# SKOOKUM EDFRO PHASE 3 Community Workshop #1



# PROJECT GOALS

- Engage stakeholders in developing a design concept that restores salmon habitat to return runs to harvestable levels.
  - Key concerns for habitat improvement include high temperature, low habitat diversity, and habitat features such as deep pools with woody cover.
  - Avoid any increase to flood and erosion risk to properties and infrastructure in the project reach.



#### South Fork Nooksack River at River Mile 13.15 looking downstream



Flooding on the Nooksack River

PHOTO CREDIT: WSDOT, JANUARY 8, 2009

A66619F

ADULT CHINOOK MORTALITY EVENT IN SEPTEMBER 2021

DOWNSTREAM OF SKOOKUM HATCHERY

BOATS LEVEL



ADJACENT TO PFEIFFER-HOYT PROPERTY

ACROSS FROM PFEIFFER-HOYT PROPERTY WHATCOM LAND TRUST PROPERTY

# PROJECT HISTORY

- 2005 WRIA I Salmon Recovery Plan
  - Identified Jones Ck to Skookum Ck as one of the highest priority areas
- 2007 Upper South Fork Habitat Assessment identified "Saxon Road Project"
  - Increase large wood loading to increase diversity
  - Remove bank armoring
  - Road set-back
- 2013-2015 Skookum Edfro design grant (13-1279P)
  - Phase 3 considered most impaired reach
  - Focused on implementation of Phase I and Phase 2 reaches first
- 2016-17 Skookum Edfro Phase I implemented
- 2018 Skookum Edfro Phase 2 implemented

## 2022 UPDATES

- 2021 SRFB Grant Awarded
  - Feasibility Study
  - Conceptual Design
  - Stakeholder Outreach (additional funds from Whatcom PUD)
- 2021 NWIFC Funding for Preliminary Design

# WORK TO DATE

Developed strategies with project team and stakeholders

Set up project webpage:

https://www.lummi-nsn.gov/s/skookum

Mailed out project fact sheet to stakeholders

Presented at Acme Van Zandt Subzone – asked for suggestions from community/stakeholders

## NEXT STEPS

I:I meetings with stakeholders

Present alternatives with engineering and outreach team at a community workshop

Early meetings with FEMA, stakeholders and WCPW for CLOMR

Select preferred alternative with input and feedback from stakeholders

# CLOMR/LOMR PROCESS

- Skookum Edfro Phase 3 is in the FEMA floodway, meaning no-rise in the 100-year floodplain.
- FEMA has rescinded the Policy on Fish Enhancement Structures in the Floodway (FEMA Region 10 2020).
  - FEMA is now regulating ELJ projects in the floodway the same as development, regardless of habitat benefits.
  - A conditional letter of map revision (CLOMR) and letter of map revision (LOMR) following construction is an alternative to allow rise in the floodway from our ELJ structures.
- It is beneficial to this project's habitat objective success to create some rise in the floodway, thus necessitating the CLOMR/LOMR process.
- The CLOMR process will require landowner and community buy-in and can take up to 18 months for authorization.















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Small Log Structures (Small pools)



#### Medium Log Structures (Larger pools)



#### Wood Roughened RipRap (Edge Habitat)

## TIMELINE



# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**Project website:** 

https://www.lummi-nsn.gov/s/skookum