

## Projects in Asotin County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$270,000**

### **Asotin County Conservation District Adding Log Structures to Couse Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$56,000**

The Asotin County Conservation District will use this grant to place about 250 logs, tree root wads, and engineered log structures in nearly 2 miles of Couse Creek, a Snake River tributary, in Asotin County. Adding log to a river slows the water, which reduces erosion and encourages the water to flow into the protected side channels, creating additional areas for salmon to spawn. Logs also create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied and productive habitat. This project is the first phase of a broader effort to improve stream habitat. The river is used by summer steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Asotin County Conservation District will contribute \$12,000 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1037)

### **Asotin County Conservation District Designing a Barrier Removal in Cougar Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$80,000**

The Asotin County Conservation District will use this grant to develop a construction-ready design to replace a culvert where Cougar Creek flows under the Grande Ronde River Road in southeast Washington. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry water under roads and often block fish migration because they are too steep, too tall, or too small to allow fish to pass through easily. Replacing this barrier will open about 2.25 miles of habitat upstream of the culvert. The river is used by summer steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Asotin County Conservation District will contribute \$20,000 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1055)

### **Asotin County Conservation District Designing a Project to Restore Couse Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$84,000**

The Asotin County Conservation District will use this grant to develop designs, produce ready-to-build engineering plans, and complete environmental review of a project to restore Couse Creek habitat. The future restoration project will improve access to flood channels, control invasive plants, and install log structures in the creek to increase the amount and variation of habitat for fish. Adding logs to a river slows the water, which reduces erosion and encourages the water to flow into the protected side channels, creating additional areas for salmon to spawn. Logs also create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. Finally, logs

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change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied and productive habitat. The river is used by summer steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Asotin County Conservation District will contribute \$21,000 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1054)

## **Asotin County Conservation District Improving Habitat in Tenmile Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$50,000**

The Asotin County Conservation District will use this grant to place about 150 logs and tree root wads, including engineered wood structures, in about 1.5 miles of Tenmile Creek, a Snake River tributary, in Asotin County. Adding logs to a river slows the water, which reduces erosion and encourages the water to flow into the protected side channels, creating additional areas for salmon to spawn. Logs also create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied and productive habitat. This project is the first phase of a broader effort to improve stream habitat. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Asotin County Conservation District will contribute \$10,000 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1036)

## **Projects in Benton County**

**Total Grants Awarded: \$305,964**

## **Benton Conservation District Planning for Extending Cool Water to the Lower Yakima River**

**Grant Awarded: \$305,964**

The Benton Conservation District will use this grant to design and permit a project to increase the amount of cool water available for adult species of salmon in two locations in the Yakima River. The conservation district has documented a groundwater-fed spring next to the Interstate 182 bridge near Richland that provides cool water to a Yakima River side channel and another cool-water contribution at the mouth of Amon Creek Wasteway. When the design is implemented, an area of cool water at the bridge will be expanded by deepening the spring outlet. The conservation district also will install a structure at the Amon Creek Wasteway that will delay or reduce the mixing of cool Amon Creek water with warm Yakima River water. The expansion of the cool water area, as well as the delay of cool and warm water mixing will provide critical habitat for adult steelhead and salmon during the warmer months. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon. The Benton Conservation District will contribute \$54,000 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1401)

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## **Projects in Chelan County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$999,362**

### **Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group** **Grant Awarded: \$378,667** **Creating Side Channel Habitat near Nason Creek**

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to create a side channel with connections to off-channel wetland habitat near Nason Creek. The enhancement group also will place logs and tree root wads in the creek. Adding logs to a creek slows the water, which reduces erosion and encourages the water to flow into the protected side channels, creating additional areas for salmon to spawn. Logs also create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied and productive habitat. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal act. The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$66,824 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1447)

### **Chelan County** **Grant Awarded: \$513,845** **Designing Habitat Improvements for Nason Creek**

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to develop a final design and implement a project to improve and expand habitat in the 1.6-mile Kahler reach of Nason Creek. The project will increase the variety of habitat in the creek and enhance access to nearby off-channel habitat in the reach. The creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal act. Chelan County will contribute \$149,021 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1468)

### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$106,850** **Studying Young Chinook Salmon Survival in the Upper Columbia River**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to analyze returning adult Chinook salmon otoliths—the structure in the inner ear—to better understand juvenile salmon survival strategies in the upper Columbia River. This information will illuminate the life history diversity of the Wenatchee and Entiat populations of spring Chinook with potential to inform future restoration efforts. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act. The department will contribute \$20,650 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1470)

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## Projects in Clallam County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$863,864**

### Clallam Conservation District

**Grant Awarded: \$82,115**

#### Designing a Project to Correct Sitkum River Stream Crossings

The Clallam Conservation District will use this grant to survey and design a project to replace three undersized and deteriorating culverts along Forest Service Road 2900. These culverts are pipes that carry Sitkum River under the road. Failure of the pipes would lead to large amounts of sediment entering Sitkum River. The river is used by coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1195)

### Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

**Grant Awarded: \$134,640**

#### Replacing Deteriorating Fishways to Restore Fish Passage

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition will use this grant to restore fish passage at three sites: Tall Timber (Bogachiel River), T-bone Springs (Dickey River), and Elkhorn (Dickey River). Built in the early 1980s to provide passage to juvenile rearing habitat, all three sites now have deteriorating fishways partially blocking fish migration. This project would replace the structures with more natural functioning solutions, such as a meandering channel with woody materials and rocks. Each site will be examined to determine the best approach for the site conditions. The streams are used by coho salmon and steelhead trout. The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition will contribute \$25,750 in donated materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1034)

### Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

**Grant Awarded: \$647,109**

#### Conserving Land in the Hoko-Lyre River Watershed

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy 216 acres of habitat within the Hoko-Lyre River watershed. The land includes coastal shoreline, streamside, wetlands, and forested habitat, all of which make up some of the most diverse shoreline habitat of the Salish Sea. In addition to providing habitat for salmon, the area also supports intact eelgrass and kelp habitat and provides public access for outdoor recreation. The watershed is used by chum, coho, and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. This is part of a \$880,000 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. The department will contribute \$450,000 in a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1143)

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## Projects in Clark County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$696,654**

### **Columbia Land Trust Protecting Horseshoe Falls**

**Grant Awarded: \$337,869**

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to buy 21.3 acres near Horseshoe Falls that includes nearly a half-mile of habitat along the East Fork Lewis River. By preserving the falls and surrounding forestland, the project will support fish and other wildlife habitat in and around the river, water quality, and other natural processes. The habitat protected includes the deep pool below the falls, which provides cold water for summer steelhead when water levels are low and temperatures high. The river is used by winter- and summer-run steelhead trout, which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The land trust will contribute \$150,000 in Conservation Futures.<sup>1</sup> Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1125)

