

Steelhead Reintroduction

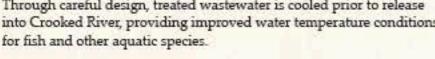
Working to bring Steelhead back to the Crooked River after 50 years

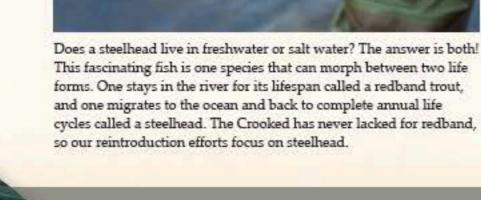
The Crooked River historically produced more steelhead than any other Deschutes Basin watershed or area. The species has been absent from the Crooked River for more than 50 years and reestablishing sustainable runs will be a challenge. In addition to improving habitat in the area, we've released young steelhead (smolts) have been released in key locations to jump-start the population. The conservation community and partners are working toward a self-propagating, sustainable amount of fish that can tolerate future changes in their environment, withstand predation and perhaps some level of harvesting as the numbers stabilize.



Through careful design, treated wastewater is cooled prior to release into Crooked River, providing improved water temperature conditions







sticking out of the side channel banks. These serve an important function — they slow the water flow, create hiding cover, stabilize the side channel banks and provide surface area for microorganisms

that make up the foundation of the food web.



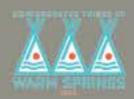
In 2009, A Selective Water Withdrawal (SWW) was built in the reservoir behind Round Butte dam in the Pelton-Round Butte Hydroelectric Project. It allows for mixing of three incoming water levels and supports smolt collection for release below the dam. Some hatchery smolts are tagged and released into the tributaries above Lake Billy Chinook and are eventually captured in the SWW. This information allows fisheries managers to evaluate the effectiveness for the facility for collecting out-going smolts. Smolts released into the Deschutes River below the project continue to the Pacific Ocean. When the adult fish return, they are collected, identified as "upper level fish" and transported for release into Lake Billy Chinook where they can continue their journey to their spawning grounds.

Fishing for reintroduced steelhead in the Crooked River is years and perhaps decades away, but fish produced in the Crooked can be caught and harvested in the Deschutes or Columbia Rivers below the Pelton-Round Butte complex.











Portland General Electric, the Crooked River Watershed Council, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Crook County High School Natural Resource Program.

www.PortlandGeneral.com/ corporate-responsibility/ environmental-stewardship/ minimizing-our-impact

