Fish Barrier Removal Board (FBRB)

Washington State Transportation Commission
Partnerships in Transportation and Fish Passage
March 21st, 1:40 PM
WSDOT Headquarters Building
Elements of the Salmon Recovery Strategy

• Habitat
  • Agriculture
  • Forest practices
  • Urbanization
  • In-stream flow
  • Fish barriers

• Harvest
• Hatcheries
• Hydropower
Extent of the Statewide Fish Passage Problem

- 35,000-40,000 man-made, complete and partial barriers statewide
- Federal, State, County, City, Tribal, Railroad and Private Ownership
State, County & City Fish Passage Problem

- **State:**
  - WSDOT - 996 barriers subject to injunction and about 2,000 statewide
  - DNR, Parks and WDFW essentially finished with their injunction corrections

- **County:** 3,121 barriers in the culvert case area, but not subject to the injunction, 22,000 statewide

- **City:** 1090 barriers in the case area, but not subject to the injunction, 1241 statewide

Note: Under the injunction the State is required to assess and identify culverts under state-owned roads in the Case Area that become partial or full barriers to salmon passage after the entry of the Injunction.
County & City Fish Passage Problem

- Ennis Creek is widely recognized as having the highest potential for restoration amongst the urbanized streams in Port Angeles. Its headwaters are protected in Olympic National Park.

- Downstream the abandoned Rayonier Mill site has been dismantled and will be cleaned under a three way agreement between Rayonier, DOE, and Lower Elwha Tribe.

- High priority for the city, local tribes, and restoration practitioners. The only barrier upstream is a WSDOT culvert scheduled to be fixed in 2025.

- Currently unfunded, #33 on the FBRB’s project list.
County & City Fish Passage Problem

- Lyon Creek is potentially home to three federally listed species of salmonids (Chinook, bull trout, & steelhead) and one salmonid species of concern (Coho).

- 2013-2015 FEMA, State and King County invested $6.94M in completing the Lyon Creek Flood Mitigation Project.

- City’s and County’s nominated projects were disqualified due to the presence of six privately owned partial barriers that lie downstream of the nominations.

- WSDOT Barrier on SR104 slated to be made passable in 2021.

- Currently not on the Governor’s FBRB 2017-2019 project list.
Goldsborough Creek Watershed, Mason County, one of the FBRB’s priority watersheds in Puget Sound.

- Barrier correction package of 6 county road barriers. If funded, would open 6 miles of habitat at a cost of $12.7M

- WSDOT injunction barrier downstream, on SR101, slated to be made 100% passable by April of 2010

- Goldsborough Creek is home to Chum, Coho, Steelhead and Sea Run Cutthroat trout

- Currently only one of the crossings is on the Governor’s list for funding in 2017-2019, #8 of the 13 projects
Fish Barrier Removal Board

- Established by legislature in 2014 (SSHB 2251 Representatives Wilcox, Blake, Orcutt, and Clibborn)
- Chaired by WDFW
- Members: DOT, DNR, RCO, cities, counties, tribes, salmon recovery boards
- Mission: to develop a statewide strategy for correcting fish barriers
- 2017 Request: Funding for prioritized list of barriers for corrections
Two Barrier Removal Pathways

Coordinated Pathway
• Correct barriers in close proximity to other barrier repairs.
• Leverage investments of WSDOT, forest industry, and local governments.
• Local governments submitted nominations (September 2015).

Watershed Pathway
• Correct barriers that open whole stream reaches and sub-basins.
• Maximize benefits to salmon at a population scale.
• Lead Entity and Salmon Recovery Regions submitted priority watershed nominations (July 2015)
Coordinated Pathway Ranking Criteria

- No Downstream Barrier(s)
- Lowest Barrier in a Stream First
- Linear Gain (net)
- Project Readiness
- Barrier Status
- Number of Anadromous Species/Stock
  - Stock Status
- Level of Coordination
- Habitat Quality
- Cost per Linear Gain

(As set forth by SSHB 2051)
Coordinated Pathway
15 Projects: 10 County, 3 City, 2 Private Barriers
Watershed Pathway

Statewide
Lead Entity Nominated

- Lower Columbia - Cowlitz
- Yakima Basin - Wilson/Cherry
- Upper Columbia - Okanogan
- Snake River
  - Snake River Tributaries
  - Grande Ronde Tributaries

P.S. - Board Selected

- Pysht River
- Pilchuck River
- Goldsborough Creek

Coast - Board Selected

- Newaukum River
Watershed Pathway Projects
64 Projects: 37 County, 3 City, 17 Private, 7 State Barriers

Pilchuck River Basin Fish Passage Barriers

Legend:
- Full Barrier
- Partial Barrier
- Barrier (Unpassable)
- SHD Hydro
- Pilchuck River HUC 10
- Little Pilchuck Cr Map Area

DNR RMAP Sites:
- Fish Passable
- Fish Barrier RMAP Oblig
- Fish Barrier No RMAP Oblig
- No Fish
- Small Forest Landowner

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife Habitat Program - October 2018. Map Scale: 1:15,000
FBRB 17-19 Project List
79 Projects, 160 Miles of Habitat,

$51.4 M Funding Request

Puget Sound & Hood Canal
36 projects
91 miles
$23.4M

Washington Coast
6 projects
10.6 miles
$3.3M

Lower Columbia
10 projects
25.3 miles
$8.3M

Upper Columbia
5 projects
1.6 miles
$4.8M

Middle Columbia
8 projects
6.9 miles
$3.6M

Snake River
11 projects
17.8 miles
$8.0M
FBRB 17-19 Project List
13 Projects, 42.8 Miles of Habitat, $19.7M Funding in Governor's Budget

Project Ownership: 8 County, 2 City, 2 State, 1 Private
Questions?
Contact

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