### **Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership Planning the Restoration of East Fork Lewis River Habitat**

**Grant Awarded: \$161,505**

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will use this grant to develop preliminary designs for the removal of 1,200 feet of hardened (concrete and boulders) along the East Fork Lewis River, which will reconnect two tributaries to the river, improve the function of a 10-acre floodplain wetland, and restore habitat with native plants. The project will give salmon and steelhead access to historic floodplain habitats and several adjacent cool water tributaries. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1065)

### **Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board Evaluating Landscape Changes in the Lower Columbia River Region**

**Grant Awarded: \$129,000**

The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board will use this grant to collect information about how much land has changed in Clark, Skamania, and Wahkiakum Counties to better understand impacts on salmon recovery and future actions. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will calculate changes from 2011 to 2017 in tree cover, paved and other impervious surfaces, and plant coverage using new and existing data and imagery. The information will help answer questions about how the watershed functions, urbanization, and land use programs are affecting salmon habitat and what actions may be needed to support future salmon recovery. The data will be combined with matching information for Cowlitz, Lewis, and Pacific Counties to

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<sup>1</sup>Conservation futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

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support region-wide assessment. The board will contribute \$22,800 in donated materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1170)

## **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$68,280** **Measuring Fish Performance in the Lower Columbia River Region**

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to develop a process to calculate, transmit, and store hatchery fish population data essential to understanding their effect on wild salmon and salmon recovery. The measures will be developed for all hatchery-influenced populations in the lower Columbia River region and will be based on existing data gathered during population monitoring. This grant provides funds to gather the data, as well as the framework for these metrics to be systematically, accurately, and efficiently calculated and stored consistently in agency databases. With this infrastructure in place, the department can deliver the metrics to the regional fish recovery board annually to support recovery plan monitoring and adaptive management. The department will contribute \$15,757 in staff labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1165)

## **Projects in Columbia County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$792,593**

### **Columbia Conservation District** **Grant Awarded: \$81,066** **Planning the Restoration of the Tucannon River**

The Columbia Conservation District will use this grant to develop preliminary designs for a project to improve winter habitat for young salmon and steelhead in the Tucannon River. In this area of the river, the death rate is high for young salmon in the winter. Design goals include enhancing the complexity and diversity of habitat types in the river, connecting floodplains, sorting and storing sediment, and developing pools. The river is used by spring and fall Chinook salmon and summer steelhead and bull trout, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Columbia Conservation District will contribute \$20500 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1052)

### **Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation** **Grant Awarded: \$395,417** **Improving and Expanding North Fork Touchet River Habitat**

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will use this grant to set back a levee more than three-quarter mile on the North Touchet River to improve and expand habitat for fish. This will require the landowner, Empey Holdings, LLC., to give up at least 8 acres of apple orchard with a total of 15 acres incorporated into the surrounding floodplain. The Tribe also will place large logs in the river. Adding logs to a river creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide

from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The Tribe also will replace an 80-foot bridge with a larger bridge to allow the channel room to migrate naturally. This is the third and final phase of a broader project to improve North Touchet River habitat. The river is used by summer steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The river also is used by spring Chinook salmon, which has been reintroduced to the river after being extirpated. The Tribe will contribute \$304,833 in state and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1050)

## **Nez Perce Tribe Replacing a Tualum Creek Barrier**

**Grant Awarded: \$316,110**

The Nez Perce Tribe will use this grant to replace a culvert on Tualum Creek, expanding access to 6.5 miles of upstream habitat. The creek is a Tucannon River tributary in southeast Washington. Culverts are large pipes or other structures that carry water under roads and often block fish migration because they are too steep, too tall, or too small to allow fish to pass. The creek is used by summer steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Tribe will contribute \$67,861 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1053)

## **Projects in Cowlitz County**

**Total Grants Awarded: \$1,451,790**

## **Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Improving Fish Passage and Habitat in Baird Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$249,860**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to re-establish natural processes in the headwaters of Baird Creek, a Coweeman River tributary in Weyerhaeuser's Saint Helens Tree Farm. The enhancement group will create fish passage through the historic Baird Creek splash dam, which has been in place since 1901, and enhance the habitat by adding logs in the stream. Adding logs to a stream creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also can change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon the varied habitat they need. Logs also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. The enhancement group will plant trees and bushes along the creek, to shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat, and the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The river is used by coho salmon and steelhead, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The enhancement group

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will contribute \$45,000 in donated materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1080)

## **Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Restoring Camp Coweeman**

**Grant Awarded: \$952,130**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to enhance two side channels in the Coweeman River and sections of Baird Creek and the Coweeman River. The enhancement group will add large tree root wads and logs to the stream. Adding logs to a stream creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon the varied habitat they need. The project will connect surrounding floodplain and create about 7.35 miles of habitat. The river is used by coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The enhancement group will contribute \$187,500 in donated materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1081)

## **Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Restoring Habitat near the South Fork Toutle River**

**Grant Awarded: \$249,800**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to install at least 40 log structures and 38,900 plants on 46 acres along Johnson Creek and the South Fork Toutle River. The area has struggled to develop a forest 40 years after the eruption of Mount Saint Helens. The project is designed so the area will retain organic materials and fine sediments so the forest can establish. Once mature, the floodplain forests created with this project will support salmon habitat, a source for future in-stream logs, and a naturally functioning floodplain. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The enhancement group will contribute \$46,900 in donated materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1082)

## **Projects in Garfield County**

**Total Grants Awarded: \$282,850**

## **Pomeroy Conservation District Improving Alpowa Creek Habitat**

**Grant Awarded: \$83,300**

The Pomeroy Conservation District will use this grant to add about 160 log structures to improve in-stream habitat in about 2 miles of Alpowa Creek. This project will identify locations and install half the log structures in 2021 and the other half in 2022. The project is anticipated to create nearly 2 miles of habitat with 130 pools. Adding logs to a creek creates places for fish to

rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The river is used by summer steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Pomeroy Conservation District will contribute \$14,700 in donated materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1045)

## **Pomeroy Conservation District Improving Habitat in Tumalum Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$69,500**

The Pomeroy Conservation District will use grant install at least 30 human-made structures that mimic beaver dams and relocate beaver to improve habitat for steelhead in Tumalum Creek in Garfield County. Beaver dams slow the water and create pools, giving salmon places to rest and feed. The dams also block water, creating consistent water levels, which is helpful to salmon in drier months. The conservation district also will add log structures to the creek. Adding logs to a stream creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The river is used by summer steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Pomeroy Conservation District will contribute \$13,900 in donated equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1048)

