



**Salmon Program
Federal Recovery Projects
Post-Evaluation Project Summary**

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|--|------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| TITLE: MF Nooksack Side Channel Improvement | | | NUMBER: 02-1630R (Restoration) |
| | | | STATUS: Active |
| SPONSOR: Nooksack Salmon Enhance Assn | | | EVALUATION SCORE: |
| | | | BOARD RANKING: |
| COSTS: | | | SPONSOR MATCH: |
| Salmon Federal Projects | \$117,300 | 80% | Cash Donations |
| Local | \$28,600 | 20% | Donated Materials |
| | | | Force Acct - Labor |
| Total | <u>\$145,900</u> | <u>100%</u> | |

DESCRIPTION:

The **Middle Fork Nooksack Side Channel Improvement Project** will improve and protect spawning and rearing conditions in a 3500' long spring-fed side channel of the Middle Fork of the Nooksack River. The channel is currently used by spawning ESA-listed native chinook, as well as wild spawning populations of coho, pink, and steelhead salmon. The channel is located along an abandoned river meander bend and is supplied with 12 cfs of high quality, year-round spring-fed water flows. A 20' wide distributary channel connects the head of the project reach with the river and transports occasional river flows during a storm event. A 160 cfs flow was measured during a two-year storm event in 2002. Channel gradient ranges between 0.5% and 2.0 % and is characterized by riffles / glides armored with the 3"-12" cobble from the old riverbed. Infrequent pools are long and shallow with no large woody debris (LWD) cover. Spawning and rearing conditions will be improved in channel by the placement of 200 pieces of large woody debris (LWD) in the channel to improve gravel sorting, pool formation, cover and overall channel roughness. LWD will be placed along the 3500-foot channel using a helicopter and a track excavator will arrange LWD into stable arrays.

LOCATION INFORMATION:

Southeast of Deming

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| ST SALMON REGION: Puget Sound North | LEAD ENTITY ORG: Whatcom County Lead Entity |
| COUNTY: Whatcom | WRIA: Nooksack (1) |

SCOPE (ELEMENTS):

Architectural & Engineering In-Stream Habitat Sales Tax

SALMON INFORMATION: (* in

Species Targeted

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|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Chinook (Listed, Threatened (03/99))* | Pink |
| Coho (Candidate (07/95)) | Sockeye |
| Cutthroat (Not Warranted (04/99)) | Steelhead (Not Warranted (08/96)) |

Habitat Factors Addressed

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|--|-------------------------------|
| Biological Processes | Riparian Conditions |
| Channel Conditions* | Streambed Sediment Conditions |
| Loss of Access to Spawning and Rearing Habitat | |

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| FISCAL YEAR: 2003 | DATE PRINTED: June 12, 2003 |
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