDAR

Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference (Seattle, Wash.)

Apr 4th, 2:15 PM - 2:30 PM

#### Water quality effects of fish habitat restoration at Lone Tree Creek

Nicole Casper Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, United States, ncasper@swinomish.nsn.us

Shannon M. Buckham Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, United States, sbuckham@swinomish.nsn.us

Follow this and additional works at: https://cedar.wwu.edu/ssec

Part of the Fresh Water Studies Commons, Marine Biology Commons, Natural Resources and Conservation Commons, and the Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecology Commons

Casper, Nicole and Buckham, Shannon M., "Water quality effects of fish habitat restoration at Lone Tree Creek" (2018). *Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference*. 36. https://cedar.wwu.edu/ssec/2018ssec/allsessions/36

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences and Events at Western CEDAR. It has been accepted for inclusion in Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference by an authorized administrator of Western CEDAR. For more information, please contact westerncedar@wwu.edu.

# Water quality effects of fish habitat restoration at Lone Tree Creek

Nicole Casper & Shannon Buckham Water Resources Analyst Water Resources Specialist Department of Environmental Protection Swinomish Indian Tribal Community La Conner, WA



Swinomish Indian Tribal Community Department of Environmental Protection 1140 Moorage Way - LaConner, WA 98237 - 360.466.7280 - 360.466.1613 fax Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference Seattle, WA April 4, 2018

### Area Overview



### Area Detail

#### Lone Tree Creek



## Area Detail Nearshore



### Goals

- Restore and enhance salmon habitat
- Improve water quality of Lone Tree Creek



Restore tidal influence to pocket estuary



## Restoration Before/After



24" perched culvert

40' bridge

Water surface elevation 20cm

#### • Enable fish passage



• Enhance stream habitat



## Monitoring Water Quality

- Restore and enhance salmon habitat
- Improve water quality of Lone Tree Creek
  - pH
  - Dissolved Oxygen
  - Temperature
  - Salinity
  - Turbidity
  - Bacteria (Fecal coliform)





## Analysis Signed-rank Test for Stepwise Trend













## Analysis Turbidity Increases





Lone Tree Creek







## Analysis Turbidity Increases





## Analysis DO Time Series





### Next Steps

#### **Restoration** Phases 2 and 3



# Acknowledgements

Restoration Funding: EPA 319 CWA grant USDA NRCS grant Skagit MRC grant Swinomish Tribe

#### Team:

- Todd Mitchell Director, Department of Environmental Protection
- Karen R. Mitchell- Hydrologist, Department of Land Management
- Skagit River System Cooperative (SRSC)
- Water Quality Techs and Specialists over the years:
- Tanisha Gobert, Sarah Grossman, Tiffany Hoyopatubbi, Rachel Lovell-Ford, Brendon Kasayuli, Joe Quintasket, Jason Thompson

## **Questions?**

Nicole Casper & Shannon Buckham Water Resources Analyst Water Resources Specialist Department of Environmental Protection Swinomish Indian Tribal Community La Conner, WA ncasper@swinomish.nsn.us sbuckham@swinomish.nsn.us



Swinomish Indian Tribal Community Department of Environmental Protection 11430 Moorage Way - LaConner, WA 98257 - 360.466.7280 - 360.466.1615 fax Poster Presentation (Thursday during lunch):

"Long-term water quality trend analysis in the Lone Tree Creek watershed and surrounding marine waters"