



State Legislative District #19,24,35
Congressional District #6

Grays Harbor Conservation District

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Board Chair: Carl Waara

Feature 2013 Accomplishment:

Family Forest Fish Passage Programs: Aberdeen Landing-Wilson Creek and Friend-Newskah Creek

Other Accomplishments

Grisdale Green Diamond Project



6.6 miles of habitat restored for Coho, steelhead, and cutthroat



GHCD completed 1087 acres of forestry plans and gave perspective of 1069 acres. We also coordinated forestry education for two partner conservation districts.



Top: Aberdeen Landing-Wilson Creek, before
Bottom: Aberdeen Landing-Wilson Creek, after

Resource Challenge: The Grays Harbor Conservation District (GHCD) sponsored two Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFFPP) projects. The Aberdeen Landing fish barrier is on Wilson Creek, a tributary to Grays Harbor on the east side of Aberdeen. There were two culverts at this crossing. Both were in poor condition and the upstream ends of the culverts were nearly submerged in the streambed materials that backed up behind each of them. Also, both had outfall drops that made it difficult for fish to get past this crossing to the upstream spawning beds. The Friend barrier was a corrugated steel culvert that was perched creating an outfall that also blocked upstream passage. The Newskah flows directly into Grays Harbor between Westport and Aberdeen, and this was the last barrier between upstream and downstream.

Project Summary and Results: The Aberdeen Landing Barrier was replaced by a 50' bridge opening up the stream to allow for proper hydraulic flow and provide passage to spawning salmonids. 1.65 miles of habitat for Coho, steelhead, searun cutthroat and possibly chum and Chinook. The Friend barrier was also replaced by a 50' bridge with similar positive results opening up 3.13 miles of habitat for Coho, steelhead, and searun cutthroat trout. **In 2013, this program has created nine jobs.**

Key Project Partners: Streamworks LLC; landowners; and the WA Department of Natural Resources



Top: Friend-Newskah Creek, before
Bottom: Friend-Newskah Creek, after

More Work to Do!

- Water Resources: Continue our work on removal of identified fish passage barriers and with cranberry producers on installation of approved water quality best management practices.
- Forestland: Continue to provide forest management plans, technical assistance, and educational opportunities to nonindustrial private forest landowners.
- Livestock: Continue to provide technical assistance and NMP updates and production to current and new cooperators.
- Cropland: Work with small agricultural producers on conservation plans, and work to ensure shellfish production and water quality in Grays Harbor.