



# Early Action Reach Project Update

## Chehalis Basin Board Meeting

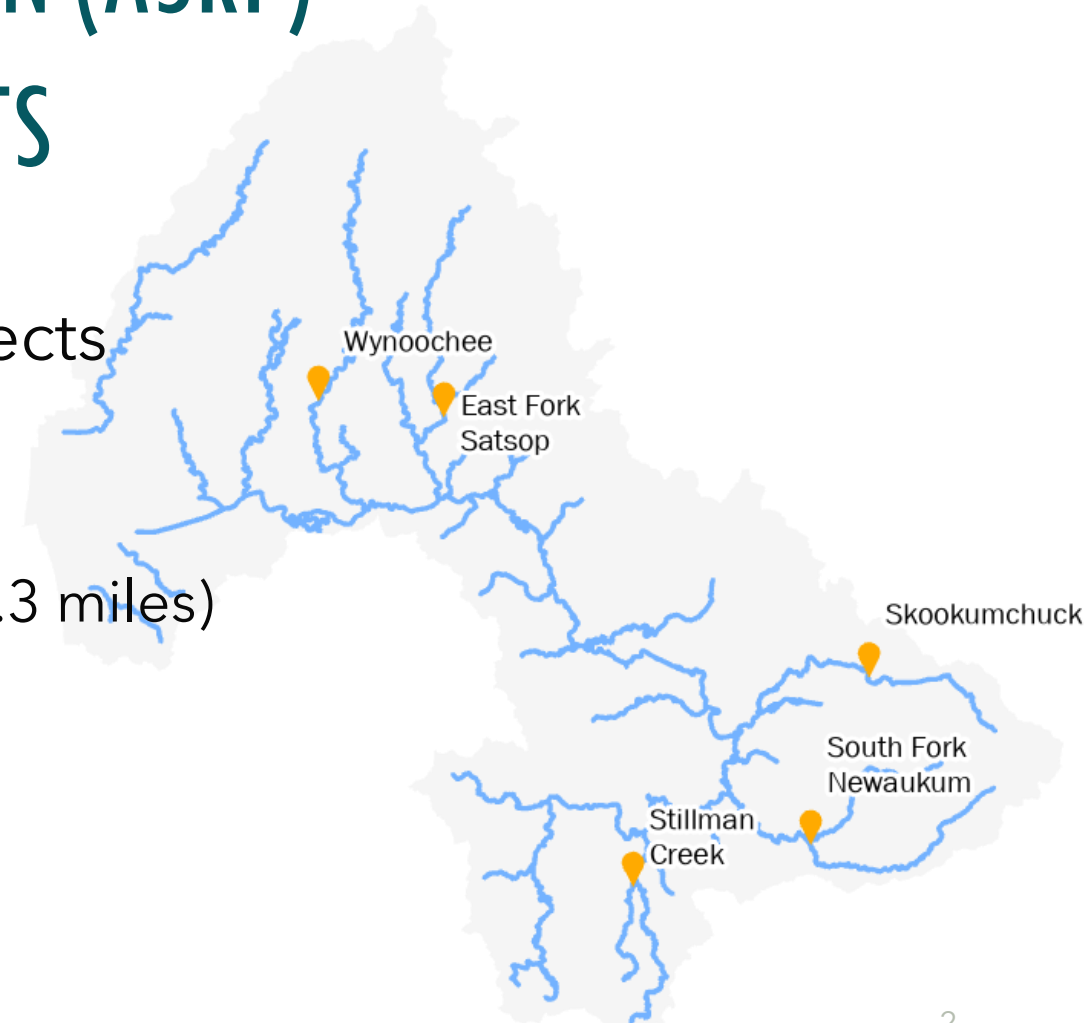
December 1, 2022



# AQUATIC SPECIES RESTORATION PLAN (ASRP)

## EARLY ACTION REACH (EAR) PROJECTS

- 5 reach-scale river restoration pilot projects
  - Skookumchuck River (1.1 miles)
  - ~~SF Newaukum River~~
  - Stillman Creek, South Fork Chehalis River (3.3 miles)
  - Wynoochee River (1.9 miles)
  - EF Satsop River (3.2 miles)



Map of the Chehalis River Basin

# EAR PROJECT GOALS

- **Opportunities to learn from early implementation to:**
  - Adapt strategies based on feasibility
  - Inform future ASRP restoration in the basin

