

Glenwood Springs Hatchery



Building a Salmon Run,
Supporting Orcas and Fisheries



A Salmon Run Born on Orcas Island

On the site of a former fruit orchard overlooking East Sound, Long Live the Kings' Glenwood Springs Hatchery has achieved something remarkable: the creation of a Chinook salmon run where none existed before. Starting in 1978 with hatchery eggs, the run has been sustained by returning adult salmon since 1982. Because there are no naturally spawning salmon populations in the San Juan Islands, these fish support fisheries and feed Southern Resident Orcas.

Natural Rearing, Resilient Fish

Unlike traditional hatcheries with concrete raceways, Glenwood salmon are raised in natural, earthen ponds. Exposed to predators and the elements, **they grow up more like their wild cousins**—hardier and better prepared for life in the ocean.

Community and Education

For more than 40 years, Glenwood Springs has brought people closer to salmon. **Visitors, students, and local fishers all form lasting connections through this unique hatchery.** Programs like Salmon in the Classroom and summer camps inspire the next generation of salmon stewards.

Projects Making an Impact

- **Sustainable Fisheries:** Releasing about 900,000 Chinook annually to support recreational fishing and provide food for endangered Southern Resident Orcas.
- **Bring Back the Big Ones:** Testing rearing and release strategies to return larger Chinook that better nourish endangered Orcas.
- **Saving Kokanee:** Rearing fish to rebuild the native Lake Sammamish Kokanee population from the brink of extinction. Long Live the Kings also supports the Kokanee fishery at Cascade Lake.

A Shared Success Story

Roughly 10% of Glenwood Chinook return to the hatchery each year, while four times as many are harvested in Washington fisheries. Many more become vital food for Southern Resident Orcas.

Thanks to the Holding family and the Orcas Island community, Glenwood Springs remains a living example of innovation, resilience, and care for salmon.

History of Glenwood Springs

<p>Jim Youngren begins raising salmon at Glenwood Springs.</p> <p>1978</p>	<p>Long Live the Kings (LLTK) is established as a non-profit organization and Jim Youngren becomes Chairman of the Board of Directors.</p> <p>1986</p>	<p>In partnership with WDFW and Orcas Island schools, LLTK begins supporting Salmon in the Classroom program.</p> <p>2000</p>	<p>To support endangered resident killer whales, LLTK increases Chinook production and alters rearing strategies.</p> <p>2019</p>	<p>The Youngren family ensures the continued operation of the facility by selling Glenwood to the Holdings, who will steward the land into the future.</p> <p>2023</p>	<p>The Holding family completed the Willow Hall event space, providing the opportunity for business meetings, classroom activity, and events on the property.</p> <p>2025</p>
<p>1983</p> <p>The first Glenwood Springs Chinook adults find their way back to Orcas Island and return to the hatchery.</p>	<p>1995</p> <p>LLTK starts a fall coho rearing program to boost recreational fishing opportunities.</p>	<p>2008</p> <p>In partnership with Friends of Moran State Park, LLTK starts rearing Kokanee to support Cascade Lake Kokanee fishing opportunities.</p>	<p>2019</p> <p>In partnership with King County, LLTK supports a captive rearing program to protect Lake Sammamish Kokanee.</p>	<p>2024</p> <p>801 number of adult fish returned to Glenwood Springs – the largest number in nine years, producing enough eggs to support the release of about 800,000 juvenile salmon in spring 2025.</p>	

Partners

- Bio-Oregon, Inc.
- Friends of Moran State Park
- King County Marisource Jensorter
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
- Northwest Marine Technology
- Orcas Island Community Foundation
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Funding Sources

