

# Kitsap Conservation District

Tree Sale Edition

January 2017



## A Better Home for Salmon

The culvert at this site in the Chico Watershed was undersized and failing. In addition, it blocked salmon passage. The Chico Watershed Assessment identified this culvert as a high priority for replacement, so Kitsap Conservation District staff contacted the landowner to offer assistance. Kitsap Conservation District and the Family Forest Fish Passage Program replaced the culvert with a concrete bridge that can accommodate heavy rains and enable salmon to pass through to a spawning and rearing area in upper Kitsap Creek.

The first step of the project was removing the concrete and tires that were armoring the bank, and replacing them with habitat logs. Installation of these logs created scour pools and areas of slow moving water. The habitat logs also sorted stream bed material and spawning gravels. Noxious weeds (English Ivy and Himalayan blackberry) were removed, and the area was replanted with native trees and shrubs. The real heavy lifting started with assembly of the new bridge. Concrete bridge deck panels were lifted using a crane.

Our thanks go out to the five families in the area who supported this project! This fall, we filmed salmon resting in the new scour pools on their journey upstream to spawn. To see a video of salmon passing under the bridge visit [www.kitsapcd.org](http://www.kitsapcd.org).

In other stream restoration work, the Conservation District removed two dams this year. In total, these three fish passage projects opened up 6 miles of salmon spawning and rearing habitat.