## **Pomeroy Conservation District Restoring Upper Pataha Creek Habitat**

**Grant Awarded: \$130,050**

The Pomeroy Conservation District will use this grant to place 65 log structures in 1 mile of Pataha Creek, the largest tributary to the Tucannon River, near Pomeroy. Adding logs to a stream creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The project also includes installing a human-made structure that mimics a natural beaver dam to expand habitat. Beaver dams slow the water and create pools, giving salmon places to rest and feed. The dams also block water, creating consistent water levels, which is helpful to salmon in drier months. In addition, the conservation district will add plants to the creek side. Planting the bank helps shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The river is used by summer steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Pomeroy

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Conservation District will contribute \$35,750 in a local grant and donated equipment and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1047)

## **Projects in Grays Harbor County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$634,725**

### **Capitol Land Trust** **Grant Awarded: \$57,060** **Preserving Land near the Satsop River**

The Capitol Land Trust will conserve 136.6 acres of working forestland, protecting more than 1 mile of riverfront on the West Fork Satsop River and more than a quarter mile of an unnamed, fish-bearing stream. The land trust will conserve the land using a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, which prevents the land from converting to a subdivision and restricts development to two houses. The land trust will contribute \$323,340 in an Aquatic Species Restoration Plan grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1159)

### **Chehalis River Basin Land Trust** **Grant Awarded: \$177,665** **Protecting Land Near Hoquiam River**

The Chehalis River Basin Land Trust will use this grant to buy 39 acres, which includes a half-mile of shoreline and 10 acres of wetlands, on West Hoquiam River near the City of Hoquiam. The land trust also will plant native plants on 5 acres. Planting the riverbank helps shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The river is used by chum and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The land trust will contribute \$31,744 in staff labor, a private grant, and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1022)

### **Grays Harbor Conservation District** **Grant Awarded: \$250,000** **Restoring Middle Fork Hoquiam Habitat**

The Grays Harbor Conservation District will use this grant to remove 10 barriers to migrating fish and restore tidal estuary floodplain in the lower Middle Fork Hoquiam River on land owned by the Chehalis River Basin Land Trust. The project will expand juvenile fish access to 3.5 miles of stream habitat and 153 acres of estuary. The conservation district also will plant spruce trees in 45 acres of alder-dominated forest to speed the development of conifer-dominated forest composition. The river is used by chum and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The Grays Harbor Conservation District will contribute \$2 million in a Washington Coast Restoration and

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Resiliency grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1130)

## **Quinault Indian Nation** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000** **Controlling Invasive Plants near the Lower Quinault River**

The Quinault Indian Nation will use this grant to survey and treat invasive knotweed across 3,440 acres near the lower Quinault River. Of the 1,768 acres planned to be surveyed and treated in the first year of the 2-year project, 855 are estimated to be infested with knotweed. Of acres planned to be surveyed in the second year, about 500 acres are estimated to be retreated. Year two also will include survey and retreatment of the previous year's treatment locations. The river is used by chum, coho, and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The tribe will contribute \$26,473 in staff labor and a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1001)

## **Projects in Island County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$217,645**

### **Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation** **Grant Awarded: \$170,488** **Restoring Hoypus Point in Cornet Bay**

The Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation will use this grant to plan and permit a project to remove about 325 feet of stones and fill from the north end of Deception Pass State Park's Cornet Bay Day-Use Area, restoring .33 acre of beach habitat. Removing the shoreline stones and fill should give forage fish more room to spawn and young salmon more space to forage. The bay and near-shore are used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1124)

### **Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation** **Grant Awarded: \$47,157** **Restoring Shoreline Habitat Along Polnell Point**

The Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation will use this grant to design and permit a project to remove up to a quarter mile of shoreline armor from the road that connects a sand bar to Polnell Point on the eastern edge of the Naval Air Station Whidbey Island's Seaplane Base. Armor is generally a human-made structure that protects a shoreline from coastal erosion. Removing the armor should enhance the area for spawning habitat for Pacific sand lance and surf smelt. The water is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by pink salmon. The Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation will contribute \$26,731 in a grant from the state Estuary and Salmon

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Restoration Program and donated labor. This is part of a nearly \$150,000 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1146)

## Projects in Jefferson County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$425,767**

### **Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group**

**Grant Awarded: \$45,700**

#### **Appraising Land along the Lower Big Quilcene River**

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to conduct appraisals and cultural reviews for 11.45 acres in the Big Quilcene River estuary in the upper west corner of Quilcene Bay in Hood Canal. The goal is to restore the land's estuary function. The river is used by chum salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The enhancement group will contribute \$81,000 in a state grant. This is part of a \$454,650 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1113)

### **Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition**

**Grant Awarded: \$23,546**

#### **Restoring Morganroth Springs Wetland Habitat**

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition will use this grant to design a project that will address a failing wooden embankment and fishway at the outlet of Morganroth Springs wetland. Morganroth Springs flow into the Bogachiel River. The design will feature a more permanent solution that restores natural conditions and processes and requires no maintenance. The wetland is used by coho salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1068)

### **Trout Unlimited Inc.**

**Grant Awarded: \$111,920**

#### **Developing a Project to Restore Owl Creek**

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to evaluate about 1.7 miles of Owl Creek and its floodplain and then develop a plan for habitat restoration. Trout Unlimited will review background data, engage stakeholders, collect data, evaluate geomorphology and hydrology, and develop preliminary and conceptual designs. The creek is used by coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1021)

## **Trout Unlimited Removing a Barrier to Migrating Fish**

**Grant Awarded: \$244,601**

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to correct a barrier to migrating fish in an unnamed tributary to Matheny Creek under Forest Service Road 2100. The project will protect against road washout, prevent unnatural erosion, and re-establish the natural transport of sediment and woody materials through the site to support habitat formation processes. The stream is used by coho and Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. Trout Unlimited Inc. will contribute \$200,000 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1002)

## **Projects in King County**

**Total Grants Awarded: \$932,752**

## **Kent Restoring Green River Habitat**

**Grant Awarded: \$295,894**

The City of Kent will use this grant to build side channel habitat and reconnect floodplain on the left bank of the Green River. The project will create additional storage for water during storms and flooding and will help reduce flood risk in nearby urban and agricultural areas. The Green River is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. The City will contribute \$873,545 in a local grant and donated labor and materials. This is part of a \$4.6 million project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1067)

## **Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust Improving Habitat in Issaquah Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$391,711**

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will use this grant to design, permit, and build a project that will place large woody materials in, and plant the banks of, more than a half-mile of Issaquah Creek in Lake Sammamish State Park. Adding logs to a creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bed of the stream, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the creek, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust also will install an interpretive sign to educate park visitors about ways they can support salmon recovery. Issaquah Creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The imperiled Lake Sammamish kokanee salmon also use Issaquah Creek. The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will contribute \$325,000 in staff labor, a local grant, and donated labor.

