

# *Schools of Salmon*



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[www.bentoncd.org](http://www.bentoncd.org)  
[www.franklincd.org](http://www.franklincd.org)



# Benton Conservation District

Authorized by RCW 89.08 to promote conservation of natural resources



Special Use District

Local Control by Local Board

Wheat Farmer, Cattleman, Orchardist, Ecologist, Land Manager





# Benton Conservation District



non-regulatory, grant-funded organization  
dedicated to the wise stewardship of soil,  
water, air, fish and wildlife

# Benton Conservation District

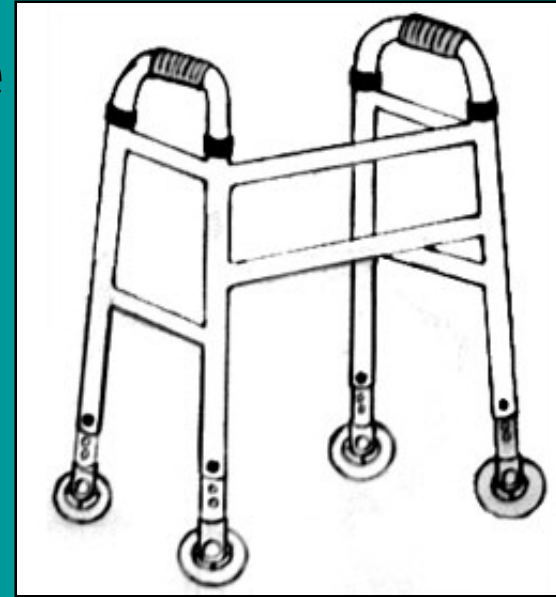


Water stargrass  
(*Heteranthera dubia*)

Lower Yakima River inventory & thermal profile  
Small diversion fish screening and riparian planting



When we trade our waders for walkers, who will take care of Yakima Basin fisheries?



# Where is the future of fisheries?





# Preparing students for the future



- What do we want students to know?
- How do we teach students to think?
- How do we model decision-making?



# Preparing students for the future

WAC 180-50-115 Mandatory areas of study in the common school.

“Subsection (6) Pursuant to RCW 28A.230.020 instruction about **conservation, natural resources, and the environment** shall be provided **at all grade levels** in an interdisciplinary manner through science, the social studies, the humanities, and other appropriate areas with an emphasis on solving the problems of human adaptation to the environment.”



# Environmental Education

- Teaches content & process
- Engages students K-12
- Develops critical thinking
- Improves test scores
- Provides career education
- Meets curriculum goals

