WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Meeting Agenda

September 13-14, 2023
Hybrid

Location In-Person: Room 172, First Floor, Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street, SE, Olympia, WA. This public meeting location will allow for the public to provide comment and listen to the meeting as required by the Open Public Meeting Act. This requirement can be waived via HB 1329 if there is declaration of emergency or if an agency determines that a public meeting cannot safely be held. If an emergency occurs, remote technology will be used instead.

Location Virtually: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_APXBFa3iStaMstvVEqW0FA

Phone Option: (669) 900-6833 – **Webinar ID:** 827 8665 6565

**Additionally, RCO will record this meeting and would be happy to assist you after the meeting to access the recording.*

Order of Presentation: In general, each agenda item will include a staff presentation, followed by board discussion. The board only makes decisions following the public comment portion of the agenda decision item.

Public Comment: General public comment is encouraged to be submitted in advance to the meeting in written form. Public comment on agenda items is also permitted. If you wish to comment, you may e-mail your request or written comments to Julia.McNamara@rco.wa.gov. Comment for these items will be limited to 3 minutes per person.

COVID Precautions: Masking is not required at this meeting. Masks and hand sanitizer will be available. The meetings rooms will be set to allow for as much social distancing as possible and air purifiers will be placed throughout.

Special Accommodations: People with disabilities needing an accommodation to participate in RCO public meetings are invited to contact Leslie Frank by phone (360) 902-0220 or e-mail Leslie.Frank@rco.wa.gov.

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS		
9:00 a.m.	**Call to Order** •Roll Call and Determination of Quorum •Review and Approval of Agenda ***(Decision)*** •Approval of May Meeting Minutes ***(Decision)*** •Approval of 2024 Meeting Calendar ***(Decision)*** •Remarks by the Chair	*Chair Breckel*
9:15 a.m.	**Remembrance of Jeromy Sullivan**	
9:45 a.m.	**1. Director's Report** A. Director's Report B. Legislative and Policy Update C. Fiscal Update (written only) D. Performance Report (written only)	 *Megan Duffy* *Brock Milliern* *Mark Jarasitis* *Bart Lynch*
10:15 a.m.	**2. Salmon Recovery Management Report** A. Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Report B. Salmon Section Report	 *Erik Neatherlin* *Tara Galuska* *Marc Duboiski*
10:45 a.m.	**BREAK**	
11:00 a.m.	**General Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda:** *Please limit comments to 3 minutes.*	
11:15 a.m.	**3. Partner Reports** • Council of Regions • Washington Salmon Coalition • Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups	 *Alex Conley* *Amy Hatch- Winecka* *Lance Winecka*
BOARD BUSINESS: DECISION		
11:45 a.m.	**4. Manual 18 2024 Calendar** ***Public comment** will occur prior to adopting the motion. Please limit comment to three minutes	*Kat Moore*
12:00 p.m.	**LUNCH**	
BOARD BUSINESS: REQUEST FOR DIRECTION		
1:15 p.m.	**5. Alternate Match Proposal**	*Nick Norton*
BOARD BUSINESS: DECISION		
2:15 p.m.	**BREAK**	
2:30 p.m.	**6. Riparian Policies and Funding** ***Public comment** will occur prior to adopting the motion. Please limit comment to three minutes	*Nick Norton* *Kat Moore*
4:00 p.m.	**7. 2024 Funding Options**	*Nick Norton*

	***Public comment** will occur prior to adopting the motion. Please limit comment to three minutes	*Kat Moore*

BOARD BUSINESS: BRIEFING

4:30 p.m.	**8. Partner Reports**	
	• Conservation Commission	*Levi Keesecker*
	• Department of Ecology	*Annette Hoffmann*
	• Department of Natural Resources	*Tom Gorman*
	• Department of Fish and Wildlife	*Jeremy Cram*
	• Department of Transportation	*Susan Kanzler*
5:00 p.m.	**RECESS**	

Thursday, September 14, 2023

OPENING AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

9:00 a.m.	**Call to Order** •Roll Call and Determination of Quorum •Remarks by the Chair	*Chair Breckel*
9:15 a.m.	**9. 2023 Grant Round**	
	A. Overview • Salmon Recovery Funding Projects • Regional Monitoring Projects	*Marc Duboiski*
	B. Slideshow of Featured Projects	*Grant Managers*
10:00 a.m.	**BREAK**	
10:15 a.m.	**10. 2023 Grant Round Continued**	
	C. Review Panel Comments • General Observations • Noteworthy Projects • Investing Funding to Modify Previously Funded Projects	*Jennifer O'Neal* *Steve Toth*
11:30 a.m.	**11. 2023 Grant Round Overview by Regions**	
	• Hood Canal Coordinating Council	*Alicia Olivas*
	• Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board	*Steve Manlow*
	• Northeast Washington Salmon Recovery Region (written only)	*Mike Lithgow*
	• Puget Sound Partnership	*Melissa Speeg*
	• Snake River Salmon Recovery Board (written only)	*Ali Fitzgerald*
	• Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board	*Dave Hecker*
	• Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership	*Mara Zimmerman*

	• Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board	*Michael Horner*
BOARD BUSINESS: DECISION		
12:15 p.m.	**12. 2023 Grant Round Board Funding Decisions** • Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board • Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership • Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board • Snake River Salmon Recovery Board • Puget Sound Partnership • Northeast Washington Salmon Recovery Region • Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board • Hood Canal Coordinating Council ***Public comment** will occur prior to adopting the motion. Please limit comments to three minutes.	*Marc Duboiski*
12:30 p.m.	**ADJOURN**	

Next meeting: December 13-14, 2023, Room 172 Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA 98501 and Online

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: May 23, 2023

Place: Site Tour – Nisqually Watershed Lead Entity Site Locations

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Members:

Jeff Breckel, Chair	Stevenson	**Annette Hoffman**	Designee, Washington Department of Ecology
Jeromy Sullivan	Kingston	**Tom Gorman**	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Kaleen Cottingham	Olympia	**Levi Keesecker**	Designee, Washington State Conservation Commission
Chris Endresen-Scott	Conconully	**Jeremy Cram**	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Joe Maroney	Spokane	**Susan Kanzler**	Designee, Washington Department of Transportation

This summary is to be used with the materials provided in advance of the meeting. The Recreation and Conservation Office retains a recording as the formal record of the meeting.

Call to Order:

The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) met at the Double Tree Hotel in Olympia, Washington where **Chair Breckel** called the meeting to order at 8:15 AM and requested roll call to determine quorum. **Julia McNamara**, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Board Liaison, performed roll call and determined quorum, noting **Member Jeromy Sullivan** was absent. **Chair Breckel** reviewed the agenda and the tour schedule for the day.

Motion:	Move to Approve the **May 24, 2023,** Agenda
Moved By:	Member **Joe Maroney**
Seconded by:	Member **Kaleen Cottingham**
Decision:	Approved

Tour:

Members of the board and staff completed a tour hosted by the Nisqually Tribe and the Nisqually Land Trust with stops at board-funded projects throughout the Nisqually Watershed.

RECESS: 3:15 PM

Returned to the Double Tree Hotel in Olympia.

SALMON RECOVERY FUNDING BOARD SUMMARY MINUTES

Date: May 24, 2023

Place: Hybrid - Room 172, Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE; Olympia, WA and online via Zoom

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Members:

Jeff Breckel, Chair	Stevenson	**Annette Hoffman**	Designee, Washington Department of Ecology
Jeromy Sullivan	Kingston	**Tom Gorman**	Designee, Department of Natural Resources
Kaleen Cottingham	Olympia	**Levi Keesecker**	Designee, Washington State Conservation Commission
Chris Endresen-Scott	Conconully	**Jeremy Cram**	Designee, Department of Fish and Wildlife
Joe Maroney	Spokane	**Susan Kanzler**	Designee, Washington Department of Transportation

This summary is to be used with the materials provided in advance of the meeting. The Recreation and Conservation Office retains a recording as the formal record of the meeting.

Call to Order:

Chair Breckel called the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) meeting to order at 9:00 AM and requested roll call, determining quorum. **Julia McNamara**, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Board Liaison noted **Member Jeromy Sullivan's** absence.

Motion:	Move to Approve the **March 8, 2022,** Meeting Minutes
Moved by:	Member **Joe Maroney**
Seconded by:	Member **Chris Endresen-Scott**
Approved:	Approved as amended

Member Cottingham amended the March minutes to include "*and staff*" in the section that she had recognized International Women's Day so that the sentence reads "*…highlighting the equality of women displayed on the board and staff…*".

Chair Breckel recognized retiring RCO staff, Dave Caudill and Keith Dublanica. Members of the board acknowledged their careers and shared appreciation for their work on salmon recovery. Mr. Caudill and Mr. Dublanica gave brief remarks.

Item 1: Director's Report

Director Megan Duffy provided an overview of RCO activities in the last quarter, recognizing Jeannie Abbott for her extensive efforts organizing the successful Salmon Recovery Conference in April and providing an update on staff changes, including the hiring of John Foltz, Outdoor Grants Manager, Kate McLaughlin, part-time Outdoor Grants Manager, and Monica Atkins, Administrative Assistant. RCO is actively recruiting a Governor's Salmon and Recovery Office (GSRO) Science Coordinator and an Executive Coordinator for the Washington Invasive Species Council (WISC).

Legislative and Policy Update

Brock Milliern, Policy and Legislative Director, highlighted several bills, beginning with House Bill (HB) 1138, which gives the Department of Ecology (Ecology) more authority in drought declaration and relief funding, providing better preparedness and response. HB 1170 prompts the state's Climate Response Strategy update. HB 1181 requires climate change and resiliency to be built into the growth management act planning. HB 1322 regarding the Walla Walla water 2050 plan, requires that the plan be used as an integrated water resource strategy in a coordinated effort between Washington and Oregon, affected federally recognized tribes, affected federal, state, and local agencies, and other stakeholders. HB 1775 provides a modest change to the liability for regional fish enhancement groups (RFEGs) on certain salmon recovery projects. Senate Bill (SB) 5371 creates additional protections for Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW), expanding the distance of vessels around SRKWs to 1000 yards and changing permitting requirements and costs for commercial whale watch and paddle tours. SB 5433 for the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) provides funding and authority for the removal of aquatic derelict structures.

Mr. Milliern highlighted the salmon funding in the capital budget beginning with the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board (BAFBRB), which was funded at $48,407,000, an increase of about eighty percent. The Estuary and Salmon Restoration (ESRP) and Washington Coastal Restoration and Resilience Initiative (WCRRI) came in just slightly less than in the previous session at $14,309,000. Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) received full funding at $59,165,000.

The board's grant program was funded at $20 million, a decrease of $10 million from the last session, which is concerning. While $25 million was provided for riparian grant funding, Mr. Milliern noted that staff will work over the next several months to highlight the board's grant program as a critical component in salmon recovery.

Members suggested statistical analysis of programs that use pre-session lists compared to the board process and comparing targeted investment data.

Director Duffy suggested that staff could engage in such an analysis, however it would also be critical to consider the overall impact on the salmon recovery system of changing the SRFB grant process to be pre-session list oriented.

Chair Breckel noted that there is more money for salmon recovery than ever before, but it is spread across more programs and the board has an important role in focusing the funds into a coordinated effort that will strengthen salmon recovery.

Regarding the capital budget, Mr. Milliern shared that he will be speaking with members of the legislature about the way project lists are developed for programs like the Fish Barrier Removal Board and PSAR large cap project and the importance of allocating funding to the projects in the order that they are ranked on the project lists provided.

Mr. Milliern finished his presentation by sharing that RCO made significant requests in the operating budget this session and received $3.4 million in capacity funding for lead entities and salmon recovery regions, noting that overall, it was a very good session for the operating budget. Additionally, RCO received operating funding for a Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator, a Tribal Liaison, and a Riparian Coordinator.

Item 2: Salmon Recovery Management Report

Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Report

Erik Neatherlin, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) Director, highlighted letters included in the board materials that addressed appropriation levels for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF). These appropriation support letters are led by Senator Maria Cantwell, Representative Rick Larson, and Governor Inslee's office.

The Puget Sound Day on the Hill, led by the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and the Puget Sound Partnership, was successful in advocating for Puget Sound recovery, salmon recovery, and orca recovery.

Jennifer Quan is the new Regional Administrator for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) West Coast and Dr. Thomas Purce has been appointed to the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. Mr. Neatherlin noted the importance of having leaders in these positions that understand and are champions of salmon and orca recovery.

Jeannie Abbott, GSRO Program Coordinator, requested approval to begin planning the 2025 Salmon Recovery Conference and hiring Western Washington University (WWU)

Conference Services to assist. Additionally, Ms. Abbott requested volunteers for the steering committee.

Member Cottingham noted that some online conference attendees had experienced issues with the hybrid model and the pre-recorded presentations and asked if there was a way to address that for future conferences. Ms. Abbott explained that going forward, a hybrid model may not be practical, but it is something the new steering committee will discuss.

Motion:	Move to start planning now for the 2025 Salmon Conference
Moved by:	Member **Kaleen Cottingham**
Seconded by:	Member **Joe Maroney**
Approved:	Approved

Chair Breckel, **Member Cram**, and **Member Maroney** volunteered for the steering committee.

Tara Galuska, GSRO Orca Recovery Coordinator, highlighted SB 5371, which will increase distance between vessels and SRKW to 1000 yards, providing space for SRKWs to successfully forage and echo-locate salmon. Ms. Galuska noted that this will be implemented in 2025 and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will be forming a workgroup to help guide implementation recommendations.

Ms. Galuska announced that through the State and Public Environmental Policy Act, an orca supplemental checklist was developed and is now published and available for use.

Ms. Galuska started an intergovernmental workgroup that meets quarterly to collaborate and coordinate across many fronts of orca recovery. This workgroup includes state agency leads, the United States Coast Guard (USCG), NOAA, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and three Washington state tribal organizations.

WDFW is performing a periodic status review for orcas, which will be published soon and extend the current status of endangered at the state level.

The Puget Sound Partnership has an orca indicator on their action agenda and has been hosting workshops to further develop and refine those indicators.

Ms. Galuska shared the new report from NOAA that was published in March on inbreeding of orcas and the impacts on breeding ability over time.

Chair Breckel asked if there was any recommendation that was made by the study on how to address inbreeding. Ms. Galuska noted that addressing all threats and working

on recovery efforts will help make inbreeding less of a threat and that salmon population growth is of high concern.

Member Cottingham asked for an update on the release of the orca Tokitae, from the Miami Seaquarium. Ms. Galuska noted that an official proposal and tribal consultation need to happen, but there has been momentum from the public, such as the non-profit Friends for Tokitae, and a press conference with the owner of the Indiana Colts, who is financing part of the effort.

Salmon Section Report

Marc Duboiski, RCO Salmon Grants Section Manager, introduced John Foltz and Kate McLaughlin, the new members of the salmon team and noted that since November 2021, the salmon team has added six new staff.

Mr. Duboiski updated the board on the 2022 Funded Projects sharing that of the 133 board-funded projects, 115 have active agreements, with the remaining expected to be under contract soon. Mr. Duboiski noted that some of these projects have been delayed until PSAR funds are approved. Additionally, there are thirty-eight new projects that will be eligible for contracts starting July 1, 2023, when PSAR funding becomes available.

The 2023 Grant Cycle is underway with 150 applications in review, forty-seven of which are cleared and five that will be cleared if sponsors agree to the conditions. The remaining applications will be reviewed in mid-July.

Mr. Duboiski briefly highlighted salmon team field visits to Hood Canal, North Pacific Coast, Snake River, and the Salmon Recovery Conference in Vancouver.

Chair Breckel asked if staff is at capacity yet. Mr. Duboiski answered that they are stretched on capacity, but training new staff will help.

Chair Breckel took a moment before the break to introduce Levi Keesecker, the new representative for the State Conservation Commission (SCC). **Member Keesecker** is a natural resource scientist at the SCC and supports conservation districts, counties, universities, and non-profits across the state. Member Keesecker also works on the Volunteer Stewardship Program.

General Public Comment

None.

Break: 10:12AM -10:30AM

Item 3: Partner Reports

Council of Regions

Alicia Olivas, Salmon Program Implementation Manager and Lead Entity Coordinator (filling in for Alex Conley), provided a written update to the board. Ms. Olivas noted that the Council of Regions has been working towards implementing the 2023 grant round, held monthly work calls, and organized core participation in groups, such as the Salmon Recovery Network (SRNet) and BAFBRB.

Ms. Olivas shared appreciation for Director Duffy and Erik Neatherlin for their help organizing calls with WDFW leadership. Four Columbia River Regions have continued monthly meetings to discuss and coordinate regional input on Columbia River policy priorities with other state partners.

Ms. Olivas noted that the council supports the proposed Targeted Investment policy in Item Four of the agenda, which creates a strong framework for future targeted investment grant rounds and effectively highlights the role of regional organizations in identifying key recovery needs. Additionally, the council encouraged the board to pursue option one, no match, regarding match policy in Item Five of the agenda, noting the option removes match requirements while maintaining the ability to track and report non-board leveraged projects. Regarding Item Seven of the agenda for funding decisions, the council agrees with the staff recommendation to not pursue targeted investments at this time.

Washington Salmon Coalition

Mike Lithgow, Washington Salmon Coalition (WSC) Chair and Pend Oreille Lead Entity Coordinator, shared that WSC supports the proposed Targeted Investment policy in Item Four of the agenda with the caveat that the implementation of the policy is monitored and can be modified in the future if needed. WSC is supportive of revising the match policy and encourages the board to continue to support policy staff.

Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups

Lance Winecka, Director of South Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group, represented the Regional Fisheries Coalition and noted that the projects included in the board tour the prior day represent the future of restoration, which requires collaboration among lead entities, regions, and landowners to plan for large scale projects. Regarding Item Five of the agenda, Mr. Winecka expressed support for using leverage instead of match for better implementation of large-scale projects and encouraged the board to consider options with no match.

Mr. Winecka noted that Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups (RFEGs) continue to be the primary sponsors for board projects and shared appreciation to the board for funding opportunities.

Chair Breckel commented that leverage can still be used with match. Mr. Winecka replied that the RFEGs support identifying all sources of funding used for a project and that it be reported at the completion of a project, noting it can be difficult for a project sponsor to accurately estimate project cost.

Chair Breckel asked Ms. Olivas and Mr. Lithgow their thoughts on match, and both agreed with Mr. Winecka's comments. Ms. Olivas noted that the timing of grants matters, and reporting match creates an additional barrier as different sources of funding may be on different timelines.

Item 4: Targeted Investment Policy Decision

Nick Norton, Policy and Planning Specialist, summarized the process that staff and a working committee went through to create the proposed changes to Manual 18, Appendix J: Targeted Investments (TI) Program. Currently the board can choose from five potential targeted investment priorities: approaching recovery, SRKW recovery, populations at risk, future threat abatement, and emergency response. Rather than focus on one specific priority, the working committee and staff decided to shift priority focus to project pace and scale and regional impact.

Chair Breckel and members of the board discussed and support this shift, pointing to the Mill Creek in Walla Walla as an example of a long-term project that exemplifies this new approach, and noted the importance of leaving room for learning and adapting that occurs in a multi-phased approach.

Chair Breckel noted it is important to provide the opportunity to reach beyond the current scale of projects on most lead entity project lists. Mr. Norton noted that the pathway and process of targeted investments goes through local and technical review, which harnesses the mechanisms that promote a high technical standard to assess whether a project is ready to receive larger funding amounts to complete a bigger scope of work in a single phase of funding (i.e., scale-up).

Mr. Norton further explained proposed revisions to the original process for project selection. In the previous TI grant round, the process worked as follows:

- allocation of funding
- Application
- project technical review

- regional ranking/selection,
- Review panel scoring and ranking; and
- Board funding

The proposed new process approach would consist of:

- allocation and project guidelines
- regional solicitation and project selection
- full application submittal
- technical review,
- Review panel scoring and ranking, and
- Board funding.

The significant change of moving regional solicitation and selection to after allocation and guidelines, but before application and technical review will allow regions to play the role of soliciting projects with the opportunity to have more authority over how funding is used in their regions.

Member Hoffmann wondered what the key arguments against making this change was. Mr. Norton explained that capacity was a concern, as this new process could create more work for regions. **Director Duffy** noted there will be an increase in regional capacity based on funding from this biennium. While more strategic, this change will require a significant investment of time up front for regions to decide on targeted investments. **Member Cottingham** noted that during discussion in the working group, the regions would have a more advanced role in timing, but not more complex.

Alicia Olivas commented that from her perspective, this new process fits well with their current process and gives the regions the ability to decide which limiting factors are more important; however, this creates a difficult situation where regions are submitting very diverse types of projects without any control over how they would rank. For example, metrics for Hood Canal chum are different than eastern Washington salmon, and Ms. Olivas shared concern over the Hood Canal region competing well at the state level. **Member Endresen-Scott** noted this was discussed on the committee and that the evaluation criteria scores would reflect the limiting factors of the region's recovery plan to level the playing field.

Mr. Norton discussed the importance of including flexibility so that staff and the board can adjust criteria as needed, and this flexibility has been imbedded into the process so that it can be a more responsive as necessary depending upon funding sources and directives. **Chair Breckel** asked how criteria can be adjusted in a timely manner. Mr.

Norton answered that it is difficult to know, and staff will need to perform some additional upfront work to adjust criteria when needed.

Mr. Norton described the changes to criteria that aimed to better accommodate a breadth of project types.

- More extensive descriptions of point values were added for less variation among the review panel members, but more discernment in scoring projects.
- Some criteria were split to provide better project determination at the regional level.
- Some point values were changed. For example, points associated with multiple species benefits were reduced after feedback from regions indicated that this penalizes projects that have a substantial impact on single species or single life stage of a single species.
- A category was added for funding impact to provide discernment around projects where the funds are uniquely capable of impacting project scale, reducing the timeline, or harnessing efficiencies.
- Cost benefit criteria was removed to be used as a tie breaker instead of scored criteria.

Public Comment

None.

John Foltz, Director of the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board, noted that flexibility is key to adaptation and preparation. Mr. Foltz shared that the board's targeted investment in the Mill Creek Project expedited the work as well as leveraged significant other funds. **Chair Breckel** added that the success of this type of project validates targeted investments.

Mike Lithgow noted that monitoring and adaptively managing this policy will be important and approved of moving forward with these changes.

Ms. Olivas commented there needs to be a mechanism to fund large, complex projects, citing Duckabush as an initial targeted investment project that allowed the region to piece together funding, add momentum, and begin design work. Ms. Olivas noted that scale with large projects like this is a struggle, and including a mechanism that still allows for timing and phasing flexibility will help.

Lance Winecka echoed Ms. Olivas' comments, and he anticipates an increase in preliminary type designs. Mr. Winecka noted that flexibility will likely lead projects to progress.

Member Cottingham noted that the board should have a list ready to share with legislature in the event funds are not available in 2025. **Chair Breckel** agreed and recognized this policy may need changes in the future.

Members discussed the changes, expressing overall support. **Member Gorman** shared concern around reducing points for multiple species, noting there may be harm in other species. Mr. Norton clarified that reducing the points was an effort to be more specific in targeting investments. **Member Hoffmann** recommended that the board be sensitive to the fact that speeding up projects is not always positive, and that it can be important to have technical checks and balances in certain circumstances when the pace is quickened.

Motion:	Move to Approve the new targeted investment program language as proposed in Item Four of the May 2023 Meeting Materials.
Moved by:	Member **Kaleen Cottingham**
Seconded by:	Member **Joe Maroney**
Approved:	Approved

Public Comment

None.

LUNCH: 12:10 PM – 1:00 PM

Item 5: Match Policy Options Assessment

Member Gorman returned from lunch at 1:02 PM.

Nick Norton reminded the board of the request made during the June 2022 board retreat to examine the existing board match policy. During the March 2023 meeting, Mr. Norton shared project match data gathered from speaking with sponsors and stakeholders in the salmon recovery community. The consensus was that the fifteen percent match threshold is too high for some sponsors, possibly eliminating good projects, and too low to matter overall compared to what is contributed to projects throughout the program. Mr. Norton noted that the match requirement does not appear to be meeting its original objectives of local investment (skin in the game), but it can create negative impacts on the pace and scale of project implementation while also serving as a capacity constraint for project sponsors.

Director Duffy clarified to **Member Endresen-Scott** that she thinks funders most appreciate how much total funding contributed to a project versus how/the mechanism

(fifteen percent match) used to achieve that overall funding. Mr. Norton presented two policy options for the board's consideration, which represent alternate approaches to existing match policy and additional funds.

1) Option One: No Match – Match is not required; however, if a scope of work using board funding requires other resources to be completed, those additional funds need to be included upfront and in the final report.
2) Option Two: Simpler Workflow – Match is required but shared in a simpler way and *all* matching funds would need to be included in the final report.

Mr. Norton provided an example scenario to remove and replace two culverts at the cost of $1 million each, for a total of $2 million. Currently, the minimum amount of match would be reported. With Option One, sponsors could report the $2 million in the scope of work and tell where that money came from and how it was spent. For Option Two, sponsors would report $1 million in match, rather than just the fifteen percent minimum match.

Members Maroney, Hoffmann, and Breckel expressed concern with Option 1 (no match) as there is not a full way to capture the full funding and applicants may no longer feel inclined to break down projects into phases. Chair Breckel noted that match makes the board more competitive and explains to legislature where funds are coming from and justifies the spending.

Member Maroney did not want to impose administrative burden on sponsors or lead entities.

Member Hoffman suggested formalizing a way for the projects to tell the whole watershed story, which may take pressure off using match to formally capture the full story.

Mr. Norton explained the pros and cons of the two options.

Option One	
Pros	**Cons**
• Eliminates all project barriers	• Some down-scoping to remove additional leverage.
• Reduces sponsor workload	• Some request size increases
• Improves leverage reporting	
Option Two	
Pros	**Cons**
• Reduces some project barriers	• Project implementation risks

• Reduces sponsor workload	• Merging project complexity
• Increases leverage reporting	• Operation unknowns

Members suggested formalizing a way for projects to tell the whole watershed story versus using match, renaming "no match", creating a metric goal to assess after closed salmon project contracts, and possibly identify project types that need match and types that do not. **Member Cottingham** suggested incorporating an "aspirational leverage" goal that the board could then assess once contracts are closed to determine whether the goal was met.

Mr. Norton also suggested that if the board wanted to retain match, it might consider revisions to the existing policy that considered possible variable match such as:

- Variable by project type
- Variable by request amount
- Variable by entity type
- Variable by location
- Add to what counts.

If the board wanted to pursue this approach, staff recommends focusing on two of the options above: variable by project type and variable by request amount, both of which are currently being done in limited ways and could be expanded.

Member Kanzler asked if a sliding scale approach has been considered, recognizing that some sponsors may have an easier time acquiring match than others. Mr. Norton answered that a sliding scale would fall under the variable by entity type or location alternatives. This is a complicated option across entities and geographies and could frustrate partners and stakeholders.

Member Endresen-Scott would like to capture the total cost of projects that the board is contributing to and would like to remove the extra steps involved in reporting. **Chair Breckel** suggested calling it a "cost share process". **Member Cottingham** noted there is a statutory provision that allows the board to establish required match, using the term "match" and cautioned about changing the term to "cost share".

Member Hoffmann noted that match may not be achieving the original goals it was intended to, but may be providing different benefits, and asked what the worst-case scenario under Option One might be. **Member Cottingham** suggested a worst-case scenario in which legislators are concerned that the board no longer requires match and assumes it needs no more funding.

Mr. Norton noted the difference between the two options is whether the board finds it necessary to include non-board funds in the scope of work. **Member Maroney** expressed concern that if not included, sponsors may underreport match.

Alicia Olivas shared that the cons for both options are happening currently and used the Kilisut Harbor (RCO #14-1366), in the Hood Canal as an example of a project that required a lot of leverage rather than waiting for match, noting sponsors want to tell the full funding story, but currently they are not because of what is in the contract.

Mr. Norton clarified that both options would ask sponsors to report other means of funding.

Ms. Olivas shared that the sponsors would tell more of the full funding story using Option One, when it is reported at the end, rather than in Option Two when match is required at the beginning.

Members of the board discussed the two options to provide Mr. Norton with direction. **Members Maroney and Hoffmann** preferred Option Two as a step towards Option One. **Member Cottingham** agreed with the idea that Option Two is a step towards Option One but encouraged the board to consider the notion of aspirational leverage. **Member Endresen-Scott** reminded the board that the reason match is being considered is because most board-funded projects already have or surpass the required fifteen percent match and leans towards Option Two. **Member Gorman** liked the idea of creating a way to show more leveraged funds through an aspirational goal and preferred Option One. **Member Cram** leaned towards Option One and noted that there are bigger funders that do not require match, while the board is a smaller funder with a rigorous application process and suggested no match on certain project types.

Chair Breckel emphasized that the priority should be to be able to show legislators that funds are being leveraged.

Member Cottingham would like to see a list of grant programs that do not require match.

Director Duffy summarized the main objectives discussed for direction:

- Capture all the dollars that go into a project and defining what a project is, not just the SRFB agreement scope.
- Reduce the burden on the sponsor.
- Accountability for the dollars and what is intended by the funders.

BREAK: 2:30 PM – 2:35 PM

Item 6: Monitoring Update

Intensively Monitored Watersheds Synthesis Report

Eric Neatherlin provided a monitoring update along with **Doctor Pete Bisson**, and GSRO Science Coordinator **Keith Dublanica**. Mr. Neatherlin reminded the board of who sits on the monitoring subcommittee, which includes Chair Breckel, Member Hoffmann, and Member Cram, as well as the Council of Regions, the Washington Salmon Coalition, and the GSRO. The subcommittee's purpose is to guide development of the board's monitoring initiatives. To that end, the subcommittee has been working on an Intensively Monitored Watersheds (IMW) Synthesis summary, an Adaptive Management Strategy and assessing a Remote Sensing pilot, monitoring a floodplain project.

The subcommittee recently completed the IMW synthesis, adaptive management strategy, and remote sensing pilot project. The subcommittee and staff are in the process of reviewing, discussing, and developing how the information will be incorporated into the board's program. The final step in this process will be to incorporate and operationalize the data from these reports.

Mr. Neatherlin briefly shared the IMW Synthesis process, which was facilitated by Dr. Bilby and involved IMW freshwater projects. It included an in-depth evaluation of questions generated during the Pacific Northwest Aquatic Monitoring Partnership (PNAMP) regional IMW review. The full report will be available by the end of May and will provide information on:

- Individual results and findings for each IMW complex;
- broader common findings across all the Washington IMW complexes;
- assessment and implications of using large woody debris (LWD) in freshwater systems;
- an increased understanding and interpretation of fish response;
- opportunities for IMWs to help refine our understanding of limiting factors; and,
- reinforces the importance of estuaries and provided insight for how to maximize protection or restoration strategies in estuaries.

Adaptive Management Strategy

Dr. Pete Bisson spoke about the development of the adaptive management strategy and provided recommendations from the monitoring subcommittee. They include:

1) Increase communication between the monitoring panel and review panel.
2) Develop a communication plan to give the monitoring committee an opportunity to share findings with others and learn from others.

3) Periodically reassess limiting factors, as new scientific insights come forward.
4) Annual monitoring project workshop, similar to what is currently being done in the Grande Ronde in Oregon.
5) Adaptive management report card presented to the board by the monitoring subcommittee each year.

Floodplain Remote Sensing Pilot Project

In 2019, the board discussed effectiveness monitoring and a pilot program was considered, using new approaches to assess the effectiveness of reach-scale habitat restoration. The board approved a pilot, using remote sensing to try and better characterize habitat improvements at larger scales. The pilot study locations included Eastern Washington on the Entiat River and Tucannon River, and Western Washington on the County Line-White River and Upper and Lower Fobes on the Nooksack River.

Overall, remote sensing has proven to be effective and more accurate at characterizing habitat improvements at a large scale than on-the-ground surveys. While remote sensing does a great job characterizing habitat changes, it does not tell where fish are, which will likely be considered in the future using new technology to better assess how the fish are responding to those changes, using environmental DNA and other technologies. Additional remote sensing benefits include cost effectiveness and ability to map entire floodplains rather than site specific field data methods, opportunities for collaboration and cost savings given its broad application, and its ability to be used for projects of any size.

Member Maroney discussed using drones for thermal imaging to identify cold water in places there is no other way to collect data. Dr. Bisson assured Member Maroney that they will be purchasing a drone.

Dr. Bisson briefly summarized the technical findings, sharing that remote sensing works on a larger area, but all the possibilities of using various kinds of new technology have not been fully explored to see how fish are being affected. The next steps in the study are to continue these discussions at the monitoring subcommittee level and bring more information and recommendations to the board's fall meeting.

Keith Dublanica, GSRO Science Coordinator, shared that the subcommittee recommends continuing funding for IMW monitoring and the monitoring panel. The subcommittee will continue dialogue over the summer and provide final funding recommendations to the board in the fall of 2023.

Member Keesecker noted the parallel efforts occurring with other groups and looks forward to seeing those collaborate.

Item 7: Funding Allocations

Jeannie Abbott, GSRO Program Coordinator, provided the board with a variety of funding decisions, including setting the amount for the latest grant round, review panel, cost increases, capacity funding, and monitoring. Ms. Abbott shared the total funding available.

Funding Available	23-25 Biennium
State General Funds (Lead Entities/Regions)	$4,402,000
State Bond Funds (includes Admin)	$20,000,000
Riparian (includes Admin)	$25,000,000
Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) 2023-2024 (includes Admin)	$37,000,000-48,000,000
Return Funds Used/Available	$4,070,114
Total Funds Available	**$90,472,114-101,472,114**

Notably, the PCSRF money was provided as a range, since funding from NOAA may not be finalized until June. The expected funding for the 2023-2025 biennium is $90-101 million.

Ms. Abbott shared the available and projected project funding.

Project Funding	2023 Grant Round	2024 Grant Round
State Bond Funds for Grant Round	$7,818,000	$7,818,000
State Bonds Riparian	-	$23,970,000
PCSRF for grant round 2023 and projected for 2024	$9,037,815-13,999,315	$9,037,815-13,999,315
Regional Monitoring Projects	$350,000	$350,000
Returned Funds Available	$4,070,114	$0
Cost Increases	$675,000	$500,000
Total Funds Available	**$21,950,929-26,912,429**	**$41,675,815-46,637,315**

Member Endresen-Scott had concerns with doing regional allocations for both rounds in both years without knowing what PCSRF would be and asked for the other board members thoughts on reserving the $4 million in returned funds for a 2024 targeted investment grant round, once the PCSRF award is known. She would like to consider funding a $20 million grant round for 2023 and use the $4 million from returned funds for targeted investments if possible.

Members discussed the approach for funding a targeted investment grant round. **Members Cram and Maroney** were hesitant to set aside $4 million for targeted investments, not knowing if there will be any supplemental money. **Members Cottingham and Endresen-Scott** suggested holding the $4 million until 2024 when PCSRF would be known.

Director Duffy provided clarification on Member Endresen-Scott's proposal, as holding the $4 million of returned funds for a potential targeted investment grant round in 2024 and using 2023 PCSRF funds and Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) funds in the 2023 regional allocation. **Member Endresen-Scott** added that if PCSRF funding did not come in high enough to fund a $20 million grant round in 2023, then Director Duffy would have the authority to delegate returned funds from the withheld $4 million to meet the $20 million minimum. If PCSRF comes in higher than expected, then the withheld $4 million could be moved to the 2024 grant round for targeted investment and discussed in September.

Motion: Move to use the interim project allocation formula approved by the board at the March 2, 2017, board meeting to determine regional grant round amounts at a minimum of

	$20 million for the 2023 grant round, which includes $350,000 for funding regional monitoring projects. Retain the current return funds for 2024 grant round or Targeted Investments unless needed to meet the $20 million 2023 grant round.
Moved by:	Member **Cottingham**
Seconded by:	Member **Endresen Scott**
Approved:	Approved as amended.

Member Maroney asked if the motion included authority for the director to shift the $4 million to make $20 million the way it is written. The board amended the motion to clarify, adding the last sentence "*Retain the current return funds for 2024 grant round or Targeted Investments unless needed to meet the $20 million 2023 grant round*".

Member Kanzler left the room at 3:55 PM.

Motion:	Move to approve $200,000 for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) Technical Review Panel.
Moved by:	Member **Endresen Scott**
Seconded by:	Member **Cottingham**
Approved:	Approved

Motion:	Move to retain balance of $675,000 for Salmon Recovery Funding Board project cost increases.
Moved by:	Member **Maroney**
Seconded by:	Member **Endresen-Scott**
Approved:	Approved

Member Kanzler returned 3:56 PM.

Motion:	Move to delegate authority to the Director to enter contracts with Lead Entities and Regional Organizations to fund capacity for the 2023-25 biennium utilizing the funding amounts in Table 4, item seven memorandum of the May 2023 meeting materials.
Moved by:	Member **Cottingham**
Seconded by:	Member **Maroney**
Approved:	Approved

Motion:	Move to delegate authority to the Director to enter contracts with the Regional Organizations for Fiscal Year 2024 at $2,878,685 plus any return funds from previous Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Funds awards.
Moved by:	Member **Endresen-Scott**

Seconded by:	Member **Cottingham**
Approved:	Approved
Motion:	Move to delegate authority to the Director to enter contracts for the monitoring efforts displayed in Table 6 of item seven in the May 2023 meeting materials. The contracts shall not exceed $2,000,000 for fiscal year.
Moved by:	Member **Cottingham**
Seconded by:	Member **Endresen Scott**
Approved:	Approved

Public Comment

None.

The board will decide how to implement riparian funding in September.

BREAK: 4:05 – 4:11 PM

Most of the microphones died during the break. The remaining live microphones were passed to those who were speaking until they all eventually died.

Item 8: Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Plan Update

Kat Moore, Senior Grant Manager, presented the Watershed Restoration Enhancement Plan Review, completed by a team of six technical review panel members who reviewed five watershed restoration and enhancement plans. Ms. Moore explained that Washington is divided into sixty-two separate Watershed Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA).

The Washington Supreme Court's Hirst Decision of 2016 changed the way Washington State deals with domestic water use. Prior to this decision, home builders in rural areas could get water for domestic use by drilling a well and are exempt from the legal water rights framework because of their relatively low usage and are referred to as permit exempt wells today. The Hirst Decision required counties to make independent decisions about legal water availability before issuing building permits for new homes or subdivisions.

In response, the legislature enacted the 2018 Streamflow Restoration Act, which clarified how local governments can issue building permits for homes intending to use permit exempt wells as their water supply and required that the local watershed planning process happened in fifteen WRIAs. Watershed planning groups were required to evaluate the projected water use by new permanent exempt wells over the next 20 years, to estimate their consumptive impact on the groundwater withdrawals on

instream flows, identify projects and actions to offset the usage, and provide a net ecological benefit to the WRIA.

Ms. Moore shared that there are five watersheds that have not completed or approved their plans. In the spring, a technical review panel was formed and divided up the five WRIAs. Three members reviewed WRIA seven (Snohomish) and eight (Cedar/Sammamish), and three members reviewed WRIA thirteen (Deschutes), fourteen (Kennedy/Goldsborough), and fifteen (Kitsap). The draft recommendations are provided in the meeting materials.

Hans Berge, Program Manager and Senior Scientist at Kramer Fish Sciences and Watershed Review Panel Member, shared that the review panel was charged with looking at the plans and assessing whether:

- the consumptive use projections are technically sound and follow consistent methodology;
- identified projects provide water offsets for the projected consumptive use;
- the projects offset the projected impacts to instream flow in all the subbasins in the WRIA; and,
- the plans provide additional ecological benefits.

The review found that the consumptive use estimates were technically sound, and methodology was consistent across WRIAs. The water off-sets were generally too optimistic, but even after adjustments will be adequate to offset projected use, and projects did provide additional ecological and instream benefits; however, some projects may be overly optimistic.

The review panel's recommendations are that WRIA seven and eight meet the stated intent for restoration and enhancement plans. WRIAs thirteen, fourteen, and fifteen need some revising and removal of some offset and habitat projects given uncertainties associated with those projects. All WRIA plans will benefit from addressing minor comments that have been provided in the review panel's detailed comments. Next steps include providing a public comment period and bringing the final review back to the board in September for a decision.

Member Endresen-Scott asked if the review panel was made aware of the reasons the five watershed plans were not agreed upon by their respective committees. Mr. Berge explained that letters were provided that identified the reasons.

Member Cram commented that the estimates seemed lower than the typical wells. He noted that net ecological benefit is not well defined and larger projects can take a while

to be implemented. He suggested that projects that are on a longer time frame be removed. Member Cram further noted that there is not a clear understanding of how groundwater interacts with the surface water that fish also interact with.

Item 9: State Agency Partner Reports

Partner reports were provided before the lunch break.

Department of Ecology

Annette Hoffmann provided an update on the 6PPD-Quinone (6PPD-Q) issue. Ecology has a new 6PPD-Q coordinator who collaborates with other municipalities working on the same issue. Interested parties can sign up for email updates on Ecology's website, by searching "6PPD-Q" at ecology.wa.gov. Ecology provided the National Estuary Program funding to develop and implement an awareness of behavior change campaign aimed at reducing the 6PPD-Q found in stormwater, participates in many forums, tracks research happening in other states and takes a holistic approach to this threat.

Member Hoffman wanted the board and public to be aware of a grant opportunity at Ecology called the Spills Coastal Protection Fund Grant, which offers funds that can be used as match for the board and have been used to support several past board projects. Ecology received seventeen applications for the latest grant round, which closed on May 4 for the available $250,000 of funding.

During the legislative session, funding was provided for:

- Reducing flooding in the Nooksack River Basin, including local and state project planning and implementation through the Nooksack Transboundary Taskforce. Ecology will be coordinating efforts with British Columbia.
- Grants for Tribal Governments to support their review and consultation regarding clean energy projects and programs.
- Updating the Statewide Climate Change Response Strategy and coordinate with other state agencies.
- Floodplains by Design, which received over $17 million.
- Producing a strategic resource plan in the Walla Walla Basin.

Additionally, Ecology was selected by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to lead the Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Program in partnership with the State Conservation Commission SCC and Bonneville Environmental Foundation, which supports Floodplains by Design and will bring an additional $30 million from the federal IIJA to Puget Sound watersheds to support riparian management over the next six years.

Ecology submitted five watershed plans to the board, expecting the review of the plans to be completed by the fall at which point Ecology will consider the recommendations and initiate rulemaking within six months of adopting the plan. In addition to facilitating these watershed plans, Ecology will offer competitive grants to incentivize their implementation.

Chair Breckel expressed interest in this grant noting the increased demand across the state to address streamflow challenges.

Department of Natural Resources

Tom Gorman discussed SB 3453, which establishes a derelict structure program and account and provides flexibility to deal with derelict structures and allows DNR to purchase tidelands or structures from a private property owner making it easier to complete a full removal. Currently, DNR is working on four large projects that are mostly focused on the Puget Sound and will have significant impacts once the derelict structures are removed. Member Gorman shared that DNR received operating funds to hire new staff to implement the program.

Additional funding was received for:

- Tire reef/pile removal which DNR will partner with Ecology on for proper disposal.
- Continued work in the Snohomish watershed removing derelict vessels and moving large wood in restoration projects.
- Climate act funds to expand DNR's environmental justice program.

Chair Breckel asked to what extent do structures exist on private land. Member Gorman clarified that DNR was instructed by legislature to work on the top four priority projects, one of which includes private ownership, and noted there are other instances where the new allowance of purchasing private land will be necessary.

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Jeremy Cram highlighted WDFW's top priority from the legislative session, a funding package called Restoring Washington's Biodiversity, which benefits salmon recovery. This broad, holistic ecosystem conservation objective touches on the core principles of WDFW and was supported by the legislature. The terms of the proviso benefit threatened and endangered species dealing with ecosystem conservation, specifically for assisting with growth management act planning, fish passage improvements, conservation education, species and ecosystem restoration and protection research.

WDFW received a climate package that deals with non-native predatory fish in the Chehalis and Columbia River systems and includes stream temperature monitoring and modeling and downscaling of climate models to better inform the future of watersheds.

Member Cram noted additional positive outcomes from the legislative session:

- HB 1775 which changes the liability for RFEGs on certain salmon recovery projects.
- Funding for contaminants of emerging concerns will increase WDFW's toxics department's capacity. This will address where toxins exist in the food web and how toxins bioaccumulate in salmon and orcas.
- Funding for fishery monitoring, enforcement, and implementing Environmental Species Act (ESA) compliant fisheries.