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This is part of a \$1.8 million project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1060)

## **Tulalip Tribes**

**Grant Awarded: \$245,147**

### **Preserving Land in the Snohomish River Floodplain**

The Tulalip Tribes will use this grant to refine and apply the Snohomish Floodplain Acquisition Strategy to prioritize salmon habitat acquisitions in the Snohomish River and the watersheds of the Skykomish and Pilchuck Rivers for conservation and future restoration. The grant also will be used to buy 30 acres in the Middle Pilchuck River watershed, conserving floodplain and more than 1 mile of river or side channel habitat in an area that has been the focus of considerable restoration and conservation efforts. The rivers and their watersheds are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Tulalip Tribes will contribute \$109,196 in cash and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1139)

## **Projects in Kitsap County**

**Total Grants Awarded: \$971,727**

### **Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group**

**Grant Awarded: \$281,727**

#### **Preserving Land near Lower Big Beef Creek**

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to buy 53.8 acres of freshwater and riverbank habitat critical for chum salmon. The purchase will complete a larger effort to conserve 297 acres near Big Beef Creek. The river is used by chum salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The enhancement group will contribute \$77,775 in a local grant. This is part of a \$440,500 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1111)

### **Great Peninsula Conservancy**

**Grant Awarded: \$690,000**

#### **Conserving Habitat on Misery Point**

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to buy about 20 acres of undeveloped shoreline along Misery Point in northern Seabeck Bay. By buying this land, the conservancy will protect a continuous, unmodified stretch of more than a half-mile of Hood Canal as well as a 1,000-foot sand spit, a 2.3-acre lagoon, eelgrass beds, and feeder bluffs. The project site is documented spawning habitat for surf smelt, sand lance, and Pacific herring. The bay is used by

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Chinook and chum salmon, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The conservancy will contribute \$980,000 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1115)

## **Projects in Kittitas County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$632,311**

### **Kittitas Conservation Trust** **Grant Awarded: \$292,629** **Conserving Land in the Upper Yakima River Floodplain**

The Kittitas Conservation Trust will use this grant to buy 15 acres along the Yakima River to support habitat for salmon. The land includes wetlands, old-growth cottonwood and aspen stands, about 700 feet of Yakima River riverbank, and more than a quarter mile of side channels. This reach of the river is used by mid-Columbia steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon. The Kittitas Conservation Trust will contribute \$51,641 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1203)

### **Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group** **Grant Awarded: \$100,305** **Caring for the Yakima River Basin**

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to perform stewardship at six Yakima River basin restoration sites. Work will include weed control, replanting, and irrigation and fence maintenance. This project is a multi-partner collaboration. Stewardship of these sites ensures that previous projects are maintained in a way that achieves the greatest habitat value. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon. The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$50,094 in a state grant and donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1391)

### **Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group** **Grant Awarded: \$118,900** **Improving Floodplain and Habitat in the West and Middle Fork Teanaway Rivers**

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to design and permit a project to place large log structures in the west and middle forks of the Teanaway River in the Teanaway Community Forest. Adding logs to a creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the creek, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the creek, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The river forks are used

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by mid-Columbia steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook salmon. The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$21,500. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1390)

## **Trout Unlimited Inc.**

**Grant Awarded: \$120,477**

### **Removing the Tjossem Ditch Headworks Structure**

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to evaluate, design, and implement a project to remove the Tjossem Ditch headworks structure and rock dam in the side channel leading to the ditch. The project also will install interpretive signs and prepare preliminary designs to restore the abandoned ditch. Removing the headworks structures will eliminate a potential source of fish mortality and allow for more natural functions in the Yakima River. The river is used by mid-Columbia steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon. Trout Unlimited Inc. will contribute \$21,300 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1398)

## **Projects in Klickitat County**

**Total Grants Awarded: \$264,436**

## **Columbia Land Trust**

**Grant Awarded: \$144,123**

### **Improving Klickitat River Floodplain Habitat**

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to plant plants and control weeds along 8 miles of the recently restored floodplain and riverbanks of the Klickitat River. This is the final phase of restoration work along this area of the Klickitat River and its floodplain and tributary confluences. Planting along a shoreline helps shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. This reach of the river is used by summer and winter run steelhead trout, which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho and Chinook salmon. The land trust will contribute \$25,434 in cash, labor, and equipment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1545)

## **Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group**

**Grant Awarded: \$120,313**

### **Relocating Beavers to Improve Salmon Habitat**

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to plan, design, and implement a project to move nuisance beavers to salmon-bearing streams. During the first year of the project, biologists will identify release sites with landowners based on stream surveys.

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These surveys will focus on streams most likely to have high potential for habitat creation based on local knowledge, input from land managers, and the results of two beaver models that will have been completed for the area. Beaver releases are planned for the second and third year of the grant. By building dams, beavers kickstart a variety of habitat improvements that include raising water tables, re-timing runoff that reduces low summer flows, and adding wood. The work will occur on tributaries in Klickitat County and will benefit coho salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The enhancement group will contribute \$21,400 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1565)

## **Projects in Lewis County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$189,140**

### **Lewis County** **Grant Awarded: \$119,622** **Designing a Project to Improve Fish Passage in Berwick Creek**

The Lewis County Public Works Department will use this grant to design a project to replace a fish passage barrier in Berwick Creek as it passes under Labree Road near Chehalis. The barrier will be replaced with a bridge. Once another downstream barrier and four upstream barriers are removed, coho salmon will have full access to 11 miles of habitat and steelhead trout to 9 miles above the site. The County, Port of Chehalis, and Lewis Conservation District are working together to remove all remaining passage barriers in this system in the next 5 years. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1103)

### **Port of Chehalis** **Grant Awarded: \$69,518** **Improving Fish Passage in Berwick Creek**

The Port of Chehalis will use this grant towards replacing two 6-foot pipes, which are blocking fish migration in Berwick Creek. The pipes will be replaced with a larger structure, restoring access to more than a quarter mile of habitat once the other downstream barriers are removed. Once four additional upstream and downstream barriers are removed, coho salmon will have full access to an additional 9.6 miles of habitat and steelhead trout to 7.9 miles. The Port, Lewis County, and the Lewis Conservation District are working together to remove all remaining passage barriers in this system in the next 5 years. The Port of Chehalis will contribute \$783,326 in matching resources. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1160)

## Projects in Mason County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$323,091**

### **Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Monitoring and Assessing Union River Summer Chum**

**Grant Awarded: \$112,534**

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to monitor and assess the Union River summer chum salmon stock. The overall goal of this project is to estimate the number of wild summer chum, their survival rates, and their movement in and out of the Union River near Belfair from December 2021 to December 2023. The assessment also will look at how well the river supports the salmon. Results from this project will help inform efforts to implement better recovery actions for summer chum southeast Hood Canal. The river is used by chum salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The enhancement group will contribute \$21,400 in donated labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1163)