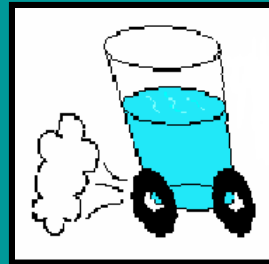




# Benton Conservation District

Regional programs with multiple CDs

Free services for schools



Water on Wheels  
Wheat Week

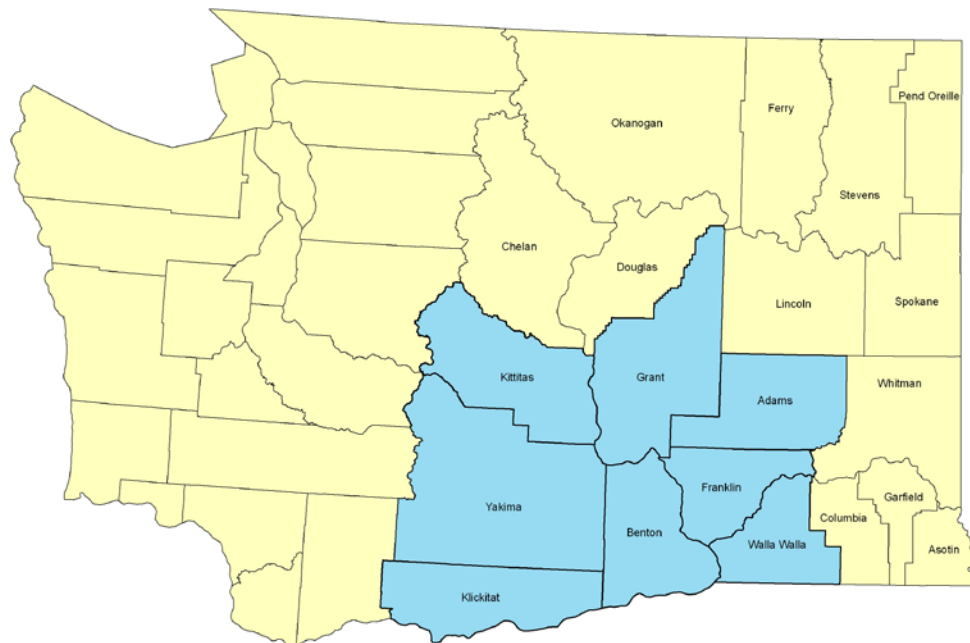


Salmon in the Classroom

# Water on Wheels



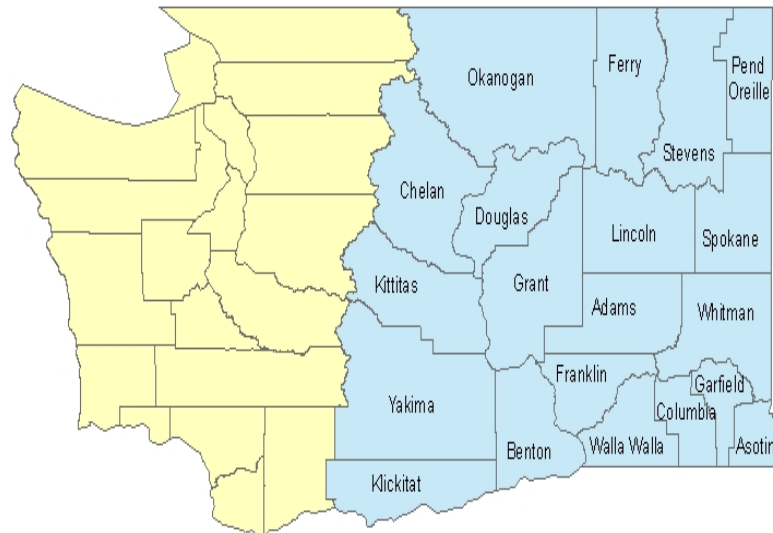
K-12 hands-on science program  
educating students about water, soil  
and energy conservation



# *Wheat Week*



Grades 4 – 7 hands-on science program  
educating students about wheat, water,  
soil, salmon, dams, energy and systems





# *Wheat Week* Lessons

- Water in our World
- Amazing Soils
- Wheatshed/Watershed
- Wheat Here, Wheat There
- Wheat We Eat