Earlier in May, the Puget Sound Federal Taskforce kicked off, led by federal agencies in cooperation with state agencies.

Member Cram shared that a special meeting will be held on June 9 for anyone interested in information on hatcheries. Related to this special meeting, WDFW's commission is reviewing a draft comanager hatchery policy and will be compared with the existing 3634 Policy as part of the discussion at the meeting. The meeting will be recorded and available on TVW.

Chair Breckel was interested in hearing how the recovery conversation fits into the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) report, noting the board has worked hard to ensure hatcheries both protect and enhance recovery efforts.

Department of Transportation

Susan Kanzler shared budget highlights that related to salmon recovery. Fish passage was funded at just over $1 billion for the 2023-2025 biennium, for Department of Transportation (DOT) to meet the federal culvert injunction requirements by 2030. Beginning July 1 there will be 100 projects under construction and 300 by the end of the biennium. There are currently twenty-eight fish passage projects underway, twenty-two of which are expected to be completed this summer, with the remaining completed by next summer.

DOT's Chronic Environmental Deficiencies (CED) program was funded at $6.3 million. This program uses nature-based solutions to protect transportation infrastructure while enhancing fish habitat. One CED site, the Graveyard Spit project, between Raymond and Westport, had $20 million set aside to protect important fish and wildlife habitat and prevent further beach erosion.

Stormwater received $6 million. Member Kanzler noted that while salmon recovery efforts across the board were well funded, stormwater was not funded in a meaningful way and recognized that DOT will need to do more outreach to make a connection between stormwater and salmon recovery.

Lastly, DOT received funding for Clean Fuels and Climate Resiliency.

Washington State Conservation Commission

Levi Keesecker provided a few legislative budget updates:

- $25 million for riparian. SCC will coordinate with RCO and partner agencies to develop their program's funding criteria.
- $1 million for an agricultural science hub that will focus on applied social sciences of incentive-based conservation in agricultural landscapes at the watershed level and serve as a connector between engaged partners.
- $3 million for conducting outreach and landowner engagement to support riparian restoration and projects.
- $2 million for salmon communication and outreach campaigns to educate Washingtonians on the important role that riparian habitat plays in salmon recovery.
- $30 million as co-applicants with Ecology for the riparian grant focused on the Puget Sound.

ADJOURN: 4:49 PM

Next meeting will be June 27 and 28, with a decision on match policies.

Motion:	Move to adjourn early.
Moved by:	Member **Endresen-Scott**
Seconded by:	Member **Kaleen Cottingham****
Approved:	Approved

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

A Resolution to Recognize the Contributions of

Jeromy Sullivan

to the Residents of Washington State and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board

WHEREAS, the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Recreation and Conservation Office staff have had the pleasure and honor of working with Jeromy Sullivan, chairman of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Sullivan helped found the Kitsap Forest and Bay project, which sought to restore Port Gamble Bay, an important neighboring ancestral waterway that had been polluted by a sawmill and is home to salmon and one of the largest remaining herring stocks, and which successfully saw the removal of more than 8,000 mainly creosote pilings and contaminated sand; and

WHEREAS, as member of the Hood Canal Coordinating Council, he advocated to restore fish passage at the Hood Canal Bridge, where large numbers of juvenile fish were dying, and saw the start of a project to build a fish guidance structure to reduce those deaths; and

WHEREAS, while a member of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board he participated in the award of more than $360 million for 650 projects statewide to help recover salmon from the brink of extinction; and

WHEREAS, he was kind, genuine, open, humble, and had valuable insights making him a phenomenal leader and human being; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, on behalf of the residents of Washington, the board and its staff wish to honor Chairman Sullivan for his lifetime of service to our precious natural resources and recognize that his legacy will not be forgotten.

Approved by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board
on September 13-14, 2023

Jeff Breckel	*Kaleen Cottingham*	*Chris Endresen Scott*
Chair	Citizen Member	Citizen Member
Joe Maroney	*Annette Hoffmann*	*Jeremy Cram*
Citizen Member	Department of Ecology	Department of Fish and Wildlife
Tom Gorman	*Susan Kanzler*	*Levi Keesecker*
Department of Natural Resources	Department of Transportation	State Conservation Commission

WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery Funding Board

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Item 1

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR MEGAN DUFFY

Meeting Date: September 13-14, 2023

Title: Director's Report

Prepared By: Megan Duffy, Recreation and Conservation Office Director; Susan Zemek, Communications Manager; Brock Milliern, Policy Director; Mark Jarasitis, Fiscal Manager; and Bart Lynch, Data Specialist

Summary
This briefing memo describes staff and Director's activities and key agency updates including: a legislative update, new staff profiles, news from other Recreation and Conservation Office boards, and a fiscal and performance update.

Board Action Requested
This item will be a:
- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☒ Briefing

Agency Update

RCO Leaders Review Organizational Structure

Agency leadership met this spring to redesign the Recreation and Conservation Office's (RCO) organizational structure to accommodate a growing workload. Key themes that emerged from employee feedback during listening sessions–such as addressing workload, improving the employee-to-supervisor ratio, and building additional career advancement opportunities–are helping inform the thinking around a new organizational structure. In April, section leads, and executive management participated in a work session to discuss the strengths and limitations of several high-level organizational structure questions. The group met again in May to brainstorm, explore, and narrow down options. No final decisions have been made and the Executive Team is working to engage in the coming months.

Acquisitions 101 Training Offered to Staff

With the support of the A (acquisitions)-Team, DeAnn Beck and Karl Jacobs held a much-needed training session for outdoor grants managers on managing acquisition projects. This session provided grants managers with an opportunity to better understand the typical timeline of an RCO-funded acquisition project including the key steps and documents from application to project closure. The training was designed primarily for staff with little acquisition experience.

Cultural Resources Staff Spread the Word

Cultural Resources staff attended two conferences this spring to talk about their work. The first was the 89th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology held in Portland. The meeting is the largest gathering of archaeologists of the Americas and offers unparalleled networking and career-development opportunities. Attendees come from more than forty-five countries. The second conference was the 76th Annual Meeting of the Northwest Anthropology Conference held in Spokane. RCO hosted an information table where staff demonstrated how to use PRISM and other tools on the RCO website. Staff talked with hundreds of people ranging from tribes, consultants, students, and state, federal, and local agency staff.

Employees on the Move

Justin Bush, executive coordinator of the Washington Invasive Species Council, left RCO in June after seven years to take a job with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, where he will lead that agency's efforts to prevent and address aquatic invasive species. Fortunately for us, Justin is not going too far. He will be appointed to represent his new agency on the council and will manage several agreements with RCO for education and outreach about invasive species prevention.

Dave Caudill, salmon grants manager, retired in May after nearly fifteen years with the agency and more than thirty-two years of service to Washington State. Dave came to RCO after careers at the Department of Natural Resources and the Department of Fish and

Wildlife. At RCO, he managed six different lead entities and their salmon grants before becoming the fish passage guru when he took over as grant manager for the Family Forest Fish Passage Program and the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board. Dave is the longest running grant manager for both of those programs and the first grant manager of the latter. With those two programs, he guided funding for more than 400 fish barrier removal projects that collectively opened more than 700 miles of habitat critical to salmon and other native fish survival.

Keith Dublanica, science coordinator with the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO), retired in June after more than eleven years with the agency. Before joining GSRO, he served as the natural resources director for the Skokomish Tribe, where his work resulted in longstanding benefits for salmon recovery. While at GSRO, he helped secure more than $8 million in federal Environmental Protection Agency and Pacific States Marine Fishery Council funding for science and monitoring. He also managed more than $86 million in grants and contracts throughout his career here. Most recently, working with the monitoring panel and the monitoring subcommittee, Keith helped shepherd in new and updated technical reports and analyses that will form the foundation for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board's monitoring activities and investments in the future.

John Foltz joined RCO June 1 as a salmon grants manager. His primary duty will be to participate in the Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board program. He was a member of that board as the representative of all the salmon recovery regions statewide. John also was the executive director of the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board. He started as the lead entity coordinator for Klickitat County, then moved to be the lead entity coordinator for the Snake River area, and finally to the regional director there. John has been working on the Snake River for about ten years. He will work remotely from his home in Richland.

Stephanie Helms joined RCO in August as the executive coordinator of the Invasive Species Council. Stephanie comes from the City of Seattle and has a broad background in invasive species management, urban forestry, and program coordination. She began her career in Baltimore, where she built programs and partnerships focused on invasive species, contributed to emerald ash borer response and white-tailed deer management, and revamped the Weed Warriors volunteer program. After moving to

Washington, she served as an urban forester for the City of Seattle where she oversaw street tree care and provided a municipal perspective to the statewide steering committee for the Washington Urban Forest Pest Readiness Playbook. While serving in this role she also founded and chaired the Seattle Committee on Invasive Pests. Stephanie holds a bachelor's degree in geography and environmental planning with a focus in geographic information systems from Towson University and is an International Society of Arboriculture-certified arborist and municipal specialist.

Kate McLaughlin joined the Salmon Section in June as a salmon recovery grants manager. Kate has spent the past five years at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as a fisheries biologist and scientific technician working on the Fish Passage Diversion Screening Inventory and evaluating fish passage barriers around the state. Kate also spent more than three years with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife monitoring steelhead populations, conducting habitat surveys, and serving on that state's technical review team and as a grant manager for the California Fisheries Restoration Grant Program. Kate earned a bachelor of arts degree in biology from Boston University and a master of science degree in natural resources from Humboldt State University. She lives with her husband and daughter. Fun fact–she's a retired ultimate Frisbee player.

News from the Boards

The **Habitat and Recreation Lands Coordination Group** met August 30 to discuss agency and legislative updates, biodiversity, and the trails database.

The **Recreation and Conservation Funding Board** met April 25 and approved a cost increase policy for the Aquatic Land Enhancement Account and an amended version to the Exception to Conversion policy. In June, the board held a retreat where members discussed the agency's work plan, climate change, equity efforts, and collaboration between state land management agencies. They were presented with the recently finalized *2023 Recreation and Conservation Plan*. The board also made decisions on grant review and evaluation procedures and awarded grants for the following programs: Aquatic Land Enhancement Account, Boating Facilities Program, Firearms and Archery Range Recreation Program, Nonhighway and Off-road Vehicle Activities, Recreational Trails Program, Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program, and Youth Athletic Facilities. The board will travel to Port Townsend for its October meeting.

The **Invasive Species Council** approved updated by-laws in March that include new members of the council's executive committee. At its June meeting, the council heard an update on the National Invasive Species Council and Invasive Species Advisory Committee, the Washington State northern pike response plan, ostreid herpesvirus-1 as it pertains to Northwest shellfish, watercraft inspections and invasive mussel interceptions, European green crab, and spotted lanternfly. The council also heard a tribal perspective on invasive species and elected Alexei Calambokidis from Trout Unlimited as an industry representative on the council.

Legislative and Policy Update

Policy staff will provide an overview of agency legislative requests and a timeline for legislative session.

Fiscal Report

The fiscal report reflects Salmon Recovery Funding Board activities as of July 18, 2023.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board

For July 1, 2023-June 30, 2025, actuals through July 18, 2023 (FM 01). 4.2 percent of biennium reported.

PROGRAMS	BUDGET	COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
	New and Re-appropriation 2023-2025	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% of Committed
State Funded							
2015-17	$1,312,000	$1,144,136	87%	$167,864	13%	$0	0%
2017-19	$2,437,000	$1,700,827	70%	$736,173	30%	$171,629	10%
2019-21	$2,174,000	$2,126,767	98%	$47,233	2%	$395,313	19%
2021-23	$23,289,800	$23,283,573	99%	$6,227	1%	$543,885	2%
2021-23 Supplemental	$96,880,000	$66,284,041	68%	$30,595,959	32%	$0	0%
2023-25	$16,168,606	$0	0%	$16,168,606	100%	$0	0%
Total	**$142,261,406**	**$94,539,344**	**66%**	**$47,722,062**	**34%**	**$1,110,827**	**1%**
Federal Funded							
2018	$2,924,445	$2,924,445	100%	$0	0%	$71,566	2%
2019	$3,521,707	$2,513,805	71%	$1,007,902	29%	$27,877	1%
2020	$4,896,590	$2,594,731	53%	$2,301,859	47%	$9,925	1%

PROGRAMS	BUDGET	COMMITTED		TO BE COMMITTED		EXPENDITURES	
	New and Re-appropriation 2023-2025	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% of Budget	Dollars	% of Committed
2021	$9,212,259	$9,136,104	99%	$76,155	1%	$48,703	1%
2022	$17,957,016	$13,105,468	73%	$4,851,548	27%	$93,758	1%
Total	**$38,512,017**	**$30,274,553**	**79%**	**$8,237,464**	**21%**	**$251,829**	**1%**
Grant Programs							
Lead Entities	$11,121,675	$6,982,100	63%	$4,139,575	37%	$215,804	3%
PSAR	$122,127,986	$110,117,262	90%	$12,010,724	10%	$783,688	1%
Subtotal	**$133,249,661**	**$117,099,362**	**88%**	**$16,150,299**	**12%**	**$999,492**	**1%**
Administration							
Admin/ Staff	$10,250,000	$10,250,000	100%	$0	0%	$439,285	4%
Subtotal	**$10,250,000**	**$10,250,000**	**100%**	**$0**	**0%**	**$439,285**	**4%**
GRAND TOTAL	**$324,273,084**	**$252,163,259**	**78%**	**$72,109,825**	**22%**	**$2,801,433**	**1%**

Note: Activities such as smolt monitoring, effectiveness monitoring, and regional funding are combined with projects in the state and federal funding lines above.

Performance Update

The following data displays grant management and project impact performance measures for fiscal year 2024. Data included specific to projects funded by the board and current as of August 7, 2023.

Project Impact Performance Measures

The following tables provide an overview of the fish passage accomplishments funded by the board in fiscal year 2024. Grant sponsors submit these performance measure data for blockages removed, fish passages installed, and stream miles made accessible when a project is completed and in the process of closing. The Forest Family Fish Passage Program, Coastal Restoration Initiative Program, Chehalis Basin Strategy, Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board, and the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program are not included in these totals.

So far, 0 salmon blockages were removed this fiscal year (July 1, 2023, to August 7, 2023), and 0 passageways installed (Table 1). These projects have cumulatively opened 0 miles of stream.

Measure	FY 2024 Performance
Blockages Removed	0
Bridges Installed	0
Culverts Installed	0
Fish Ladders Installed	0
Fishway Chutes Installed	0

Table 1: Blockage Removal and Passage-way Installation projects

Grant Management Performance Measures

The table below summarizes fiscal year 2024 operational performance measures as of August 7, 2023

Measure	FY Target	FY 2024 Performance	Indicator	Notes
Percent of Salmon Projects Issued Agreement within 120 Days of Board Funding	90%	**100%**	●	2 agreements for SRFB-funded projects were due to be mailed this fiscal year to date. Staff issued 2 agreements within 120 days, averaging 5 days.
Percent of Salmon Progress Reports	90%	**92%**	●	92 progress reports were due this fiscal year to date for SRFB-funded projects. Staff

Responded to On Time (15 days or less)				responded to 85 in 15 days or less. On average, staff responded within 6 days.
Percent of Salmon Bills Paid within 30 days	100%	**100%**		During this fiscal year to date, 154 bills were due for SRFB-funded projects. All were paid on time.
Percent of Projects Closed on Time	85%	**83%**		6 SRFB-funded projects were scheduled to close. So far, this fiscal year 5 of them closed on time.
Number of Projects in Project Backlog	5	**13**		13 SRFB-funded projects are in the backlog and need to be closed out.

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Briefing Memo

Item 2

Meeting Date: September 13-14, 2023

Title: Salmon Recovery Management Report

Prepared By: Erik Neatherlin, Governor's Salmon Recovery Office Director
Tara Galuska, GSRO Orca Coordinator
Marc Duboiski, Salmon Section Manager

Summary
This memo summarizes the recent work completed by the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) and the Recreation and Conservation Office's (RCO) Salmon Recovery Section.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:
- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☒ Briefing

Governor's Salmon Recovery Office

Federal Affairs

Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) Director Erik Neatherlin participated in a Congressional staff tour in August 2023 hosted by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, RCO, and Puget Sound Partnership. This was the first time the tour has occurred since 2019 and was well attended by congressional staff, local officials, and project sponsors. The tour included south central Puget Sound and Hood Canal.

The annual federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) trip to Washington DC is set for November 2023. GSRO is working with Governor Inslee's DC office to coordinate the trip which will include WA, ID, OR, and CA to represent the PCSRF states.

Partner Activities

GSRO continued to engage salmon recovery partners and tribes across the state. GSRO Director Neatherlin and GSRO Policy Specialist Eli Asher attended the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board annual meeting and tour; Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Director Duffy attended virtually.

GSRO staff continued engaging with state agencies, regional recovery boards, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and tribes across the state to look for opportunities to advance recommendations associated with the most recent 2022 NOAA 5-year status reviews. The NOAA 5-year status reviews each contain priority recommendations and actions for recovery. The purpose of GSRO's engagement in this area is to increase awareness and understanding of these recommendations and to work with partners to elevate these priorities for funding and action.

GSRO Director Neatherlin continued participation as the state's alternate on the four-state Columbia Basin Collaborative.

Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF)

Washington received $25.5 million from PCSRF for 2023. The award was split between $19 million in regular PCSRF and $6.5 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds. This funding amount created a $23 million grant round for 2023.

RCO and GSRO staff will be attending the PCSRF annual grantee meeting in Alaska in September. This is a three-day meeting hosted by NOAA with NOAA staff and PCSRF grantees participating. The purpose of this annual meeting is to share information and improve the PCSRF grant program. This will be the first in-person meeting since 2019.

2025 Salmon Recovery Conference

RCO and Western Washington University are in the process of approving the scope of work for the 2025 conference services agreement.

Monitoring Update

GSRO staff are coordinating the activities of the monitoring panel, the board's monitoring subcommittee, and all monitoring related contracts. The monitoring panel held monthly meetings since May and the monitoring subcommittee met once to provide funding recommendations to RCO Director Duffy for monitoring-related project funding.

Southern Resident Orca Recovery

Two new calves were born into the population and no deaths reported over the last 12-month period. A summary of the 2023-2025 legislative budget items and policy bills related to orca recovery can be found here. The first tab includes a summary of the budget, and the second tab includes policy bills, both organized by threat category and Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force recommendations.

Several entities were working to return Tokitae, the last remaining southern resident killer whale in captivity to the Salish Sea. Sadly, Tokitae passed away on August 18, 2023 at the Miami Seaquarium, where she resided for the 53 years of her captivity. She was taken from the Salish Sea during the historic Penn Cove killer whale captures on August 8, 1970.

The National Defense Act included provisions to create a cetacean desk in Puget Sound residing within the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard has assigned a staff person, Margaret Woodbridge, to get the desk up and running. GSRO met with Margaret and other local and DC-based Coast Guard officials to discuss this new role.

WDFW is assembling an advisory committee to provide guidance on implementing the new one-thousand-yard minimum approach distance law for boaters, which will go into effect in January 2025.

Salmon Recovery Section Report

2022 Grant Round

The board funded 133 projects at the September and December 2022 meetings. The PSAR funds became available at the beginning of the new biennium, July 1, 2023. Staff will provide an update at the board meeting on grant agreement progress.

2023 Grant Round

Staff and review panel will provide a detailed update of this year's grant cycle on day two of board meeting.

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Grant Administration

The following table shows projects funded by the board and administered by staff since 1999. The information is current as of August 7, 2023. This table does not include projects funded through the Fish Barrier Removal Board, Family Forest Fish Passage Program, the Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative, or Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program. Although RCO staff support these programs through grant and contract administration, the board does not review or approve these projects.

Table 1. Board-Funded Projects

	Pending Projects	Active Projects	Completed Projects	Total Funded Projects

Salmon Projects to Date	55	447	3,034	3,536
Percentage of Total	2%	13%	86%	

Attachments

Closed Projects

Attachment A: Closed Projects lists projects that closed between April 19, 2023, and August 7, 2023. Each project number includes a link to information about the project (e.g., designs, photos, maps, reports, etc.). Staff closed out fifty-four projects or contracts during this time.

Approved Amendments

Attachment B shows the major amendments approved between April 19, 2023, and August 7, 2023. Staff processed forty-three cost change amendments during this period..

Salmon Projects Completed and Closed from April 19, 2023-August 7, 2023

Project Number	Sponsor	Project Name	Primary Program	Closed Completed Date
16-1488	Mason Conservation District	South Fork Skokomish LWD Enhancement Phase 5	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	05/10/2023
16-1539	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians	Stillaguamish Riparian Crew 4	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	05/25/2023
16-1549	Pierce Conservation District	SPC Stubbs Acquisition	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	05/30/2023
17-1053	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	Lower Big Quilcene Restoration Final Design 2017	Salmon Federal Projects	06/02/2023
17-1148	Lewis County Public Works	Berwick Creek Barrier Removal and Realignment	Salmon State Projects	05/10/2023
17-1169	Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	Crow and Quartz Creek Instream LWR	Salmon State Projects	05/05/2023
18-1486	Skagit River System Cooperative	Skiyou Island Floodplain Restoration	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	07/03/2023
18-1596	Pierce County Public Works and Utilities	Fennel Creek Phase II	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	04/25/2023
18-1685	Nooksack Indian Tribe	NF Nooksack (Xwqélém) Farmhouse Ph 4 Restoration	Salmon State Projects	06/09/2023
18-1807	Methow Conservancy	Upper Methow Goat Creek Conservation Easement	Salmon Federal Projects	07/20/2023

Project Number	Sponsor	Project Name	Primary Program	Closed Completed Date
18-1808	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation	Methow Watershed Riparian Stewardship II	Salmon Federal Projects	05/01/2023
18-1814	Chelan County Natural Resources Department	Cottonwood Flats - Entiat Floodplain Restoration	Salmon Federal Projects	07/18/2023
18-1856	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation	Methow Beaver Project - Beavers and Anadromy	Salmon Federal Projects	04/20/2023
18-2554	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Tribal Mass Marking 2018	Salmon Federal Activities	05/23/2023
18-2611	NW Indian Fisheries Comm	NWIFC Hatchery Reform FY 2018 Monitoring	Salmon Federal Activities	07/27/2023
18-2612	NW Indian Fisheries Comm	NWIFC Hatchery Reform 2018 Enhancements	Salmon Federal Activities	07/06/2023
18-2617	Skagit Land Trust	Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition II (b)	Salmon State Projects	05/16/2023
18-2629	Skagit River System Cooperative	2018 Collaborative Skagit Riparian Restoration II	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	08/01/2023
19-1319	Seattle Public Utilities	Royal Arch Reach Floodplain Reconnect (Ph1) Design	Salmon Federal Projects	05/05/2023
19-1393	Lummi Nation	South Fork Nooksack PIT Monitoring	Salmon Federal Projects	05/25/2023
19-1395	Nooksack Indian Tribe	NF Nooksack Maple (P'eq'ósiy) Reach Phase 1	Salmon State Projects	06/06/2023

Project Number	Sponsor	Project Name	Primary Program	Closed Completed Date
19-1402	San Juan Islands Conservation District	San Juan Islands Eelgrass Recovery Pilot	Salmon Federal Projects	05/16/2023
19-1463	Asotin County Conservation District	Asotin Creek PA 06 Design	Salmon State Projects	05/11/2023
20-1009	Key Peninsula Metro Park District	Cramer McCracken Acquisition (Minter Creek)	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	07/18/2023
20-1054	Asotin County Conservation District	Couse Creek PA 78 Design	Salmon Federal Projects	05/10/2023
20-1093	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Touchet River Smolt Trap Monitoring	Salmon Federal Activities	07/25/2023
20-1111	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	2020 Lower Big Beef Creek Acquisitions - Larson	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	06/15/2023
20-1137	Adopt A Stream Foundation	Woods Creek LWM Pre-Design	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	07/06/2023
20-1181	Puyallup Tribe	Puyallup River Juvenile Salmon Assessment FY 2020	Salmon Federal Activities	07/25/2023
20-1188	Department of Fish and Wildlife	Talbot Dam Removal Design	Salmon State Projects	04/21/2023
20-1196	City of Tumwater	Percival Creek Fish Passage Barrier Replacement	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	07/18/2023

Project Number	Sponsor	Project Name	Primary Program	Closed Completed Date
20-1457	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Alder Creek Floodplain Restoration	Salmon State Projects	05/16/2023
20-1520	Pacific Conservation District	Middle Nemah Restoration Phase 2 Design	Salmon Federal Projects	04/21/2023
21-1016	Walla Walla County Conservation District	Coppei Creek Project Area 07 Design	Salmon State Projects	05/19/2023
21-1038	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	Duckabush Oxbow Additional Preliminary Design	Salmon Federal Projects	06/21/2023
21-1122	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Donkey Creek Tributary Fish Passage Design	Salmon Federal Projects	06/06/2023
21-1144	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Anton and Cedar Creeks Fish Passage Design	Salmon Federal Projects	06/06/2023
21-1156	Chelan County Natural Resources Department	Middle Entiat Floodplain - remote sensing IAA	Salmon Federal Activities	07/03/2023
21-1174	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Twisp Horseshoe Floodplain Restoration	Salmon Federal Projects	05/16/2023
21-1175	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Mystery & War Creeks Reach Wood Restoration	Salmon Federal Projects	05/26/2023

Project Number	Sponsor	Project Name	Primary Program	Closed Completed Date
21-1176	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Lower Little Bridge Creek Wood Restoration	Salmon Federal Projects	06/20/2023
21-1182	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Wenatchee-Entiat Beaver-Powered Restoration	Salmon State Projects	06/15/2023
21-1188	Skagit Land Trust	Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition V (a)	Salmon State Projects	08/03/2023
21-1210	Adopt A Stream Foundation	Catherine Creek LWM Pre-Design	Salmon Federal Projects	07/20/2023
21-1219	Kitsap County	West Sound Partners for Eco Recovery LE BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	07/21/2023
21-1223	Mason Conservation District	WRIA 14 LE BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	08/03/2023
21-1225	Pacific County	Willapa Bay LE BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	07/25/2023
21-1226	Pierce County	Pierce County LE BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	08/03/2023
21-1229	San Juan County	San Juan LE BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	08/03/2023
21-1231	Snohomish County	Snohomish Basin LE BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	08/02/2023

Project Number	Sponsor	Project Name	Primary Program	Closed Completed Date
21-1232	Snohomish County	Stillaguamish Co-LE County BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	08/02/2023
21-1234	Thurston Regional Planning Council	WRIA13 LE BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	08/04/2023
21-1236	NW Indian Fisheries Comm	North Pacific Coast LE BN 21-23	Salmon-LE State Contracts	07/31/2023
21-1237	Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board	Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board BN 21-23	Salmon Federal Activities	08/04/2023

Project Amendments Approved by the RCO Director

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
18-1228	Dosewallips R Powerlines Acquisition and Design	Jefferson County Public Health	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Cost Change	11/28/2022	Add $217,945 of 2022 Hood Canal LE Small Supplemental funds awarded by SRFB 9/22/2022. New Agreement total is $589,119.
18-1291	Elwha River Engineered Log Jams - Ranney Reach	Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Cost Change	11/04/2022	$79,064 cost increase using 2022 supplemental funding from NOPLE's allocation. Costs are for CLOMR revision, FEMA permitting requirements.
18-1598	Goodman Creek Collapsed Stringer Bridge Removal	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	07/31/2023	Add $12,468 in salmon funds and $1,870 in match to complete construction due to high contractor bids.
18-1837	Kitsap Nearshore Armor Removal Design & Readiness	Kitsap County	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Cost Change	07/11/2023	This amendment changes the number of designed projects from 4-6 to 3 and increases the grant award by $9,000 (from $236,274 to $245,274). FY19-21 PSAR funds (returned from 18-1472 Little Manzanita 2) are being used to fund the cost increase.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
19-1116	Pacific Pointbar - Acquisition #2	City of Sumner	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	03/15/2023	Correcting the funding source for previous cost increase amendment. Correct funding source for $1,082,940 is 21-23 PSAR.
19-1219	Gobar Pond Restoration Project	Cowlitz Indian Tribe	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	06/16/2023	Increase A&E to 30%.
19-1346	Lower Horn Creek Fish Passage	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	03/14/2023	Add $92,000 in returned 2017-19 PSAR funding (PSP). Increase sponsor match to $56,000. New project total is $369,000. Director approved 3/9/2023; PSP approved 2/28/2023. Also, exchange $120,212.71 of 2019/2021 PCSRF between project 19-1346 and project 21-1032 (cost changed entered). Change PCSRF reporting year for project 19-1346 to 2021.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
19-1424	Tjossem Ditch -- Improving Salmonid Survival	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	06/02/2023	Per Amendment 5 to IAA C1800180 (19-17) between Department of Ecology and Recreation and Conservation Office, the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Funding is increased by $81,637 to total $240,947 to afford higher construction costs.
19-1446	Ahtanum Village Restoration Design	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	01/24/2023	In order to address SRFB Technical Review Panel comments on the preliminary design deliverables and extend the performance period through the end of 2023, the Yakama Nation will contribute $50,000 in match, for design and cultural resources consultation, raising the Project Agreement total to $170,000. The Cultural Resources Consultation Special Condition is updated to reflect the addition of ground disturbing activities in this phase of the project.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
19-1489	Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhance Phase II	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	11/09/2022	Reduce match from 52% to 15% of the grant total. $33,231 added as the new match total. Adjusting admin, architecture, and engineering to 30% based on new match/grant total.
20-1008	Minter Creek Conservation Easement	Great Peninsula Conservancy	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Cost Change	12/16/2022	This amendment will reduce match from $120,000 (53%) to $97,285 (48%) to reflect actual project costs, which were less than estimated.This amendment also raises the administrative cost limit from $10,000 to $10,878 to account for the time and expense necessary to negotiate the terms of the easement.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
20-1018	Finn Creek Design	Wild Fish Conservancy	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Cost Change	11/09/2022	This amendment adds $58,200 of the 2022 state SRFB funding awarded through 22-1098 and down-scopes 20-1018 from completing final designs to restore the Finn Cr estuary to instead completing preliminary designs. Final designs will be completed through project 22-1098. Additionally, the original 20-1018 proposal included securing a title report and an acquisition purchase or option agreement for a park-adjacent 1.3 acre vacant private parcel. This amendment removes that landowner willingness component from the project since it is now being accomplished in-kind by the park-adjacent landowner and Kitsap County Parks who are working through a land exchange agreement.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
20-1081	Camp Coweeman Restoration	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	03/16/2023	Sponsor is $45,250 underbudget for completing the Baird Creek component of this project. They are requesting $12,250 be added to the architecture, administration, and engineering budget and $33,000 be added to the construction budget. Adding $45,250 based on this request.
20-1105	Skokomish RM 6.5 Restoration Phase 1	Mason Conservation District	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	02/02/2023	Add 2022 Hood Canal LE SRFB funds of $1,100,000, allocated as $817,026 SRFB and $282,974 Small Supplemental. Sponsor match changes to $439,493. Agreement total is $2,412,283.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
20-1113	Lower Big Quilcene River Acquisition	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	11/10/2022	Add, by way of merger, $167,571 21-23 ESRP funds and project scope from agreement 20-1497 to 20-1113. ESRP Scope of Work is integrated and attached to agreement. All other agreement funding remains the same, Increase Administration rate to 5%. New agreement total is $922,221.
20-1119	Snow Creek Uncas Preserve Restoration	North Olympic Salmon Coalition	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	11/08/2022	Add $468,065 2022 Hood Canal LE State Supplemental Small funds awarded by SRFB 9/22/2022. New agreement total is $1,373,844. Sponsor match is waived by RCO Director.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
20-1367	Debays Slough Feasibility Assessment	Skagit County	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Cost Change	01/25/2023	Adding $85,741.90 in returned 15-17 and 17-19 PSAR funds. PSP letter of approval 11/7/2022. Increase of funds is due to originally underestimated consultant costs and additional costs to finish work with the approved one-year time extension.
20-1386	IMW-Swinomish Channel Ph 3 Tidal Marsh Restoration	Swinomish Indian Tribal Community	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	07/06/2023	This amendment increases the project funding by $180,000 of Pacific Salmon Treaty ORCA Habitat funding (NA22NMF43800091) awarded by NOAA in 2022, increasing the total project agreement amount to $627,274 in order to afford restoration; and the project will no longer be used to match 2020 NMFS PCSRF; and Special Conditions are added.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
20-1390	West-Middle Fork Teanaway Instream Wood Design II	Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	06/08/2023	Per Amendment 5 to IAA C1800180 (19-17) between Department of Ecology and Recreation and Conservation Office, $172,294 of Yakima Basin Integrated Plan funding is added to this project to afford higher than anticipated Preliminary Design costs, including $170,000 from Project 9: 20-1527 YBIP Teanaway Watershed: instream/floodplain rest; $2,245 returned from Project 2: 18-1424 Bull Trout Task Force; $7 returned from Project 3: 18-2105 Little Naches River WS Aquatic Restoration (Design); and, $42 returned from Project 5: 18-2108 Wapato Reach Restoration.
20-1401	Lower Yakima River Thermal Refuge Habitat Design	Benton Conservation District	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	05/02/2023	For grant 20-1401, change PCSRF grant year online of coding. Reduce 2020 - $21,656.21 Increase 2018 - $21,656.21

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
20-1520	Middle Nemah Restoration Phase 2 Design	Pacific Conservation District	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	04/21/2023	To remove state funds used for advances
21-1002	Flaming Geyser State Park Riparian Revegetation	King County Water & Land Resources	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	11/17/2022	WRIA 9 LE awarded an additional $163,018 of 2022 SRFB funds to fully fund the application bringing the total grant amount to $295,895. Special Condition #2 relating to partial funding is removed, and the new agreement total is $400,000. Using PCSRF 2022.
21-1032	Mashel River Habitat Designs RM 0-3	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	04/10/2023	PCSRF funding exchange: Exchange $120,212.71 of 2019/2021 PCSRF between project 19-1346 and project 21-1032 (cost changed entered). Change reporting year for 21-1032 to 2019.
21-1034	Riparian Enhancement and Knotweed Control 2021	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	05/04/2023	Increase SRFB grant funding by $18,050. Match remains the same. New project total is $269,162.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
21-1052	Springbrook Cr Preserve Protection & Restoration	Bainbridge Island Land Trust	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	06/02/2023	This amendment uses FY19-21 PSAR funds that were returned to the lead entity to increase the PSAR award by $36,435 (from $154,053 to $190,488) and sponsor match by $14,819 (from $494,564 to $509,383) for a total project cost increase of $51,254. Project costs exceeded the original cost estimates; higher than budgeted cultural resources and construction costs account for most of the cost increase.
21-1062	Upper Dungeness R Large Wood Restoration Phase III	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	11/07/2022	Cost increase to add $249,500 of the lead entity (NOPLE) 2022 supplemental allocation to the project.
21-1101	Dungeness Riparian Recovery Phase III	North Olympic Salmon Coalition	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	11/07/2022	$25,935 cost increase using 2022 PCSRF funding. This project was partially funded in 2021 and was provided full funding in the 2022 NOPLE ranked list.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
21-1138	Upper Deschutes Conceptual Design	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	03/31/2023	To add state funds used for advances.
21-1144	Anton and Cedar Creeks Fish Passage Design	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	02/28/2023	Increase budget by $14,000 due to increased design engineering required for federal funds for construction. No additional match required.
21-1148	McArdle Bay Shoreline Conservation Easement	San Juan Preservation Trust	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	11/10/2022	Adding $107,648 in 2022 PCSRF funding to fully fund a partially funded 2021 project. This project was included on the 2022 ranked list for San Juan County LE.
21-1179	Restore Lower Peshastin Creek Ph 2 Final Design	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	11/21/2022	Adding $70,000 of BPA matching funds. Sponsor requested a time extension to allow for cultural resources delays and final wetland delineation and design work. Match needed to extend agreement end date.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
21-1179	Restore Lower Peshastin Creek Ph 2 Final Design	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	06/19/2023	Add $57,248 in Upper Columbia State Supplemental funding to allow for staff time, permitting support, and determination of safe floating parameters for the project reach. Delays included Cultural Resources review, CLOMR, and wetland determination. Match is 27.46%.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
21-1197	Lower Cowiche Floodplain Restoration	Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	02/01/2023	This cost increase adds $15,802 of Sponsor Match and $87,366 of Salmon State Supplemental awarded to project 22-1527 "Lower Cowiche Floodplain Rest Cost Increase" to fully fund this 21-1197 project. The Yakima Lead Entity included this cost increase on their 2022 SRFB ranked list which was approved for funding by the SRFB on September 22, 2022. The total sponsor match is now $43,880 and the total SRFB funding is $246,472, bringing the total Project Agreement amount to $290,352. The Special Condition pertaining to SRFB Technical Review Panel Design Review is expanded based on the 2022 application review, and the special condition relating to rescoping the project if full funding is not secured, is removed.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
22-1084	Johnson Ck Triple Culvert Restoration 2022	North Olympic Salmon Coalition	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	07/21/2023	Add $440,663 in 2023-2025 PSAR funding from the 2022 North Olympic Peninsula LE ranked list.
22-1084	Johnson Ck Triple Culvert Restoration 2022	North Olympic Salmon Coalition	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	03/07/2023	Adding $3,212,638 in 21-23 BAFBRB funding which will replace the majority of the match.
22-1132	Coal Creek Fish Passage Restoration	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	02/07/2023	Adding $45,000 in 21-23 ASRP opportunistic funds as match. The SRFB dollar amount remains unchanged while match percentage increases from 15.01% to 15.29%. Project total increases slightly from $293,610 to $294,310. This amendment also adds ASRP special condition language regarding preliminary design review.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
22-1160	Evergreen Bulkhead	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group	Puget Sound Acq. & Restoration	Cost Change	07/27/2023	Per special condition #2, this amendment adds $133,382 of the lead entity's 23-25 PSAR allocation, which is reflected on WRIA 13's approved 2022 ranked list. The project total increases to $183,382.
22-1162	Deschutes Tributary Final Design & Implementation	Wild Fish Conservancy	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	08/04/2023	Per special condition #1, this amendment adds $15,946 of the lead entity's 23-25 PSAR funds. This is reflected in WRIA 13's approved 2022 ranked list. Project total increases to $161,545.
22-1165	Boise Creek at Enumclaw Golf Course_Construction	City of Enumclaw	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	07/31/2023	Adding $590,171 in 23-25 PSAR as approved on the 2022 Pierce ranked list. Also updating the match to $783,849 as requested in the application.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
22-1332	Armstrong Cr Restoration Barrier Correction Design	Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	06/23/2023	Since the 2022 lower reach avulsion, this project will receive an additional $30,870 in SRFB funds to expand the final design footprint to include the lower reach. RCO Director approved the new project total of $206,318.
22-1418	Sorensen Shoreline Armor Removal Project - SRFB	Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation	Salmon Federal Projects	Cost Change	07/21/2023	This amendment adds $150,000 of FY23-25 ESRP funds from project 22-1695, Weeks Point Armor Removal, and reduces sponsor match from $45,757 to $0. It also adds an ESRP special condition. The ESRP award requires $65,757 match, including some non-state match; this requirement is fully met with SRFB funds. The ESRP funds serve as match for SRFB.

Project Number	Project Name	Sponsor	Program	Type	Date	Amendment Descriptions
22-1595	2022 Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition VI (b)	Seattle City Light	Salmon State Projects	Cost Change	07/26/2023	Adding additional money to fully fund a partially funded project. Skagit Watershed Council Lead Entity allocates $62,120, 23-25 PSAR funding (available July 1, 2023) as approved on their 2022 ranked list. $10,962 of match will be added to maintain the 15% requirement.

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Decision Memo

Item **4**

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR MEGAN DUFFY

Meeting Date: September 13-14, 2023

Title: Manual 18 2024 Calendar

Prepared By: Kat Moore, Senior Outdoor Grants Manager

Summary
This memo summarizes the 2024 grant round schedule.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:
- ☒ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☐ Briefing

Introduction/Background

Salmon Recovery Grants Manual 18 contains the instructions and policies needed for completing a grant application submission to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) and managing a funded project. The board approves significant policy proposals contained in Manual 18; the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) director has authority to approve administrative changes and minor policy clarifications.

The board is briefed on the manual in September, to finalize it in advance of the upcoming 2024 grant round. The administrative revisions incorporate changes suggested by lead entities via their progress reports, suggestions from the board's Review Panel, and clarifications and updates from RCO staff.

Staff is not proposing any major policy issues separate from the Riparian Funding Policies in Item 6 on the September 2023 agenda. Staff is requesting a decision to approve the 2024 grant round.

Strategic Plan Connection

https://rco.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/SRFB-StrategicPlan.pdf

Briefing the board on administrative changes and proposed policy changes in Manual 18 supports **Goal 1:** Fund the best possible salmon recovery activities and projects through a fair process that considers science, community values and priorities, and coordination of efforts.

By sharing information about Manual 18, the board and partners are aware of how projects proceed through the grant round process for funding.

Attachment

A. 2024 Grant Schedule

2024 Grant Schedule

Applicants are required to follow local deadlines as set by the lead entity.

Date	Action	Description
January–April	Complete project application materials submitted at least 2 weeks before site visit **(required)**	**At least 2 weeks before the site visit,** applicants for all projects, including regional monitoring projects, must submit a complete application in PRISM (See Application Checklist). The lead entity provides applicants with a project number **before** work can begin in PRISM.
Track 1 February 1–March 15 Or **Track 2** April 3–May 10	Site visits **(required)**	RCO screens all applications for completeness and eligibility. The SRFB Review Panel evaluates projects using Manual 18, Appendix F criteria. RCO staff and review panel members attend lead entity-organized site visits. *Site visits may be virtual*.
March 19 & March 20	SRFB Review Panel meeting	Track 1: SRFB Review Panel and RCO staff meet to discuss projects and complete comment forms for projects visited in February and March.
March 28	**First comment form** For February and March site visits	Track 1: Applicants receive SRFB Review Panel comments identifying projects as "Clear," "Conditioned," "Needs More Information," or "Project of Concern." RCO staff accepts "Clear" applications and returns "Conditioned," "Needs More Information," and "Project of Concern" applications so applicants may update and respond to comments. The Monitoring Panel will provide comments for monitoring projects.
April 8 & April 9	Conference call (Optional)	Track 1: Lead entities may schedule a 1-hour conference call with project applicants, RCO staff, and one SRFB Review Panel member to discuss "Needs More Information," "Project of Concern," or "Conditioned" projects in their lead entities.
May 15 & May 16	SRFB Review Panel meeting	Track 2: SRFB Review Panel and RCO staff meet to discuss projects and complete comment forms for projects visited in April and May.

Date	Action	Description
May 31	**First comment form** For April and May site visits	Track 2: Applicants receive SRFB Review Panel comments identifying projects as "Clear," "Conditioned," "Needs More Information," or "Project of Concern." RCO staff accepts "Clear" applications and returns "Conditioned," "Needs More Information," and "Project of Concern" applications so applicants may update and respond to comments. The Monitoring Panel will provide comments for monitoring projects.
June 10 & June 11	Conference call (Optional)	Track 2: Lead entities may schedule a 1-hour conference call with project applicants, RCO staff, and one SRFB Review Panel member to discuss "Needs More Information," "Project of Concern," or "Conditioned" projects in their lead entities.
June 24, Noon	**Due Date:** Applications due	Applicants submit final revised application materials via PRISM. All projects, including monitoring and Targeted Investment, must be submitted by this date. See Application Checklist.
July 16, 17, & 18	SRFB Review Panel meeting	SRFB Review Panel and RCO staff meet to discuss projects and complete comments. SRFB Review Panel will score Targeted Investment projects.
July 26	**Final comment form**	Applicants receive the final SRFB Review Panel comments, identifying projects as "Clear," "Conditioned," or "Project of Concern." The Monitoring Panel will provide final comments for monitoring projects.
August 12	**Due Date**: Accept SRFB Review Panel condition	Applicants with Conditioned projects must indicate whether they accept the conditions or will withdraw their projects.
August 13	**Due Date**: Lead entity ranked list	Lead entities submit ranked lists via PRISM.
August 20	**Due Date:** Regional submittal	Regional organizations submit their Regional Area Summary and Project Matrix.
September 10	Final grant report available for public review	The final funding recommendation report is available online for SRFB members and public review.
September 24 & 25	Board funding meeting	SRFB awards grants. Public comment period available.

