



SalmonGRAM

Committed to Protecting and Restoring South Puget Sound Habitat



Message from the Director	2
2014 KCST	3
All About Allie	4
Citizens Action Training School.....	5
Case Inlet Bulkhead Removal	6
Mission Creek.....	7
Sequalitchew Creek.....	8

Log jam installed in Goldsborough Creek
Goldsborough Steelhead Juvenile (Inset)

Board of Directors

SPSSEG is administered by a nine-member volunteer board elected by the general membership.

Steve Brink - President
Terry Wright - Vice President
John Rosenberg - Treasurer
Mike Parton - Secretary
Bob Barnes - Member
Duane Fagergren - Member
Joe Williams - Member

Staff

Lance Winecka - Executive Director
Kristin Williamson - Project Manager
Brian Combs - Project Manager
Adam Sant - Project Manager
Jerilyn Walley - Project Manager
Allie Feidt - WCC Placement
Christine Garst -
Sound Nonprofit Accounting

Contact

6700 Martin Way East, Suite 112
Olympia, WA 98516
Phone: (360) 412-0808
www.spsseg.org

Cover: Goldsborough ELJ completed Aug. 13

Photo: Brian Combs

Message from the Executive Director

Lance Winecka

Thank you for reading our 2014 Winter SalmonGram e-letter. For more frequent updates from SPSSEG and Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail, you can “Like” both Facebook pages.

You might notice this winter’s edition is focused on shoreline restoration opportunities. Over the past few years SPSSEG has been working with many diverse partners to identify, fund, and remove bulkheads that restore natural beach processes. Many of these projects are located on State, Tribal, County and City owned shorelines. These projects are primarily removing shore armor and re-grading the beach to better support salmon and people. Salmon, and other marine species, depend on natural shore forms throughout their life histories for migration, refuge, and food sources. Local and regional restoration opportunities such as Case Inlet, Mission Creek and Penrose State Park, have provided the restoration community with an important opportunity to fully remove armor and restore over 1,500 linear feet of beach. These collective efforts improve the ecological links between uplands and the marine environment.

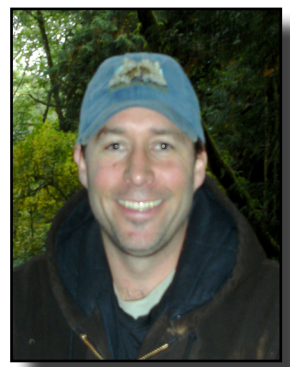
We will highlight our progress on nearshore restoration and instream projects at the Annual Meeting on Thursday, January 23 at the Lacey Community Center. The event will start at 5:30 p.m. with light refreshments provided by Taylor Shellfish. Brad Warren will speak on our opportunities to respond to Ocean Acidification. We will also be electing two Board Members, so if you are interested in serving SPSSEG in this way, please let us know.

Thanks!

Lance

SalmonGram is published twice per year by the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group (SPSSEG), a 501(c)(3) non-profit, volunteer-based organization that conducts salmon habitat restoration, salmon enhancement, and community education to increase salmonid populations in the South Puget Sound Region.

The SPSSEG is one of fourteen Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups created in 1989 by the Washington State Legislature. The Regional Fisheries Enhancement Program is partially supported by surcharges on sport and commercial fishing licenses. The Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife provides technical and administrative support to the program.



2013 KCST Season

By Jerilyn Walley

The Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail is the south Puget Sound's premier Chum viewing trail. This half-mile community gem includes 11 viewing stations with interpretive signs to assist visitors in watching thousands of wild chum salmon spawning in their natural environment.

During November while the Trail was open, 52 school groups with 2,329 students and 503 chaperones toured the trail, learning the salmon lifecycle from 39 trail guides, called Docents. Classes ranged from preschool to college. Two 7th & 8th grade teachers from Komachin Middle School in Lacey used the opportunity to teach both poetry and science. Students studied salmon anatomy in class by dissecting salmon, visited the trail to view spawning behavior, and wrote poetry about the sights and smells of the Trail. We have posted some Thank you from kids on our website at www.spsseg.org/KCST.

