

WHATCOM CREEK TRAIL

BELLINGHAM, WASHINGTON

Bob Birkeland, RDG Senior Landscape Architect, led the design for this multi-year master planning and construction project. Spanning Bellingham’s largest urban greenway, the Whatcom Creek Trail is a series of multi-use and single-use trails linking the downtown marine waterfront and Lake Whatcom. The trail allows for continuous bicycle and pedestrian circulation from outlying residential and commercial settings to the heart of the city. It also offers direct links to regional trails within Bellingham’s extensive network of trails.

variety of landscapes and land uses from pristine woodland cascades to residential and light industrial uses and finally, through Bellingham’s Civic Center to its Puget Sound waterfront. The trail serves recreation users and the community at large, and has evolved into a redevelopment incentive as interest in the creek and creekside land use gains momentum. Once under utilized downtown creekside properties are now slated for urban commercial infill and public open space that leverages the creek as an amenity.

The Whatcom Creek Trail is a linear greenway that follows Whatcom Creek through a



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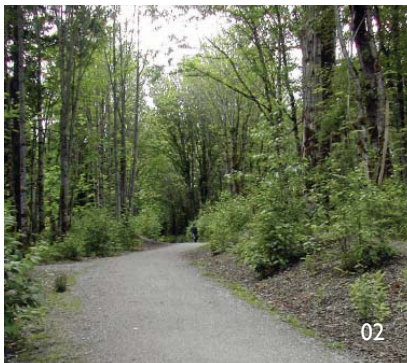
01 Trail at Whatcom Lake

02 Forest trail

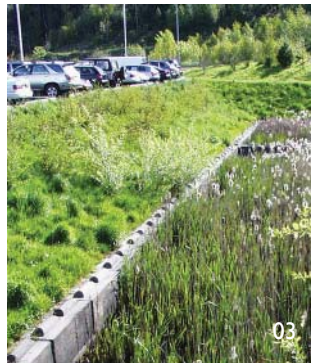
03 Bioretention pond as a component of the Natural Drainage System Program for the park

04 Custom bridge detailing for the multi-use trail

05 Observing Coho Salmon migrating past the bridge



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