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Direction Memo

Item 5

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR MEGAN DUFFY

Meeting Date: September 13-14, 2023

Title: Alternate Match Policy Approach

Prepared By: Nicholas Norton, Policy and Planning Specialist

Summary

This memo describes and analyses a proposed alternate approach to existing match requirements for the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. This approach was developed and refined based on direction provided at the May 2023 meeting, to support more holistic financial reporting and make match administration easier for sponsors.

Given the strategic, operational, and policy challenges that were revealed during analysis, staff are requesting direction on whether to continue developing this option or consider other options, such as further waiving or eliminating match requirements.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☐ Request for Decision
- ☒ Request for Direction
- ☐ Briefing

Introduction/Background

In June 2022, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) held its biennial retreat. The board discussed several different issues, including match policy. There was board interest in:

- Understanding the role of board match in relation to overall project funding;
- Examining whether match is variable by geography, project type, or entity; and
- Learning about the impacts to other state programs that have eliminated match.

In March 2023, staff presented the following information about the role of match in program delivery to the board:

- A description of how match is operationalized, its connection to the overall funding of a project, and past match-related policy decisions from the board.

- Typical reasons for requiring match and an assessment of whether required board match supports those goals.
- A clear, detailed description of how match can impact different phases of board-funded projects.

The board encouraged staff to further define, assess, and identify alternate match policy options that might better support program goals and address project barriers.

In May 2023, staff provided an assessment on possible variations to the existing match policy, such as waiving match for different request amounts, project types, or eligible entities. In addition, staff presented an analysis of two alternate approaches to existing match policy. Option 1 involved removing the current requirement for matching funds while more efficiently tracking all funds used to complete a scope of work. Option 2 involved keeping match as a requirement but reducing the associated workload in order to improve sponsor capacity and better track all funds used to complete a scope of work.

Based on board direction, staff has further examined and developed Option 2 to provide a more detailed understanding of policy and operational changes and associated opportunities and risks. If directed by the board, staff will move forward with Option 2 alternate match pathway by finalizing policy and operational changes in preparation for board approval in December 2023 and integrate the changes into the 2024 annual grant round.

Summary

The proposed alternate approach (Option 2) involves a combination of policy and operational changes to the way sponsors would be required to report and describe the non-board funding (i.e., matching funds) used in a project's scope of work. The key objectives include capturing a more holistic financial picture of board funded projects, while also reducing the capacity and administrative burden on sponsor organizations to provide this information.

A more detailed summary of proposed key changes, as well as a description of opportunities and risks, can be found below. Despite the potential benefits, further analysis of this alternate pathway has revealed several strategic, policy, and operational challenges or risks that would not exist if the board were to institute additional match waivers or fully eliminate the match requirement.

Key Proposed Changes

- **Changes to the grant agreement.** Pending approval from the Assistant Attorney General and Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff, the grant agreement would no longer specify an exact amount of match committed, but instead include a contractual term requiring documentation of non-board funds. Non-board funds would still be subject to the same audit requirements that are currently in place within the grant agreement.

- **Changes to PRISM database functionality.** Projects would no longer use the PRISM budget and billing functions to capture itemized cost information about specific goods and services that were paid for with non-board funding. Instead, every board funded project would have a budget in PRISM that only includes the amounts funded by the board.

- **Changes to billing and reimbursement.** Instead of using the current billing process, the new approach would collect match information similarly to how RCO treats project milestones and deliverables. RCO would pay 100 percent of eligible costs up to the grant award, regardless of the amount the sponsor has committed to bringing from non-board funds and without the need to document the non-board fund contributions bill-by-bill. RCO would continue to hold ten percent of the grant funding for retainage at the end of the project until the sponsor submits final project deliverables, which would include any match required as per the agreement.

- **Changes to reporting.** In an active project, sponsors would include information on the source and amount of non-board funds spent in progress reports, similar to how metrics and permits are currently reported. The final report would require the sponsor to report all sources and amounts of non-board funds used to complete the project scope, along with limited information (grant number, award date, award period, etc.) to verify the receipt of funding if needed. Sponsors would be required to explain significant differences between the proposed match in the application versus the final amount used in the project.

- **Changes to enforcement.** Currently, if sponsors are unable to document the committed match required by project completion, they either will not be reimbursed the full RCO amount, or will have to amend the project timeline, scope, or budget to meet their commitment. Under this new approach, however, the amount of non-board funds contributed to the project could be more or less than the sponsor committed in their application, provided it meets the minimum

threshold required by the grant. If it did not meet the minimum threshold, full or partial waiver requests could be made if the project sponsor was able to complete the scope of work in a timely manner.

Opportunities & Risks

Opportunities

- **Eases sponsor burden.** One of the consistent messages from sponsor organizations during previous outreach is the large burden that is created by current match administration procedures, especially when a project involves multiple funding sources. This alternate approach would help remove the more onerous aspects of documentation for sponsors and RCO staff.

- **Shows the bigger financial picture.** Under this new approach, there would be incentive for sponsors to report all non-board funding that is going toward the funded scope of work, rather than just reporting (and having to account for in PRISM) the required match percentage. Having this broader information will help RCO and the board tell a more complete financial story to legislators, other funders, and the public.

- **Simplifies billing strategy.** This new approach would help sponsors manage budgets by assuring full reimbursement of eligible costs when billed. With reimbursement not attached to a match percentage, sponsors could simplify billing strategy for projects with multiple funding sources.

- **Easily transits to eliminating match.** This alternate approach relies on the same operational architecture as an approach where match requirements are waived (Option 1), with a reporting requirement for non-board funds maintained in policy. If the board desired to waive the match requirement in the future, this proposed policy would provide the framework for a quick change.

Risks

- **Implementation will be challenging.** Staff will have several implementation challenges, such as finalizing new grant agreement language, working with PRISM developers to build and implement new modules and workflows,

providing training and outreach to sponsors and staff, and managing short-term confusion that will inevitably follow such a substantive change.

- **Alignment issues with other RCO programs**: RCO manages many other programs that are used to match board-funded projects, within both the salmon recreation and conservation sections. If the program has not adopted this same match approach, sponsors and RCO would have to carefully consider how this would be managed when merging multiple grants into a single agreement and may have to revert to the more stringent match policy for administration.

- **Less detailed information.** Under our current structure, RCO can provide detailed, itemized information for the funding that is reported as match. Under this new structure, the agency would lack the ability to connect match funding with specific parts of the scope of work if desired for reporting or policy development.

- **Less rigorous verification of true costs.** WAC 420-12 limits applicant resources used to match board funds to those that would be eligible in the grant program. Currently, enforcement of this rule is built into the structure of the PRISM billing process through bill-by-bill review of expenditures. Under this new scenario there is the possibility that a sponsor could claim non-board funding that is not eligible. Though a sponsor would be subject to a line-item audit through the grant agreement, there would be no mechanism for RCO to identify and rectify that issue during the grant management process.

- **Not available to match federal funding.** Sponsor match is currently reported to PCSRF as "other funds," which could still be done under this new approach. However, RCO's current structure for administering match has been previously overhauled and built such that match provided by sponsors could also be used to satisfy the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund's (PCSRF) 33 percent match requirement, which has more rigorous verification standards than the proposed option. Though it is currently not used in that capacity (RCO relies on state appropriations to meet the 33 percent) this new approach would no longer allow for that option if needed.

- **Potential for inflated application numbers**. Since match will not be a factor in reimbursement of eligible project costs and a specific dollar amount of required

match not delineated within the grant agreement, this may be seen as an opportunity to inflate proposed matching funds in an application.

- **Undermines evaluation and compliance.** The amount of matching funds can play a key role in project evaluation and completion of the proposed scope of work. Because there is no built-in means to ensure that a minimum amount of non-board funds are integrated into a project, a sponsor may choose to bill all project costs to SRFB first before charging other funders. This could potentially result in a project ending up below the minimum required match threshold and/or unable to complete the full scope of work.

Board Discussion

Given this fuller picture of an alternate match approach, including the substantive strategic, operational, and policy challenges identified, staff is requesting direction from the board on whether to:

1) fully develop this alternate match pathway in preparation for approval;

2) focus on a different approach described at the previous meeting, such as eliminating the match requirement or expanding match waivers for certain project types or request amounts; or

3) set aside the discussion of match for the upcoming grant round.

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Decision Memo

Item 6

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR MEGAN DUFFY

Meeting Date: September 13-14

Title: Riparian Policies and Funding

Prepared By: Nicholas Norton, Policy and Planning Specialist
Kat Moore, Senior Grants Manager

Summary
This memo summarizes staff recommendations for an allocation strategy and policies associated with the $25 million in riparian funding the Recreation and Conservation Office received from the Climate Commitment Account in the 2023-2025 state capital budget.

Staff is requesting board approval of the proposed allocation and policies in preparation for the 2024 annual grant round.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:
- ☒ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☐ Briefing

Introduction/Background

The state legislature appropriated $25 million in new funding from the Natural Climate Solutions Account to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (board) for the 2023-2025 biennium to administer a grant category specific to riparian areas. The full language from the budget can be found in Attachment A.

This memo contains funding options related to the allocation of these funds, as well as specific proposed policies regarding eligible project types, fund administration, process, evaluation, and ranking.

Policy Development Process

Prior to significant internal policy work, Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) staff collected high-level feedback on riparian policy priorities and opportunities from the

technical review panel, the Council of Regions, and the Washington Salmon Coalition. This feedback informed a draft policy proposal by an internal staff team from the salmon grants section, policy section, and Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO).

RCO staff coordinated and held listening sessions with the Washington Salmon Coalition, Council of Regions, Regional Fisheries Coalition, and the Washington Association of Land Trusts to receive feedback on draft riparian allocation and policy proposals. In addition, individual organizations, partners, and stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide written feedback in early August. This feedback informed the final riparian policy proposals and staff recommendations in this memo.

Riparian Funding Allocation

Objectives and Approaches

Staff identified the following key objectives that a riparian allocation strategy should seek to accomplish:

- Allow partner organizations to significantly scale up riparian projects and programs beyond what is currently possible;
- Obligate all funding by the end of the 2024 grant round;
- Accommodate the known variation in capacity to implement riparian-specific work across different watersheds;
- Recognize that riparian protection and restoration is a need across the state with unmet demand;
- Integrate local and regional priorities and expertise to support funding decisions that maximize impact on salmon recovery and riparian function; and
- Use existing processes and procedures as much as possible, as directed by the proviso language.

RCO staff analyzed several different approaches to allocating riparian funding relative to the key objectives above, including:

- **Regional Allocation Formula:** Funding regions through the established regional allocation formula;

- **Modified Regional Allocation:** Using a modified regional allocation in increments of 10 percent, similar to the distribution of supplemental funding in 2022 for projects over $5 million dollars;

- **Equal Lead Entity Allocation:** Directly allocating an equal amount to each lead entity;

- **Targeted Investments:** Funding the existing Targeted Investments policy in Manual 18 and adding additional guidance and criteria to accommodate this riparian-specific funding;

- **Statewide Competition:** Holding a statewide competition that largely uses known RCO processes but better accommodates the desired timeline and riparian-specific nature of the funding; and

- **Programmatic Funding:** Programmatic funding in the form of block grants that would give recipients the ability to scale up riparian protection and restoration as opportunities arise, and without project-by-project approval by the board.

Based on an assessment of these allocation approaches, staff proposed the following allocation options for feedback during the public comment period:

> *Option 1:* Each lead entity would receive a direct allocation of $250,000 for eligible riparian projects ($6.25M). The remaining project funds ($17.62M) will be allocated towards a statewide competition.
>
> *Option 2:* All available project funding ($23.87M) will be allocated towards a statewide competition, subject to the policies contained in this memo.

Allocation Options

After removing RCO administrative funding and funding previously approved by the board for the technical review panel, there is a total of $23,870,000 for riparian projects. Based on internal policy development and feedback during the public comment period, staff is presenting the following three allocation options for board consideration:

Option 1 (Modified Allocation + Statewide Competition)

$8.87 million dollars of the funding would be held for a statewide competition. Each lead entity would also receive a direct allocation of $250,000 for eligible riparian projects ($6.25 million total). The remaining funds ($8.75 million) would be distributed to the

regions according to the allocation formula. A table of the final distribution of funding by Lead Entity for Option 1 can be found in Attachment A.

Option 2 (Equal Lead Entity Allocation + Statewide Competition)

Each lead entity would receive a direct allocation of $300,000 for eligible riparian projects ($7.5M). The remaining project funds ($16.37M) will be allocated towards a statewide competition. A table of the final distribution of funding by Lead Entity for Option 2 can be found in Attachment A.

Option 3 (Statewide Competition)

All available project funding ($23.87M) will be allocated towards a statewide competition, subject to the policies contained in this memo.

Allocation Policies

If the board elects to allocate any riparian funding to lead entities or regions, staff requests board approval of the following parameters on those funds:

- No limit on number of projects funded within a lead entity or region
- Funding can be used for the 2023 or 2024 grant round
- Eligible 2023 riparian projects could refine their scope of work
- No funding carry-over or giving funds to another region or lead entity
- If funding is not obligated by 2024, it would go towards the statewide competition

Statewide Policies

Regardless of the funding amount the board elects to direct towards a statewide competition, staff requests board approval of the following parameters:

- Statewide competition run in conjunction with the 2024 grant round
- No limit on number of statewide riparian proposals coming from an applicant, lead entity, or region
- Projects for the statewide competition will follow the application schedule and requirements of Manual 18 and the local lead entity
- To be eligible for statewide funding consideration, a project must be included on the local lead entity project list
- Maximum of $3 million that can be awarded to a single statewide project
- Final applications will be scored and ranked by the review panel and funded by the board

Eligible Project Types

Project Type Eligible for Riparian Funding	Lead Entity or Regional Allocation Eligibility	Statewide Eligibility
Acquisition	Eligible as sole, primary or secondary project type.	Eligible as sole, primary or secondary project type.
Riparian Planting	Eligible as sole, primary or secondary project type.	Eligible as sole, primary or secondary project type.
Invasive Species Removal	Eligible as sole, primary or secondary project type.	Eligible as secondary project type only.
Stewardship	Eligible as sole, primary or secondary project type.	Eligible as secondary project type only.
Assessment/Inventory	Eligible as sole project type.	Not eligible.
Instream & floodplain habitat restoration	Limited work types eligible in 2024 as a supporting element of a riparian planting project.	Limited work types eligible in 2024 as a supporting element of a riparian planting project.

According to this proposal, a stewardship or invasive species removal project would not be eligible on its own for consideration in the statewide competition. This consideration is suggested to ensure that the bulk of the $25 million in funding is directed towards projects that emphasize the protection or restoration of new riparian acres, in addition to the increased riparian function that is supported by stewardship or invasive species removal projects.

In addition, assessment/inventory projects were limited for funding through money allocated to lead entities or regions. Public outreach revealed a strong interest in this project type to help support a strategic project pipeline for potential future riparian funding. However, due to the lack of new acres protected, restored, or improved and challenges with ranking alongside other projects in a statewide competition, eligibility for riparian assessment/inventory projects was limited.

Project Type Modifications

Depending on the specific eligible project types the board selects, staff requests board approval of the following specific modifications relative to current *Manual 18* policies and procedures:

- **Acquisitions**
  - Limit eligibility to projects with 50 percent or less uplands as defined in *Manual 18: Appendix L*.

- **Riparian Planting:**
  - Allow multi-site projects within a geographic envelope where potential parcels would provide similar benefits (like current acquisitions policies).
  - Allow the following instream & floodplain elements with a riparian planting project to support riparian plant survival: beaver dam analogs, post assisted log structures, large woody debris, and bank stabilization or reshaping.
  - Provide an agreement period of up to five years to support post-planting monitoring, stewardship, and adaptive management.

- **Assessment and Inventory:**
  - Waive the $200,000 regional cap that applies to board funds.

General Policies

Regardless of the specific allocation approach or eligible project types selected by the board, staff asks that the board approve the following general parameters on the use of riparian funding:

- Except as otherwise provided in this memo, projects are subject to *Manual 18* requirements.
- Riparian funding may only be used for cost increases on projects previously funded with riparian-specific funding.
- Allow riparian funding to be combined with board or PSAR funding if work is eligible in both programs.
- Allow sponsors to charge indirect on projects being used to match funding from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
- Waive match requirements for projects fully funded with riparian dollars; if a project had partial funding from other board funds or PSAR, it would be subject to the current matching share requirements in *Manual 18*.

Draft Statewide Criteria

If the board elects to use a statewide competition to allocate some or all the riparian funding, this would require the development of a clear review and evaluation process, as well as final evaluation criteria used by the technical review panel to score and rank projects. As part of the public comment period, staff solicited feedback on a preliminary proposal for evaluation criteria, which were incorporated into a second draft included as Attachment C. Staff are bringing these draft criteria to the board for initial consideration in preparation for final approval at the December 2023 board meeting.

Motions

Move to approve Option 1 (Modified Allocation + Statewide Competition) for the riparian specific funding.

Move to approve Option 2 (Equal Lead Entity Allocation + Statewide Competition) for the riparian specific funding.

Move to approve Option 3 (Statewide Competition) for the riparian specific funding.

Move to approve the proposed allocation policies, statewide policies, eligible project types and general policies for the riparian funding as described in this memo and presented by staff.

Strategic Plan Connection

These policies support **Goal 1** of the board's strategic plan: Fund the best possible salmon recovery activities and projects through a fair process that considers science, community values and priorities, and coordination of efforts.

https://rco.wa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/SRFB-StrategicPlan.pdf

Attachment

A. Riparian Budget Language
B. Lead Entity Allocation Options
C. Draft Statewide Evaluation Criteria

Riparian Budget Language

Salmon Recovery Funding Board: Riparian Grant Program (91001679)

The appropriation in this section is subject to the following conditions and limitations:

(1) The salmon recovery funding board shall develop and administer a grant category under this section that is specific to riparian areas. The legislature intends that the riparian area grant category complement the existing salmon recovery grant program that is designed to address the highest priority needs of salmon habitat and protection.

(2) In developing the riparian area grant category, the salmon recovery funding board: (a) Shall use existing structures, processes, procedures, policies, and criteria developed pursuant to chapter 77.85 RCW; and (b) May adopt additional criteria specific to riparian areas to achieve restoration of fully functioning riparian ecosystems.

Appropriation:
Natural Climate Solutions Account—State. $25,000,000
Prior Biennia (Expenditures). $0
Future Biennia (Projected Costs). $100,000,000
TOTAL. $125,000,000

Lead Entity Allocation Options

Riparian allocation by Lead Entity	Option 1	Option 2
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity	$1,152,125	$300,000
Klickitat County Lead Entity*	$250,000	$300,000
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board Lead Entity	$2,000,000	$300,000
Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Lead Entity	$1,070,750	$300,000
Kalispel Tribe-Pend Oreille Lead Entity	$416,250	$300,000
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity	$988,500	$300,000
Chehalis Basin Lead Entity**	$567,365	$300,000
North Pacific Coast Lead Entity**	$422,164	$300,000
Willapa Bay Lead Entity**	$435,227	$300,000
Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity**	$412,618	$300,000
Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity	$799,286	$300,000
Green, Duwamish, and Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9) Lead Entity	$393,838	$300,000
Island County Lead Entity	$355,800	$300,000
Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Lead Entity	$440,415	$300,000
Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity	$433,142	$300,000
North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon	$564,567	$300,000
Pierce County Lead Entity	$496,948	$300,000
San Juan County Community Development Lead Entity	$385,013	$300,000
Skagit Watershed Council Lead Entity	$794,773	$300,000
Snohomish County Lead Entity	$498,596	$300,000
Stillaguamish River Salmon Recovery Co-Lead Entity	$492,603	$300,000
West Sound Watersheds Council Lead Entity	$379,470	$300,000
WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity	$562,620	$300,000
WRIA 13 Salmon Habitat Recovery Committee Lead Entity	$335,575	$300,000
WRIA 14 Salmon Habitat Recovery Committee Lead Entity	$352,354	$300,000
Total to lead entities	**$15,000,000**	**$7,500,000**
Total to Statewide	**$8,870,000**	**$16,370,000**

*Additional allocation to Klickitat from Lower Columbia and Yakima Basin is not shown

** Additional allocation in Coast is shown using percentages only.

Draft Statewide Evaluation Criteria

Criteria*	Points	Criteria Description	Scoring Approach
Acquisition Impact **(A,C)**	0-10 (A) 0-5 (C)	What is the scale and overall long-term impact of the acquisition elements of the proposal? Scoring is based on: • Acres of proposed riparian acquisition • Location and current condition • Landowner conservation goals and priorities • Surrounding land use and protected status	**Highest:** Most riparian acres protected, at full riparian function, strategic location with potential for future landowner/partner stewardship. **Lowest:** Least riparian acres protected, minimal existing riparian function, isolated landscape impact with low restoration/stewardship potential.
Restoration Impact **(R,C)**	0-10 (R) 0-5 (C)	What is the scale and overall long-term impact and of the restoration and stewardship elements of the proposal? Scoring is based on: • Acres of proposed planting and stewardship • Location and current condition • Landowner conservation goals and priorities • Surrounding context, land use, and restoration • Potential for adjacent restoration projects	**Highest:** Most collective acres restored and stewarded, strong positive impact on riparian function, strategic location with committed landowner, leverages or supports other restoration work, and with potential for additional projects if successful. **Lowest:** Least collective acres, limited functional impact on riparian benefits, minimal landowner partnership and potential for additional projects.
Riparian Benefits **(R,A,C)**	0-15	If successfully implemented, how will the proposed project support key riparian functions in the project area and stream reach, such as: • Stream shading and temperature • Natural streamflow processes • Large woody debris inputs • Sediment and pollutant filtration • Nutrient supply and regulation	**Highest:** Significant contribution to multiple key riparian functions within and beyond the project area. **Lowest:** Limited contribution to any key riparian functions in the project area or stream reach.
Species benefits **(R,A,C)**	0-15	If successfully implemented, how would the project directly or indirectly benefit salmonid species? Scoring is based on: • Documented direct fish use at project site or geographic envelope • Connections between project actions and limiting factors of species on-site • Indirect fish benefits	**Highest:** Documented fish use within the project area by multiple species and/or life stage and actions that address their specific limiting factors **Lowest:** Only indirect benefit to fish with no documented fish use anywhere near the project area.

Local/regional priority **(R,A,C)**	0-10	To what extent does the proposal represent a local and regional priority for riparian protection and/or restoration for salmon recovery, as demonstrated by: • Riparian-specific assessment or inventory • Regional recovery plans • Lead entity strategies • Local implementation schedules	**Highest:** Clear, targeted prioritization of the parcel or project area and proposed approach in connection with multiple plans or assessments. **Lowest:** Limited to no connection with local or regional priorities.
Acquisition effectiveness **(A,C)**	0-10 (R) 0-5 (C)	To what extent does the proposed acquisition represent strategic and effective use of riparian-specific public funds? Scoring is based on: • Percentage of uplands • Existing underlying protections • Current risk of conversion • Project budget details • Surrounding ownership and management	**Highest:** No upland acreage, limited underlying protections, high risk of conversion, well-justified budget, supports access, management, or other efficiencies on adjacent properties. **Lowest:** 50% upland acreage, strong underlying protections, low conversion risk, incomplete budget, no clear access, management or other efficiencies on adjacent properties.
Restoration effectiveness **(R,C)**	0-10 (R) 0-5 (C)	To what extent are the planting and stewardship elements of the project likely to succeed, such that they represent an effective investment to support fully functional riparian areas? Scoring is based on: • Proposed restoration approach • Capacity and track record of applicant • Plan for long-term stewardship • Previous process-based restoration efforts • Project budget details	**Highest:** Appropriate approach, existing riparian program or experience, comprehensive and well-justified budget, previous floodplain work that supports regeneration and establishment, long-term stewardship capacity and funding identified. **Lowest:** Incorrect approach, no existing riparian management program/experience, incomplete budget, no long-term stewardship capacity or funding.
***Some criteria will only be scored for certain types of projects. R=riparian planting & stewardship, A=acquisition, C=combination**			

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Decision Memo

Item **7**

APPROVED BY RCO DIRECTOR MEGAN DUFFY

Meeting Date: September 13-14, 2023

Title: 2024 Funding Options

Prepared By: Kat Moore, Senior Outdoor Grants Manager
Nick Norton, Policy Specialist

Summary

This memo provides information about options on the use of 4 million dollars in returned funds and setting a target for the 2024 grant round funding.

Board Action Requested

This item will be a:

- ☒ Request for Decision
- ☐ Request for Direction
- ☐ Briefing

Background:

"Returned funds" refers to money allocated to projects/activities in previous biennia that is returned to the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) when projects or activities either close under budget or are not completed. These dollars return to the overall budget. These returned funds have historically been used for cost increases and to increase the funding available for projects in the upcoming grant round.

At the May 2023 meeting, the amount of the 2023 grant round was unknown because NOAA was still assessing Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) applications. The board reserved $4 million in returned funds for future project investments, unless the $4 million was needed to achieve a $20 million 2023 grant round. After the board meeting, NOAA notified RCO that Washington received a $25.5 million award ($19 million in regular PCSRF and $6.5 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding), resulting in a $23 million 2023 SRFB (Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant program) grant round. Because the $4 million is not needed to support the 2023 grant round, the board must now determine how to allocate these funds.

The $4 million in returned funds consists of $900,000 in state funds and $3.1 million in federal funds.

The alternatives below include options for use of return funds in the 2024 grant round.

Funding Scenario Options

Funding sources for 2024 Grant Round

In addition to the 4 million dollars in state and federal returned funds, the following funding sources will be, or are expected to be, available for the 2024 grant round (note PCSRF/BIL is a projected number based on average of 2022 and 2023 award):

- $23.8 million designated for riparian projects (State Climate Commitment Act Funding)
- $7.8 million in SRFB funds (state capital dollars)
- Projected $14.65 million in PCSRF/BIL funds (federal dollars)

Based on the numbers above, there will be $23.8 million for the Riparian Grant program, and may be up to $22.45 million available in state salmon and federal PCSRF funding.

In 2024, lead entities in the Puget Sound will also be developing project lists for the 2025-27 Puget Sound Acquistion and Restoration (PSAR) and PSAR large capital funding requests.

Options for distribution of funding sources

Staff has developed four options with the following goals in mind: maintaining *at least* a $20 million grant round; reducing process for applicants and staff; and supporting large, impactful projects. Please note that all options below are based on a projected PCSRF/BIL amount of $14.65 million.

Option 1: Add the $4 million to the Riparian Grant program to provide $27.8 million in riparian funding. Include the entire PCSRF award in the 2024 grant round.

Option 2: Add the $4 million to the entire PCSRF award and provide an estimated $26.45 million SRFB grant round.

Option 3: Use $4 million to create a Targeted Investment grant round. Include the entire PCSRF award in the 2024 grant round.

Option 4: Use the $4 million and any PCSRF funds remaining after establishing a $20 million SRFB grant round for a Targeted Investment grant round. Based on a projected $14.65 million in PCSRF/BIL, there would be a $6.45 million Targeted Investment grant round.

Option	2024 SRFB Grant Round	2024 Riparian Program	Targeted Investment
1	$22.45 million	$27.8 million	$0
2	$26.45 million	$23.8 million	$0
3	$22.45 million	$23.8 million	$4 million
4	$20 million	$23.8 million	$6.45 million

Discussion of the Options

Option 1: Add the $4 million to the Riparian Grant Program to provide $27.8 million in riparian funding. Include the entire PCSRF award in the 2024 grant round.

Pros:

- Supports the statewide Riparian Grant Program and potentially provides additional funding for large, impactful riparian projects.
- Alleviates administrative burden concerns of sponsors, lead entity coordinators, regions, review panel, and RCO staff. The 2024 grant round will already have process requirements for SRFB and the new Riparian Grant program, and will solicit projects for the PSAR and PSAR large capital funding requests. RCO has received specific concerns from partners that adding Targeted Investment will add another layer of process to the grant round.

Cons:

- Additional funding is put in a grant program with the specific objective of riparian projects versus a variety of recovery projects.
- No Targeted Investment projects in 2024.

Option 2: Add the $4 million to the entire PCSRF award and provide an estimated $26.45 million SRFB grant round.

Pros:

- Alleviates administrative burden concerns of sponsors, lead entity coordinators, regions, review panel, and RCO staff. The 2024 grant round will have process requirements for SRFB and the new Riparian Grant program, and will solicit projects for the PSAR and PSAR large capital funding request. Adding Targeted Investment adds another layer of process to the grant round.
- Regions and lead entities can support robust project lists and may be able to fund larger projects.

Cons:

- No Targeted Investment projects in 2024.

Option 3: Use the $4 million in returned funds to create a Targeted Investment grant round. Include the entire PCSRF award in the 2024 grant round.

Pros:

- Funding for a smaller Targeted Investment grant round..

Cons:

- Administrative burden on sponsors, lead entity coordinators, regions, review panel, and RCO staff to manage the regular grant round, riparian, PSAR, and Targeted Investment processes.
- Limited time for regions to solicit and target high-impact projects, and make decisions about what projects to send to Targeted Investments. This option creates a tight timeline that does not fit well with the process laid out in Manual 18..

Option 4: Use the $4 million and any PCSRF funds remaining after establishing a $20 million SRFB grant round for a Targeted Investment grant round. Based on a projected $14.65 million in PCSRF/BIL, there would be a $6.45 million Targeted Investment grant round.

Pros:

- Additional funding for the Targeted Investment projects.

Cons:

- Administrative burden on sponsors, lead entity coordinators, regions, review panel, and RCO staff to manage the regular grant round, riparian, PSAR, and Targeted Investment processes.
- Limited time for regions to solicit and target high-impact projects, and make decisions about what projects to send to Targeted Investments. This option creates a tight timeline that does not fit well with the process laid out in Appendix J.
- Reduced SRFB grant round to less than the past two years ($23 million in 2023, $45 million in 2022, including supplemental funding).

Motion

Move to add the $4 million to the Riparian Grant program to provide $27.8 million in riparian funding. Include the entire Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund award in the 2024 SRFB grant round.

OR

Move to add the $4 million to the entire Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund award and use the total amount for the 2024 SRFB grant round..

OR

Move to use $4 million to create a Targeted Investment grant round. Include the entire Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund award in the 2024 grant round.

OR

Move to set the 2024 SRFB grant round at $20 million and to use the $4 million in returned funds and any remaining 2024 PCSRF funds, not necessary to establish a $20 million grant round, to create a Targeted Investment grant round.

Strategic Plan Connections

The draft policy supports **Goal 1** of the board's strategic plan: Fund the best possible salmon recovery activities and projects through a fair process that considers science, community values and priorities, and coordination of efforts.

https://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/strategy/SRFB_Strategic_Plan.pdf

Salmon Recovery Grant Funding Report

Items 9 and 10: 2023 Grant Overview

September 2023

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Salmon Recovery
Funding Board

Table of Contents

Part 1: Introduction

Since 1999, the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) has been distributing state and federal money to protect and restore salmon habitat. Honoring the "Washington Way" of ground-up salmon recovery decision-making, the board works closely with local watershed groups known as lead entities[1] to identify projects for funding and with regional organizations[2] to prioritize funding.

Lead entities and regional organizations rely on their National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) approved recovery plans to select projects. This partnership has resulted in the board distributing almost $1.37 billion to 3,333 projects statewide, all with the goal of bringing salmon back from the brink of extinction.

This report presents information on the process used to review the current applications and develop funding recommendations for the board to consider.

New This Year

Lead entities were allowed to carryforward unobligated funds from the 2022 $25 million supplemental appropriation (projects less than $5 million in total project costs) and Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) regular funds into 2023.

In addition, project types and eligibility were changed and included the following:

- Increasing the design-only, no match project request limit from $200,000 to $350,000. The duration of this project type also increased from eighteen to twenty-four months.
- Increasing the match requirement for projects acquiring properties with more than 50 percent uplands.

The SRFB Review Panel also welcomed four new members. Finally, nearly all the lead entities returned to in-person application site visits. Many used a hybrid approach, using both virtual and on-site project reviews, which was welcomed by everyone.

[1]Lead entity groups, authorized under Revised Code of Washington Chapter 77.85, are established in a local area by agreement between the county, cities, and tribes, which choose a coordinating organization for the lead entity. Each lead entity has a citizen committee to rank projects after its technical advisory committee evaluates the scientific and technical merits of projects. Consistent with state law and SRFB policies, all projects seeking funding must be reviewed and prioritized by a lead entity to be considered by the SRFB.

[2]A regional recovery organization is defined as an entity under RCW 77.85.99 for the purpose of recovering salmon, which is recognized in statute or by the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office.

Funding Overview

Funding for salmon recovery grants is provided from two main accounts: Salmon Recovery and Puget Sound Restoration and Acquisition.

Salmon Recovery Grants

- **$23 million**: a combination of state capital bonds and the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF), which is a federal award to the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). See Table 1 for the regional allocation.
- **$6.5 million**: carryover of unobligated funds from the $25 million awarded in the 2022 supplemental budget (projects less than $5 million in total project costs).
- **$5.5 million**: carryover of unobligated 2023-2025 regular PSAR funds.
- **$1 million**: for unanticipated cost increases in 2023.

This year, the board will be asked to approve grants for salmon recovery projects funded by all categories identified above.

Table 1. SRFB Regular $23 Million Regional Funding Allocation Formula

Salmon Recovery Region	Allocation	Percent
Hood Canal Coordinating Council*	$552,000	2.40
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board**	$4,600,000	20.00
Northeast Washington	$437,000	1.90
Puget Sound Partnership*	$8,740,000	38.00
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board	$1,941,200	8.44
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board	$2,371,300	10.31
Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Partnership	$2,201,100	9.57
Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board**	$2,157,400	9.38
	$23,000,000	

*Hood Canal is in the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Region for Chinook and steelhead but is a separate salmon recovery region for summer chum. Hood Canal's allocation is 2.4 percent, but it also receives $891,839 of the Puget Sound Partnership's regional SRFB allocation for Chinook and steelhead. Hood Canal's total allocation is 6.28 percent or $1,443,839, and Puget Sound's is 34.12 percent or $7,848,162.

**There are three new projects submitted by the Klickitat County Lead Entity, totaling $1,150,000 in requests. Klickitat is carrying forward $382,613 in 2022 supplemental funds and is receiving $716,458 from the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board's regional allocation and $50,929 from the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board's regional allocation.

Regional Monitoring Projects

A regional salmon recovery organization may use up to 10 percent of its annual allocation for monitoring activities if the activities meet all the following conditions:

- Certified by the region.
- Meets a high-priority data gap.
- Can be accomplished in three years.
- The project should complement ongoing monitoring efforts and be consistent or compatible with methods and protocols used throughout the state. Data collected must be available to RCO and the public. The region must explain why SRFB funds, rather than other funds, are necessary to accomplish the monitoring. In addition to the criteria, there is a cap on available monitoring funds from the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund of $350,000.

This year, the Monitoring Panel reviewed five regional monitoring proposals and advanced three, which are requesting $261,353, for funding consideration. The Monitoring Panel reviewed the proposals for eligibility and soundness before submitting them to the SRFB for funding consideration.

Monitoring proposals are in Attachment 4 and included in the lead entities' ranked lists of projects and allocations in Attachment 6. The funding motions also are provided with the board materials for reference.

Figure 1. Map of Regional Monitoring Projects

Grant Round Principles

The basic elements of the regional funding allocation approach carry over from previous funding cycles and include the following:

- Reliance on regional salmon recovery plans and lead entity strategies.
- Review of individual projects by the SRFB Review Panel to identify *Projects of Concern*.
- Provision of flexibility, recognizing different circumstances across the state.
- Recognition of efficiencies and flexibility where possible.

The SRFB also commits to continuing the following key principles:

- Allocate salmon recovery funds regionally.
- The SRFB Review Panel does not evaluate the quality of lead entity habitat strategies that are part of recovery plans already submitted to the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Regional organizations ensure the submitted lists of projects are consistent with the regional recovery plans.
- The evaluation process is collaborative. The SRFB Review Panel works with lead entities and project applicants to address project design issues and reduce the likelihood that projects submitted are viewed as *Projects of Concern*.
- Each region has different complexities, ranging from varying numbers of watersheds to areas with vastly differing sizes of human populations. These complexities require different approaches to salmon recovery.
- Lead entities are and will continue to be a crucial and fundamental part of the recovery effort.
- Support continues for areas without regional recovery plans (coast and northeast).
- A statewide strategic approach to salmon recovery will continue.
- Funds must be used efficiently to address both listed and non-listed species.

SRFB Decisions for September

Salmon Grants: The board will be asked to approve up to $35 million for projects using state and federal salmon funding. Any unobligated 2023-2025 PSAR funding

and $25 million in supplemental funding that is unobligated will carryforward to the 2023 grant cycle. RCO will initiate contracts for the approved projects as soon as possible. These projects are displayed in Attachment 6 by region and lead entity.

Regional Monitoring Projects: The final project lists contain three monitoring projects in three regions, requesting $261,353. These projects are submitted and included on lead entity and region project lists for SRFB approval in Attachment 7 and are included in the $23 million allocation of salmon state and federal funding.

All projects described in this section used *Manual 18: Salmon Recovery Grants* as guidance and completed the technical review process with the SRFB Review Panel.

Elements of the Grant Round

In the spring, sponsors submitted 153 pre-applications in PRISM, RCO's project database, for the 2023 grant cycle. Between April and June 2023, the lead entities coordinated project site visits with the SRFB Review Panel and RCO staff. The site-visits allowed the SRFB Review Panel to see project sites, acquire project details, and provide feedback to the sponsors to improve the projects. At the end of the review process, 136 projects advanced to the SRFB for consideration.

See Figures 2 and 3 for grant applications by project type and location.

Each regional area and corresponding lead entities prepared their ranked lists of salmon projects within the parameters of available funding.

Several lead entities also identified alternate projects on their lists. These projects must go through the entire lead entity, region, and SRFB review process. Project alternates may receive funding within one year of the original SRFB funding decision only if another project that was designated to be funded cannot be completed or is funded by an entity other than RCO.

Figure 2. Grant Applications by Project Type

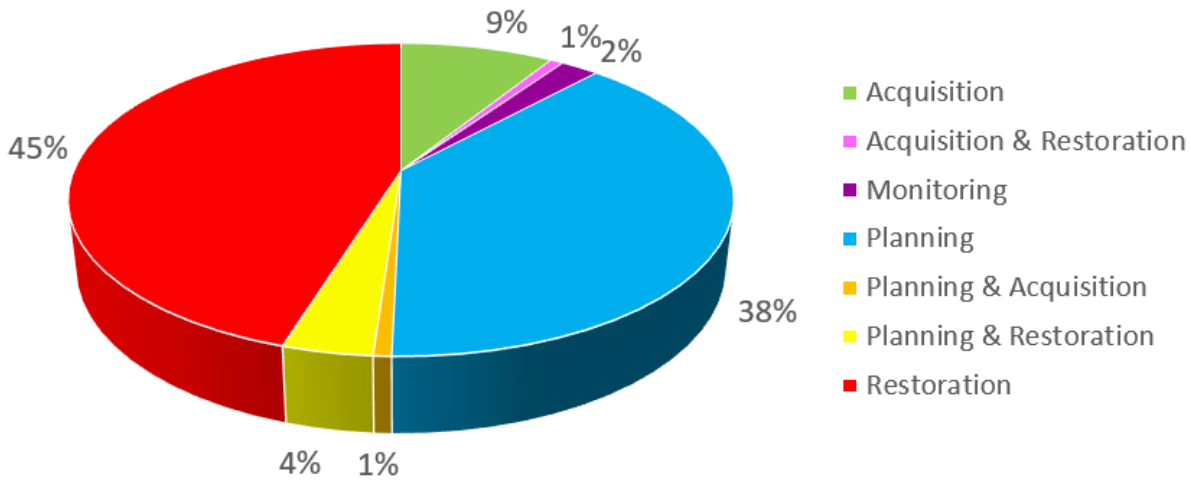
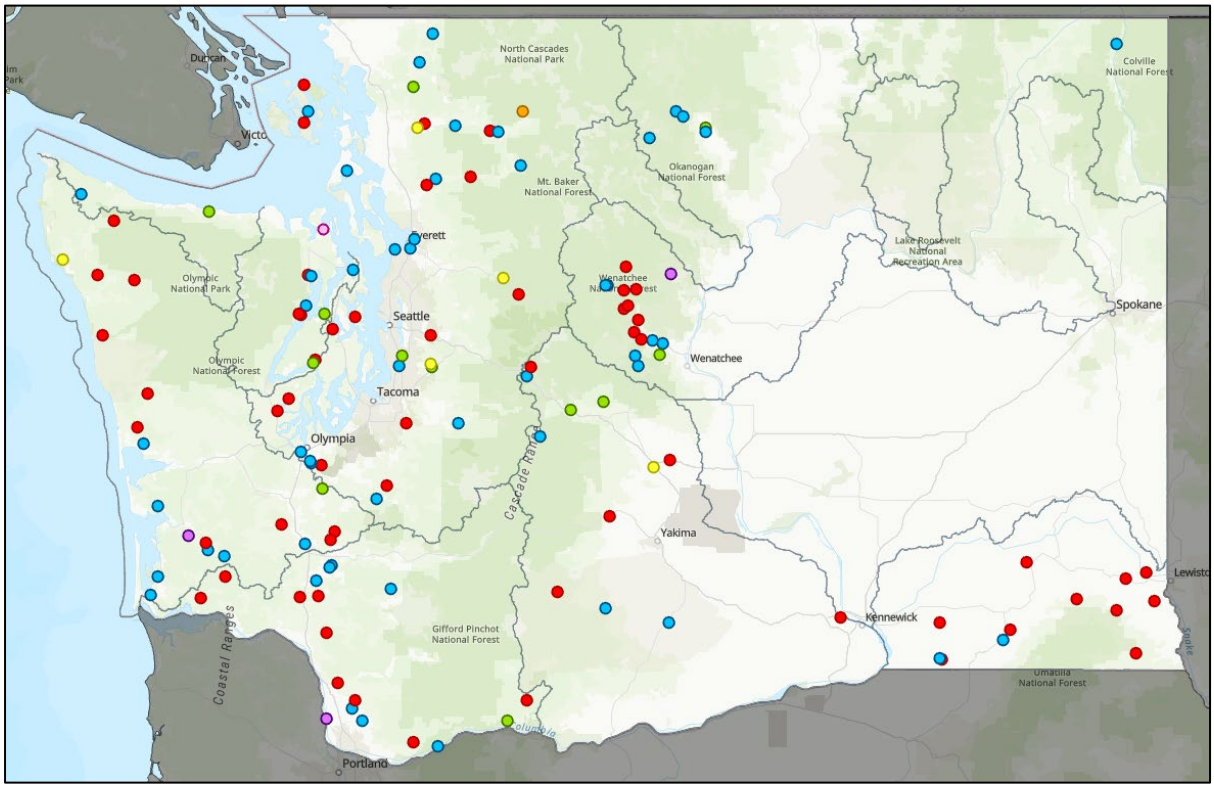


Figure 3. Grant Applications by Location



Ranked Lists and Funding Allocations

If a lead entity does not have enough projects to fully obligate its entire allocation, it may contribute funding to projects from other lead entities. The project receiving the contribution must be included on the project lists of both the lead entity receiving the funding and the lead entity providing the funding. This ensures funding goes to those areas in need as a response to the yearly variations in project lists. RCO will not adjust a lead entity's allocation based on these contributions to other lead entities.

Guidance Manual

Manual 18: Salmon Recovery Grants remains the guidance document for entities applying for funding through the SRFB.

Part 2: SRFB Review Panel Comments

The SRFB Review Panel is contracted by RCO and is comprised of ten members with a broad range of knowledge and experience in salmon habitat restoration and protection approaches, watershed processes, ecosystem approaches to habitat restoration and protection, and project development and management. Members' expertise covers a range of issues faced by lead entities and sponsors of SRFB projects. Review panel biographies can be found on RCO's website.

The SRFB Review Panel allows the SRFB to meet the requirements of the federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund's technical review process. The panel reviews all grant applications to help ensure that each project is: 1) technically sound, meaning that a proposed project provides a benefit to salmon, 2) is likely to be successful, and 3) does not have costs that outweigh the anticipated benefits. Applications labeled *Projects of Concern* do not meet these criteria and will be forwarded to the board for its consideration unless the lead entities withdraw the applications. The review panel does not otherwise rate, score, or rank projects. Members of the panel may review project designs to satisfy project conditions or at the request of staff.