As this year's chum spawning season comes to a close, the SPSSEG thanks those organizations and individuals that make the trail happen. KCST was supported by two grants: the [Squaxin Island Tribe](#) contributed \$2,500 and [The Mountaineer Foundation](#) contributed \$1,500. Additionally, [Green Diamond Resources](#) donated \$500 and South Sound Fly Fishers donated \$150. We also received a private donation for \$500.

SPSSEG raised \$1,250 at the second annual Chum, Chowder & Chocolate open house on November 16. A special 'thank you' to [Xihn's Clam & Oyster House](#) for providing wonderful geoduck chowder and [Taylor Shellfish](#) for the geoduck and steamed clams. Donations are also accepted at the Trail in a donation box.

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group supports the Trail by scheduling school groups, training and organizing docents, they also maintain the Trail year-round. "In the past" Says Lance Winecka "we were able to pay the costs of busing kids to the Trail, however, funding has been harder to come by in recent years." SPSSEG is seeking bus funding for the 2014 season.



All About Allie

SPSSEG's 2014 WCC-IP

Allie Feidt is this year's Washington Conservation Corps Individual Placement (WCC-IP). The WCC program is geared toward college students or recent graduates age 18-25 working on environmental projects. They can serve up to two years in Individual Placement or Crew positions, earning hourly wages with benefits. At the end of the term, WCC members are given a generous education award to be used for continuing education or paying back student loans. Her position is supported in part by a grant from the Nisqually Indian Tribe.



Allie is a recent graduate of Western Washington University where she earned a B.S. in Environmental Science with a Toxicology emphasis. She has a lot to learn about saving the salmon, rather than the chemicals that could

kill them. In addition to school, she worked with children and the public as a lifeguard and swim instructor. She grew up competing in water sports.

Allie co-created a comic book for a class called The Science and Management of Contaminated Sites. The comic book was designed to give a basic understanding of how contaminated sites are cleaned up under the Model Toxics Control Act. It highlights the importance of public participation in Toxics clean up and how the public can help determine the end result. The comic can be viewed at http://issuu.com/ruth.sofield/docs/smocs_comic_volume_1,

She is planning a comic book for SPSSEG to distribute in the coming years. We plan to debut the SPSSEG comic book at a summer camp event. If you would like to be invited to a small preview reading of the comic book followed by suggestions for final critiques, please contact Allie at allief@spsseg.org.

Allie began work at SPSSEG October 7th, and will finish up September 2014. Since starting, Allie has coordinated the KCST Docents and given tours at the Trail. She taught the salmon lifecycle to kids in their classrooms and attended the Turn of the Tides Festival at the Estuarium in December. For the rest of her term, she plans to do more presentations at festivals, in classrooms, and at summer camps in addition to partnering with other organizations in Olympia and Tacoma. If you would like to schedule a classroom visit, just e-mail or call her at (360) 412-0808 X 105.

Citizen Action Training School

By Adam Sant

Last Fall, SPSSEG, in collaboration with the Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Group and the Puget Sound Partnership, began the re-rollout of the Citizen Action Training School or CATS Program. CATS is a civic engagement and watershed ecology and education program that trains future community leaders to support Puget Sound Recovery.

Recognizing that wild salmon populations cannot survive without a healthy Puget Sound, the seven Puget Sound [Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups \(RFEs\)](#) have committed to supporting conscious communities that are advocates for, and stewards of, their part of the Salish Sea. The CATS program intends to create community leaders who are active stewards and advocates for their watersheds and the greater Puget Sound.

Over the past 12 weeks, experts in their field conducted training on a diverse spectrum of issues related to Puget Sound recovery. This wonderful opportunity taught students, government officials, concerned citizens and others aspects of both the natural and human communities of Puget Sound. In addition, a focus on civic engagement in the legal and regulatory processes that affect resource management was included in the program.

