

Washington Forest Protection Association

2007 Annual Report

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Mark Doumit, Executive Director

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21st Century Vision for Sustainable Forestry

Washington State is a model for sustainable forestry. It takes the efforts of the many stakeholders that work together to promote the responsible management of our state's forests. The 21st century vision that WFPA and its members have worked toward is evident through the messages and stories in this Annual Report.

The Challenge of Sustainability

WFPA Board President, Toby Murray, speaks of the new challenge of balancing the economics of forestry with environmental protection.

Forestry as a Preferred Land Use

Mark Doumit, WFPA's new Executive Director, discusses how a working forest is a preferred land use and provides values beyond timber.



A Year-in-Review

A rundown of the successes and issues that WFPA and its members have helped shape within the forestry industry during 2006-07

Federal Recognition of Washington State Forest Practices

Washington is the only state to have achieved national recognition from the federal government that its state forest practices system meets the Endangered Species and Clean Water Acts. On June 6, 2006 the state received endorsement of its Forests & Fish Law through a 50-year Habitat Conservation Plan, the largest multi-species plan in the nation.

Fish and Wildlife Habitat Is Protected By Forests & Fish Law

The Forests & Fish Law covers 60,000 miles of streams and 9.3 million acres of forestland in Washington State. The Law set in motion a Roads Maintenance and Abandonment Plan (RMAP) effort to improve forested roads where needed.

Forest Road Systems are Inventoried and Repaired

Private forest landowners have inventoried 59,220 miles of roads and developed a plan to upgrade and repair their road systems where needed. The goal is to improve fish passage and stabilize their road systems so they can better withstand heavy rain and weather events. So far: 9,950 road maintenance plans have been approved covering opening up nearly 1,000 miles of fish habitat by removing more than 1,800 barriers to fish passage.

Voters have Confidence in Private Forest Landowners

Since the Forests & Fish Law passed, there has been a marked increase in public acceptance of forestry:

- Net voter approval of forest products companies actions remains high and the average has more than doubled since the Forests & Fish Law was adopted.
- Voter disapproval of forest products companies actions is among its lowest level.
- Voter's demand for less regulation of privately owned forests is at its highest level.
- There is wide approval of the Forests & Fish Law.

Reduction in B&O tax for the Forest Products Industry

The Legislature unanimously approved a tax credit (House Bill 1513) that clarified how the Real Estate Excise Tax

applies to sales of standing timber. This is the second year in a row that the Legislature passed a tax reduction measure for the timber industry.

Voluntary Protection of the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Habitat

The state Forest Practices Board endorsed voluntary measures by private forest landowners to protect the habitat for the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly, a cooperative approach that will yield more results instead of more restrictive regulations.

Long-term Forest Practices Permit for Small Forest Landowners

The state Forest Practices Board approves a long-term, 15-year forest practices permit for small forest landowners as an approach to reducing paperwork and increasing management flexibility for this segment of landowners.

Federal Ruling on Northern Spotted Owl Protection Measures

A federal judge ruled that the state forest practices system properly implements owl protection measures. Upon legal challenge by environmental groups to the state forest practices rules for spotted owls, the judge refused to enjoin harvest permitted through the state forest practices system.

Adoption of the Pacific Education Institute Strategy

Many groups adopted the Pacific Education Institute's (PEI) education strategy. For example, Governor Gregoire uses PEI for their ocean policy education, the Biodiversity Council adopted PEI as their education strategy and NOAA endorsed PEI as the only coastal education group.

Forest Health Bill Passes Unanimously in State Legislature

The Legislature unanimously passed the Forest Health bill (Senate Bill 6141) which will develop a comprehensive forest health program for the state, giving the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) the lead role in developing a comprehensive forest health program for the state.

Teacher on Summer Assignment Program Enters 8th Year

The Teacher on Summer Assignment (TOSA) program entered its eighth year with nine new teacher participants. The program gives teachers hands-on field study experience with forest products companies.

Rule Making on Historic Sites Initiated by Forest Practices Board

The Forest Practices Board initiated rule making on historic sites removing the uncertainty and providing clarity on which sites have historic value.

New Employees Join WFPA

Five new employees joined WFPA in 2007, including the new Executive Director, Mark Doumit. Mark is the sixth executive director of the Association.

Desired Future Conditions Proposed Rules Move Forward

The Forest Practices Board began formal rule making with the westside riparian Desired Future Conditions (DFC) rules. The Board put forward an alternative proposal initiated by WFPA that incorporated a broad level of comments from diverse groups of stakeholders. This version includes two approaches for protecting fish and wildlife habitat.

