# Using a Major Highway Construction Project to Improve both Transportation and Stream Connectivity:

**The I-90 Case Study** 



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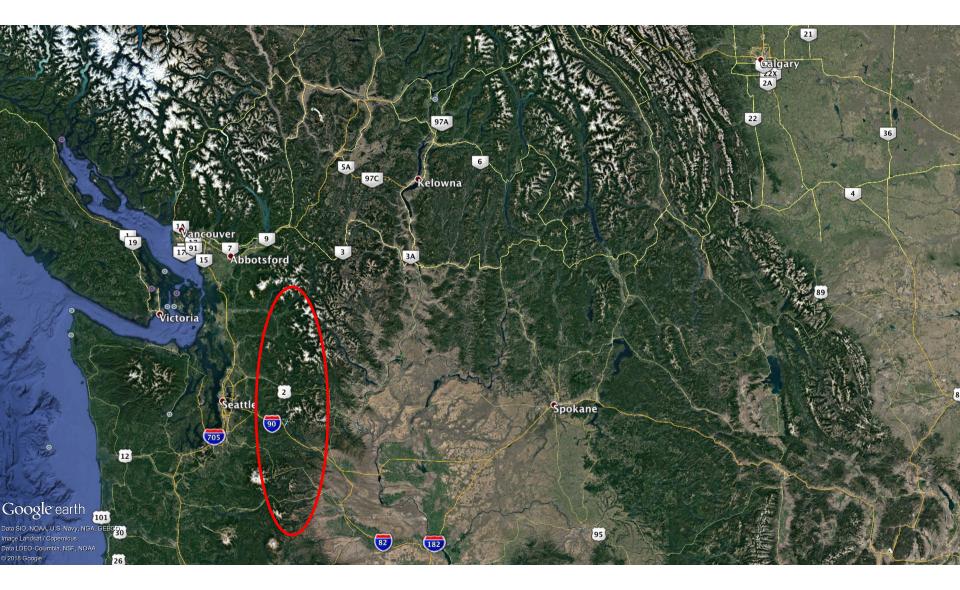


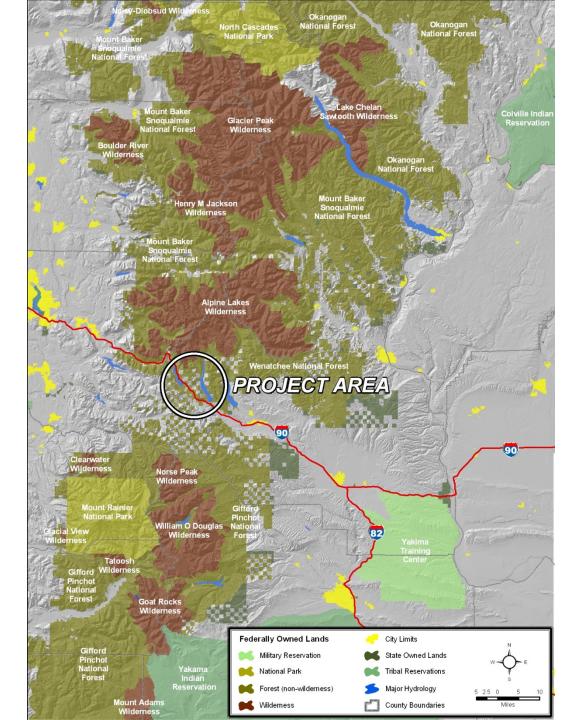














### Interstate 90 at Snoqualmie Pass, Washington



### I-90 Snoqualmie Pass East – Hyak to Easton Project overview

#### Improve the highway



Replace existing deteriorating concrete lanes to provide a smoother, safer ride.

#### **Protect the public**



Reduce traffic congestion by adding a new lane in each direction to accommodate projected traffic volumes for the next 20 years.



Straighten roadway curves to improve sight distance, drivability and safety.



Reduce road closures and create a reliable and safe highway with a new, wider and longer snowshed.



Reduce wildlife and vehicle collisions with wildlife structures over and under the highway.



Stabilize rock slopes to minimize rock fall hazards, reducing lane closures and improve public safety.

### The Snoqualmie Pass Adaptive Management Area Plan (FEIS/ROD 1997)

Standards and Guidelines:

- Aquatic Conservation Strategy
- Connectivity Emphasis Areas—more restrictive standards and guidelines apply to recreational uses and facilities, and the expansion of special uses, such as ski areas

and utility corridors.

