

## THE JCL RESTORATION

### TEAM INCLUDES:

- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe: Property owner, project design and coordination;
- Clallam County: Permitting, roads and infrastructure, and Olympic Discovery Trail;
- WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife: Land acquisition, technical assistance;
- Clallam Conservation District: Channel relocation & vegetation plan;
- Environmental & Engineering Consultants: Shreffler Environmental, Sam Gibboney Engineering, & ESA Inc.;
- US EPA: Technical assistance;
- WSDOT: Hwy. 101 bridge design, land acquisition, technical assistance;
- USFWS: Construction assistance;
- Local landowners.

### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE HAS COME FROM:

- NOAA/NWIFC—Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Program;
- USFWS—North American Wetlands\ Conservation Act & National Coastal Conservation Grant;
- US EPA—Wetland Protection Program, CWA Sections 106 & 319, Brownfields, and GIS Grants;
- US BIA—Watershed Projects; Jobs-in-the-Woods;
- USDA—Farm Service Agency, Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program;
- WA DNR—Washington Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account;
- WA Dept.. of Ecology—Washington Centennial Clean Water Fund;
- WA IAC—Washington State Wildlife & Recreation Fund;
- WA SRFB—Washington State Salmon Recovery Fund;
- WSU Cooperative Extension.

### OTHER COOPERATORS INCLUDE:

Audubon Society (National and Olympic Peninsula Chapter), Battelle NW, North Olympic Salmon Coalition, NTI, Pacific Coast Joint Venture, Streamkeepers, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Forest Service, and the WA Environmental Council.

(Cover Photo Courtesy Of: Randy Johnson)

## SUMMER CHUM SALMON

Jimmycomelately Creek and Sequim Bay have long been important to the Jamestown S’Klallam people as a major traditional hunting, fishing, shell-fishing and gathering area for thousands of years.

In the old days, every creek entering the bay held at least one salmon trap, including those at JCL, where S’Klallams fished for “dog” or chum salmon. One of the most important and urgent reasons for attempting to restore JCL and its estuary is that the creek has a run of summer chum salmon, an ESA-listed species, which is now nearly extinct. Only seven chum returned to JCL to spawn in 1999.



Recovery of chum salmon involves not only habitat restoration, but also increasing the stock through a broodstock program. Begun in 1999, volunteers capture adult salmon and their fertilized eggs are moved to the Dungeness Hurd Creek Hatchery to develop. When the fish eyes can be seen in the eggs, they are transferred to two remote site incubators on Jimmycomelately Creek to hatch. The fingerlings are released into the bay in April. From seven spawners in 1999, the 2004 run was almost 1,700 fish.

The life history of summer chum is unique among the five species of Pacific Salmon, as they are among the earliest fish to return to their natal streams to spawn. Hood Canal/Strait of Juan de Fuca summer chum are genetically distinct, and reproduce in the lowest reaches of streams in the eastern Strait of Juan de Fuca and Hood Canal.

### RESTORATION BUDGET SUMMARY

Estuary / Riparian Acquisition:	\$2,645,000
Estuary / Salt Marsh Restoration:	\$1,200,000
Restoration Planning / Monitoring:	\$ 262,500
Channel Relocation / Restoration:	\$ 450,000
Bridge Design & Construction:	\$1,400,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$5,957,500 Plus In-kind</b>

JIMMYCOMELATELY CREEK AND ESTUARY RESTORATION



# JIMMYCOMELATELY RESTORATION PROJECT

The Jimmycomelately (JCL) watershed comprises an area of 15.4 square miles and is the major tributary flowing into Sequim Bay. In the mid-1990s, the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe, the Clallam Conservation District, Clallam County and others began to address the problems associated with declining fish populations and increased flooding on the south Sequim Bay Estuary and Jimmycomelately Creek.

## Project goals included:

- Restoring the channel and estuarine habitat of JCL Creek and South Sequim Bay in perpetuity for eel-grass, migratory water fowl, fish, shellfish and other wildlife;
- Restoring fish and shellfish populations;
- Reducing flood hazards to homes, roads and utilities;
- Monitoring and evaluating the project as a model restoration program;
- Restoring water quality;
- Keeping the community involved.

The major restoration project took three years, many partners and \$6 million to complete. It has transformed the creek into a healthy wetland for fish and wildlife. During the three-year restoration there were four major phases to the project.



Photo Courtesy Of: Manu Esteve

## RESTORATION PROJECT PHASES

### Phase 1: Channel Realignment 2002-2003

Construction of a new creek channel began in 2002, with the Clallam Conservation District, Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service leading the effort. The new channel is located west of the former channel, and is approximately 3,500 feet long. It is designed to meander naturally in both the freshwater and intertidal areas. The large woody debris placed there creates habitat, and over time will increasingly control the channel form and process.

### Phase 2: Estuary Restoration / Fill Removal 2003-2005

Estuary restoration includes:

- Removal of a log deck road, Old Blyn Hwy., log yard pier and wetland fill;
- Restoring log yard to 1870 shoreline and removing creosote log yard pilings;
- Restoring Dean Creek and RV park area, and removal of sediment accumulation at the old

creek mouth;

- Acquiring and restoring private properties within the project area;
- Providing public access and interpretation along the Olympic Discovery Trail.

### Phase 3: Bridge Replacement 2004

A new Highway 101 bridge over the realigned channel was needed. The design of the new bridge accommodates flood flows, allows sediment transport to the bay, and improves fish and wildlife passage.

### Phase 4: Diversion of Existing Creek Flow 2004

In October 2004, the majority of stream flow was diverted into the new channel. Since summer chum spawned in the old channel the previous two months, a base flow was left in the channel until all salmon smolts had out-migrated in the spring. The old channel will be completely closed off in July 2005.

