

SHSTMP_PS_Large_River_and_Floodplain_Channels_2016.shp data dictionary

This layer was developed by NOAA Fisheries to delineate main channels, braid channels, and side channels of major rivers within the Puget Sound region to be used as part of salmon and steelhead habitat monitoring effort by Salmon Habitat Status and Trend Monitoring Program (SHSTMP). Habitat features were digitized at 1:1000 scale using less than 0.5-meter resolution true-color Google satellite and aerial imagery, collected from May 5, 2013 to August 17, 2016.

A channel was identified as a main channel when it contained a majority of the river discharge. Secondary flow paths that contained less than half of the discharge, separated from the main channel by an unvegetated gravel bar were identified as braid channels. Similarly, secondary flow paths that contained less than half of the discharge, separated from the main channel by a vegetated island were identified as side channels.

Main channel features were digitized by tracing a line along the thalweg. Braid and side channels were digitized when more than half of the wetted width was visible. Braids and side channels were not extended past the edge habitat line and were not connected to the main channel line or between each other.

Field Name	Description	Units
Reach_ID	Unique reach identifier	
F_Type	Feature type: Main channel, Braid, Side channel	
Image_Date	Aerial imagery collection date	
VT	Geomorphic valley type (Collins and Montgomery, 2011): GL – glacial valleys PGL – post-glacial valleys C – canyons MTN – mountain valleys	
LC	Dominant land cover developed using C-CAP 2010 data (NOAA, 2014) and aggregated into classes using methods described in Beechie et al. 2017: F – forest/wetland Ag – agriculture D – developed	
Ck_MPG	Puget Sound Chinook salmon major population groups (NMFS, 2007): Central/South Basin Hood Canal Strait of Georgia Strait of Juan de Fuca Whidbey Basin	

Stl_MPG	Puget Sound steelhead salmon major population groups (NMFS, 2011): Northern Cascades Olympic South-Central Cascades	
Length_km	Channel length	kilometer

References

- Beechie, T. J., O. Stefankiv, B. Timpane-Padgham, J. E. Hall, G. R. Pess, M. Rowse, M. Liermann, K. Fresh, and M. J. Ford. 2017. Monitoring Salmon Habitat Status and Trends in Puget Sound: Development of Sample Designs, Monitoring Metrics, and Sampling Protocols for Large River, Floodplain, Delta, and Nearshore Environments. U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-NWFSC-137. <https://doi.org/10.7289/V5/TM-NWFSC-137>.
- Collins, B. D., and D. R. Montgomery. 2011. The legacy of Pleistocene glaciation and the organization of lowland alluvial process domains in the Puget Sound region. *Geomorphology* 126(1):174-185.
- NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service). 2007. Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan, volume 1. Shared Strategy for Puget Sound, Seattle.
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- NOAA Coastal Services Center. 2014. Oregon and Washington 2010 Coastal Change Analysis Program Accuracy Assessment. Available: coast.noaa.gov/data/digitalcoast/pdf/ccap-assessment-oregon-washington.pdf. (August 2016).