WFPA and WFFA Co-Sponsor Tree Farm Program

Washington Farm Forestry Association became co-sponsors of the Tree Farm Program with WFPA. The program started in 1941 and is the oldest voluntary third party certification system in the country.

Favorable Decision by Court of Appeals in SEPA Cases

In two challenges relating to the way cumulative effects are addressed by the state forest practices system, the Court of Appeals affirmed the Thurston County Superior Court's favorable ruling.

WFPA Receives Legislative Leadership Award

WFPA received one of the Cascade Agenda's Legislative Leadership Awards at the Cascade Land Conservancy's annual breakfast in May.



The People of WFPA

The companies, organizations, and people working towards a 21st century vision for sustainable forestry

WFPA Members

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Appleton Ridge Tree Farm

Barker Tree Farm - Woods Trust

Bascom Pacific, LLC

Bloedel Timberlands Development

Broughton Lumber Company

Buhaly, Joseph

Cain, Al

Forest Capital Partners

GMO Renewable Resources

Green Crow

Green Diamond Resource Company

Hampton Resources

Hancock Forest Management

Hanson, Gary

Hanson, Nels

Hess, Phil

JLCG, LLC

Kawamoto, Ray A.

Longview Timberlands, LLC

Menasha Forest Products Corporation

Elisabeth Miller Botanical Garden Endowment Trust

Pendleton and Elisabeth Miller Charitable Foundation

Miller Land & Timber

Miller, Ken and Bonnie

Munro, LLC

Olympic Resource Management

O'Neill Pine Company

Pacific Denkmann - Pilchuck Tree Farm

Pearsall, R. David and Ginnie

Penguin Forests

Plas Newydd, LLC

Port Blakely Tree Farms

Powers Jr., Francis J.

Rayonier

RD Merrill Co.

Ring Family Limited Partnership

Riverick Timber

Seefeld Corporation

Sierra Pacific Industries

Stewart Tree Farms

Stimson Lumber Company

Theoe Family Tree Farm

Thomson, George

Vaagen Brothers Lumber

Washington Timberland Management

West Fork Timber Company

Weyerhaeuser Company

Williamson, Maurice

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Norm Schaaf, Merrill & Ring

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2007 ANNUAL REPORT: 21st Century Vision for Sustainable Forestry



The Challenge of Sustainability

A message from Toby Murray, Board President, WFPA

As WFPA prepares to celebrate its 100th Anniversary in 2008, it is a good time to ask an important question – with the demand for wood products projected to increase in direct relationship to population growth, and with U.S. consumption four-times the world average, where are we going to get our wood supply? We actually have the ability to source our wood supply from working forests in the United States, yet we import 36% from around the world. Nationally, with forest growth 2 ½ times the rate of removals, it only makes sense to use products made from our sustainable working forests.

While there are many definitions of the term "sustainable," the bottom line is that in order to stay around for a very long-time, you have to be adaptable, flexible, willing to listen, respond and communicate. The WFPA and its members have been around for a very long-time, some up to 150 years. Our organization's founding companies are still members, practicing forestry today, planting new trees with the belief that they are creating tomorrow's working forests.

Our challenge as foresters, citizens and policy makers is to work together to find a balance point where the economic and environmental benefits of our working forests will be sustainable. For these benefits to be realized, forestry must continue to play an important economic role in the State of Washington.



2007 ANNUAL REPORT:

21st Century Vision for Sustainable Forestry



Forestry as a Preferred Land Use

A message from Mark Doumit, Executive Director, WFPA

The private landowner members of WFPA believe that sustainable forestry is a preferred land use. What exactly do we mean by forestry as a "preferred land use"? We mean that where it is appropriate to actively manage our forests, responsible forestry is an ideal land use because it provides the benefits, goods and services society wants – clean water and air, wildlife habitat, open space, wood products and jobs that are especially important to rural economies.

Our forests provide important social, environmental, and economic values that are important to all of us. But even without the direct economic benefits, forestry is a preferred land use because:

- Forests that stay in production aren't converted to other uses. This means green spaces stay intact.
- The recreation opportunities of forests are available.
- The value of conducting research to preserving wildlife habitat is leveraged by an industry with an economic stake in the resource that creates that habitat. Who else would pay for ongoing wildlife habitat research in a time of declining government resources if the timber industry didn't exist?
- The timber industry in Washington has demonstrated that it can and does collaborate with environmental advocates to protect fish and wildlife habitat. What other industry has successfully demonstrated its ability to address such compelling economic and social values?
- Growing trees store carbon and forestry is part of the solution to addressing climate change issues.

