

Yankee Run Creek (Coquille River) LWD restoration for Coastal Cutthroat trout

State(s): Oregon

Managing Agency/Organization: Bureau of Land Management

Type of Organization: Federal Government

Project Status: Underway

Project type: WNTI Project

Project action(s): Watershed, In-stream and riparian habitat

Trout species benefitted: Coastal Cutthroat

Population: East Fork Coquille Watershed, Right Fork Yankee Run Creek, Yankee Run Creek

This restoration project from the Coquille Watershed Association (CWA) is located in the Yankee Run drainage area within the East Fork Coquille Watershed in southwestern coastal Oregon. Yankee Run and Right Fork Yankee Run Creeks have been subjected to human activities such as historical stream cleaning, road construction and past logging practices that have led to poor conditions for fish habitat and water quality, and this project will return key pieces of instream wood to the streams and enhance the riparian buffers established by the landowners. Yankee Run and its tributaries are important spawning and rearing areas for Coastal cutthroat trout as well as resident Rainbow trout. The project area also provides habitat for Chinook and Coho Salmon, Steelhead, Brook Lamprey and Pacific Lamprey. The project area is occupied and designated as critical habitat for Oregon Coast Coho, a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act.

Objectives:

- Approximately 238 logs, consisting of 47 log jam sites, would be placed along 2.25 miles to trap spawning gravels for adult trout. The log jams will improve channel complexity, pool depth, and pool cover providing habitat for both adult and juvenile trout. The log placement will utilize the ODF&W guidelines and the Aquatic Restoration Biological Opinion II (ARBOII) for placing wood in stream channels.
- The primary goals of the Large Woody Debris instream restoration are to enhance and restore native fish populations and habitats by improving gravel recruitment, increasing pool depth and complexity, building Large Woody Debris structures that will provide overhang for juveniles, nutrient cycling, improved species migration patterns and cooler temperatures.
- The CWA engages in ongoing educational and outreach events with the local schools through the Native Species Center at Powers High School and the "Go Native!" program at Bandon High School, where the students propagate native shrubs and trees for our instream, wetland and riparian projects. The students will take part in planting field days on Yankee Run Creek after project completion for site rehabilitation.

Partners:

- Coquille Watershed Association Technical Advisory Committee and Executive Council
- BLM Coos Bay
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
- Plum Creek Timber
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- The Campbell Group (Menasha Forest Products)
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Measures:

- Site evaluations on structure stability (log jams intact and recruiting woody debris) and resulting desired conditions (increased complex pools, riffle habitat, and habitat) will be monitored for 3 years.

Funding Source(s):

- National Fish Habitat Action Plan

Project cost: \$12,000.00

Start Date: 07/01/2014 **Completion Date:** 10/30/2015

Project Contact:

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