Program History - CATS is the resurrection of a successful pilot program from the early days of the Puget Sound recovery effort. The original program,

led by the Pilchuck Audubon Society in Snohomish County in 1988, was focused on local watersheds and trained a productive group of participants. Some of their service projects are still active today, 23 years later! The long lasting ripple effect of the CATS program caught the eye of the Puget Sound Partnership and led them to set aside funding to bring it back to life, this time with a focus on Puget Sound recovery.

Additional Program Details - With two CATS

classes completed, the current goal is to offer at least 3 more CATS sessions, free of charge, to community members from all around the Sound in 2014. Participants receive 50 hours of training over three months in the form of weekday evening classes and a few Saturday field sessions. Following this comprehensive training, participants give back by volunteering at least 50 hours

to plan and complete a service project in their community related to one of three [Puget Sound Strategic Initiatives](#): 1) Prevention of Stormwater Pollution, 2) Protection/ Restoration of Habitat, 3) Recovery of Shellfish Beds.

CATS has been and will continue to be an amazing opportunity for anyone interested in Puget Sound recovery. And, with the both the Olympia and Bellingham CATS classes completed and service projects underway, SPSSEG looks forward to supporting the next classes in Seattle and on the Olympic Peninsula. Together we can make a difference for Puget Sound!

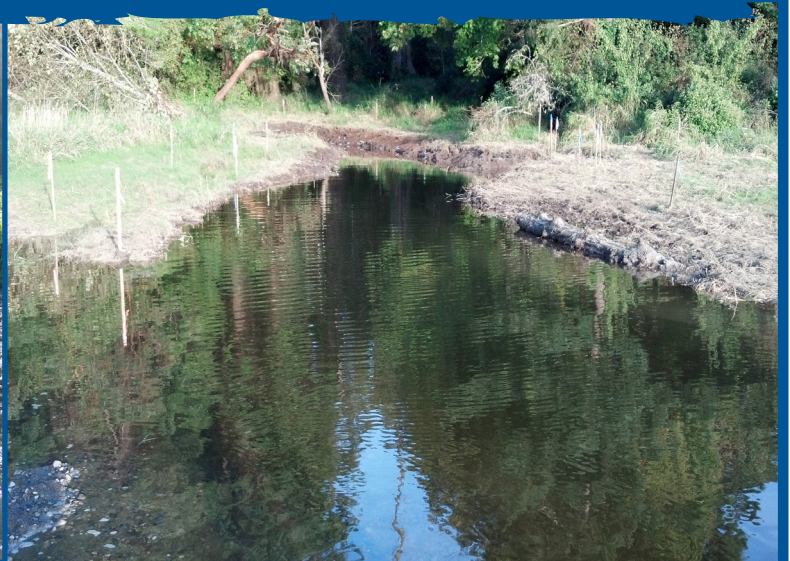


Nearshore project on Case Inlet

Below is a bulkhead removal project SPSSEG completed on Case Inlet. Bulkheads can be detrimental to natural beach processes such as drift cells and sediment recruitment. Loss of these functions increases homogenous cobble beaches and reduces areas of marine vegetation that are critical to forage fish spawning. Often, bulkheads in low energy environments, such as the one pictured below, are not necessary to reduce erosion. Restoration treatments can vary from soft armor installation (gravel or wood) to complete removal and bank re-sloping, depending on site conditions.



Mission Creek Before and After



Show Your Support! Join or Renew with SPSSEG Today!
A One Year Individual Membership is Only \$20
and is tax deductible.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Please Return form to:

SPSSEG

6700 Martin Way East, Suite 112

Olympia, WA 98516

- ◆ Individual Membership\$20
- ◆ Family Membership\$30
- ◆ Business Membership\$200
- ◆ Corporate Sponsorship\$500
- ◆ Other Tax-Deductible Donation\$ _____

For our generous state employed supporters: Please donate to SPSSEG through the Combined Fund Drive (#0315035). Supporters can also follow SPSSEG on Facebook or website.