Our challenge at WFPA is to help the people of our state understand the real value and meaning of forestry as a preferred land use. Washington is the only state with a state-based regulatory system, which was developed through collaboration and the application of science, and endorsed by the federal government for its aquatic protections. The **Forests & Fish Law** is evidence that we can meet the challenge and further the mission of keeping sustainable forestry a preferred land use.

This is an exciting time to be working for the forest industry. Washington continues to lead the way in developing balanced approaches that derive a wide range of social, environmental and economic value from our forests.



Collaborative Efforts Yield Successes in the Policy Arena

Legislative and regulatory achievements establish balanced forest policies and encourage investment

The WFPA model of working collaboratively with stakeholders was a guiding force this legislative session and enabled us to achieve passage of significant legislation during a busy session with a strong Democratic majority in both houses. The 2007 session saw almost 3,500 bills introduced, and the passage of a \$33.4 billion budget. The 2006 elections gave Democrats control of the House of Representatives, Senate, and the Governor's Office. The democratic majority is 63-35 in the House and 32-17 in the Senate. This is the largest Senate majority in more than 40 years.

Timber Tax Bill and Forest Health Bill Pass Unanimously in the State Legislature

Our Timber Tax Bill (House Bill 1513) passed both houses of the Legislature unanimously, and Governor Gregoire signed it into law on April 17. A unanimous vote by the Legislature and an early signature by the Governor signals strong support for our industry.



WFPA staff and other stakeholders joined Governor Gregoire to celebrate the signing of the Timber Tax Bill on April 17, 2007.

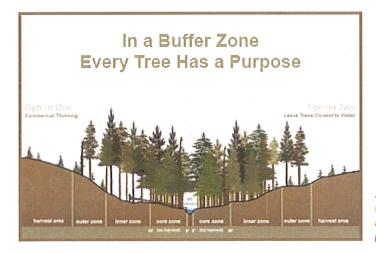
The Timber Tax Bill provided fixes to technical errors and unintended consequences of Senate Bill 6874, which was passed during the 2006 Legislature and was intended to provide a reduction to the B&O Tax for the forest products industry. House Bill 1513 also includes a small measure of relief to family forest landowners and prevents Real Estate Excise Tax issues.

WFPA was also successful in negotiating the Forest Health bill (Senate Bill 6141), which gives the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) the lead role in developing a comprehensive forest health program for the state. The law creates a three-tiered system for DNR to address emerging issues with forest health. This bill also passed unanimously in the Legislature.

Desired Future Conditions Proposal Accepted as a Second Alternative

After the Forests & Fish Policy committee reached cautious agreement on the substance of a WFPA sponsored Desired Future Conditions (DFC) rule proposal, the Washington State Forest Practices Board accepted the proposal as a second alternative for the rule change.

The WFPA proposal meets the DFC target established by adaptive management science at a significantly lower cost to landowners than the original staff proposal. It also includes a simplified commercial thinning standard that is designed to attract small and large landowners to this option in the riparian protection rules.



See our Desired Future Conditions Special Feature outlining our proposed approach.

Voluntary Support for Protecting the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Habitat

In a small, but significant action the Board agreed in September to a voluntary approach for protecting occupied Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly habitat. The alternative would have been to designate state critical habitat triggering Class IV Special status for forests around butterfly sites.

WFPA was able to work cooperatively with the Department of Fish and Wildlife and The Nature Conservancy getting their support for the voluntary recommendation. The key was convincing them that a cooperative planning approach rather than further restrictive regulation would yield greater opportunities for increasing the habitat needed for species recovery.



Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly



Working Forests: A 21st Century Vision

Forestry that provides economic, social, and environmental benefits for all of us

As the Washington Forest Protection Association embarks on its second century, working forests (those forests actively managed for economic goods and services) will continue to be an important part of the economic, environmental and social fabric of our state.

Working forests provide many of the environmental and social benefits that our citizens treasure. Without working forests, providing these benefits would fall to taxpayers, and the pressure to convert forests to other economic uses would increase. Thus, a key to sustaining the benefits we all seek from Washington's forests is to retain the economic vitality of the forestry industry.

