



Northwest Regional Office

NOAA Fisheries

National Marine Fisheries Service



News Release

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NOAA ANNOUNCES HABITAT RESTORATION GRANTS FOR 2000

NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service awarded \$69,500 worth of grants for two community level habitat restoration projects designed to improve marine habitats important to fisheries in the Northwest.

"Every year since 1996 NOAA Fisheries has been able to maximize the impact of its Community-Based Restoration Program funding by partnering with local organizations and state agencies across the nation. These public-private partnerships are essential to our mission, and the communities that get behind them are one of our most important allies in the restoration of marine habitats," said Fisheries Administrator Penny Dalton.

The grants were awarded directly through NOAA Fisheries' Community-Based Restoration Program. Staff from the NOAA Restoration Center, NOAA Fisheries Science Centers and regional staff work closely with communities to aid in project development and implementation. Projects are monitored and maintained by communities, promoting stewardship and a heightened appreciation for the environment and its well-being.

Oregon

NOAA awarded a \$35,200 grant to Marion County. This project will correct fish passage problems at six culverts that present the greatest barriers, to restore fish access to more than 10 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for chinook, steelhead, cutthroat and rainbow trout on Mill Creek, a tributary of the Willamette River.

Washington

NOAA awarded a \$34,341 grant to the Nisqually Indian Tribe in Pierce County. The goal of the restoration is to implement a demonstration project to remove the invasive reed known as canarygrass that is blocking salmon passage to Muck Lake. The project will also improve habitat along tributaries in the Muck Creek watershed.

(more)

(HABITAT RESTORATION GRANTS 2/2/2)

The NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program has been working with community organizations since 1996 to support effective habitat restoration projects in marine, estuarine and riparian areas across the nation. So far 166 projects in 24 states have been implemented using NOAA funding and leveraged funding from five major restoration partners, including the American Sportfishing Association's FishAmerica Foundation, Restore America's Estuaries, the Five Star Restoration Challenge Grant Program, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the National Fisheries Institute.

For more information on the NOAA Community-Based Restoration Program, go to: www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/restoration.

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