Lower Coquille River Wetland and Stream Enhancement

Project Description:

This project site is located on a well-maintained organic dairy off the Lower Coquille 5th-field watershed and is identified as having high intrinsic potential (HIP) for over-wintering habitat for juvenile Coho Salmon. The Lower Coquille River Wetland & Stream Enhancement project will improve wetland complexity, add sinuosity to approximately 1 stream mile, and open up native fish access to 1 stream mile of desired habitat. Accomplishments of this project as of 2017 include replacing a failing tidegate to a fish-friendly MTR-regulated tidegate, restoring a sinuous channel network, planting 5 acres of culturally and ecologically significant species, and installing 6,000 feet of wildlife-friendly barbed wire fencing.

Grants and In-Kind Funding: $345,240

Project Partners:

- Coquille Watershed Association, Board Members, and Council Volunteers
- Coquille Indian Tribe
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- USFWS
- Private Landowners

Required Permits:

- DSL & USACE removal/fill permits
- County floodplain certification

TIDEGATE COMPARISON

Inadequate tidegate before replacement

Newly replaced fish-friendly tidegate: 6’x60’ Trench Coat culvert with Nehalem Marine Tidegate


Beginning excavation on Thursday, July 27th 2017
Failing 3' Steel Top Hinged Tidegate


3’ CMP culvert removed and beginning to prepare foundation for new 6’ Trench Coat
590D
JOHN DEERE


5900

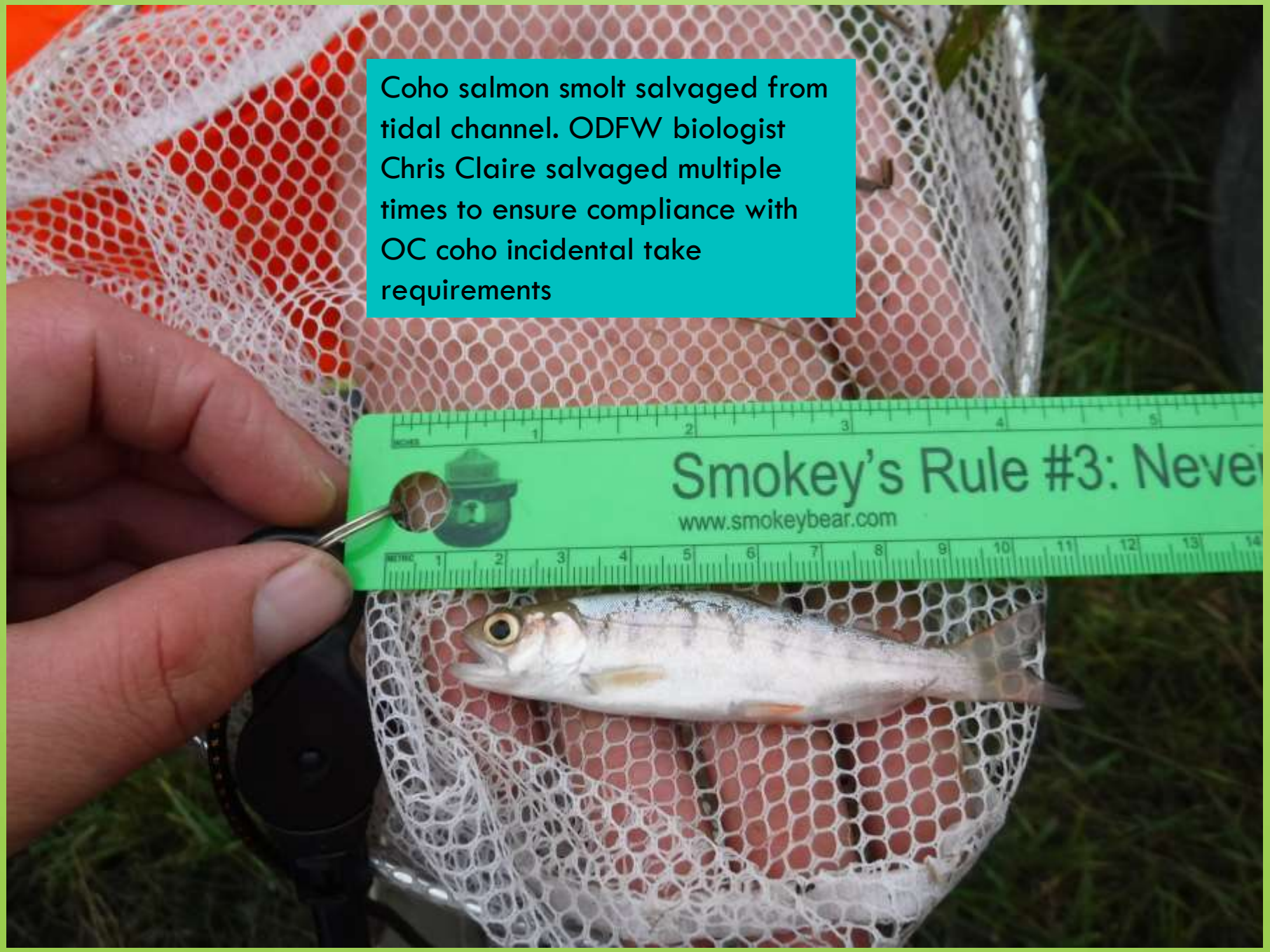

MTR Structure w/ MTR
float yet to be installed


MTR float apparatus

RESTORING TIDAL CHANNEL SINUOSITY

Existing tidal channel after mowing by Wheeler Excavation

After channel construction



Coho salmon smolt salvaged from tidal channel. ODFW biologist Chris Claire salvaged multiple times to ensure compliance with OC coho incidental take requirements


Installing gas powered water pump to de-water tidal channel with archaeologist John Goodwin observing. Project met all SHPO/THPO requirements through its duration.

Excavation day 1


Rough dug
Finished Grade
@ 1 ½-1


6’ finished
ACW


Beginning excavation
of east channel

Preparing and installing a stream crossing on the east tidal channel.
*geotextile fabric
*5” foundation of 3”- rock with a 1” overlay of ¾- for finished grade.
Culverts were embedded to a depth of 1’
*73”x55” Alzd CSPA culvert

Installing select pieces of LWD: logs were driven into streambank to ensure they do not mobilize during tidal exchanges and interfere with MTR and tidegate functionality.

Beginning pond excavation at intersection of east/west and north/south tidal channels

Completed pond excavation with select LWD installed

FENCING AND PLANTING COMPLETED IN THE SPRING 2018

PROJECT PARTNERSHIPS