

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



Project Name	Project Number (link to project details)	Grant Applicant	Grant Program	Project Type	Water Resource Inventory Area	County	Project Description (Not edited by RCO)	RCO Grants Manager	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
Tumwater Creek Restoration Planning	23-1885	Port Angeles Port of	Restoration and Protection Program	Planning	18 - Elwha - Dungeness	Clallam	This project focuses on planning activities for the restoration of the Tumwater Creek on Port property, its mouth, and the adjacent Port Angeles Harbor shoreline in SPU 1026. Habitats are severely degraded and the creek flows through a narrow channel reinforced with vertical concrete panels. These panels are now falling into the creek and obstructing flow. ESRP funds will complete an alternatives analysis that considers restoration options including shoreline softening, riparian plantings, streambed widening, and structure removal to benefit the entire estuary system (the creek, its outlet, and the adjacent Port Angeles Harbor). Key salmon species have been observed in Tumwater Creek, including Coho, Chum, ESA-listed Puget Sound Steelhead, Sea Run Cutthroat, and Resident Trout. This project will lead to a future restoration phase that will benefit these critical species throughout all stages of their lifecycles. This section of Tumwater Creek is the missing link between threatened salmonid species and miles of improved upstream habitat. Other sections of Tumwater Creek have been the focus of several fish barrier removal projects, including culvert removals in 2013-2015 (RCO) and 2024 (WSDOT). Restoring this section will ensure that these prior and ongoing passage projects have maximum beneficial impact by removing remaining barriers that block connection to upstream habitat.	Caromile, Kay	\$90,000	\$40,000	\$130,000

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Double Bluff Acquisition	24-1200	Whidbey Camano Land Trust	Restoration and Protection Program	Acquisition	6 - Island	Island	Property acquisition by the Whidbey Camano Land Trust will protect 257 acres that includes 2/3-mile of exceptional bluff backed shoreline. Protection will benefit the natural processes that create and sustain the property's nearshore ecosystem, including feeder bluffs that are identified by Department of Ecology as "Exceptional" and range between 200-350 feet high along the entirety of the shoreline. The project will also protect offshore kelp and eelgrass beds that provide migratory habitat for salmon, including threatened Hood Canal chum and Chinook, coho, and pink salmon, as well as associated forage fish. The property's undeveloped forest upland has an array of freshwater features that provide benefits to salmon through watershed protection adjacent to the nearshore environment. The 15-acre Oliver Lake is completely buffered by wetlands and drains through a perennial stream that flows a quarter mile northwest to Deer Lagoon, which is known rearing habitat for juvenile salmon and forage fish. Additional wetlands lining the deep valleys that cross through the property provide extensive water quality benefits to Useless Bay and the Puget Sound. The Double Bluff project, which sits largely within Geographic Area 2 of Island County Salmon Priority Areas, addresses two of the top priorities of the WRIA 6 (Island) Multi-Species Salmon Recovery Plan: 1) Protect and restore natural marine shorelines and processes 2) Protect and restore functional riparian vegetation.	Caromile, Kay	\$1,950,000	\$5,182,750	\$7,132,750

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Island County Shore Friendly Program	24-1300	Island County of	Shore Friendly Program	Planning	6 - Island	Island	Island County has been offering outreach and incentives for shoreline homeowners and influencers through their Shore Friendly program funded through the Puget Sound Marine and Nearshore Grant Program since 2014. The Shore Friendly program promotes alternatives to hard armoring that provide both the use and enjoyment of shoreline property while promoting and maintaining the ecological properties of coastal ecosystems for the support of fish and wildlife. This proposal will allow Island County to build on the groundwork that has been established through the Shore Friendly program for many years to help homeowners make the next step in implementing solutions at their properties to protect and enhance nearshore habitat. Island County will offer mini-grants up to \$5,000 to shoreline landowners for eligible projects that promote the protection and restoration of the nearshore environment. To complement the incentive work, Island County will also work with partners, including the Northwest Straits Foundation (NWSF), Island County Marine Resources Committee (MRC), and Washington State University (WSU) Extension Shore Stewards, to inform community members of the impacts of hard armoring, the benefits of soft and natural beaches, and solutions and resources to help them understand these options at their properties.	Warinner, Bob	\$393,901	\$0	\$393,901

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Bluff Recession GIS Analysis for Retreat (BRGAR)	24-1904	Herrera Environmental Consult.	Learning Program	Planning	6 - Island	Island	Sediment supply from coastal bluffs sustains nearshore habitats and coastal landforms, and is critical to the natural adaptive response of beaches to sea level rise (SLR; Pethick 2001). However, shore armor is present along 33% of Puget Sound feeder bluffs (CGS 2018) and is often built to impede natural bluff erosion and protect upland structures. Demand for shore armor will increase as climate change and sea level rise accelerate bluff erosion. To enable shore armor removal and reduce demand for new armor, restoration practitioners need access to spatial tools that prioritize the relocation of structures and infrastructure away from eroding bluffs. This partnership between Herrera Environmental, the Washington State Department of Ecology's Applied Coastal Research & Engineering team, and the Northwest Straits Foundation will identify intact feeder bluffs that are at risk of becoming armored and armored feeder bluffs that may be candidates for restoration after structure relocation. This study will compile, refine, and augment existing Sound-wide bluff erosion rates to create erosion buffers over target timespans, identifying developed nearshore properties that will be vulnerable to bluff erosion and prioritizing those properties for relocation outreach and support. This project supports regional Shore Friendly Programs and the Shore Friendly Loan Program (in development) and builds on past ESRP learning projects (CGS 2020; CGS 2018; Kaminsky et al 2015; Weiner et al 2018).	Caromile, Kay	\$184,820	\$55,480	\$240,300

