



Skagit County Salmon Habitat Survey Monitoring Program

Summary of the 2012 Sites Survey

Skagit County's Salmon Habitat Monitoring Project was started in 2004 in response to Skagit County Resolutions #R20030210 and #R20040211. The intent of the resolutions was to measure stream conditions important to salmon habitat. The four objectives of the Habitat Monitoring program are to 1) establish baseline conditions, 2) conduct additional monitoring, determine trends over time, 3) determine if habitat conditions are improving, degrading, or remaining the same in Ag-Natural Resource Lands (NRL) and RRc-NRL zoned lands and 4) provide a means to differentiate between trends in salmon habitat in Ag-NRL and RRc-NRL zoned lands versus other lands under Skagit County jurisdiction. The county uses the Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP) developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to document habitat conditions and track trends over time.

2012 marks the 8th year of the Skagit County Salmon Habitat Survey Monitoring Program and was a 20 site sampling year. In compliance with the Skagit County Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program – Quality Assurance Plan, May 2004, the 20 annual sampling sites consist 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.

2012 sampling season highlights:

- Due to a variety of circumstances, just half of the site surveys were conducted this season. A total of 10 sites were completed in 2012.
- Thomas Creek, site # 6, was not sampled.
- Red Cabin Creek, site # 133, was not surveyed due to construction activities being conducted by Washington State Department of Transportation (WADOT) for most of the summer.
- Sorenson Creek, site #149, and Friday Creek, site # 226, were not completed due to time constraints.
- Sutter Creek, site #22, was dry this summer.
- Owner permission was not able to be obtained for site #221, a tributary to Butler Creek or Kennel Creek, site #225.
- Friday Creek, site #164, and Mundt Creek, site #169, were not surveyed because owners refused access.
- Colony Creek, site #355, was also not surveyed.

Table 1 – Salmon Habitat Monitoring Program 2012 Annual Survey Sites

Site Number	Stratum	2012 Sample Date	Latitude	Longitude	Stream Name
3	Ag	8/14/2012	48.52084	-122.1974	Hansen Creek
6	Ag	N/A	48.52601	-122.33811	Thomas Creek
9	Ag	8/27/2012	48.56907	-122.24621	Samish River
133	Ag	Check	48.5295	-122.02406	Red Cabin Creek
139	Ag	8/15/2012	48.33812	-122.20718	Lake Creek
142	Ag	9/4/2012	48.35841	-122.20704	Lake Creek
149	Ag	DNC	48.4966	-122.10976	Sorenson Creek
164	Ag	NO ACCESS	48.63142	-122.35617	Friday Creek
165	Ag	9/13/2012	48.58217	-122.27977	Samish River
169	Ag	NO ACCESS	48.42667	-122.20745	Mundt Creek
221	Non-Ag	**	48.62098	-122.32529	Trib to Butler
222	Non-Ag	Dry	48.49475	-121.54555	Sutter Creek
223	Non-Ag	8/13/2012	48.45074	-121.60555	Trib to the Sauk
225	Non-Ag	**	48.3007	-122.33263	Kennel Creek
226	Non-Ag	DNC	48.63915	-122.36001	Friday Creek
228	Non-Ag	9/19/2012	48.53609	-122.04509	Jones Creek
230	Non-Ag	9/11/2012	48.60721	-122.39473	Whitehall Creek
347	Non-Ag	8/30/2012	48.33742	-122.29823	Bulson Creek
355	Non-Ag	Check	48.58834	-122.36692	Colony Creek
359	Non-Ag	9/7/2012	48.62031	-121.74765	Bear Creek

DNC = Did not complete.

**** = Can't reach owner for permission.**



Figure 1. Samish River, site #9

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.