## **WSDOT** Coordination with others



## **Connectivity Emphasis Areas**



Bull Trout (Salvelinus confluentus)

### **Focal Species**

Cutthroat Trout (Oncorhynchus clarki lewisi)

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Gold Creek

Coal Creek

Rocky Run Creek

Resort Creek

Price Creek

Noble Creek

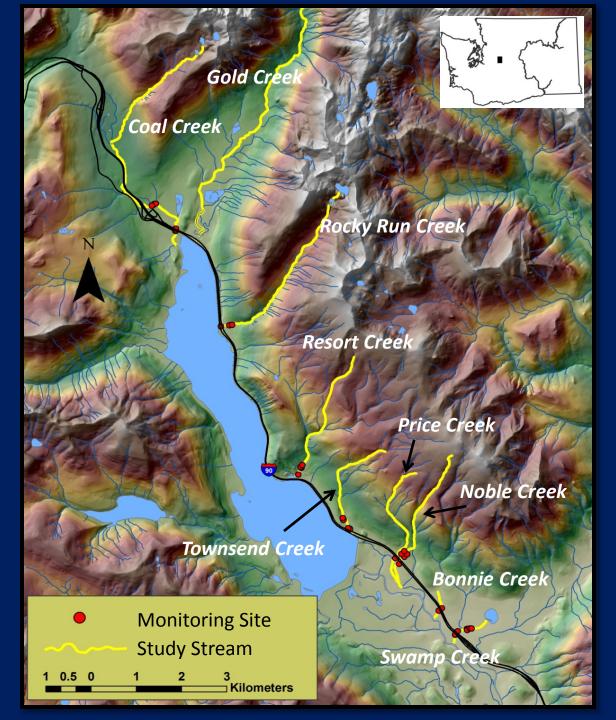
**Townsend Creek** 

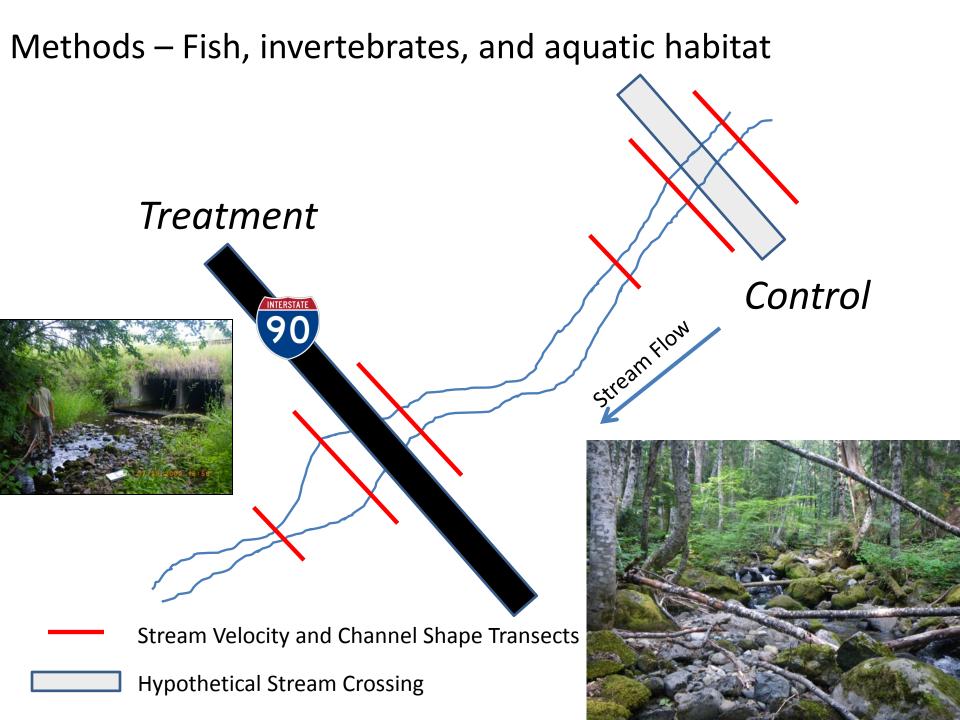
 Monitoring Site
Study Stream
0.5 0 1 2 3 Kilometers Bonnie Creek

