

The Dirt

Cougar Creek Fish Passage Barrier



The existing Cougar Creek crossing of Grande Ronde Road was determined to be a fish passage barrier in 2008 in a Walla Walla Community College Road Crossing Barrier Assessment and was included in a WDFW Inventory Assessment in 2016. The Asotin County Conservation District proposes to remove the barrier by replacing the existing culvert with a three-sided concrete bridge under Grande Ronde Road. Cougar Creek is a Steelhead priority stream.

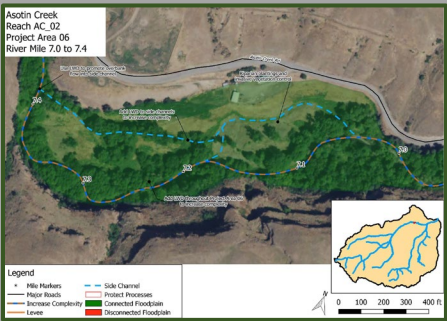
A consultant has been hired by ACCD to begin designing the fish friendly passage. Construction is set to start in 2022.

PA-06



Project Area 06 (PA-06) is a large-scale habitat improvement project on Asotin Creek.

Adding LWD to the channel will increase hydraulic and geomorphic complexity. High density LWD has the potential to increase sediment retention, thereby aggrading the channel to improve access to the floodplain. Structures may also directly target flow to access points to flood channels during regular flow events. Adding LWD to the floodplain and flood channels to increase roughness would promote fine sediment retention and aid riparian recovery.



Spring Chinook, Fall Chinook, Steelhead, and Bull Trout are present in this area during different life stages. Adding LWD to the channel would improve habitat quality for all ESA-listed species present in the reach. LWD interacts with stream flows to provide refuge and feeding lanes for juvenile salmonids. Increased sediment retention and improved sediment sorting will increase suitable spawning areas. Promoting overbank flow and increasing access to flood channels will help expedite riparian recovery by increasing fine sediment deposition on the floodplain.

Fun Facts!

- Washington's potato growers have the highest yields per acre in the United States! We produce almost twice as many pounds per acre as our more famous neighboring state to the east.
- Washington's Whitman County produces more wheat than any other county in the United States and ranks number two nationally in barley production.
- Washington apples are sold in all 50 states and in more than 50 countries.
- Washington is second only to California in the number of agricultural commodities; over 230 produced.



- ACCD Board Mtg. April 8th at 7 pm
- CSP Deadline: March 31st