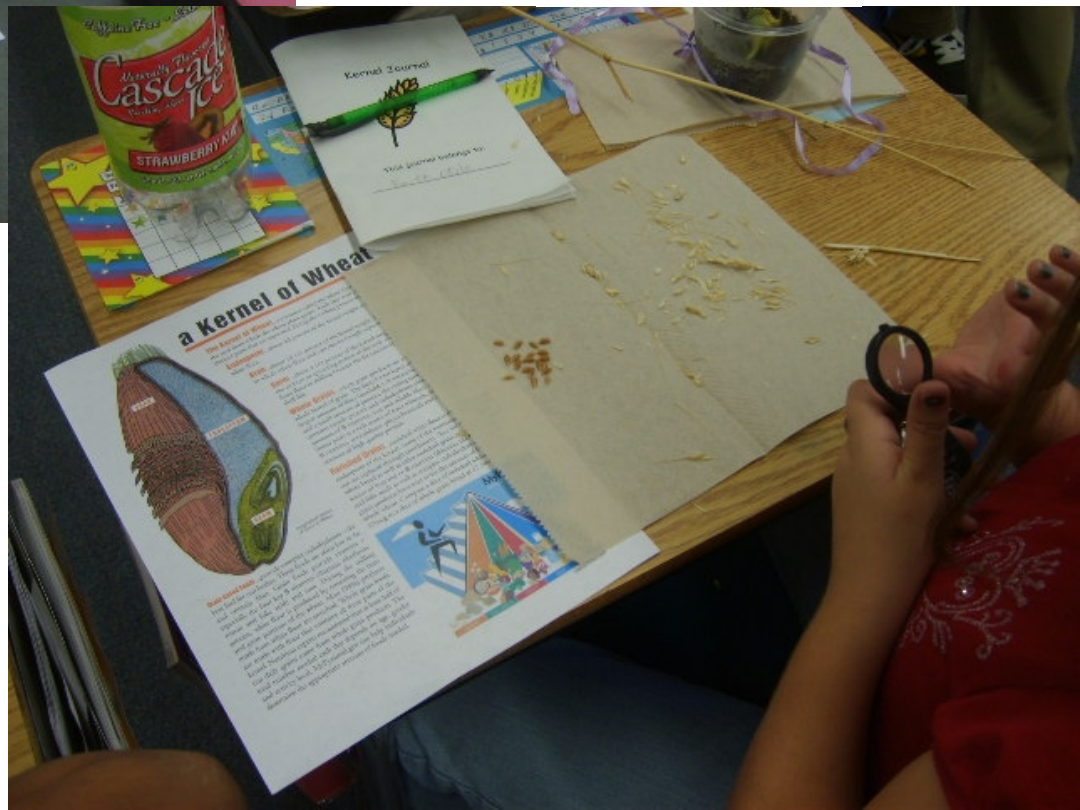


# Water in our World

## Wheat Terrariums







Kernel Journals  
(science notebooks)