Project Review Process

The review panel worked throughout the year reviewing projects both before and after the application deadline. This review helps lead entities and sponsors improve each project's benefits to fish and certainty of successful implementation. The benefit and certainty criteria used by the review panel in its evaluation of projects is found in *Manual 18: Salmon Recovery Grants*, Appendix G, and is Attachment 3 in this report. The panel based its evaluations and comments on the following:

- Complete applications due two weeks before the early project site visits and consultations. First set of Review Panel Comment Forms.
- Calls with lead entities and sponsors for project statuses of *Needs More Information* and *Project of Concern*.
- Final application materials submitted by sponsors, lead entities, and regional organizations.
- Final set of review panel comments after application deadline.

The review process involved an effort to provide early feedback based on complete applications and site visits. Lead entities could complete site visits by March or May, and the review panel provided initial comment forms.

Teams of two panel members completed the initial review for each lead entity's portfolio of projects. The initial review consisted of reading applicants' proposals and supporting documentation; participating in remote or field-based presentations with sponsors, local technical advisory committee members, and lead entity and RCO staff; and preparing initial review comments. Before submitting the initial evaluations to sponsors, the two-person teams sought input from the entire panel for selected projects that warranted more in-depth discussion.

Projects with complete applications received a status of *Clear*, requiring no further revisions for those applications. Thirty-one percent of applications (forty-seven out of 153) reviewed in March or May were cleared.

Some applications still lacked information to complete the technical review and received a status of *Needs More Information*. In most cases, providing additional information addressed the concerns. If the review panel saw potential issues with projects not meeting evaluation criteria, the projects were noted as *Projects of Concern*. The panel specifically identified the concerns, and if and how sponsors could address them. Some applications were withdrawn from further consideration after initial feedback from lead entity technical groups and the SRFB Review Panel.

After initial project reviews, a team of two review panel members conducted a one-hour phone call with each lead entity to clarify comments. Final applications that were not previously cleared were submitted by June 26 for funding consideration. The review panel reviewed all remaining final applications and responses to early comments. The panel then met July 12-13 to discuss final project proposals and responses to applications. The review panel updated project comment forms with post-application comments by July 20. Projects at that time received a status of either *Clear*, *Conditioned*, or *Project of Concern*.

Lead entities could either withdraw the *Projects of Concern* and *Conditioned Projects* from their project lists or include them and forward their project lists to the SRFB for funding consideration. A table of all conditioned projects grouped by region and lead entity is outlined in Attachment 5.

The interaction with the review panel and the feedback to sponsors improves projects and ensures a clear benefit to salmonids in each watershed. The goal of this thorough review process is to have top-priority, technically sound projects submitted to the SRFB for funding consideration.

Projects of Concern

Lead entities and regional organizations must have submitted their final ranked lists to RCO by August 4, 2023. A regional organization or lead entity had to decide by that date whether to leave a *Project of Concern* on its list for funding consideration.

The sponsor and lead entity have an opportunity to discuss the project at the SRFB funding meeting. If lead entities withdraw a *Project of Concern* before the funding meeting, alternates may be considered for funding. Should the board decide not to approve a *Project of Concern*, the lead entity allocation will be reduced by the project's requested funding amount.

The intent of this policy is both to signal that the board is unlikely to fund a *Project of Concern* and to ensure that lead entities and regional organizations are convinced of the merits of such projects before submitting them to the board.

As of the final review, four projects of concern remained. All four project applications have been withdrawn from funding consideration by the lead entities and will not be presented to the board.

Table 3. Project Review History

Process Step	Number of Projects
Initial Review	153
Projects Submitted on Ranked Lists	136*
Projects Withdrawn After Review	17
Projects of Concern at Final Review	4
Final *Projects of Concern* Submitted to SRFB	0

*Includes monitoring projects and previously funded projects receiving additional funding this year for cost increases or because they only were partially funded previously.

Before the final project review meeting, there were seven *Projects of Concern*. After the final project review meeting, there were four *Projects of Concern*. All four were subsequently withdrawn by the sponsors. There are no *Projects of Concern* advancing to the SRFB for funding consideration.

Conditioned Projects

The review panel labeled nineteen projects as *Conditioned* because the projects needed to meet specific conditions to satisfy the board's benefit, certainty, and cost-effectiveness criteria. Attachment 5 contains a summary of the *Conditioned* projects, and their review panel conditions.

The review panel continues to use "conditioning" of projects as a tool for strengthening project design and ensuring proposals that may contain elements of uncertainty, but otherwise meet the board's evaluation criteria, may proceed to an RCO grant agreement. A typical project condition assigns an intermediate review between the selection of a preferred project alternative and the preliminary design. Another common condition directs the elimination of a component of a project because it is inconsistent with the board's theme of restoration of natural processes or provides no added benefit to salmon. RCO staff works with the review panel to track *Conditioned* projects.

Adjustments to Project Lists

From the time of the board's allocation decisions through the June application deadline, lead entities and regional organizations worked collaboratively to meet their funding targets and submit a portfolio of projects. Sometimes when projects were withdrawn because of a *Project of Concern* designation or because they received funding from other sources, regions and lead entities had to work with grant applicants to adjust project funding amounts and scopes to fit the funding targets or meet a review panel concern or condition. Ranked lists were adjusted accordingly. Applicants also may submit alternate projects on their ranked lists.

Applicants working through the lead entity and region could adjust project costs (if warranted) through August 4. Those adjustments are defined as the following:

- Any *Conditioned* project that needs a change in the application.
- Any *Project of Concern* where a scope or budget change would address the review panel recommendation and remove the designation.
- Any project that has been modified, without a significant change in scope, to meet the intra-regional funding allocation determined by the regional organization and its partners.
- Any project that has been withdrawn by the sponsor or lead entity.

SRFB Review Panel Observations and Recommendations

As part of an effort to support the SRFB's goal of funding effective, high-benefit projects for recovering salmon around the state, the panel offers the following observations of relevant issues noted during this grant cycle.

Clarifying Design Deliverable Requirements in Manual 18

Many sponsors with projects that have different design levels were challenged with the design deliverables table in Manual 18's Appendix D. For example, restoration actions at the project site could be completed to a Preliminary Design level, while a bridge replacement could be completed at a Conceptual Design level. The suggested approach to address this issue is to split the project into two different worksites so that each could have different levels of design deliverables. This approach should be added to the application to clarify directions for sponsors.

Additional guidance is also needed in Appendix D for conceptual design grants of less than $350,000 to ensure that the designs adequately account for watershed conditions and are consistent with other design requirements. The conceptual design approach should categorize the project area by geomorphic characteristics (e.g., channel confinement, stream gradient, and channel width) and identify what types of

structures are most suitable in each specific area (e.g., single logs, beaver-dam analogs, post-assisted log structures, and engineered logjams).

The review panel also noted that there are some large projects where only a small portion of the project is funded through the SRFB. Additional language should be added to Manual 18 to clarify that if deliverables from work not funded by the SRFB are needed to understand the benefits of the proposed SRFB work, those deliverables need to be provided with the application.

Adaptive Management Plans for Riparian Plantings

In association with the new funding approved for riparian planting work in 2024, the review panel suggests that adaptive management plans be required for riparian planting work. These plans would look at functional metrics, such as percent cover (e.g., 50 percent cover after four years) and initial survival (e.g., 85 percent survival after four years). After the first four years, percent cover would be the primary metric. The percent cover requirement could be variable depending on the forest stand age and plant composition. An adaptive management plan would require a longer-term contract and would include a contingency plan for replacement of plants that do not survive.

Additionally, climate change guidance for riparian plantings is needed for sponsors. Information is needed on seed lot selection, how far south or east is appropriate for tree selection, and where to get the most appropriate stock for the expected conditions in a specific area or soil type. Information from riparian conferences could be summarized to provide citations on what trees species are being recommended in various areas and settings.

Site Visits are Important for Evaluating In-Stream Restoration Projects

Some regions and lead entities did not have any site visits and stuck with virtual presentations for all sites. In-stream restoration proposals are particularly difficult to evaluate remotely without observing the actual site conditions. The review panel recommends that regions and lead entities consider in-person site visits for in-stream restoration projects and other projects where understanding site conditions would be critical to the review.

Stage 0 Standard of Practice

The review panel has seen a few Stage 0 or “valley reset” projects in the past several years. In these restoration projects, channels are filled in, forcing the water to spread out into the floodplain and create its own new path. This is a newer approach in restoration that the review panel highlighted for the SRFB last year and additional monitoring and evaluation is needed to assess the effectiveness of this approach along with a standard of practice on how to implement the approach. The standard

of practice must be sure to explicitly consider public safety, physical performance expectations, and biological effectiveness. The review panel would like to suggest a pathway through which new techniques could be tested and evaluated, perhaps in concert with the Monitoring Panel. An existing example is the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program's program that includes "pre-design projects," which cover applied research looking at project performance. A statewide applied research program, with guidance and oversite from the Monitoring Panel, could provide needed short-term research to help review panel members and sponsors better evaluate and implement successful Stage 0 types of projects.

Long-term Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Buffer Integrity

Many regions in the state rely on the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program to engage agricultural landowners in the establishment and protection of riparian areas along fish-bearing streams. Landowners are compensated for voluntarily planting vegetation and maintaining the plants over time. Landowners sign ten- to fifteen-year renewable contracts and are paid rent for the acreage that has been protected along the stream. Unfortunately, many landowners are finding that the payments provide less compensation than if the area were in agriculture, so more farmers are opting out of agreements, rather than renewing them. Given the additional emphasis on riparian funding in the coming year, the review panel wanted to highlight this concern for the SRFB. The following two issues warrant further discussion to help improve protections for salmon habitat: 1) retaining landowners within the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program by potentially increasing compensation, particularly for higher-value crops, and 2) Given the short-term nature of the contracts, options should be considered to increase the length of time that the riparian areas will remain protected.

Noteworthy Projects

As in previous years, the review panel would like to highlight a few project proposals that have the potential to result in large-scale actions that will make significant contributions to implementing local or regional salmon recovery plans. This year, the review panel identified three projects that merit special attention.

Figure 4. Map of Noteworthy Projects

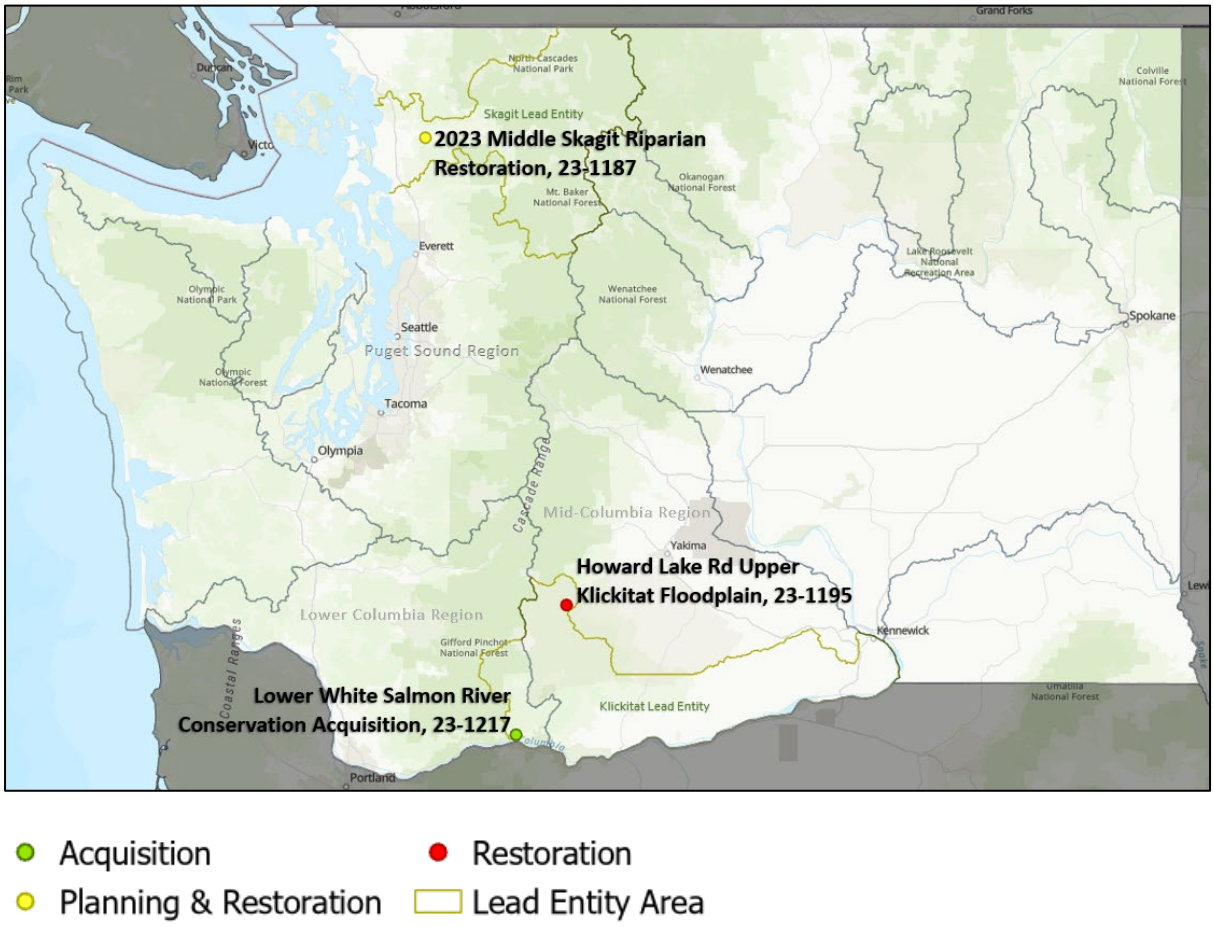


Table 4. Noteworthy Projects

Project Number and Name	Sponsor	Description	Project Type
23-1187 Middle Skagit Riparian Restoration	Skagit River System Cooperative	The project will control invasive species and restore native riparian vegetation on forty-four acres of floodplain and riparian buffer along the middle Skagit River and Grandy Creek. The planning component identifies future restoration activities by maintaining the Riparian Implementer's Workgroup. The project will benefit all salmonid species.	Restoration Planning
23-1195 Howard Lake Road Upper Klickitat Floodplain	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	The project will remove about 650 feet of the cross-valley Howard Lake Road, including two bridges spanning the Klickitat River, to increase flow interaction with about forty acres of	Restoration

Project Number and Name	Sponsor	Description	Project Type
		floodplain. Restoration includes constructing logjams to increase occupancy of existing side and high flow channels for steelhead.	
23-1217 Lower White Salmon River Conservation Acquisition	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	The project will conserve 3.3 river miles of riparian habitat along the White Salmon River. The acquisition of 275 acres of floodplain will protect and conserve the abundance and accessibility of high-quality spawning, adult holding, and juvenile rearing habitat for Chinook, coho, steelhead and chum.	Acquisition

Part 3: Region Summaries

Introduction

The SRFB continues to allocate funding regionally rather than to individual lead entities. The following section of the report provides links to the RCO website to the region annual summaries about their grant processes. The responses are direct submittals from the regions.

Region Summaries

Hood Canal

Lower Columbia River

Middle Columbia River

Puget Sound

Snake River

Upper Columbia River

Washington Coast

Northeast Region

Attachment 1: 2023 Grant Schedule

Date	Action	Description
January–April	Complete project application materials submitted at least two weeks before site visit **(required)**	**At least two weeks before a site visit,** applicants for all projects, including regional monitoring projects, must submit a complete application in PRISM (See Application Checklist). The lead entity provides applicants with a project number **before** work can begin in PRISM.
Track 1 February 1–March 17 Or **Track 2** April 3–May 12	Site visits (required)	RCO screens all applications for completeness and eligibility. The SRFB Review Panel evaluates projects using Manual 18, Appendix F criteria. RCO staff and review panel members attend lead entity-organized site visits. *Site visits may be virtual.*
March 22	SRFB Review Panel meeting	Track 1: SRFB Review Panel and RCO staff meet to discuss projects and complete comment forms for projects visited in February and March.
March 31	**First comment form** for February and March site visits	Track 1: Applicants receive SRFB Review Panel comments identifying projects as *Clear, Conditioned, Needs More Information*, or *Project of Concern*. RCO staff accepts *Clear* applications and returns *Conditioned, Needs More Information*, and *Project of Concern* applications so applicants may update and respond to comments. The Monitoring Panel will provide comments for monitoring projects.
April 11-12	Conference call (Optional)	Track 1: Lead entities may schedule a one-hour conference call with project applicants, RCO staff, and one SRFB Review Panel member to discuss *Needs More Information*, *Project of Concern*, or *Conditioned* projects in their lead entities.

Date	Action	Description
May 17	SRFB Review Panel meeting	Track 2: SRFB Review Panel and RCO staff discuss projects and complete comment forms for projects visited in April and May.
May 24	**First comment form** for April and May site visits	Track 2: Applicants receive SRFB Review Panel comments identifying projects as *Clear*, *Conditioned*, *Needs More Information*, or *Project of Concern*. RCO staff accepts *Clear* applications and returns *Conditioned*, *Needs More Information*, and *Project of Concern* applications so applicants may update and respond to comments. The Monitoring Panel will provide comments for monitoring projects.
June 6-7	Conference call (Optional)	Track 2: Lead entities may schedule a one-hour conference call with project applicants, RCO staff, and one SRFB Review Panel member to discuss *Needs More Information*, *Project of Concern*, or *Conditioned* projects in their lead entities.
June 26, Noon	**Due Date:** Applications due	Applicants submit final revised application materials via PRISM. All projects, including monitoring and Targeted Investment, must be submitted by this date. See Application Checklist. All cost increase requests seeking grants are due by this date.
July 12-13	SRFB Review Panel meeting	SRFB Review Panel and RCO staff discuss projects and complete comments. SRFB Review Panel will score Targeted Investment projects.
July 20	Final comment form	Applicants receive the final SRFB Review Panel comments identifying projects as *Clear, Conditioned*, or *Project of Concern*. The Monitoring Panel will provide final comments for monitoring projects.
August 3	Due Date: Accept SRFB Review Panel condition	Applicants with *Conditioned* projects must indicate whether they accept the conditions or will withdraw their projects.

Date	Action	Description
August 4	Due Date: Lead entity ranked list	Lead entities submit ranked lists via PRISM.
August 11	**Due Date:** Regional submittal	Regional organizations submit Regional Area Summaries and Project Matrixes.
August 30	Final grant report available for public review	The final funding recommendation report is available online for SRFB members and public review.
September 13-14	Board funding meeting	SRFB awards grants. Public comment period available.

Attachment 2: SRFB Review Panel Evaluation Criteria

The criteria below are from Appendix F in Manual 18.

Projects that have a low benefit to salmon, a low likelihood of success, or costs that outweigh the anticipated benefits will be designated as *Projects of Concern* by the SRFB Review Panel to ensure that all projects are technically sound. The review panel will not otherwise rate, score, or rank projects. It is expected that projects will follow best management practices and meet local, state, and federal permitting requirements.

The SRFB Review Panel uses the SRFB Individual Comment Form to capture its comments on individual projects.

When a *Project of Concern* is identified, the sponsor will receive a comment form identifying the evaluation criteria on which the status was determined. Before the regional area meetings, the regional recovery organization that represents the area where the project is located can contact the review panel chair with further questions. At the regional area meetings, there is opportunity for the review panel to discuss project issues and work with the regional recovery organization and the regional technical team advisors to determine if the issues can be resolved before the list of *Projects of Concern* is presented to the SRFB.

Criteria

For acquisition and restoration projects, the panel will determine that a project is not technically sound and cannot be significantly improved if it meets any of the following conditions:

1. It is unclear there is a problem to salmonids the project is addressing. For acquisition projects, this criterion relates to the lack of a clear threat if the property is not acquired.

2. Information provided or current understanding of the system is not sufficient to determine the need for or the benefit of the project.

3. Incomplete application or proposal.

4. Project goal or objectives not clearly stated or do not address salmon habitat protection or restoration.

5. Project sponsor has not responded to review panel comments.

6. Acquisition parcel prioritization (for multi-site proposals) is not provided, or the prioritization does not meet the project's goal or objectives.

7. The project is dependent on other key conditions or processes being addressed first.

8. The project has a high-cost relative to the anticipated benefits and the project sponsor failed to justify to the satisfaction of the review panel.

9. The project does not account for the conditions or processes in the watershed.

10. The project may be in the wrong sequence with other habitat protection, assessments, or restoration actions in the watershed.

11. The project does not work towards restoring natural watershed processes or prohibits natural processes.

12. It is unclear how the project will achieve its stated goals or objectives.

13. It is unlikely the project will achieve its stated goals or objectives.

14. There is low potential for threat to habitat conditions if the project is not completed.

15. The project design is not adequate, or the project is sited improperly.

16. The stewardship description is insufficient or there is inadequate commitment to stewardship and maintenance, which likely would jeopardize the project's success.

17. The focus is on supplying a secondary need, such as education, stream bank stabilization to protect property, or water supply.

Additional Criteria for Planning Projects

For planning projects (e.g., assessment, design, inventories, and studies), the review panel will consider the criteria for acquisition and restoration projects (1-13) and the following additional criteria. The review panel will determine that a project is not technically sound and cannot be improved significantly if it meets any of the following criteria:

- The project does not address information important to understanding the watershed, is not directly relevant to project development or sequencing, and will not clearly lead to beneficial projects.

- The methodology does not appear to be appropriate to meet the goals and objectives of the project.
- There are significant constraints to the implementation of projects following completion of the planning project.
- The project does not clearly lead to project design or does not meet the criteria for filling a data gap.
- The project does not appear to be coordinated with other efforts in the watershed or does not use appropriate methods and protocols.

Attachment 3: Guide for Lead Entity Benefit and Certainty Criteria

Benefit and Certainty Criteria

The SRFB developed the following criteria several years ago for evaluating benefit to fish and certainty of project success. With the evolution of lead entity strategies and recovery plans, the SRFB shifted to a technical evaluation of site-specific projects using the *Project of Concern* criteria. The benefit and certainty criteria listed below only is used for lead entity guidance in their evaluations of projects through their local processes.

Benefit Criteria			
Identified and Prioritized in the Strategy	**High BENEFIT Project**	**Medium BENEFIT Project**	**Low BENEFIT Project**
Watershed Processes and Habitat Features	Addresses high-priority habitat features and/or watershed process that significantly protect or limit the salmonid productivity in the area. **Acquisition:** More than 60 percent of the total project area is intact habitat, or if less than 60 percent, project must be a combination that includes restoration. **Assessment:** Crucial to understanding watershed processes, is	May not address the most important limiting factor but will improve habitat conditions. **Acquisition:** 40-60 percent of the total project area is intact habitat, or if less than 40-60 percent, project must be a combination that includes restoration. **Assessments:** Will lead to new projects in moderate priority areas and is independent of addressing other	Does not address an important habitat condition in the area.

Benefit Criteria			
	directly relevant to project development or sequencing, and clearly will lead to new projects in high priority areas.	key conditions first.	
Areas and Actions	Is a high priority action in a high priority geographic area. **Assessment:** Fills an important data gap in a high priority area.	May be an important action but in a moderate priority geographic area. **Assessment:** Fills an important data gap but is in a moderate priority area.	Addresses a lower priority action or geographic area.
Scientific	Is identified through a documented habitat assessment.	Is identified through a documented habitat assessment or scientific opinion.	Is unclear or lacks scientific information about the problem being addressed.
Species	Addresses multiple species or unique populations of salmonids essential for recovery or Endangered Species Act-listed fish species or non-listed populations primarily supported by natural spawning. Documented fish use.	Addresses a moderate number of species or unique populations of salmonids essential for recovery or Endangered Species Act-listed fish species or non-listed populations primarily supported by natural spawning.	Addresses a single species of a low priority. Documented fish use.

Benefit Criteria			
		Documented fish use.	
Life History	Addresses an important life history stage or habitat type that limits the productivity of the salmonid species in the area or project addresses multiple life history requirements.	Addresses fewer life history stages or habitat types that limit the productivity of the salmonid species in the area or partially addresses fewer life history requirements.	Is unclear about the salmonid life history being addressed.
Costs	Has a low-cost relative to the predicted benefits for the project type in that location.	Has a reasonable cost relative to the predicted benefits for the project type in that location.	Has a high-cost relative to the predicted benefits for that particular project type in that location.

Certainty Criteria			
Identified and Prioritized in the Strategy	**High CERTAINTY Project**	**Medium CERTAINTY Project**	**Low CERTAINTY Project**
Appropriate	Scope is appropriate to meet its goals and objectives.	Is moderately appropriate to meet its goals and objectives.	The methodology does not appear to meet the goals and objectives of the project.
Approach	Is consistent with proven scientific methods. **Assessment:** Methodology will effectively address an information or data gap or lead to effective	Uses untested or incomplete scientific methods. **Assessment:** Methods will effectively address a data gap or lead to effective implementation of	Uses untested or ineffective methods.

Certainty Criteria			
Identified and Prioritized in the Strategy	**High CERTAINTY Project**	**Medium CERTAINTY Project**	**Low CERTAINTY Project**
	implementation of prioritized projects within one to two years of completion.	prioritized projects within three to five years of completion.	
Sequence	Is in the correct sequence and is independent of other actions being taken first.	Is dependent on other actions being taken first that are outside the scope of this project.	May be in the wrong sequence with other protection and restoration actions.
Threat	Addresses a high potential threat to salmonid habitat.	Addresses a moderate potential threat to salmonid habitat.	Addresses a low potential threat to salmonid habitat.
Stewardship	Clearly describes and funds stewardship of the area or facility for more than ten years.	Clearly describes but does not fund stewardship of the area or facility for more than ten years.	Does not describe or fund stewardship of the area or facility.
Landowner	Landowners are willing to have work done.	Landowners potentially contacted and likely will allow work.	Landowner willingness is unknown.
Implementation	Actions are scheduled, funded, and ready to take place and have few or no known constraints to successful implementation including projects that may result from this project.	Have few or no known constraints to successful implementation as well as other projects that may result from this project.	Actions are unscheduled, unfunded, and not ready to take place, and have several constraints to successful implementation.

Attachment 4: Regional Monitoring Project List

Number	Name	Sponsor	Region	Request
23-1149	Rue Creek Remote Site Incubation Smolt Study	Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group	Coast (Willapa Lead Entity)	$49,980
23-1169	Columbia River Chum Salmon Escapement Analysis	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Lower Columbia	$149,737
23-1283	Floodplain Restoration Effectiveness Monitoring	Chelan County Natural Resources Department	Upper Columbia	$61,636
			Total	**$261,353**

Attachment 5: Conditioned Projects List

Salmon State Projects

Conditioned Projects=19
Project of Concern=0

Lead Entity	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name
Hood Canal Coordinating Council	23-1060 Planning	Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe	Port Gamble Bay Nearshore Restoration Final Design
Hood Canal Coordinating Council	23-1061 Planning	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group	Little Quilcene Estuarine Delta Conceptual Design
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board	23-1131 Restoration	Cowlitz Conservation District	Belfield Rock Creek Restoration
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board	23-1138 Planning	Lewis County Public Works Department	Blue Creek at Spencer Fish Habitat Restoration Design
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board	23-1145 Planning	Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership	East Fork Lewis River Thermal Preliminary Designs
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board	23-1155 Restoration	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	Upper Mason Creek Riparian and Floodplain Enhancement
Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board	23-1156 Planning	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	Camp Singing Wind Design

Lead Entity	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name
Nisqually River Salmon Recovery	23-1018 Restoration	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group	Lower Ohop Creek Beaver-Dam Analogs and Post-Assisted Log Structure Installation
North Pacific Coast	23-1134 Restoration	Wild Salmon Center	Cedar Creek Barrier–Wilhelm Culvert
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board	23-1027 Restoration	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Tuusi Wana Restoration Phase 1
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board	23-1028 Restoration	Columbia Conservation District	Tucannon Project Area 34.1-34.2 Restoration
Snake River Salmon Recovery Board	23-1035 Planning	Tri-State Steelheaders Inc.	Dry Creek-Highway 12 Fish Passage Design
Snohomish Basin	23-1112 Planning	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	Spencer Island Estuary Restoration Project Final Design
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board	23-1213 Planning	Chelan County Natural Resources Department	Nason Creek Restoration and Infrastructure Relocation
Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board	23-1285 Planning	Chelan County Natural Resources Department	Channel Migration Zone 12 Side Channel Adaptive Management
Willapa Bay	23-1124 Planning	Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group	Patton Creek-Willapa Passage and Restoration Design

Lead Entity	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant	Project Name
Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9)	23-1052 Planning	City of Kent	Boeing Levee Setback Habitat Project
Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board	23-1188 Restoration	Kittitas County Conservation District	Cooke Creek River Miles 4.25 and 3.86 Passage and Screening
Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board	23-1200 Planning	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Cold Creek Passage Design at Keechelus Lake

Attachment 6: Ranked Project Lists

Hood Canal Salmon Recovery Region

Regional Allocation **$1,443,839**[3]
2022 Supplemental **$243,878**
Total Funding **$1,687,717**

Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$1,687,717**
2023-2025 Proposed PSAR **$434,833**

Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity

Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Proposed Salmon Funding	Proposed PSAR Funding	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1067 Acquisition	Great Peninsula Conservancy Johnson Creek Estuary Acquisition	$377,800	$1,817,500		$377,800	$377,800
2	Partially Funded	23-1064 Acquisition	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Union Estuary Nearshore Acquisitions[4]	$1,073,839	$230,181	$472,903	$57,033	$529,936
3		23-1065 Acquisition, Restoration	Jefferson Land Trust Lower Chimacum Creek Mainstem Acquisitions and Restoration	$333,713	$58,891	$333,713		$333,713

[3]This regional allocation includes 2.4 percent of the total funding plus 10.2% percent of Puget Sound's regional allocation.

[4]This project will receive $79,262 in 2023 SRFB funds from the Pend Oreille Salmon Recovery Team Lead Entity.

Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity								
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Proposed Salmon Funding	Proposed PSAR Funding	Total Proposed Award
4		23-1063 Restoration	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Duckabush River Oxbow Final Design and Restoration	$136,772	$30,436	$136,772		$136,772
5		23-1061 Planning	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Little Quilcene Estuarine Delta Conceptual Design	$249,760	$45,250	$249,760		$249,760
6		23-1068 Restoration	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Riparian Enhancement and Knotweed Control	$209,539	$41,573	$209,539		$209,539
7		23-1069 Restoration	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Hood Canal Summer Chum Riparian Stewardship	$66,602	$11,755	$66,602		$66,602
8		23-1062 Planning	Jefferson County Brinnon Reach Assessment and Conceptual Design	$218,428	$80,532	$218,428		$218,428
9	Alternate	23-1060 Planning	Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe Port Gamble Bay Nearshore Restoration Final Design	$680,000	$125,000			
			Total	**$3,346,453**	**$2,441,118**	**$1,687,717**	**$434,833**	**$2,122,550**
			Remaining			**$0**	**$0**	

Lower Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region

Regional Allocation **$4,600,000**

Klickitat Lead Entity

Allocation from Lower Columbia **$716,458**
Allocation from Middle Columbia **$50,929**
2022 Supplemental **$382,613**
Total Funding **$1,150,000**

Klickitat Lead Entity					
Rank	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
1	23-1195 Restoration	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Howard Lake Road Upper Klick Floodplain	$500,000	$88,250	$500,000
2	23-1216 Restoration	Columbia Land Trust Upper Rattlesnake Creek Floodplain Enhancement	$150,000	$35,250	$150,000
3	23-1217 Acquisition	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Lower White Salmon River Conservation Acquisition	$500,000	$167,000	$500,000
		Total	**$1,150,000**	**$290,500**	**$1,150,000**
		Remaining			**$0**

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$3,883,542**

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board Lead Entity						
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1169	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	$149,737	$26,425	$149,737
		Monitoring	Columbia River Chum Salmon Escapement Analysis			
2		23-1194	Cowlitz Indian Tribe	$547,358	$96,600	$547,358
		Restoration	Lower East Fork Grays Amendment			
3		23-1153	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	$276,745		$276,745
		Planning	Green River (Toutle) -Cascade to Shultz Creek Design			
4		23-1151	Cowlitz Indian Tribe	$298,100		$298,100
		Planning	Salmon Creek Reconnection Design			
5	Partially Funded	23-1154	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	$349,600	$61,860	$60,090
		Restoration	Schoolhouse Creek Barrier and Riparian Improvements			
6		23-1129	Wahkiakum Conservation District	$169,500	$30,000	$169,500
		Restoration	Thadbar Creek Restoration			
7		23-1206	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	$340,000	$60,000	$340,000
		Restoration	Eagle Island Chum Channel			
8		23-1145	Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership	$282,097		$282,097
		Planning	East Fork Lewis River Thermal Preliminary Designs			
9		23-1193	Cowlitz Indian Tribe	$178,324		$178,324
		Planning	Hardy Creek Reach Five Design			
10		23-1156	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	$206,527		$206,527
		Planning	Camp Singing Wind Design			
11		23-1130	Cowlitz Conservation District	$316,370	$55,830	$316,370

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
		Restoration	Cowlitz River B Tributary 2 A Fish Passage			
12		23-1155	Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	$228,161	$44,185	$228,161
		Restoration	Upper Mason Creek Riparian and Floodplain Enhancement			
13			Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group	$96,020	$94,514	$96,020
		23-1157	Water Resource Inventory Areas 26, 27, 28 Nutrient and			
		Restoration	Riparian Enhancement			
14		23-1207	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife	$170,000	$30,000	$170,000
		Planning	Cowlitz Chum Assessment			
15		23-1131	Cowlitz Conservation District	$68,763	$12,610	$68,763
		Restoration	Belfield Rock Creek Restoration			
16		23-1138	Lewis County Public Works Department	$495,750	$87,486	$495,750
		Planning	Blue Creek at Spencer Fish Habitat Restoration Design			
			Total	**$4,173,052**	**$599,510**	**$3,883,542**
			Remaining			**$0**

Middle Columbia Salmon Recovery Region

Regional Allocation **$2,157,400**

Klickitat Lead Entity

Projects are displayed under the Lower Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region.

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Lead Entity

Regional Allocation **$2,106,471**

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Lead Entity

Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1197 Restoration	Washington Water Trust Teanaway River Trust Water Rights Acquisition	$234,210	$43,000	$234,210
2		23-1053 Planning, Restoration	Kittitas County Public Works Department Yakima River Corridor Plan Phase 2B: Design and Riparian	$672,426	$119,000	$672,426
3		23-1220 Restoration	Kittitas Conservation Trust Gold Creek Restoration River Miles 2–3	$500,000	$100,000	$500,000
4		23-1168 Restoration	Benton County Conservation District Amon Creek Thermal Refuge Habitat Enhancement	$648,638	$114,470	$648,638
5	Partially Funded	23-1209 Planning	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Upper Toppenish Wood Supplementation Design Phase 2	$136,000	$24,000	$51,197
6	Alternate	23-1188 Restoration	Kittitas County Conservation District Cooke Creek River Miles 4.25 and 3.86 Passage and Screening	$349,999	$61,765	

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
7	Alternate	23-1200 Planning	Trout Unlimited Inc. Cold Creek Passage Design at Keechelus Lake	$185,637		
8	Alternate	23-1190 Planning	Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Little Naches Tributaries Large Wood Design and Permit	$150,512	$26,718	
9	Alternate	23-1150 Restoration	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Tieton River Restoration Site 4	$663,855	$117,151	
10	Alternate	23-1210 Planning	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Mid-Satus Creek Watershed Riparian Assessment	$200,000	$50,000	
			Total	**$3,741,277**	**$656,104**	**$2,106,471**
			Remaining			**$0**

Northeast Washington Salmon Recovery Region

Regional Allocation	**$437,000**
2022 Supplemental	**$902,207**
Total Funding	**$1,339,207**
Remaining	**$902,207**

Kalispel Tribe-Pend Oreille Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$437,000**
2022 Supplemental	**$902,207**
Remaining[5]	**$902,207**

Kalispel Tribe-Pend Oreille Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1		23-1215 Planning	Kalispel Tribe of Indians Flume Creek Final Design	$350,000		$350,000
		23-1283 Monitoring	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Floodplain Restoration Effectiveness Monitoring[6]	$61,636	$176,837	$7,738
	Partially Funded	23-1064 Acquisition	Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Union Estuary Nearshore Acquisitions[7]	$1,073,839	$230,181	$79,262
			Total	**$1,485,475**	**$407,018**	**$437,000**
			Remaining			**$902,207**

[5]Kalispel will have $902,207 of 2022 supplemental to carry over into 2024.

[6]This project is in the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity

[7]This project is in the Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity.

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Region

Regional Allocation	**$7,848,162**[8]
2022 Supplemental	**$865,974**
Total Funding	**$8,714,136**
Remaining	**$434,487**
2023-2025 Proposed PSAR	**$5,229,221**

Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9) Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$378,088**

Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9) Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1		23-1052 Planning	Kent Boeing Levee Setback Habitat Project	$255,319	$45,057	$255,319
2		22-1044 Restoration	King County Water and Land Resources Division Flaming Geyser Restoration	$410,000	$90,000	$40,576
3	Partially Funded	23-1115 Acquisition	Tukwila Nelsen Side Channel Acquisition	$340,000	$60,000	$82,193
4	Alternate	22-1047 Planning	Tukwila Nelsen Side Channel	$300,000	$54,000	
			Total	**$1,305,319**	**$249,057**	**$378,088**
			Remaining			**$0**

[8]This allocation is 38 percent of available funding minus 10.2 percent, which goes to Hood Canal. In 2022 some lead entities had unallocated 2023-25 PSAR funding and 2022 supplemental funds. These funds are included in this year's list.

Island County Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$278,102**
2023-2025 Proposed PSAR	**$809,829**
Total Funding	**$1,087,931**

Island County Lead Entity							
Rank	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Sponsor Match**	**Proposed Salmon Funding**	**Proposed PSAR Funding**	**Total Proposed Award**
1	23-1081 Planning	Skagit River System Cooperative Middle Crescent Harbor Creek Preliminary Design[9]	$276,180	$60,000	$276,180		$276,180
	22-1085 Acquisition Restoration	Whidbey Camano Land Trust Keystone Preserve Acquisition and Restoration	$1,878,000	$7,590,500	$1,922	$809,829	$811,751
		Total	**$2,154,180**	**$7,650,500**	**$278,102**	**$809,829**	**$1,087,931**
		Remaining			**$0**	**$0**	

[9]This project is a cost increase request of $1,135,500.

Kennedy-Goldsborough Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$269,044**

Kennedy-Goldsborough Salmon Recovery Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Sponsor Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1		23-1076 Restoration	Mason Conservation District Riparian Restoration	$168,300	$55,000	$168,300
2	Partially Funded	23-1088 Restoration	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group West Oakland Bay Estuary Planting Phase 1	$105,150	$19,000	$100,744
			Total	**$273,450**	**$74,000**	**$269,044**
			Remaining			**$0**

Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$500,520**

Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Sponsor Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1	Partially Funded	23-1120 Acquisition	Seattle Public Utilities Helen Sherry Floodplain Acquisition	$1,000,000	$1,650,000	$400,000
2	Partially Funded	23-1122 Planning Restoration	King County Water and Land Resources Division Lower Rutledge Johnson Floodplain Restoration Final	$220,000	$40,000	$100,520
3	Alternate	23-1103 Restoration	Mountains to Sound Greenway Issaquah Creek In-stream Restoration Phase 2	$1,094,854	$200,000	
			Total	**$2,314,854**	**$1,890,000**	**$500,520**
			Remaining			**$0**

Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$481,401**

Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Sponsor Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1		21-1030 Acquisition	Nisqually Land Trust Nisqually River McKenna Reach Protection 2021[10]	$74,642	$13,200	$266,366
2	Partially Funded	23-1018 Restoration	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group Lower Ohop Creek Beaver-Dam Analogs and Post-Assisted Log Structures Installation	$215,330	$44,000	$215,035
			Total	**$289,972**	**$57,200**	**$481,401**
			Remaining			**$0**

[10]This project is a cost increase.

North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon

Salmon Allocation	**$826,862**
2022 Supplemental	**$150,000**
Total Funding	**$976,862**
Remaining[11]	**$150,000**
2023-2025 Proposed PSAR	**$281,962**

North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon								
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Proposed Salmon Funding**	**Proposed PSAR Funding**	**Total Proposed Award**
1	Partially Funded	23-1114 Acquisition	North Olympic Land Trust Elwha Acquisition Project Priority 2[12]	$1,824,264	$608,089	$718,347	$281,962	$1,000,309
2	Alternate	23-1073 Planning	North Olympic Salmon Coalition Wrights Creek Fish Passage Design	$350,000				
		23-1183 Planning Acquisition	Skagit Land Trust Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition[13]	$1,360,000	$240,000	$108,515		$108,515
			Total	**$3,534,264**	**$848,089**	**$826,862**	**$281,962**	**$1,108,824**
			Remaining			**$150,000**	**$0**	

[11]North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon is reserving the remaining $150,000 in 2022 supplemental funds for a pending cost increase.

[12]Project also is receiving $25,692 from San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery, $45,554 from the Snohomish Basin Lead Entity, and $10,539 from WRIA 1 Watershed Management Board. Total 2023 SRFB funding is $1,082,094.

[13]This project is in the Skagit Watershed Council Lead Entity.

Puyallup and Chambers Watershed Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$649,120**

Puyallup and Chambers Watershed Salmon Recovery Lead Entity					
Rank	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1	23-1093 Restoration	Pierce County Planning and Public Works Department Fennel Creek Restoration Phase 3 Construction	$450,000	$92,000	$450,000
2	23-1096 Planning	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group White River, River Miles 32-46, and West Fork White River, Miles 0-8, Design	$199,120	$39,880	$199,120
		Total	**$649,120**	**$131,880**	**$649,120**
		Remaining			**$0**

San Juan County Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$354,892**

San Juan County Salmon Recovery Lead Entity						
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1270 Planning	Friends of the San Juans Upright Head Armor Removal and Habitat Restoration	$79,585		$79,585
2		23-1271 Restoration	Friends of the San Juans Eastsound Waterfront Beach Restoration	$150,019	$26,485	$150,019
3		23-1173 Restoration	San Juan County Environmental Stewardship Weeks Point Way County Shoreline Restoration	$64,878	$11,604	$64,878
	Partially Funded	23-1114 Acquisition	North Olympic Land Trust Elwha Acquisition Project Priority 2[14]	$1,824,264	$608,089	$25,692
		23-1116 Planning	Wild Fish Conservancy Grant Creek Confluence Design[15]	$135,000		$34,718
			Total	**$2,253,746**	**$646,178**	**$354,892**
			Remaining			**$0**

[14]This project is in the North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon

[15]This project is in the Stillaguamish River Salmon Recovery Co-Lead Entity

Skagit Watershed Council

Salmon Allocation **$1,431,976**
2023-2025 Proposed PSAR **$2,630,582**
Total Funding **$4,062,558**

Skagit Watershed Council								
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Proposed Salmon Funding	Proposed PSAR Funding	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1183 Planning Acquisition	Skagit Land Trust Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition[16]	$1,360,000	$240,000	$1,251,485		$1,251,485
2		23-1182 Planning	Skagit County Mill Creek at South Skagit Highway Phase 1 Design	$458,263	$81,213	$180,491	$277,772	$458,263
3		23-1181 Planning	Skagit County Martin Slough Fish Passage Design	$391,000	$69,000		$391,000	$391,000
4		23-1187 Planning Restoration	Skagit River System Cooperative Middle Skagit Riparian Restoration	$478,600	$0		$478,600	$478,600
5		23-1185 Restoration	Skagit Fish Enhancement Group Collaborative Skagit Riparian Stewardship	$150,000	$26,525		$150,000	$150,000
6		23-1186 Restoration	Skagit River System Cooperative Collaborative Skagit Riparian Stewardship	$150,000	$26,500		$150,000	$150,000

[16]This project will receive $108,515 from the North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for full funding.

