

Help Them Thrive Throughout Puget Sound

---

# Kitsap Salmon Tours

**Kitsap Salmon Tours** is an annual fall event created to increase awareness of the ecological needs of Pacific Northwest salmon and the actions people can take to build and maintain a successful balance between salmon and humans.

Tens of thousands of salmon return to spawn in Kitsap Peninsula streams every year. These fish have been central to the diet and culture of first nations in our region for millennia and remain important to the Lower Elhwa Klallam, Jamestown S'Klallam, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Skokomish, Squaxin Island, and Suquamish tribes. The Port Gamble S'Klallam and Suquamish tribes' reservations are on the Kitsap Peninsula.

The marine shorelines are critical for the growth and survival of young salmon offspring. Even freshwater systems that do not have salmon may have resident cutthroat or rainbow trout and many other important fishes and invertebrates. Shorelines provide spawning areas for herring, sand lance (or candlefish) and surf smelt — important food for salmon. Many of the salmon that migrate to Kitsap waters are chum, but coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout also spawn in Kitsap waters. These fish journey from fresh water to salt water and back again and are arguably the most important cultural icon of our region.

Pollution in Puget Sound and impacts to salmon habitat and streams have combined with sometimes adverse conditions at sea and resulted in the listing of Puget Sound Chinook salmon, Hood Canal summer chum salmon and, most recently, steelhead trout as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. Substantial restoration efforts are under way (in Chico, Barker and Dogfish creeks, for example), but there are also things you can do to help restore populations of these remarkable fish.

[kitsapsalmontours.org](http://kitsapsalmontours.org)



# Here are easy changes you can make in your daily life to help protect

## START WITH ONE CHANGE OR TACKLE THEM ALL!

Water conservation helps protect stream flows and water quality.

- Fix leaky faucets, toilets and hoses.
- Clean downspouts and gutters by hand instead of using a hose.
- If you're due to replace appliances, use ultra-low-flush toilets or tumble-action clothes washers.
- Instead of using a hose, sweep sidewalks and driveways and compost sweepings or put them in the garbage.

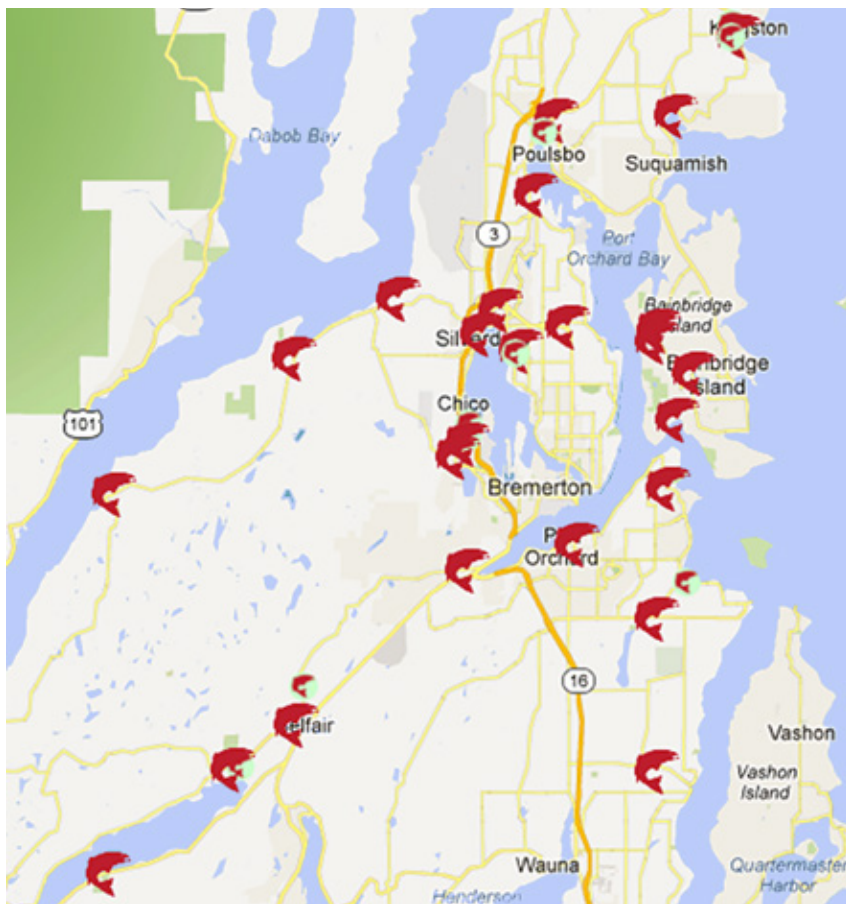
Energy conservation reduces the demand for power and, in turn, lessens the use of resources — and can save you money!