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Beach Nourishment Effectiveness in Puget Sound	24-1906	Natural Systems Design	Learning Program	Planning	6 - Island	Island	Recent synthesis of science surrounding beach nourishment has been conducted which reviewed data from publications and gray literature in the Puget Sound region and found that beach nourishment is highly effective but is generally poorly studied and the authors were "unable to quantify the degree of impacts from beach nourishment" (Lambert and Chamberlin, 2023). Natural Systems Design + Coastal Geologic Services with project partners proposes to evaluate the function, effectiveness, and best practices for the use of beach nourishment in nearshore restoration. Existing data and findings will be compiled from Lambert and Chamberlin, the Marine Shoreline Design Guidelines (MSDG), UW, WDFW, other researchers, and monitoring projects in the region. New data collection will target sites where beach nourishment was conducted more than 5 years prior and will focus on restoration projects but may include ongoing projects depending on data and site availability. Analysis will determine the effectiveness of beach nourishment on beaches and embayment systems for restoring or enhancing physical processes and habitats and the implications for ecological function, to augment the MSDG. This information will enable the development of best practices for beach nourishment design in the Puget Sound region considering ongoing sea level rise (SLR). This evaluation will also help to improve future monitoring efforts and increase knowledge of the ecological effects of this widely used practice.	Caromile, Kay	\$210,281	\$63,100	\$273,381

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Evaluating Subtidal Ecosystem Function	24-1913	Ecology Dept of	Learning Program	Planning	6 - Island	Island	Effects of shoreline restoration on nearshore habitat and morphology below the intertidal zone are poorly understood and not well documented, yet we know that processes initiated in the supratidal zone occur throughout the nearshore zone. Washington State Department of Ecology's Applied Coastal Research and Engineering (ACRE) Section will conduct surveys of the intertidal and subtidal zone to quantify differences in morphology and habitat associated with shoreline modification as compared to adjacent unmodified shorelines. Five sites will be selected with unmodified shoreline bracketing continuous high-encroachment armoring. Survey data will include photogrammetry, lidar, and multibeam bathymetry and backscatter. Substrate and habitat classifications will be quantitatively groundtruthed via direct sampling and underwater videography and extrapolated via supervised classification. This classification process will be refined into a draft tool and shared with the nearshore hydrographic community. Alongshore and across-shore analyses of habitat type, diversity, and distribution at each site will be used to evaluate subtidal conditions and their spatial scale related to shoreline modification. Habitat data associated with natural processes, hard armoring, and shoreline restoration can be used to predict subtidal effects of shoreline modification or restoration, identify habitats in greater risk of degradation due to shoreline modification, and prioritize areas for restoration.	Caromile, Kay	\$403,584	\$121,696	\$525,280

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Adelma Beach Bulkhead Removal & Restoration	23-1850	NW Straits Marine Cons Found	Small Grants Program	Restoration	17 - Quilcene - Snow	Jefferson	This beach restoration project located at Adelma Beach within Discovery Bay, Jefferson County will restore feeder bluff and biological processes and functions via the removal of 530 SF of creosote-treated wooden bulkhead, including two cabins supported by the structure. The structures collectively span 113 LF of shoreline and sit waterward of the toe of the bank, approximately 5 to 10 feet below MHHW and 4 to 5 feet above beach grade. The project will remove non-native and invasive vegetation and re-slope with a native plant riparian community to restore sediment transport processes and improve habitat connectivity, including nutrient exchange provided by insect fallout from native trees and shrubs. The project seeks to address prey species availability and climate resiliency through restoration of coastal processes and forage fish spawning habitats. Failing and unnecessary armor is burying spawning habitat of surf smelt and sand lance, two critical prey species for salmonids and marine birds. Removal of the bulkhead will also support nearshore fish use including ESA listed summer chum and coho. The Adelma Beach project was identified through outreach and technical assistance provided to the landowner by the Northwest Straits Foundation's Shore Friendly program.	Caromile, Kay	\$150,000	\$137,491	\$287,491

