

## **The Dumont Instream Restoration Project Tiller Ranger District, Umpqua National Forest**

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### ***Background***

Dumont Creek is a 4<sup>th</sup> order tributary to the South Umpqua River with 31 square miles of watershed area. The Dumont watershed is within Late Successional Reserve (LSR) and Tier 1 Key Watershed as designated by the Northwest Forest Plan. These designations make the Dumont Creek watershed one of the highest priorities for restoration activities. The Umpqua National Forest, Restoration Business Plan identified Dumont Creek as one of the highest priority locations for restoration activities.

Dumont Creek currently provides habitat for 4 native anadromous salmonids; Oregon Coast (OC) coho salmon (Threatened), OC cutthroat trout (Sensitive), OC spring chinook (Sensitive) and the OC winter steelhead (sensitive). In addition, the Pacific lamprey is also present. Resident fish inhabiting Dumont Creek include cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, dace and sculpins. In his 1998 thesis on salmonids in the Upper South Umpqua River, Kruzic came to the conclusion that Dumont contributes most of the coho smolts produced in the Upper South Umpqua River.

### ***The Project***

The Dumont Instream project consisted of replacing instream wood (LWD) cleaned out of the stream in the 1950's – 1960's. A total of 254 pieces of wood were placed in the stream channel in groupings designed to mimic accumulations from natural wood delivery processes. A Type 1, heavy lift helicopter (BV234) was used to quickly place the wood and minimize riparian damage. Placement of the wood cost \$155,890 for 17.8 hours of flight time. The helicopter was able to place 14.26 logs per hour or \$613 per log.

Objectives of the project include reestablishing floodplain connectivity, storage of organic materials and nutrients, decreasing stream channel wetted width, increasing velocity refugia for salmonids and increasing the amount of gravels/pools.

Partners for this project include the Umpqua Basin Watershed Council, the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (contributor of \$96,000) and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Monitoring conducted prior to implementation includes 13 years of macroinvertebrate monitoring data, 3 years of smolt trapping data, 10 years of water temperature monitoring and level 2 stream surveys. In addition, the stream was selected to be monitored as part of the NW Forest Plan Aquatic Monitoring effort (AREMP). This large amount of existing, pre implementation data will enable us to get excellent information on the effectiveness of the project and document post project changes.

Post project monitoring includes continuation of the smolt trapping program, monitoring the movement of LWD with photo points and tagging, macroinvertebrate sampling, particle distribution sampling and water temperature monitoring.