Sequalitchew Creek

By Lance Winecka

On December 17th, the Sequalitchew Creek Watershed Restoration Planning Core Group adopted a set of recommended actions to restore the Sequalitchew Creek Watershed. Representatives from the Department of Ecology, Nisqually Indian Tribe, CalPortland, JBLM, environmental organizations, the Sequalitchew Creek Watershed Council, Pierce County, and the City of DuPont served on the Core Group.

David Troutt, Natural Resources Director for the Nisqually Indian Tribe, said, “I have been working in this watershed for 25 years, and today marks monumental progress. The desire to restore Sequalitchew Creek has long existed, but we have lacked a shared vision for restoration. Today we have a well-developed plan which we can act upon together.”

City of DuPont Mayor Michael Grayum noted that “Sequalitchew Creek has an extensive historic and cultural significance in the area.” The creek is near the historic Fort Nisqually site, as well as the original site of the Hudson Bay Company. “Our community has a rich history related to the use of our natural resources, which continues today with a renewed emphasis on preservation and restoration. The recommended actions adopted yesterday will honor that past by promoting recreation, economic growth, and tourism in the City of DuPont.”

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group (SPSSEG) led the facilitation of the Core Group and the creation of a plan. In September 2012, the Core Group adopted a vision to “identify actions and probable project costs necessary to restore flows and ecological conditions suitable for native salmonid populations in the Sequalitchew Creek Basin.” The Core Group developed the plan through a series of four workshops, extensive technical analysis, and two well attended public stakeholder meetings to solicit input and comments on the plan.

Highlights of the recommended actions include:

- Working with Pierce County, JBLM, and others to manage beaver activity in the watershed.
- Restoring the dry reach of the creek between

Center Drive and West Edmond Marsh to allow salmon to use the entire watershed.

- Replacing a section of the DuPont Railroad Trail with a bridge to encourage water to flow more freely through Edmond Marsh, and allow fish access to the eastern part of the marsh.

Mayor Grayum complimented SPSSEG and the Core Group on their work, saluting the power of multiple stakeholders coming together to support a common vision for restoration of this watershed.

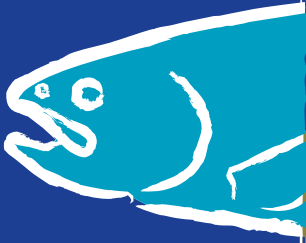


“This process was supported by a broad array of stakeholders and community members. It represents a well-reasoned approach to restoration,” commented Tom Skjervold, representing the Environmental Caucus. Lance Winecka, Executive Director of SPSSEG, characterized the final recommended actions as following a sequenced approach, one which uses adaptive management to build on previous success, allowing for change and improvement over time. Core Group members also emphasized their hope that DuPont residents would become involved in implementation of the plan, assisting with removal of trash and unwanted vegetation, planting native plants, and monitoring beaver activity and water levels throughout the system. Cal-Portland financially supported the planning process.

The Core Group’s recommendations for a Restoration Plan are available on the City of DuPont’s website at http://www.ci.dupont.wa.us/files/library/e832f41419f73cdc_o.pdf.

SOUTH PUGET SOUND

Salmon



ENHANCEMENT
GROUP

Public Welcome

Annual Meeting

Thursday, January 23, 2014; 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Lacey Community Center
6729 Pacific Ave SE, Lacey, Washington



Mission Creek
Project in Progress



- ★ Membership Update
- ★ Board Elections
- ★ Project Showcase
- ★ Taylor Shellfish Appetizers
- ★ Light Refreshments
- ★ More Information at

www.spsseg.org

Keynote Address

Brad Warren

Ocean Acidification and
the Future of Dinner:

Changing ocean chemistry, marine
foodwebs, and the opportunities
to respond