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Little Quilcene River Estuary Preliminary Design	23-1900	Hood Canal SEG	Restoration and Protection Program	Planning	17 - Quilcene - Snow	Jefferson	This project aims to complete a conceptual and preliminary design for the large scale and comprehensive restoration of the Little Quilcene River estuary. The conceptual design will culminate in the creation of 3 design alternatives. The preferred alternative will then be developed to the preliminary design stage. This proposed restoration project will build on previous restoration actions within the Little Quilcene Estuary and aim to restore large amounts of estuarine and freshwater habitat. These restoration actions will provide numerous benefits for ESA listed adult and juvenile Hood Canal Summer Chum and Puget Sound Steelhead. The project will also aim to address existing fish passage issues that have been documented to prevent upstream migration for adult Hood Canal Summer Chum past river mile 0.2. Elements that will be considered in the development of the conceptual and preliminary design include: -Removal of 2,900 feet of the existing levee system -Construction of a new sinuous channel for the Little Quilcene River that meanders through its historic floodplain and estuary into Quilcene Bay. Configuration of the channel will be designed appropriately for the geomorphic setting -Construction of distributary and tidal channels -Reconnection of salt marsh habitat - Addition of large quantities of LWD -Revegetation of riparian areas and pastureland.	Caromile, Kay	\$272,160	\$249,760	\$521,920

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Maury Island Aquatic Reserve Armoring Removal 4	24-1182	King Co Water & Land Res	Restoration and Protection Program	Acquisition & Restoration	15 - Kitsap	King	This combination acquisition and restoration project builds upon the previously ESRP-funded projects Maury Island Aquatic Reserve Armoring Removal (MIARAR) 1, 2 and 3. This project is located adjacent to the Maury Island Aquatic Reserve on Vashon- Maury Island. The project's primary goal is to remove impediments to natural nearshore processes. MIARAR 4 acquires 2 acres of property adjacent to the reserve, including 185 feet of bluff backed beach. The project will restore buried intertidal area in a forage fish spawning area by removing five cabins and associated shoreline armoring. The 400 feet of creosote wood shoreline armoring that will be removed with this grant is built into the intertidal zone and its removal is expected to start benefitting nearshore species within a few tidal cycles. The project will also revegetate about 1.8 acres of shoreline buffer with native vegetation and daylight 100 feet of stream.	Caromile, Kay	\$1,150,000	\$575,000	\$1,725,000

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Shore Friendly King County Program 2025 - 2027	24-1183	Mid-Puget Sound Fish Enh Grp	Shore Friendly Program	Planning	15 - Kitsap, 8 - Cedar - Sammamish, 9 - Duwamish - Green	King	Shore Friendly King County (SFKC) will reduce armor on KC marine shorelines through voluntary stewardship, using inter-agency collaboration and Shore Friendly Program (SF) community-based social marketing (CBSM), and leveraging successful existing programs and resources. This approach facilitates armor removal and nearshore restoration by engaging, educating and supporting homeowners on exploring shoreline stewardship alternatives and by providing technical assistance (TA) and match-funded incentives to motivate and support homeowners on armor removal and nearshore restoration. SFKC will focus on Category 2 (Cat-2) homeowners where armor removal will support process-based and/or nearshore habitat restoration. SFKC will engage Cat-2 homeowners who have or are working through existing education and TA programs and will recruit new Cat-2 homeowners ready to receive and access SFKC messaging and TA. ESRP SF funding will expand current Cat-2 homeowner engagement and TA services, including 1) directing communications, marketing and engagement to motivate homeowners to access TA services, and 2) offering and deploying TA services to support homeowners on learning about and identifying opportunities for armor removal or alternative shore protection strategies along with marine riparian and nearshore habitat enhancement. TA services will range from site visits to identify armor removal and restoration opportunities to project planning, permitting and implementation services.	Warinner, Bob	\$589,637	\$0	\$589,637

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Quantifying juvenile Chinook non-natal rearing	24-1902	King Co Water & Land Res	Learning Program	Planning	15 - Kitsap	King	We propose to quantify juvenile Chinook salmon use of non-natal streams along the central Puget Sound shoreline and to relate juvenile Chinook occupancy in these streams to landscape- and site-scale variables. Juvenile salmon are often assumed to follow a linear progression of habitat use: freshwater rearing in their natal river, then migration to their natal estuary for additional rearing, then migration to the marine environment. Recently however, juvenile Chinook have been observed to pass through their natal estuary, enter the marine environment, then temporarily return to freshwater or estuarine habitats by rearing in small streams or estuaries along the Puget Sound shoreline. These streams do not support Chinook spawning, therefore any juvenile Chinook found in these systems originated from elsewhere. Most observations of this phenomenon are from the Whidbey Basin and it is unclear if these observations are relevant to other parts of Puget Sound. However, because central Puget Sound has lost much of its natural estuary habitat, non-natal streams may be important rearing habitats for juvenile Chinook. To quantify the extent of non-natal stream rearing by juvenile Chinook along the central Puget Sound shoreline and to explain variation in juvenile Chinook occupancy in these streams, we will identify and collect habitat and fish data for 40 non-natal streams along the central Puget Sound shoreline, then will relate Chinook occupancy in these streams to habitat variables.	Caromile, Kay	\$216,099	\$194,743	\$410,842

