

## WASHINGTON WATER PROJECT

Washington Water Project of Trout Unlimited is a statewide, non-profit organization working directly with farmers and water-right holders to improve instream flows and water quality. As part of its work, WWP is partnering with Salmon-Safe to encourage environmentally sustainable farming practices throughout the Central and Upper Columbia Basins of Washington State.

## SALMON-SAFE PROJECT

Established in Oregon in 1996, Salmon-Safe has been working with farmers throughout the Northwest to promote conservation practices and habitat restoration. To date, over 65,000 acres of farmland have been Salmon-Safe certified including producers of dairy, eggs, wine, fruit, vegetables and meat. Products from Salmon-Safe farms have been promoted in over 300 stores throughout the western United States.

Salmon-Safe certification program is focused on management practices in six primary areas: riparian area management, water use management, erosion and sediment control, integrated pest management, animal management, and biodiversity conservation. Our standards were developed over a two-year period with biologists, agronomists, and farmers, and has been tested in the field at more than 300 farms in Oregon, Washington, California, and Idaho across a variety of crops.



Photo credits:

Cover and vineyard: Donna Lasater, alfalfa and planted soil: Erin Wallace, & apple bins: Jeff Gersh

*Certification has helped to transform our farming practices to further protect water quality and habitat in the Walla Walla watershed. And the marketplace is responding as our Salmon-Safe and Global Gap certifications have measurably increased our bottom line.*

-Earl Brown & Sons  
(1200+ acres of apples & 100 acres of vineyards)  
Milton-Freewater, OR

*Salmon-Safe certification has given my grass fed animal operation stewardship recognition for brining many things, not the least of which is the reduction in surface water and runoff from agriculture lands into our streams and rivers.*

-Joel Huesby, Thundering Hooves Farm  
Walla Walla, WA

*Each purchase of a Salmon-Safe certified product helps Northwest salmon and local habitat thrive. The Salmon-Safe program is a unique and trusted approach to promoting local, sustainable agriculture and we're proud to offer wine, produce, and dairy products.*

-Russ Ruby, Director of Merchandizing  
PCC Natural Markets, Seattle, WA

### Washington Water Project

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[www.tu.org/conservation/western-water-project/washington](http://www.tu.org/conservation/western-water-project/washington)  
[www.salmonsafe.org/tu](http://www.salmonsafe.org/tu)



Funded in part by:



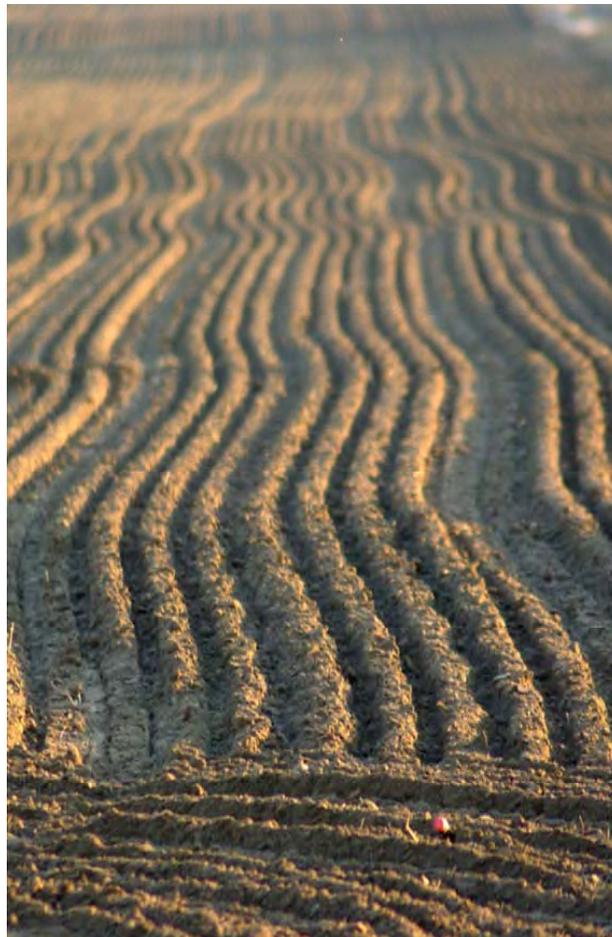
# Washington Water Project of Trout Unlimited's Salmon-Safe Partnership

Working Collaboratively  
With Farmers in  
Washington's Central &  
Upper Columbia Basins



## HEALTHY AGRICULTURE EQUALS HEALTHY RIVERS

Salmon require clean, cool rivers for spawning and reproduction. However, erosion and runoff from poorly managed farms can bring silt into the river, covering the spawning gravels where salmon eggs hatch, leaving them exposed and unprotected. Chemicals used on farms can wash into the river, causing damage to young fish. Excessive irrigation can deplete water supplies that salmon need to migrate upstream. Additionally, lack of vegetation along stream banks causes an increase in stream temperature and absence of habitat structures for juvenile and adult salmon to live in.



## AN ECO-LABEL FOR LOCAL FARMS

The Salmon-Safe label recognizes farm operations that adopt conservation practices protecting water quality and helping to restore wildlife habitat in Northwest salmon watersheds.

### HOW DOES SALMON-SAFE WORK?

Salmon-Safe is a third-party certification program that utilizes professional inspectors with experience in both habitat conservation and sustainable agriculture. The farm evaluations are based on a thorough set of guidelines developed by scientists and farmers. The Salmon-Safe label provides credibility, visibility, and marketing opportunities for participating farms.



## HOW DO SALMON-SAFE FARMS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

- Optimizing Water Use
- Exercising Low Input Integrated Pest Management Practices & Reducing Nutrient Runoff
- Using Long-Term Soil Conservation Techniques
- Maintaining Healthy Riparian & In-Stream Habitat Conditions
- Contributing To Overall Habitat Quality & Productivity On The Farm