

Distribution, abundance, and habitat use of freshwater mussels in four urban streams of Clark County, Washington.

Principal Investigators: Nancy Uusitalo, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Jamie Glasgow, Washington Trout

Partners include: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Trout, Friends of Ridgefield, Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership, Washington State University, Clark College, Americorps, Clark County Watershed Stewards, and The City of Vancouver.

Metro Greenspaces funded the grant in the amount of \$21,000.00. The work is scheduled to begin in June 2004 and be finished by December 2004.

This project will provide a comprehensive survey of freshwater mussels in four urban streams located in Clark County, Washington. It will be comparable to a similar project that is planned for King County, Washington in 2003. Combining these two projects will increase the scope and robustness of our results and will provide much needed information as to the effects of urbanization on the populations of freshwater mussels.

Washington Trout and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Columbia River Fisheries Program Office, will act as partners in this project and will share data collecting and data analysis responsibilities. Survey work will include traveling to designated streams, executing standardized sampling protocol that will include counting and measuring mussels and recording habitat features such as substrate size, water velocity, and water quality. Data will be assimilated and analyzed using Geographic Information Systems technology and will be made available to public.