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Coastal Inlets & Estuaries Tidal Sizing Guidance Ph2	24-1903	Environmental Science Assoc	Learning Program	Planning	8 - Cedar - Sammamish	King	Building off research developed as part of ESRP 22-1759, ESA will evaluate estuary widths at reference coastal inlets and stream mouths throughout Puget Sound to establish tidal connectivity sizing recommendations that will inform the design of future ESRP program investments. This work fills a significant data gap regarding the appropriate width of an estuary at a given location between head of tide and estuary outlet, based on considerations of geomorphology and ecological processes. In Phase 1 of this project (ESRP 22-1759), ESA is focusing on a desktop analysis to assess potential sites and gather available data. The second phase proposed in this application will focus on field data collection, with a focus on measuring estuary transects and thalweg elevations, mapping the ordinary high water mark, evaluating the predominant bed material, and checking the estimated head-of-tide. The project work complements ESRP 16-2283's investment in barrier embayment outlet channel geometry. We have also been in communication with the Department of Ecology on ESRP 24-1911 to coordinate data collection and share resources, thus expanding the amount of data that can be collected for the same budget. The proposed project is supported by the juvenile salmon movement patterns documented in the WDFW marine fish access research conducted in ESRP 16-2282.	Caromile, Kay	\$174,600	\$52,400	\$227,000

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Shoreline sediment characteristics for restoration	24-1910	University of Washington	Learning Program	Planning	8 - Cedar - Sammamish	King	The sediment characteristics of shorelines, including mean grain size and grain size fractions, and wood and organics content, are critical determinants of beach habitat, ecosystem and shoretype functions and can control or be controlled by coastal processes and evolution. However, collection of sediment characteristics data in the field has historically been challenging, particularly on mixed sediment beaches. As a result, this important indicator of shoreline function and change is not routinely monitored in planning and evaluation of restoration efforts across Puget Sound. We propose to apply a novel automated sediment characterization method, based on a combination of machine learning and statistical image processing techniques, to sediment images collected on diverse Puget Sound shorelines. We are developing the method based on a substantial dataset of images collected from the Elwha drift cell, and will evaluate its transferability to Puget Sound shorelines. This automated method will produce relative sediment fractions, per-fraction grain size statistics, and bulk estimates of organic debris from images collected in the field with an amateur-grade camera. The proposed work has the potential to transform the collection of sediment characteristics data, enabling its incorporation into routine planning and efforts across Puget Sound to provide a key indicator of shoreline health and function.	Caromile, Kay	\$33,493	\$10,500	\$43,993

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Shoreline Armor Removal Planning Phase 2	24-1916	Cramer Fish Sciences	Learning Program	Planning	8 - Cedar - Sammamish	King	The Puget Sound shoreline has been subject to extensive modification by construction of armor, fill, and other structures to support waterfront infrastructure and prevent flooding and erosion. Given the significant impact of armoring on shoreline processes and both fish and wildlife, widespread efforts are underway to remove and restore previously armored shorelines. Previous studies have evaluated the impact of armor removal and restoration on improving physical habitat and biotic conditions. However, studies focused on fish response have been limited to subtidal areas or a small number of sites. Therefore, understanding the impact of armor removal on intertidal fish at restoration sites across the Puget Sound represents a data gap. As part of a previous ESRP Learning Project, #20-1940, we executed a pilot study where we quantified fish densities and evaluated topography and habitat conditions at treatment and control reaches. The specific aim was to evaluate traditional field-based survey methods alongside novel remote sensing techniques, with the goal of developing a standardized protocol applicable on a regional scale. This proposed study would implement those protocols at 22 armor removal projects and paired controls distributed across the Puget Sound to evaluate the biotic and abiotic factors that can influence the success of armor removal (restoration) projects at increasing juvenile salmonid and forage fish abundance in the intertidal zone.	Caromile, Kay	\$663,163	\$205,480	\$868,643

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Battle Point Smith Armor Removal & Riparian	23-1842	Mid-Puget Sound Fish Enh Grp	Small Grants Program	Restoration	15 - Kitsap	Kitsap	Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group will complete final design, permitting and construction of a restoration project on private residential property in W Central Bainbridge Island, WA. The project removes hard armoring from 100 linear feet of Puget Sound shoreline, one large and four small groins, attached patio & boat ramp. Sediment transport, forage fish spawning & juvenile Chinook rearing habitat are restored, new salt tolerant backshore shrubs border the new pocket beach, and a native marine riparian corridor serving as a pervious pollinator and detritus input pathway replaces 3,240 SF of concrete sport court. The project meets the priorities of the Puget Sound Partnership and the East Kitsap Watershed Chapter. The project reverses risks posed by residential clearing and shoreline armoring that, when combined with sea level rise, threaten sediment transport, water quality & system integrity. The restored beach is the primary feature defining the seaward edge of the restored backshore and shaded riparian corridor, all of which are habitat for aquatic & terrestrial species and a depository for nutrients bound for the tide. The beach is allowed to evolve as it meets the landward edge of the nearshore zone, becoming variable in shape & composition as it responds to physical processes and as it accumulates more (and more diverse) wood, wrack, and invertebrates both within the project footprint and on the northern corner of the adjacent property to the south.	Caromile, Kay	\$148,911	\$109,172	\$258,083

