

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND FRESHWATER REFUGIA

WRIA#: 15.0321
Project ID#: MUR-NRC-01
Designation: Murden Cove Creek NRC
Classification: D (53%)

WRIA#: 15.0325
Project ID#: SCL-NRC-01
Designation: Schel-Chelb Creek NRC
Classification: D (56%)

WRIA#: 15.0331
Project ID#: BLH-NRC-01
Designation: Blakely Harbor Creek NRC
Classification: C (61%)

WRIA#: 15.0332
Project ID#: GAZ-NRC-01
Designation: Gazzam Creek NRC
Classification: C (60%)

WRIA#: 15.0340
Project ID#: FLT-NRC-02
Designation: Fletcher Creek NRC
Classification: C (61%)

WRIA#: 15.0344
Project ID#: MNZ-NRC-01
Designation: Manzinita Creek NRC
Classification: D (55%)
Salmonid Diversity: Coho, Fall Chum, & Cutthroat



Description:

There are numerous small, independent stream-watersheds on Bainbridge Island. Several of these small streams support salmonid populations, mainly coho and chum salmon. Almost all also have sea-run and/or resident populations of cutthroat trout and some may support limited numbers of steelhead trout. Very little is known about salmonid utilization, abundance, or habitat conditions in the Bainbridge Island streams. These small streams may provide important refuge habitat from disturbances in adjacent larger creeks or river systems, but little is known about their salmonid populations or how important these creeks are to the overall Bainbridge Island ecosystem. Undoubtedly, these streams and their estuaries provide transitional habitat for salmonids from their own watershed, but some may also provide migratory refuge areas for fish moving along the Puget Sound nearshore zone. Based on a conservative approach to habitat protection, the largest of these small stream watersheds were identified here as potential salmonid refugia areas.

