



# Washington: Making a Difference to Salmon

Salmon are important to the economic and cultural vitality of Washington State. To ensure we are funding the right things, Washington has prioritized projects based on the problems most limiting salmon. Our bottom-up infrastructure of local organizations has mobilized communities, written recovery plans, and is implementing those plans.

The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) is crucial to implementing habitat restoration, conservation, and hatchery reform projects. In addition to these critical efforts, Washington State also is working to improve habitat protection tools. Combined, these efforts will help us achieve full salmon recovery.

## PCSRF is Helping



### Salmon Numbers are Improving in Some Areas, Still Work to Do

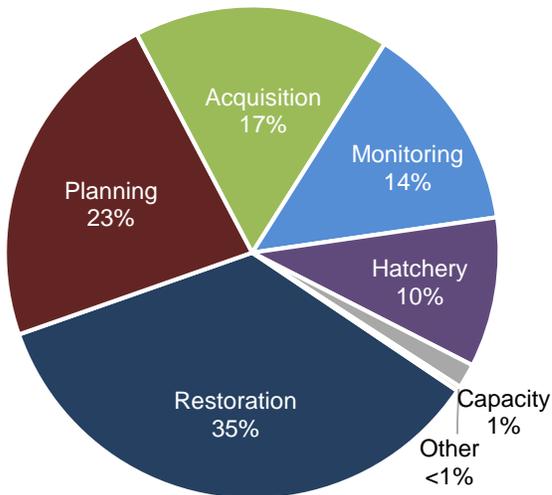
Washington State is beginning to see a return on the federal, tribal, state, and local resources invested in salmon recovery. Hood Canal Summer Chum Salmon and Snake River Fall Chinook Salmon are approaching their recovery goals. The story is mixed in the rest of the state, with some areas seeing salmon numbers rise and some seeing decreases or consistently low numbers. Population growth and development, water use, hatchery practices, habitat loss, and global climate change still threaten salmon recovery.

## Adult Fish Abundance

Near Recovery Goal	Below Recovery Goal			
<b>Near Goal</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hood Canal Summer Chum</li> <li>Snake River Fall Chinook</li> </ul>	<b>Increasing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Middle Columbia River Steelhead</li> <li>Lake Ozette Sockeye</li> <li>Snake River Spring and Summer Chinook</li> <li>Upper Columbia River Steelhead</li> </ul>	<b>Consistently Low</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower Columbia River Fall Chinook</li> <li>Lower Columbia River Spring Chinook</li> <li>Lower Columbia River Steelhead</li> <li>Snake River Steelhead</li> </ul>	<b>Decreasing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower Columbia River Chum</li> <li>Puget Sound Chinook</li> <li>Upper Columbia River Spring Chinook</li> <li>Puget Sound Steelhead</li> </ul>	<b>Insufficient Data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower Columbia River Coho</li> </ul>

Information from the *State of Salmon in Watersheds* report available online at [www.stateofsalmon.wa.gov](http://www.stateofsalmon.wa.gov).

## What is Washington Doing with PCSRF?



PCSRF funding leverages other funding:

- Local grant recipients have contributed nearly \$116 million in matching resources since 1999.
- Washington State has contributed more than \$424 million in matching funds since 1999.

PCSRF dollars are critical for Washington to implement its balanced strategy to recover wild salmon populations. It allows Washington to:

- Restore habitats to health.
- Better manage its fisheries.
- Reform hatcheries.

Over the long-term, survival and recovery of listed salmon will depend on these three areas and improving the effectiveness of all types of projects.

### Restoring Habitats

In Washington, PCSRF pays for on-the-ground projects statewide and helps support local organizations' work in watersheds.

PCSRF dollars are vital to Washington's salmon recovery efforts. They provide more than 50 percent of the funding for salmon recovery administered by the Recreation and Conservation Office.