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Dyes Inlet Lagoon Bulkhead Removal	23-1868	Kitsap County Comm Development	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	15 - Kitsap	Kitsap	This construction project will improve and restore conditions of impacted nearshore processes, such as tidal flow and cross shore connectivity along an estuary-embayment on five private parcels in Dyes Inlet, Kitsap County. The project site is a 10-acre embayment with salt marsh and open lagoon bounded by a barrier spit. This bulkhead removal project will also increase beach and backshore habitats for spawning and rearing forage fish, out-migrating juvenile salmonids including ESA listed Chinook, and other species that utilize the nearshore. The 60% preliminary designs (permit-ready) propose to remove 514 linear feet of shore armor with significant fill and scattered debris removal and add beach nourishment and native vegetation planting to reestablish natural conditions of the embayment. The project elements also include a necessary return wall and incorporates recreational access to the shoreline. To achieve project goals the defined objectives are: Remove largest extent feasible of shore armor (514 linear feet of rockery bulkhead, revetment, and pilings) Remove a large volume of non-native fill (1300 CY) and replace approximately 15,065 SF of lawn with upper intertidal, salt marsh, backshore, and marine riparian vegetation. Reestablish a larger estuary-embayment area and more natural saltmarsh profile through fill removal and adding 779 CY of	Caromile, Kay	\$297,570	\$127,530	\$425,100

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Shore Friendly Kitsap 2025-27	24-1144	Kitsap County of	Shore Friendly Program	Planning	15 - Kitsap	Kitsap	Shore Friendly Kitsap is an incentive-based program sponsored by Kitsap County in partnership with Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group. This incentive program is for residential shoreline landowners to reduce shoreline armor and improve nearshore habitat and processes, accelerating armor reduction in Puget Sound. Its overall goal is to protect and improve coastal processes and beach health for Puget Sound species, including threatened Chinook salmon and orcas. Shoreline technical assistance is available to residential landowners in all of Kitsap County including its four cities, to shift shoreline management behavior away from armor and towards stewardship. Local staff will work with landowners to avoid new armor, remove existing armor; choose soft shore alternatives where feasible, and improve nearshore stewardship. The program uses a multi-pronged approach to provide key incentives to motivate landowners towards shoreline restoration. These incentives include: Outreach and education to inform about the benefits of shoreline armor removal. Shore Friendly branding is used in messaging and engagement. Site visits for shoreline landowners to provide technical guidance and stewardship recommendations. Landowner assistance for shoreline restoration projects. This includes technical support, feasibility assessments, design, project coordination and permitting assistance. Financial assistance to off-set project costs. This includes mini-grants and implementation cost-shares.	Warinner, Bob	\$806,671	\$0	\$806,671

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Enetai Shoreline Protection	24-1251	Great Peninsula Conservancy	Restoration and Protection Program	Acquisition	15 - Kitsap	Kitsap	The Enetai Shoreline Protection project will conserve one of the best remaining potential sites for shoreline, feeder bluff and armor-removal restoration in Central Puget Sound. Located within the East Bremerton Urban Growth Area of Kitsap County, the project site contains ~1,100 feet of high-functioning feeder bluff and bluff-backed beach, as well as a 100+ year old riparian forest. The 600 feet of active feeder bluff supplies important sediment input for 3 miles of drift cell, including to nearby Illahee State Park. The site also has ~350 feet of low bank armoring that will be removed in future phases, along with removal of a beach house, tennis court, and associated fill. This will not only allow for shoreline restoration, but also the restoration of a historic closed lagoon and salt marsh embayment, a vital and disappearing habitat type. Fee simple acquisition of the 24.8-acre property offers a rare, and highly threatened, opportunity to restore a large, diverse, and functioning shoreline system in close proximity to the large population centers of Puget Sound. Some of the existing infrastructure, with minimal impact on wetland and shoreline function, will remain to benefit public recreation and environmental education, offering the unique opportunity to experience a high-functioning nearshore system and connect with nature in an urban area.	Caromile, Kay	\$3,040,200	\$1,310,000	\$4,350,200

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Web-based viewer of ESRP-Funded Topo Data	24-1912	Ecology Dept of	Learning Program	Planning	15 - Kitsap	Kitsap	Since 2012, the Washington State Department of Ecology's Applied Coastal Research and Engineering (ACRE) section has collected high-resolution topographic and bathymetric data along Puget Sound shorelines, including beach and bluff boat-based lidar surveys previously funded by ESRP in 2015 and 2021. Currently these data are only shared upon request and there is no streamlined system for public distribution. Our goal with this project is to develop the WebGIS infrastructure necessary to host and serve our 3D topographic data to the Puget Sound community. This will allow scientists, engineers, planners, and restoration practitioners to visualize coverage, interact with different data types, and download quality-controlled topographic datasets. The ACRE team, in collaboration with Ecology's IT-GIS team, will evaluate existing online data infrastructures and repositories and develop a web map for distributing high-resolution topographic and bathymetric datasets for community use. Industry standard file formats will be used, and metadata will be developed to ensure that the data are useable for the wider geoscientific community. The integration of ACRE's datasets into a public data repository will allow increased access to Puget Sound shoreline topographic data in a user-friendly interface for applications in restoration design.	Caromile, Kay	\$86,914	\$28,062	\$114,976

