

Habitat Projects on Agricultural Lands in the Snoqualmie Watershed



Collective accomplishments for 1998-2007 period:

- Planted 93 acres of riparian buffers along 11 river and stream miles including:
 - 3 miles under Conservation Reserves Enhancement Program (CREP buffers)
 - 3.76 miles of voluntary plantings along Snoqualmie River mainstem
 - 4.13 miles of voluntary plantings on tributaries and oxbows
- Installed more than five miles of livestock fencing along waterways.
- Planted buffers on 2.3 miles of agricultural ditches as part of ditch maintenance projects.

Habitat projects on agricultural lands typically focus on stabilizing stream banks and improving water quality. For example, fencing projects are used to exclude livestock from stream banks so that bank erosion is reduced and riparian plantings are more successful. Plantings, in turn, also help to stabilize banks, while providing shade and other water quality benefits. The integration of planting projects as part of agricultural ditch maintenance is yet another area of collaborative action.

Depending on the project type, the costs may be shared by the landowner and other sources, or, as in the case of many planting projects, the landowner contributes the land while the plants and implementation are provided by other project partners.

Key delivery partners have been:

- Landowners
- King Conservation District
- Stewardship Partners
- King County
- Wild Fish Conservancy