# Hydro Pop-up Model Of a Dam

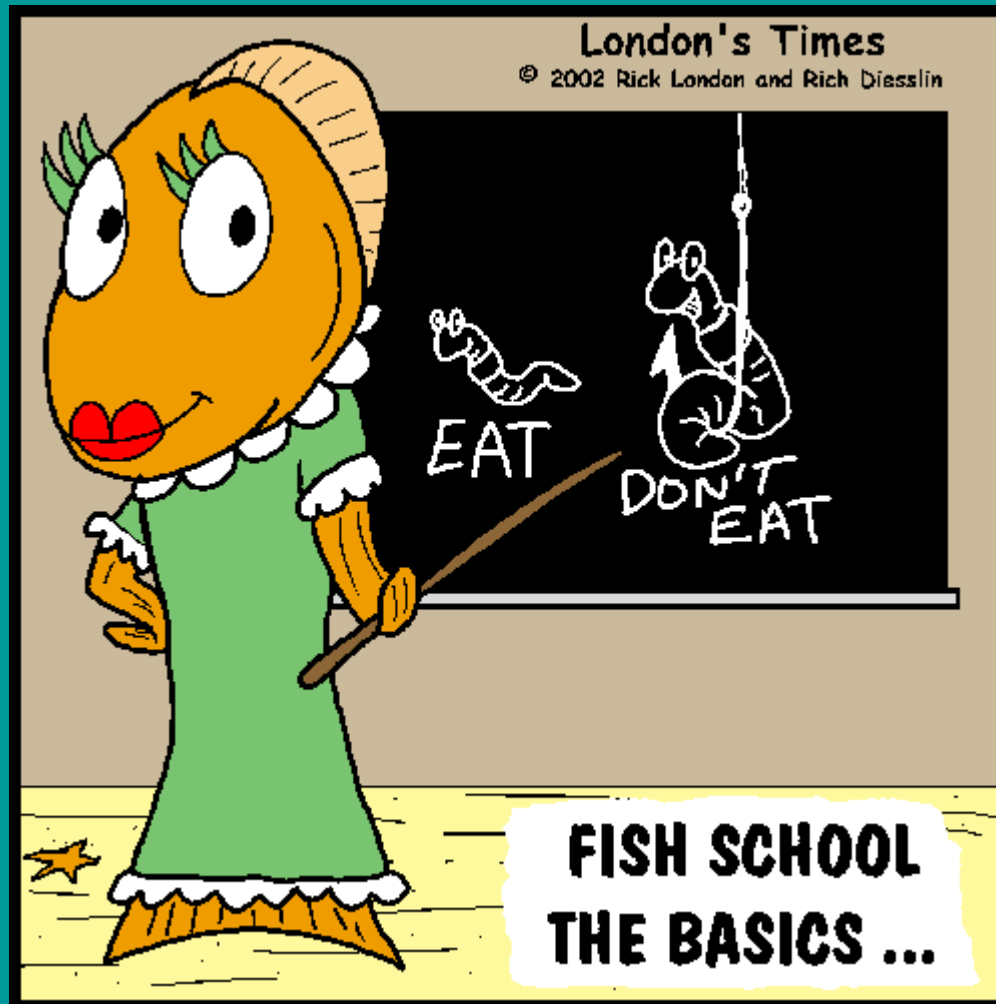


Wheatshed/Watershed





# Salmon in the Classroom



# Salmon in the Classroom



Permitted by WDFW



Benton CD Regional Facilitator



# BCD's *Salmon in the Classroom*



Students hatch eggs at school.

Students learn about salmon.

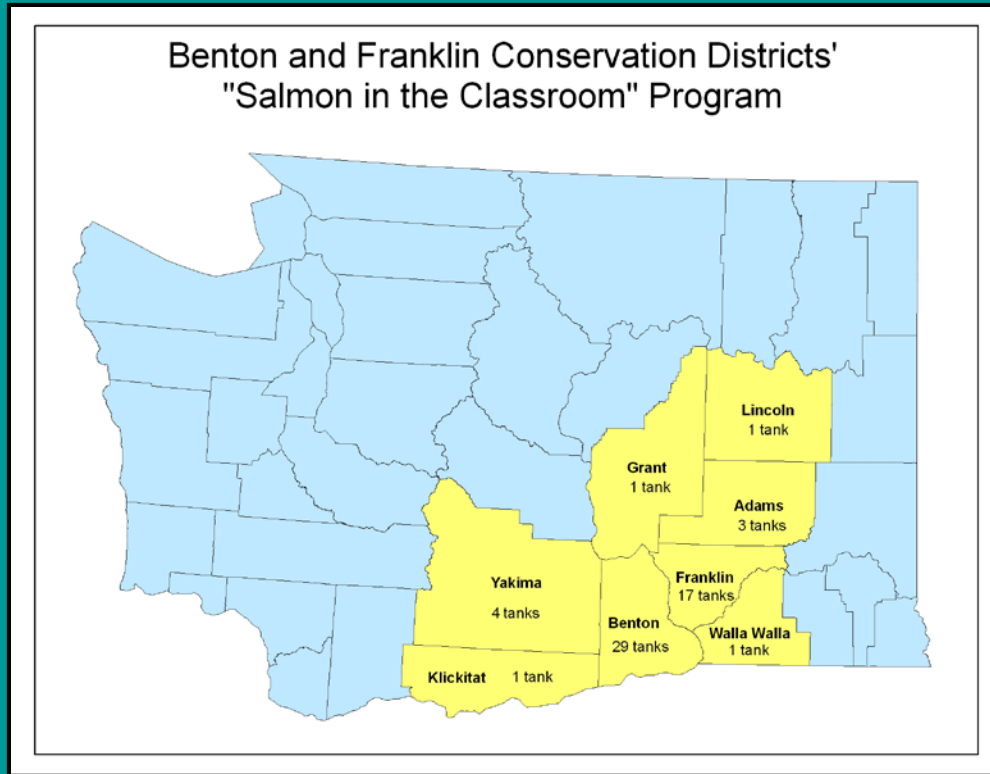
Students rear fish.

Students release fish.





# BCD's *Salmon in the Classroom*







# BCD's *Salmon in the Classroom*



 **Salmon in the Classroom** 

Sponsored by:

  
Benton Conservation District  
415 Wine Country Road, Prosser  
(509) 786-1923 x3

Funded and supported by:




**Washington State  
Conservation Commission**

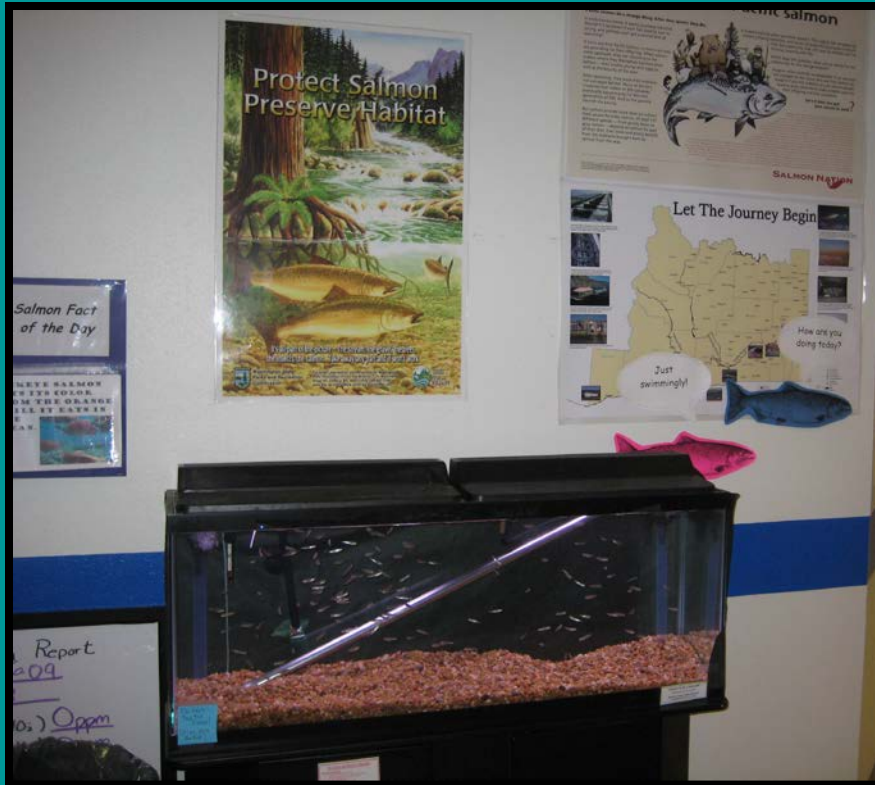



Agriculture supports science-based salmon recovery efforts.





# BCD's *Salmon in the Classroom*



## Teacher Training

FISH 101

Project WET, Project WILD, PLT,

WILD about Salmon





# Dissections



Fish structure & organ systems  
Relate BMP to physical structures  
Schools from Bickleton to Lind  
Student contacts ('08-09): 2,757



# BCD's *Salmon in the Classroom*

- Balanced, scientific investigation in local environment
- Challenging for academic students
- Engaging for students needing non-traditional hands-on activities







# *Salmon in the Classroom*

'07-08 School Year

- 4 mini-grants for new tanks
- 8 mini-grants to existing tanks (max \$500 ea)
- \$125,000 from WA Wheat Commission
- \$50,000 from Conservation Commission
- Over 20,000 students & teachers reached

# Fish Release – Prosser Hatchery





# Fish Release – Lyons Ferry





# Salmon Summit



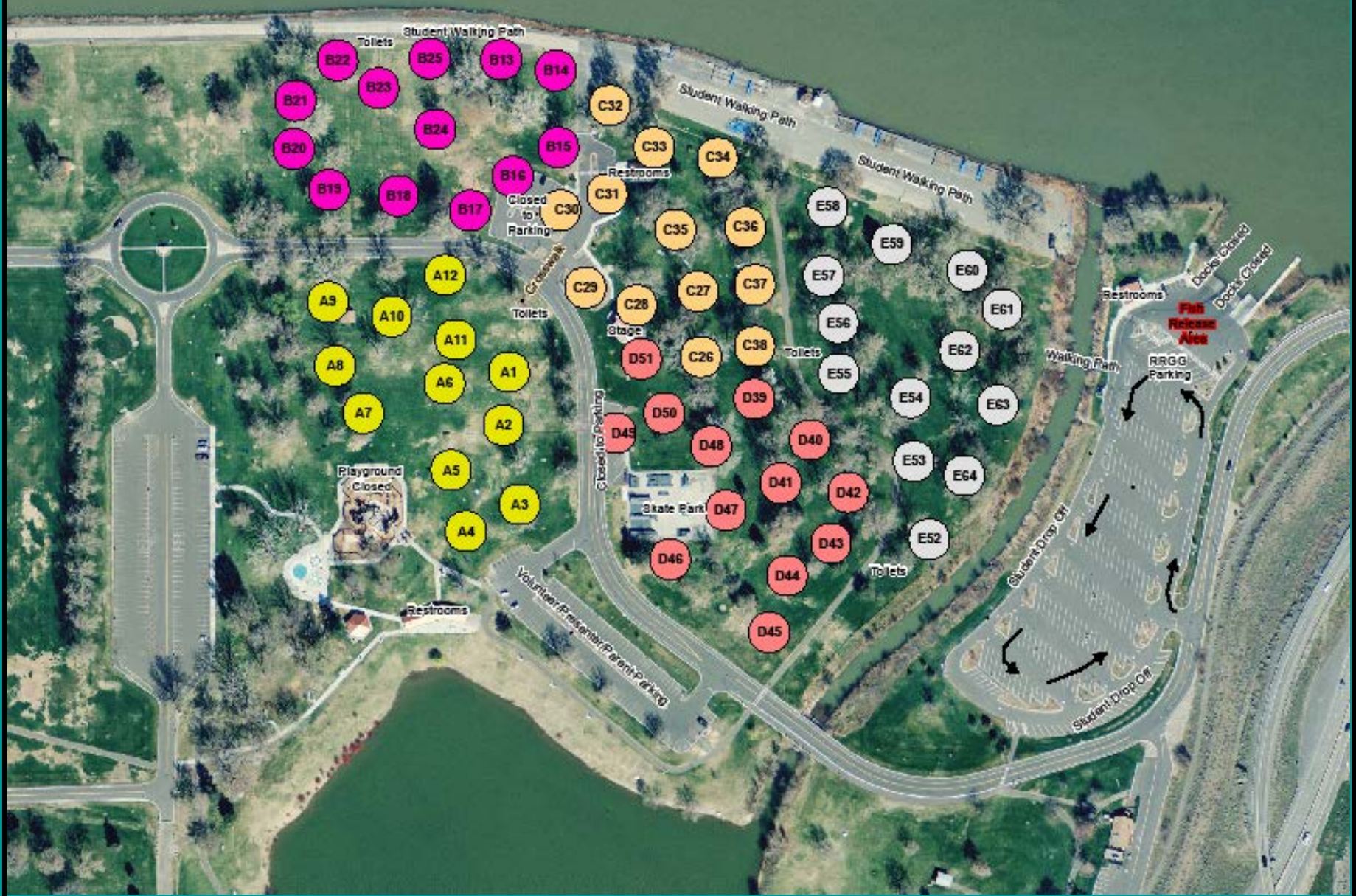
Each student released  
a salmon raised in a  
school tank...

All 3900  
students!





# Salmon Summit





# Salmon Summit





# Salmon Summit



Partners included tribal, federal, state, county and municipal entities, as well as irrigation districts, agricultural commodity groups, non-profit and corporate groups.

You're invited next year!

# Who will be taking care of Yakima Basin fisheries?



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