Swamp Creek

# Study Streams and Monitoring Sites

**B-A-C-I Study Design** 





# Methods – Fish Population Data

- One pass electrofishing surveys for most streams
- 50 100 m transects in each study reach
- PIT-tag target species in all streams (except Gold Creek)
- Snorkel surveys in Gold Creek
- Surber sampler for benthic invertebrates

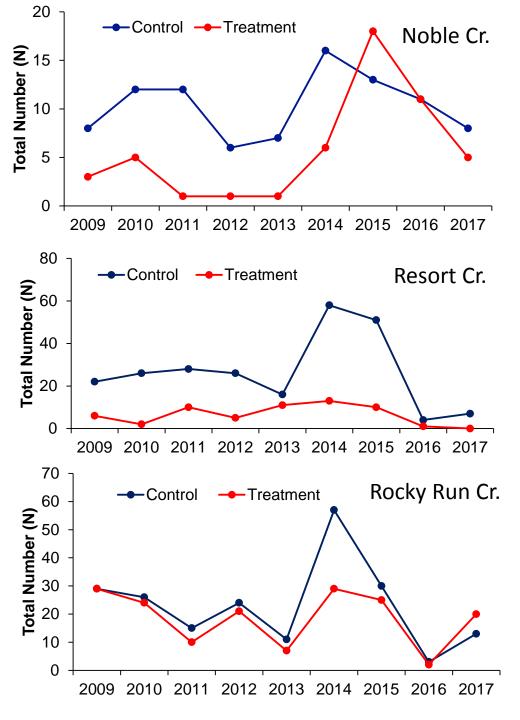














#### Cutthroat Trout (Oncorhynchus clarki)



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Sec. 27

After

# Before

### Gold Creek mouth at Lake Keechelus

### Gold Creek mouth at Lake Keechelus

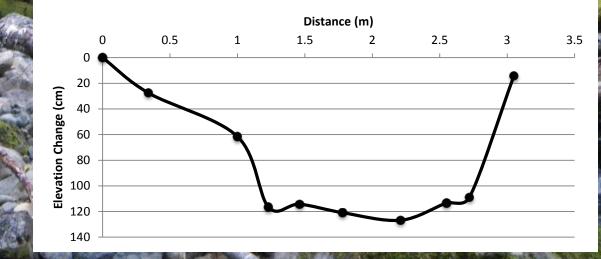
#### Gold Creek mouth at Lake Keechelus

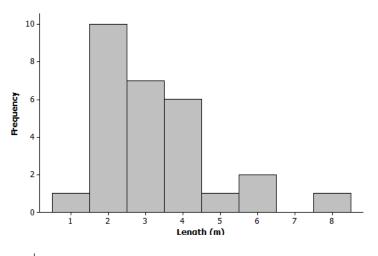
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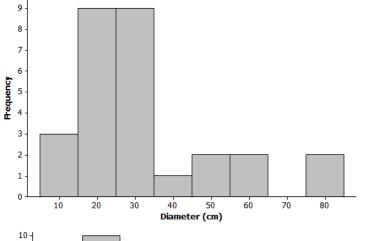
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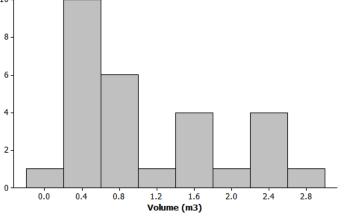