### **Mason Conservation District Restoring Streambank Habitat on Goldsborough and Mill Creeks**

**Grant Awarded: \$136,026**

The Mason Conservation District will use this grant to maintain and expand its creekbank planting efforts to improve habitat for salmon. The conservation district will plant 2.7 acres of dense trees and shrubs, plant an additional 4 acres through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, maintain 21 acres of existing plants, and continue knotweed control efforts on up to 8 acres in Mill and Goldsborough Creeks. In addition, the conservation district will assess and treat knotweed throughout Cranberry and Deer Creeks. Planting trees and bushes along a shoreline helps shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The creeks are used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. The Mason Conservation District will contribute \$33,750 in a state and federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1084)

### **South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group Restoring Skookum Creek Habitat**

**Grant Awarded: \$74,531**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to add tree root wads and logs along 400 feet of Skookum Creek. Adding logs to a creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The

# Salmon Recovery Grants Awarded 2020



enhancement group also will remove invasive blackberry and reed canary grass and plant native plants along the creek. Planting trees and bushes along a shoreline shades the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The creek is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will contribute \$46,950 from a Squaxin Island Tribe grant. This is part of a \$266,000 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1090)

## **Projects in Okanogan County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$856,438**

### **Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakima Nation Grant Awarded: \$266,485** **Restoring Chewuch River Habitat**

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to re-connect a side channel to Chewuch River to restore and enhance year-round salmon habitat. The project will address the top concerns for the river by restoring side channel and floodplain connections, increasing the types of habitat in the river, and restoring habitat-forming processes. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal act. The Yakama Nation will contribute \$392,866 in cash and a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1460)

### **Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Grant Awarded: \$182,456** **Restoring Habitat near Alder Creek**

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to excavate and place large tree root wads and logs in Alder Creek to support side channel habitat. Adding logs to a creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The Yakama Nation also will plant native plants along the creek to shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. Finally, the Tribe will control invasive plants. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal act.

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The Yakama Nation will contribute \$391,767 in cash and a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1457)

## **Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Improving Habitat in Upper Beaver Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$336,035**

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to improve fish passage at two irrigation diversions on Beaver Creek, opening more than 17 miles of upstream habitat and 1.5 acres of wetlands. The project also will improve connectivity to off-channel and floodplain habitat and improve flood capacity in Beaver Creek. The creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal act. The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will contribute \$59,307 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1450)

## **Okanogan Conservation District Designing Restoration of Loup Loup Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$71,462**

The Okanogan Conservation District will use this grant to develop a reach assessment and floodplain restoration design on 1.2 acres of private land near the town of Malott on Loup Loup Creek, a tributary to the Okanogan River. The reach assessment will characterize the trends of watershed habitat conditions, hydrology, and geomorphology in the creek. The data will be used to develop a list of potential restoration actions to improve habitat conditions for rearing and spawning steelhead. The conservation district will continue community outreach to identify landowner concerns and assess the feasibility of the restoration actions. Additionally, the conservation district will produce preliminary designs to improve floodplain connectivity and creek bank conditions. The creek is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1469)

## **Projects in Pacific County**

**Total Grants Awarded: \$900,796**

## **Cowlitz Indian Tribe Restoring the Lower East Fork Grays River**

**Grant Awarded: \$598,883**

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to build logjams in 1.3 miles of the lower East Fork Grays River, reconnecting floodplains and improving habitat for salmon and steelhead. Adding logs to a river creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The river is used by coho salmon, which is a species listed as threatened

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with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will contribute \$113,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1177)

## **Pacific Conservation District** **Grant Awarded: \$200,000** **Designing Projects to Restore the Middle Nemah River**

The Pacific Conservation District will use this grant to design a series of projects to restore the Middle Nemah River. The projects would add large woody materials to the river to reconnect the floodplain and side channels, remove portions of an abandoned road prism that blocks movement of the stream, and remove a road crossing and the structure that carries the river under the road. Together these actions would restore stream habitat and function in up to 2.5 miles of the river. The river is used by Chinook, coho, and chum salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1520)

## **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$101,913** **Designing the Removal of the Talbot Dam**

The department will use this grant to produce a complete engineering design for a project that will remove the 20-foot-tall Talbot Dam on Green Creek. The project ultimately will rebuild the creek channel, add large woody materials to the channel, and plant the creek banks. The grant will pay for engineer and geological surveys of the project reaches, a preliminary design, an engineered design, a design report, a cultural resources report, and applications submitted for all required permits. Once the dam is removed, fish will have more spawning and rearing habitat in a new meandering channel. The creek currently has steep banks and little woody materials to provide habitat variety. The creek is used by chum and coho salmon and steelhead, sea run cutthroat, and resident trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1188)

## **Projects in Pend Oreille County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$342,000**

### **Kalispel Tribe of Indians** **Grant Awarded: \$237,250** **Replacing Jungle Creek Culverts**

The Kalispel Tribe of Indians will use this grant to replace two culverts on Jungle Creek that block salmon migration. The culverts, which are large pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads, are on Stimson Timber Company land and in the Colville National Forest. The Kalispel Tribe of Indians will contribute \$89,150 in a grant from Seattle City Light. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1207)

## **The Lands Council Designing the Restoration of Mill Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$104,750**

The Lands Council, a Spokane-based nonprofit, is partnering with Pend Oreille County and U.S. Forest Service, to use this grant to complete planning and 50 percent design for a project to restore a reach of Mill Creek. The creek goes under North LeClerc Road before entering the Pend Oreille River and is unnaturally confined at this point. About a quarter mile of the creek and its floodplain will be considered for restoration. Mill Creek is used by bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1204)

## **Projects in Pierce County**

**Total Grants Awarded: \$1,151,095**

## **Forterra Designing Chambers Creek Dam Removal and Estuary Restoration**

**Grant Awarded: \$204,684**

Forterra will use this grant to complete preliminary designs for a project to remove the Chambers Creek Dam and restore the estuary. Chambers Creek dam is about three-quarters mile upstream from the mouth of Chambers Creek between Lakewood and University Place in Pierce County. The dam blocks upstream fish passage from the Chambers Bay estuary to the freshwater portions of Chambers Creek and downstream passage for young salmon. The dam also has blocked natural habitat forming processes which, combined with the railroad embankment, have reduced the size of the Chambers Bay estuary. The creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, and by chum and pink salmon. Forterra Northwest will contribute \$36,121 in a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1101)

## **Great Peninsula Conservancy Conserving the Rocky Creek Estuary**

**Grant Awarded: \$266,339**

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to buy and permanently conserve about 163 acres on the Key Peninsula in Pierce County. The land contains more than 1.3 miles of salmon streams and other habitat where Rocky Creek flows into Rocky Bay. The project will safeguard intact and fully functioning critical habitat for salmon including spawning streams and a portion of the estuary. After buying the land, the Great Peninsula Conservancy will manage it as a nature preserve. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon and cutthroat trout. The Great Peninsula Conservancy will contribute \$650,000 in a local grant. This is part of a \$1.3 million project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and

Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1007)

## **Nisqually Land Trust Conserving Middle Ohop Creek**

**Grant Awarded: \$164,510**

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to conserve 6.5 acres along Ohop Creek. The land trust will buy 5 acres and conserve another 1.5 acres using a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement. The land includes more than a quarter mile of the creek shoreline along a critical spawning reach as well as part of the creek floodplain. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, and by chum and pink salmon. The Nisqually Land Trust will contribute \$29,150 in cash, a local grant, and donated materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1029)

## **Nisqually Land Trust Conserving the North Shoreline of the Nisqually River's Wilcox Reach**

**Grant Awarded: \$83,239**

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to finish a project to buy 185 acres, including 151 acres of shoreline, along the Wilcox reach of the Nisqually River, near Yelm in Pierce County. The land is one of the last large undeveloped shoreline properties on the Nisqually River. About 100 acres are in an extremely dynamic reach of the river's channel migration zone. If developed, the land could hold up to 37 homes. This acquisition would prevent loss of shoreline trees and plants and habitat degradation from logging, development, livestock grazing, and off-road vehicle use. This project also would connect two substantial blocks of permanently protected Nisqually River shoreline. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. This is part of a \$1 million project that was funded previously by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The Nisqually Land Trust will contribute \$390,000 from another grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (16-1450)

## **Puyallup Tribe of Indians Assessing Puyallup River Juvenile Salmon**

**Grant Awarded: \$54,998**

The Puyallup Tribe of Indians will use this grant to monitor the juvenile salmon leaving the Puyallup River for the ocean to estimate their numbers, timing of the migration, and other characteristics. This information is critical to monitoring the health and recovery of salmon stocks in the Puyallup watershed and Puget Sound region. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the

federal Endangered Species Act. The Puyallup Tribe of Indians will contribute \$95,002 in federal and private grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1181)

## **South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group** **Grant Awarded: \$12,455** **Designing Projects to Restore South Prairie and Wilkeson Creeks**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to identify and design projects for the lower 15.5 miles of South Prairie Creek and the lower 6 miles of Wilkeson Creek. The enhancement group will reach out to landowners, develop preliminary designs for up to four floodplain restoration projects, create detailed recommendations for other properties to be acquired, and examine areas for other restoration efforts. The creeks are used by Chinook salmon and bull and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon and cutthroat trout. The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will contribute \$76,000 in a state grant. This is part of a \$427,500 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1074)

## **South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group** **Grant Awarded: \$129,000** **Designing the Restoration of the Middle Ohop Valley**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to develop preliminary designs for two projects aimed at improving spawning and rearing habitat and off-channel and side channel habitat in the middle portions of the Ohop Creek. The goal of the project is to improve spawning and rearing habitat, stream complexity, and habitat diversity in Ohop Creek. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, and by chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1038)

## **South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group** **Grant Awarded: \$235,870** **Exploring Projects to Restore the Sequelitchew Creek Estuary**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to evaluate and create conceptual designs for projects to restore the Sequelitchew Creek estuary. The enhancement group will look at restoring floodplain connection and off-channel habitat in the small estuary, restoring fish passage, replanting the estuary and creekbanks, restoring and protecting habitats for juvenile salmon, restore eelgrass and kelp beds, and restoring habitat for the fish salmon eat. The creek is used by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, and cutthroat trout. The

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South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will contribute \$41,795 in a private grant and donated equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1096)

## Projects in San Juan County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$277,742**

### Friends of the San Juans

**Grant Awarded: \$40,000**

#### Removing a Toxic Bulkhead on Shaw Island

The Friends of the San Juans will use this grant to remove a toxic, low elevation bulkhead on Shaw Island's Broken Point. Removal of the bulkhead will restore beach habitat and near-shore processes in an area used by salmon and salmon prey. The Friends of the San Juans will remove 235 linear feet of creosote wood and rock fill bulkhead and fallen rock debris from an adjacent beach and relocate a shed inland. The area is used by forage fish that salmon eat, including Pacific sand lance and surf smelt, and by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Friends of the San Juans will contribute \$23,150 in donated labor and materials. This is part of a \$131,164 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1562)

### Friends of the San Juans

**Grant Awarded: \$35,750**

#### Identifying Sand Lance Spawning Habitat

The Friends of San Juans will use this grant to identify new Pacific sand lance spawning beaches in San Juan County with the goal of improving their protection and restoration. Sand lance are one of the most important sources of food for Chinook salmon. Pacific sand lance spawn on sandy intertidal beaches and are vulnerable to the impacts of shoreline development such as armoring. There are only nine documented spawning beaches in San Juan County and research suggests that local populations of Pacific sand lance are at significantly higher densities than what the nine known spawning beaches could produce. The friends' group will use state standard field and sample processing protocols, research results, partnerships, and extensive community participation to conduct three seasons of surveys. Results of these surveys likely will expand restoration, conservation, and regulatory protection of sand lance spawning habitat. Marine shorelines in San Juan County provide important feeding and rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon from across the Puget Sound region as they migrate through on their way to the ocean. Chinook salmon is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Friends of the San Juans will contribute \$14,108 in a private grant and donations of labor. This is part of a larger project that was funded previously by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1746)

## San Juan County

**Grant Awarded: \$122,587**

### Designing the Restoration of Jackson Beach

The San Juan County Public Works Department will use this grant to design a restoration project that will remove heavy armor from about 1 acre of Jackson Beach shoreline and bank and grade the beach to a more natural slope, in an effort to restore habitat for forage fish, which are an important source of food for salmon. Jackson Beach is a known surf smelt and sand lance spawning beach. The future project also would relocate two utility poles and grade and replant another 3 acres of the upper floodplain. In this first phase of the project, the County will complete a feasibility analyses, design, and permitting. Because the armor was placed with very large mining equipment, the granite boulders are too large and heavy to be moved with conventional equipment. Part of this initial effort is to determine the most cost-effective way to deliver this project. The area is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1040)

## San Juan County

**Grant Awarded: \$79,405**

### Planning Crescent Beach Restoration

The San Juan County Public Works Department will use this grant to finish the planning for a project to improve tidal and fish access to a large saltmarsh north of Crescent Beach Road on Orcas Island. Currently, a too-small culvert is plugged with sand and restricting tidal exchange between Ship Bay and a lagoon. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry water under roads and often block fish migration because they are too steep, too tall, or too small to allow fish to pass through easily. The county will complete a hydraulic study and design alternatives. Ship Bay is core spawning habitat for the herring, and Crescent Beach is a spawning beach for Pacific sand lance. Salmon eat both of those species. San Juan County will contribute \$18,000 in donated labor. This is part of a larger project that was funded previously by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1451)

