



Habitat Conservation Plan Daybreak Mine

Clark County, Washington

R2 prepared a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the J.L. Stordahl & Sons Daybreak Gravel Mine located near the East Fork Lewis River. The East Fork Lewis River contains populations of salmon and trout species, some of which have recently been listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. R2 coordinated the development of the HCP with state and federal agencies, Clark County, and interested stakeholders. The HCP will ensure that mining and gravel processing activities on the site include measures to benefit fish and wildlife resources over the short- and long-term.



R2 conducted baseline monitoring of the site to assess seasonal water temperatures, habitat conditions, and fish use. These studies led to the development of 14 conservation measures. These measures contain specific goals, criteria, monitoring, and reporting schedules, as well as specific management responses to monitoring results.

Water quality concerns addressed in the HCP included controlling and reducing the levels of turbidity generated during the mining operations, and mitigating for high water temperatures in the receiving waters. Reductions in water temperatures will be achieved through the combined use of a water management plan, which controls the release of pond water, and a comprehensive riparian enhancement plan, which will increase canopy cover and shade.

Project Elements:

- Assessment of Physical and Biological Conditions
- Water Quality Monitoring
- HCP Development
- Coordination with Federal Agencies
- Fisheries

The HCP also includes an assessment of channel migration and several measures to reduce the risk of potential negative effects that channel migration could have on the recovery and conservation of listed species. The Services approved the HCP in 2004, and R2 will continue to monitor water quality, habitat conditions, and fish use on the project site and in adjacent waters, within the context of adaptive management.