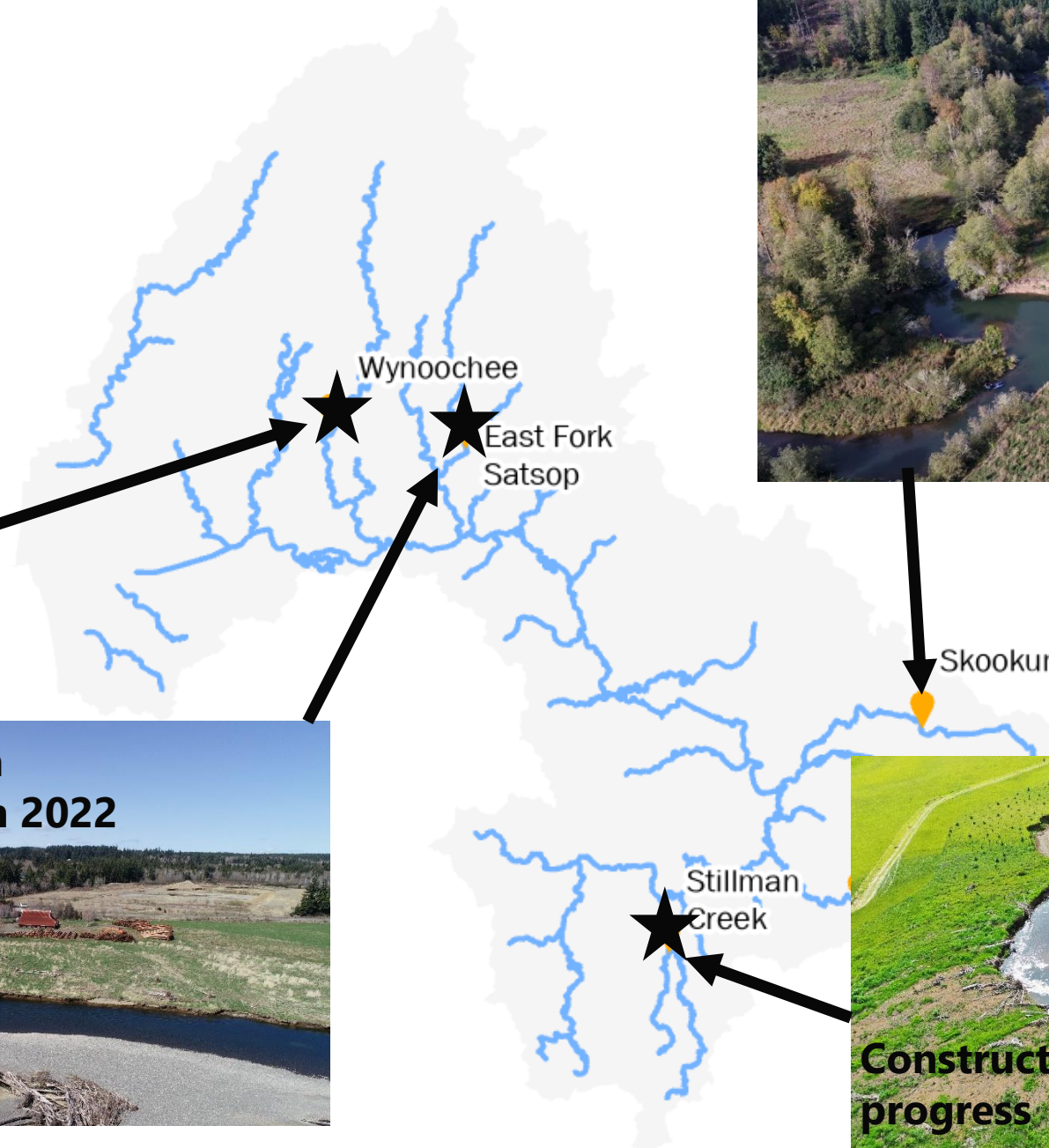
**Holding a Lessons Learned Workshop on February 15, 2023 to share out partner experiences on the EAR projects and generate discussion with project partners focusing on continual improvement for project implementation. More information to come.**

# EAR PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Protect existing high-quality habitats
- Remove impediment to and promote natural processes
- Restore in-channel structure and key habitats for aquatic species, such as deep pools and side channels
- Restore riparian habitats and processes
- Promote resilience to climate change from riparian restoration and floodplain connectivity
- Better understand landowner willingness



