WATERSHED REHABILITATION EFFORTS TO RE-ESTABLISH SUMMER STEELHEAD IN OMAK CREEK, OKANOGAN RIVER BASIN, WASHINGTON

River Restoration Northwest
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Resource Problems

- In-stream barriers to anadromous fish
- Declining rangeland, riparian, and vegetative condition
- Excessive runoff and sediment from roads
- Degraded stream corridor and channel condition
- High fecal coliform levels in surface water
- High stream temperature, low dissolved oxygen
Need map here I think
Fish Passage Barrier – RM 0.5

Upstream entrance
2002 - Omak Creek reconfiguration at mill site (~ RM 0.5)
Omak Creek reconfiguration at mill site (~ RM 0.5) - 2003
Omak Creek reconfiguration at mill site (~ RM 0.5) - 2013
Mission Falls
(RM 5.1)
1913
Fish passage – Summary

- 1999 - open channel at Mill Site
- 1999-2013 - removed 15,590 cubic yards within Mission Falls gorge
- 2005, 2009 - installed 5 instream structures at the base of gorge
- ~17 miles of spawning and rearing habitat

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Excessive runoff and sediment from roads
Road decommission
(50+ miles since 2000)
Culvert replacement – 36 since 1998
What’s next for Omak Creek?

- Anticipated increase in spawning and rearing habitat
- Continued increase in quality spawning habitat
- Vegetation management influences stream flow

[CFI Data Trends for Omak/Nespelem District chart]

- Trees/acre


Legend:
- Douglas fir
- Ponderosa Pine
- LP pine
- Eng Spruce
- Western Larch
- Sub Alpine fir
- Grand fir
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