

## **Restoring Klickitat River Floodplain Connectivity: Collaboration, Management and Coordination**

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Columbia Land Trust has been working with private landowners for over a decade to conserve and manage important habitat and working resource land in the Klickitat River watershed. In 2007 Columbia Land Trust utilized funds from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board to acquire an 18-mile segment of the failing paved haul road that follows the Klickitat River from the mill in Klickitat north to Glenwood to restore floodplain connectivity. Ranked as one of the highest priorities for fish recovery in the Klickitat River watershed, the reach of river between Twin Bridges and Dead Canyon is highly functioning but for one thing: the paved haul road in the floodplain. Isolating off-channel habitat and restricting natural floodplain processes, much of the road is in disrepair with entire sections of road prism washed out or poorly functioning, contributing asphalt and fill material to the river. Though vehicular use is limited by road condition, the corridor continues to see a lot of use by people, including fishing, rafting, hunting, hiking, biking, and resource management. This presentation will outline the land trust's acquisition of the haul road, the restoration planning and implementation process, and plans for future management at this popular and unique resource.