

The flow-management plan that was developed as part of settlement agreements and incorporated into the Skagit Project FERC License mandates a policy requiring Seattle City Light to strive for 100 percent protection of salmon and steelhead spawning nests (redds). Flows through the dams are adjusted on a seasonal, monthly, and daily basis to supply the right amount of water for spawning, incubation and protection of juvenile salmon.

In addition to managing flows, Seattle City Light works closely with the Skagit tribes and state and federal agencies to protect salmon and ensure a healthy economy. Salmon have responded positively to flow management and the cooperative effort on the Skagit River:

- Since 1985, the upper reaches of Skagit River below the hydroelectric project have seen an eight - fold increase in chum salmon and a four - fold increase in pink salmon. Summer-fall Chinook have responded well, with the proportion of Skagit Chinook using the river below Seattle City Light's hydroelectric project climbing from approximately 60percent to 80percent during the past 25-years.
- The chum salmon return of 210,000 in 2002 was



the largest return on record