



**Annual Cost**  
\$300,000



**Funding Sources**

Public: 25%  
Private: 75%



Glenwood Partners  
Bio-Oregon, Inc.

Coates Foundation

Friends of Moran State  
Park

King County Marisource  
Jensorter

National Fish and Wildlife  
Foundation - Shell and  
SeaWorld

National Oceanic  
and Atmospheric  
Administration

Northwest Marine  
Technology

Road Scholar

Orcas Island Community  
Foundation

Washington Department  
of Fish and Wildlife



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**The creation of a Chinook salmon run where none existed before; engaging the community and providing sustainable fishing**

On a former fruit orchard overlooking Orcas Island’s East Sound, Long Live the Kings’ Glenwood Springs Field Station is the site of something remarkable: the creation of a Chinook salmon run where none existed before. Beginning in a stream in 1978 with eggs from a state hatchery, the run has been propagated from returning adult fish since 1982—and because no wild Chinook originate in the San Juan Islands, this new salmon run serves commercial and sports fishers, along with killer whales, while posing no significant threat to endangered fish.

Just as importantly, the salmon at Glenwood Springs are reared in natural, earthen ponds—unlike traditional hatcheries that have concrete raceways. This results in fish that appear more like their wild cousins, exposed to the same predators and natural elements.

Programs at LLTK’s Glenwood Springs create opportunities for the public to interact with salmon in diverse ways. Whether you’re a visiting student, a curious member of the community, or a fisher lucky enough to have a Glenwood Chinook on your line, peoples’ experiences with this long-term project create deep, lasting connections with these beautiful fish.

**Hatchery History:**

- 1978 |** Jim Youngren initiates rearing of Chinook.
- 1980 |** Over 140,000 Chinook, spawned during the fall of 1979, are released from Glenwood Springs in May.
- 1983 |** The first Chinook adults released from Glenwood Springs find their way back to Orcas Island and return to the Glenwood Springs Field Station.
- 1986 |** Long Live the Kings (LLTK) is established as a non- profit organization and Jim Youngren becomes Chairman of the Board of Directors.
- 1995 |** A fall coho rearing program is initiated to provide further recreational fishing opportunities.
- 2000 |** In partnership with WDFW and Orcas Island schools, hatchery manager Mike O’Connell begins supporting Salmon in the Classroom program.
- 2001 |** Through a partnership with Skagit Valley Community College, hatchery manager Mike O’Connell begins conducting tours of Glenwood Springs Hatchery for Elderhostel groups.
- 2008 |** Glenwood Springs hatchery manager, Mike O’Connell starts supporting Cascade Lake Kokanee.
- 2019 |** Responding to the resident killer whale crisis, LLTK increases Chinook rearing and alters strategy. In the same year, LLTK begins a captive rearing program to protect Lake Sammamish Kokanee.

## Context

Many studies have found that interactions between hatchery salmon and wild salmon can negatively impact the wild stocks. But today, most salmon fishing would not be possible without the contributions of hatcheries (75% of Chinook harvested in Puget Sound are from hatcheries). Fortunately, hatcheries like Glenwood Springs that minimize interactions between hatchery and wild salmon can help to provide sustainable fishing, without negatively impacting wild fish.

## Projects

**Sustainable Fisheries** - Releasing ~900,000 Chinook salmon from Glenwood Springs annually (increased from ~750,000 in 2019) to provide more fish for southern resident killer whales, commercial and recreational fishers.

**Bring Back the Big Ones** - Slowing the growth of young fish and delaying their release timing in an effort to return larger chinook in greater abundance by for resident killer whales.

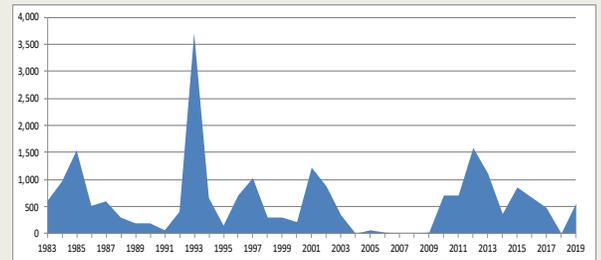
**Chinook for Puget Sound** - Rearing a group of chinook to two years of age before releasing them with the goal of encouraging fish to stay in Puget Sound as adults to provide more food for resident killer whales.

**Saving Kokanee** - Rearing fish to help rebuild Lake Sammamish Kokanee on the brink of extinction. LLTK also supports the Kokanee fishery at Cascade Lake.

**Salmon in the Classroom and Summer Camp Education** - Supporting salmon education in local schools by providing learning opportunities and salmon eggs to be raised in classrooms.

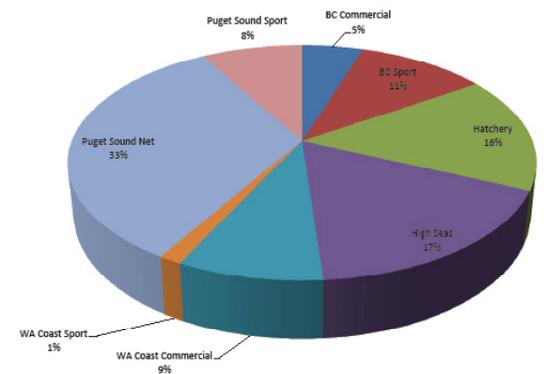
**Thank you to the Youngren family, Orcas Island, and broader San Juan Islands community for the welcome support and enthusiasm it provides.**

## Chinook Returns to Glenwood Springs



In 2007, Long Live the Kings took steps to improve our Chinook rearing program. The changes we made, in conjunction with better ocean conditions, have resulted in a significant sustained increase in adult returns.

## Where Glenwood Springs Chinook are Caught



Approximately ten percent of Glenwood Springs Chinook return to Glenwood Springs Field Station, and approximately four times that many fish are harvested in Washington State fisheries. Additionally, an unknown number of Glenwood Chinook provide food for southern resident Orcas and other natural predators.