Skagit Watershed Council								
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Proposed Salmon Funding**	**Proposed PSAR Funding**	**Total Proposed Award**
7	Partially Funded	23-1128 Planning	Skagit River System Cooperative Tenas Creek Final Design	$1,779,458	$314,022		$1,183,210	$1,183,211
8	Alternate	23-1184 Restoration	Skagit Fish Enhancement Group Upper Skagit Riparian Restoration	$219,000	$38,650			
			Total	**$4,986,321**	**$795,910**	**$1,431,976**	**$2,630,582**	**$4,062,559**
			Remaining			**$2,630,582**	**$0**	

Snohomish Basin Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$653,452**
2023-2025 Proposed PSAR **$1,056,737**
Total Funding **$1,710,189**

Snohomish Basin Lead Entity								
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Proposed Salmon Funding	Proposed PSAR Funding	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1112 Planning	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Spencer Island Estuary Restoration Project Final Design	$500,000	$1,500,000	$117,862	$382,138	$500,000
2		23-1106 Planning	Ducks Unlimited Inc. Getchell Wetland Preliminary Design	$114,000		$114,000		$114,000
3		23-1110 Planning Restoration	Snohomish County Skykomish River Knotweed Assessment and Treatment	$373,490	$65,910		$373,490	$373,490
4		23-1111 Restoration	Sound Salmon Solutions South Fork Skykomish Riparian Restoration	$301,109	$53,137		$301,109	$301,109
5		23-1108 Planning	Mukilteo Japanese Gulch Daylighting Final Design	$299,848		$299,848		$299,848
6		23-1116 Planning	Wild Fish Conservancy Grant Creek Confluence Design[17]	$135,000		$76,188		$76,188

[17]This project is in the Stillaguamish River Salmon Recovery Co-Lead Entity.

Snohomish Basin Lead Entity								
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Proposed Salmon Funding	Proposed PSAR Funding	Total Proposed Award
7	Partially Funded	23-1114 Acquisition	North Olympic Land Trust Elwha Acquisition Project Priority 2[18]	$1,824,264	$608,089	$45,554		$45,554
			Total	**$3,547,711**	**$2,227,136**	**$653,452**	**$1,056,737**	**$1,710,189**
			Remaining			**$0**	**$0**	

[18]This project is in the North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon.

Stillaguamish River Salmon Recovery Co-Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$637,701**
2022 Supplemental	**$201,515**
Total Funding	**$839,216**
2023-2025 Proposed PSAR	**$200,136**

Stillaguamish River Salmon Recovery Co-Lead Entity							
Rank	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Proposed Salmon Funding**	**Proposed PSAR Funding**	**Total Proposed Award**
1	23-1075 Restoration	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians Trafton Floodplain Restoration Phase 1[19]	$866,668	$3,000,000	$839,216		$839,216
2	23-1117 Restoration	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians North Fork Stillaguamish Riparian Restoration (Bryson)[20]	$202,084			$176,042	$176,042
3	23-1116 Planning	Wild Fish Conservancy Grant Creek Confluence Design[21]	$135,000			$24,094	$24,094
		Total	**$1,203,752**	**$3,000,000**	**$839,216**	**$200,136**	**$1,039,352**
		Remaining			**$0**	**$0**	

[19]This project also will receive $27,452 in 2021-2023 PSAR returned funds for full funding.

[20]This project also will receive $26,042 in 2021-2023 PSAR returned funds for full funding.

[21]This project also will receive $76,188 from Snohomish Basin Lead Entity and $34,718 from San Juan County Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery for full funding.

West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery

Salmon Allocation **$340,322**

West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Sponsor Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1	Partially Funded	22-1131 Acquisition	Great Peninsula Conservancy Crabapple-Carpenter Creek Est Protection[22]	$491,920	$1,042,200	$340,322
2	Alternate	22-1110 Acquisition	Great Peninsula Conservancy Salmonberry Creek Protection	$488,100	$320,000	
3	Alternate	23-1175 Restoration	Bainbridge Island Land Trust Barnabee Farms Springbrook Creek Restoration	$200,000	$175,109	
4	Alternate	23-1201 Restoration	Kitsap Conservation District Washington Conservation Corps Riparian Restoration Projects	$242,000	$42,756	
			Total	**$1,422,020**	**$1,580,065**	**$340,322**
			Remaining			**$0**

[22]This project is a request to provide funding to a previously approved project.

WRIA 1 Watershed Management Board

Salmon Allocation	**$821,743**
2022 Supplemental	**$284,487**
Total Funding	**$1,106,230**
Remaining	**$284,487**

WRIA 1 Watershed Management Board						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1		23-1176 Planning	Lummi Nation Middle Fork Nooksack Porter Creek Reach Phases 3 and 5 Design	$192,531		$192,531
2		23-1177 Planning	Nooksack Indian Tribe North Fork Nooksack Below Boulder-Lone Tree Reach Design	$265,923	$46,930	$265,923
3		23-1172 Acquisition	Whatcom Land Trust South Fork Riparian Acquisition-Saxon Road	$352,750	$66,084	$352,750
	Alternate	22-1361 Restoration	Nooksack Indian Tribe North Fork Nooksack (Xwq?l?m) Boyd Reach Restoration	$3,748,780	$661,566	$0
	Partially Funded	23-1114 Acquisition	North Olympic Land Trust Elwha Acquisition Project Priority2[23]	$1,824,264	$608,089	$10,539
			Total	**$6,384,248**	**$1,382,669**	**$821,743**
			Remaining			**$284,487**

[23]This project is in North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon.

WRIA 13 Salmon Habitat Recovery Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$224,939**
2022 Supplemental	**$229,972**
Total Funding	**$454911**
2023-2025 Proposed PSAR	**$248,141**

WRIA 13 Salmon Habitat Recovery Lead Entity

Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Proposed Salmon Funding	Proposed PSAR Funding	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1100 Planning	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group Upper Deschutes Restoration Final Design and Permits	$325,000		$200,930	$124,070	$325,000
2	Partially Funded	23-1099 Restoration	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group Deschutes Tributaries Private Fish Barrier Replacement	$383,500	$67,849	$253,981	$124,071	$378,052
3	Alternate	19-1417 Restoration	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group Beatty Creek at Chelsie Lane Fish Barrier Replacement	$177,871	$284,062			
4	Alternate	23-1095 Planning	Tumwater Somerset Hill Fish Passage Barrier Removal Design	$280,000				
5	Alternate	23-1101 Planning	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group WRIA 13 Barrier Inventory, Design, and Outreach Phase 2	$94,310				
6	Alternate	23-1094 Planning	Thurston Conservation District Elwanger Creek Valley Project Development	$75,800	$13,400			
			Total	**$1,336,481**	**$365,311**	**$454,911**	**$248,141**	**$703,052**
			Remaining			**$0**	**$0**	

Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

Regional Allocation	**$1,941,200**
2022 Supplemental	**$802,852**
Total Funding	**$2,744,052**

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$1,941,200**
2022 Supplemental	**$802,852**
Total Funding	**$2,744,052**

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity

Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1028 Restoration	Columbia Conservation District Tucannon Project Area 34.1-34.2 Restoration	$484,500	$571,568	$484,500
2		23-1032 Restoration	Nez Perce Tribe Cummings Creek Low Technology Restoration Phase 2-3	$195,314	$101,786	$195,314
3		23-1027 Restoration	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Tuusi Wana Restoration Phase 1	$550,000	$100,000	$550,000
4		23-1036 Restoration	Trout Unlimited Inc. Asotin Intensively Monitored Watershed Low Technology Design and Restoration	$454,472	$49,500	$454,472
5		23-1022 Restoration	Walla Walla County Conservation District Coppei Creek Project Area 07 Restoration	$540,942	$200,941	$540,942
6		23-1029 Restoration	Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. Walla Walla River B2B Phase 3A Restoration	$367,003	$67,259	$367,003

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
7	Partially Funded	23-1023 Restoration	Asotin County Conservation District Asotin Creek Project Area 3.2 Restoration	$249,000	$120,000	$151,821
8	Alternate	23-1030 Planning	Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. Walla Walla River B2B Phase 4 Design	$84,000		
9	Alternate	23-1035 Planning	Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. Dry Creek-Highway 12 Fish Passage Design	$139,800		
10	Alternate	23-1020 Restoration	Pomeroy Conservation District Alpowa In-stream Post-assisted Log Structures Phase 4	$88,300	$15,584	
11	Alternate	23-1034 Restoration	Asotin County Conservation District Rattlesnake West Branch Restoration Phase 1-2	$245,000	$55,000	
12	Alternate	23-1026 Restoration	Palouse Conservation District Steptoe Creek In-stream Post-assisted Log Structures 3	$45,000	$8,000	
			Total	**$3,443,331**	**$1,289,638**	**$2,744,052**
			Remaining			**$0**

Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region

Regional Allocation	**$2,371,300**
2022 Supplemental	**$1,486,863**
Total Funding	**$3,858,163**

Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$2,371,300**
2022 Supplemental	**$1,486,863**
Total Funding	**$3,858,163**

Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity

Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1287 Planning	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Lower Wenatchee and Peshastin Thermal Refuge Assessment	$82,968	$32,836	$82,968
2		23-1275 Acquisition	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Chewuch Acquisition River Miles 2.8-3.1	$390,951	$69,045	$390,951
3		23-1282 Restoration	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Upper Wenatchee Floodplain Reconnection (River Miles 37-38)	$500,058	$1,065,848	$500,058
4		23-1263 Planning	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Goat Creek Fan Restoration Final	$50,093	$50,093	$50,093
5		23-1264 Restoration	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Lower Chiwaukum Creek Restoration	$580,000	$122,000	$580,000
6		23-1267 Planning	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Upper Columbia Fish Distribution Assessment	$40,836	$14,349	$40,836

Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity						
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
7		23-1279 Restoration	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Icicle Creek In-stream Flow Restoration	$750,000	$4,633,940	$750,000
8		23-1276 Planning	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Upper Methow Preliminary Design River Miles 61.75-62.7	$240,042		$240,042
9		23-1281 Planning	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Nason Creek River Mile 12 Floodplain Reconnection-Final Design	$211,900	$56,923	$211,900
10		23-1277 Planning	Trout Unlimited Inc. Fulton Ditch Irrigation Efficiency Project Phase 1	$237,417		$237,417
11		23-1269 Acquisition	Chelan-Douglas Land Trust Mission Creek Protection Phase 1	$720,000	$263,600	$720,000
12		23-1283 Monitoring	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Floodplain Restoration Effectiveness Monitoring[24]	$61,636	$176,837	$53,898
13	Alternate	23-1266 Restoration	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Peshastin River Mile 2.5	$754,500	$892,309	
14	Alternate	23-1189 Restoration	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Nason Creek and State Route 207 Phase 1 and 2 Project	$3,499,914	$7,105,886	

[24]This project will receive $7,738 from the Kalispel Tribe-Pend Oreille Lead Entity for full funding.

Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Board Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
15	Alternate	23-1261 Restoration	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Six Barrier Corrections in Lower Chiwawa Tributaries	$500,000	$3,194,753	
16	Alternate	23-1213 Planning	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Nason Creek Restoration and Infrastructure Relocation	$212,499	$37,501	
17	Alternate	23-1214 Planning	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Mission Creek Barriers Final Design	$62,152	$10,968	
18	Alternate	23-1285 Planning	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Channel Migration Zone 12 Side Channel Adaptive Management	$187,543		
19	Alternate	23-1288 Planning	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Peshastin Creek River Mile 8.8 Conceptual Design	$206,675	$36,477	
20	Alternate	23-1284 Restoration	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Beaver Creek Barrier Correction Implementation	$36,121	$438,745	
21	Alternate	23-1278 Restoration	Chelan County Natural Resources Department Eagle Creek Lowest Four Barrier Corrections	$213,859	$1,211,865	
			Total	**$9,539,164**	**$19,413,975**	**$3,858,163**
			Remaining			**$0**

Washington Coast Salmon Recovery Region

Regional Allocation	**$2,201,100**
2022 Supplemental	**$785,825**
Total Funding	**$2,986,925**

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$855,217**
2022 Supplemental	**$21,157**
Total Funding	**$876,374**

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity						
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1071 Restoration	Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force Damon Creek at Kirkpatrick Road Fish Passage Construction	$237,059	$2,987,059	$237,059
2		23-1113 Planning	Grays Harbor County Chenois Creek at Chenois Valley Road Fish Passage Design	$120,802	$21,318	$120,802
3		23-1072 Restoration	Lewis Conservation District Mill Creek River Mile 4.5 Planting Implementation	$117,300	$40,000	$117,300
4		23-1137 Restoration	Lewis County Public Works Department Lucas Creek Tributary Mile Post 4.39-Fish Passage Construction	$376,150	$1,045,798	$376,150
5	Alternate	23-1141 Acquisition	Heernett Environmental Foundation Cozy Valley Creek Kimball Acquisition	$114,750	$20,250	
6	Alternate	23-1104 Planning	Lewis County Public Works Department Allen Creek at Rush Fish Passage Design	$174,467		

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity						
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
	Partially Funded	23-1124 Planning	Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Patton Creek-Willapa Passage and Restoration Design[25]	$251,500		$25,063
			Total	**$1,392,028**	**$4,114,425**	**$876,374**
			Remaining			**$0**

[25]This project is in the Willapa Bay Lead Entity.

North Pacific Coast Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$446,946**
2022 Supplemental	**$450,152**
Total Funding	**$897,098**

North Pacific Coast Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1		23-1134 Restoration	Wild Salmon Center Cedar Creek Barrier-Wilhelm Culvert	$319,288	$56,665	$319,288
2		23-1055 Planning Restoration	Clallam Conservation District Hermison Culvert Replacement Project	$140,219	$82,332	$140,219
3		23-1148 Restoration	Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition Goodman Creek Large Woody Material Placement Phase 2	$317,537	$56,037	$317,537
4	Partially Funded	23-1140 Restoration	10 000 Years Institute Upper Hoh Homestead Habitat Restoration	$168,624	$32,500	$120,054
			Total	**$945,668**	**$227,534**	**$897,098**
			Remaining			**$0**

Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation	**$433,254**
2022 Supplemental	**$314,516**
Total Funding	**$747,770**

Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity						
Rank	**Alternate or Partially Funded**	**Project Number and Type**	**Grant Applicant and Project Name**	**Grant Request**	**Match**	**Total Proposed Award**
1		23-1125 Restoration	The Nature Conservancy Copalis River Fish Passage and Road Decommission	$78,148	$13,825	$78,148
2		23-1126 Restoration	Trout Unlimited Inc. Donkey Creek Tributary Fish Passage Project Phase 2	$479,722	$90,000	$479,722
	Partially Funded	23-1124 Planning	Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Patton Creek-Willapa Passage and Restoration Design[26]	$251,500		$189,900
			Total	**$809,370**	**$103,825**	**$747,770**
			Remaining			**$0**

[26]This project is in the Willapa Bay Lead Entity.

Willapa Bay Lead Entity

Salmon Allocation **$465,683**

Willapa Bay Lead Entity						
Rank	Alternate or Partially Funded	Project Number and Type	Grant Applicant and Project Name	Grant Request	Match	Total Proposed Award
1		23-1016 Planning	Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce South-Greenhead-Bear Confluence Preliminary	$169,652		$169,652
2		23-1147 Planning	Pacific Conservation District Ritzman Robertson Road Fish Barrier	$240,000		$240,000
3		23-1149 Monitoring	Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Rue Creek Remote Site Incubation Smolt Study	$49,980	$8,820	$49,980
4	Partially Funded	23-1124 Planning	Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group Patton Creek-Willapa Passage and Restoration Design	$251,500		$6,051
5	Alternate	23-1224 Planning	Ducks Unlimited Inc. North Willapa Bay Wildlife Area Floodplain Reconnection[27]	$154,954		
6	Alternate	23-1048 Planning	Sea Resources Government Road Estuary Culvert Replacement	$256,000		
			Total	**$1,122,086**	**$8,820**	**$465,683**
			Remaining			**$0**

[27]This project also will receive $189,900 from the Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity and $25,063 from the Chehalis Basin Lead Entity for funding of $221,014.

Attachment 7: Project Descriptions

Hood Canal Salmon Recovery Region

Hood Canal Coordinating Council Lead Entity

Great Peninsula Conservancy **Grant Request: $377,800**
Acquiring the Johnson Creek Estuary

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant buy thirteen acres of Johnson Creek estuary in Seabeck. The land includes extensive tidelands, an armored shoreline, and a historic pocket estuary. The historic extent of the estuary is behind a rock bulkhead and has been altered into a series of three ponds fed by Johnson Creek. Future phases will restore estuarine function. Located a half-mile from Big Beef Estuary, the estuary is expected to provide excellent rearing and feeding habitat for juvenile Hood Canal summer chum, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and other salmon species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1067)

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $1,073,839**
Acquiring Union River Wetlands

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to buy and conserve up to 30 acres of wetlands in the Union River estuary near Belfair. The Union River watershed is surrounded by major roads and residential developments and many human-built barriers have led to wetland loss. The purchase will expand the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Union Wildlife area to 700 acres of protected estuary, freshwater wetlands, and forested floodplain. Juvenile Hood Canal summer chum salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, rely on the sub-estuary and the complex shallow channels found there. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1064)

Jefferson Land Trust **Grant Request: $333,713**
Conserving and Restoring Lower Chimacum Creek

The Jefferson Land Trust and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to buy and restore more than two acres of Chimacum Creek and its forested banks, in Port Hadlock. Once, but no longer, home to Hood Canal summer chum

salmon, the lower Chimacum Creek has been a conservation priority of many partners for the past thirty years and nearly 150 acres near the river's start have been protected. Buying the two acres will fill gaps. Two of the properties include steep slopes that are eroding and will be stabilized by tree and shrub planting and removal of invasive species. The third property will be conserved by a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, to protect more than 500 feet of in-stream habitat. The overall goal of the project is to protect and restore land near a growing urban area and eliminate risk to recovering spawning habitat for summer chum salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1065)

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $136,772**
Designing and Restoring a Duckabush River Oxbow

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to complete a design and restore fish habitat in the Duckabush Oxbow Wetlands and Preserve, which is along the Duckabush River, about one mile from a U.S. Route 101 causeway. This the third and final phase of an effort to improve habitat for salmon species in the preserve. The salmon enhancement group will remove fill from five areas in the oxbow channel and historic floodplain to connect the channel and wetlands to a side channel during high flows. The work will promote a more natural movement of sediment, benefitting spawning habitat downstream. Additionally, reestablishing the side channel and improving the river's ability to reach its floodplain will decrease the speed of the river during high-water events. A slower river will reduce the amount of salmon redds (or nests) washed out and destroyed, improving salmon survival rates. The river is used by chum salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1063)

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $249,760**
Designing Restoration of the Little Quilcene Estuarine Delta

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to complete a conceptual design for the large-scale and comprehensive restoration of Little Quilcene River's estuarine delta. This project will result in creation of three design alternatives. The proposed restoration will aim to restore large amounts of estuarine and freshwater habitat and reduce barriers to upstream fish migration. Elements that will be considered in the development of the conceptual design include removing part of the south levee, construction of a new river channel that meanders through a historic floodplain and

estuary into Quilcene Bay, building distributary and tidal channels, reconnecting salt marsh habitat, adding large woody materials to create more varied habitat, and planting the riverbanks to shade the water. The river is used by Hood Canal summer chum salmon and Puget Sound steelhead trout, which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as migrating juvenile Puget Sound Chinook salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1061)

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $209,539**
Removing Knotweed and Enhancing Riverbanks

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to survey and treat invasive knotweeds and replant areas in eight river basins with the goal of restoring the structure and function of native plant communities along the waterways. Planting trees and bushes along a waterway shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The rivers are used by chum salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23 1068)

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $66,602**
Caring for Riverbank Plants

Th Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to add plants and control noxious and invasive weeds along four rivers. The work is meant to ensure survival of the plantings in these restored areas. Work will be done along the Dewatto, Little Quilcene, Tahuya, and Union Rivers. Planting trees and bushes along a waterway shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The rivers are used by chum salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1069)

Jefferson County **Grant Request: $218,428**
Developing a Restoration Plan the Lower Dosewallips River

Jefferson County, working with other partners, will use this grant to assess habitat on 300 acres of the lower Dosewallips River floodplain and estuary, 200 acres of near-shore,

and 3.8 miles of shorelines. In addition, the County will update channel migration zone risks and sea-level and climate impact projections, survey vegetation, and run a hydrologic model across a range of river flows. The County will discuss the work with the public and then develop a restoration plan, a phased acquisition strategy, and recommendations for future actions. The river is used by Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead trout, 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. (23-1062)

Alternate

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe **Grant Request: $680,000**
Designing Restoration of Port Gamble Bay Near-shore

The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe will use this grant to complete restoration designs and permitting for a project to restore the near-shore areas of the Port Gamble embayment on the east side of Hood Canal. The future restoration will remove the shoreline armor and change the beach slope to improve natural processes. A restored shoreline will enhance spawning areas used by the fish salmon eat, increase eelgrass growth to give salmon better places to grow and hide from predators, and increase the growth and survival of salmon heading to the ocean. The area is used by Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by Pacific herring and other fish salmon eat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1060)

Lower Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region

Klickitat County Lead Entity

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation **Grant Request: $500,000**
Restoring the Klickitat River Floodplain Connection

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to remove about 650 feet of the Bureau of Indian Affairs 32 Road (Howard Lake Road) and two bridges spanning the Klickitat River to increase water flow to about forty acres of floodplain. In addition, the tribe will excavate side-channel inlets and add logjams, other wood materials, and boulders to the area. Adding logjams to the water creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The work will increase the types of habitat available to steelhead trout, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1195)

Columbia Land Trust **Grant Request: $150,000**
Enhancing the Upper Rattlesnake Creek Floodplain

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to improve floodplain habitat along a 1.2-mile reach of upper Rattlesnake Creek, 13.5 miles north of the town of White Salmon. The land trust will place thirty-five wood structures at thirteen locations, fall alders into the floodplain, and plant trees in the area. Adding trees and wood structures to the water creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, they change the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. Planting trees in the floodplain will shade the water, keeping it cool for fish. The trees also will drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the tree roots keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The work will increase the creek's flow into the floodplain and side channels, slow the water during storms, and hold water in the upper watershed later into the year. Finally, the land trust will remove a quarter-mile of old irrigation pipe that could pollute the creek's floodplain. The work will increase the quantity and quality of spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead trout, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more

information and photographs of this project. (23-1216)

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation **Grant Request: $500,000**
Conserving the Lower White Salmon River

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to buy and conserve 275 acres, including 3.3 miles of the White Salmon River. PacificCorp is selling the land as part of its divestment from the White Salmon basin now that Condit Dam has been removed. The tribe's acquisition will protect and conserve the abundance and accessibility of high-quality spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1217)

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Request: $149,737**
Developing a Model to Analyze Columbia River Chum Salmon Numbers

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to develop a statistical analysis that will fill a critical gap in the monitoring and evaluation of Columbia River chum salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The department will update a model it is building for Columbia River steelhead. Once built, the analysis will allow the department to leverage up to twenty years of data for chum salmon that has been collected to generate unbiased estimates for the six of the ten populations in Washington. Without the analysis, the department lacks information to measure the status of the populations and their progress toward recovery and the success of restoration actions. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1169)

Cowlitz Indian Tribe **Grant Request: $547,358**
Placing Logjams in the Lower East Fork Grays River

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

"threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1194)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $276,745**
Developing a Restoration Strategy for the Green River

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to identify limiting factors for salmon and steelhead in the Green River and develop a restoration strategy to address these factors. The group will be looking at the area between the confluence of Cascade and Shultz Creeks including the confluence of Elk Creek. The river is used by Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all 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. (23-1153)

Cowlitz Indian Tribe **Grant Request: $298,100**
Designing the Floodplain Reconnection of Salmon Creek

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to create a preliminary design for a project to reconnect the Salmon Creek floodplain and increase fish passage to ponded water in the Gordy Jolma Family Natural Area, previously known as The Cedars on Salmon Creek golf course. The tribe and Clark County, which owns the former golf course, will assess the site conditions, water flow, and infrastructure, and then develop a restoration design to increase floodplain connectivity and habitat complexity to benefit Salmon Creek populations of Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all 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. (23-1151)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $349,600**
Removing a Barrier to Fish Passage in Schoolhouse Creek

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group, along with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, will use this grant to replace a barrier to fish passage under Schoolhouse Road, notch a water intake dam, and plant the floodplain with shade-tolerant trees. Planting trees along a waterway shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The creek is used by Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all 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. (23-1154)

Wahkiakum Conservation District **Grant Request: $169,500**
Restoring Thadbar Creek

The Wahkiakum Conservation District will use this grant to restore the banks of Thadbar Creek, a tributary of the Grays River, from its confluence with the Grays upstream about a half-mile. The creek is used by chum and coho salmon, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1129)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Request: $340,000**
Creating the Eagle Island Chum Channel

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to build a side channel off the North Fork Lewis River to create more spawning and rearing habitat of chum salmon. The channel will be on department-owned land. The number of lower Columbia River chum returning to the basin has been less than fifty adults annually, and the species is 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. (23-1206)

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership **Grant Request: $282,097**
Designing Cold-water Refuge in the East Fork Lewis River

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will use this grant to develop preliminary designs for projects to improve cold-water refuge areas for salmon and steelhead at four locations in the East Fork Lewis River. Three of the locations have cold water throughout the summer but limited access to fish. At these locations, the partnership will consider actions to increase access and habitat quality, such as excavating the river channel, placing wood in the river, removing barriers, and planting the riverbanks. The fourth location is a side channel with potential for lowering water temperature and the partnership will consider actions such as grading the channel, installing large woody materials, importing spawning gravel, and planting the banks. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1145)

Cowlitz Indian Tribe — Grant Request: $178,324
Designing Restoration of Hardy Creek Reach 5

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to create a preliminary design to restore natural processes in nearly a half-mile of Hardy Creek Reach Five in the Pierce National Wildlife Refuge. The restoration project will open up a portion of the creek that is constricted, restoring floodplain connection, habitat complexity, and habitat-forming processes throughout the reach. The creek is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1193)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group — Grant Request: $206,527
Designing Salmon Creek Restoration

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to design restoration projects at Camp Singing Wind, which contains about one mile of Salmon Creek, four spring-fed tributaries, and a large, connected wetland. Salmon Creek is one of the largest tributaries of the Cowlitz River downstream of the reservoirs. The design will set the stage for watershed-wide restoration of Salmon Creek during the next decade. The creek is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, as well as Pacific lamprey. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1156)

Cowlitz Conservation District — Grant Request: $316,370
Opening Fish Passage in a Cowlitz River Tributary

The Cowlitz Conservation District will use this grant to open fish passage in a Cowlitz River tributary. The work will improve access to nearly a half-mile of habitat. The stream is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1130)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group — Grant Request: $228,161
Improving Mason Creek's Banks and Floodplain

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to design and implement a project to restore 2.5 miles of upper Mason Creek. The fish enhancement group will place 250 log structures and beaver dam analogs in the creek as well as plant the creek banks with 27,000 plants. Adding log structures to the water slows the water

and creates riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. Planting creekbanks shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The roots of the plants also keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. While considered one of the more productive tributaries for salmon in this region, Mason Creek often runs dry in the summer, stranding fish. The project is expected to improve habitat so it can hold enough water to restore year-round flow. The creek is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as Pacific Lamprey and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1155)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $96,020**
Enhancing the Nutrients and Riverbanks of Four Rivers

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to place fish carcasses and plants along 100 miles of the East Fork Lewis, Kalama, Washougal, and Toutle Rivers. Planting trees along a river shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The trees also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the tree roots keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. Placing hatchery salmon carcasses along the river provides food for juvenile fish and fertilizes the surrounding area, including the new willow trees. The rivers are used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1157)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Request: $170,000**
Assessing Chum Salmon Spawning Grounds in the Cowlitz River

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to assess chum salmon in the Cowlitz River. Staff will review maps to identify likely locations and landowners, visit the sites to collect data and document habitat types, chose sites with the highest likelihood of success for more intense evaluation, and collect information on water temperatures and groundwater depths during several years. Chum salmon is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1207)

Cowlitz Conservation District — Grant Request: $68,763
Designing a Bridge over Rock Creek

The Cowlitz Conservation District will use this grant to design a bridge span over Rock Creek, a tributary to the Toutle River. Two culverts, which are large structures (often pipes) that carry streams under roads, failed and the resulting mudflow scoured Rock Creek. Cowlitz County has installed a temporary bridge and is designing a permanent bridge and this grant will contribute to that design. The creek is used by chum and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all 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. (23-1131)

Lewis County — Grant Request: $495,750
Designing Restoration of a Blue Creek Tributary

The Lewis County Public Works Department will use this grant to design projects to restore fish passage in a Blue Creek tributary. The County will develop preliminary designs for modifications of weirs and dams associated with the Cowlitz Trout Hatchery, removal of a bridge, placement of large woody materials in the tributary, and grading of the channel. The County also might develop designs for projects to create a side channel to redirect flows away from roadside ditches and replacement of corrugated metal culverts (large pipes and other structures that carry streams under roads) to carry additional water flows from side channels. The restoration work would happen in an area about one mile upstream of the Spencer Road Bridge. The tributary is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, 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. (23-1138)

Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region

Klickitat County Lead Entity

See projects under Lower Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region.

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board

Washington Water Trust **Grant Request: $234,210**
Buying Teanaway River Water Rights

The Washington Water Trust will use this grant to buy water rights for the Teanaway River. This is the latest phase in a ten-year strategy launched in 2016 to restore twelve cubic feet per second of water flow to the Teanaway River, the highest priority steelhead and salmon tributary in the Yakima River basin. The water trust will target willing owners of pre-1905 water rights that are available in all but the driest years to augment the river and protect it from having too little water and too warm of water in the future. Adding flow to the Teanaway River will increase the usable area for fish. Previous purchases were critical in helping the Teanaway sustain water flows during the record-breaking 2015 drought. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1197)

Kittitas County **Grant Request: $672,426**
Designing and Implementing Restoration of the Yakima River

The Kittitas County Public Works Department and the Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to design and implement restoration of the Yakima River at the Yakima River RV Park. Work will include completing a preliminary design for a floodplain reconnection project, maintaining 31.5 acres of recently planted habitat along the river and floodplain, and planting 17 acres with cottonwood tree seeds. Together these activities build upon recent efforts to acquire more than 500 acres of floodplain and restore nearly 650 acres and nearly 4 miles of the Yakima River. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1053)

Kittitas Conservation Trust — Grant Request: $500,000
Restoring Gold Creek

The Kittitas Conservation Trust will use this grant to place logjams in Gold Creek, east of Snoqualmie Pass. The conservation trust will install twenty-eight logjams to reduce the duration and extent of summer dewatering and improve fish access to spawning and rearing habitats upstream. Adding logjams to the creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. This project is part of a larger restoration effort to restore habitat complexity in the creek to that found in the historic old-growth forest of the Gold Creek Valley. The creek is used by bull trout, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1220)

Benton County Conservation District — Grant Request: $648,638
Creating a Cool-water Pool in the Yakima River

The Benton Conservation District, in partnership with Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group, will use this grant to create a cool-water pool in the Yakima River at its confluence with Amon Creek. This will give migrating salmon and steelhead needed cold-water refuge in warm seasons. The conservation district will re-route 750 feet of Amon Creek from its present confluence to a natural, deeper hole downstream on the Yakima River. The conservation district also will plant the banks of the newly created channel and remove invasive Russian olive trees. The river and creek are used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act Creek, and by Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1168)

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation — Grant Request: $136,000
Designing Restoration of Upper Toppenish Creek

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to complete the design for a project to place large woody materials in Toppenish Creek to increase habitat complexity. Adding woody materials to the creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The woody materials

will be placed in a reach of Toppenish Creek upstream from Willy Dick Creek. This reach has low amounts of woody materials because of past logging and road building activities. The creek is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1209)

Alternate

Kittitas County Conservation District **Grant Request: $349,999**
Cooke Creek River Passage and Screening

The Kittitas County Conservation District will work with private landowners on Cooke Creek, a tributary to Cherry Creek, at the southwest border of the City of Kittitas, to address two fish passage barriers and four unscreened gravity irrigation diversions. Work will include design and installation fish screens for diverted irrigation water, correction of the fish passage barriers, and on-farm irrigation upgrades. Implementation of the project will restore access to 0.76 mile of habitat to benefit Endangered Species Act-listed steelhead, Chinook and coho salmon, and a suite of resident fishes in Cooke Creek. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1188)

Alternate

Trout Unlimited Inc. **Grant Request: $185,637**
Cold Creek Passage Design at Keechelus Lake

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to develop preliminary designs to restore fish passage where Cold Creek flows into Keechelus Lake, east of Snoqualmie Pass. Installed by a railroad in the early 1900s, the culvert is a complete upstream barrier to fish passage and likely a seasonal downstream barrier. When constructed in a future phase, the project will reconnect about 2.75 miles of habitat for bull trout, westslope cutthroat trout, other resident species, and eventually sockeye salmon and other anadromous fish planned for reintroduction above the Keechelus Dam. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1200)

Alternate

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $150,512**
Little Naches Tributaries Large Wood-Design and Permit

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to design and permit a project to increase large woody material in key tributaries of the Little Naches

watershed. The U.S. Forest Service stream surveys identified seven tributaries of the Little Naches River that do not have adequate large woody material, spawning/rearing habitat, and off channel habitat complexity. The tributaries include Bear Creek, Blowout Creek, Crow Creek, Sand Creek, Pile Up Creek, Quartz Creek, and Middle Fork Little Naches River. This project will design wood placement, contract for the cultural resources assessment needed for wood harvest, and designate timber units on the national forest to supply wood. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1190)

Alternate

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation **Grant Request: $663,855**
Restoring the Tieton River

The Yakima Nation will use this grant to reconnect the Tieton River to its floodplain and side-channel. The tribe will excavate an 880-foot side-channel inlet to reconnect 2,280 feet of abandoned side-channel for adult spawning and juvenile rearing habitat; place excavated material in a bar to provide an added source of spawning materials to the river, place boulders in the river to form a pool, raise the water surface level to direct water to a side channel and keep gravels upstream, install a logjam to create a pool and split the river's flow into the side channel inlet, move the Tieton River nature trail to enable floodplain inundation, and plant trees along the riverbank to increase tree cover over the new side channel inlet and throughout the floodplain. This project will benefit habitat, increasing the channel length, number of pools, usable area for fish, and floodplain inundation. Sediment retention in the river will be increased due to the lowered velocities and reduced sediment transport capacity. The goal of the project is to improve habitat in this section of the Tieton River for Endangered Species Act listed steelhead spawning and rearing. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1150)

Alternate

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation **Grant Request: $200,000**
Mid-Satus Creek Watershed Riparian Assessment

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to assess riparian forest conditions of 2,000 acres in the Satus Creek watershed, which is threatened by grazing, land-use driven channel instability, and a decline in the keystone species black cottonwood. Satus Creek is a tributary of the Columbia and Yakima Rivers and is contained within the Yakama Reservation. This is the lowermost steelhead-bearing stream in the Yakima basin, draining 500 square miles in the project reach, mostly of arid shrub-steppe. The

assessment will support the development of a restoration action plan and provide a baseline for future monitoring of riparian forest condition. With funding, staff will collect and synthesize field and remote sensing data for key metrics of riparian forest condition, including cover, composition, density, vigor, age structure, growth rate, and reproductive function; identify the extent, timing, and drivers of system degradation; identify two to three early action riparian restoration strategies and opportunities; develop a cost-effective riparian monitoring plan to track riparian condition; produce draft and final reports, and associated data sets, clearly describing the findings. The strong links between riparian forest integrity and aquatic habitat quality for steelhead and lamprey drive the need for this project. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1210)

Northeast Washington Salmon Recovery Region

Kalispel Tribe-Pend Oreille Lead Entity

Kalispel Tribe of Indians **Grant Request: $350,000**
Designing Restoration of Flume Creek

The Kalispel Tribe of Indians will use this grant to produce a final design for the restoration of more than a half-mile of Flume Creek, which is used by native westslope cutthroat trout. The design will address habitat disconnection and degradation, both of which are inhibiting native trout and in some cases helping non-native fish thrive. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1215)

Chelan County **Grant Request: $61,636**
Monitoring Floodplain Restoration Effectiveness

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to study juvenile salmon species' response to habitat restoration in two subbasins of the upper Columbia River. The County will look at fish response to restoration in activated, off-channel areas in floodplains at high flows. The County will quantify how salmon species use different habitat types in floodplains, what environmental factors describe the habitat requirements of various life stages and species, and how Chinook salmon fry densities grow over time in both activated floodplains and unrestored reaches. The County also will classify floodplain designs, measure the number and sizes of disconnected pools over time, and identify the numbers, species, and life stages of stranded fish to provide information on how to minimize stranding in future floodplain reconnection efforts. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as "endangered" under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead trout, which is a species listed as "threatened." Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1283)

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Region

Green, Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9) Lead Entity

Kent **Grant Request: $255,319**

Developing Restoration Alternatives for the Lower Green River

The City of Kent will use this grant to complete a feasibility study and analyze alternatives for restoring salmon habitat along 0.8 mile of the lower Green River. The City wants to restore the floodplain function after a levee was set back, create a greater variety of habitat types, and slow the water for juvenile fish along the heavily developed lower Green River. In addition, the City wants to control invasive plants along the river and replant a buffer along the river to provide shade for the water. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1052)

King County **Grant Request: $410,000**

Restoring the Green River in Flaming Geyer State Park

The King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to partially restore wetland and tributary habitat on the western bank of Flaming Geyser State Park, place logs in a side channel, and plant creek banks and a wetland with native trees and shrubs. Adding logs creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. Planting trees and bushes along a shoreline helps shade the water, keeping it cool 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 area is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, 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. (22-1044)

Tukwila **Grant Request: $340,000**

Buying Land in the Nelsen Side Channel

The City of Tukwila will use this grant to buy 1.46 acres on the lower Green River to expand a restoration project there. For the original project, the City will set back a levee, reconnecting the Green River to a historic channel, improve habitat in the river, and create one acre of off-channel habitat. Off channel habitat is critical for young fish so they rest, especially during high water flows where the water can push them into the marine environment too quickly. Future habitat improvements will include placing wood structures in the river and planting the riverbanks. Planting trees and bushes along a riverbank helps shade the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Adding woody structures like 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 work will create rare, off-channel rearing habitat and restore a forest along the Nelson side channel of the Green River. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1115)

Alternate

Tukwila **Grant Request: $300,000**

Improving the Nelsen Side Channel of the Green River

The City of Tukwila, in partnership with DirtCorps, will use this grant to secure permits and complete preliminary designs for a project to reconnect the Green River to a historic channel in the lower Green River, improve habitat in the river, and create one acre of off-channel habitat. Off channel habitat is critical for young fish so they rest, especially during high water flows where the water can push them into the marine environment too quickly. Future habitat improvements will include placing wood structures in the river and planting the riverbanks. Planting trees and bushes along a riverbank helps shade the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Adding woody structures like logs to a stream creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the river, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the riverbed, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logs change the flow of the river, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The river is used by Chinook

salmon and steelhead trout, 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. (22-1047)

Island County Lead Entity

Skagit River System Cooperative **Grant Request: $276,180**
Designing Restoration of Crescent Harbor Creek

The Skagit River System Cooperative, in partnership with the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, will use this grant to assess the feasibility and develop a preliminary design for a project to restore the middle reach of Crescent Harbor Creek to a more natural, sinuous alignment. Located just upstream of the West Crescent Harbor Road crossing, the stream runs through an extensive ditch network, which has reduced floodplain connectivity and simplified the habitat in the creek. Completed restoration at the site will restore fish access and a natural alignment to nearly a mile of the creek, will restore floodplain and wetland connectivity, and will diversity the habitat types in the creek. The creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1081)

Whidbey Camano Land Trust **Grant Request: $1,878,000**
Removing Shoreline Armor

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust will use this grant to buy 175 acres, including more than a half-mile of shoreline and bluff, and to remove a beach house and shoreline armoring along Admiralty Bay. Armoring, which can include boulders or concrete bulkheads, causes waves to remove the fine gravel and plants on the shore that salmon rely on for food and spawning. The bay is used by Chinook and chum salmon, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (22-1085)

Kennedy-Goldsborough Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

Mason Conservation District **Grant Request: $168,300**
Restoring Creek Banks

The Mason Conservation District will use this grant to restore the banks of Cranberry, Deer, Goldsborough, and Mill Creeks. The conservation district will plant six acres along the creeks, maintain twenty acres, treat knotweed on four acres, and restore more than a mile of streams. Knotweed is a highly invasive plant that displaces native plant communities, accelerates bank erosion, and degrades salmon spawning habitat by clogging the stream. Replanting the creekbanks with native plants will shade the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The creeks are used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1076)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $105,150**
Planting the West Oakland Bay Estuary

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to plant salt marsh plants in the west and south lobes of west Oakland Bay. The salmon enhancement group will buy native salt marsh plants, collect and sow seeds, establish nurse-beds, plant plugs or transplants, install geese exclusion fencing, and other related tasks. The bay is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1088)

Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Lead Entity

Seattle Public Utilities **Grant Request: $1,000,000**
Conserving Cedar River Floodplain

Seattle Public Utilities will use this grant to buy twenty acres, known as the Sherry parcel, of the Royal Arch reach of the Cedar River. The utility already has purchased about thirty acres on the right-bank of the river both upstream and downstream of this land. The

parcel is one of only two remaining large parcels in the mile-long reach. The purchase will increase the amount of publicly preserved--and now increasingly restored habitat—in the area. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1120)

King County **Grant Request: $220,000**
Designing Restoration of the Cedar River

The King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to prepare final design documents and restore the left bank of the lower Cedar River near the mouth of the Taylor Creek reach. The County will reconnect up to sixteen acres of the Cedar River to its floodplain and remove up to 600 feet of the Rutledge Johnson levee, to restore natural river processes. The project will improve salmon habitat and function. Currently, habitat for juvenile fish largely is confined to the river through this reach, which has less slow-moving water for rearing and resting. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1122)

Alternate

Mountains to Sound Greenway **Grant Request: $1,094,854**
Restoring Issaquah Creek

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust will complete final designs and permitting and construct the second phase 2 of a habitat restoration project along more than a mile of Issaquah Creek in Lake Sammamish State Park. The creek is incised in many locations, with moderate to high flows confined to a primary, single-thread channel without resting areas. The goal of the project is to restore natural habitat forming processes to improve juvenile rearing habitat for Chinook and other salmonids by connecting the creek to its floodplain, increasing off-channel habitat, improving in-stream habitat diversity and complexity by adding large wood, and enhancing riparian buffers and wetland habitat. The Greenway Trust will install an interpretive sign to educate park visitors about ways they can support salmon recovery. In addition to advancing recovery of Chinook salmon, this project seeks to increase salmon populations to feed endangered Southern Resident orcas. When all phases of the overall restoration project are funded and constructed, more than 6,500 feet of Issaquah Creek in Lake Sammamish

State Park will be restored. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1103)

Nisqually River Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

Nisqually Land Trust **Grant Awarded: $74,642**
Conserving the Nisqually River at McKenna Reach

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to conserve twelve acres along the Nisqually River. The land includes a quarter-mile along the Pierce County side of the McKenna reach, a forested bluff with old-growth Douglas-fir and western red cedar, and a side-channel that runs along the toe of the slope. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (21-1030)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $215,330**
Restoring Lower Ohop Creek

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to design and install wood and habitat structures in lower Ohop Creek, from State Route 7 downstream to near the boundary of Nisqually Land Trust and state park lands. Lower Ohop Creek has suffered from incision, disconnecting the creek from its floodplain. Adding woody materials to the water creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1018)

North Olympic Peninsula Lead Entity for Salmon

North Olympic Land Trust **Grant Request: $1,824,264**
Conserving the Elwha River

The North Olympic Land Trust will use this grant to buy and restore about thirty-one acres along the Elwha River. The purchase will protect some of the best salmon habitat in the Elwha River watershed by preventing floodplain modification and habitat

degradation or loss. Much of the land is in the floodplain, river meander zone, or at high risk of erosion. The land trust will decommission almost all the infrastructure and replant the riverbanks with native species. Planting trees and bushes along a river shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The land trust will allow public access for hiking and sports fishing. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead and bull trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1114)

Skagit Land Trust **Grant Request: $1,360,000**
Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition

The Skagit Land Trust will use this grant to by seventy-five acres of floodplain in the Skagit River watershed to conserve high-quality habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1183)

Alternate

North Olympic Salmon Coalition **Grant Request: $350,000**
Designing Improvements to Wright's Creek Fish Passage

The North Olympic Salmon Coalition will use this grant to design replacement of a Clallam County culvert and the Makah Tribal Hatchery water intake/diversion facility on Wright's Creek, a tributary to the Hoko River. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and often block fish migration. A tributary to Wright's Creek just upstream of the county culvert and downstream of the hatchery diversion is too steep because of road fill placement to allow fish access to excellent off-channel rearing habitat. The project will open more than a quarter-mile of habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1073)

