

## Little Naches Restoration Project

2013-2019 Update







## LITTLE NACHES WORKING GROUP STEERING COMMITTEE

- Tapash Sustainable Forest
   Collaborative
- > The Nature Conservancy
- > American Forest Resources Council
- > Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board
- > Yakima Ski-Benders
- > Jeeping Nomads
- > Chinook Pass Cabin Owner's Assoc.
- > USFS Permit Holders
- > Yakama Nation Fisheries
- > Yakama Nation Forest Products
- > Conservation Northwest
- > WA State Dept of Fish and Wildlife

About 10 years ago the Tapash Collaborative and the US Forest Service were awarded funding through the Collaborative Forest Restoration Act. The Little Naches Working Group was born under the umbrella of Tapash to help the USFS connect with stakeholders who have a wealth of local knowledge and deep commitment to this watershed.

#### LITTLE NACHES WORKING GROUP

Since 2013, Little Naches Working Group members have worked with the USFS to understand each other's needs and perspectives. Together, we identify resource concerns, suggest projects, and recommend restoration priorities.

## LITTLE CROW RESTORATION PROJECT

Located in the southern portion of the Little Naches watershed, the project was celebrated in the Yakima Herald, 12/8/2016: "Loggers, Off-Roaders, and Environmentalists come together to restore Little Crow". USFS issued an updated Environmental Analysis in November 2018. Implementation is expected to begin Autumn 2019.

## HUCKLEBERRY STEWARDSHIP CONTRACT

This active project enhances huckleberry habitat, completes road improvements, culvert replacements, and road decommissioning. The Working Group is requesting that the proceeds are used for restoration projects in the Little Naches watershed.

## FUTURE RESTORATION IN THE LITTLE NACHES

Aquatic restoration could potentially necessitate decommissioning roads, while there is simultaneously an increasing demand for motorized access on public lands. To help craft a pathway forward, Tapash was awarded funding from WA DNR to create an engagement plan and workplan in 2019.

### Little Naches Restoration Project

#### **FACTS & FIGURES**

711

ACRES

elk forage & huckleberry habitat enhanced through a combination of prescribed fire & mechanical thinning

1.5

MILES

critical habitat restored for bull trout and steelhead by log placements in streams

3

MILES

of unmaintained roads decommissioned to improve stream connectivity

3

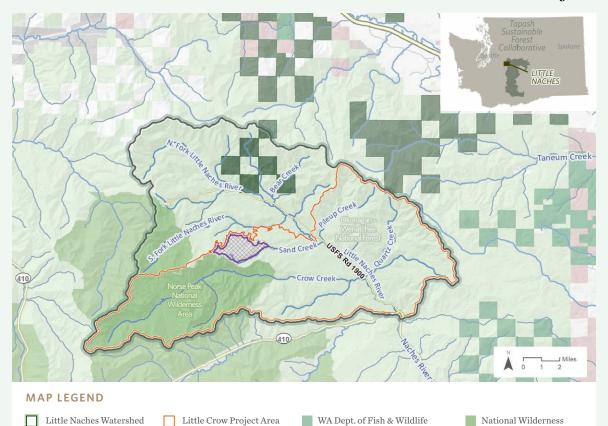
#### MILLION DOLLARS

or more of net revenue (retained receipts) that will be directed to future restoration projects

1,000

HOURS

donated by volunteers annually, to restore & improve motorized system trails



630

Huckleberry

Restoration Project

JOBS

directly & indirectly timber related

5,248

ACRES

acquired by USFS since 2013

47

WA Dept. of Natural Resources

MILES

The Nature Conservancy

of roads improved

baseline monitoring for wildlife

35

Okanogan-Wenatchee

National Forest

**POPULATIONS** 

of rare plants protected

ACRES

invasive plants controlled

#### TAPASH PARTNERS











**Photo Credits:** Front left: *North Fork of Little Naches River.* Gary Torretta, USFS. Front top right: *Cutthroat trout in Little Naches River.* Zach Mays, Yakama Nation Fisheries Program. Front bottom right: *Volunteers construct 130 feet of new bridge.* Liz VanAmburg, Yakima Ski-Benders.

# IF YOU CARE ABOUT THE LITTLE NACHES WATERSHED and would like to stay informed or get more involved please contact:

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