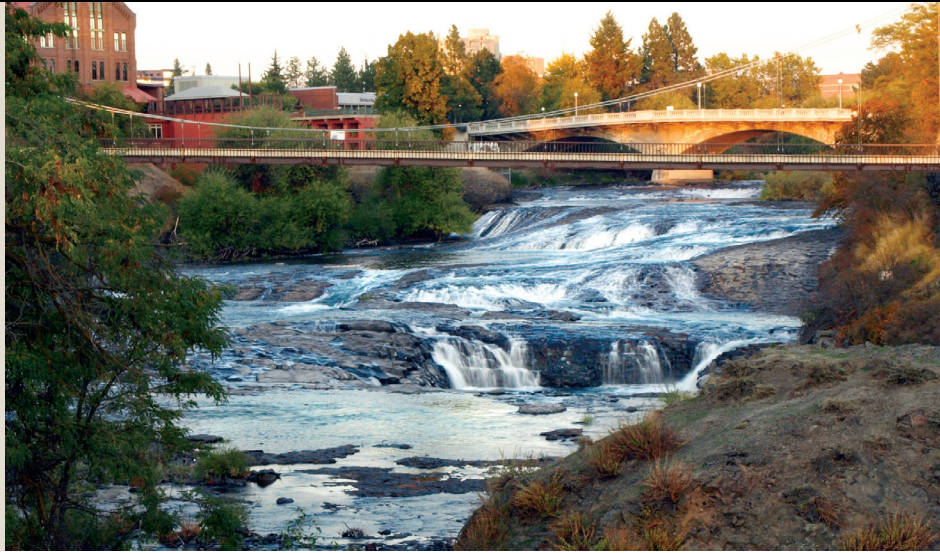


**Spokane River Restoration
Spokane, Washington**

Landscape Architect:	Berry Ellison, LLA, Land Expressions
Client:	Avista Utilities
Architect:	ARC
Engineer:	TD&H Engineering



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

In a time when the boundaries of nature always seem to lose ground to the built environment, we received a very intriguing and challenging project that would do just the opposite: Restore the North Channel of the Spokane River with less water than it currently receives. The solution was simple: spread less water over more area by strategically placing a series of permanent modifications (weirs) to neutralize manmade excavations.

Our process focused on research and buildable solutions. Weirs were to be made of integrally colored and hand carved concrete – shotcrete and gunite were chosen specifically due to extreme worksite conditions. Detailing texture, color, mix design and anchoring were only part of our task. As the landscape architect, we were to ensure these weirs would not appear as engineered structures.

In the end, the project turned out better than imagined. The amount of habitat restored to herons, beavers, raccoons, and

native red band trout is immeasurable. The Spokane Falls has been restored as has the sound and intangible energy that the river brings to the atmosphere of downtown and Riverfront Park. The river corridor is a thriving ecosystem and the restoration will impact the Spokane community for decades to come and remain an example for future environmental improvements.

JURY COMMENTS

The jurors were impressed at how the landscape architects knitted the project so well into the existing landscape. The design was well crafted due to an excellent analysis and planning process that was described in detail. Site and functional issues as well as goals and objectives were well explained and were the basis for the project. The project mock-ups and testing were commendable in predicting the project's success. The jury agreed that this project is an excellent improvement to the river, producing an enjoyable amenity for the community and improving river flow and fish passage.