Puyallup and Chambers Watershed Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

Pierce County **Grant Request: $450,000**
Restoring Fennel Creek

The Pierce County Planning and Public Works Department will use this grant to reconnect Fennel Creek to its floodplain and plant the creek banks, immediately upstream from its confluence with the Puyallup River. The County will excavate large

notches in eight locations in the flood berm on the creek's right bank, allowing the creek to reconnect to its floodplain. The County also will remove three small culverts (pipes or other structures that carry the creek under roads) and install beaver dam analogs in an unnamed creek to improve fish passage and water retention. The County will grade the area, remove weeds, plant the creek banks, and place large woody materials in the area. Planting trees and bushes along the creek shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. Adding woody materials to the water creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. It changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. Finally, the County will maintain previously restored areas in the floodplain between Fennel Creek and the Puyallup River by laying gravel and planting native plants. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1093)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $199,120**
Designing Restoration of the White River

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to design restoration of the White River, upstream of Mud Mountain Dam and the West Fork White River. The future restoration project will remove nearly two miles of road from the floodplain and place logjams and individual pieces of wood across twenty-two miles of river. The work will reconnect the river with its floodplain and create forested bars and complex channel networks there. The floodplain had been damaged by past land-use practices of stripping forests from the valley bottom. Adding logjams to the water creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, logjams change the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1096)

San Juan County Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

Friends of the San Juans **Grant Request: $79,585**
Designing Restoration Near Ferry Terminal

The Friends of the San Juans will use this grant to complete final designs and get permits for a project to restore a beach next to the Lopez ferry terminal. The area has roads, a water line, a decades old landslide, large rock armoring, and an old concrete boat launch ramp. The restoration project will consider realignment of the access road and waterline, unburying more than 2,000 square feet of beach, removing the rock and concrete debris from the beach, and replanting the area and lower bluff. The area is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1270)

Friends of the San Juans **Grant Request: $150,019**
Eastsound Waterfront Beach Restoration

The Friends of the San Juans will use this grant to remove armor in Eastsound Waterfront Park on Orcas Island. Armor is a barrier, such as a seawall, large boulders, or riprap, placed on shorelines to prevent erosion. It damages salmon habitat because it disrupts the natural erosion that supplies sand and gravel to beaches, where salmon and the animals they eat live. Removing the armor will improve natural processes and the beach and backshore habitat for spawning and rearing forage fish, migrating juvenile salmon, and other species that use the near-shore. The area is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1271)

San Juan County **Grant Request: $64,878**
Restoring the Weeks Point Way Shoreline

San Juan County Environmental Stewardship will use this grant to restore the Weeks Point Way Public Beach, on the northeast shore of Fisherman Bay on Lopez Island. The County will remove the shoreline armor and restore a natural shoreline. Armor is a barrier, such as a seawall, large boulders, or riprap, placed on shorelines to prevent erosion. It damages salmon habitat because it disrupts the natural erosion that supplies sand and gravel to beaches, where salmon and the animals they eat live. The work

would improve spawning and rearing habitat for forage fish, juvenile salmon species headed to the ocean, and other species including adult salmon. In addition, the work will improve the public's access and enjoyment of the beach and adjacent park. The park is popular with the local community and provides access to the shoreline for non-motorized boats. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1173)

North Olympic Land Trust **Grant Request: $1,824,264**
Conserving the Elwha River

The North Olympic Land Trust will use this grant to buy and restore about thirty-one acres along the Elwha River. The purchase will protect some of the best salmon habitat in the Elwha River watershed by preventing floodplain modification and habitat degradation or loss. Much of the land is in the floodplain, river meander zone, or at high risk of erosion. The land trust will decommission almost all the infrastructure and replant the riverbanks with native species. Planting trees and bushes along a river shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The land trust will allow public access for hiking and sports fishing. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead and bull trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1114)

Wild Fish Conservancy **Grant Request: $135,000**
Designing Restoration of Grant Creek

The Wild Fish Conservancy will use this grant to complete an assessment and preliminary designs for a project to restore the banks and in-stream habitat of Grant Creek at its confluence with the North Fork Stillaguamish River, northeast of Arlington. The creek confluence lacks large woody materials. The future restoration project would place wood in the creek. Adding wood to the creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The work will improve spawning, rearing, and migration habitat and high-flow resting areas. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho

salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1116)

Skagit Watershed Council

Skagit Land Trust **Grant Request: $1,360,000**
Skagit Watershed Habitat Acquisition

Acquisition of floodplain properties for protection of high-quality habitat using 2023 SWC Protection Strategy Update; Tier 1, 2, & 2S in SWC Strategy. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1183)

Skagit County **Grant Request: $458,263**
Mill Creek at South Skagit Highway Phase 1 Design

The Mill Creek Restoration Project - Phase 1 will design a new channel alignment and two new crossings on the South Skagit Highway. Due to substantial changes in the area since the completion of the 2015 report and the County's willingness to explore relocating the road out of the floodplain, we are proposing to re-examine the two preferred alternatives from the report, ensure they are still viable with new avulsion conditions, explore any other logical alternatives if not, select a preferred alternative, and complete preliminary design on a new channel and conceptual level of design on new crossing structures for Mill and Savage Creeks. This work will include stakeholder engagement with new property owners on the west of the project and a funding analysis. This project will benefit a multitude of species including Chinook. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1182)

Skagit County **Grant Request: $391,000**
Martin Slough Fish Passage Design

Skagit County will complete final design a new crossing on IL26 - Martin Slough. This proposal includes a Design Report and type, size, location report for the new crossing. This will include a high-level alternative analysis on a larger culvert, bridge, or prefabricated/modular bridge should the road become jeopardized. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1181)

Skagit River System Cooperative **Grant Request: $478,600**
Middle Skagit Riparian Restoration

This project contains a restoration and a planning component. The purpose of the restoration component is to control invasive species and restore native riparian

vegetation on 43.9 acres of floodplain and riparian buffer along the middle Skagit River and Grandy Creek. The planning component identifies future restoration activities by maintaining the Riparian Implementer's Workgroup. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1187)

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $150,000**
Collaborative Skagit Riparian Stewardship

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group will partner with numerous landowners to address vegetation management needs on eight restored properties throughout the Skagit River basin. The project will ensure the success of the previously revegetated riparian and floodplain areas by removing competing vegetation and controlling invasive species. This multi-agency partnership, where the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group stewards lands for conservation land owners across the Skagit Basin, has been ongoing and successful for many years. This project is expected to benefit Chinook, coho, chum, pink salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and cutthroat trout. This project will support the establishment of previously planted native trees and shrubs on approximately 121 acres of Tier 1 and Tier 2 priority areas, as defined in the Skagit Watershed Council's 2022 Strategic Approach. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1185)

Skagit River System Cooperative **Grant Request: $150,000**
Collaborative Skagit Riparian Stewardship

The Skagit River System Cooperative has partnered with numerous landowners to address vegetation management needs on seven properties throughout the Skagit River basin. The project will ensure the success of the previously revegetated riparian and floodplain areas by removing competing vegetation and controlling invasive species. This project is a companion project to 23-1185 completed by Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group. This multi-agency partnership, where the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and the Skagit River System Cooperative steward lands for conservation landowners across the Skagit Basin, has been ongoing and successful for many years. This project is expected to benefit Chinook, coho, chum, and pink salmon, bull trout, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1186)

Skagit River System Cooperative **Grant Request: $1,779,458**
Tenas Creek Final Design

The Tenas Creek Final design project will develop final designs to restore floodplain and channel migration processes in Tenas Creek, a tributary of the Suiattle River near mile

marker 8 along the Suiattle River Road (USFS Road 26). Designs will include removing an 800ft training dike and riprap and ~600ft of road prism, replacing an undersized bridge, and building additional bridge spans. Once constructed the outcome of the project will be a sustainable road orientation that accommodates floodplain and channel migration processes in the lower reach of Tenas Creek without constraint. This will restore important spawning and rearing habitat conditions for Suiattle River Spring Chinook, as well as steelhead, bull trout, coho, and pink salmon. The proposed project will also prevent a likely inevitable catastrophic washout of the Suiattle River Road. When the current training dike fails at its upstream extent, which it is already starting to do, the Suiattle River Road will probably be lost or seriously damaged. This road is an important access corridor for forest resources and resource interests, including tribal cultural use and recreation. This project will develop final designs and finalize permits to improve USFS infrastructure, restore floodplain function, and increase habitat complexity, benefiting adult and juvenile Chinook, pink, steelhead trout, and bull trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1128)

Alternate

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $219,000**
Upper Skagit Riparian Restoration

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to conduct riparian restoration in the Skagit River Watershed. This project will work with major landowners and partners such as the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Skagit County and the Skagit Land Trust, as well as with new community partners including private residents of Concrete, WA, to address riparian restoration needs in Tier 1 priority areas as defined in the Skagit Watershed Council's 2022 Strategic Approach. The primary restoration goal at all sites is to protect and restore functional riparian and floodplain forests. This project is expected to benefit Chinook, coho, chum, pink salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1184)

Snohomish Basin Lead Entity

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife **Grant Request: $500,000**
Spencer Island Estuary Restoration Project Final Design

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), seeks to fully restore estuarine habitat located on Spencer Island--a tidally influenced tidal marsh island located in the Snohomish delta. WDFW is

utilizing Federal aquatic ecosystem restoration funding authority through the USACE Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters (PSAW) program; of which $9M in Federal funding is appropriated and available as Federal cost-share for project costs, including design, permitting, and construction. The 'Design and Implementation' phase of a PSAW project is cost-shared between USACE and WDFW, with USACE responsible for 65% of project costs. WDFW seeks funding to cover the cost-share requirements for WDFW's portion of costs for the ' final design and implementation' phase of the project, which covers 65% design, 95% level design, permitting, contracting, and construction. Funding from this grant would go towards design and permitting costs, with other funding sources covering construction expenses. Specific process-based restoration objectives to be achieved with this final design include: (1) tidal channel formation and maintenance; (2) tidal flow; (3) distributary channel migration; (4) erosion and accretion of sediments; and (5) exchange of aquatic organisms. The primary habitat to be restored is tidally-influenced estuary marsh that will support all juvenile salmonids, primarily ESA listed Chinook salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1112)

Ducks Unlimited Inc. **Grant Request: $114,000**
Getchell Wetland Preliminary Design

Ducks Unlimited proposes the Getchell Wetland Project to plan restoration of tidal flooding to seven acres of floodplain forested wetland on private agricultural land at RM7 on the mainstem of the Snohomish River. Permit-ready Preliminary Designs per RCO manual 18 will be completed for an unrestricted connection between the river and a seven-acre wetland to restore floodplain hydrology and provide off-channel salmon habitat. The site is outside of the Ebey Island dike network. A broken tide-gate, likely fish barrier, delivers muted tidal flooding to agricultural ditches and into farm fields. The wetland is occupied by beaver but is usually isolated from the river because of the agricultural drainage network, natural levee, and a historic railroad grade. The project would design a better hydraulic connection between the river and the existing wetland separating it from the agricultural drainage. This project will plan the removal of obsolete and failing infrastructure, design process-based floodplain connections to an existing PSS/PFO wetland, and plan to re-establish necessary drainage infrastructure in a better location to minimize damage and maintenance ag drainage network. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1106)

Snohomish County **Grant Request: $373,490**
Skykomish River Knotweed Assessment and Treatment

This project will first assess levels of knotweed infestation in the Skykomish basin. Once the assessment is complete, SWM will begin treatment of knotweed infestations. Lastly, the project will re-vegetate areas where knotweed control has been achieved. The overall goal is to improve the health and function of riparian and floodplain vegetation. Treating invasive vegetation and restoring riparian habitat will benefit threatened Chinook, chum, coho, pink, steelhead, and bull trout. SWM will hire a contractor to perform a vegetation survey from the highest point possible on the NF Skykomish and the county line for the SF Skykomish. Survey work will identify and map knotweed infestations. If time/budget permit, surveys will also be done on the major and minor tributaries. Herbicide application is an approved and preferred method for the control of invasive knotweeds. Two systemic herbicides, glyphosate and imazapyr, are widely accepted in the weed control community as the most effective and environmentally safe products for chemical treatment of knotweed. SWM's Native Plant Program will oversee riparian planting activities for each site. Plants for revegetation sites are from SWM's Native Plant Nursery. Work will be completed by WCC, AmeriCorps, and contractors. Appropriate native species will be planted along the riparian corridor to re-establish or enhance riparian buffers. SWM will work with landowners and managers in partnership on this project for access and control work. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1110)

Sound Salmon Solutions **Grant Request: $301,109**
South Fork Skykomish Riparian Restoration

Sound Salmon Solutions (SSS) and King County Noxious Weed Control Program (KCNWP) will restore riparian habitat processes on the South Fork Skykomish River with a restoration project spanning RM 6.5 to 20 of the South Fork Skykomish River to address the degraded ecosystem and improve stream habitat conditions where salmonids spawn and rear. Our Goals: 1) Continued Invasive Removal and Survey: We anticipate transitioning the entirety of the project area riparian corridor to maintenance phase by 2025. KCNWCP will continue primary control of infestations from RM 6.5 to 20 by surveying, mapping, performing herbicide treatments of knotweed, landowner outreach, and permissions. 2) Native Plant Installation: Native trees and shrubs will be installed in five separate worksites spanning river miles 8.3 to 12, which have all had knotweed control for 4+ years. Replacement of knotweed with native riparian forest assemblages leads to long-term habitat improvement and will help prevent future invasive vegetation infestations. SSS will install over 15,000 trees and shrubs, across 7,590 feet of the riverbank effectively restoring a total of 21.57 acres of riparian corridor.

Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1111)

Mukilteo **Grant Request: $299,848**
Japanese Gulch Daylighting Final Design

The City of Mukilteo is seeking to daylight a portion of Japanese Gulch Creek where it meets the Puget Sound. 100% plans have been completed which would remove existing underground pipes and restore a natural stream bed for the terminus of the creek. The project would involve removing an existing 48" round concrete culvert that runs from the BNSF rail line to an outfall on the Puget Sound. This would be replaced with a fish passable culvert under 1st St and create a natural, open channel pocket estuary. Creation of an estuary will offer a habitat for juvenile Chinook, coho, chum, pink, and steelhead. Removal/replacement of the culvert will improve access for spawning coho and chum to better access the Japanese Gulch Creek Riparian system. The project has been fully designed and we are asking for funding to complete federal, state, and local permitting and to finalize the design based on comments from permitting agencies. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1108)

Wild Fish Conservancy **Grant Request: $135,000**
Designing Restoration of Grant Creek

The Wild Fish Conservancy will use this grant to complete an assessment and preliminary designs for a project to restore the banks and in-stream habitat of Grant Creek at its confluence with the North Fork Stillaguamish River, northeast of Arlington. The creek confluence lacks large woody materials. The future restoration project would place wood in the creek. Adding wood to the creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The work will improve spawning, rearing, and migration habitat and high-flow resting areas. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1116)

North Olympic Land Trust **Grant Request: $1,824,264**
Conserving the Elwha River

The North Olympic Land Trust will use this grant to buy and restore about thirty-one acres along the Elwha River. The purchase will protect some of the best salmon habitat in the Elwha River watershed by preventing floodplain modification and habitat degradation or loss. Much of the land is in the floodplain, river meander zone, or at high risk of erosion. The land trust will decommission almost all the infrastructure and replant the riverbanks with native species. Planting trees and bushes along a river shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The land trust will allow public access for hiking and sports fishing. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead and bull trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1114)

Stillaguamish River Salmon Recovery Co-Lead Entity

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians **Grant Request: $866,668**
Trafton Floodplain Restoration Phase 1

The Stillaguamish Tribe will work with Snohomish County to complete permitting and design, and to construct a portion of this Trafton Floodplain Restoration Phase 1 project, northeast of Arlington, along the Whitehorse trail (located south of the restoration area). The overall restoration project (Ph I and II) will improve instream and floodplain habitat on the Tribe's Trafton property (158 acres) and the County's Trafton Trailhead Park (72 acres) along nearly two miles of the NF Stillaguamish River in order to advance salmon recovery, enhance Tribal Treaty Rights, and maintain recreational opportunities for the community. The Phase I restoration metrics and costs proposed for this funding application were prorated to reflect the percent of funding this proposal contributes to Ph I. There are parts of Phase I not reported here. Phase I floodplain restoration work includes a) earthmoving to restore natural floodplain roughness; b) constructing side channels, floodplain engineered log jams, and other elements to protect the trail; and c) relocating trails for recreational access and d) riparian restoration and invasive species control. Once sufficient funds are secured for Ph II, we will complete the restoration work by installing additional log jams in the North Fork, and removing the perimeter levee and armoring to fully connect the site to the river. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1075)

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians — Grant Request: $202,084
North Fork Stillaguamish Riparian Restoration (Bryson)

The Stillaguamish Tribe seeks to restore riparian forest along the NF Stillaguamish River in the French-Segelsen sub-basin, extending the riparian buffer beyond the 200-yr Site Potential Tree Height. The proposed project, located in the First Riparian Priority Area as described in the Stillaguamish Watershed Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan, will primarily benefit Chinook salmon, as well as coho, chum, and pink salmon, steelhead/rainbow, and cutthroat trout. The sponsor will partner with Monroe Corrections Complex that will provide an offenders crew supervised by a corrections officer and managed by the Tribe's Natural Resources Department (NRD) staff. This partnership provides a valuable resource in the restoration of riparian forests in the basin. The Bryson worksite is located on property purchased by the Tribe using SRFB funds. With infrastructure removal complete, the next step is to initiate riparian restoration. The site is unique because it is adjacent to a Washington Department Fish and Wildlife fishing access. Recreational users of the access will have the opportunity to watch the riparian restoration area mature. The NRD is excited to continue collaborating with the Tribe's Cultural Resources Department Indigenous Plant Specialists while finalizing the planting plan and plant schedule. This project will not only restore riparian forest to promote salmon recovery goals but also enhance Tribal Treaty Rights associated with traditional foods. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1117)

Wild Fish Conservancy — Grant Request: $135,000
Designing Restoration of Grant Creek

The Wild Fish Conservancy will use this grant to complete an assessment and preliminary designs for a project to restore the banks and in-stream habitat of Grant Creek at its confluence with the North Fork Stillaguamish River, northeast of Arlington. The creek confluence lacks large woody materials. The future restoration project would place wood in the creek. Adding wood to the creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The work will improve spawning, rearing, and migration habitat and high-flow resting areas. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as "threatened" with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1116)

West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery

Great Peninsula Conservancy **Grant Request: $431,920**
Crabapple-Carpenter Creek Estuary Protection

Great Peninsula Conservancy will permanently protect 50 acres of prime estuary habitat and riparian forest in the Crabapple/Carpenter Creek Estuary in Kingston, Kitsap County. With high-quality salt marsh, tide flats, wetlands along Crabapple Creek and a remnant old growth Sitka spruce fringe, the project will protect a rare and important estuary system in Central Puget Sound. In addition to supporting natal chum, cutthroat and coho runs, the estuary's location and healthy condition make it regionally important habitat for out-migrating juvenile Puget Sound Chinook salmon. The project will purchase fee simple title to 50 acres of property under single ownership, thus permanently protecting 3 acres of salt marsh, 20 acres of tide flats and 10 acres of freshwater wetland and riparian habitat along Crabapple Creek. Once purchased, GPC will explore enhancement activities including large wood placement and ecological forestry. The project area includes four additional properties as secondary targets totaling 8 acres (see map) that may be purchased if funding allows. The project also requires a Boundary Line Adjustment to exclude a ~7-acre parcel with one house that is currently part of the parcels of the project area, with the goal of creating an adjacent environmental education center. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (22-1131)

Alternate

Great Peninsula Conservancy **Grant Request: $488,100**
Protecting Salmonberry Creek

The Salmonberry Creek Protection project will permanently protect ~85 acres of prime salmon habitat on Salmonberry Creek within the Curley Creek watershed. The primary goal of the project is protection of over a mile of Salmonberry Creek and tributaries, which are low gradient reaches heavily utilized by coho for spawning and rearing and designated critical habitat of Puget Sound steelhead. Salmonberry Creek is a critical component of the Curley Creek watershed and protection and future restoration of the site will have watershed-level benefits. Building on existing adjacent easements and restoration efforts, Great Peninsula Conservancy will purchase a ~85-acre conservation easement. The main target property is under single ownership with a supportive landowner who is willing to bargain sale 40% of the value of the easement. Immediate benefits include protection of a half mile of Salmonberry Creek and ~3,000 of high-quality tributaries, mature riparian forest and extinguishment of 6 development rights

adjacent to the riparian areas. Protection also opens the opportunity for future restoration of the half mile of Salmonberry creek currently confined to a straight ditch, and reconnection to ~25 acres of floodplain. Protection and restoration of the project has watershed-level benefits to flow regimes through water storage, reducing peak winter floods, improving summer flow and improving prime coho spawning and rearing habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (22-1110)

Alternate

Bainbridge Island Land Trust **Grant Request: $200,000**
Barnabee Farms Springbrook Creek Restoration

Bainbridge Island Land Trust and its partners will design, permit, and construct a project on Springbrook Cr to remove an undersized culvert that is only 67% passable to fish and remove over 187 linear ft of rock armor. Springbrook Cr, located on Bainbridge Island, is federally designated as critical habitat for ESA threated Puget Sound steelhead. A new bridge crossing, large wood, coir wraps and native vegetation will be installed along the banks where armor is removed. The project takes place on private land at stream mile 0.39. It was identified in the Springbrook Cr Watershed Assessment (SCWA) (Project 14-1547) as the second highest priority stream restoration project. It will provide fish access to over 3.76 miles of upstream fish habitat once a downstream barrier is corrected (final designs are in process), widen this section of channel to reflect natural stream conditions, improve connectivity between intact stream reaches adjacent to the existing undersized culvert, allow the stream to withstand anticipated higher flows anticipated in a changing climate, and allow for wood and sediment transport. Using the conceptual design developed by Wild Fish Conservancy (WFC) as part of the SCWA and updated May 2022, a final design will be developed with the landowner, WFC, and other stakeholders, permitting will be completed, a construction bid package will be developed, and construction will be implemented. Project success monitoring will take place for up to 3 years. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1175)

Kitsap Conservation District **Grant Request: $242,000**
WCC Riparian Restoration Projects

The Kitsap Conservation District's stream restoration program has restored stream and riparian areas in Chico, Curley, Blackjack, Clear, Dogfish and Olalla watersheds through the Backyard Habitat program, and other state funded grants. A focus of these projects is to create healthy riparian areas and forest cover in these high priority watersheds to

help increase salmon and steelhead populations. Previously, KCD has utilized the Mission Creek Department of Correction Women's Crew annually to maintain these sites and restore new sites. However, Covid has put a stop to this program and KCD is unable to achieve site maintenance and stewardship without a labor source. This funding will be utilized to obtain a Washington Conservation Corps Crew to maintain restored sites and conduct weed removal and planting on streamside areas. KCD's projects have addressed many habitat concerns, like removing fish barriers, bank armoring and garbage removal, as well as weed removal and riparian restoration. Maintenance of these projects will ensure longevity of the projects and protect past investments. Continued assistance with weed control, plant replacement, and other actions, will be conducted to achieve intended long-term site conditions and habitat goals. Noxious and invasive weeds continue to threaten plant establishment in our project areas. Deer, beaver and vole browse are also threats to plant health on some sites and tree protectors are needed. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1201)

WRIA 1 Watershed Management Board

Lummi Nation **Grant Request: $192,531**

Middle Fork Nooksack Porter Creek Reach Phases 3 and 5 Design

Lummi Nation will use this grant to restore instream main stem and side channel habitat in the Middle Fork Nooksack River north of Mosquito Lake Road in Whatcom County. The goal is to restore and protect MF/NF Nooksack early Chinook spawning, rearing and holding habitat to recover self-sustaining runs to harvestable levels by addressing limiting factors of temperature, channel stability, habitat diversity, and key habitat quantity. The LNR will contract the incumbent engineering consulting firm to design a project that will use engineered logjams (ELJs) that restore habitat-forming processes to increase the number of primary pools within 5 years, increase hydraulic complexity, reduce channel energy through shear stress partitioning, increase spawning gravel deposits and increase in-stream cover. Riparian vegetation will also be restored. Hydraulic modeling and channel and biologic response analysis to proposed treatments will lead to a preliminary design. The LNR will present the preliminary design to stakeholders to develop the 60 percent design. The WRIA 1 Recovery Plan identified MF/NF early Chinook as one of the highest priority populations; it is essential for recovery of the threatened Puget Sound ESU. The project will also benefit ESA-listed steelhead and bull trout, pink, sockeye, fall Chinook, steelhead, chum, and coho, as well as the Southern Resident killer whale. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1176)

Nooksack Indian Tribe **Grant Request: $265,923**
North Fork Nooksack Below Boulder-Lone Tree Reach Design

The Nooksack Tribe will conduct alternatives analysis and develop preliminary and 90% design for restoration of 2.2 miles of mainstem riverine and floodplain habitats in the North Fork Nooksack River Below Boulder-Lone Tree reach (RM 51.1-53.3), as well as associated tributary habitat in lower Boulder and Bruce Creeks, east of Maple Falls, Whatcom County, Washington. The primary goal is to restore stable spawning and rearing habitat to improve the abundance and productivity of the North Fork/Middle Fork Nooksack Early Chinook salmon population, which is considered essential for recovery of the ESA-listed Puget Sound Chinook ESU. Restoration will also benefit ESA-listed steelhead and bull trout; coho, chum, riverine sockeye, and pink salmon; and cutthroat trout. The project is in a high priority reach, and design will incorporate high priority strategies for restoration. The project also builds on previous acquisition and restoration work upstream and downstream that was funded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1177)

Whatcom Land Trust **Grant Request: $352,750**
South Fork Riparian Acquisition-Saxon Road

This project will acquire an approximately 8-acre property completely within the HMZ + 300', including ~650 feet of shoreline and 7 acres of riparian forest. There is a single-family residential structure on the property and associated outbuildings, all located within 200 feet from the river, that will be removed. The shoreline on the property is vegetated and has not been hardened and includes both main-channel and side-channel habitat. Acquiring and protecting this habitat will prevent future hardening of the streambank, which is likely due to the buildings' proximity to the river, facilitate future in-stream restoration projects along this reach, and prevent degradation of riparian forest with the HMZ+300'. Acquisition will also allow reforestation of the ~1-acre clearing after removal of the structures. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1172)

Alternate

Nooksack Indian Tribe **Grant Request: $3,748,780**
Restoring the North Fork Nooksack River at Boyd Reach

The Nooksack Tribe will finalize and implement restoration design for up to 0.5 miles of mainstem riverine habitat in the North Fork (NF) Nooksack River (RM 62.2-62.7), near Boyd Creek east of Glacier, in Whatcom County. The project will implement the instream

restoration component of a reach-scale design developed in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service that also included relocation of a forest road out of the channel migration zone. 31 structures will be constructed. The goal of the project is to restore upstream migration, spawning and rearing habitat to improve abundance, productivity, and diversity of North Fork/Middle Fork Nooksack Early Chinook, which is considered essential for recovery of the ESA-listed Puget Sound Chinook ESU. The project builds on previous design work funded by the SRFB. Restoration will also benefit ESA-listed steelhead and bull trout; coho, chum, riverine sockeye, and pink salmon; and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (22-1361)

North Olympic Land Trust **Grant Request: $1,824,264**
Conserving the Elwha River

The North Olympic Land Trust will use this grant to buy and restore about thirty-one acres along the Elwha River. The purchase will protect some of the best salmon habitat in the Elwha River watershed by preventing floodplain modification and habitat degradation or loss. Much of the land is in the floodplain, river meander zone, or at high risk of erosion. The land trust will decommission almost all the infrastructure and replant the riverbanks with native species. Planting trees and bushes along a river shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The land trust will allow public access for hiking and sports fishing. The river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead and bull trout, all of which are species listed as "threatened" under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by chum, coho, pink, and sockeye salmon and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1114)

WRIA 13 Salmon Habitat Recovery Committee

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $325,000**
Upper Deschutes Restoration Final Design and Permits

This project will bring all 18-miles, 10-miles mainstem Deschutes River and 8 miles upper tributaries, through final design and permitting. The upper Deschutes (RM 31-41) and the upper Deschutes tributaries (Thurston, Johnson, huckleberry and Mitchell) are the highest priority reaches for restoration within WRIA 13 according to the Strategy Update. The project would accelerate the implementation timeline of the Upper Deschutes Conceptual Design, 21-1138, and seeks to build upon recently competed

scientific reports and assessments to develop the final design restoration treatment for the upper watershed that addresses known salmonid limiting factors for both juvenile and adult coho, Chinook and winter steelhead, as well as TMDL status. Multiple treatment types have been proposed in a phased implantation approach varying in degrees of complexity from tipped trees, helicopter wood placements, and engineered logjams. The majority of these river reaches are owned by Weyerhaeuser Timber Co (WeyCo), one of the largest landowners in WA state and a company that SPSSEG has been building a working relationship with over the past decade. WeyCo has been involved throughout the conceptual design phase and is supportive of moving forward with the project. This project is scalable in nature and is geared towards permitting a phased implementation approach for the entire 18-miles. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1100)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $383,500**
Deschutes Tributaries Private Fish Barrier Replacement

This project will restore full fish passage through two partial, private barriers on high priority tributaries to the Deschutes River. The two barriers were outputs of the WRIA 13 Barrier Inventory and Prioritization (SPSSEG, 2021) that was a direct outcome of past project, 20-1198. Both barriers are located on private property and have willing landowners, making these projects time sensitive. Equus Lane at Spurgeon Creek is located immediately upstream of the recently completed barrier correction projects at Latigo St and the Chehalis Western Trail that were completed in 2022 by Thurston County. This project will keep the investment going in Spurgeon Creek, a high priority tributary for spawning and rearing, and put the pressure back on the County to remove the final mainstem barrier upstream of Equus at Rainier Rd. After competition, this project would open nearly 1-mile of high-quality habitat upstream. Silver Springs at the Monarch Sculpture Park is a highly visible site to the public as it is located along the Chehalis Western Trail and within a park that is open to the public. Once completed, this project will open up nearly 0.2-miles of cold-water refuge. The project is proposed as a design-build, as preliminary designs have been completed in previous project phases and will accelerate WRIA 13 fish passage goals, as well as follow the recent strategy update for restoration priorities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1099)

Alternate

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $177,871**
Replacing a Barrier to Fish Passage on Beatty Creek

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to replace a barrier to fish passage where Beatty Creek passes under Chelsie Lane. The barrier is a culvert, which is a pipe or other structure that carries water under a road. Culverts can block fish migration when they collapse. The culvert failed in 2018, and portions of the road and dirt inundated the creek and damaged utilities affecting 15 households. Replacing the culvert will restore natural stream processes and mitigate for climate change. The creek is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, and by chum salmon and resident and searun cutthroat trout. The enhancement group will contribute $560,207 from donations of cash, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (19-1417)

Alternate

Tumwater **Grant Request: $280,000**
Somerset Hill Fish Passage Barrier Removal Design

Percival Creek crosses Somerset Hill Dr between Tyndell Circle SW and Thorpe Drive SW via an aluminum culvert. The existing culvert is listed as a partial barrier to fish-passage due to flow velocities. The existing culvert is oriented in an alignment that is perpendicular to the roadway, even though the stream alignment is skewed on either side of the road. This reach of Percival Creek is located within a confined ravine, which limits channel movement. The existing culvert directs flows directly at the right bank of the ravine, immediately downstream of the culvert outlet. This has resulted in excessive erosion along the right bank of the ravine and stream channel, forcing the stream out of its historic channel. Tumwater is looking for grant funding to complete final designs and permitting to remove this partial fish passage barrier and replace it with a non-blocking passage, re-align the creek, and stabilize the downstream bank. The City of Tumwater hired Skillings to complete a Type, Size and Location Study to determine the best alternative structure and size for the site. Skillings reviewed three alternatives, three-sided box culvert, bottomless steel plate arch culvert, and modular bridge. After extensive reviews including 1D HEC-RAS modeling, Skillings recommended replacing the undersized culvert with a modular bridge of at least 60-foot span. Tumwater is seeking grant funding to build on the work completed by Skillings to design and permit

a modular bridge. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1095)

Alternate

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $94,310**
Barrier Inventory Design and Outreach Phase 2

This project will reengage the team of stakeholder to determine the best outreach approach for the second phase of designs that will result from the WRIA 13 Barrier Inventory and Prioritization (SPSSEG, 2021) completed under 20-1198. SPSSEG will then conduct outreach to landowners with Tier 1 barriers to secure approval to complete preliminary designs for 2-3 barriers. Preliminary design sets will be completed under a similar approach to the first phase, where SPSSEG would then apply for final design and implantation funds following completion of this project. As part of this project, SPSSEG will update the Barrier Inventory and Prioritization so the most up-to-date data is being used for outreach. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1101)

Alternate

Thurston Conservation District **Grant Request: $75,800**
Elwanger Creek Valley Project Development

This project will develop an aquatic habitat restoration plan and at least 3 conceptual designs for a 367-acre site located between RM 5.8 and 6.8 of the lower Deschutes River. Site-specific plan development will integrate basin-wide watershed priorities and data as well as site-specific assessment of opportunities and constraints that will be used together to identify restoration priorities. These will be ranked for conceptual design development and phased implementation. In subsequent project phases, the conceptual designs will be proposed for full design and construction. The site includes 1.26 miles of the Elwanger (Ayer) Creek and its headwaters, over 1 mile of mainstem Deschutes, ~142 acres of wetland. It also has both intact and degraded riparian areas, forested floodplain habitat, former timberland, and abandoned farm infrastructure. Acquired in 2022, the site is permanently protected to preserve and restore wildlife habitat. The goal of this proposal is to identify and prioritize aquatic habitat restoration actions to provide the greatest salmonid benefits. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1094)

Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

Snake River Salmon Recovery Board

Columbia Conservation District **Grant Request: $484,500**
Tucannon PA 34.1-34.2 Restoration

Columbia Conservation District will be sponsoring Project Area PA-34.1/2 for restoration. This project proposal will cover between ~RM 11.49 to ~RM 12.7 of PA-34.1/2 and is located at 46.506214, -118.010553. In progression of the PA-34.1/2 design project, the primary goal of this project is to address the Primary Limiting Factors identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (SRSRB 2011) and the Tucannon Sub basin Plan (CCD 2004) and prioritized in the GARP (Anchor 2020) by restoring to the nearest possible extent, a healthy naturally functioning river channel and floodplain. Anticipated goals are; Short Term (3 yrs)- Install ~58 LWD structures within the bank full channel (2.4 km) to increase channel complexity. Specifically, they will create pool habitat, instream cover habitat, increase channel roughness, encourage substrate sorting and increase floodplain connectivity. Increase pool frequency and volume > 50% within 3 years Increase inundation frequency and duration on acres of available floodplain from the >5yr interval to 2 key pieces beyond 10 years. Anticipated a 50% increase side channels within the first 10 yrs. Connect disconnected low floodplain (<2 yr flow) ~23 acres. Planting to restore floodplain and upland terrace forest roughly 1500 trees interstitially. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1028)

Nez Perce Tribe **Grant Request: $195,314**
Cummings Creek Low Tech Restoration (Phase 2 and 3)

The Nez Perce Tribe requests funds for a low-tech process-based design and restoration project to improve in-stream habitat, floodplain connectivity and riparian function for approximately two miles. Cummings Creek is a direct tributary to the Tucannon River in Southeast Washington located within the Tucannon River watershed, a major spawning area for ESA listed Snake River steelhead and listed as a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery 3-5 Year Provisional Work Plan. There will be one worksite location, on Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife property, from the mouth of Cummings Creek to approximately 2.0 miles upstream. The goal of this project is to promote self-sustaining, natural stream processes that improve and maintain spawning and rearing habitat for Snake River steelhead. Funding will be used for a field-based low-tech process-based restoration design and implementation for installation of up to

140 structures: beaver dam analogs (BDAs) and post assisted log structures (PALS). one mile of new structures and two miles of adaptive structure repair and installation. We will also look for opportunities to direct fell and grip-hoist larger trees into the channel where available. The structures will start to restore natural processes and sediment sorting, overbank flow, floodplain access, and in-stream complexity, with approximately 25 pools created. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1032)

Umatilla Confederated Tribes **Grant Request: $550,000**
Tuusi Wana Restoration Phase 1

The Tuusi Wana Design Project area is located along the Touchet River in Walla Walla County Washington at approximately River Mile (RM) 14 to 17. The project is entirely on privately owned land. Habitat conditions for juvenile and adult salmonids have been impaired within the project area by riparian clearing, regional agriculture, and sediment deposition. This project is intended to improve conditions, so they more closely resemble target conditions outlined in the Umatilla Tribes' River Vision. In line with this River Vision, the project elements include improving degraded hydrology, reclaiming geomorphic function, providing habitat connectivity, supporting a diverse riverine biotic community, and restoring riparian vegetation diversity and density. The general goals include improving holding, overwintering, and migration refugia throughout the reach to support upstream migrating adult salmonids, improving high-flow refugia and rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids utilizing lower reaches of Touchet River for rearing or during outmigration, recovery of more natural river valley geomorphic processes through the installation of a large number of large wood structures (LWS) intended to initiate and maintain in the mid-term increased hydraulic variability leading to a more complex channel planform (e.g., split flows) and depth variations (e.g., pools and bars), and the recovery of more natural riparian processes through the installation of a large quantity of live cuttings. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1027)

Trout Unlimited Inc. **Grant Request: $454,472**
Asotin Intensively Monitored Watershed Low Tech Design and Restoration

Trout Unlimited is sponsoring a design and restoration project utilizing lessons learned from the Asotin Creek IMW to implement further restoration actions to restore stream processes and improve spawning and rearing habitat for Snake River steelhead and Chinook. These actions will increase in-stream habitat complexity, floodplain connectivity, and riparian function within the Asotin Creek MSA targeting priority restoration reaches on Charley Creek, North Fork, and South Fork Asotin creeks. All work

will be done within WDFW property in the Asotin Wildlife Management Area. In phase 1, we will use existing LiDAR to identify key confining features (e.g., old berms) for design and removal. Confining features will be prioritized by extent of unconfined habitat potential and removal will be done using a mini excavator with minimal intervention to keep within the "let the system do the work approach" of the IMW. Phase 2 includes maintenance on existing restoration sections, and the design and installation of low-tech process-based structures (e.g., PALS and BDAs) within the upper 2.5 miles of unrestored sections in Charley Creek and the North Fork and the lower 1.25 miles in the South Fork. Total anticipated restoration footprint would be 6-8 miles over 3 years. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1036)

Walla Walla County Conservation District **Grant Request: $540,942**
Coppei Creek Project Area 07 Restoration

Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to advance the preliminary design to a final design and then implement (construct)the restoration design. The project reach is located in Walla Walla County, south of Waitsburg adjacent to Coppei Rd. The project will conserve important salmonid habitat and biological diversity in Coppei Creek by protecting and restoring ecological functions on private parcels. The primary habitat to be protected is riparian and instream habitat. Large woody debris, levee setback, pilot channel excavation, and grade control structures will restore about 8,500 Linear Feet of instream habitat. We will also restore about 4.55 acres of riparian area. Primary species supported by these habitats are ESA listed anadromous fish, especially Mid-Columbia Summer steelhead. Habitat restoration more generally will likely benefit salmonids using the Touchet River, including Spring Chinook and bull trout. The project reach is designated a Major Spawning Area (98, SRSRB 2011) for Mid-Columbia Summer steelhead and Priority Restoration Reach (15, SRSRB 2018). The Touchet River Geomorphic Assessment defines this reach as a Tier 1 Project Area for stream restoration to benefit salmonids in the county (Figure 9-2, CCD 2020). This restoration, once complete, will improve instream, off-channel, and riparian habitat for all life stages of Mid-Columbia Summer steelhead, benefiting spawning, rearing, and holding salmonids. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1022)

Tri State Steelheaders Inc. **Grant Request: $367,003**
Walla Walla River B2B Phase 3A Restoration

The Bridge to Bridge Restoration Design completed in 2010 (RCO project #08 2028) developed preliminary plans for nearly two miles of the Walla Walla River near Lowden,

WA. Implementation began in 2013, when Phase 1 (#11 1588) removed about a half mile of levee and added large wood to the reach. Phase 2 (#17 1267) added large wood to a section of the river that was lacking any in 2021. Phase 3 plans are complete and will be implemented as Phases 3A and 3B due to project costs. Phase 3A will address limiting factors by placing logs and log structures along 1,000 ft of the Walla Walla River to improve channel complexity, maintain pools, create off channel areas, and encourage side channels. Riparian plantings will address limiting factors by increasing shade and improving riparian function. This section of the Walla Walla River is identified by The Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan as a priority restoration reach in the Walla Walla mainstem major spawning area. Adult and juvenile summer steelhead and spring Chinook use the project reach during their migrations and bull trout occur there seasonally. Other species of cultural value and state concern that utilize the project reach are Margined Sculpin, Leopard Dace, and River Lamprey. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23 1029)

Asotin County Conservation District **Grant Request: $249,000**
Asotin Creek PA 3.2 Restoration

The Asotin County Conservation District is sponsoring the Asotin Creek PA 3.2 Stream Restoration Project. This grant will target 1.2 miles of Asotin Creek. The design for PA 3.2 includes installing a crossing, controlling invasive vegetation encroachment, and enhancing riparian conditions. This project will build upon the current stream conditions by adding more habitat features for Snake River steelhead. There will be large woody debris and boulder structures installed to increase stream complexity and promote side channel connection. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1023)

Alternate

Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. **Grant Request: $84,000**
Walla Walla River B2B Phase 4 Design

The Bridge to Bridge Restoration Design completed in 2010 (RCO project #08-2028) developed preliminary plans for nearly two miles of the Walla Walla River near Lowden, WA. Final designs were completed for the upper third of the 2-mile design reach, and implementation of those plans was completed in 2013 (Phase 1). Final designs where completed for the remaining part of the design reach (developed through RCO project #14-1902). Significant changes within the project reach from high spring flows have resulted in-stream conditions which require significant re-design before restoration. The design will complete the 4th and final phase of the project. This section of the Walla

Walla River is identified by The Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan as a priority restoration reach in the Walla Walla mainstem major spawning area. Adult and juvenile summer steelhead and spring Chinook use the project reach during their migrations and bull trout occur there seasonally. Other species of cultural value and state concern that utilize the project reach are Margined Sculpin, Leopard Dace, and River Lamprey. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1030)

Alternate

Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. **Grant Request: $139,800**
Dry Creek-Highway 12 Fish Passage Design

The Highway 12 bridge over Dry Creek in Dixie, WA presents an obstacle for the migration of mid-Columbia Summer steelhead adults and juveniles. The bridge's concrete slab foundation spans the channel width creating a drop of 0.3m to 0.4m at the downstream end. This hinders fish passage at lower flows due to a lack of pool downstream and sheet flow over the concrete slab. This project will result in access to 20 miles of river, which includes the headwaters of the North Fork and South Fork of Dry Creek, providing increased access to spawning and rearing habitat for ESA-listed mid-Columbia Summer steelhead. Collins Bridge Fish Barrier Removal (#15-1307, 2017) removed the last known fish barrier downstream of Highway 12 on Dry Creek. This project will correct the last know passage barrier on Dry Creek. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1035)

Alternate

Pomeroy Conservation District **Grant Request: $88,300**
Alpowa In-stream PALS Phase 4

The Pomeroy Conservation District will be working with a Alpowa Creek landowner to increase instream habitat complexity. We will be increasing instream woody debris and pool habitat and this complements previously completed Alpowa PALS Phase 3 RCO 20-1045, Alpowa Creek Instream PALS Phase 2 RCO 17-1299, Alpowa Creek Instream PALS RCO 13-1399 and Alpowa Creek Habitat Assessment - RCO 11-1576. The same partners will be working on this proposed project as in the past. This Alpowa Creek Phase IV Pals project will benefit the Asotin Creek population of A-run summer steelhead will benefit from increased woody structures and pool available habitat. This project will expand on RCO 20-1045, increasing woody debris habitat and instream pool habitat with 100 PALS installed. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1020)

Alternate

Asotin County Conservation District **Grant Request: $245,000**
Rattlesnake West Branch Restoration (1-2)

