



## PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

# Swede Creek Fish Passage Improvement

This project worked with a private landowner to complete a fish passage barrier removal project on Swede Creek; a tributary to the Samish River north of Sedro-Woolley. Using Family Forest Fish Passage Program funds, four undersized culverts that were creating a barrier to fish passage for coho salmon, steelhead trout, and sea-run cutthroat trout were removed. The culverts were replaced with a 40-foot steel bridge creating instant passage for salmon upstream. This project built upon a previous downstream fish barrier removal project completed two years prior. This latest project completed in 2021 opened fish access to an additional 0.7 miles

of high-quality spawning and rearing habitat in Swede Creek including a 6-acre pond, and over 80-acres of wetland habitat. After project completion, volunteers documented over 100 coho salmon spawning in Swede Creek for the first time in many years. Salmon are returning thanks to working with

private landowners to remove these fish passage barriers along on Swede Creek at two locations.

While the first project was completed in 2019, it was not until this second project was completed that salmon have really found their way back to Swede Creek.



BEFORE



AFTER



### BENEFITS

- Spawning and rearing habitat for coho salmon, steelhead trout, and sea-run cutthroat trout

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS

**0.7** miles of high-quality spawning and rearing habitat including a **6-acre** pond, and over **80-acres** of wetland habitat.

### PARTNERS

- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Department of Natural Resources

### FUNDERS

#### Family Forest Fish Passage Program

Are you interested in having fish passage restored on your land? Inquire with us to find out if your site qualifies for funding: [sfeg@skagitfisheries.org](mailto:sfeg@skagitfisheries.org)



Scan the QR code to view a video about the fish passage project



Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group is a 501(c)3 nonprofit, nongovernmental organization dedicated to involving our community in restoring salmon populations for future generations. The work done by Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and our volunteers and partners benefits not only salmon but our entire community that values clean water, abundant fish and wildlife, enjoyable recreation opportunities, and a beautiful Skagit Valley. Restoring salmon is not a small task, but with your help we envision a future of healthy stream teeming with salmon for our community to enjoy.



**SKAGIT FISHERIES  
ENHANCEMENT  
GROUP**



Learn about donating and volunteering at [www.SkagitFisheries.org](http://www.SkagitFisheries.org)