



ASOTIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT

District Programs Coordinator: Megan Stewart Board Chair: Keith Ausman
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Legislative District: 9 Congressional District: 5

Other accomplishments:



Completed winter feed area project, including feed pads and waste storage facilities for manure management.



Provided federal and state cost-share to help replace fencing after over 10 miles of fence were destroyed during the 2015 fires in Asotin County.



Provided Salmon in the Classroom lessons and tanks for eight schools, reaching over 250 students who raised and released rainbow trout.

2017 FEATURE ACCOMPLISHMENT

ASOTIN CREEK HEADGATE DAM FISH PASSAGE PROJECT



Headgate Dam before construction, which was a fish passage barrier for juvenile fish.

provided water to an irrigation system that serviced orchards in Clarkston Heights, approximately 15 miles away.

Project summary and results

Six design options were developed and several public meetings were held before a preferred design was approved. The approach was to increase the notch in the concrete structure to be approximately 20 feet wide and a minimum of 3.2 feet in depth. This would allow for a free-flowing stream channel. The design also included the construction of a roughened channel to maintain stability of the stream bed material to prevent head cutting and provide habitat for fish. Asotin County Conservation District received a grant from the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, and the barrier removal construction was completed in September 2016.



Headgate Dam after project completion, which allowed Asotin Creek to be free flowing.

Resource challenge

Headgate Dam, owned by Asotin County, was identified as a partial fish passage barrier and considered an imminent threat to ESA-listed juvenile chinook, steelhead, and bull trout. Previous attempts to improve fish passage, including a fish ladder, were not successful and abandoned. Headgate Dam has historic and cultural significance to Asotin County. Until the 1960s, the dam

Key Partners: Asotin County; Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board; Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife; Bonneville Power Administration; Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

MORE WORK TO DO

- ▶ Finish Geomorphic Assessment and Conceptual Restoration Plan for Asotin County Streams to assist with project prioritization in the future.
- ▶ Assist landowners in Rattlesnake Creek watershed with natural resource concerns due to the flood in April 2017.
- ▶ Finalize the Asotin County Voluntary Stewardship Plan for adoption by the Washington State Conservation Commission, and start the implementation phase of the process.