

Project Sponsor: **Kittitas Conservation Trust**

Grant Amount: \$225,210

Year: 2017

Kittitas Conservation Trust will use this salmon habitat restoration grant to improve instream morphology and aquatic habitat conditions in a salmon bearing stream system so as to grow and restore stocks of native anadromous and resident fishes. The project site is situated in the Upper Yakima River at river mile 192-193, located 7 miles upstream from the confluence with the Cle Elum River in northern Kittitas County. Two side channels will be constructed to provide 0.50 miles of off-channel rearing habitat for spring Chinook and coho salmon, steelhead and rainbow trout, and 62 log structures will be placed in the side channels to create 60 instream pools to expand and enhance juvenile salmonid foraging and rearing opportunities. The primary limiting factor for increasing anadromous fish production in the project reach is a lack of rearing habitat for young fish and refuge from high-velocity flows. This project will restore and optimize edge habitat availability facilitating salmonid productivity in the flow regulated Upper Yakima River. Riparian habitat will be enhanced by installing over 12,000 plants along 0.81 stream-miles, treating 2.6 acres, and creating a 75-foot vegetated shoreline buffer.