Forestry is a cornerstone industry in Washington

Forestry contributes to Washington's economy in significant ways:

- The forestry products industry provides more than 45,000 direct jobs as the second largest manufacturing employer in the state.
- Forestry creates an additional 120,000 jobs in other sectors of Washington's economy.
- Forestry generated \$18 billion in gross business income, and paid more than \$2 billion in wages in 2006.
- Forestry is the number one agricultural industry, providing family-wage jobs, and economic stability in rural natural resource dependent communities.

Washington's foresters have become more efficient, and production has increased

Washington remains the number two producer of softwood lumber in the nation, a position it has held since the 1930s. Despite declining harvests on state and federal lands, the forest products industry has become more efficient in converting raw wood materials to final products in order to meet market demand.

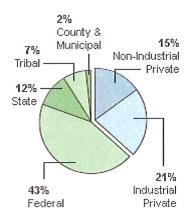
Since 1991 lumber production has increased by 58%, playing an evermore significant role in the state economy. More than 70% of the timber was supplied from privately owned forests.



Our forests are productive and provide a variety of economic and social benefits

Washington State has the most productive forestland in the country, with our rich soils, plentiful rainfall and temperate climate. Working forests provide a wide array of goods and services that enhance the quality of life and well-being of our society. Whether a forest is managed primarily to provide wood products, recreational opportunities, or wildlife habitat depends on the ownership and management objectives for a particular forests.

About 64% or 14 million acres of forestland is managed by federal, state, tribal and county governments and 36% or 8 million acres are privately owned.



Washington Forestland Ownership

Nearly 36% of the forestland in Washington is privately owned (blue) and over 64% is managed by the government (green).

Living and working in forests is a way of life in Washington

Our forests dominate our landscape. In fact, 22 million acres, or about half of Washington's total land area, is covered with great forests of fir, pine and hemlock, which are green all year long. This is why in the late 1800's Washington was nicknamed "The Evergreen State." Altogether, Washington's forests are home to about 25 native tree species, ranging from pure coniferous forests to multi-species mixtures, including diverse deciduous forests.

Maintaining working forests on the landscape will continue to be the primary mission of the Washington Forest Protection Association, as we continue to be an important part of our state's landscape – providing jobs, economic stability, and protecting the air, water, and wildlife habitat that is so important to all of us.



Washington: The Model for Sustainable Forestry

21st century working forests grow timber, protect the environment

Today the growth of America's forests is 2½ times the removals from harvesting, land clearing or changes in land use, yet we import nearly 40% of our total lumber supply from outside of the country. The United States is the world's largest producer of softwood lumber, and the Pacific Northwest is one of the primary timber producing regions producing 47% of our nation's total softwood lumber production. In fact, we supply almost 30% of all lumber consumed in the United States. With some of the highest environmental protections for our forest resources in the world, doesn't it make sense that we would want to encourage working forests right here at home to provide the environmental values we cherish, and wood products we all use every day?

A Renewable, Responsible Resource

Each person in the United States uses about 5 pounds of forest products per day, or 1,800 pounds per year. This is great news, as forest products are renewable and wood is the most environmentally responsible building material, using far less energy than alternative products. The structural lumber produced right in our backyard is used to build homes for families in our neighborhoods and thousands of other products produced from trees.



Habitat Protection Is Part Of The Sustainability Equation

Professional foresters protect the environmental values of a working forest, such as fish and wildlife habitat, cool water, clean air and open space. In Washington State, we have raised standards by enacting some of the

toughest laws in the nation to protect public resources. For example, the Forests & Fish Law applies to 9.3 million acres and 60,000 miles of streams, and requires forest landowners to **inventory and improve their forest roads** to protect water quality and fish habitat. Thus far, almost 2,000 blockages in forest streams have been removed. This has opened almost 1,000 miles of fish habitat, approximately the distance between Seattle and Los Angeles.

Working forests protect valuable ecosystem services. Through the Forests & Fish Law, about 765,000 acres of private timberland have been set-aside to grow old trees, protecting riparian habitat alongside forested streams. These trees provide wildlife habitat, shade, stabilize the soil, store carbon dioxide to help reduce global warming, and purify and regulate the water cycle.

Our Hard Work Benefits Us All

Private forest landowners make the investment to grow, harvest and plant the next generation of working forests because of the values they provide to society for renewable wood products, and the environmental benefits we all know to be part of our identity in Washington State.



A Teacher on Summer Assignment

A conversation with TOSA participant, Marla Gisi

In 2007, WFPA's Teacher on Summer Assignment (TOSA) entered into its 8th year of operation. We recently sat down with Marla Gisi, and she filled us in on her experience with the program this past summer.

Q: Where do you teach?

