

PILCHUCK RIVER DAM Quick Facts



Landau Associates

Measurements

- Originally built in 1912, it is now 60-feet wide and 10-feet tall
- Blocks over a third of the primary river
- Blocks a total of 37 miles of river and tributary/stream salmon habitat
- Existing fish ladders are still a barrier to iconic fish species (Chinook, Coho, Steelhead, Chum, Pink, Cutthroat, Bull Trout, and others)

Water

- The dam has no function, it no longer provides drinking water to the city of Snohomish
- Water withdrawal is difficult at this location due to turbidity (silt in the water) and flow conditions
- The dam has no reservoir, so there is no flood prevention from the dam



Reconnecting Critical Habitat

— Contact —

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Reconnecting Critical Habitat

An agreement between the Tulalip Tribes and the City of Snohomish to work together to restore the Pilchuck River.

TDS-26179



PILCHUCK RIVER Dam Project

Economics

- Project cost is \$1.8 million with a 3 year timeline
- If retained, there is a substantial cost to maintain dam and transmission line repair/replacement
- Nearby home values likely increase with dam removal

Biology

- Pilchuck once produced large salmon and Steelhead populations
- Dam removal will restore environmental connectivity and resiliency and help restore local salmon runs

“Chinook, Coho, Steelhead and other species in the Pilchuck River are vital to our culture, and are iconic to our region”

—Marie Zackuse
Tulalip Tribes Chairwoman

Restoring Connectivity in the Pilchuck River for Fish and People

In June of 2018, the Tulalip Tribes and the City of Snohomish finalized an agreement to work together to restore the Pilchuck River. The City of Snohomish owns a diversion dam located southeast of the city of Granite Falls on the Pilchuck River. This diversion structure was previously operated for city drinking water withdrawals, but is no longer in use. The dam is a barrier to iconic and culturally important fish species that live in the river including Chinook salmon, Coho salmon and Steelhead. Dam removal will restore natural river conditions with mutual benefits to fish, Tulalip, the city of Snohomish and other stakeholders in the area.

The Pilchuck River is a culturally and environmentally important watershed for salmon and other species. The Tulalip Tribes work to protect and perpetuate the salmon and other resources their people have depended on for thousands of years. This includes both on the reservation, and within historic territories such as the Pilchuck River watershed where Tulalip retains fishing, hunting and other rights along with deep cultural connections.