The Asotin County Conservation District is sponsoring the Rattlesnake West Branch (1-2) Restoration Project to enhance fish habitat and riparian function. West Branch project areas 1 and 2 were identified in the Grande Ronde Conceptual Restoration Plan. This grant will target 0.7 miles of stream. The conceptual plan for WFRC 1 and WFRC 2 includes controlling invasive and upland vegetation encroachment, enhancing riparian habitat and add large woody debris to increase complexity, habitat structure, and promote floodplain inundation. This project will also eliminate the use of a ford crossing. Rattlesnake West Branch is listed as an MSA and Priority Protection Reach that flows into main stem Rattlesnake, which flows directly into the Grande Ronde River. The priority species that will benefit from the project is Snake River, Lower Grande Ronde steelhead. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1034)

Alternate

Palouse Conservation District **Grant Request: $45,000**
Steptoe Creek Instream PALS 3

The Palouse Conservation District will be working with a Steptoe Creek landowner to increase instream habitat complexity with 40 PALS. We will be increasing instream wood and pool habitat and this complements previously completed Steptoe Creek Perched Culvert Replacement RCO 15-1309, Steptoe Creek Instream Habitat RCO 18-2020, Steptoe Creek Culvert 2 Replacement RCO 22-1003 and Steptoe Creek PALS II RCO 22-1004 the same partners will be working on the proposed project. This Steptoe Creek Phase III Pals project will benefit the Asotin Creek population of A-run summer steelhead will benefit from increased woody structures and pool habitat. The project location is Lat 46.469835 Longitude -117.175926 and is located about 1 mile above the previous culvert replacement project that was completed in 2017 and the 135 PALS that were installed in 2020/21. This project will begin to connect 18-2020 and 22-1004, increasing woody debris habitat and pool habitat. Steptoe Creek historically has low summer baseflows, but recent flow and temperature monitoring show that summer stream temperatures since 2020 have been around 63 F and summer base flows are .34 CFS. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1026)

Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region

Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Board

Chelan County Natural Resource **Grant Request: $82,968**
Lower Wenatchee and Peshastin Thermal Refuge Assessment

The proposed Lower Wenatchee River and Peshastin Creek Thermal Refuge Assessment will result in the identification, mapping, and characterization of thermal refuge areas within lower Wenatchee River miles (RMs) 0 - 26.5, and Peshastin Creek RMs 0 -16. The assessment will identify habitat actions to protect, expand, and/or improve functionality of identified refuge areas, to increase ESA-listed steelhead, spring Chinook, and bull trout survival and persistence in the face of warming temperatures due to climate change. This work is an expansion of the well-received Upper Wenatchee Thermal Refuge Assessment, completed in 2020.The assessment will address a Tier 1 data gap regarding the location and characteristics of thermal refuge areas by collecting continuous temperature data on the microhabitat scale (~3 meters) and spot-checking cold areas indicated in 2001-2003 Forward-Looking Infrared (FLIR) imagery. The project will include collection of drone-based FLIR imagery on select reaches. Detailed habitat data will be collected on located cold patches (or warm winter patches), including relative temperature, plume size, and habitat quality. This information will be used to develop habitat actions. Information will be made available through several formats - including a written Assessment with detailed data Appendices, downloadable shapefiles, and an interactive map portal - to support restoration actions that will retain benefits in a changing climate. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1287)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation **Grant Request: $390,951**
Chewuch Acquisition River Miles 2.8-3.1

This acquisition project would permanently protect approximately 18 acres, including 13 acres of river and low floodplain and more than 2,200 feet of shoreline habitat along the lower Chewuch River in the Methow watershed in Okanogan County. The Chewuch contributes significantly to production of ESA species in the Methow Subbasin, is a major spawning area for Upper Columbia spring Chinook and steelhead and provides migration and rearing habitat for bull trout. The project would permanently protect and facilitate future restoration within this dynamic area at river mile 2.7. This acquisition will facilitate larger restoration projects in this area and connects with adjacent protected private and public land in order to protect important spawning and rearing habitat for

both spring Chinook salmon and steelhead. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1275)

Chelan County Natural Resources **Grant Request: $500,058**
Upper Wenatchee Floodplain Reconnection

Project is intended to enhance in-stream habitat conditions and better connect an ~55-acre river-left floodplain (and associated channel network) between river miles 36.5 and 37.9 of the upper Wenatchee River. In-stream project-constructed elements will occur between river miles 37.0 and 37.9, and include installation of six engineered log jams, 12 boulder clusters (4-5 large boulders/cluster), and 18 side-channel habitat logs. ELJs are designed to direct flows towards the river-left floodplain and improve mainstem habitats. The boulder clusters and habitat logs are to enhance cover and hydraulic diversity in mainstem and side channel areas. The project also includes excavation of a river left pilot channel to better connect the mainstem channel to the existing floodplain channel network. Under the current design iteration (60% Preliminary Designs), the pilot channel is expected to be ~225 ft long x ~40 ft wide (with a wider, flared inlet). To access work areas, the project will re-open and improve ~1,300 lf of USFS road NF-7906 that was previously closed and partially obliterated by USFS. This road segment will be closed, re-contoured and re-vegetated post-construction. To isolate in-water work areas around ELJs and pilot channel inlet and to get heavy equipment and materials across the Wenatchee River, the project will construct temporary coffer dams and a multi-span, temporary bridge. These features will be removed once in-stream and floodplain work are complete. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1282)

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $50,093**
Goat Creek Fan Restoration Final

This project seeks to address limiting factors of cover, floodplain connectivity, off-channel habitat, and pool quantity and quality for ESA-listed fish by developing a final restoration design focused on levee removal and the placement of instream mainstem and off-channel wood. The conceptual design includes selective excavation to remove areas of the levee and reconnect high-flow channels along 0.5mi of the river; mainstem wood structures along roughly 0.75mi of river; and high-flow channel wood structures. A final design and permitting would be completed in 2024 for anticipated construction in 2025. This is a high priority AU and these reaches of the Methow are used by spring Chinook and steelhead spawning and rearing, as well as bull trout feeding, migrating, and overwintering. This project would help restore natural processes of floodplain connection as well as improve current habitat conditions in the mainstem

river, providing immediate benefit to all three ESA-listed species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1263)

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group — Grant Request: $580,000
Lower Chiwaukum Creek Restoration

Chiwaukum Creek is an important perennial stream that provides cold water refuge and spawning and rearing habitat for ESA listed bull trout, Chinook salmon and steelhead trout in the Upper Wenatchee River. Other non-listed species also utilize Chiwaukum Creek and its confluence with the Wenatchee River such as sockeye, rainbow trout, mountain whitefish, and others. Lower Chiwaukum Creek and its floodplain have been severely impacted by logging and the construction of Highway 2 and the Tumwater Campground. These actions and features have greatly constrained habitat and habitat forming processes. Our project seeks to remove campground infrastructure and install wood to improve floodplain connectivity, instream complexity, and cold-water refuge in the lower 0.75 miles of Chiwaukum Creek and the confluence with the Wenatchee River. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1264)

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group — Grant Request: $40,836
Upper Columbia Fish Distribution Assessment

This assessment project will address a regional data gap around Chinook and O. mykiss distribution in reaches across the Upper Columbia. We will use eDNA sampling (existing samples and new samples) to detect presence of Chinook and O. mykiss at approximately 340 sites in the Wenatchee (117 sites), Entiat (30 sites), and Methow basins (190 sites). Many of these sites are in the lower end of tributaries to anadromous streams where we currently have no information on fish use and therefore reaches aren't included in prioritization, likely limiting the extent of management and restoration actions taken to improve and expand habitat for ESA-listed species. This assessment will result in a report detailing eDNA results, providing updates to existing distribution, and making recommendations for next steps for restoration and/or protection of newly identified habitat. Findings will be shared across the region and will update the existing USFS fish distribution layer. This assessment will improve our understanding of fish distribution and enable sponsors to develop more effective and extensive restoration actions in our region to benefit habitat quality and quantity for ESA-listed species. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1267)

Chelan County Natural Resources Department — Grant Request: $750,000
Icicle Creek In-stream Flow Restoration

This project will improve instream flow in lower Icicle Creek with permanent flow benefit to the lowest 4.5 miles of stream, addressing rank 1 limiting factors (summer base flow and temperature) that threaten spring Chinook, summer steelhead, and bull trout recovery. Cascade Orchard Irrigation Company (COIC) has continuously diverted 11.9 cfs at RM 4.5 through a shared diversion with the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery (LNFH) since 1940 under an authorized water right change which added fish propagation as an additional use to the senior COIC water right. Ecology confirmed the continuous 11.9 cfs diversion rate. The COIC diversion will be removed and re-located downstream to a new pump station at RM 1.9 with a reduced maximum diversion of 8 cfs. Average use will be 4 to 6 cfs. The canal will be replaced with a pressurized on-demand pipeline. Low flows in Icicle Creek are a chronic problem with a high amount of water diversions. The most impacted reach between RM 4.5 and 2.7 can drop below 10 cfs (photos). Furthermore, the effects of climate change predict baseflows will further decline by 13-53% (Mauger 2017). By moving the diversion downstream and reducing its rate, this project will have a significant effect on habitat in Icicle Creek, doubling streamflow during drought years and offsetting some effects of climate change. Without this project, COIC could cancel the LNFH agreement and continue to divert at RM 4.5 providing water to 420 acres without any Ecology review. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1279)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation — Grant Request: $240,042
Upper Methow Preliminary Design River Miles 61.75-62.7

This preliminary design project would develop an instream habitat complexity project in the Upper Methow River on two MSRF-owned parcels, several adjacent private properties with willing landowners, and adjacent state-owned aquatic lands. The project builds on the findings of the Wells Tributary Committee funded "Methow Thermal Refugia Restoration Assessment" prepared by John Crandall and published in December 2022 by Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF). The assessment documents multiple cold-water pockets in the project area. As the benefits of these cold-water seeps are limited by lack of depth and habitat complexity, the project will produce preliminary designs for habitat restoration actions to provide cover and complexity for ESA-listed Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon, UCR steelhead, and bull trout in and around these sources of cold- water in the project area. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1276)

Chelan County Natural Resources Department **Grant Request: $211,900**
Nason Creek River Mile 12 Floodplain Reconnection Final Design

This project on Nason Creek at ~RM 11.7-12.2 will continue evaluation of the mainstem channel and adjacent floodplain areas on river left and right, and complete other work needed to identify and develop restoration actions that will improve in-stream conditions and reconnect the floodplain. It seeks to address identified habitat limiting factors for priority spring Chinook, steelhead and bull trout life stages (i.e., spawning and incubation, winter rearing, summer rearing, holding and maturation, and BT natal rearing) in Reach 11 of the Lower Nason Creek AU including Pool Quantity and Quality, Cover-Wood, Floodplain Connectivity, and Off-Channel- Side-Channels. The project will complete a variety of tasks needed to prepare draft final and final designs, conduct studies and prepare reports in support of permit applications (cultural resources survey and wetland delineation), and complete environmental compliance tasks needed to implement subsequent restoration actions at the site (including consultation with regulatory agencies, preparation of in-water work permit applications [e.g., JARPA and HPA] and completion of a CLOMR process with FEMA and Chelan County Community Development). Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1281)

Trout Unlimited Inc. **Grant Request: $237,417**
Fulton Ditch Irrigation Efficiency Project Phase 1

The Fulton Ditch Irrigation Efficiency Project (Phase I) is a restoration project that enhances instream flow in the lower Chewuch River and Middle Methow River. Trout Unlimited will use these funds to develop an ecologically beneficial alternative and preliminary design for the Fulton Ditch system. The Fulton Ditch diverts water from the Chewuch river for irrigation and other water uses, the ditch is an open earthen ditch and much of the diverted flow is lost to conveyance and seepage before it is put towards the intended uses. Spring Chinook salmon and steelhead in the Chewuch and Methow Rivers are both limited by low summer flows and high-water temperatures. This project is the first phase in developing an efficient irrigation system that meets the needs of the Fulton Ditch water users while also reducing the quantity of water diverted from the Chewuch, enhancing instream flow and reducing high water temperatures that limit salmon, steelhead and other aquatic life in these rivers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1277)

Chelan Douglas Land Trust — Grant Request: $720,000
Mission Creek Protection Phase 1

The Chelan Douglas Land trust will acquire a perpetual conservation easement on approximately 40 acres between RM 4.1 and 4.9 of Mission Creek and adjacent to Mission Creek Road. The goal is to preserve this land after removal of the orchard and two associated irrigation diversions. The orchard will be removed by the owners at their cost, and with this grant, the property will be permanently protected from development. The property supports listed spring Chinook and steelhead, as well as non-listed coho and lamprey. Protection and potential future restoration will benefit spawning, fry colonization and winter rearing. The landowners will allow foot access as well as educational and scientific study. The landowners and CDLT will work with salmon recovery partners on future restoration possibilities. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23 1269)

Chelan County Natural Resource Department — Grant Request: $61,636
Floodplain Restoration Effectiveness Monitoring

This project seeks to augment an existing research and monitoring program (focused on ELJs) in two subbasins of the Upper Columbia by monitoring the juvenile salmonid behavioral response to habitat restoration actions, specifically those that activate off-channel areas in floodplains at high flows. We will quantify how salmonids use different habitat types within activated floodplains, what environmental factors describe the habitat requirements of various life stages and species, and measure Chinook fry densities and growth over time simultaneously in activated floodplains and unrestored reaches to specify the quality differences between restored and unrestored habitats. We will also classify floodplain designs, measure the number and sizes of disconnected pools over time, and identify the individual numbers, species, and life stages of stranded fish to provide information on how to minimize stranding in future floodplain reconnection efforts. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1283)

Alternate

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group — Grant Request: $754,500
Peshastin River Mile 2.5

Cascade Fisheries has a rare and exciting opportunity to work with enthusiastic landowners to conduct a significant restoration project in a watershed with few opportunities of this magnitude. This project addresses the following high priority habitat impairments deemed as at risk or unacceptable by the RTT in Reach 3 of the

lower Peshastin AU: riparian canopy cover, cover- wood, pool quality and quantity, floodplain connectivity, off-channel and side channels, channel, and bank stability. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1266)

Alternate

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation **Grant Request: $3,499,914**
Nason Creek and State Route 207 Phase 1 and 2 Project

The Nason Creek SR 207 Realignment and Restoration Project is a tribal led large scale salmon habitat restoration project taking place along Nason Creek near Lake Wenatchee in Chelan County, Washington. The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation have partnered with WSDOT and the USFS to restore biologically productive side channel and floodplain habitats in critical spring Chinook salmon and steelhead spawning and rearing areas that were either impacted or disconnected by highway development in the early 1940s. The proposed project will remove a problematic 0.55-mile-long segment of SR 207 from the Nason Creek floodway in order to reconnect 12.9 acres of historic side channel and floodplain habitat. Removal of roadway will allow salmon habitat restoration efforts to take place that will create better main-channel habitat and reconnect and protect at-risk side channels that are important to multiple life stages of salmon and steelhead. The removal of SR 207 from the floodplain will directly address two WSDOT listed Chronic Environmental Deficiency Sites where the highway constantly erodes into Nason Creek during spring high flows, resulting in on-going aquatic habitat degradation and traffic disruption. The Yakama Nation intends to use Salmon Recovery Funding Board grants along with other acquired funding to finalize the highway realignment and habitat restoration designs, and to implement the roadway realignment and habitat restoration work in 2025 and 2026. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1189)

Alternate

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $500,000**
Six Barrier Corrections within Lower Chiwawa Tributaries

This project will address fish passage in the lower Chiwawa watershed by correcting six fish passage barriers in four different streams. The culvert barriers occur on Brush Creek (1), Gate Creek (2), Grouse Creek (2), Pole Creek (1), and the correction of these barriers will improve connectivity to cold, clean, and complex habitat, while maintaining and improving ecosystem functionality vital to the persistence and recovery of ESA-listed species. Implementation will be sequential. Final designs and permitting will occur in

2024 for Pole Creek, 2025 Brush Creek, in 2026 for Gate Creek and 2027 for Grouse Creek. Implementation will occur in 2025 for Pole Creek, 2026 for Brush Creek, in 2027 for Gate Creek, and 2028 for Grouse Creek. The correction of all six fish passage barriers will restore connectivity to about 6.56 miles of upstream fish habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1261)

Alternate

Chelan County Natural Resources Department **Grant Request: $212,499**
Nason Creek Restoration and Infrastructure Relocation

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department (CCNRD) is proposing to complete an alternatives analysis and conceptual design development project located in Nason Creek between RM 9.5-13.3 (9.2-12.7 UCSRB), roughly between the Cole's Corner Rest Area and the Ray Rock Knife Store (US 2, MP 78.4-81.4). The project goal is to improve instream temperatures, habitat quality and quantity, and channel complexity for migrating, holding and spawning of ESA listed salmonids; spring and summer Chinook, steelhead, and bull trout by rerouting three-miles of the Chelan PUD Mckenzie to Beverly 115kV line (Coles Corner to Summit line [CC-SM]) out of the floodplain of Nason Creek. Grant funds will support the development of the alternatives analysis for the relocation of the three-mile section of the CC-SM out of the floodplain and for potential stream restoration work after transmission line removal. Conceptual designs will be developed for a portion of the three-mile stream segment, metrics to be refined during the design process. Restoring ecosystem function and connectivity within Nason Creek is a high priority for CCNRD and is described as a category 2 action in The Upper Columbia Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan. This includes reconnecting side channels and floodplains to improve instream water temperatures and riparian habitat conditions and increasing habitat conditions for all life stages of ESA listed salmonids. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1213)

Alternate

Chelan County Natural Resources Department **Grant Request: $62,152**
Mission Creek Barriers Final Design

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department (CCNRD) will use this grant as matching funds for the development of final designs to remove and replace seven fish passage barriers with 100 percent fish passable structures in Mission Creek. The project is located in Cashmere and the barriers being addressed are located between Mission Creek RM 0.9 and 6.1. Upon implementation, this project will restore ~12.5 RM of

unobstructed fish passage in Mission Creek for ESA listed salmonids: spring and summer Chinook, steelhead, and bull trout. These actions will improve adult and juvenile passage, increase high flow refugia for juveniles, and increase access to spawning and rearing habitat. Removal of the proposed barriers are expected to lower instream temperatures and increase stream connectivity. Rectifying factors that are contributing to habitat degradation in Mission Creek is a high priority for CCNRD and is listed in the Upper Columbia Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan as a category 3 action. This includes re-establishing connectivity throughout Mission Creek by removing, replacing, or fixing artificial barriers, such as those being addressed under this proposal. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1214)

Alternate

Chelan County Natural Resources Department — Grant Request: $187,543
Channel Migration Zone 12 Side Channel Adaptive Management

This project is in the lower Wenatchee Watershed at about river mile 12.8. This will be a design project focusing on identifying and developing restoration actions and alternatives within the floodplain and adjoining side channel. This project will provide improvements to summer and winter rearing habitat for steelhead and Chinook. Currently the existing side channel is only activated during flows in excess of 6,000 cfs and becomes completely disconnected from the mainstem during low flows. Major points of interest in this project will be to evaluate and potentially reshape channel geomorphology at the channel outlet, where a topographic barrier currently exists. This barrier prevents fish from adequately exiting the channel during periods of flow recession eventually trapping the in the channel until flows rise above 6,000 cfs again. this barrier also prevents fish from entering the channel during summer months. There are several documented cold-water inputs in the existing side channel, which could lend to an area of temperature refuge, if the channel were accessible via the outlet. Channel width to depth ratios will also be evaluated for the length of the channel and options to reshape channel geometry will be explored as well as enhancements to riparian vegetation to increase shading. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1285)

Alternate

Chelan County Natural Resources Department **Grant Request: $206,675**
Peshastin Creek River Mile 8.8 Conceptual Design

The proposed Conceptual Design project is to look at reconnecting a historic mainstem channel of Peshastin Creek as either a 2850' or 4170' side channel with the existing mainstem channel. The historic channel was disconnected by 1950s highway construction. The sponsor will work with a river engineering firm to review existing data, develop hydraulic models, project alternatives and a conceptual design to improve habitat for spring Chinook and steelhead life stages; spawning and incubating steelhead are high priority life stages, medium priority life stages, include spring Chinook (adult migration, holding, spawning, fry colonization and summer rearing) and steelhead (fry colonization and winter rearing).An alternatives analysis and conceptual design was funded and completed in 2016 (12-1447). In that alternatives analysis, we selected a full-reconnection alternative as our preferred alternative to identify what issues and opportunities existed on the site. One of the main constraints at the time was the overall construction cost $14-17 million and the impacts to landowners. Additionally, due to existing channel constraints, significant excavation and disruption of the canopy over the historic channel would have to occur to accommodate that design. CCNRD continued working on the site with stakeholders and completed a Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment in 2019 in response to reviewer feedback. The results were that no issues were found as part of that process. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1288)

Alternate

Chelan County Natural Resources Department **Grant Request: $36,121**
Beaver Creek Barrier Correction Implementation

This restoration project will remove and replace one (1) culvert that is a barrier to fish passage at RM 0.5 on Beaver Creek. This culvert is a 67% velocity barrier and is the lowest fish passage barrier on Beaver Creek. The project site is located on a private drive for Mountain Springs Lodge, 19115 Chiwawa Loop Road, approximately 0.2 miles north of Plain, WA (47.766919723, -120.65282193). It has been ranked as the # 1 barrier for removal within the designated priority watershed for the Upper Columbia region. Beaver Creek is important rearing and spawning habitat for Upper Columbia steelhead and spring Chinook and is ranked as the #2 priority sub-basin for restoration actions within the Wenatchee watershed. This proposal includes bid preparation and construction required to remove and replace the current 67% culvert barrier. Replacement of this

barrier will immediately provide unimpeded access to over 1.6 miles of quality, instream habitat for all fish species at all life stages. This is the downstream-most anthropogenic barrier in Beaver Creek, and all other known barriers within the documented range of fish distribution upstream have been removed or have active projects to remove them. As a result, this project is a critical component in a suite of work being performed to provide unimpeded access to all available habitats in Beaver Creek. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1284)

Alternate

Chelan County Natural Resources Department **Grant Request: $213,859**
Eagle Creek Lowest Four Barrier Corrections

This restoration proposal is for replacement of the lowest four fish passage barriers in Eagle Creek as part of a greater effort to restore full passage to all of the creek, an important tributary in the Chumstick Creek watershed. Primary species supported are steelhead and spring Chinook. This project includes construction of four new crossings on private driveways. This project addresses three of the top ten priorities within the Wenatchee watershed. Four fish passage barriers exist upstream of this proposal between River Mile (RM) 0.65 and 2.1. However, CCNRD is replacing one of these barriers in 2023 with FFFPP funding. Two of the other barriers are high on the FFFPP list and we anticipate they will be funded for replacement in the next biennium (2023-2025). We are applying for separate FBRB funding to replace the fourth barrier. Therefore, funding these four culverts for replacement is pivotal to opening full fish passage up to RM 2.1 of Eagle Creek. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1278)

Washington Coast Salmon Recovery Region

Chehalis Basin Lead Entity

Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force **Grant Request: $237,059**
Damon Creek at Kirkpatrick Road Fish Passage Construction

This restoration project is to correct a 33% passable fish passage barrier culvert, #127H0049, at the mouth of Damon Creek at road mile 2.05 on Kirkpatrick Road north of Copalis Crossing, Washington. Damon Creek is in the Lower Humptulips Subbasin, flowing into the lower mainstem Humptulips River at river mile 10.3. The goal is to remove the barrier and replace it with a structure that is passable to all aquatic species and life stages in order to open full migration to 5.82 miles of high-quality spawning and rearing habitat in forestlands upstream. Six species of salmonids present in the Humptulips River will benefit from the improved habitat conditions in Damon Creek including coho, Chinook, chum, steelhead, cutthroat and bull trout. The project will also improve the existing boat ramp just downstream from the culvert to provide safer recreational fishing and boating access to the Humptulips River. The project has been designed and permitted under SRFB grant 19-1184; the current grant proposal is for the construction phase of the project. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1071)

Grays Harbor County **Grant Request: $120,802**
Chenois Creek at Chenois Valley Road Fish Passage Design

The purpose of the Chenois Creek Fish Passage Design Project is to design and permit the removal of 2 fish passage barrier culverts installed under a single road crossing and their replacement with a structure that is fully passable to all aquatic species in Chenois Creek. The existing barrier, 127H0010, is under Chenois Valley Road northwest of Hoqiuam, Washington, in Grays Harbor County. The goal of this barrier correction is to restore fish passage for 5 species of anadromous fish by opening full migration access to 6.96 miles of excellent spawning and rearing habitat in forested properties upstream. Priority species supported include Chinook, coho and chum salmon and steelhead and cutthroat trout. The existing barrier consists of 2 squash corrugated steel culverts. One pipe is 6' 2" wide and 3' 7" high, the other is 5' 9" wide and 3' 11" high. Both are 55' long; road fill is 3' 5" deep over tops of pipes. Bankfull width is 22'. The site was determined by the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife to be 67% passable. The left bank culvert facing downstream is a 0% passable depth barrier; the right bank culvert is a 67% depth barrier. Both culverts are 67% velocity barriers. Visit

RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1113)

Lewis Conservation District **Grant Request: $117,300**
Mill Creek River Mile 4.5 Planting Implementation

We are going to work with Port Blakely Timber Company to plant willows along approximately 1800 feet of stream and 12 acres of land. This project will reconnect the floodplain and help attract beavers to remake ponds for salmon fry rearing and summer water retention. This is part of the Lewis Conservation District effort to restore the Mill Creek Basin. Port Blakely will be an excellent partner with their commitment to environmental stewardship. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1072)

Lewis County Public Works Department **Grant Request: $376,150**
Lucas Creek Tributary Fish Passage Construction

This restoration project proposes to replace an existing 6-foot wide by 4-foot tall, corrugated steel squash pipe, which is only 33 percent passable due to a slope of 1.7 percent, with a 20-foot wide by 13-foot tall by 78-foot long split box culvert. The project is located at approximately milepost 4.39 of Lucas Creek Road, approximately 4.5 miles north of Onalaska in Lewis County under the legal description of Township 14 North, Range 1 East, Section 32. The Chehalis Fish Passage Barrier Prioritization mapper (May 2020) identifies the existing barrier as a Priority 1 barrier. According to the SWIFD layers found in the Chehalis Fish Passage Barrier Prioritization mapper (May 2020), replacement of this culvert will restore immediate unimpeded access to 1.88 linear miles of potential habitat for the Southwest Washington Evolutionarily Significant Unit of coho salmon and 1.74 linear miles of habitat for the Southwest Washington Distinct Population Segment of winter steelhead trout. According to Lewis Conservation District, who performed a full stream habitat survey of Lucas Creek and its tributaries in 2002, the proposed project will restore access to 37,501 square feet of spawning area and make accessible 22,400 square feet of rearing habitat. Additional construction is anticipated to include the installation and removal of a bypass road as well as the installation of streambed, riparian trees and shrubs in disturbed areas, and guardrail to improve roadway safety. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1137)

Alternate

Heernett Environmental Foundation **Grant Request: $114,750**
Cozy Valley Creek Kimball Acquisition

The Heernett Environmental Foundation/Creekside Conservancy will purchase a key property located at the center of Cozy Valley. The 6.53-acre parcel was recently listed for sale and is at imminent risk of loss to development. This acquisition will add a critical piece to the 366 acres already protected (371 acres on the valley floor), expanding the ability of the Conservancy and partners to support ongoing valley-wide restoration and wildlife habitat enhancement efforts. The property is located in the middle of the valley between parcels protected by the Creekside Conservancy. It is directly adjacent to the Sampson parcel, which is the focus of a currently funded SRFB project, Scatter Creek South Tributaries Project Development (#21-1089C) and incorporates a section of the Cozy Valley Creek mainstem. The parcel has critical hydrological connections with Scatter Creek's headwater tributaries and the protection of this site will dramatically benefit various restoration options. While the loss/development of this property will further increase habitat degradation and escalate water quality impacts to the entire watershed system in the future. The property is on the market and under imminent threat of development. Acquisition must take place quickly to benefit Scatter Creek's southern headwaters and the downstream system as a whole. Once the property is protected, the plan is to continue seeking funds to continue both aquatic and terrestrial habitat restoration. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1141)

Alternate

Lewis County Public Works Department **Grant Request: $174,467**
Allen Creek at Rush Fish Passage Design

The proposed project will provide a design to replace an existing 62-foot (ft) long precast concrete double box culvert with two 10.5-ft wide x 5-ft high openings at Site 021 conveying Allen Creek, a tributary to the Newaukum River, at Rush Rd milepost (MP) 1.315 in Napavine, Lewis County, Washington with a minimum 26-ft wide fish passable structure. The barrier culvert, which is owned by the City of Napavine, is 0 percent passable due to depth. The "Prioritized Chehalis Barriers - May 2020" layer in the Chehalis Fish Passage Barrier Prioritization mapper identifies the culvert as a Priority 1 barrier. Replacement of this culvert is anticipated to restore immediate unimpeded access to 4.62 linear miles of habitat for the Southwest Washington Distinct Population Segment (DPS) of winter steelhead trout and the Southwest Washington Evolutionarily

Significant Unit (ESU) of coho once one 0 percent passable downstream barrier at Site 021 is corrected. According to the SWIFD layers provided in the Chehalis Fish Passage Barrier Prioritization interactive mapper total accessible habitat above this culvert should all upstream barriers be removed would be 10.88 linear miles for steelhead and 14.95 linear miles for coho. Additional design elements are anticipated to include a stream realignment and/or channel regrade, incorporation of a low flow notch in the channel regrade area and meander bars inside the culvert to allow for passage during low flows. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1104)

Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $251,500**
Patton Creek-Willapa Passage and Restoration Design

The Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group is proposing a project to create a design to restore the confluence between Patton Creek and the Willapa River to proper function through the removal of a barrier culvert, replaced with a full passage structure, and returning Patton Creek to its natural flow channel. Design will also fully develop plans to restore the lower portion reach of Patton Creek (.15 Miles) and the Willapa River (1.05 Miles). This section of the project is referred to as the "Lower Project Reach". A separated design, the "Upper Project Reach" will also be developed for the restoration of the remainder of Patton Creek above the existing homesite (approximately 4 stream miles). This section of the project is a significant opportunity to improve the spawning and rearing habitat for salmon and steelhead. The design will incorporate elements to improve summer water flows and reduce stream temperature through development of cold-water refuges. In all project reaches, design elements will be directed towards improving stream complexity for both fish use and improved hydraulic performance during various flow stages in the system. The division of the design project into these two project reaches was selected to allow clear transition into separate construction phase projects. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1124)

North Pacific Coast Lead Entity

Salmon Center **Grant Request: $319,288**
Cedar Creek Barrier–Wilhelm Culvert

This project includes both planning and implementation for the replacement of one fish passage barrier on Cedar Creek, a tributary to Anton Creek that flows into Bear Creek which is a tributary to the Sol Duc River. This site is located on priva and owned by the Wilhelm family. The upstream habitat has been assessed and the culvert was surveyed

as a fish passage barrier by WDFW. The 60-inch round culvert is deteriorating with a failed baffle plate that impedes fish passage at the inlet. The percent passibility is noted as 67 percent due to slope, though true passibility is likely much less as the culvert was identified as a low flow barrier, which is then exacerbated by the failing baffle during a range of flows. Replacement of the culvert will reconnect 0.9 miles of salmon habitat and would address the final barrier on the Anton/Cedar Creek tributaries. An upstream barrier was removed in 2021 and the downstream barrier on Bear Creek Road is scheduled for implementation in 2024. Fish species that would benefit include coho, steelhead, cutthroat, lamprey, and rainbow trout. This project is ranked #4 in the Decision Support Tool for the Cold Water Connection Campaign in the Quillayute Basin. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1134)

Clallam Conservation District **Grant Request: $140,219**
Hermison Culvert Replacement Project

This project includes both planning and implementation for replacing two undersized culverts on Hermison Creek, a tributary to the Historic Oxbow on the Quillayute River. Both have been surveyed and identified as fish passage barriers. Replacing both culverts would reconnect 0.95 miles of stream/beaver pond/wetland habitat to the Historic Oxbow and would mark the first step in Quileute Tribe's multi-year plan to restore the Oxbow. The lower culvert, called the "Steep Hill culvert", is undersized, resulting in an incised channel downstream and a ponded wetland upstream. Preliminary (30%) engineering designs to replace the Steep Hill culvert with a bridge are complete. This project would assist in advancing to Final (100%) engineering designs. Above the Steep Hill culvert is 10-acres of wetland and beaver pond habitat. The upper culvert, called the "Hermison Property culvert," is also undersized and rusting away. The channel is deeply incised immediately downstream of the Hermison Property culvert. Above the culvert, the headwaters of Hermison Creek are a seep-fed meandering fish-bearing creek through a thick patch of tall conifers and forested wetland complex with high riparian cover. NRCS is developing the complete engineering designs for this culvert through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program. This project would fund the replacement of the Hermison Property culvert with the designed alternative and the associated revegetation/invasive weed treatment. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1055)

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition **Grant Request: $317,537**
Goodman Creek Large Woody Materials Placement Phase 2

This restoration project is located on Goodman Creek, an independent drainage on the west Olympic Peninsula in Jefferson County, WA. The goal of the project is to restore ecological processes associated with the formation of complex habitat features. Goodman Creek Large Woody Debris (LWD) Placement - Phase 2 builds on restoration efforts implemented in 2021 through Goodman Creek LWD Placement (# 17-1234), by placing large wood instream between RM 11.4 to 13.0. Project deliverables include conceptual, preliminary, and as-built designs and strategically placed large wood structures creating small, stable debris jams and thereby increasing pool habitat and habitat diversity. A mix of native conifers will be planted strategically along the riparian corridor to enhance long-term restoration. Segment 4 is a low gradient, low discharge channel with good access, making large wood placement both feasible and practical. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1148)

10,000 Years Institute **Grant Request: $168,624**
Upper Hoh Homestead Habitat Restoration

This riparian and off-channel habitat restoration project will restore a resilient and functional riparian zone and access to an off-channel habitat complex along the Hoh River at a historic homestead between river miles 27 and 28. The extent of the project is 75 total acres, half a mile east of Owl Creek, upstream a half mile to a floodplain off-channel complex disconnected from river flow by a historic road used for the Spruce Railroad, and a 1' perched cross-drain through the roadbed, which has been unused and overgrown since the 1950's. The revegetation project will provide proof-of-concept by testing strategies developed in the Satsop for deep live-stake re-vegetation that could prove beneficial at many sites on the dynamic Hoh River, and strategies being implemented in the Hoh for passive restoration including double-planting tree species to grow large diameter tree boles and bigger root wads for stability as downed woody debris along river banks and for pool development, and utilizing cut or downed smaller material as 'cribbing' to protect planted or vulnerable species from elk browse, rather than plastic tubing or netting. Priority species supported are Hoh River spring and fall Chinook, coho, and winter steelhead. The Hoh River is renowned world-wide for these wild stocks, and recreational fishing is important to the local economy. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1140)

Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity

The Nature Conservancy **Grant Request: $78,148**
Copalis River Fish Passage and Road Decommission

The Copalis River Fish Passage and Road Decommission project is a restoration project on The Nature Conservancy's Copalis Preserve in Grays Harbor County, Washington. The site itself is located .3 miles northwest of the upper Copalis river and is also hydrologically connected to several surrounding wetland complexes, both to the north and south of the proposed work site. The overall goal is to remove two existing road/stream fish barriers (one collapsing bridge, one debris filled steel culvert), one other collapsing bridge structure (high potential to become a barrier in the near term), and a failing ditch relief culvert. The intent is to restore hydraulic connectivity upstream of the affected live stream crossings, as well to improve overall hydrologic connectivity to several surrounding functioning wetland complexes. The project will also include measures to restore riparian habitat through road prism decommissioning activities, tree planting, and non-native invasive weed treatments. Project is expected to improve passage for three WRIA 21 stocks, including Tier 2 Copalis coho, Tier 3 Copalis Winter steelhead, and Tier 4 Copalis cutthroat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1125)

Trout Unlimited Inc. **Grant Request: $479,722**
Donkey Creek Tributary Fish Passage Project Phase 2

This project is located on Clearwater Road (Jefferson County Rd) at Milepost 1.354. See WDFW Barrier Site ID 160923). The goal is to progress preliminary design to final design per RCO Manual 18 preliminary design deliverables and WDFW stream crossing design standards and implement project to restore fish passage. Implementing this project will result in restored fish passage for coho, steelhead, sea run cutthroat, and resident trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1126)

Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $251,500**
Patton Creek-Willapa Passage and Restoration Design

The Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group is proposing a project to create a design to restore the confluence between Patton Creek and the Willapa River to proper function through the removal of a barrier culvert, replaced with a full passage structure, and returning Patton Creek to its natural flow channel. Design will also fully develop plans to restore the lower portion reach of Patton Creek (.15 Miles) and the Willapa

River (1.05 Miles). This section of the project is referred to as the "Lower Project Reach". A separated design, the "Upper Project Reach" will also be developed for the restoration of the remainder of Patton Creek above the existing homesite (approximately 4 stream miles). This section of the project is a significant opportunity to improve the spawning and rearing habitat for salmon and steelhead. The design will incorporate elements to improve summer water flows and reduce stream temperature through development of cold-water refuges. In all project reaches, design elements will be directed towards improving stream complexity for both fish use and improved hydraulic performance during various flow stages in the system. The division of the design project into these two project reaches was selected to allow clear transition into separate construction phase projects. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1124)

Willapa Bay Lead Entity

Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST) **Grant Request: $169,652**
South-Greenhead-Bear Confluence Preliminary

The construction of State Route 101 through Willapa Bay in the 1930s restricted tidal flows to hundreds of acres of estuarine wetland on the eastern side of Willapa Bay, an area now called Greenhead Slough. Five streams that used to flow off Bear Ridge and into Willapa Bay now terminate in Greenhead Slough, which flows north in a ditch along SR 101 to the Slough's one bridge. The southern end of Greenhead Slough is separated from Bear River by a dike originally built for logging, now providing access from SR-101 to a house owned by Willapa National Wildlife Refuge. Tidal flows to the southern end of Greenhead Slough are restricted by the constricted path of the Slough ditch, which passes under the under-sized Greenhead Slough bridge and eventually through an undersized culvert on a BPA access road near the southern end of Greenhead Slough. The ditch is deeply incised and has downcut under the Greenhead Slough bridge. This project will evaluate and design actions to restore 86 acres of estuarine habitat in southern Greenhead Slough and increase connectivity between water bodies. Actions to be considered include a new bridge or culvert in the dike between Greenhead Slough and Bear River; a new bridge or culvert in SR 101 to connect South Creek/Greenhead Slough and Bear River; and restoration of historical tidal channels in southern Greenhead Slough. The project will increase area and function of estuarine habitat and provide additional off-channel habitat for fish. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1016)

Pacific Conservation District **Grant Request: $240,000**
Ritzman Robertson Road Fish Barrier

The Pacific Conservation District is working with the Ritzman's, Pacific County and Washington State Parks to design solutions to a variety of issues and restoration opportunities on their property in the mid Willapa River watershed. An unnamed stream crosses Robertson County Road and the Washington State Parks (Rails to Trails) railroad grade; both crossings are currently fish barriers. The Robertson County rd. barrier is a high priority on the Willapa culvert prioritization list it scores a "59" (top 20 barriers). These barriers are less than 150' from the confluence of the Willapa River. The county road is less than 20 ft upstream, so the project will collaborate with State Parks to coordinate the designs which are likely to both be skewed to better align with the river. The Robertson Rd. fish barrier project will complete preliminary design and permits for a fish passable structure on Robertson County Rd. The removal of the fish barriers on Robertson Rd. and the Rails to Trails railroad grade will restore salmonid access for spawning and rearing of approx. 2.8 miles of habitat. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1147)

Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $49,980**
Rue Creek Remote Site Incubation Smolt Study

The WBFEG is performing a study to evaluate the effectiveness of remote site incubation (RSI) to develop a naturally spawning salmon population in habitat that has received restoration efforts. On two forks of Rue Creek (Pacific Co.), WBFEG is operating RSI systems that are raising late coho from eyed eggs sourced from the Forks Creek hatchery. These eggs are broken into sub-groups, with half being of hatchery x hatchery origin and half of wild x wild origin. We are using parental based DNA tagging (PBT) to identify the origin of sampled smolts and returning adults. This proposed monitoring project will support the DNA testing costs of smolt tissue samples collected via a smolt trap on Rue Creek. In WRIA 24, salmon and steelhead abundances are greatly depleted from historical levels and the quality of spawning and rearing habitat has been substantially degraded. Current tools used to recover salmon runs include recovery of natural spawning runs with RSI (i.e., increase the number of eggs in the gravel) and habitat restoration projects that improve fish use and survival. To date, these tools have been implemented separately and there has been no evaluation of how RSI and restoration projects are working together or how current efforts could be better coordinated and adapted. Our study will evaluate the effectiveness of RSI systems in these conditions and provide valuable insight into the relative performance of RSI origin smolts of differing parentage and rearing techniques. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1149)

Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Request: $251,500**
Patton Creek-Willapa Passage and Restoration Design

The Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group is proposing a project to create a design to restore the confluence between Patton Creek and the Willapa River to proper function through the removal of a barrier culvert, replaced with a full passage structure, and returning Patton Creek to its natural flow channel. Design will also fully develop plans to restore the lower portion reach of Patton Creek (.15 Miles) and the Willapa River (1.05 Miles). This section of the project is referred to as the "Lower Project Reach". A separated design, the "Upper Project Reach", will also be developed for the restoration of the remainder of Patton Creek above the existing homesite (approximately 4 stream miles). This section of the project is a significant opportunity to improve the spawning and rearing habitat for salmon and steelhead. The design will incorporate elements to improve summer water flows and reduce stream temperature through development of cold-water refuges. In all project reaches, design elements will be directed towards improving stream complexity for both fish use and improved hydraulic performance during various flow stages in the system. The division of the design project into these two project reaches was selected to allow clear transition into separate construction phase projects. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1124)

Alternate

Ducks Unlimited Inc. **Grant Request: $154,954**
North Willapa Bay Wildlife Area Floodplain Reconnect

WDFW is interested in reconnecting the floodplain of the lower North River to a 380-acre portion of the North Willapa Bay Wildlife Area in Pacific County by breaching levees, removing tide gates, and blocking artificial drain ditches. Ducks Unlimited will provide engineering and project management support to develop Site-Specific Conceptual and Preliminary Design deliverables that will lead to a Basis of Design Report. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1224)

Alternate

Sea Resources **Grant Request: $256,000**
Government Road Estuary Culvert Replacement

There is a 5' undersized tidally influenced culvert on an Unnamed Creek which is a tributary to the Lower Naselle River Estuary. This culvert is on Pacific County

Government Road .4 miles north of the Highway 101 Naselle River Bridge. This culvert is a fish passage barrier and blocks full tidal inundation to the approximate 75-acre estuary upstream of the culvert. The culvert is in very poor condition and is not aligned properly with the channel. It has a whirlpool suction at every tidal exchange. It is a barrier for velocity at every tidal exchange. The culvert is an approximately 33-0% passability. It is likely that this culvert is 0% passable, due to the whirlpool suction that is created at each tidal exchange and the danger that this poses to fish. WDFW culvert barrier assessment team verified this during their tidal culvert assessment. The culvert is not aligned correctly and will be corrected with the new bridge design. Due to the extremely small size of the existing culvert, there are large scour holes at either end of the culverts. On the river side, the scour hole is approximately 115' X 115', and on the estuary (hill side) the scour hole is about 72' X 90'. There are some small unnamed tributaries draining into the estuary that would provide some habitat, but the main focus would be restoring tidal inundation and reconnecting the estuary wetland. The project proposes to provide a Preliminary Design (60%) design to replace the 5' round culvert. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for more information and photographs of this project. (23-1048)

WASHINGTON SALMON COALITION
Community-Based Salmon Recovery

August 14 2023

Dear Chair Breckel, Salmon Recovery Funding Board members and Director Duffy,

The Washington Salmon Coalition appreciates this opportunity to provide our recommendation for your consideration in the discussion around match requirements at the September Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) meeting. Although circumstances differ around the state, match is an obstacle for every Lead Entity and sponsor. We recommend that the SRFB remove the match requirement for all project types. Removing the match requirement will expedite salmon recovery, honor the public investment by increasing efficiency, help projects get on the ground faster, reduce administrative inefficiencies and improve the reporting of all leveraged dollars brought to salmon recovery projects.