A: I am a Teacher/Librarian at Tumwater Hill Elementary in Tumwater, Washington.

Q: How many teachers participated in the program?

A: I am one of nine teachers in western Washington who were chosen to participate.



Marla takes a break from checking out invasive species on Weyerhaeuser land to enjoy the view of Mt. Rainier.

Q: What does the TOSA program mean to you?

A: The program is designed to give teachers hands-on field study experience with forest products companies. I worked side-by-side with people who manage and harvest trees. My experiences both in the field and in the office allowed me to see the whole forestry industry first hand.

Q: Where were you able to spend your summer assignment?

A: I spent my six-week job assignment at Weyerhaeuser's Vail Operations in Rainier, WA. I felt fortunate to be working with the team at Vail. This group was amazing. In addition to spending time showing me what their job

entailed, they graciously and patiently answered all of my questions. I am most appreciative of their willingness to spend the day teaching me.



During her time as a TOSA, Marla was able to spend time in a processor and learn how the equipment works out in the field.

Q: What forestry activities were you able to participate in?

A: Experiences I gained were: inspecting export logs at the Longview yard, checking first year plantings and invasive species, seeing the harvest crews and marking future harvest sites, walking through a thinning operation, and touring the Mima Tree Nursery and Rochester Seed Orchard.

Q: What impact has this experience had in the classroom?

A: This fall, I was able to take this amazing experience back to my students. I was able to integrate this knowledge into a variety of lessons including research, critical thinking, and media literacy which are aligned with state Essential Academic Learning Requirements.



Marla getting ready to tour an export ship at the Weyerhaeuser Longview Yard.

We want to thank Marla for giving her time for this interview, as well as participating in the TOSA program. If you are a teacher or know of any teachers who would be interested in participating in the TOSA program, check out the **TOSA website** and feel free to contact us with any questions.



Forest Practices Board Initiates Rule Making on Historic Sites

The Timber/Fish/Wildlife Cultural Committee, which makes policy recommendations to the Forest Practices Board (the Board), reached agreement on rule language to correct a technical error in the current Class IV Special rule for historic sites. The Class IV Special rule requires additional review by the state agencies and includes an on site field review before being able to obtain a permit. This issue has been on the Board's work plan for more than three years and they have now initiated rule making on historic sites that are at least 50-years-old.

The proposed solution removes much of the uncertainty regarding historic sites by specifying that sites must meet the standards for eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places in order to trigger the State Environmental Protection Act (SEPA). Eligible sites are rare on managed forest land. This action by the Forest Practices Board is a success because it cleans up the uncertainty in interpretations of Forest Practices Rules and provides clarity to which sites have historic values.



Key Staff Changes Strengthen the Association

WFPA recruits and retains a staff of leaders

While 2007 will be remembered as a year of transitions in executive leadership, equally important but more subtle changes in the WFPA office also occurred. Former executive director, Bill Wilkerson, retired at the end of 2006. This led to the hiring of Mark Doumit, who is only the sixth executive director of the Association since it was founded in 1908. Mark's 18 years of experience in public office combined with his background in farming and natural resources gave him the right experience for the job. He served in the Legislature for the 10 years prior to coming to WFPA. Mark worked on many forestry, environmental and natural resource bills and feels strongly about working in a collaborative and bi-partisan way. Also, when Mark came on board in November 2006, WFPA elected Toby Murray as the new President of the Board of Trustees.



Executive Director Mark Doumit

In addition to recruiting Mark, WFPA also hired four new employees, representing a significant alteration to a staff of 15. Farah Derosier filled the Administrative Program Assistant position; Adrian Miller was hired as the Associate Director of Forest Management; Gigi Williams was hired as the Environmental Education Assistant; and Melissa Davis was hired on to replace the retiring Sue Honstain as Information Systems Coordinator after 30 years of service. Cindy Mitchell was also promoted to Senior Director of Strategic Communications.

Significant internal changes, such as staff changes, can often lead to instability in an organization. The changes at WFPA, on the other hand, have only invigorated the organization. This is due to the association's outstanding Board, ability to attract quality staff, our forward-looking strategic plan, and the fact that WFPA's membership and financial position have remained stable. WFPA continues to represent approximately 50 members with more than

4 million acres of Washington's private forests, and has maintained its current assessment structure for more than three years.	
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New Challenges to Northern Spotted Owl Recovery

Private landowner's best efforts at habitat protection challenged by Barred Owls and wildfire

While private forest landowners protect Northern Spotted Owls on their lands, and conduct research to better understand the relationship between the owls and their habitat, new challenges have arisen which threaten the species. The aggressive Barred Owl, a competitor species, has invaded Spotted Owl habitat. In addition, unusually hot wildfires that have occurred in forests with poor health have burned owl habitat.