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 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Lilliwaup Cr Restoration Feasibility	24-1011	Hood Canal SEG	Restoration and Protection Program	Planning	16 - Skokomish - Dosewallips	Mason	This project will conduct a feasibility study of the restoration potential of Lilliwaup Creek and its estuary to enhance nearshore processes and Hood Canal summer chum recovery. The project includes a reach assessment of the anadromous portion of Lilliwaup Creek, development of design alternatives (both inclusive and independent of PSNERP Conceptual Designs), a cost-benefit analysis of all alternatives, and stakeholder outreach. The project will address the limiting factors for ESA listed Hood Canal summer chum and other anadromous species native to Lilliwaup Creek. Among these factors are the impacts and benefits of expanding the spawning and rearing grounds, and enhancing genetic diversity. Notably, Lilliwaup Summer Chum are uniquely identified as one of six core subpopulations comprising the ESA listed Hood Canal Summer Chum population. The overall goal of the project is to restore historical tidal flow regimes and sediment transport processes. This project will identify potential benefits to the Lilliwaup watershed and the greater Hood Canal ecosystem. In part, this project will address the adverse effects from extensive landslides in the Lilliwaup Watershed that have led to aggradation of the floodplain and disturbance to the health of the riparian area. Restoring habitat and removing constraints from ecosystem processes can make the area more resilient against future sediment input and changes to flow regimes caused by climate change.	Caromile, Kay	\$215,131	\$112,529	\$327,660

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027

Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



Project Name	Project Number (link to project details)	Grant Applicant	Grant Program	Project Type	Water Resource Inventory Area	County	Project Description (Not edited by RCO)	RCO Grants Manager	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
Tahuya Estuary Bridge Preliminary Design	24-1086	Hood Canal SEG	Restoration and Protection Program	Planning	15 - Kitsap	Mason	This proposed project will build on the conceptual design alternatives presented by PSNERP by developing a preliminary design. The project will expand and develop plans to replace the existing North Shore Road Bridge over the Tahuya River to restore normative tidal exchange, sediment and debris transport, and reconnect a historic distributary system. This project involves removing the existing 123 foot span bridge, removing fill material from within the tidal prism, installing a longer bridge to span the estuary, and revegetating fill removal areas. The project team will also further investigate the feasibility of reconnecting a historic distributary channel system, and other identified habitat improvement elements as they are identified during the design process. This will allow for the investigation of specific areas and indicate where channel and habitat formation is most likely to occur, with the goal of increasing and improving highly productive estuarine habitat.	Caromile, Kay	\$630,132	\$270,078	\$900,210

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Twanoh State Park Shoreline Restoration Phase 2	24-1185	State Parks	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	14 - Kennedy - Goldsborough	Mason	This project will restore nearshore and delta processes in Twanoh State Park in southern Hood Canal to improve habitat for Hood Canal chum (Oncorhynchus keta), Puget Sound Chinook (O. tshawyscha), Puget Sound/Strait of Georgia coho (O. kisutch), and forage fish. The Washington State Parks is working with Wild Fish Conservancy to implement many of the restoration actions identified in the PSNERP Conceptual Design Report for this site. In phase one a State Parks owned bridge on the lower mainstem of Twanoh Creek was replaced to improve sediment transport in the system. Phase two will remove revetment material along the lower banks of the creek and in the intertidal area and to the east along the north face of the delta. Restoration of a historic salt marsh on the eastern lobe of the delta will result in 0.5 acre of newly connected pocket estuary salt marsh. Specific project elements include: -Reconnecting and expanding the estuary salt marsh by removing a concrete bulkhead, constructing a tidal channel, and replanting with salvaged native vegetation. - Removing 1100 feet of marine armoring along the Hood Canal shoreline, installing soft shore armoring, and planting marine riparian vegetation. -Re-configuring the Twanoh Creek channel by removing and replacing a pedestrian bridge and abutments which currently confine the channel, removing stream bank armoring and fill, placing large wood, and planting the stream banks.	Caromile, Kay	\$1,330,423	\$570,183	\$1,900,606

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Dewatto Estuary Protection	24-1280	Great Peninsula Conservancy	Restoration and Protection Program	Acquisition	15 - Kitsap	Mason	The Dewatto Estuary Protection project will acquire and permanently protect 240-acres of high quality nearshore and estuarine habitat in Mason County. Located in a rare open coastal inlet on the eastern shore of the Hood Canal, the project includes over a mile of shoreline, extensive tidelands, a 47-acre estuary, and a mile of lower mainstem river. The site represents a rare opportunity to protect a large estuary system, exceptional in its relative intactness and high function. The permanent protection of the site will improve important nearshore and estuarine processes and is designed to benefit recovery and delisting efforts of Endangered Species Act-listed Hood Canal summer chum salmon.	Caromile, Kay	\$3,300,000	\$1,430,000	\$4,730,000

