



Schoolhouse Creek Habitat and Fish Passage Restoration

Schoolhouse Creek, Washington



Schoolhouse Creek flowed through a steep, impassable culvert. Another culvert located nearby was passable, but drained a former wetland complex with limited spawning habitat available. R2 developed a design for a new channel that connected the passable culvert with upstream habitat in Schoolhouse Creek. This opened important spawning and rearing habitat for coho salmon, which are both currently limited in the Washougal River basin. In addition, the project raised water levels and restored lost wetland areas and functions.

Project Elements:

- Juvenile Habitat Enhancement
- Adult and Juvenile Coho Passage
- Hydraulic/Hydrologic Analysis
- Geomorphology
- New Channel/Flow Control Design
- SRFB Project
- Final Plans and Specifications
- Construction Services

The design included a concrete flow control structure that diverted most of the creek water to the new fish channel, while allowing some flow to continue through the impassable culvert to maintain minimum flow through private property. The channel was designed to provide maximum opportunity for juveniles and adults to remain within Schoolhouse Creek and minimize inadvertent downstream passage to the mainstem Washougal River through the steeper culvert.



Approximately 1,000 feet of new channel was constructed to re-route Schoolhouse Creek to the passable culvert, which was sized sufficiently to pass the new flow in conjunction with the steeper culvert during flood events.

R2 provided conceptual design and permitting assistance; construction plans and specifications, Engineer's opinion



of probable cost; and assisted Washington Trout with the bidding and contractor selection process, and provided supporting construction oversight.