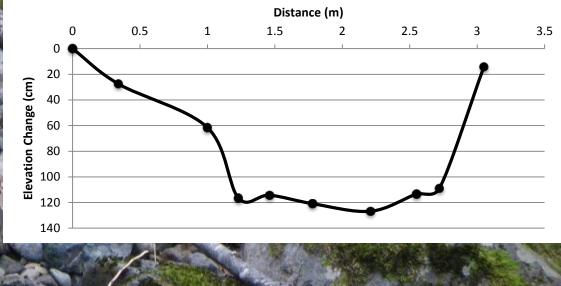


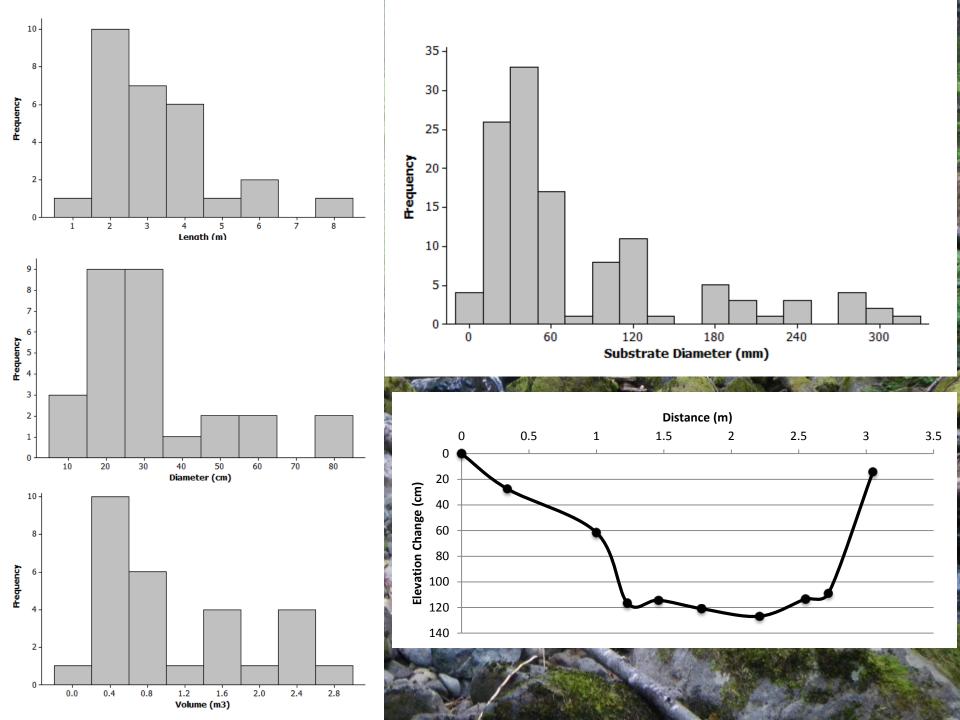




Frequency









## Rocky Run Creek

- culverts replaced with bridges
- Stream channel reconstruction
- Passage barrier removal





## Rocky Run Creek

- culverts replaced with bridges
- Stream channel reconstruction
- Passage barrier removal

Gold Creek





# Wolfe Creek Culvert Replacement







### Resort Creek Culvert

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Google earth

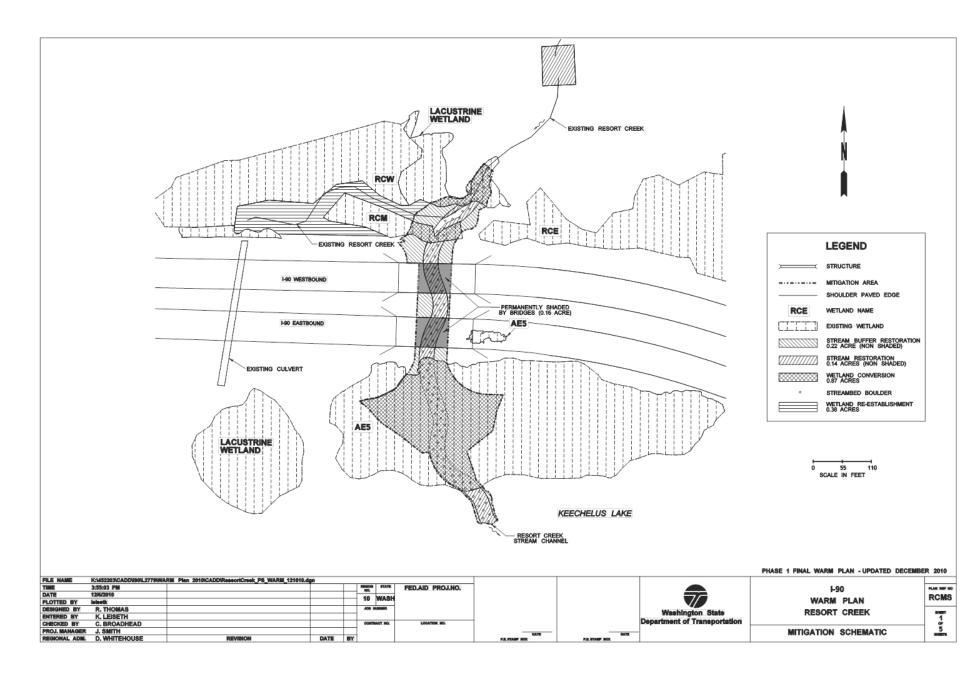
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### Resort Creek Culvert

251 m

Google earth

P-COLOR









## Townsend Creek



