

Draft Targeted Investments Policy

Background

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board intends this policy to guide funding for projects that cannot be funded by the current allocation, clarify when the board will make funding decisions, and give the board flexibility to respond to emerging issues.

The board may request proposals for targeted investments,¹ only if funding remains after allocating the annual statewide status quo funding of \$18 million.²

Targeted Investment Definition

A targeted investment is a project that addresses a board-identified priority to accelerate progress towards achieving salmon recovery.

Targeted Investment Priorities

The board may adopt one or more targeted investment priority each biennium from the list below.

1. **Approaching recovery:** The investment improves habitat for an Endangered Species Act-listed species nearing recovery goals, as set by the National Marine Fisheries Service status reviews. The targeted investment would address an outstanding habitat restoration and/or protection issue or threat that, if corrected, would move the listed species closer to the recovery goal.
2. **Southern resident orca recovery:** The investment focuses on actions that benefit Endangered Species Act-listed, natural origin salmon populations that are a high priority in the southern resident orca task force recommendations.
3. **Populations at risk:** The investment focuses on improving habitat for endangered, threatened, or non-listed populations in decline or at-risk of extinction, where at-risk populations are identified by indicators such as fishery closures or updated status reviews.

¹Process and procedures will be described in *Manual 18: Salmon Recovery Grants*.

²The grant round allocation has been \$18 million annually since 2010. The annual allocation is a combination of federal and state funds.

4. **Future threat abatement:** The investment focuses on removing or dramatically abating a threat that will nullify recovery efforts (e.g. climate change, predation).
5. **Emergency response:** The investment focuses on advancing salmon habitat protection and restoration in watersheds that have experienced natural disasters that have or will result in significant adverse impact on a population.

Qualified Investment Criteria

Each eligible regional recovery organization may submit one project for board consideration. The project must meet each of the following eligibility criteria:

1. Address a board-identified targeted investment priority.
2. Improve long-term habitat quality and productivity, and therefore resiliency, of salmonids.
3. Advance a project that cannot be funded by the current regional allocation or sub-allocation to lead entities.
4. Leverage additional funds (not including federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund).
5. Restore and/or acquire habitat (may include design if the project leverages other funds).
6. Be endorsed by the lead entity where the project is located.
7. Be endorsed and submitted by the salmon recovery region for funding.