- Keep your home thermostat low.
- Set your water heater's thermostat between 120 and 130 degrees.
- Insulate your water heater and hot water pipes.
- Replace incandescent bulbs with fluorescent lamps, which use one-quarter of the energy and last many times longer.

- Turn off the lights whenever you leave a room.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full.

Stormwater runoff from roadways, driveways and other hard surfaces can pollute and alter stream habitats.

- Disconnect gutter downspouts that run stormwater directly to streets and streams. Instead, adopt techniques to direct runoff through the soil.
- Consider installing a rain garden, rain barrels or a cistern.
- Use automatic car washes or wash your car on grass instead of paved surfaces.
- Maintain vehicles to eliminate leaks and ask for alternatives to copper brake pads and lead tire weights.
- Never dump oil or other chemicals down storm drains. Take toxic substances to safe disposal and recycling facilities.
- Use sand, kitty litter or other absorbent materials to cover any small oil or chemical spills, and collect and properly dispose of these materials.



## YARD AND HOME CARE

- Pick up pet waste and put it in the garbage.
- Control invasive weeds and consider native alternatives in gardening.
- Remove weeds manually.
- If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow directions and use sparingly
- Maintain your septic system.

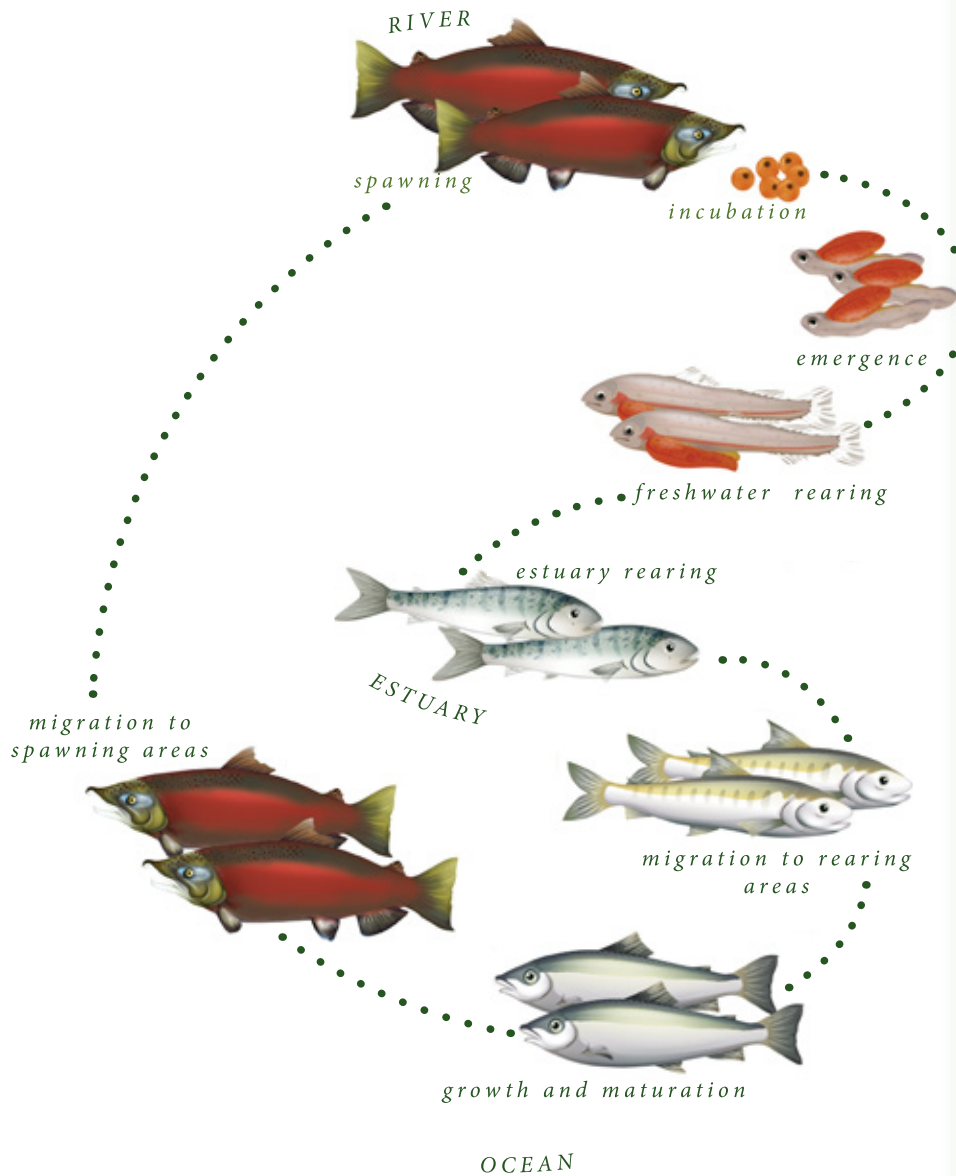
## REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

