SIDE CHANNEL PROJECTS



Side channels were created by historic meanderings of the Skagit River. Many have been cut off from the main river for a variety of natural and man-made flood control and agricultural activities.

Reconnection of side channels provides summer and winter refuge areas that are rich in food sources for the young salmon and are optimally located out of the fast and often silt-laden main channel flows.

Side channel projects include: Debays Slough, Hart Slough (featured), and Skiyou Slough

Hart/Skiyou Slough Restoration Project

Hart and Skiyou Sloughs are historic side channels of the Skagit River that are partially blocked from the main stem in the Sedro-Woolley area. This project addresses the feasibility of reopening one or both of the sloughs to restore a direct connection with the Skagit River. Several other restoration sites occur in the vicinity of the proposed projects. From information gathered, an engineering map will be produced that contains facts on topography, property lines, ownership, flood and low flow elevations, channels, and riparian areas. The next phase will consist of coordination between property owners, local tribes, and government agencies. A design report will recommend alternatives for restoration. Lastly, plan recommendations will be implemented. Actions may include acquisition, construction, plantings, and monitoring.

Benefits

- Regains salmon rearing habitat.
- Reconnects side channel habitat.
- Achieves opportunity to integrate project with existing restoration projects.



Hart Slough Restoration Project

Watershed

Hart Slough (WRIA 3.0275) Skiyou Slough (WRIA 3.0278)

Cost \$75,000 Reconnaissance Study

Revenue 100% Salmon Recovery Funding Board

Partners Salmon Recovery Funding Board Local Property Owners Skagit County

Reconnection of side channels provides summer and winter refuge areas that are rich in food sources for the young salmon and are optimally located out of the fast and often silt-laden main channel flows.

