

Projects in Asotin County

Grants Awarded: \$77,535

**Nez Perce Tribe
Removing a Fish Barrier on Buford Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$77,535

The Nez Perce Tribe will use this grant to replace a barrier to migrating fish where Buford Creek flows under U.S. Route 129 near the Oregon and Washington border. The barrier limits fish access to nearly 5 miles of habitat upstream, 2 miles of which are designated critical habitat. In addition to the unique steelhead population in this area, the land itself holds special value to the Nez Perce Tribe as it lies within the external boundary of its lands. Buford Creek is used by steelhead, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Tribe will contribute \$15,755 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2092)

Projects in Chelan County

Grants Awarded: \$1,087,216

**Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Assessing Entiat Basin Fish Passage**

Grant Awarded: \$45,142

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to assess fish passage and screening throughout the Entiat River basin. This will be the third of the upper Columbia sub-basins to have this work completed, which will feed the regional barrier prioritization effort. 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 listed as threatened with extinction under the act. The enhancement group will contribute \$25,500 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1797)

**Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Designing Nason Creek and Floodplain Restoration**

Grant Awarded: \$80,500

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to develop a preliminary design for a restoration project. The enhancement group will evaluate about .1 mile of Nason Creek and a 9-acre floodplain, which contains two oxbows. Historically these oxbows were the main channel, but now are primarily supported by groundwater and are perennially wet. This area is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are 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](#). (18-1804)

Cascadia Conservation District Restoring Middle Entiat River

Grant Awarded: \$361,473

The Cascadia Conservation District will use this grant to place 30 large log structures in the middle Entiat River and surrounding channels. The log structures create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The conservation district also will excavate two river inlets to improve floodplain connectivity to side channels, and excavate an outlet to allow the water to return to the river. The side channels provide places for young fish to rest from high water flows. The Cascadia Douglas Land Trust will work downstream and create a network of side channels and alcoves that will provide acres of slow water year-round where young salmon and steelhead can grow. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead, which is listed as threatened with extinction under the act. With support from the Bureau of Reclamation, the Cascadia Conservation District will contribute \$417,800 in donations of materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1762)

Chelan County Improving Mill Creek Fish Passage

Grant Awarded: \$131,476

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to complete design and permitting, and replace a barrier to migrating fish on Mill Creek, a tributary to Peshastin Creek, just off U.S. Route 97. The project will open 2.2 miles of a year-round flowing stream and access to spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead. The County will replace a box-shaped passageway with a 21-foot-wide arched pipe. Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead trout, which is listed as threatened with extinction under the act, use the river. Chelan County will contribute \$494,599 in other grants for this project. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1824)

Chelan County Planning to Restore Peshastin Creek

Grant Awarded: \$9,168

Chelan County will use this grant to design of a half-mile side channel to Peshastin Creek. The County will be coordinating with the nearby landowners and developing preliminary designs. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are 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](#). (18-1829)

Chelan County
Restoring Entiat Floodplain

Grant Awarded: \$459,457

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to improve Cottonwood Flats floodplain connectivity and create a side channel near the Entiat River. The channel will provide nearly a quarter-mile and 6 acres of habitat for Chinook salmon and young steelhead and encourage the river to move laterally. The work also will allow the area to hold more water during floods and release it more slowly. With support from the Bureau of Reclamation, this project is part of a largescale restoration effort of the middle Entiat River. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead, which is listed as threatened with extinction under the act. The County will contribute \$90,090 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1814)

Projects in Clallam County

Grants Awarded: \$762,420

North Olympic Land Trust
Protecting Morse Creek Shoreline

Grant Awarded: \$447,147

The North Olympic Land Trust will use this grant to buy 97.3 acres along Morse Creek, conserving about 1 mile of important salmon and shoreline habitat. The land trust also will remove the hydroelectric operation and spillway near Morse Creek. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, as well as bull trout. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. North Olympic Land Trust will contribute \$120,825 in cash donations. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1314)

North Olympic Salmon Coalition
Designing Dungeness Farms Levee Removal

Grant Awarded: \$199,962

The North Olympic Salmon Coalition will use this grant to complete final designs for a project to restore 22 acres of the Dungeness River estuary. The restoration project will remove about 500 feet of the northern end of a levee on the right bank of the Dungeness River. The levee removal will reconnect the river to its right bank estuarine marsh. This project will benefit Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1315)

Trout Unlimited

Grant Awarded: \$115,311

Abandoning an Road and Restoring Sitkum River Habitat

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to abandon U.S. Forest Service Road 2952 and return the area to a more natural state. The work will protect and improve water quality and fish habitat in the Sitkum River by reducing the amount of erosion. As part of the project, Trout Unlimited will plant native vegetation along the shoreline. 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 river is used by Chinook, coho, chum, and sockeye salmon; cutthroat and steelhead trout; mountain whitefish; and Pacific lamprey. Trout Unlimited will contribute \$30,810 in donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1884)

Projects in Clark County

Grants Awarded: \$689,142

Clark County

Grant Awarded: \$552,361

Conserving Mason Creek

Clark County will use this grant to buy 48.5 acres of floodplain, wetland, and riverbank habitat next to Mason Creek and the East Fork Lewis River. The County also will buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, on 7.4 acres of habitat. The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will develop designs to restore more than 75 acres of floodplain and stream habitat. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Clark County will contribute \$184,121 in conservation futures.¹ Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1412)

Lower Columbia Estuary Partner

Grant Awarded: \$36,781

Designing Ridgefield Pits to Enhance Habitat

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will use this grant to complete preliminary designs for three reaches in the Ridgefield Pits area of the East Fork Lewis River, in Clark County. A large flood in 1996 pushed the east fork into abandoned gravel pits in the floodplain, lowered the riverbed upstream, and altered more than three-quarter mile of high-quality spawning habitat. The partnership will develop restoration designs that address these problems. The designs will

¹Conservation 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.

target the river alignment around the gravel pits, off-channel improvements, and invasive and predatory species affecting salmon using these reaches. The project also will evaluate aquatic surveys, topography, bathymetry, hydrology, geomorphology, temperature, and dissolved oxygen data collected through surveying. The project reach is used by chum, Chinook, and coho salmon and steelhead, all of which are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. The partnership will contribute \$44,952 in donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1070)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Creating Lewis River Spawning Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$100,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to create side channels off the North Fork Lewis River, expanding spawning habitat for chum salmon. Less than 50 adult chum salmon return to the Lewis basin every year. This project is part of recovery plan goals to have 1,300 chum returning annually. The river is used by chum salmon, which are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. The department will contribute \$17,648 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1413)

