

## DRAFT FY 2002 accomplishment input from the MBS

The Skagit Watershed received \$80,000 from the Pacific Coast Watershed Partnership to complete restoration and monitoring in the Skagit basin. The Skagit River basin has a long history of people working together, on a wide range of resource management issues. The Forest Service has a stake in the condition of the entire landscape, since the resources we manage both affect and are affected by activities outside national forest boundaries. Salmon recovery projects in the Skagit Basin have been very competitive for Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board money. In 2001 the Skagit received \$2.7 million and in 2002 they received \$3.9 million. **(This is the only fund we can track easily and there are more, e.g. Seattle city and light.....)** This is the result of extensive efforts by all the partners in the Skagit Watershed Council working together to put forward, sound and defensible projects. This positive outcome is due, in no small measure, to the contribution of several Forest Service staff members. **(Globally this is the match and is the umbrella not the pcwp)**

**Restoration** (expended: \$14,500, lost to fire borrowing: \$58,000)

Most of the year was spent in planning and negotiating a management plan for the Middle Skagit for waterfowl interests and an agreement for restoration of riparian habitat.

Ducks Unlimited, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, The Skagit Land Trust, and the Forest Service developed a plan for waterfowl management in the middle Skagit Valley (Hamilton to Sedro-Woolley). The plan addressed habitat improvement options, prioritized acquisitions, identified monitoring strategies, and ancillary benefits.

With the assistance of Ducks Unlimited, a restoration agreement between the Skagit Land Trust, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and the Forest Service for a 300+ acre acquisition was developed. When implemented the restoration will enhance winter waterfowl habitat and restore riverbottom hardwood forest on a field that has been used for growing potatoes on Skiyou Island. The effort to build relationships was fruitful, but the actual agreement negotiations were held up by title concerns and the funding was lost to fire borrowing. The agreement to complete \$254,000 worth of restoration (3:1 match Partner vs.USFS) is signed, but the USFS funds may not be available. **Actual pcwp match**

**Monitoring** (expended: \$7500)

In 2001 the Forest supported the Skagit Watershed Council's monitoring efforts with a \$15,000 grant. In 2002 we participated on the Skagit Watershed Council monitoring subcommittee, and hired an intern (\$7500 contributed) to complete a draft Implementation Monitoring Plan for watershed restoration for the Skagit Watershed Council. **Probably about equal match 1:1 in terms of time...**