

Cleaning Up the Willamette - Temperature

Of the 32 native species of fish in the Willamette Basin, 6 are listed as threatened or endangered - elevated stream temperatures are a factor in their decline. The goal of the temperature Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is to reduce human sources of heating, working with a variety of partners under a regulatory and non-regulatory framework.

Point Source permits will be updated to protect water quality and minimize heating of the river.

Work with state and federal agencies, cities, counties, and other partners to protect and restore cold water refuge for fish. Cold water refuge is especially important in the lower Willamette River because it is a designated migration corridor.

Yamhill and Molalla-Pudding subbasin water quality studies will be completed in 2007.

Celebrate Success – Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation, Metro, ODFW, and PGE worked together to restore habitat and side channels in the Clackamas River. This is one of many projects underway throughout the basin.

Work with Oregon Department of Agriculture to implement SB1010 plans. SB 1010 plans are plans to minimize agriculture related impacts on water quality.

Work with the Army Corps of Engineers, Portland General Electric, and others to mitigate dam impacts on salmon and water temperature.

Encourage the restoration of channel complexity. Channel complexity can offer benefits to salmon by creating cooler localized waters.

Celebrate Success – Installation of a selective withdrawal tower at Cougar Dam will benefit Salmon by mitigating dam related temperature impacts.

Work with the Oregon Department of Forestry to evaluate the effectiveness of Forest Practices Act and to make modifications, if necessary. Forest Practices Act requires private logging operations to take steps to minimize impacts on water quality.

