

# Dutch Flat Dam: Steelhead Habitat Restoration in the Potlatch River Watershed

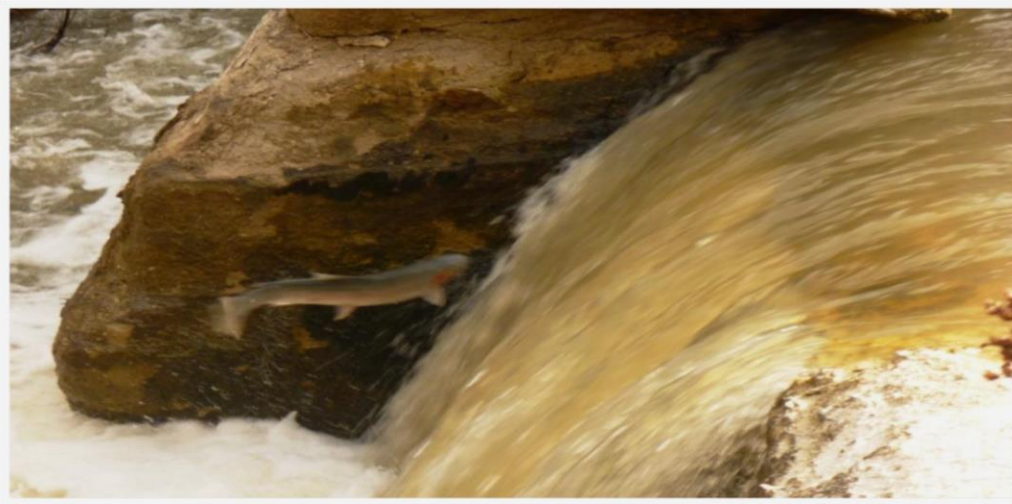


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**Project Supporters**  
City of Troy  
Bonneville Power Administration  
Idaho Office of Species Conservation/Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality/ EPA Clean Water Act Funding

Dutch Flat Dam was built in 1919 to create a municipal reservoir, by 1925 it had filled with sediment and was abandoned by the city of Troy. Steelhead were observed trying to jump the dam in 2011. By removing the dam wild steelhead gained improved access to approximately seven miles of spawning and rearing habitat in the West Fork of Little Bear Creek and within the larger Potlatch River drainage. In 2015, two radio tagged steelhead were recorded above the old dam site and five redds were observed by Idaho Department of Fish and Game staff.

**Construction** (Engineering done by K35 Resources): Demolition was done in 2013 to remove the dam and the 25,000 cubic yards of accumulated sediment. An engineered channel was excavated, reconnecting the grades upstream and downstream of the existing dam site.



**Revegetation:** Mature alders from the site were salvaged and replanted along the stream. 5,175 square feet of wetland herbaceous sod mats were placed on the banks of the new channel. Ten acres were re-vegetated with native seed and approximately 7,500 plants were planted from 2013 through 2016.

**Monitoring:** Flow monitoring data is being collected at a monitoring station downstream of the project. Photo points are being used to monitor development of the new channel along with vegetation and structure changes. Vegetation surveys will monitor survival and changes in the meadow and riparian plant communities.



May 2013



June 2018



June 2013



April 2017