# HALLOWA-WHITMAN ADUATICS PROCRAM







#### Partners

- \* Bonneville Power Administration
- \* US Forest Service
- \* Confederated Tribes Umatilla Indian Reservation
- \* Grande Ronde Model Watershed

### Objectives

The projects objectives consisted of the following:

- Provide fish passage for all life stages to 8 miles of stream.
- Increase the hydration of laterally confined meadow bottoms.
- LWD placement locations and types were prioritized to add roughness, increase floodplain interaction and habitat complexity, and promote out-ofchannel flooding.
- Increase riparian deciduous vegetation.
- Provide longer periods of hydrologic production.
- Decreased stream termperatures.

## **Limber Jim Restoration Project**

La Grande Ranger District 2017

The Limber Jim Creek Restoration Project is located on Limber Jim and South Fork Limber Jim Creek, tributaries to the Grande Ronde River. The project is located on approximately 8 miles of Limber Jim Creek and tributaries. Limber Jim Creek is spawning and rearing habitat for Snake River Basin chinook salmon, summer steelhead, bull trout and redband trout.

## Existing Condition Prior to Project Implementation

Historic timber harvest, grazing, roading and mining reduced the future recruitment of large wood and the amount/types of riparian vegetation. These combined impacts also changed pool/riffle ratios, residual pool depth, habitat complexity, and floodplain function.

The stream within the project area, no longer has livestock grazing within the project area. There are existing mining claims with little activity and dispersed recreation camping areas. Three culverts on South Fork, North Fork and mainstem Limber Jim Creeks did not adequately pass fish at all life stages. Sill logs were placed in the late 1980s/early 1990s to improve pool habitat.



Above: Removing trees with a feller buncher. Below: Loading trees with a log loader and off road dump truck.



There are three big game exclosures on mainstem Limber Jim Creek that were nonfunctional. Closed stream bottom roads exist on mainstem Limber Jim and tributaries. Riparian vegetation primarily consists of sedges, rushes, lodgepole pine and alder.

#### 2017 Project Completion

- •8 miles of fish passage opened through diversion barrier removal.
- •Large wood structure complexes constructed on over 3.2 miles (1700 large wood pieces).
- •2 miles of stream planted with seedlings and cuttings (4,500 seedlings, & 10,000 cuttings) and native grass/forb seed.
- Defined access @ 3 dispersed recreation areas.
- •Reconstructed 3 elk exclosures.
- •Recontoured 1 mile of closed road.

#### 2018 Future Restoration Work

- •Approximately, 9,000 seedlings and 10,000 cuttings will be planted on 3 miles of stream and the harvest unit (where wood was obtained).
- •One sign will placed in the project area, describing project activities.

#### •Funding

•BPA- \$515,000 •USFS- \$45,000 •CTUIR-\$75,000

TOTAL- \$635,000

## **Limber Jim Restoration Project**

Restoration work completed in 2017 included: (1) Constructed fish structures on 3.1 miles of stream. (2) Re-

moved fish barriers @ 3 culverts. (3) Recontoured 1 mile of closed road. (4) Reconstructed 3 elk exclosures. (5) Defined access @ 3 recreation areas. (6) Planted 4,500 deciduous seedlings & 10,000 cuttings. (7) Seeded all disturbed areas.

Fish structures were largely de-

signed to provide floodplain inundation. Approximately 75% of the structures inundated the floodplain during low streamflows.



Drilled in 10,000 cuttings







Recontoured 1 mi of road



Removed culvert & constructed ford





Placing racking material

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# **Photos on Limber Jim**



**Pre** Restoration

**Post Restoration** 





Upstream of log jam



Log Jams



Path: T3FS(NFS(Wallow#Whitman/Project)lagLimberJim2012)GIS(Workspace)MEL\JPlatz\_Map\_Vichity\_082016.mxd