

FINAL PROJECT REPORT

FOR

Grant Agreement # G1400531

Habitat Status and Trends Monitoring for the Lower Columbia Region

City of Longview

Total Cost of the Project: \$300,000  
Grant Amount: \$300,000

Project Start Date: October 31, 2013  
Project End Date: February 28, 2015

David M. Campbell 2-26-15  
Authorized Signatory Date

Jeff D. Cameron 2/26/15  
&/or Project Manager Date

**ABSTRACT:** In 2012, the City of Longview retained the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB) and initiated a collaborative project to design and implement an integrated Habitat and Water Quality Status and Trends Monitoring project (HSTM) in the Lower Columbia Region. The primary goal of the HSTM project is to complete a monitoring design to meet the status and trends monitoring needs of the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), southwest Washington municipal stormwater permittees, LCFRB, and other partners of the Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership's program for Integrated Status and Trends Monitoring.

This Design Report represents the culmination of the first two stages of a three-stage effort. Stage 1, completed in June 2013, developed the overarching framework for the coordinated strategy. Subsequently, this Design Report has now articulated the final goals and objectives for the integrated monitoring project, and it specifies the target populations, sampling stratification, and metrics used. Stage 3, currently planned for 2015-2016, will develop the final implementation plan, which will include the pragmatic details necessary for actual initiation of monitoring--site selection, measurement protocols, data analyses, data management, and reporting—all of which are essential for successful on-the-ground execution, but none of which affect the design of the program as a whole.

**OVERVIEW DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT:** See Attachment A

**OUTCOME:** See Attachment A

**EVALUATION:** See Attachment A

**FOLLOW-UP:** See Attachment A

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: Final Monitoring Design Report

Attachment B: Draft Partial Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)

Attachment C: Flow Gage Network Summary

Attachment D: Outreach Minutes: Grant Task Team, Leadership Team, and Workshops

Attachment E: GIS layers

**Habitat Status and Trends Monitoring for the Lower Columbia Region**  
**Integrating Storm Water Permit Monitoring &**  
**Habitat Status and Trends Monitoring**  
**Washington Department of Ecology Grant Number G1400531**

October 31, 2013 – February 28, 2015

Final Total Project Cost: \$300,000

**Final Ecology Grant Contribution: \$300,000**

## Project Description

Over the last two years, the southwest Washington stormwater NPDES permittees, the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board, the Pacific NW Aquatics Monitoring Partnership, and other state and federal agencies have worked to develop an integrated Habitat Status and Trends Monitoring program. The goal of this effort is to develop an effective and cost efficient program addressing the monitoring needs for watershed health, salmon recovery, and stormwater impacts by integrating and supplementing existing monitoring programs.



Lower Columbia Monitoring

*"It is the intent of the legislature to encourage the refocusing of existing agency monitoring activities necessary to implement a comprehensive watershed health monitoring program, with a focus on salmon recovery. The program should:*

- *Be based on a framework of greater coordination of existing monitoring activities;*
- *Require monitoring activities most relevant to adopted local, state, and federal watershed health objectives; and*
- *Facilitate the exchange of monitoring information with agencies and organizations carrying out watershed health, salmon recovery, and water resources management planning and programs."* [RCW 90.82.140]



## Project Accomplishments

Final Monitoring Design  
Preliminary Quality Assurance Project Plan  
Summary of Flow Gauge Network

## Project Partners

Cities of Kelso, Longview, Camas, Washougal, Battle Ground, La Center and Vancouver  
Cowlitz and Clark Counties  
Cowlitz Indian Tribe  
WA Departments of Ecology and Fish and Wildlife  
Washington Governor's Salmon Recovery Office  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
US Fish and Wildlife Service and US Forest Service  
Pacific NW Aquatic Monitoring Partnership  
Oregon Departments of Environment Quality and Fish and Wildlife  
Stormwater Permittees of Multnomah County, Oregon  
Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership

## Water Quality

The plan developed through this project will support implementation of monitoring programs to evaluate and manage water quality and habitat improvement.

## The Next Steps for Continued Success

In the next phase scheduled for 2015-2016, the partners will complete a **comprehensive implementation plan** that will ensure valid and useful sampling. The partners will then recommend possible **data collection methods, data storage options, and data sharing** across programs. **Water quality and habitat indicators and reporting tools** will be identified, and the sample Quality Assurance Project Plan will be completed. And, finally, partners' **roles and responsibilities** will be identified.



## Recipient Contact Information

### City of Longview

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### Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

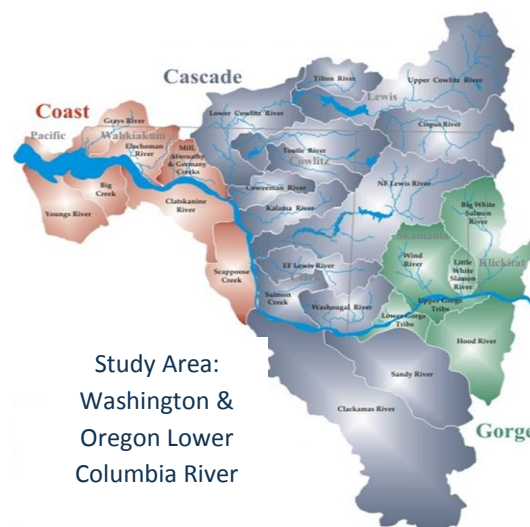
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### Pacific NW Aquatics Monitoring Partnership

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### Stillwater Sciences

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Study Area:  
Washington &  
Oregon Lower  
Columbia River