Projects in Columbia County

Grants Awarded: \$857,484

Columbia Conservation District Restoring Tucannon River Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$345,378

The Columbia Conservation District will use this grant, supported with Bonneville Power Administration funding, to restore habitat in the Tucannon River watershed. The conservation district will build an offset levee, modify and/or remove a levee to re-connect about 26 acres of floodplain, and install large root wads and logs to enhance the mix of habitat and slow the water. The project will improve floodplain connectivity and improve the quantity and quality of shoreline habitat and winter rearing habitat for Chinook and steelhead. The Tucannon River is used by Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. This project is part of a larger, watershed-wide restoration effort. The conservation district will contribute \$125,311 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2091)

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Restoring the North Fork Touchet River

Grant Awarded: \$512,106

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will use this grant to move about 135,000 cubic feet of levee material and place large wood and boulders in 3 miles of the North Fork Touchet River. The work will allow the river to access a greater amount of floodplain and

restore habitat and floodplain connectivity. The wood and boulders create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The North Fork Touchet River is used by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as reintroduced spring Chinook salmon. The Tribe will contribute \$305,294 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2085)

Projects in Cowlitz County **Grants Awarded: \$988,691**

Cowlitz Indian Tribe **Grant Awarded: \$399,616** **Restoring Abernathy Creek**

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to install 18 logjams and improve habitat along 0.6 miles of Abernathy Creek, to improve spawning and rearing habitat for coho and Chinook salmon, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. This project is part of a larger project to improve habitat in the Abernathy Creek watershed and to monitor fish population responses. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1397)

Cowlitz Indian Tribe **Grant Awarded: \$100,000** **Restoring Ostrander Creek Fish Habitat**

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to design, permit, and remove a railroad culvert, which is a pipe carrying water under a road or railroad, on Ostrander Creek that is blocking fish passage. The project will open up to 9.8 miles of habitat to benefit coho, Chinook, and chum salmon and steelhead trout, all of which the federal Endangered Species Act lists as threatened with extinction. The Tribe will contribute \$462,049 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1391)

Lower Columbia River Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$389,250** **Restoring Coweeman River and Baird Creek**

The Columbia River Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to restore 1.28 miles of the Coweeman River that historic splash damming degraded. The project will include placing large wood and other habitat structures, removing floodplain barriers, improving fish passage, and restoring shoreline habitat. The project will benefit Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The fish enhancement group will contribute \$69,157 in donations of labor and materials.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Grants Awarded 2018



Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (18-1408)

Lower Columbia River Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$99,825** **Designing Habitat Restoration in the South Fork Toutle River Watershed**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to design habitat for Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout in the South Fork Toutle River watershed. The project will address stream, riverbank, off-channel, side channel, and floodplain habitat needs within 2 miles of the river. This project will benefit Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are 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.](#) (18-1409)

Projects in Garfield County **Grants Awarded: \$61,450**

Pomeroy Conservation District **Grant Awarded: \$61,450** **Using Beavers to Restore Tumalum Creek**

The Pomeroy Conservation District will use this grant to relocate 6-12 nuisance beavers to Tumalum Creek to improve fish habitat. Located on private and state land along a tributary to the Tucannon River, the project will promote self-sustaining improvements to spawning and rearing habitat for Snake River summer steelhead. Tumalum Creek has few pools or large wood structures, incised channels, poor floodplain connection, water that is too warm for steelhead, and poor shoreline habitat. The conservation district will develop a beaver management plan, build about 10-20 structures that mimic beaver dams to help the relocated beavers avoid predators, and trap and relocate beavers to suitable sites. The project will immediately benefit steelhead by increasing the mix of available habitat and connecting the floodplain to .3 to .9 mile of stream. If the beavers establish territories and build dams, the conservation district expects more water flows in the summer base flows, improved habitat, and more cool pools for salmon to rest. Tumalum Creek is used by steelhead, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation district will contribute \$12,675 in donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (18-2093)

Projects in Grays Harbor County

Grants Awarded: \$437,633

**Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force
Improving Newkah Road Fish Passage**

Grant Awarded: \$244,633

The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force will use this grant to replace an impassable barrier to migrating fish under Newkah Road, south of Aberdeen. The stream, which flows directly into Grays Harbor, is used by coho and chum salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force will contribute \$50,106. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1627)

**Ducks Unlimited
Assessing a New Wildlife Area**

Grant Awarded: \$68,000

Ducks Unlimited will use this grant to assess 1,750 acres being purchased in partnership with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The land includes more than 1,100 acres of diverse wetland habitat connected to the Grays Harbor estuary, an important salmon rearing area. The project will consider how to increase and improve fish access, habitat connectivity, shoreline plant communities, and water quality. Ducks Unlimited will contribute \$12,000 in another grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1675)

**Quinault Indian Nation
Designing Red Creek Tributary Bridge for Fish Passage**

Grant Awarded: \$125,000

The Quinault Indian Nation will use this grant to design a bridge that would restore access to 1.48 miles of habitat, .7 acre of rearing habitat, and .5 acre of spawning habitat on an unnamed tributary of Red Creek in the lower Quinault River watershed. The project would include final engineering designs and construction cost estimates for a bridge based on state and federal highway standards. This project will benefit coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1579)

Projects in Island County

Grants Awarded: \$217,645

**Skagit River System Cooperative
Restoring Crescent Harbor Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$217,645

The Skagit River System Cooperative will use this grant to reconstruct the Crescent Creek between Crescent Harbor Road and the estuary. The restoration will reestablish meanders, pools, and other stream complexity that was lost when the stream was straightened decades ago. The restoration will reconnect the channel downstream of Crescent Harbor Road to the

adjacent floodplain, and will add more than 400 feet to the channel. The project will benefit Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The Skagit River System Cooperative will contribute \$67,000 in donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1366)