Removing the match requirement will allow full funding of projects by the SRFB when the Lead Entity allocation is sufficient to do so, eliminating the costly and time-consuming process of assembling matching funds. This will result in faster project completion. Nevertheless, sponsors will continue to leverage outside funding to complete SRFB-funded projects because Lead Entity allocations are rarely sufficient to pay for a whole project.

After removing the matching requirements, the SRFB could require project sponsors to fully communicate in PRISM all the leveraged funds they are bringing to a project, giving the SRFB a broader picture of whole project costs.

Thank you for considering this proposed change on behalf of the Washington Salmon Coalition and Lead Entities across the state. Do not hesitate to reach out if you would like any clarification on our recommendation.

Sincerely,

Mike Lithgow, Chair of the Washington Salmon Coalition

WASHINGTON SALMON COALITION
Community-Based Salmon Recovery

August 28 2023

Dear Chair Breckel, Salmon Recovery Funding Board members and Director Duffy,

On behalf of the Washington Salmon Coalition, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide you with this Partner Report. We would like to draw your attention to the letter in your meeting materials that succinctly identifies the WSC position on the RCO match policy. We intentionally kept this letter brief and to the point, knowing that we would have the opportunity to answer any questions you may have during this board meeting.

We would also like to draw your attention to the Lead Entity project update section that is included in your meeting materials. The Lead Entities have been busy getting money on the ground and we feel it is important to highlight some of the individual successes that are happening every day.

Many of our Lead Entities and partners have submitted comments regarding the DRAFT riparian policy. We hope that those comments will be considered in your deliberations on this important new policy.

Thanks again for your support and we are looking forward to the next grant round!

Sincerely,

Mike Lithgow, Chair of the Washington Salmon Coalition

LEAD ENTITY HAPPENINGS

Earth Day Salmon Advocacy by West Sound Partners
Submitted by Renee K. Johnson of the Kitsap Lead Entity and West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery

West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery (WSPER) put together an Earth Day editorial for a local paper in April. The WSPER Lead Entity Coordinator Renee K. Johnson worked with Washington Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO) Communications Director Susan Zemek for tips on making an engaging story, and Susan also helped with editing. RCO data stewards Chantell Krider and Jessica Fish pulled a report from the Salmon Recovery Portal (SRP) showing WSPER partners' restoration and protection efforts in the West Sound Lead Entity since 2001, which showed 177 projects totaling more than $75 million.

This outreach opportunity was a great team effort that leveraged relationships made during one of the Washington Salmon Coalition's (WSC) Learning and Sharing Sessions coordinated by WSC's Amy Hatch-Winecka. During the session, Zemek spoke with lead entity coordinators and offered to help with communications. Krider and Fish are involved with the SRP Action Committee and are always looking for different ways to track and communicate about salmon restoration investments and actions. This piece appeared in a special Earth Day edition focused on climate resilience in the North Kitsap Herald, Port Orchard Independent and in online editions.

Here is a link to the editorial entitled *Partnerships pave the way for a more resilient landscape for salmon and people:* https://issuu.com/pnwmarketplace/docs/i20230414174129127

2 KITSAP EARTH DAY CLIMATE RESILIENCE APRIL 2023

Partnerships pave the way for a more resilient landscape for salmon and people

The Chabapple Carpenter Creek Estuary undergoes restorative efforts by West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery to protect the precious ecosystem. | Photo by Great Peninsula Conservancy

Right photo: Coordinator Renee Johnson with the West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery team. | Photo by Renee Johnson

By Renee Johnson
West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery

What would you protect if you had the chance?

That is the question Great Peninsula Conservancy asks on Earth Day and every day. For Erik Steffens, conservation director with the Conservancy, the answer is all around him. As he rests in the shade of a towering old-growth Sitka spruce he takes a deep breath of salty air and gazes over the mud flats.

Steffens rests a while to sustain his spirit, even as he races to conserve habitat, open space and the rural character of the Kitsap Peninsula many people regard as a way of life. He knows conservation is a powerful tool that can support the region's struggling iconic salmon runs while also improving resilience to pressures like population growth and climate change.

Relationships are at the heart of this work. This year, Steffens is joining forces with a private landowner and the state's Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program and Salmon Recovery Funding Board to purchase 50 acres of prime salmon habitat at the mouth of Carpenter Creek.

APRIL 2023 INSPIRE.ACT.EDUCATE for a greener tomorrow 3

Surrounded on three sides by Kingston's urban growth area, the property is a veritable oasis for salmon with a protected inlet, salt marsh, tidelands and old-growth trees.

Endangered species like Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, as well as coho and chum salmon, can tuck in here to rest, hide from predators and feed on their journey to the ocean. "This is a rare opportunity to protect one of the few remaining high-functioning, undeveloped bays in Central Puget Sound," Steffens says.

Melissa Fleming of Stillwaters Environmental Center could not agree more. A stalwart supporter of restoration and protection efforts in this estuary, Stillwaters envisions a future preserve where people can learn about and study the environment while surrounded by nature.

Steffens and Fleming are part of a coalition of local partners known as West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery that has been working to recover salmon for more than 20 years. The group consists of technical experts, practitioners and residents of the cities, counties and tribes on the east Kitsap Peninsula. Last year, Steffens proposed the Crabapple-Carpenter Creek Estuary Protection project to the group for vetting before requesting a state grant.

It ranked number one locally, and the state's Salmon Recovery Funding Board agreed, recognizing it as one of six noteworthy projects statewide for its cost-effective protection of significant habitat. Together, West Sound Partners for Salmon Recovery have completed 177 conservation and restoration projects totaling more than $75 million since 2001.

Salmon are iconic in our region and have sustained people and the environment on the Kitsap Peninsula since time immemorial. This Earth Day, and every day, partners in west Puget Sound are working hard to preserve and enhance conditions for salmon that also benefit people–with cleaner air and water, jobs, and a more resilient landscape.

To find out how you can get involved with any of these organizations to help salmon, visit the web pages listed below or contact Renee Johnson at rkjohnso@co.kitsap.wa.us for more information. ■

Resources:
› **westsoundpartners.org**
› **stateofsalmon.wa.gov/how-to-help**
› **stateofsalmon.wa.gov/executive-summary/why-recover-salmon**
› **greatpeninsula.org**
› **stillwatersenvironmentalcenter.org**

See salmon recovery projects on the interactive map at srp.rco.wa.gov.

SOUND PUBLISHING INC.
Kitsap Daily News
911 Hildebrand Rd. Suite 202
Bainbridge Island, WA 98110
(360) 779-4464
kitsapdailynews.com
bainbridgereview.com

Publisher: Terry R. Ward
Advertising Director: Eran Kennedy
Sales Manager: Harmony Liebert
Advertising: Brenda Jorgens, Priscilla Wakefield, Denise Buchner
Special Section Editor: Alyssa Brown
Special Section Designer: Han Bui
Ad Design: Tracy Long, Mallory Stewart, and Han Bui

Monitoring Work Funded following Dungeness Floodplain Restoration
Submitted by Cheryl Baumann, North Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon

Despite millions being invested in setting back levees and reclaiming lost floodplains recently along the Dungeness River in eastern Clallam County, there was no funding available for monitoring. Walt Pearson, PhD, of Peapod Research advocated for monitoring while serving more than a decade as the science and technical advisor to the North Olympic Lead Entity for Salmon. Pearson is a former Battelle (now Pacific Northwest Marine Laboratories) scientist and led the WWU College of the Environment on the Peninsula, among many other scientific endeavors.

The Lead Entity listened to Pearson and pursued and received funding from the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP) Habitat Assessment program last year to develop a Dungeness Monitoring Framework. The Clallam County also provided funding for the project. That collaborative effort involved the Lead Entity, guided by new science advisor Gary Johnson with Bioanalysts, another former Batelle scientist, who has been involved with monitoring work on the Columbia, and local restoration partners including WDFW, the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Clallam County, and members of the Lead Entity's technical team, among others; who helped support another grant application to PSP for actual Dungeness monitoring.

The PSP announced in July that they will fund monitoring of changes in the Dungeness as part of their Puget Sound Scientific Research for State Fiscal Year 2023-2025. Led by Phil Roni, PhD and others from Cramer Fish Sciences, and collaborating with Johnson and local experts as part of the broader technical team; the monitoring will employ remote sensing to quantify the response after the levee setback and reconnection of the Dungeness River to its historic floodplain. This draws on the pilot project done by Roni and others for RCO captured in the 2023 paper: *Evaluating the Effectiveness of Large Floodplain and Riparian Restoration Projects using Remote Sensing*.

Election Day 2022 tour of the Dungeness Floodplain Restoration project for local State Representatives Steve Tharinger and Mike Chapman & Sen. Kevin Van de Wege Legislative staffer Peter Steelquist, staff & representatives

August 29, 2023

Recreation and Conservation Office

1111 Washington St. SE

Olympia, WA 98501

Dear Salmon Recovery Funding Board,

RE: Point No Point Estuary Design Project 21-1053

PLEASE READ INTO THE MINUTES OF THIS SEPTEMBER 2023 MEETING

It has come to my attention, Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group, the project sponsor, has completed a 60% Design Alternative Analysis and selected a preferred alternative. This has been presented to Kitsap County and a meeting with "technical partners" is planned for September 14, 2023.

While this project is not on your current agenda, I wish to have this information included in your meeting minutes. I have personally been involved in expressing my concerns with this project for some time and feel constantly left out of the decision-making process. This community, who must live with the results of actions imposed upon it without our permission or input, has grave concerns that the construction of this project could place this area in great danger should the levee fail or not be maintained sufficiently over the long-term.

As a landowner, who is directly affected by this potential project, I resent decisions being made that will negatively affect the safety, value, and future of my personal residence and my physical safety without input from myself and my neighbors. It is our homes and property that will be negatively affected by the actions of these organizations and the potential future project once completed will forever change the landscape of our homes, lives, and community.

In the information to date, there does not seem to be any concern for the long-term risk to the community, or long-term cost to manage and maintain the alternatives. Significant flooding occurred in this area in December of 2022 and if the proposed levee had been present during that flooding damage to residential properties would have been even greater than what occurred.

Respectfully,

Christine Brinton, property owner
8480 NE Point No Point Rd
PO Box 35
Hansville, WA 98340

CC: Christine Rolfes, Kitsap County Commissioner

COUNCIL OF REGIONS UPDATE for the SRFB's September 2023 Meeting

Prepared by Alex Conley, Chair

The Council of Regions (COR) brings together the state's seven Salmon Recovery Regions to 1) share information among the regions, GSRO & RCO, 2) provide input to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board & 3) coordinate activities that address shared needs of the regional organizations. Since the last SRFB meeting:

1. Regions and our partner Lead Entities are **excited to present you with our 2023 ranked project lists**.
2. Regions **worked with Katie Pruitt of GSRO to provide regional input on state agency supplemental budget proposals.**
3. Regions **worked with Nick Norton to provide input on proposed SRFB match and riparian policies**.
4. The **Hood Canal Region presented to the Salmon Recovery Network** on how they are thinking about maintaining the sustainability of Hood Canal Chum following potential delisting.
5. Regions **worked with Jeannie Abbott to complete new biennial contracts and associated scopes of work** (huge thanks to all who helped secure the RCO budget increase for regions and lead entities; it was exciting to incorporate that new capacity as we defined our goals for this biennium!)
6. COR has **held monthly COR calls and organized COR participation** in groups such as SRNet and the Fish Barrier Removal Board. Huge thanks to RCO Director Duffy for her quarterly check-in calls and to Erik Neatherlin for organizing quarterly check-in calls with WDFW leadership.
7. The **four Columbia River Regions continue to meet monthly** to discuss and coordinate regional input on Columbia River policy and priorities with other state partners.

Specific Council of Regions Input for the September SRFB Meeting:

ITEM 4: SCHEDULE AND MANUAL 18: The Regions have reviewed and support adopting the proposed 2024 SRFB grant round schedule.

ITEM 5: MATCH: The Council of Regions recommends that the Board consider returning to development of an option that makes match optional, while documenting other funding leveraged (previously proposed as Option 1). The currently-proposed Option 2 creates a burden on sponsors to be proactive about tracking match independently to be prepared for line-item audits, and to show match at closure - right now they automatically create the records needed through the billing process. Option 2 will also create challenges for the SRFB in demonstrating that all required match meets WAC eligibility requirements. A match optional approach would accomplish the same ends with less complication, as described in detail in the Washington Salmon Coalition letter (attached). If Option 2 is chosen, we look forward to working with staff to provide input on details of the proposal as it is developed for a December decision. Regions note that under either option, they will continue to use leveraged funds as important criteria in prioritizing projects, and are committed to working with sponsors to document, compile and communicate to decision makers how diverse funding sources come together to implement salmon recovery.

ITEM 6: RIPARIAN FUNDING POLICIES:

1) COR strongly supports Option 1 (which combines lead entity and regional funding and a statewide competition) over 2 or 3 as presented and encourages the board to increase the total amount available to the combined regional and lead entity riparian grant rounds. Option 1 ensures that

From: Duboiski, Marc (RCO)
To: McNamara, Julia (RCO)
Subject: Fwd: New riparian funding policies
Date: Friday, September 8, 2023 3:08:12 PM

FYI

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Devin Smith <DSmith@skagitcoop.org>
Sent: Friday, September 8, 2023 2:41 PM
To: Duboiski, Marc (RCO) <Marc.Duboiski@rco.wa.gov>
Cc: Brenda Clifton <bclifton@skagitcoop.org>
Subject: New riparian funding policies

External Email

Hi Marc,

You had asked a while back for comments on the allocation strategy for new riparian funding through the RCO. We did not comment at that time, but It looks like this has evolved quite a bit and there are new options being considered. Of the options presented our preference would be that the RCO provide funding through Option #1 in the briefing memo. This allocates a greater share of funding to local lead entity project portfolios based on the existing watershed allocation formula and comparatively less funding through the statewide approach. We believe this is the most effective strategy for implementing effective riparian projects in the Skagit basin, and will be simpler for proponents because projects will be evaluated through the existing lead entity review process.

I am not planning to provide a more formal correspondence but wanted to at least share with you.

Thank you!

Devin

Devin Smith
Director of Habitat Restoration
Skagit River System Cooperative
360-391-1984

NOAA FISHERIES

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

FY 2022 Report to Congress

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Cover: WA Conservation Corps crew members plant Sitka spruce trees along a main breach site of the Middle Fork Hoquiam Tidal Restoration Project. Credit: Marc Duboiski, WA Recreation & Conservation Office.

The headwaters of the Charley River in Yukon-Charley National Preserve. Credit: Nate Cathcart, Alaska Department of Fish & Game.

I. Executive Summary

Since 2000, Congress has provided funding for the protection, conservation, and restoration of Pacific salmon *(Oncorhynchus spp.)*.[1] The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF), administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), distributes funds to states and tribes through competitive grants. Eligible projects include all phases of habitat restoration and protection activities that contribute to recovering Pacific salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or supporting Pacific salmon species important to tribal treaty and trust fishing rights and Native subsistence fishing.

This fiscal year (FY) 2022 report to Congress documents the program's contributions to Pacific salmon restoration over the past 23 years (2000-2022). This report summarizes program-wide accomplishments, highlights the value of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and features projects that demonstrate the geographic breadth and extent of work completed to improve salmon habitat, maintain healthy salmon populations, and recover Pacific salmon. The PCSRF program is vital to supporting state- and tribal-led restoration efforts and in fostering associated local partnerships to advance salmon recovery.

Duncan Green (center) leads a traditional ecological knowledge (TEK) meeting with Tanana subsistence fishers. Credit: Catherine Moncrieff, Yukon River Drainage Fisheries Association.

Since 2000, PCSRF has:

Awarded
$73.2 million
on average each year

Received
$1.7 billion
in appropriations

Leveraged
$2.1 billion
non-PCSRF contributions

Restored, created, or protected
1,176,449 acres
of salmon habitat

Made
11,842 stream miles
accessible to salmon

Assisted partners in leveraging resources to implement
15,379 projects

II. Transformational Opportunities Through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

Today, 28 ESA-listed salmon species are at risk or likely to become at risk of extinction on the U.S. West Coast. Many other populations not listed under the ESA have experienced substantial reductions from their historic abundance levels and face many threats, including climate change. Pacific salmon are foundational to the region's ecology and Chinook salmon, in particular, are important prey for endangered Southern Resident killer whales[2] and may also be critical for endangered Cook Inlet beluga whales.[3] Recovering abundant native salmon populations will benefit local communities through renewed commercial and recreational fishing opportunities and associated jobs. Many of these species are of profound cultural importance to Alaska Natives and Native American tribes of the Pacific Coast and Columbia Basin. Pacific salmon recovery is critical to meeting Federal obligations as stewards of tribal treaty and trust resources and to supporting tribal treaty fishing and Native subsistence fishing traditions.

In 2000, Congress established PCSRF to reverse the decline of Pacific salmon populations in California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Idaho. PCSRF is a competitive grant program through which NMFS administers funding to states and tribes to protect, conserve, and recover these populations (Exhibit 1). PCSRF invests in declining Pacific salmon populations, resulting in stronger economies, communities, and ecosystems.[4, 5, 6]

The passage and signing of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58, also known as the "Bipartisan Infrastructure Law") presented an unprecedented opportunity to benefit Pacific salmon and their habitats. The bill provides nearly $3.0 billion over 5 years for NOAA, with funding available for habitat restoration, conservation, and resilience efforts, including an additional $172.0 million, or $34.4 million per year, for PCSRF. During the FY 2022 grant competition, $34.4 million in BIL funds and $61 million in annual appropriation funding were awarded to 19 grant recipients. Half of the BIL funds were awarded to Columbia River and Pacific Coast tribes (including Alaska). Grant recipients and project partners are already implementing regionally significant projects that will improve the resilience of ecosystems facing climate change.

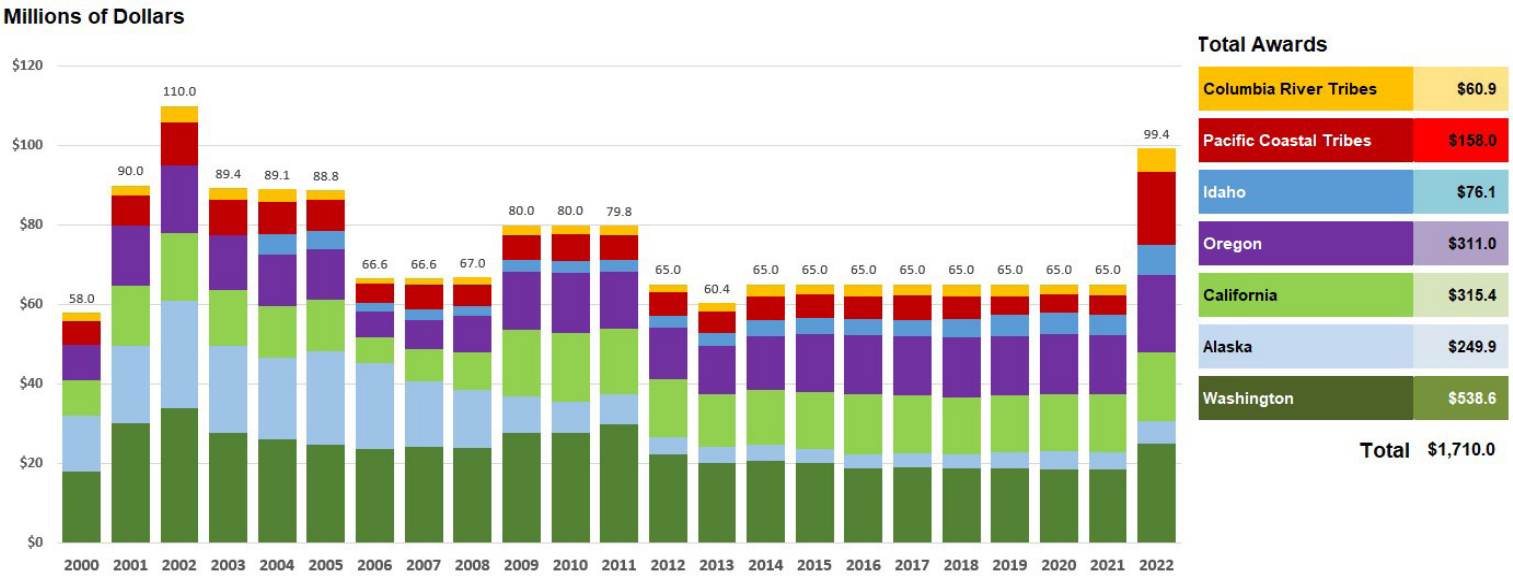


Exhibit 1: PCSRF Awards to States and Tribes ($Millions)
Due to rounding to the nearest $0.1M, the total does not equal the sum of the state and tribal award totals. FY 2022 awards are inclusive of the BIL funds.

III. Endangered Species Act 5-Year Reviews for Pacific Salmon

When Pacific salmon were ESA-listed, NMFS developed plans to outline their path to recovery, understanding that it will take many decades to reverse their decline. Recovery plans guide actions necessary to reverse species' decline. NMFS tracks changing threats and assesses species' viability every 5 years by conducting status reviews. The 5-year reviews determine whether a species is on track to recover and ensure the protected status of each species is appropriate. Currently the 5-year review process is underway. Review findings completed thus far demonstrate that change has not been significant enough to alter the protected status of the species reviewed; however, this is a critical time. Many Pacific salmon populations are experiencing increased threats from climate change and human activities. To learn more about each species' status – including the most significant accomplishments since the last review and the recommended recovery actions to focus on in the next 5 years – visit the NMFS 5-Year Review Publications webpage.[7]

Juvenile Chinook salmon. Credit: Nate Cathcart, Alaska Department of Fish & Game

IV. Building Climate Resilience

Increasing pressure from climate change and other longstanding stressors continue to challenge the recovery of Pacific salmon. To advance recovery, NMFS incorporated considerations for future climate conditions into design guidance for engineered fish passage facilities and stream crossings.[8] This new guidance provides restoration practitioners with the latest information and best practices, to better incorporate climate resilience into PCSRF funded fish passage projects.

PCSRF also supports and encourages habitat restoration projects that result in adaptive ecosystems in a changing climate. Salmon habitat restoration activities can reestablish certain ecosystem services that mitigate the impacts of climate-driven disasters. For example, restored riparian and wetland ecosystems can serve as important wildfire breaks that also provide refuge for plants, fish, and wildlife.[9,10] Restoring, creating, and protecting refugia has growing importance as wildfire severity increases in the west. By restoring the habitats necessary to the viability of Pacific salmon, PCSRF funded projects contribute to more broadly adaptive and climate-resilient ecosystems.

A complex of beaver dams at Dixon Creek, a tributary of Boulder Creek in the NF Sprague River watershed in Oregon, keeps riparian habitat lush and green amid a landscape charred by the 2021 Bootleg Fire. Credit: Charlie Erdman, Trout Unlimited.

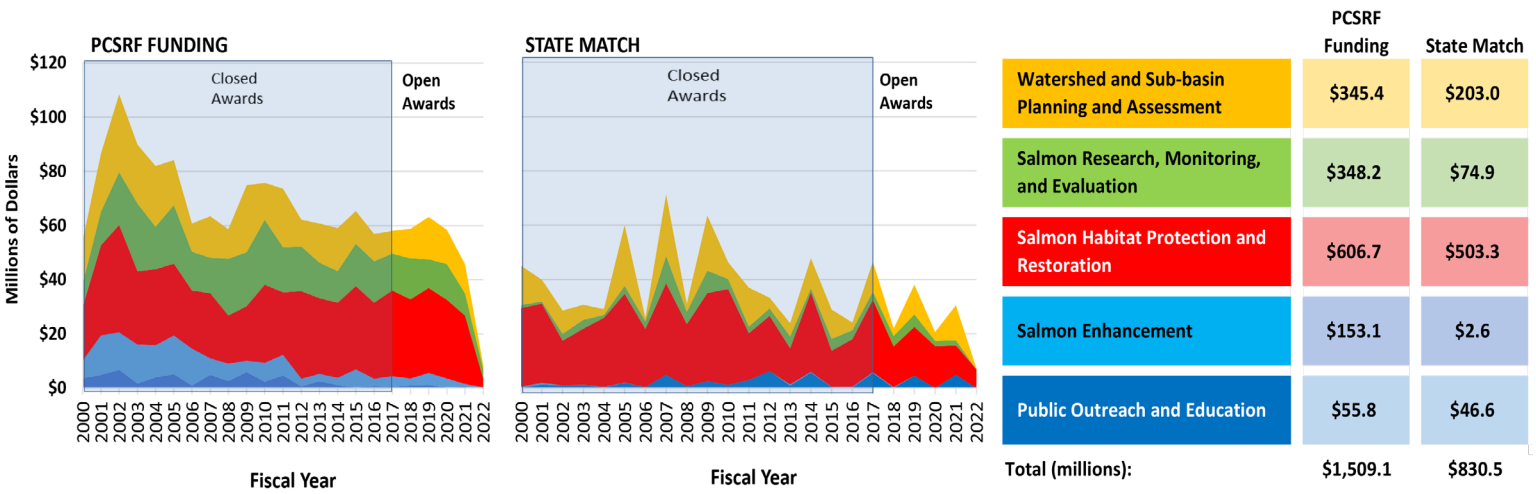
V. Measuring Progress & Tracking Funding

To ensure we can measure and evaluate progress and outcomes from PCSRF investments, all PCSRF recipients report on a standard list of metrics for all projects (Exhibit 2). In aggregate, these metrics provide estimates of program-wide accomplishments funded with PCSRF, state-matching, and other partner funds. PCSRF's project and performance metrics database is available online at: www.webapps.nwfsc.noaa.gov/pcsrf.

Project Type	Performance Measure	FY2022	FY2000-FY2022
Instream Habitat Projects	Stream Miles Treated	87	3,194
Wetland Habitat Projects	Acres Created	0	2,116
	Acres Treated	81	30,229
Estuarine Habitat Projects	Acres Created	0	2,353
	Acres Treated	2	7,403
Land Acquisition Projects	Acres Acquired or Protected	4,011	292,737
	Stream Bank Miles Acquired or Protected	30	5,330
Riparian Habitat Projects	Stream Miles Treated	114	13,656
	Acres Treated	1,314	152,141
Upland Habitat Projects	Acres Treated	1,858	673,985
Fish Passage Projects	Number of Barriers Removed	35	3,826
	Stream Miles Opened	147	11,842
	Number of Fish Screens Installed	40	2,036
Hatchery Fish Enhancement Projects	Number of Fish Marked for Management Strategies	6,261,008	390,075,415
Research, Monitoring & Evaluation Projects	Miles of Stream Monitored	8,798	580,636

Exhibit 2: Summary of PCSRF Program-wide Performance Measures, FYs 2000-2022
Reflects annual and accumulated totals at the time the database was queried for this report (November 21, 2022).

Exhibit 3 highlights funding allocations by project category. Since its inception, habitat restoration and monitoring have remained central emphases of the PCSRF program. While other project categories contribute to PCSRF goals, implementing on-the-ground restoration actions is vital to salmon recovery, and consistent monitoring ensures PCSRF investments are effectively meeting the needs of ESA-listed salmon over time. PCSRF funds continue to play a key role in advancing salmon recovery and improving the status of vulnerable populations in the face of climate change and other threats.



	PCSRF Funding	State Match
Watershed and Sub-basin Planning and Assessment	$345.4	$203.0
Salmon Research, Monitoring, and Evaluation	$348.2	$74.9
Salmon Habitat Protection and Restoration	$606.7	$503.3
Salmon Enhancement	$153.1	$2.6
Public Outreach and Education	$55.8	$46.6
Total (millions):	$1,509.1	$830.5

Exhibit 3: PCSRF and State Funding Allocations by Project Type
Due to rounding to the nearest $0.1 million, the totals for the PCSRF Funding and State Match columns do not equal the sum of the categories. In addition, the sum of total funding allocated across project types does not equal the total PCSRF awards presented in Exhibit 1. Not all awarded funds have been allocated to projects for the more recent fiscal years (Open Awards). Most awards more than 5 years old have expended available funds (Closed Awards).

PCSRF at Work: Featured Projects

ALASKA

Project: Anadromous Cataloging in Arctic Alaska

PCSRF Funds: $253,562

Matching & Other Funds: $1,019,854

Targeted Species: Chinook, Coho, Sockeye, Chum, and Pink Salmon (non-ESA listed species)

CALIFORNIA

Project: Dutch Charlie Creek Instream Coho Habitat Enhancement

PCSRF Funds: $34,068

Matching & Other Funds: $552,403

Targeted Species: Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast Coho Salmon (T)

IDAHO

Project: Pratt Creek Channel Rehabilitation

PCSRF Funds: $186,741

Matching & Other Funds: $172,012

Targeted Species: Snake River Basin Steelhead (T), Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon (T)

OREGON

Project: Rock Creek Mainstem Restoration

PCSRF Funds: $265,307

Matching & Other Funds: $214,200

Targeted Species: Oregon Coast Coho Salmon (T)

For additional project information: Visit FY 2022 Featured Projects at www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/endangered-species-conservation/pacific-coastal-salmon-recovery-fund

(T) denotes species listed as "threatened" and (E) denotes species listed as "endangered" under the ESA

WASHINGTON

Project: North Fork Touchet Restoration

PCSRF Funds: $324,105

Matching & Other Funds: $668,549

Targeted Species: Middle Columbia River Steelhead (T)

References

[1] In this report, the reference to 28 species listed under the Endangered Species Act includes evolutionarily significant units and distinct population segments that are listed as threatened or endangered and the term "salmon" is inclusive of both salmon and steelhead.

[2] Lewis, NMFS. (2021). Southern Resident Killer Whale (Orcinus orca) 5-year Review: Summary and Evaluation. National Marine Fishery Service: West Coast Region. Seattle, WA. December 2021. (https://media.fisheries.noaa.gov/2022-01/srkw-5-year-review-2021.pdf)

[3] Norman, S.A., et al. (2022). A systematic review demonstrates how surrogate populations help inform conservation and management of an endangered species: The case of Cook Inlet, Alaska belugas. Frontiers in Marine Science. March 3, 2022. (https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2022.804218)

[4] Cullinane Thomas, C., C. Huber, K. Skrabis, and J. Sidon. 2016. Estimating the economic impacts of ecosystem restoration – Methods and case studies. U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 2016-1016, 98 p. (http://dx.doi.org/10.3133/ofr20161016).

[5] Edwards, P.E.T., A.E. Sutton-Grier, and C.E. Coyle. 2013. Investing in nature: Restoring coastal habitat blue infrastructure and green job creation. Marine Policy 38:65-71.

[6] Nielsen-Pincus, M., and C. Moseley. 2013. The Economic and Employment Impacts of Forests and Watershed Restoration. Restoration Ecology 21 (2), 207-214.

[7] NOAA Fisheries. (2022). Resources & Services, Publications: Documents – ESA 5-Year Reviews. (www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resources/documents?title=&field_category_document_value%5Besa_five_review%5D=esa_five_review&sort_by=created).

[8] NMFS (National Marine Fisheries Service), 2022. NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region Guidance to Improve the Resilience of Fish Passage Facilities to Climate Change – 2022. NOAA Fisheries West Coast Regional Office, 1201 Northeast Lloyd, Portland, Oregon 97232.

[9] Sage Grouse Initiative. (2021). Beaver Breaks: How Beavers (and low-tech riparian restoration) Help Reduce Impacts from Fire. November 29, 2021. (www.sagegrouseinitiative.com/conserving-diverse-wet-habitats-keeps-western-rangelands-resilient/).

[10] Fairfax, E., and A. Whittle. 2020. Smokey the Beaver: beaver-dammed riparian corridors stay green during wildfire throughout the western USA. Ecological Applications 30(8):e02225. 10.1002/eap.2225 (https://esajournals.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/eap.2225).

National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
SSMC 3, F/PR
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
www.fisheries.noaa.gov

Copies of this Report may be obtained by contacting:
Monica Keim, National Marine Fishery Service
West Coast Region
222 West 7th Ave., Room 552
Anchorage, Alaska 99513
Monica.Keim@noaa.gov

Public Comment concerning the Project of Concern and conditioned project: Point No Point Estuary Design Project 21-1053.

While this project is not on this meetings agenda as a member of the affected community I wish to bring some issues to your attention.

The Point No Point community, which would be directly impacted should this project be constructed, has become aware that Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group, the project sponsor, has completed a 60% Design Alternative Analysis (posted to PRISM 08/25/2023) and within that document has selected a preferred alternative. Additionally, Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group has provided the design alternatives to Kitsap County, only one of the property owners within the project footprint, and has asked Kitsap County to provide comments on the alternatives and select a preferred alternative. Additionally a meeting with "technical partners" is planned for September 14, 2023 to **obtain feedback on the Preferred Alternative design**. While Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group is planning meetings with the Point No Point community sometime in October they are not allowing for or including input from these landowners on the alternatives **until after the preferred alternative has been selected** and reviewed by the County and technical partners.

Furthermore, within their Evaluation of Alternatives there is no criteria for impact to the community, long-term risk to the community, or the long-term cost to manage and maintain each of the proposed alternatives.

The Community has been involved with this project for some time and feels repeatedly left out of the decision making process. There is grave concern that the construction of this project could place this area in danger should the tidal channel or levee fail, or not be maintained sufficiently over the long-term. The project sponsor and Kitsap County are aware of these concerns but are failing to adequately address concerns.

Thank you for your time,
Patty Michak
Point No Point Road resident

From: Gina Bianchi
To: McNamara, Julia (RCO)
Cc: Todd Lachmann
Subject: Re: SRFB meeting: RE Point No Point Estuary project
Date: Saturday, September 2, 2023 1:35:26 PM

External Email

Although the PNP estuary project is not on the agenda, we would like to address the lack of community opportunity to review and comment. Kitsap County is currently reviewing and providing comments by 9/5/23.

The groundwater level data is completely skewed due to the beaver dam near the tidegate that has been there for over a year and the ditches that drain to the tidegate have been plugged during this timeframe. This also inflates the t shirt sizing of the suggested marshlands for the project as the marshlands have not been emptied for over 1.5 years

Lastly, from all of the data we could find, there has not been a study on the small creek that would feed this estuary. Below is the statement from Blue Coasts August 2023 Alternatives Analysis Report:

Three regular sources of surface water inflow into the proposed project area were identified:
• *direct surface water flow from the small unnamed creek that flows into the southwestern corner of the wetland and might have previously flowed through a culvert under Hillview Lane which is currently blocked with debris*
• *stormwater direct runoff and flow from the NE Point No Point Rd drainage ditch to the west*
• *groundwater inflow*
• *precipitation and indirect stormwater inflow*

This creek should be paramount to the project and needs to be studied. It is not acceptable that the project keeps stating "modeling" is how they are achieving their numbers for design, but the basic water data is incorrect from the start.

This project has consistently lacked transparency and has not addressed community concerns in a timely manner.

Thank you,

Gina and Todd Lachmann

SKAGIT WATERSHED COUNCIL
A Community Partnership for Salmon

September 8, 2023

Salmon Recovery Funding Board
c/o Nicholas Norton and Marc Duboiski
submitted via email

To members of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board and staff:

I write today to share the Skagit Watershed Council's (SWC) perspectives and recommendations for your upcoming decision on establishing new riparian funding policies, item #6 on your September meeting agenda.

The Skagit River basin is a critical watershed for several endangered species and provides an indispensable opportunity for salmon and steelhead recovery in Puget Sound. As the third largest river in Washington State, the Skagit is home to all five species of salmon as well as steelhead and bull trout. Of those species, Chinook, steelhead, and bull trout are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. Additionally, Puget Sound Chinook is the primary food source for the Southern Resident Killer Whales, which were federally listed as endangered in 2005, and the Skagit River produces more than half of all wild Puget Sound Chinook. To ensure that these species and others survive in perpetuity, fish habitat, particularly riparian wetlands and forest in the Skagit Watershed, need to be protected and restored.

While regulatory approaches to riparian protection and restoration are a policy matter and outside of the Skagit Watershed Council's scope, we are happy to see a priority set by the Washington State Legislature to more actively incentivize landowners to voluntarily develop their own local partnerships and solutions to the crisis of warming water temperatures, which is a substantive threat to salmon and steelhead recovery. Riparian revegetation has been a priority of Skagit Treaty Tribes, state agencies, and SWC for many years. We annually set aside grant funding to ensure riparian planning and planting and stewardship, regularly making the Skagit Watershed SRFB's largest riparian project implementer. We comprehensively analyze past and current freshwater riparian habitat conditions allowing us to determine if we are gaining or losing it, where, and why (SWC 2017). We have also developed a spatially-explicit database of riparian actions in the Watershed that is collaboratively maintained by riparian practitioners in the basin and allows us to provide annual implementation and effectiveness summary reports (SWC 2023) based on facts rather than conjecture. Most recently, SWC co-authored a Legislative proviso-funded summary report on Targeted Riparian Buffer Incentives (SWC et al. 2023) with the Skagit Conservation District and Washington State Conservation Commission, which inventoried barriers to landowner participation and made recommendations to improve delivery of incentive programs. In short, we have a collective, deep understanding of what is successful

815 Cleveland Avenue, Suite 201 • P.O. Box 2856 • Mount Vernon, WA 98273
Phone: 360-419-9326 • Fax: 360-336-5936 • E-mail: council@skagitwatershed.org • Web: www.skagitwatershed.org

and how the policy decisions in front of you could positively impact our work and the State's goals. This experience informs our comments today.

In short, we support streamlined, dedicated, long-term, regional and watershed allocations with flexible eligibility for riparian activity types that fund local stakeholder and practitioner planning and implementation. We understand the SRFB cannot fund "programs", but SRFB can select policies that streamline the development, review and implementation of coordinated, watershed-scale, project-level proposals (assuming local organizations can count on funding for these projects if they pass technical sufficiency and strategic priorities). **Option #1 described in your Topic #6 briefing memo is the closest option to this preference.**

Conversely, the SWC is deeply concerned about any effort to allocate funds via a statewide competition. We understand this is a preference for some of your SRFB members. A state-wide process can appear to raise the "biggest and best" projects across the State to the top of the list. We are skeptical, however, that SRFB can, under tight time constraints, create an evaluation framework and the intrinsic knowledge base capable of accurately judging across watersheds, bioregions, species, reaches, scales, activity types, costs, and partnerships. Administratively the additional layer of review for a state-wide process also complicates project development and thus reduces capacity of project sponsors to stay focused on the day-to-day work.

The SWC is also very concerned that a statewide competition would decrease funding available through a dedicated watershed allocation. And most importantly, such an approach is going to push resources to a few, flashy, large projects, likely dominated by acquisitions. This would leave unfunded and uncoordinated the much-needed task of knitting together hundreds of parcel-scale riparian improvements we need to address non-point source pollution and water temperature. A "fund a few projects" approach would likely doom the Legislature's challenge to the community to quickly find local, voluntary solutions to the riparian crises we face.

The SWC appreciates the opportunity to comment. The SWC Board of Directors encourages you to adopt a simplified process to provide certainty for our on-the-ground actions by allocating riparian funding via a modified regional allocation and avoiding a large, statewide competition. Please feel free to contact me and our Board of Directors if you would like to follow up on these topics.

Sincerely,

Richard Brocksmith

Executive Director

Cc: Puget Sound Partnership

Washington Salmon Coalition

Washington Council of Regions

YAKIMA BASIN FISH AND WILDLIFE RECOVERY BOARD

September 8th, 2023

Input to the SRFB on Riparian Grant Program Policies and other September Agenda Items

Dear Chair Breckel and members of the Salmon Recovery Funding Board,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input as you set policies for awarding the new riparian restoration funding. The recommendations below are staff-level positions that, given the short timeline since release of proposed policies, have not been reviewed by the full membership of the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board. However, we have made every attempt to be consistent with previous conversations with our Board members, project sponsors and other partners in the Yakima Basin. Our recommendations are as follows:

1) **We encourage the Board to adopt Option 1 and significantly increase the total amount available to the combined regional and lead entity riparian grant rounds.** Option 1 ensures that riparian proposals are selected in a way that ensures they contribute strongly to regional recovery efforts, without the added complication, duplicative review and review-panel workload created by the proposed statewide process. We recommend either dedicating the entire funds available to the regional/lead entity pots, or at the very least, significantly shrinking the statewide grant round to allow increased regional/lead entity funding.

   Increasing the total amount available to regions and associated lead entities will make it attractive for lead entities to make $s available to approved 2013 projects with significant riparian elements. This:
   a. Gets $s on the ground quickly and shows legislature we are serious about implementation.
   b. Frees up 2023 SRFB funds to fund further down 2023 project lists.

   For the Yakima Lead Entity, we have $780,000 out of $2.1m in projects on our current list; using riparian funds for those project elements would allow us to fully fund 2-3 additional projects on our 2023 list. Option 1 gives us the ability to do this, but the limited total funding to our region means that this would significantly reduce our opportunity to fund new riparian projects next year- a choice we are unlikely to make. Using Option 1 and significantly increasing the regional allocation for riparian projects would allow us to both get funds on the ground now and solicit a robust suite of high-priority riparian projects next year.

   I**ncreased funding to regions and lead entities through a modified Option 1 also allows full funding of riparian assessment and stewardship projects.** Options 2 and 3, when combined with the limitation that assessments and stewardship not be funded through the statewide grant round, do not leave sufficient funding to meet this need. Regional and lead entity scale assessments lay the groundwork for future programmatic approaches to riparian restoration and assure funding will go to high priority projects. Stewardship funding is required to be able to maintain riparian plantings past the initial project lifetime- something that is essential to achieving high plant survival rates in eastern Washington. The allocation levels proposed in the current Option 1 only leaves a limited amount of funding for on-the-ground projects once essential assessment and stewardship work is funded; increasing the regional allocation would ameliorate this.

1200 Chesterly Drive, Suite 280, Yakima, WA 98902
Phone (509) 453-4104 Email: info@ybfwrb.org Web: www.ybfwrb.org

2) If the Board chooses to increase the total amount of funding available to regions and lead entities under option 1, consideration should be given to changing how funds are split between regions and lead entities. The current approach (first allocating a base amount to each lead entity (250k in Option 1), and then splitting the remaining locally-directed funding to regions using the regional allocation) means that regions that have more lead entities automatically received proportionally more funding. This means that regions where lead entities are consolidated with regions (the Columbia Basin and Hood Canal) receive proportionately less funding than Puget Sound and the Coast than would occur in a regular grant round. **Allocating funds to regions using the regional allocations, and then requiring that each region provide its associated lead entities at least a set amount from within that allocation would avoid unbalancing the allocations** and respect the fact that individual lead entity allocations are negotiated by partners within each region, not at the state level (the only allocation formula formally adopted by the SRFB is the regional allocation formula).

3) The Board should **consider applying the 50% upland limit to only that proportion of an acquisition proposed for funding by the SRFB**. Instead of saying that a project is ineligible if it contains more than 50% upland area, the SRFB should require that no more than 50% of the SRFB riparian funds may go towards the value of upland portions of the property. Under the current proposed language, acquisition of a high-priority riparian area that made up less than 50% of the parcel would be ineligible even if the sponsor had secured more than enough other funding to cover the full cost of the upland acres. This would unfortunately exclude many of the high-priority riparian projects in eastern Washington from consideration.

4) Unfortunately, the limits on eligible project types exclude many floodplain restoration actions that are a prerequisite to successful riparian restoration in eastern Washington (eg levee stebacks, floodplain recontouring and side channel reconnections that restore the hydrologic conditions needed to grow riparian plants in an arid area). While this exclusion may be appropriate for the riparian funding itself, the additional requirement that SRFB and riparian projects can only be combined if all elements are eligible for both programs misses major opportunities to combine aggressive floodplain restoration with riparian restoration. **The Board should consider adjusting the proposal to make it easier to combine funding for paired floodplain and riparian restoration projects.**

5) Finally, we note that **Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board staff are interested in being engaged as RCO staff work to finalize any statewide criteria** to be developed for December Board approval. The current draft criteria area significant improvement over the original draft, but could still benefit from refinement.

OTHER SRFB AGENDA ITEMS:

1) We encourage the Board to pursue development of a match-optional policy in lieu of further developing partial match reform with the additional complications identified in the staff memo.

2) We strongly encourage the Board to make the $4 million withheld from the 2023 grant round available as part of the regular 2024 grant round.

Thank you for the opportunity to weigh in on the decisions before you today.

Sincerely,

Alex Conley
Executive Director