# EAR PROJECT AREAS



# EAR ACQUISITIONS SUMMARY

Reach/River	# of Landowners Contacted	Positive Responses for Acquisition	Type of Acquisition	Approx. Acreage	Total Acquisition Cost
Stillman Creek	5	1			
			Fee #1	37.5	\$398,372
Newaukum River	4	0			
					\$0
Skookumchuck River	2	2			
			CE #1	74.0	\$118,107
			Fee #1	27.3	\$316,241
					<b>\$434,348</b>
East Fork Satsop River	7	3			
			Fee #1	39.5	\$383,078
			Fee #2	47.0	\$158,384
			Fee #2	23.5	\$104,469
					<b>\$645,930</b>
Wynoochee River	3	1			
			Fee #1	26.0	\$150,570
				<b>274.8</b>	<b>\$1,629,220</b>





# EAST FORK SATSOP RIVER





# EAST FORK SATSOP RIVER



An aerial photograph of a river system. The river flows from the upper right towards the lower left, then curves back towards the right. It is surrounded by dense forests with some autumn-colored trees. In the foreground, there are large green fields. The text is overlaid on the upper right portion of the image.

## EF SATSOP REACH-SCALE HIGHLIGHTS:

**53 logjams** constructed

**3.2 miles** of river habitat restored

**109 acres** of riparian and floodplain  
habitat protected

**107 acres** of invasive plants treated

**62 acres** of native plantings installed

**7** landowner partnerships

Before construction



After construction







After construction





Before construction



An aerial photograph of a river winding through a rural landscape. The river is filled with a large, tangled mass of logs and branches, creating a significant obstruction. Large, light-colored sandbars are visible in the middle of the river, partially submerged. The surrounding area includes green fields, some with patches of snow, and dense forests of bare trees. In the background, a small cluster of buildings is visible. The text "After construction" is overlaid in white on the right side of the image.

After construction





Before construction





After construction



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# WYNOOCHEE RIVER





An aerial photograph of a river bend. The river flows from the top left towards the bottom right. A large, light-colored gravel bar is situated on the left side of the river bend. The surrounding landscape consists of green fields and some trees. In the background, there are some buildings and a fence line. The text "Before construction" is overlaid in the top right corner.

Before construction

## WYNOOCHEE REACH-SCALE HIGHLIGHTS:

- 65 logjams** constructed
- 1.25 miles** of river habitat restored
- 26 acres** of riparian and floodplain habitat protected
- 116 acres** of invasive plants treated
- 14 acres** of native plantings installed
- 4** landowner partnerships
- 1** home relocated





After construction



An aerial photograph of a river winding through a dense forest. A large, light-colored gravel bar is prominent in the lower-left and center of the frame, partially obstructing the river's flow. Several large, fallen tree trunks (driftwood) are scattered across the gravel bar and in the water. The surrounding forest is lush with green trees, some showing early autumn colors. The river flows from the upper left towards the lower right, with a small bend visible in the upper right. The overall scene depicts a natural, undisturbed river environment.

Before construction



After construction





An aerial photograph of a river section. A large, light-brown sandbar dominates the center-right of the frame, partially blocking the river's flow. The river water is a deep blue-grey. The surrounding landscape is lush green with various trees and shrubs. In the upper left, a road and some buildings are visible. The overall scene is a natural, somewhat wild river environment.

## STILLMAN CREEK REACH-SCALE HIGHLIGHTS:

# STILLMAN CREEK

- 87 logjams** constructed (2022)
- 2 miles** of river habitat restored
- 38 acres** of riparian and floodplain habitat protected
- 40 acres** of invasive plants treated (2022)
- 45 acres** of native plantings installed (2022)
- 5** landowner partnerships

Before construction





During construction



During construction





During construction







During construction





After construction





After construction



# Habitat Restoration Showcased in Community Tour of Stillman Creek



Celina Abercrombie, Chehalis Basin Strategy manager for the Department of Fish and Wildlife, presents on habitat work done on Stillman Creek and its similarities to projects on the Skookumchuck and Satsop rivers during a community tour Saturday morning in Boistfort.

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## WHAT'S NEXT

- **Stillman Creek (a tributary to the South Fork Chehalis River)**
  - Complete construction (2023)
- **Community engagement and learning opportunities**
  - Offerings winter and spring (2023)
  - Lessons learned workshop (February 2023)





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# QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION