

## **Coho salmon reintroduction and interactions with rainbow trout in Taneum Creek, Washington**

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Artificial propagation programs designed to re-establish salmon in areas they have become extirpated is one tool used by fishery managers to expand the currently depressed range of salmon throughout the Columbia Basin. However, reintroducing species to their historic range can be problematic for many reasons (e.g. loss of local adaptation; failure to address causal mechanisms), including introduced risks to species that are not the target of enhancement (NTT). It is possible that restoring a natural sympatric species balance can increase ecological efficiency in areas that one or more species have been extirpated. We present preliminary results from the first year of a stream scale coho salmon *Oncorhynchus kisutch* reintroduction program in Taneum Creek, Washington. Our objectives were to determine if we could jumpstart coho salmon natural production using adult coho salmon out-planting in a creek they have been extirpated from for over a century. In addition, we evaluated if the benefit gained from salmon reintroductions outweighed any negative effects to rainbow trout density and growth that may have resulted from our reintroduction effort.