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027

Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Filucy Bay Shoreline Armor Removal	23-1890	Pierce Co Conservation Dist	Small Grants Program	Restoration	15 - Kitsap	Pierce	Pierce Conservation District proposes to implement a shoreline armor removal and restoration project on residential property on Filucy Bay in Pierce County. This project will remove approximately 100 linear feet of creosote-treated wood and concrete shoreline armor and reestablish riparian vegetation to support natural coastal processes and benefit nearshore habitat. The subject properties are two adjacent residential parcels with 50 feet of shoreline each. One parcel has 50 feet of creosote-treated wood bulkhead that is currently failing and releasing creosote logs into the Puget Sound during storms. Following armor removal, the bank will be re-sloped and planted with native shoreline plant species. A significant portion of the current lawn area will be converted to a diverse native plant buffer zone. A low-impact beach access path will be incorporated into the slope, rather than replacing the over-water stairs structure. Armor on adjacent parcels will require some return walls to be installed at the boundaries of the parcel to protect from end effects.	Caromile, Kay	\$156,300	\$74,300	\$230,600

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Sound View Camp Nearshore Restoration	24-1127	Nisqually Land Trust	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	15 - Kitsap	Pierce	Sound View Camp is a 93-acre privately owned youth and family camp and conference center that contains a diverse nearshore complex of tidelands, feeder bluff, bluff-backed beach, barrier embayment, barrier beach, barrier lagoon, saltmarsh, and forested marine riparian bluffs. The property is on the southeast shoreline of Key Peninsula, along Drayton Passage, in Pierce County. The conservation values on the property are permanently protected through a conservation easement held by the Nisqually Land Trust. This restoration project will build upon prior ESRP, PSAR and National Coastal Wetland Conservation investments at this site by completing design, permitting, and construction to improve nearshore processes by removing up to 150 feet of the 350-foot pier, removing the 150-foot concrete bulkhead from the beach under the pier, and removing the existing stairs and ramp from the beach and bluff. The ramp and stairs will be replaced with a new landside connection to the pier from the top of the bluff that will allow shoreline processes to function more naturally. These are the only overwater and shoreline infrastructure on the property and this project will reduce their impacts on sediment transport and forage fish spawning, as well as improve nearshore conditions for salmon and coastal water dependent birds.	Caromile, Kay	\$828,100	\$354,900	\$1,183,000

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



Project Name	Project Number (link to project details)	Grant Applicant	Grant Program	Project Type	Water Resource Inventory Area	County	Project Description (Not edited by RCO)	RCO Grants Manager	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
Still Harbor Phase 2 - Armor Removal	24-1205	Natural Resources Dept of	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	15 - Kitsap	Pierce	As a result of a 2021 Restoration Feasibility Study, a three-phase restoration project has been planned on the northern shoreline of McNeil Island at Still Harbor. The goal of the project is to restore nearshore processes, with a focus on hydrologic connectivity, reestablishing erosional and sediment transport mechanisms, and enhancing shoreline complexity. Restoring this habitat will benefit Chinook, other juvenile salmonids, and forage fish spawning. Phase 1, completed in spring 2023, removed a 330' groin and restored 1.5 acres of nearshore forest and stream. Phase 2 (this funding request) will remove 1200 LF of shoreline armoring including creosote treated wood and submarine torpedo netting, remove backfill, add beach nourishment, install salvaged wood for complexity, install marine riparian plants, and conduct Phase 3 early action invasive weed management. Construction is scheduled for fall 2025. The planning, design and permitting has been fully funded by DNR. This funding request seeks \$406,011 in ESRP support for on-the ground of implementation of Phase 2. Phase 3, scheduled for construction during 2026, seeks to naturalize the entire western shoreline of Still Harbor including: removing 1.13 miles of coastal road, 13 culverts, and a boat ramp. It also includes restoring 4 stream mouths, enhancing wetlands, grading the shoreline to mimic historical nearshore profiles, and installing 16.4 acres of native nearshore and riparian vegetation.	Caromile, Kay	\$406,011	\$250,537	\$656,548

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Shore Friendly South Sound Collaborative	24-1207	Pierce Co Conservation Dist	Shore Friendly Program	Planning	15 - Kitsap	Pierce	This Shore Friendly South Sound collaborative is a Conservation District-based collaboration that connects residential marine shoreline homeowners with Shore Friendly resources and professional technical guidance in Pierce, Thurston, and Mason Counties. Each conservation district hosts a separate local Shore Friendly program which provides customized technical assistance and financial incentives to its county's shoreline homeowners. This technical assistance aims to help residential communities shift shoreline management behavior away from armor and towards stewardship. Local staff in each Conservation District work with homeowners to avoid new armor; remove existing armor; choose soft shore alternatives where feasible; and improve nearshore stewardship. The goal is to proactively reduce new armor installation, to increase shoreline stewardship behaviors, and to facilitate ongoing armor removal projects across South Puget Sound. This project funds local shoreline technical assistance programs at Thurston, Pierce and Mason Conservation Districts to provide site-specific assessments and expert guidance, and to develop armor removal projects. It uses Shore Friendly branding, social marketing messaging, and collaboration to engage priority homeowners in proactive, preventative shoreline stewardship and on-the-ground restoration work at sites with high ecological value, low erosion rates, and unnecessary armor.	Warinner, Bob	\$1,565,242	\$0	\$1,565,242

