



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Pacific Region
Columbia River Gorge National Fish Hatcheries
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
FACT SHEET



Project Description

Within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area in Washington, four National Fish Hatcheries (NFHs) employ the highest scientific standards to help achieve the conservation and harvest goals for Pacific Northwest salmon. Combined, these hatcheries annually produce nearly 25 million salmonids, including tule fall Chinook, spring Chinook, up-river bright fall Chinook and coho. These facilities were recently reviewed by a group of scientific experts (Hatchery Review Team) who provided a blueprint to manage sustainable programs in a holistic watershed landscape.



View of biological filter beds and barge on the Columbia River

FWS Image: C. Anderson

The Columbia River Gorge NFHs received a total of \$2.5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to implement Hatchery Review Team recommendations necessary to maintain sustainable salmon populations. Carson NFH will install a predator-exclusion cover to protect 1.4

million spring Chinook and will rehabilitate its adult fish crowders. Little White Salmon NFH will replace deteriorating raceway walkways to ensure staff safety when feeding spring Chinook salmon. Spring Creek NFH will replace water pumps and motors with energy- and water-efficient models that will provide improved water quality for 12.2 million tule fall Chinook salmon. Spring Creek also will lead a habitat restoration project at Rattlesnake Creek to decrease erosion and increase capacity for holding winter and spring storm flows. Willard NFH will provide seismic updates to make its shop buildings safer.

Project Benefits

The investment in implementing the Hatchery Review Team recommendations will provide a long-term conservation benefit to salmon. Hatcheries are being managed as part of the environmental and ecological landscape to help achieve both conservation and harvest goals. These goals are part of an integrated strategy that combines habitat, hydropower and harvest needs for conserving and managing fishery resources.

Budget Information

Recovery funding = \$2.5 million

For More Information

Amy J. Gaskill, APR
 External Affairs Specialist
 (503) 231-6874

