



Floodplains by Design

· REDUCING RISK, RESTORING RIVERS ·



Fishing the East Fork Lewis River. Photo credit: Clark Skamania Flyfishers

Recovering Salmon and Protecting Infrastructure

LOWER EAST FORK FLOODPLAIN RECLAMATION PROJECT

The Lower East Fork Lewis River is a critical watershed for the recovery of 5 Lower Columbia salmonid species. This project builds off of nearly a decade of partnership planning to support the recovery of these endangered species by reconnecting 300 acres of floodplain and restoring 2.5 miles of complex riparian habitat. This multi-benefit approach will reduce flood risk for local homes, a Clark County maintenance facility, and a mining operation that is important to the local economy. Without this project, the next major flood could see the river channel migrate into the mining operation, creating catastrophic impacts for the local community and ESA-listed salmon. This project builds upon 13 previous habitat restoration projects on the East Fork and numerous public and private land acquisition projects.

With support from Floodplains by Design, the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will have secured full funding for this project.



300

acres of floodplain reconnected



30

homes or structures with reduced flood risk



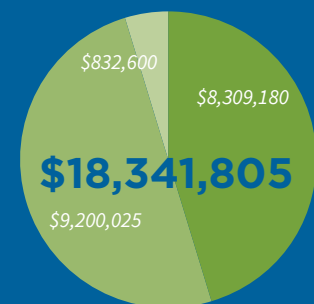
2.5

miles of river restored

Funding overview

ECONOMIC BENEFIT

With a total cost of over \$18.3M, this project would generate more than 305 new or sustained jobs and roughly \$40.3M-\$45.8M in total economic activity, of which \$32.2M-\$36.6M is expected to stay in Clark County.

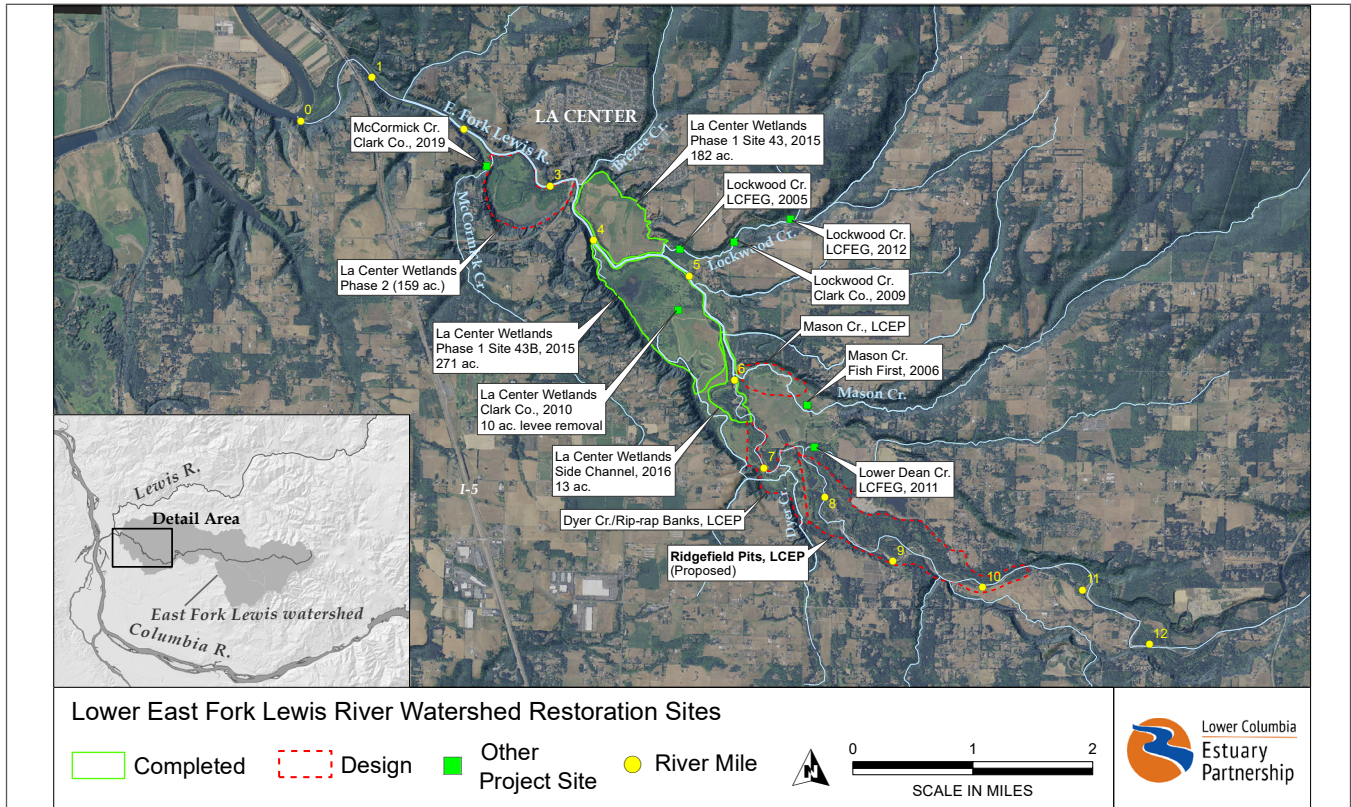


- Ecology/FbD
- Secured Additional Funding
- Previous Planning Investments

“Every \$1 million spent on watershed restoration results in an average of 16.7 new or sustained jobs and \$2.2-\$2.5 million in total economic activity.”

(Nielsen-Pincus and Moseley 2010)

PARTNERS IN ACTION



“The East Fork Lewis River is a gem. It flows undammed, off the flanks of the Cascade mountains to the lower Columbia River, providing critical habitat to Endangered Salmon and Steelhead. The East Fork Restoration Project seeks to restore and reconnect a highly impacted reach of the lower river which, if left untreated, could take decades to recover from floodplain mining. WDFW fully supports this project and looks forward to its timely completion.”

ALEX UBER, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER, WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE



“This ambitious project will restore a significant reach of the watershed and benefit Endangered Species Act listed salmon and steelhead, restore watershed processes impacted by past and current land uses, and protect important public and private infrastructure. This project represents one of the most significant opportunities for large-scale floodplain restoration in the watershed.”

IAN SINKS, STEWARDSHIP DIRECTOR, COLUMBIA LAND TRUST



“DNR is proud to support the restoration work that the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership has conducted on the East Fork of the Lewis River. Focusing on floodplain reconnection helps reduce the impacts of flooding on local communities and contributes to ecosystem health and recovery of our endangered salmonid species.”

RENELLE SMITH, ASSISTANT DIVISION MANAGER, AQUATIC RESOURCES DIVISION, WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



“This project represents the single greatest opportunity to conduct broad scale floodplain reconnection restoring function to a three-mile long, multi-species reach of the East Fork Lewis River. Increasing habitat capacity and diversity in this high priority stream corridor provides a strong certainty of success for supporting viability improvements for five ESA-listed salmonid runs. “

STEVE MANLOW, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LOWER COLUMBIA FISH RECOVERY BOARD