Projects in Jefferson County

Grants Awarded: \$475,220

10,000 Years Institute

Grant Awarded: \$77,490

Controlling Invasive Species along Goodman Creek

The 10,000 Years Institute will use this grant to map and control invasive reed canarygrass in and around 14 miles of Goodman Creek and its tributaries. Reed canarygrass affects shoreline vegetation, erodes the surrounding area, out competes native plants, and damages water flow and temperature. Goodman Creek starts in the Olympic Mountain foothills and flows west to the Pacific Ocean. The creek is home to Chinook, coho, and chum salmon; steelhead, cutthroat, and bull trout; and lamprey. The institute will contribute \$15,999 in donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1548)

10,000 Years Institute

Grant Awarded: \$164,860

Preventing and Controlling Invasive Species along the Hoh River

The 10,000 Years Institute will use this grant to prevent and control invasive species along 38 miles of the Hoh River and its seven tributaries. The institute will plant locally harvested grass and forbs seeds in areas where herb Robert infestations are treated. This project demonstrates that early detection and rapid response is effective in protecting habitat while also supporting healthy native forests that grow up around restoration sites. The 10,000 Years Institute will contribute \$56,932 in a state grant and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1835)

Jefferson Land Trust

Grant Awarded: \$126,515

Protecting Snow Creek Middle Reach Forest

The Jefferson Land Trust will use this grant to buy 8.7 acres to connect more than 100 acres of intact, forest habitat along Snow Creek, protecting the land from development. The river is used by chum salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The land trust will

contribute \$25,385 in conservation futures.² Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1239)

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition
Designing Morganroth Springs Fish Passage

Grant Awarded: \$24,000

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition and U.S. Forest Service will use this grant to evaluate solutions and develop preliminary designs to address a failing wooden embankment and fish way at the outlet of Morganroth Spring's wetland. The evaluation of alternatives and selected design will move toward a more permanent solution that restores natural conditions and processes requiring no maintenance. The coalition will contribute \$4,400 in donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1885)

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition
Removing Boulder Creek Creosote Piling

Grant Awarded: \$43,180

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition will use this grant to remove four trestles made of creosote piling and associated road fill left in Boulder Creek from a previous crossing. Creosote-treated wood releases highly toxic chemicals into the Goodman Creek watershed and the road fill material in the shoreline area confines the creek and impedes natural processes. The piling in the stream also can cause debris build up, posing a barrier to migrating fish. Removing the pilings eliminates the toxins and ensures unimpeded access to upstream habitat. Coho salmon and steelhead use Goodman Creek and its tributary. The coalition will contribute \$7,620 in donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1597)

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition
Restoring Goodman Creek Following a Collapsed Bridge

Grant Awarded: \$39,175

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition will use this grant to remove material from a collapsed bridge in West Fork Goodman Creek while leaving some wooden bridge material in the stream to support a mix of habitat. When the collapsed stringer bridge failed, it dumped debris and sediment in the stream. This limited sediment movement and caused fine sediment to accumulate upstream of the bridge. Because of the large amount of bridge material being held together by remnant steel cabling in the stream, the water is being directed against the right bank, threatening to cause more road fill to fall into the stream. The steel cabling also can cause

²Conservation 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.

physical damage to salmon. Coho salmon and steelhead use Goodman Creek. The coalition will contribute \$6,675 in donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1598)

Projects in King County

Grants Awarded: \$645,895

King County

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

Designing Snoqualmie River Floodplain Restoration

The King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to design two projects to set back levees on the Snoqualmie River, downstream of Raging River and the town of Fall City. The future restoration projects are expected to restore a half-mile of riverbank habitat, improve connection with the floodplain, and increase plantings on 60 acres in the floodplain and along waterways. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. King County will contribute \$176,400. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1628)

King County

Grant Awarded: \$200,000

Designing Willowmoor Floodplain Restoration

The King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to complete groundwater test on wells and plan for the Willowmoor floodplain restoration project. The future restoration project will reconnect the Sammamish River floodplain to the nearby floodplain and wetlands, restore rearing habitat, and provide cool pools for salmon resting. It also includes building a side channel to expand habitat. This project will benefit Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. King County will contribute \$50,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1257)

King County

Grant Awarded: \$95,895

Restoring Green River Habitat

The King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to remove invasive plants and plant native trees and shrubs on 13 acres of Green River shoreline. 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

river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which are a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. King County will contribute \$119,300 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1444)

Seattle

Grant Awarded: \$200,000

Designing Lowman Beach Nearshore Restoration

The Seattle Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to complete final designs for a project to restore the shoreline in Lowman Beach Park in west Seattle. The future restoration project includes removing the tennis court and about 130 feet of a failing concrete seawall, restoring the beach, and planting shoreline plants. This project builds upon the restoration completed by the department along the south portion of the beach. Since removing that portion of seawall in 1995, natural coastal processes are at work expanding the beach and accumulating large drift logs. The area is used by Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1369)

Projects in Kitsap County

Grants Awarded: \$531,047

Bremerton

Grant Awarded: \$101,000

Designing Removal of a Culvert in Kitsap Creek

The Bremerton Public Works and Utilities Department will use this grant to complete a preliminary design for a project to remove an undersized culvert where Kitsap Lake flows into Kitsap Creek. A culvert is a structure, usually a large pipe, which carries a stream under a road. The culvert is blocking some fish from migrating. By eliminating this barrier, Bremerton will open .26 acre of spawning habitat and 25.7 acres of rearing area to coho and chum salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. The creek is used by steelhead, which is 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](#). (18-1838)

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Conserving Lower Big Beef Creek

Grant Awarded: \$430,047

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to buy 297.12 acres in the lower Big Beef Creek watershed that includes recently restored freshwater, wetland and shoreline habitat critical to summer chum. The project will benefit chum salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The Enhancement Group will donate \$2,695,100 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2228)

Projects in Kittitas County

Grants Awarded: \$1,172,830

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Enhancing Watershed Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$238,600

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to add tree root wads and logs in the floodplains of the South Fork Cowiche Creek, North Fork Manastash Creek, and Taneum and Swauk Creeks. The project will reconnect streams with their broad, formerly-wet meadow floodplains to increase habitat functions, including forming side channels, recovering riverbank habitat, forming pools, promoting a mix of in-channel habitat and retaining gravel for spawning. This project will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Yakama Nation will contribute \$54,888 in cash and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1709)

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Restoring Teanaway Community Forest Floodplain

Grant Awarded: \$200,000

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to place more than 1,000 pieces of wood along 12 miles of the north, middle, and west forks of the Teanaway River. Logjams create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The Yakama Nation also will move nearly a mile of artificial ditches in Indian Creek and will place bundles of wood slash throughout the Indian Creek floodplain to improve the function of a previous large wood placement project. The project will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Yakama Nation will contribute

\$46,400. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1711)

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Grant Awarded: \$91,000 **Improving Habitat in Taneum Creek**

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to place tree root wads and logs in .2 mile of Taneum Creek near Thorp. This site has suffered from a history of channel straightening, which removed natural shoreline vegetation and left the channel 35 percent shorter than historic conditions. The current channel is too steep, lacks pools for fish to rest, lacks wood and quality spawning gravels, and has an eroded drop of about 3.5 feet, which creates a barrier to salmon. 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 will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Yakama Nation will contribute \$20,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1710)

Kittitas County Conservation District Grant Awarded: \$396,812 **Building Fish Screens for Migrating Fish in Cooke Creek**

The Kittitas County Conservation District will use this grant to improve a diversion structure in Cooke Creek by adding a proper fish screen and concrete fishway. The improved diversion will replace two irrigation diversion dams that block fish passage and sometimes trap fish in the irrigation systems. The district will be planting native plants along nearly a half-mile of the creek. 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 project will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation district will contribute \$421,747 in state and federal grants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1648)

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Grant Awarded: \$75,802 **Designing the Restoration of the Teanaway River**

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to develop designs to restore a historic side channel to the Teanaway River. The restoration project entails installing large woody materials in and along a half-mile of the Teanaway River, a tributary to the Yakima River. The woody materials create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They

also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The project includes outreach to nearby landowners, flood modeling, and selection of restoration alternatives. The Teanaway River suffers from too little water and water that is too warm for salmon. Historic land uses have resulted in poor channel habitat. Nearby forests have been removed or heavily altered, which reduces shade, raises water temperatures, and limits the number of woody materials falling into the river. Off-channel habitat, such as side channels and unobstructed tributaries, are key areas for Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, but are now uncommon on the river. The project will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$13,500 from a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1651)

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Restoring Ahtanum Creek

Grant Awarded: \$122,858

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to restore the south, middle, and north forks of Ahtanum Creek to reduce off-road vehicle and other recreation impacts on bull trout habitat and improve watershed health. The enhancement group will remove user-built roads, place wood and boulders, install fencing to protect shorelines, and planting native vegetation. The enhancement group also will install signs promoting responsible recreation and stewardship in the Ahtanum State Forest. The project will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group and its partners will contribute \$23,451 in cash and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1650)

Washington Water Trust Planning for Big Creek Restoration

Grant Awarded: \$47,758

The Washington Water Trust will use this grant to collect design data and complete feasibility and alternatives analysis to guide future removal of a surface water diversion from Big Creek. The stream diversion would be replaced by a well, which will increase the amount of water in the creek during the summer and prevent fish from getting trapped in the irrigation system. The project is on land owned by a large church camp, providing additional educational opportunities with the public, teachers, and students. The river is used by steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The trust will contribute \$8,436 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1624)

Projects in Klickitat County

Grants Awarded: \$445,035

**Central Klickitat Conservation District
Enhancing Swale Creek Habitat**

Grant Awarded: \$200,663

The Central Klickitat Conservation District will use this grant to add tree root wads and logs to enhance habitat in Swale Creek. These woody materials create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the creek bed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the creek, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The project will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation district will contribute \$48,985 in a state grant and donation of materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2099)

**Eastern Klickitat Conservation District
Enhancing Lower Rock Creek Habitat**

Grant Awarded: \$180,142

The Eastern Klickitat Conservation District will use this grant to add tree root wads and logjams to support salmon habitat and beaver activity in Rock Creek. Logjams create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the creek bed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the creek, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The conservation district also will install fences to keep cattle out of the creek and provide water for them away from the creek. The district also will control invasive species and plant the shoreline. 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 project will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation district will contribute \$55,000 in a state grant and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2101)

**Underwood Conservation District
Planning a Project to Enhance Lower Buck Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$64,230

The Underwood Conservation District will use this grant to coordinate with landowners and others to assess project feasibility, design, and planning to reconnect floodplains and increase off-channel habitat for adult and young salmon. Buck Creek is a significant tributary to the White Salmon River, upstream of the former Condit Dam. Steelhead and coho are recolonizing the creek. A dike cuts off access for fish to a privately owned floodplain. The project will include

analyzing alternative options and creating conceptual designs and plans to enhance streamside plants. It also will include obtaining permits and going through a cultural resources review. The conservation district will contribute \$11,338 in another grant and resources. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2042)

Projects in Lewis County

Grants Awarded: \$964,520

Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$598,770

Restoring Cispus River and Yellowjacket Creek

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to build logjams in .2 mile of the Cispus River and Yellowjacket Creek near Randle. Logjams create places for fish to rest and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and the amount of sediment in the river. A slower river allows small gravels to settle to the river bottom for spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and deep cold pools, giving fish more varied habitat. The project site is near the Cispus Learning Center, an outdoor education facility that hosts kindergarten through 12th-grade students year-round. The river is used by Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Tribe will contribute \$598,770 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1399)

Lewis County

Grant Awarded: \$255,750

Restoring Access to Frase Creek for Migrating Fish

The Lewis County Public Works Department will use this grant to replace a barrier to migrating fish, realign a half-mile of the streambed, and enhance Frase Creek habitat. The project will give salmon access to 2.74 miles of rearing habitat and about .1 acre of spawning habitat. The County of will contribute \$741,591 in staff labor and a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1864)

Lewis County Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$46,620

Installing Fish Screens in the Chehalis Basin

The Lewis County Conservation District will use this grant to install fish screens that prevent young Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead from swimming into irrigation systems in the Chehalis River basin. It will also protect lamprey and small fish. The project will take place on 13 farm locations in the South Fork Chehalis, Chehalis, and Newaukum Rivers with opportunities for two additional sites. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1285)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Improving Lost Creek Fish Passage

Grant Awarded: \$63,380

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to replace a barrier to migrating fish on Lost Creek, a tributary to Stillman Creek, in Lewis County. This project will reduce upstream flooding, give fish access to 2.11 miles of cooler water upstream from the project, and promote more natural stream processes, including moving wood and sediment downstream. This project will benefit coho salmon, steelhead, cutthroat trout, and pacific lamprey. The department will contribute \$22,349 in donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1659)

Projects in Mason County

Grants Awarded: \$783,956

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Assessing Migrating Salmon and Steelhead in the Union River

Grant Awarded: \$102,497

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to monitor freshwater chum salmon and steelhead trout productivity, abundance, survival rates, and migratory behavior in Union River. The project will use a rotary screw trap, or monitoring structure, to capture out-migrating fish. To gage summer chum recovery in Hood Canal, more data on young salmon productivity is needed. The project also will include DNA data collection at young salmon trapping locations to better understand productivity and abundance. The river is used by chum salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The enhancement group will contribute \$87,643 in a state grant and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1242)

Squaxin Island Tribe Conserving Skookum Creek

Grant Awarded: \$210,557

The Squaxin Island Tribe will use this grant to buy 649 acres and 8.4 miles of stream, including 4 miles of Skookum Creek, in the Skookum Valley. The purchase will preserve 68 percent of the side channels and 77 percent of Skookum Creek in conservation or long-term forestry. This project will protect habitat for steelhead, which is a species listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act; coho salmon, which is a federal Endangered Species Act species of concern; and chum salmon and cutthroat trout. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1887)

Mason Conservation District Enhancing Skokomish River Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$470,902

The Mason Conservation District will use this grant to add tree root wads and logs to 2 miles of the Skokomish River. The large woody materials create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon different types of habitat. The river is used by Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The Mason Conservation District will contribute \$83,101 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1236)

Projects in Okanogan County

Grants Awarded: \$768,584

Methow Conservancy Conserving the Upper Methow River

Grant Awarded: \$214,700

The Methow Conservancy will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, for 25.3 acres of floodplain habitat along the upper Methow River. 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, as well as by bull trout. The conservancy will contribute \$37,893 in donated land. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1807)

Methow Conservancy Restoring Hancock Springs

Grant Awarded: \$75,628

The Methow Conservancy will use this grant to rebuild nearly a half-mile of historic channel that provides ideal spawning and rearing habitat for salmon. The conservancy will add fill to make the narrow channel wider and shallower, line both banks of the new channel with wetland sod, and plant trees, sedges, and rushes there. The conservancy also will add spawning gravel. The bank plantings help shade the water and cool 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 Chinook salmon, which are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the act. The conservancy will contribute \$100,200 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1801)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Designing Upper Beaver Creek Restoration

Grant Awarded: \$133,793

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to assess restoration alternatives along Beaver Creek and the nearby Okanogan County road, select a preferred alternative, and advance a project to preliminary design. The foundation will assess fish passage, floodplain connectivity, the mix of habitat, and the possibility of buying surrounding private property. The foundation also will evaluate moving the county road or installing bridges or other structures to improve habitat connectivity and water flow. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are 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](#). (18-1865)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Monitoring Beavers and their Habitat Impacts

Grant Awarded: \$205,293

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to relocate nuisance beavers and study their impacts to habitat and water flow in their new environments. It also will monitor habitat changes where beavers have moved in naturally following restoration. The project will include establishing structures that mimic the function of a natural beaver dam. Project sponsors include the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and U.S. Forest Service. 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 listed as threatened with extinction under the act. The foundation will contribute \$46,709 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1856)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Preserving Methow Watershed Shoreline

Grant Awarded: \$97,348

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to plant and maintain shoreline plants along the Methow and Twisp Rivers or their tributaries. The riverbank plantings help 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 places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep the soil from entering the water and burying spawning gravel. The rivers are used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead, which is listed as threatened with extinction under the act. The foundation will contribute \$17,180 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1808)

**Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation
Restoring the Twisp River Floodplain**

Grant Awarded: \$41,822

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to build fencing to exclude cattle, provide a farmland owner with off-channel watering equipment, and replace two undersized road culverts in the Twisp River floodplain. Culverts are large pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and can be a barrier to fish passage. 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 listed as threatened with extinction under the act. The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will contribute \$12,084 in a local grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1857)

Projects in Pacific County

Grants Awarded: \$899,521

**Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce
Restoring Hungry Harbor**

Grant Awarded: \$446,742

The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce will use this grant to restore Hungry Harbor, a tributary to the Columbia River estuary. The taskforce will replace an undersized metal culvert with a larger concrete one. The replacement will improve access to more than 1 mile of spawning habitat and improve off-channel rearing habitat by creating additional connections to intertidal wetlands. The project will benefit Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The taskforce will contribute \$898,005 in state and other grants and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1402)

**Cowlitz Indian Tribe
Designing Lower East Fork Grays River Restoration**

Grant Awarded: \$129,929

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to survey 1.3 miles of the lower East Fork Grays River and create a preliminary design to restore habitat in the river and along its banks. The river is used by lower Columbia River coho salmon, which are 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](#). (18-1389)

**Pacific Conservation District
Prioritizing and Designing Nemah River Restoration Projects**

Grant Awarded: \$141,000

The Pacific Conservation District will use this grant to complete a habitat assessment for the middle Nemah River and use that assessment to develop and prioritize restoration actions. The

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conservation district will complete preliminary designs for the highest priority actions to benefit salmon species, particularly coho, Chinook, and chum salmon and steelhead. The Pacific Conservation District will contribute \$25,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1758)

Pacific Conservation District Restoring Smith Creek Tidal Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$181,850

The Pacific County Conservation District will use this grant to remove about 300 feet of levee near Smith Creek's mouth at the Naselle River and realign about a third-mile of the creek. The work will provide fish with access to nearly 5 miles of creek and restore about 100 acres of tidal estuary habitat in the lower Naselle River. Salmon, Dungeness crab, eulachon, and other estuary rearing species are anticipated to benefit from this project. The Pacific Conservation District will contribute more than \$1 million in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1799)

Projects in Pend Oreille County

Grants Awarded: \$342,000

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Enhancing Ruby Creek Fish Passage and Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$342,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to replace pipes that carry North Fork Ruby Creek and Little Ruby Creek under a county road and rebuild 1.5 miles of the road. Rebuilding the road will reduce sediment entering the stream and improve drainage. The work also will restore access for migrating fish and enhance habitat in Ruby Creek, which is designated as bull trout critical habitat. The project will restore about 7 miles of high-quality stream habitat for native trout species. The department will contribute \$156,910 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1972)

Projects in Pierce County

Grants Awarded: \$1,050,095

Great Peninsula Conservancy Conserving East Fork Rocky Creek

Grant Awarded: \$165,339

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use two grants and other funding to buy 34 acres in the lower reach of the Rocky Creek watershed. The land encompasses undeveloped, high-quality freshwater habitat including streams supporting salmon, shoreline forests, and wetlands. The fish-bearing streams protected as part of the project include the East Fork Rocky Creek and an unnamed tributary of the creek. Rocky Creek supports steelhead, which is a species listed as

threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, as well as chum salmon and cutthroat trout. The Great Peninsula Conservancy will contribute \$81,000 in donations of land interest. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (16-1589)

Nisqually Land Trust Conserving the Lower Ohop Valley

Grant Awarded: \$376,749

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to buy 90 acres for future channel development and floodplain restoration in the lower Ohop Valley. Primarily fallow agricultural fields in the Ohop Creek floodplain make up the area, which includes .65 mile of Ohop Creek. The land trust will collaborate with South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group and the Nisqually Indian Tribe to care for shoreline plantings in the project area. Stewardship activities will include control of invasive weeds and planting native trees and shrubs in areas with low fish survival and beaver damage. Planting trees and bushes along a shoreline helps shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants 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 project will benefit Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The land trust will contribute \$71,975 in conservation futures,³ and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1368)

Pierce Conservation District Restoring South Prairie Creek

Grant Awarded: \$336,923

The Pierce Conservation District will use this grant to buy 38.5 acres of prime floodplain habitat along South Prairie Creek and plant native plants and trees there. The conservation district also will treat knotweed upstream to prevent an infestation of the site and other lands downstream. This project will protect this land from development or disturbance, further improving shoreline habitat. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The conservation district will contribute \$59,468. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1763)

³Conservation 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.

Sumner

Grant Awarded: \$171,084

Preserving White River

The City of Sumner will use this grant to buy 2.99 acres along the White River as part of a larger strategy to secure land for a setback levee on the river's right bank. This project will prevent development and keep the land open for the levee. The setback levee will create important rearing habitat for Chinook salmon, which is nearly nonexistent in the lower White River. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. Sumner will contribute \$108,800 in cash, a state grant, and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1770)

Projects in San Juan County

Grants Awarded: \$277,742

Friends of the San Juans

Grant Awarded: \$120,484

Planning the Restoration of San Juan Salmon Habitat

The Friends of the San Juans will use this grant to plan for the removal of shoreline armoring to increase the quantity and quality of habitat for young Chinook salmon and their prey, thereby increasing food for southern resident killer whales. The friends group will reach out to landowners, assess 10-15 potential sites, complete conceptual designs for 3-5 sites, and advance 1-2 sites through preliminary design. Removing armoring will restore habitat and natural coastal processes. This project will benefit Chinook salmon, which is listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The Friends of the San Juans will contribute \$30,691 in a private grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1742)

San Juan County

Grant Awarded: \$91,758

Designing Agate Beach County Park Shoreline Restoration

The San Juan County Parks and Recreation Department will use this grant to design armor removal and shoreline restoration along Agate Beach County Park on Lopez Island's Outer Bay. Designs will include removal for 340 feet of armor in the park and potentially 190 feet of armor on privately owned land to restore natural processes that nourish the beach. Outer Bay includes rearing habitat for migrating young salmon and spawning habitat for the fish salmon eat. The area is used by Chinook salmon, which is listed as threatened with extinction under the federal

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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](#). (18-1776)

San Juan County

Grant Awarded: \$65,500

Planning the Restoration of MacKaye Harbor

The San Juan County Public Works Department will use this grant to complete a feasibility alternatives analysis, design, and permitting for a project to remove shoreline armoring near the MacKaye Harbor boat launch on Lopez Island. The County will consider partial or full jetty removal, partial or full revetment removal or relocation, removal of armor along a bluff, and restoration of natural beach processes. The County also will assess beach erosion. The MacKaye Harbor boat launch and Norman and Starboard Roads beach are next to one of nine known sand lance spawning beaches in the San Juan Islands and is a known surf smelt spawning area. Sand lance are one of the most important sources of food for Chinook salmon. The area is used by Chinook salmon, which is listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. San Juan County will contribute \$12,250 in cash and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1771)

Projects in Skagit County

Grants Awarded: \$1,326,168

Lummi Nation

Grant Awarded: \$205,492

Adding Logjams to the South Fork Nooksack River

The Lummi Nation will use this grant to complete a final design, obtain permits, and build five logjams in the South Fork Nooksack River. Logjams create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by bull trout. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The Lummi Nation will contribute \$173,936 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1751)

**Seattle City Light
Conserving Skagit Watershed Habitat**

Grant Awarded: \$1,016,339

Seattle City Light and the Skagit Land Trust will use this grant to buy at least 100 acres in the Skagit River watershed, protecting high-quality Chinook salmon and steelhead habitat. The partners will reach out to landowners who are interested in voluntarily selling their land, as well as ensure newly acquired lands have stewardship plans. The project area includes the Skagit, Sauk, and Cascade Rivers and their major tributaries, including certain creeks upstream of Sedro-Woolley. The rivers are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The partners will contribute \$285,813. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1502)

**Skagit River System Cooperative
Analyzing Freshwater Metrics in the Skagit Basin**

Grant Awarded: \$104,337

The Skagit River System Cooperative, in partnership with the Skagit Watershed Council and others, will use this grant to evaluate whether habitat conditions in the Skagit River basin are improving or not, with a focus on floodplains, large root wads and logs, and wetlands. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The Skagit River System Cooperative will contribute \$18,413 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1516)

Projects in Skamania County

Grants Awarded: \$249,916

**Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
Restoring Upper Woodard Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$249,916

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will use this grant to develop a design and improve habitat in 1 mile of Woodard Creek above the State Route 14 crossing. The project will include treating invasive plants and planting native vegetation along the channel, as well as installing large root wads and logs in the creek. Root wads and logs create places for fish to rest and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and the amount of sediment in the river. A slower river allows small gravels to settle to the river bottom for spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and deep cold pools, giving fish more varied habitat. New riverbank plantings will help shade the water, cooling it for fish. The plants

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also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects salmon eat and places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep the soil from entering the water and burying spawning gravel. Woodard Creek is used by Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will contribute \$107,500 in donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1394)

Projects in Snohomish County **Grants Awarded: \$1,052,178**

Snohomish Conservation District **Grant Awarded: \$123,000** **Restoring Stillaguamish River Shoreline**

The Snohomish Conservation District will use this grant to restore about 15 acres of high-priority shoreline in the lower North Fork Stillaguamish River sub-basin, the lower South Fork Stillaguamish River sub-basin, the Jim Creek sub-basin, the lower Pilchuck Creek sub-basin, and the upper Stillaguamish River. The areas are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The conservation district will contribute \$22,000. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1509)

Snohomish County **Grant Awarded: \$60,000** **Designing the Thomas' Eddy Hydraulic Reconnection**

The Snohomish County Department of Public Works will use this grant to engage the public in developing designs for projects to improve salmon habitat at the Bob Heirman Wildlife Preserve at Thomas' Eddy along the Snohomish River. A levee built in the 1930s isolated more than 200 acres of Snohomish River floodplain, including about 1.5 miles of channel habitat, and added nearly 1 mile of edge to the river. Proposed future restoration actions include removing a levee, connecting side channels, enhancing edge habitat, placing large logs and root wads, and planting riverbanks. Investigations conducted as part of this planning process likely will lead to preconstruction actions such as non-native fish species removal and initial site clean-up. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The County will contribute \$35,295. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1617)

Snohomish County **Restoring Meadowdale Beach Park and Estuary**

Grant Awarded: \$191,711

The Snohomish County Department of Parks and Recreation will use this grant to replace an undersized culvert under the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway with a bridge in Meadowdale Beach Park, providing a 90-foot opening. Culverts are large pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads. The new bridge will allow Lund's Gulch Creek to return to a more natural meander and deliver sediment to the beach. The work will re-establish and connect a historic 1.3-acre pocket estuary in the park to the shoreline. The County also will remove about 17,000 cubic yards of fill and about 2,000 cubic yards of shoreline armor. The County will place 27 pieces of wood in the estuary to enhance habitat for young salmon. Woody materials create places for fish to rest and hide from predators. They also slow the water, which reduces erosion and the amount of sediment in the estuary. Slower water allows small gravels to settle to the bottom for spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the water, creating riffles and deep cold pools, giving fish more varied habitat. The project will benefit Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. Snohomish County will contribute \$158,176. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1259)

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians **Measuring Salmon on the Stillaguamish River**

Grant Awarded: \$43,512

The Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians will use this grant to install and operate a rotary screw trap, or fish monitoring structure, on the Stillaguamish River to capture young hatchery and wild Chinook salmon. The project will enable managers to determine how habitat restoration projects are affecting the number of Chinook salmon. Measuring the number of young salmon leaving the watershed is one of the few methods available that provides a direct measure of the year-to-year changes in freshwater survival and growth, free from the confounding influences of ocean conditions. The river is used by Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; and coho salmon, which are a federal species of concern. The Tribe will contribute \$7,679 in another grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1463)

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians **Protecting Stillaguamish River Floodplains**

Grant Awarded: \$332,558

The Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians will use this grant to buy about 105 acres in the Segelson and Trafton floodplains along the North Fork Stillaguamish River, conserving more than .8 mile of shoreline. The Tribe also will place logjams in the river. Logjams create places for fish to rest and

hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and the amount of sediment in the river. A slower river allows small gravels to settle to the river bottom for spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and deep cold pools, giving fish more varied habitat. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The Tribe will contribute \$203,000 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (18-1443)

Tulalip Tribes Conserving the Skykomish River

Grant Awarded: \$101,397

The Tulalip Tribes will use this grant to buy 23 acres of shoreline and floodplain on the Skykomish River near Monroe. After buying at least half the properties, the Tribe will assess projects to connect floodplains, side channels, and Riley Slough to the Skykomish River. During the past 25 years, the Tribe has observed dramatic reductions in coho spawning in Riley Slough tributaries, with the last spawning reported in 2008. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The Tulalip Tribes will contribute \$81,645 in cash and donations of equipment and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (18-1720)

Tulalip Tribes Enhancing Habitat by Removing the Pilchuck Dam

Grant Awarded: \$200,000

The Tulalip Tribes will use this grant to remove the Pilchuck River Diversion Dam to enhance fish access to habitat and to restore river processes. Since installation in 1912, the dam has blocked upstream migration, effectively reducing fish and other species' ability to use more than 37 miles of high-quality habitat upstream of the dam. The City of Snohomish no longer uses the dam for water withdrawals and this proposal has wide support. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which are a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The Tulalip Tribes will contribute \$253,602. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (18-1671)

Projects in Thurston County

Grants Awarded: \$308,390

**Capitol Land Trust
Conserving Deschutes River**

Grant Awarded: \$176,039

The Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to buy 33 acres of undeveloped land that includes nearly a half-mile of Deschutes River shoreline and side-channel habitat. The land also includes forested wetlands. The land borders other land trust property and would create a 136-acre corridor of protected land with more than 1.2 miles of the Deschutes River. The river provides important off-channel winter habitat for young coho, steelhead, and cutthroat trout in a large u-shaped channel. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. The Capitol Land Trust will contribute \$39,189 in donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1729)

**Capitol Land Trust
Protecting Blooms Ditch**

Grant Awarded: \$132,351

The Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to buy 76 acres of wetlands and forests near Blooms Ditch, including about a half-mile of Blooms Ditch and .2 mile of a side channel. While protecting habitat, this project also preserves continued haying operations. This project benefits steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon, which is listed as a species of concern under the act. The Capitol Land Trust will contribute \$49,897. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1338)

Projects in Wahkiakum County

Grants Awarded: \$424,045

**Lower Columbia River Fish Enhancement Group
Restoring Fossil Creek and the Grays River**

Grant Awarded: \$249,980

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to plant trees and shrubs along 16 acres of Fossil Creek and the Grays River and to place logjams in about a half-mile of the waterways. Work will be done about 1 mile upstream of the State Highway 4 bridge and concentrated on the left bank floodplain of the Grays River. Logjams create places for fish to rest and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces river bank erosion that adds sediment to the river that can smother salmon eggs. A slower river allows small gravels to settle to the river bottom for spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and deep cold pools, giving fish more varied habitat. Riverbank plantings will help 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 places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep the soil from entering the water and burying spawning gravel. This project will benefit Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The enhancement group will contribute \$45,000 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1411)

Wahkiakum Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$125,000

Controlling Knotweed along the Elochoman River

The Wahkiakum Conservation District will use this grant to restore Elochoman River for salmon and trout. The conservation district will work with landowners to evaluate the extent and amount of invasive knotweed, treat plants with herbicide, plant native plants, and educate landowners about how to monitor and treat invasive species. Knotweed spreads aggressively and grows in dense clusters, outcompeting native plants and making it difficult to eradicate. Treating a knotweed infestation typically requires at least 4 years to be successful. This project will benefit Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation district will contribute \$175,000 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1406)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Awarded: \$49,065

Restoring Elochoman Hatchery and Surrounding Floodplain

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to remove structures associated with the Elochoman Fish Hatchery, install logjams, and restore floodplain connection. Logjams create places for fish to rest and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and the amount of sediment in the river. A slower river allows small gravels to settle to the river bottom for spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and deep cold pools, giving fish more varied habitat. This project will benefit Chinook and chum salmon, both of which are 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](#). (18-1414)

Projects in Walla Walla County

Grants Awarded: \$480,936

Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. Designing Mill Creek Passage Restoration

Grant Awarded: \$50,000

Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. will use this grant to complete final designs for a project to improve a .1-mile section of a concrete channel located between Third and Sixth Avenues in Walla Walla. Returning adult salmon and steelhead encounter water that is too shallow or too fast in the concrete channel and they have no resting opportunities. By mid-May, the channel traps salmon in water that is too warm for their survival. Restoring fish passage to upper Mill Creek provides an important recovery opportunity. Mill Creek is used by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as reintroduced spring Chinook salmon. Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. will contribute \$33,000 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2090)

Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. Restoring the Walla Walla River

Grant Awarded: \$232,336

The Tri-State Steelheaders will use this grant to place logs and log structures along .6 mile of the Walla Walla River, near Lowden, to improve habitat for salmon. The logs create places for fish to rest and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and the amount of sediment in the river. A slower river allows small gravels to settle to the bottom for spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and deep cold pools, giving fish more varied habitat, and they encourage development of side channels. The Tri-State Steelheaders also will excavate a terrace to re-establish shoreline plants on an eroding bank and make minor adjustments to the channel alignment. The new riverbank plantings will help 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 places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, the roots of the plants help keep the soil from entering the water and burying spawning gravel. This is the second of a four-phase restoration project in a priority spawning reach of the Walla Walla River. The river is home to steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Other species that use the reach are Chinook salmon, margined sculpin, leopard dace, and river lamprey. The Tri-State Steelheaders will contribute \$80,000 in donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (17-1267)

Walla Walla County Conservation District Designing Walla Walla River Restoration

Grant Awarded: \$52,000

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to develop designs for a half-mile habitat restoration project in the Walla Walla River. The design will incorporate placing large root wads and logs, connecting side and overflow channels, and joining setback levees and control structures in strategic locations to maintain water flow and avoid annual excavations of sediment buildup. Logs create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. They also change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. These design elements will keep the water cooler, create more types of habitat, and increase the river's resiliency in floods. The Walla Walla River is used by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as by reintroduced spring Chinook salmon. The conservation district will contribute \$9,200 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2088)

Walla Walla County Conservation District Removing a Fish Barrier on Russell Creek

Grant Awarded: \$47,000

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to remove a historical concrete structure on Russell Creek, a tributary to Mill Creek south of Walla Walla, and place a series of wood structures both upstream and downstream of the barrier. The structure creates a 3.5-foot drop, which makes it hard for migrating fish to pass through. The project would open up to 5 miles of stream with mature vegetation on Russell Creek. Nearby landowners have expressed interest in resolving this passage concern. Russell Creek is used by steelhead, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation district will contribute \$13,400 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2086)

Walla Walla County Conservation District Restoring Cottonwood Creek

Grant Awarded: \$99,600

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to install 30 log structures and two logjams in Cottonweed Creek. Logjams create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. This project will serve as a pilot project to address water temperature, habitat quality and quantity, and channel stability. The conservation district also will plant native vegetation along the shoreline and continue to monitor water temperature and dissolved oxygen. 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. Cottonwood Creek is used by steelhead, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation district will contribute \$46,000 in a state grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2089)

Projects in Whatcom County

Grants Awarded: \$437,611

Nooksack Indian Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$437,611

Restoring the North Fork Nooksack River

The Nooksack Indian Tribe will use this grant to place 50 logjams in 1 mile of the North Fork Nooksack River near Kendall. Logjams create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. This project completes the final phase of restoration in the broader Farmhouse Reach of the North Fork Nooksack River. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. This is part of a larger project that the Salmon Recovery Funding Board approved to receive Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration funding, pending approval by the Legislature. The Tribe will contribute \$456,525 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1685)

Projects in Whitman County

Grants Awarded: \$41,795

Palouse Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$41,795

Restoring Steptoe Creek

The Palouse Conservation District will use this grant to install about 76 log structures in Steptoe Creek upstream of a completed fish passage project. These log structures create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, they change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The completed restoration project will add spawning habitat while broadening the impact of recent and future efforts to restore steelhead to Steptoe Creek. Steptoe Creek is used by steelhead, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The conservation district will contribute \$7,376 in donation of materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-2020)

Projects in Yakima County

Grants Awarded: \$125,715

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Grant Awarded: \$125,715 Enhancing White Creek

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to place logjams in White Creek, a tributary of the Klickitat River that provides critical habitat for salmon and trout. Logjams create places for fish to rest and hide from predators. They also slow the water, which reduces erosion and the amount of sediment in the creek. Slower water allows small gravels to settle to the creek bottom for spawning areas. Finally, they change the flow of the creek, creating riffles and deep cold pools, giving fish more varied habitat. The newly created floodplain will be planted with a mix of wetland and shoreline plants. Planting trees and shrubs 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. The roots of the plants provide structure, reducing soil erosion, which can smother fish spawning gravel that salmon use. The project will benefit steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Yakama Nation will contribute \$57,400 in donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (18-2098)