**2,500 Jobs Created**

PCSRF funds have also helped accomplish the following:

- Removed 423 barriers that were preventing fish from migrating or reaching desirable habitats, opening nearly 1,900 miles of habitat.
- Restored and protected nearly 2,400 miles of habitat in streams and rivers.
- Restored more than 5,400 acres of estuarine, wetland, and nearshore habitat.
- Conserved more than 34,000 acres of crucial salmon habitat.

In addition to improving habitat, PCSRF and the state and local match support jobs – green jobs in a variety of fields, from large equipment operators, to office workers, to engineers. Restoration projects are estimated to create 1.57 jobs for every \$100,000 invested, according to a University of Oregon study. Using that measure, PCSRF has funded more than 1,570 restoration projects estimated to have created more than 2,500 jobs.



### **Managing Fish Harvests**

PCSRF has contributed funding to clip the adipose fins of salmon, marking millions of hatchery fish so they can be identified easily and managed differently than wild fish. These efforts are vital to maintain fishing as an important part of the state's economy.

More fish are being marked. PCSRF funding contributes to the marking of 100 percent of the hatchery produced Chinook, coho, and steelhead intended for harvest in Puget Sound, and 93 percent of those intended for harvest in the Columbia River. Nearly 100 million hatchery fish are marked externally, giving managers the ability to visually identify hatchery fish, remove hatchery fish before they reach spawning grounds, estimate hatchery ratios on the spawning grounds, and support selective fisheries.



### **Reforming Hatcheries**

Improvements to hatcheries are reducing impacts on wild fish and maintaining the production of fish that can be caught by anglers. Statewide, the number of Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife hatchery programs meeting or expected to meet scientific standards increased from 18 percent in 1998 to 75 percent in 2014.

# A Better Future

## State Commitment

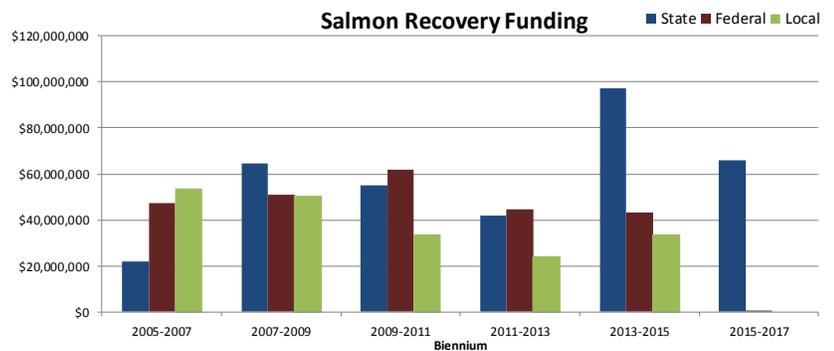
Washington State is committed to salmon recovery and has contributed more than \$424 million in matching funds.

## PCSRF's Role in Washington's Strategy

Washington's approach to salmon recovery is collaborative and incentive-based. Through this approach, seven regional recovery plans have been approved by the federal government and implementation is underway. An eighth recovery plan is being developed.

PCSRF plays a key role in helping Washington fund implementation of the recovery plans and complements other state initiatives to improve salmon habitat, such as:

- **Puget Sound and Columbia River Salmon Recovery:** About 45 percent of PCSRF and state match are dedicated to projects restoring Puget Sound salmon and about 45 percent to projects restoring Columbia River basin salmon.
- **Salmon Strongholds:** Washington State is a member of the North American Salmon Stronghold Partnership, which focuses on protecting the healthiest remaining wild Pacific salmon ecosystems across North America to reduce their risk of decline.



## Tracking Progress



Washington has been a leader in tracking the progress of salmon recovery through:

- Publishing an online report on the status of salmon recovery statewide at [www.stateofsalmon.wa.gov](http://www.stateofsalmon.wa.gov).
- Funding and reporting the effectiveness of salmon recovery projects, and the status and trends in salmon populations.
- Developing and having all partners use an online database that displays information on salmon recovery actions and goals. The Habitat Work Schedule (<http://hws.ekosystem.us/>) makes it easy to see how projects statewide relate to each other and what needs to be done next for salmon.