Date: Nov. 15, 2003
Final Report: Grant # 1448-13420-02-J240
Submitted by: Sue Marshall

1. The name of the Cooperator, Project Title, Cooperative Agreement number, date of the report, and period of time covered in the report.

Tualatin Riverkeepers **Upper Tualatin Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Project**, grant # 1448-13420-02-J240. Report covers period from August 2002 through Oct. 2003.

2. Project description, including a comparison of expected and actual goals, accomplishments and benefits.

*The **Upper Tualatin Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Project** will restore marine driven nutrients to spawning reaches on the main stem of the Tualatin River, Dairy Creek and Gales Creek thereby enhancing salmonid populations by providing juveniles with a source of marine driven nutrients and thus increasing their survival and growth rates. Nutrient enrichment will also enhance the overall ecology of the upper Tualatin by increasing fish and wildlife productivity.*

*The specific goals of the **Upper Tualatin Fish & Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Project** are:*

I. To enhance salmonid habitat of the Tualatin Watershed by restoring marine driven nutrients to spawning reaches of the upper Tualatin River and its tributaries, Gales and Dairy Creeks.
II. To develop environmental leadership within the rural community by increasing involvement in enhancement activities and awareness of the salmonid life cycle.
III. To monitor water quality and macro invertebrate populations in order to assess the ecological impact of the project.

An exceptionally dry fall and low returns of Coho to Eagle Creak hatchery resulted in a scaled back project. Rather than placing carcasses in three spawning reaches, we prioritized Gales Creek as the best spawning site and it provided better access for macro invertebrate sampling. Accessibility proved to be a problem post treatment as volunteers could not safely sample for macro invertebrates once the rains arrived and the creek level rose significantly.

The project was successful in placing 1,500 pounds of coho salmon into a spawning reach of Gales Creek, involving local landowners and volunteers and baseline monitoring of the macro invertebrate population.

3. Actual work tasks implemented and the associated project schedule.

- The project placed 150 Coho salmon (approximately 1,500 lbs.) from Eagle Creek Hatchery to enrich nutrients and enhance habitat in a steelhead spawning reach of Gales Creek.

- 30 volunteer participate in the project. 3 Gales Creek landowners; 11 Elementary School Students; 5 AmeriCorps members; 3 Boy Scouts; 1 Steelheaders club member, and TRK

members. One intern from Pacific University worked on the macro invertebrate monitoring portion of the project.

- A total of 300 volunteer hours were donated to the project including pre-placement macro-monitoring.

- Outreach efforts to streamside property owners resulted in a positive response. Besides the landowners who gave us access for the project there are three others who are interested in possible restoration activities on their properties. All four of these properties lie between Rodrick Road and Stringtown Road, with the upstream most property lying directly across from a Washington County Park property designated for restoration.

4. List of project staff and partners and their roles.
Volunteer spreadsheet is attached.

5. Description of the project area and map.

Between river mile 6 – 10 on Gales Creek in Washington County, T3N, R2W, map attached.

6. A description of the methods used to implement the project and the effectiveness of those methods.

Outreach was conducted via letters to streamside property owners. Follow-up telephone conversations enabled us to identify property owners willing to provide access and hot chocolate to volunteers. Volunteers were recruited from TRK membership, local organizations and schools. Surplus coho carcasses were donated by ODFW. We anticipated a six week period of macro invertebrate sampling following treatment but were unable to gain safe access with sudden high waters. Instead, TRK will conduct pretreatment samples annually and share our data with the Tualatin River Watershed Council and Clean Water Services.

7. On-going tasks that will continue beyond the term of this agreement, next steps.

The Riverkeepers received an OWEB small grant to continue this project in 2003 on Gales Creek and, as fish are available, Dairy Creek and the upper Tualatin River. We will continue, on a smaller scale, to sample and compile macro invertebrate data as a component of our carcass placement project over the next four years. The baseline macro invertebrate monitoring will be useful to the Tualatin River Watershed Council as they have targeted Gales Creek for a series of restoration projects in a contract with the Bureau of Reclamation to fulfill their mandatory mitigation obligations for the impact of Scoggins Dam.

8. Summary of expenditures and in-kind matching contributions.
Attached expenditure and in-kind report.

9. Summary and conclusions.

Our hope was to demonstrate, via post-treatment sampling of the macro invertebrate population, the impact carcass placement has on the stream reach. We intend to continue pretreatment sampling annually in conjunction with carcass placement on Gales Creek.

This reach of Gales Creek has been identified by the Tualatin River Watershed Council as the highest potential for steelhead restoration in the Tualatin watershed. Outreach conducted by TRK helped identify several property owners interested in restoration projects on their property. TRK's monitoring data will provide a very good baseline for future restoration activities on Gales Creek.

The project was very successful in raising community awareness and involvement in the local steelhead population and anadromous habitat needs and in demonstrating what individuals can do to enhance and restore their local creek.

10. Supplemental information.
Attached: Gales Creek Macroinvertebrate Monitoring Report: Macroinvertebrate Taxonomy Report, news clippings, and set of color prints.