- Instead of discarding old items, find new uses for them.
- Give used items to people who can reuse them.
- Send materials to recycling centers, thus helping to conserve resources.

*Life cycle image was adapted from An Ecosystem Approach to Salmonid Conservation, Part 1, NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service, page 63, December 1996.*

# salmon from the effects of habitat loss and pollution.

## GENERALIZED SALMONID LIFECYCLE, SHOWING FRESHWATER AND OCEAN COMPONENTS



### SOME GREAT ADDITIONAL LINKS

- The *Kitsap Sun* has a wonderful interactive map of salmon sites in Kitsap County. [kitsapsun.com/salmon](http://kitsapsun.com/salmon).
- For information about local coordination with state and federal salmon recovery efforts, visit [westsoundwatersheds.org](http://westsoundwatersheds.org).
- For information about habitat restoration and protection efforts on the Great Peninsula, visit: [hws.ekosystem.us](http://hws.ekosystem.us).
- King County has a lot of great information on salmon and trout, including an identification guide. Go to [kingcounty.gov/environment](http://kingcounty.gov/environment) and search for “salmon and trout” at the top of the page.
- For salmon-friendly tips for different aspects of your life, go to [salmonnation.com](http://salmonnation.com) and click on “participate”.

### SALMON SPECIES IN KITSAP COUNTY

- **Chum** (also called dog salmon) usually live three to five years and are the most abundant salmon in Kitsap streams. They are found during the fall, with peak populations in late November.

- **Coho** (or silver salmon) live two to three years, returning to Kitsap streams shortly before the chum first arrive in the fall. Coho populations also peak in late November.

- **Chinook** (or king or blackmouth salmon) live up to seven years, but most return to spawn after three or four years. Chinook are found in only a few Kitsap locales, including Curley, Blackjack, Gorst, Barker, Clear and Dogfish creeks, during late August and September.

- **Steelhead** are the sea-run versions of rainbow trout and do not die after spawning but may return to the ocean and spawn more than one time. They are found throughout the winter months (until late April) in Chico, Curley, Gorst, Barker and Blackjack creeks. Other systems, including Liberty Bay tributaries, Steele Creek and Hood Canal, have habitat that support steelhead.

Illustrations courtesy of Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada



# Get Involved! Protect Salmon Habitat in Your Own Back Yard

## SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

**City of Bremerton**  
[ci.bremerton.wa.gov](http://ci.bremerton.wa.gov)

**City of Poulsbo Parks & Recreation**  
[cityofpoulsbo.com/parks-recreation](http://cityofpoulsbo.com/parks-recreation)

**Clean Water Kitsap**  
[cleanwaterkitsap.org](http://cleanwaterkitsap.org)

**Great Peninsula Conservancy**  
[greatpeninsula.org](http://greatpeninsula.org)

**Kitsap County Parks Department**  
[kitsapgov.com/parks](http://kitsapgov.com/parks)

**Kitsap Mountaineers**  
[mountaineers.org/about/branches-committees/kitsap-branch](http://mountaineers.org/about/branches-committees/kitsap-branch)

**Kitsap PUD**  
[kpud.org](http://kpud.org)

**Kitsap Stream Stewards**  
[extension.wsu.edu/kitsap/nrs/water-stewards/stream-stewards-2](http://extension.wsu.edu/kitsap/nrs/water-stewards/stream-stewards-2)

