



Skagit County Salmon Habitat Survey Monitoring Program

Summary of the 2010 Sites Survey

In response to Skagit County Resolutions #R20030210 and #R20040211, Public Works personnel began the Salmon Habitat Survey Monitoring Program back in 2004. The purpose of surveying was to analyze whether Skagit County Code 14.24.120, Ongoing Agriculture, is adequately protecting critical areas near agricultural lands. The surveys conducted on behalf of the program help establish continuous data and quantify salmon habitat conditions within the Skagit River watershed.

The first 5 years of the program involved surveying 60 randomly selected wadeable, salmonid bearing stream reaches that fall under County jurisdiction, found within Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs) 3 and 4. This 5 year cycle would help establish a baseline of the general physical conditions of the salmon habitat. Moving forward beyond the 5 year cycle, this baseline helps provide insight as to the stability of salmon habitat conditions and if those conditions were remaining stable, improving or deteriorating over time. An additional requirement of the program was that 20 of the original 60 stream reaches continue to be sampled on an annual basis. The county uses the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct the surveys.

2010 was the sixth year of the program and a 20 site sampling year. In compliance with the *Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program – Quality Assurance Project Plan, May 2004*, the 20 annual sites consisted of 10 Agriculture – Natural Resource Land (Ag-NRL) or Rural Resource – Natural Resource Land (RRc-NRL) and 10 sample sites in other zoning areas within Skagit County.

2010 sampling season highlights:

- 16 sample sites were completed between starting with Red Cabin Creek #133 on June 16 and ending with the Samish River site #165 on October 6.
- Site #164 on Friday Creek was not sampled because personnel did not have access with the new owner.
- Site #221, a tributary to Butler Creek, was not sampled because personnel were unable to reach the landowner for permission to access the site.
- Whitehall Creek, site #230, was not surveyed because it was dry during the sampling season.

Table 1 – Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program 2010 Annual Survey Sites

Site Number	Stratum	2010 Sample Date	Latitude	Longitude	Stream Name
3	Ag	9/2/2010	48.52084	-122.1974	Hansen Creek
6	Ag	9/17/2010	48.52601	-122.33811	Thomas Creek
9	Ag	9/13/2010	48.56907	-122.24621	Samish River
133	Ag	6/16/2010	48.5295	-122.02406	Red Cabin Creek
139	Ag	8/16/2010	48.33812	-122.20718	Lake Creek
142	Ag	8/5/2010	48.35841	-122.20704	Lake Creek
149	Ag	8/11/2010	48.4966	-122.10976	Sorenson Creek
164	Ag	NO ACCESS	48.63142	-122.35617	Friday Creek
165	Ag	10/6/2010	48.58217	-122.27977	Samish River
169	Ag	8/19/2010	48.42667	-122.20745	Mundt Creek
221	Non-Ag	**	48.62098	-122.32529	Trib to Butler
222	Non-Ag	9/27/2010	48.49475	-121.54555	Sutter Creek
223	Non-Ag	6/22/2010	48.45074	-121.60555	Trib to the Sauk
225	Non-Ag	8/12/2010	48.3007	-122.33263	Kennel Creek
226	Non-Ag	8/4/2010	48.63915	-122.36001	Friday Creek
228	Non-Ag	8/27/2010	48.53609	-122.04509	Jones Creek
230	Non-Ag	DRY	48.60721	-122.39473	Whitehall Creek
347	Non-Ag	8/2/2010	48.33742	-122.29823	Bulson Creek
355	Non-Ag	**	48.58834	-122.36692	Colony Creek
359	Non-Ag	8/13/2010	48.62031	-121.74765	Bear Creek

** = Can't reach owner for permission.

The Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program is funded from Skagit County's Clean Water Program.

For more information on the Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program please visit our web site at:

<http://inside.skagit.local/Departments/PublicWorksSurfaceWaterManagement/salmonmain.htm>

You can also contact Jeff McGowan at (360) 416-1448.



Figure 1. Friday Creek annual site