Clear Creek: Restoring Salmon Habitat

Salmon hatch in freshwater streams like Clear Creek and migrate to Dyes Inlet and out to the ocean. They return fully grown to spawn and die. Their carcasses, full of nutrients from the ocean, are food for insects, birds, mammals and even their own young. Once the new eggs hatch, the salmon life cycle begins again.

Wood creates pools where spawning salmon rest and juvenile salmon take shelter and feed on insects. It can also slow the movement of water, reduce erosion, and control sediment transport.

Four salmon species (shown in spawning colors above) can be found spawning in Clear Creek in the fall. Look for salmon fry in the stream year round!

Benefits of Stream Restoration Projects

Well-functioning streams with healthy ecosystems bring benefits to Puget Sound and to property owners.

1. Caddisfly larvae
2. Stonefly nymph
3. Woody material

Wood

Native plants provide shade and clean, cool water in addition to stabilizing slopes and reducing erosion. Plant roots hold soil and reduces the amount of silt entering the stream. This increases survival of salmon, as silt can smother salmon eggs.

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BACKYARD HABITAT GRANTS

Ready to restore your stream? You can receive a grant for stream restoration projects on private properties in unincorporated Kitsap County for up to $20,000. Individual landowners, local organizations, conservation groups and others are encouraged to apply.

Contact the Kitsap Conservation District to discuss your project ideas and request a site visit: (360) 204-5529

www.kitsapcd.org