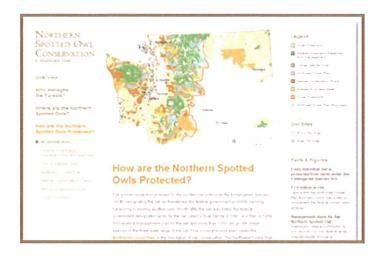
Earlier this year environmental groups made a legal challenge to the state forest practices rules governing spotted owl habitat in federal court, the judge refused to enjoin harvest permitted through the state forest practices system.



Judge refuses to enjoin harvest permitted through the state forest practice system in response to environmental group challenge.

The Northern Spotted Owl has long been a symbol in Pacific Northwest forests of the need to protect our state's old growth ecosystems. Listed as "threatened" in 1990 under the Endangered Species Act, forest policy and practices dramatically changed across the three state range of the owl in California, Oregon and Washington. Timber harvesting was reduced more than 80% across 24 million acres of federal forest to provide a connected system of habitat supporting late successional old growth species.

Forest policy changes led to a reduction in timber harvesting due to implementation of the federal Northwest Forest Plan, private and state Habitat Conservation Plans and in Washington, forest practices regulations were changed to complement the federal conservation strategy, which adds up to nearly 14 million acres of land in Washington alone.



Washington's regulatory system is designed to complement federal recovery goals.

See our Northern Spotted Owl Special Feature outlining our state's current regulatory system.



Forest Roads Improvement Program Protects Water Quality and Fish Habitat

With the implementation of the Forests & Fish Law, forest landowners are required to improve their forest roads to protect public resources, including water, fish, and wildlife habitat. Improved road maintenance and construction practices reduce or eliminate runoff and sediment being delivered into streams, which can degrade water quality and fish habitat.

The Law addresses this challenge through Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plans, or **RMAPs**. These plans are outlined to properly abandon or stabilize existing forest roads no longer in use and improve standards on how new roads are to be built. So far, nearly 60,000 miles of roads have improved, opening up almost 1,000 miles of stream habitat.

For example, one WFPA member, Merrill & Ring, was able to work collaboratively with the nearby Lower Elwha tribe to come up with funding to create new spawning areas for fish in the South Fork Pysht River. The project included replacement of a culvert with a bridge, construction of a channel to connect a pond with the river, and placing large woody debris in the constructed channel and the South Fork Pysht River.



Since project completion, adult salmon have been observed in the new channel and hundreds of young salmon are seen in the pools created by the large woody debris placement.

Near the river was a pond that had an overflow culvert under the road which then drained into roadside ditches that eventually drained back into the river. The collaborative group's plan for restoration of this area was to replace the culvert with a passageway that would allow fish to reach the pond, and to construct a channel for fish use while maintaining the ditches for road run-off.

One reason this project was considered of such importance was the observation of adult salmon trying to swim through the ditches for spawning. Part of the creative problem solving needed for this project was how to create a passageway, that would be open during high water, yet not get washed out, and not drain the pond. It was decided that a small bridge placed over the road would be needed, instead of a culvert.

To further improve the access to the pond, a channel was dug out connecting to the river. Large woody debris was placed in the stream. Previous work helped the Lower Elwha S'Klallam crew decide where the most natural places for log jams would be. These log jams at first appear to block the stream, but a closer look shows numerous passages between, under, and around the logs. These passages are large enough to permit the passage of adult spawning salmon in the fall and provide hiding places for the salmon fry, which helps them escape from predators.



Black Bear Supplemental Feeding Program

Scientific research paper in final stages of peer-review edits

A research paper by wildlife biologist, Georg Ziegltrum, titled, "Impacts of the black bear supplemental feeding program on the ecology in Western Washington" is in the final stages of editing. This paper summarizes cooperative research efforts with the United States Department of Agriculture/Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS) in Washington over the last eight years and describes the impacts of the supplemental feeding program on: behavioral characteristics of bears; the nutritional status of bears; the reproductive success and population density of bears; the home range size of bears; and bear/human conflicts.



WFPA developed the **black bear spring supplemental feeding program** to protect conifers from girdling by bears. The supplemental feeding program in Western Washington is a viable and cost effective non-lethal damage control tool for the forest products industry.