## Projects in Skagit County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$1,143,676**

## Lummi Nation

**Grant Awarded: \$23,000**

### Placing Logjams in the South Fork Nooksack River

The Lummi Nation will use this grant to place logjams in the upper South Fork Nooksack River, north of State Route 20 in the Fobes Creek reach, and plant islands in the river to improve habitat for salmon. The Tribe will place 36 logjams in the river and another three that span the river channel. Adding logs to a river creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed,

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creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. Planting trees and bushes along a shoreline helps shade the water, cooling it for fish. The Tribe will plant 11 acres on three islands in the river with trees and shrubs. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The work will combat incision, raise the level of the river bottom, encourage split flows and a branching channel, increase side channel habitat and floodplain connectivity, enhance a cool water tributary channel, and create cool pools where salmon can rest in the summer. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; by chum, pink, and sockeye salmon; and by bull trout. The Lummi Nation will contribute \$491,655 in a federal grant. This is part of a \$1.7 million project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1150)

## **Seattle City Light Conserving and Restoring Day Slough**

**Grant Awarded: \$452,200**

Seattle City Light will use this grant to explore options to buy and restore land along the banks of Kosbab and Lower Day Sloughs in middle Skagit River. In the first phase, Seattle City Light will work with private landowners to focus on areas immediately next to slough habitats and will control invasive species and plant rows of trees and shrubs in 130-foot-wide strips along the sloughs. Maintenance of the larger property will include haying twice a year to prevent weeds from spreading to neighbors. The sloughs are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, and by chum salmon. Seattle City Light will contribute \$106,200. This is part of a \$601,200 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1394)

## **Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Planting the Shorelines of the Skagit River System**

**Grant Awarded: \$200,000**

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, in partnership with the Skagit River System Cooperative, will use this grant to plant trees and shrubs along shorelines in the Skagit River watershed in both Skagit and Snohomish Counties. The primary goal is to protect and restore functional shoreline and floodplain forests. The watershed is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$52,942 in a local

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grant and donated labor and materials. This is part of a \$300,000 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1373)

## **Skagit Land Trust**

**Grant Awarded: \$368,476**

### **Conserving Salmon Habitat in the Skagit Watershed**

The Skagit Land Trust, in partnership with Seattle City Light, will use this grant to buy 100 acres of high-quality Chinook and steelhead habitat in the Skagit River system. The partners are looking to conserve floodplains along the Skagit, Sauk, and Cascade Rivers as well as habitat areas along major tributaries and creeks. The land trust also will use the grant for outreach, evaluation, site visits, and research on each potential acquisition. The purchases will help to protect permanently priority habitat for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Skagit Land Trust will contribute \$176,471. This is part of a \$1 million project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1326)

## **Skagit River System Cooperative**

**Grant Awarded: \$100,000**

### **Designing the Restoration of Barnaby Reach**

The Skagit River System Cooperative will use this grant to complete preliminary designs and initiate permitting for the second phase of restoration of Barnaby reach, which will restore fish passage and flow to the Harrison Slough complex. The future project will divert Illabot Creek through an historic channel to Upper Harrison Slough and eventually to the Skagit River. It also will remove a culvert in Upper Harrison Slough as well as levees, a dike, and a fishway at the mouth of Harrison Pond, all of which have been blocking fish passage. Ultimately the project will extend lower Illabot Creek by about 3.4 miles and provide a diversity of habitat to benefit salmon. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. The Skagit River System Cooperative will contribute \$81,900 in a federal grant. This is part of a \$463,926 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1382)

## Projects in Skamania County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$792,362**

### **Cowlitz Indian Tribe**

**Grant Awarded: \$746,811**

#### **Removing the Camp Kwoneesum Dam**

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to remove Camp Kwoneesum Dam, which blocks salmon in Wildboy Creek, a tributary to the West Fork Washougal River. The 55-foot-tall and 425-foot-long rock dam creates a 9-acre reservoir and blocks all fish passage to 6.5 miles of habitat. The Tribe plans to remove the dam next summer. The removal follows previous projects to design the dam removal and acquire the surrounding land to provide additional watershed benefits. The creek is used by coho salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will contribute \$1.5 million. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1176)

### **Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group**

**Grant Awarded: \$45,551**

#### **Planting Trees and Pulling Weeds in the Former Condit Reservoir**

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to plant trees along .3 acre of riverbank and in other vacant areas of the former Condit Dam reservoir, and remove noxious weeds, weed mats, and tree tubes that were left from earlier planting after the dam was removed. Planting trees along a shoreline helps shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The river is used by steelhead trout and coho and Chinook salmon, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$8,040 in donated labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1563)

## Projects in Snohomish County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$965,320**

### **Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group**

**Grant Awarded: \$200,000**

#### **Planting the Shorelines of the Skagit River System**

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, in partnership with the Skagit River System Cooperative, will use this grant to plant trees and shrubs along shorelines in the Skagit River watershed in both Snohomish and Skagit Counties. The primary goal is to protect and restore functional shoreline and floodplain forests. The watershed is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum

and pink salmon. The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$52,942 in a local grant and donated labor and materials. This is part of a \$300,000 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1373)

## **Snohomish County** **Grant Awarded: \$160,000** **Controlling Knotweed Along the Stillaguamish River**

The Snohomish County Department of Public Works will use this grant to continue control knotweed on about 120 acres along the South Fork and North Fork of the Stillaguamish River between Oso and Arlington. The County also will plant trees along the shorelines to shade the water, cooling it for fish. The trees will drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Also, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The County will contribute \$35,500 in a state grant and donations of materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1151)

## **Snohomish County** **Grant Awarded: \$130,000** **Restoring Chatham Acres**

The Snohomish County Department of Public Works will use this grant to continue to plan and design a project to add logs and plant native trees and shrubs along the North Fork Stillaguamish River and Chatham Acres, a known area of cold water for fish. Adding logs to a stream creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. Planting trees and bushes along a shoreline shades the water, cooling it for fish. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1147)

## **Snohomish County Public Utilities District** **Grant Awarded: \$129,984** **Designing the Activation of the Sultan River Floodplain**

The Snohomish County Public Utilities District will use this grant to assess the feasibility and complete preliminary designs for a salmon habitat restoration project that will use a combination of physical interventions and flow management to re-engage and restore parts of the Sultan River floodplain. The Public Utilities District will assess the feasibility of placing large,

woody materials and boulders in the area and excavating and reconfiguring it to expand and add habitat complexity to an existing channel and side channel network that currently provides prime rearing habitat. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1306)

## **Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians Conserving Stillaguamish River Tidal Wetlands**

**Grant Awarded: \$209,070**

The Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians will use this grant to buy about 248 acres of former wetlands at the mouth of the Stillaguamish River. This land was diked and drained in the late 1800s for farming and is only about 7 feet above sea level. Buying the land would be the first step in supporting the Tribe's efforts to move the levees back, flooding the land once again for habitat for Chinook salmon. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Tribe will contribute \$1.3 million in state and federal grants. This is part of a \$1.8 million project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1365)

