

Reach 5 Fish Supplementation and Habitat Improvements



Wood and Gravel Placement in Reach 5

- ❑ To improve rearing and spawning habitat in Reach 5, ENW is proposing to place small woody debris and gravel in the upper portion of the reach.
- ❑ Small wood that collects at the intake will be moved manually by two people and placed in the upper section of Reach 5.

Wood and Gravel Placement in Reach 5

- ❑ A gravel station will be established in an accessible portion of Reach 5 near the drop structure.
- ❑ ENW will bring in appropriately sized gravel (1.5-3.0 in.) on a four wheeler with a dump bed and place it in an agreed-upon location.

Reach 5 Fish Supplementation

- ❑ The population of rainbow trout in Packwood Lake is currently estimated at 30,000 fish.
- ❑ A small resident population of rainbow trout appear to reside in Reach 5 due to an overall lack of spawning and rearing habitat.
- ❑ Many fish have the opportunity to seek higher quality habitat in one of the naturally isolated reaches further down lower Lake Creek.

Reach 5 Supplementation

- ❑ ENW proposes to relocate 30 rainbow trout from Packwood Lake into Reach 5 of lower Lake Creek.
- ❑ Relocation to occur 3 out of every 6 years as a result of the required 285 cfs spill events.
- ❑ ENW will count the number of fish present in the stilling basin immediately below the drop structure within 2 weeks or as soon as access and visibility allow.

Reach 5 Supplementation

- ❑ If after six years monitoring it is determined that 30 fish per overtopping event are not being relocated, a trap will be established near the intake above the drop structure.
- ❑ An agreed-upon number of fish would be captured 3 out of every 6 years in the trap to supplement the overtopping events and placed below the drop structure.
- ❑ The trap would be put in place in May and June to coincide with spawn migration timing.

In Conclusion

- ❑ The wood and gravel placement and rainbow trout supplementation is being done in coordination with the required 285 cfs spill flows. These spills will be the means to distribute the fish, gravel and wood throughout Reach 5.
- ❑ ENW is taking these steps with the goal to improve habitat quality in Reach 5 and increase the resident rainbow trout population.
- ❑ To monitor the effectiveness of these measures, ENW will survey Reach 5 (upper-most 1464 ft.) once every six years to evaluate the rainbow trout population