

Riparian Buffers in an Agricultural Setting

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Salmon Recovery Conference

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Objective

- Provide the agricultural perspective of planted riparian vegetation
- Inform recommendations that will be made by the FFF 2.0 Buffer Task Force around variable-width voluntary buffers



Approach and Data

- Interviews with Snoqualmie Valley farmers and professionals serving the ag community
- King Conservation District customer survey
- Literature review



Photo: A. Mulkern

Four broad categories

- Land
- Water and Flooding
- Animals
- Physical



Photo: A. Mulkern

Land

- Taking land out of production
- Crux of the FFF 2.0 Buffer Task Force



Water and Flooding

- Impact water flow in flood events
- Bank stabilization
- Ability to maintain waterways



Animals

- Insects
 - Pollinators
 - Crop pest habitat
- Mammals
 - Beavers
 - Deer and elk



Physical

- Shade
- Wind
- Pesticide and nutrient movement
- Visual



Conclusion: Key Take Aways

- It depends
- Engage the Landowner
- Permanent change



Questions?