## **Tulalip Tribes Designing a Project to Restore Haskel Slough**

**Grant Awarded: \$136,266**

The Tulalip Tribes will use this grant to develop a conceptual design for a project to modify the inlet dike on the 2.4-mile Haskel Slough, a Skykomish River side channel, to promote increased connectivity, water quantity, and water quality. The deteriorating training dike at the upstream end of the slough prevents water flow except during floods. The future project should create additional areas of cool water for salmon to rest, add floodplain storage, and help prevent infrastructure damage resulting from catastrophic dike failure. As part of this initial planning phase, the Tulalip Tribes will assess landowner willingness, develop alternatives, analyze area geomorphology, perform community outreach, and develop conceptual designs. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. The Tulalip Tribes will contribute \$33,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1140)

## Projects in Thurston County

**Total Grants Awarded: \$176,039**

### **South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group**

**Grant Awarded: \$85,986**

#### **Assessing Barriers to Migrating Fish in Thurston County**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to develop an inventory of barriers to migrating fish in Water Resources Inventory Area 13, which covers Thurston County. The enhancement group will fill data gaps, focusing on private and public road crossings, which were last assessed more than 10 years ago. Preliminary designs for the top three ranked crossing also will be completed. Thurston County streams are used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will contribute \$23,029 in a private grant and donated equipment and labor. This is part of a \$130,496 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1198)

### **South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group**

**Grant Awarded: \$42,993**

#### **Designing a Project to Remove a Bulkhead at The Evergreen State College**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to design the removal of a bulkhead, or retaining wall, from shoreline near The Evergreen State College. The enhancement group will conduct a cultural assessment, coordinate with nearby landowners, and develop preliminary designs to improve natural shoreline functions. The shoreline is used by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, and by Chinook and chum salmon, and by small forage fish, which salmon eat. This is part of a \$90,000 project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1189)

### **Wild Fish Conservancy**

**Grant Awarded: \$47,060**

#### **Planning a Project to Protect Deschutes River Tributary Habitat**

The Wild Fish Conservancy, with the Thurston Conservation District as a partner, will use this grant to develop preliminary designs to protect and restore 22 acres of tributary habitat along the upper Deschutes River in Thurston County. Potential restoration actions include removing three failing culverts, installing fencing to keep livestock out of streams and wetlands, adding tree root wads and large logs to the stream, and planting native trees along the shorelines. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and often block fish migration because they are too steep, perched too far above the stream, or too small to allow fish to pass through easily. Adding logs to a stream creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. Logs also trap gravel and cause upwellings, creating important areas for salmon

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to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon the varied habitat they require. The conservancy will explore the potential of a voluntary land preservation agreement, also known as a conservation easement, with the landowner, who has expressed interest in continuing to use the land to pasture his livestock. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; by chum salmon; and by coastal cutthroat trout, among other native fish, invertebrate, and amphibian species. The project partners will contribute \$1,500 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1192)

## **Projects in Walla Walla County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$173,757**

### **Walla Walla County Conservation District** **Grant Awarded: \$95,648** **Designing Touchet River Habitat Restoration**

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to create final engineering designs for a habitat restoration project in the Touchet River below its confluence with Coppei Creek, 1 mile west of Waitsburg. The goal for the project is to restore natural river processes that create a river with varied habitat in the water and a dynamic complex of floodplains and side channels. The river is used by summer steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by reintroduced spring Chinook salmon. The Walla Walla County Conservation District will contribute \$5,000 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1035)

### **Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** **Grant Awarded: \$78,109** **Monitoring Young Fish in the Touchet River**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to monitor steelhead in the Touchet River. The department has been monitoring Touchet River summer steelhead smolt production at a smolt trap immediately below where Harvey-Shaw Road crosses the river. Smolts are young steelhead, about 2 years old, that assume the silvery color of the adult and are ready to migrate to the sea. Scientists believe mid-Columbia River steelhead are nearing recovery goals and potentially could be a candidate for removal from the federal Endangered Species Act list, but a lack of data has limited the ability of federal agencies to consider a change to the status of the fish population. A loss of funding from other sources has limited monitoring. This grant will provide funding to run the smolt trap during outmigration of juvenile fish. Other portions of this monitoring project will be funded through other sources. The river is used by summer steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will contribute \$13,790 in donated

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materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1093)

## **Projects in Whatcom County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$620,103**

### **Nooksack Indian Tribe** **Grant Awarded: \$620,103** **Improving Habitat in and Around the North Fork Nooksack River**

The Nooksack Indian Tribe will use this grant to restore river and floodplain habitat in the North Fork Nooksack River near Maple Falls by adding 20 structures made up of large tree root wads and logs and 55 feet of flood fencing. Logjams help stabilize the river and form side channels that provide protected, high-quality habitat for salmon to spawn and rear. Adding logs to the river also creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. Finally, logs change the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The project also will include planting native plants on logjams and along the riverbank. Planting trees and bushes along a shoreline shades the water, cooling it for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. This reach of the Nooksack River is a high priority for restoration because it is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Tribe will contribute \$247,795 in a federal grant. This is part of a \$1.6 million project that is requesting additional funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1157)

## **Projects in Yakima County** **Total Grants Awarded: \$546,000**

### **Columbia Land Trust** **Grant Awarded: \$297,000** **Conserving Land in Klickitat Canyon**

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to buy 163 acres that includes about 1.7 miles of the Klickitat River and nearly 11 miles of tributary streams, including important perennial water sources. The conserved land is next to other conserved lands, protecting a nearly 75-mile reach of the Klickitat River. This project also will complete the 10-year, 11,000-acre Mount Adams-Klickitat Canyon conservation plan, protecting critical spawning, rearing, and migration habitat for steelhead and critical migration and rearing habitat for Columbia River bull trout. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The land trust will contribute \$8.6 million from two federal grants, two private grants, a grant from the state Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and other

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private sources. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1544)

## **Sunnyside Division Board of Control Improving Survival of Young Salmon at Sunnyside Dam**

**Grant Awarded: \$249,000**

The Sunnyside Division Board of Control will use this grant to design and install a structure to guide smolts in the Yakima River away from the Sunnyside Canal irrigation system and increase their survival rates. Smolts are young salmon and trout, about 2 years old, that assume the silvery color of the adult and are ready to migrate to the sea. The structure will consist of a floating fish guidance boom that will direct smolts away from the canal headgate and a sluice gate that will help them pass through and continue down river. Improving smolt survival at water diversion dams is considered a key strategy for maintaining viable Yakima River basin salmon and steelhead populations. The river is used by mid-Columbia steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon. The Sunnyside Division Board of Control will contribute \$44,000 in staff labor and a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (20-1515)