**Mountaineer Foundation**  
[mountaineersfoundation.org/preserveoldgrowth.org](http://mountaineersfoundation.org/preserveoldgrowth.org)

**Suquamish Tribe**  
[suquamish.nsn.us](http://suquamish.nsn.us)

**Washington Sea Grant**  
[wsg.washington.edu](http://wsg.washington.edu)

**WSU Kitsap County Extension**  
[extension.wsu.edu/kitsap](http://extension.wsu.edu/kitsap)

**Sea Grant**  
Washington

Produced by Washington  
Sea Grant

[wsg.washington.edu](http://wsg.washington.edu)

rev. 10/17 • WSG-AS 14-06

Here are some of the groups helping to protect and improve salmon streams and habitat in Kitsap County. You can help by volunteering to support these local groups:

**Bainbridge Island Watershed**  
[biwatershedcouncil.org](http://biwatershedcouncil.org)

**Chico Salmon Park Stewardship Group**  
Contact: Amy Lawrence  
[amypl@wavecable.com](mailto:amypl@wavecable.com)

**Clear Creek Task Force**  
P. O. Box 1188  
Silverdale, WA 98383  
360.895.1708  
[clearcreektrail.org](http://clearcreektrail.org)

**Cowling Creek Center**  
20325 Miller Bay Road N.E.,  
Poulsbo, WA 98370  
Contact: Paul Dorn  
Cell: 360.981.7658  
[pdorn@suquamish.nsn.us](mailto:pdorn@suquamish.nsn.us)  
[suquamish.nsn.us/home/departments/fisheries/finfish/cowling-creek](http://suquamish.nsn.us/home/departments/fisheries/finfish/cowling-creek)

Salmon Tours daily 8am to 4pm. Park at the Center and walk down to the stream. Volunteer guides will be at the Center to answer questions. Guided tours and group presentations may be scheduled by contacting Paul.

**Friends of Miller Bay**  
P. O. Box 37  
Suquamish, WA 98492  
Contact: Dick d'Archangel  
[darchangel@earthlink.net](mailto:darchangel@earthlink.net)

**Hansville Greenway Association**  
Contact: Ken Shawcroft  
360.698.2495  
[hansvillegreenway.org](http://hansvillegreenway.org)

**Illahee Forest Preserve**  
Illahee Stewardship Committee  
Contacts: Jim Aho,  
360.479.1049

Irwin and Judy Krigsman,  
360.792.6934

**IslandWood**  
4450 Blakely Ave. NE  
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110  
206.855.4300  
[info@islandwood.org](mailto:info@islandwood.org)

**Kitsap Salmon Tours**  
[kitsapsalmontours.org](http://kitsapsalmontours.org)

**Mountaineers Foundation**  
Contact: Mindy Roberts  
[mountaineersfoundation.org/preserveoldgrowth.org](http://mountaineersfoundation.org/preserveoldgrowth.org)

**Poulsbo's Fish Park**  
288 NW Lindvig Way  
Poulsbo, WA 98370  
Contact: Mary McCluskey  
Poulsbo Parks and Recreation  
360.779.9898  
[mmccluskey@cityofpoulsbo.com](mailto:mmccluskey@cityofpoulsbo.com)

**Puget Sound Partnership**  
[psp.wa.gov](http://psp.wa.gov)

**Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe**  
[pgst.nsn.us](http://pgst.nsn.us)

**Stillwaters Environmental Education Center**  
26095 Barber Cut-Off Road  
Kingston, WA 98346  
Contacts: Naomi Maasberg/  
Joleen Palmer  
[stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org](http://stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org)

**Suquamish Tribe**  
[suquamish.nsn.us](http://suquamish.nsn.us)

*Kitsap County sponsors several citizen stewardship committees associated with County Parks:*

*Hansville Greenway Stewardship Committee*

*Banner Forest Stewardship Committee*

*Friends of Guillemot Cove*

Contact: Lori Raymaker, Parks Stewardship Coordinator  
Kitsap County Parks and Recreation

614 Division Street, MS-1  
Port Orchard, WA 98366  
360.337.5362 / cell: 360.204.2959  
[lraymaker@co.kitsap.wa.us](mailto:lraymaker@co.kitsap.wa.us)