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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DeMolay Sandspit Bulkhead Removal Implementation	24-1250	Pierce Co Conservation Dist	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	15 - Kitsap	Pierce	Pierce Conservation District will complete final design and construction to remove up to 865 feet of concrete armoring and intertidal debris at the Tacoma DeMolay Sandspit Nature Preserve on Fox Island in Pierce County. The project will reconnect and enhance the marine riparian zone. Armor removal from feeder bluff will restore natural sediment processes to build and maintain upper beach habitat over time to support documented forage fish spawning habitat and refuge area for salmon. Removal of this armor addresses the Puget Sound Partnership's 2022-2026 strategy to "protect and restore habitat and habitat-forming processes" and target actions to reduce shoreline armoring on Puget Sound. This project site is identified as a priority nearshore project by the West Sound Lead Entity to support priority species including juvenile Puget Sound Chinook and forage fish. This project phase will extend the preliminary design to include two adjacent parcels being acquired by PenMet Parks and develop a full final design. Project implementation will include removal of armor and debris, resloping of some medium bank, installation of native plants in marine riparian zone, placement of large woody debris in upper beach, and beach nourishment. The Preserve, located at the northern tip of Fox Island in Pierce County, was acquired by PenMet Parks in 2013 for public marine shoreline access and habitat protection with over 2,265 feet of public marine shoreline.	Caromile, Kay	\$650,605	\$320,422	\$971,027

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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WRIA1012 Embayment Small Coastal Stream Assessment	24-1901	South Puget Sound SEG	Learning Program	Planning	12 - Chambers - Clover	Pierce	The project will assess embayments and small stream deltas on the eastern shore of Puget Sound between the Puyallup and Nisqually River Deltas. Nearly 30 miles of shoreline connects these two large river deltas, yet little is known regarding how fish utilize and derive benefits from interconnected embayments and small stream deltas. Furthermore, the study area has been heavily impacted by early 1900s-industrial development in the City and Port of Tacoma and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad causeway, which has severed nearshore connectivity and destroyed the historic template of small estuarine shore forms. Long term efforts to work with BNSF to restore small coastal streams within their right-of-way have recently come to fruition with 13 planned restoration sites advancing to implementation. Efforts to remove the Chambers Bay Dam are advancing, while the City of Tacoma is working to characterize shorelines in their jurisdiction to prioritize locations for restoration. This project will establish a pre-restoration baseline, which is vital for evaluating the synergistic benefits of concurrent restoration efforts. This pre-restoration baseline will provide valuable information on existing nearshore fish ecology, including stock specific utilization of the shoreline and current prey production and growth potential to inform a regional framework, highlighting the importance of restoring these poorly understood shore forms to inform recovery plans and investments.	Caromile, Kay	\$250,000	\$75,000	\$325,000

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Padilla and Samish Bays Protection and Planning II	24-1023	Skagit Land Trust	Restoration and Protection Program	Planning & Acq & Restore	3 - Lower Skagit - Samish	Skagit	The Samish Island Isthmus, located between Samish (Alice) and Padilla bays, is a former tidal marsh with a channel that connected the two bays historically. The area was diked and converted to farmland and hosts the only road and utility corridor for the island. The Project Area is 136.5 acres of land owned by Skagit Land Trust and Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR). It includes about 1.4 miles of shoreline and is adjacent to 11,000 acres of protected tidelands. This project includes acquisition of two additional properties - at the historic channel entrance on Samish Bay and a bluff-backed beach on Padilla Bay. This project will build on a current ESRP project evaluating feasibility of restoring critical habitat to be completed by December 2024. This Phase II proposal will complete groundwater modeling, a transportation study, and watershed and stormwater evaluation. Data collection and hydraulic modeling will be completed through grants acquired by Padilla Bay NERR in 2024 to 2026. These technical analyses combined with input from stakeholders and community members will be used to refine conceptual design options and select one option to move into preliminary design. This approach will help ensure that the selected design will optimally restore and protect habitat while enhancing coastal community protection and climate resilience. The proposed project will complete preliminary design drawings, a design report and permitting documents.	Caromile, Kay	\$1,499,200	\$1,038,650	\$2,537,850

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Clayton Beach Nearshore Restoration	24-1137	NW Straits Marine Cons Found	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	1 - Nooksack	Skagit	NWSF requests funding to support Phase 1 of restoration of 1,200+ linear feet of shoreline, 9 acres of backshore, and adjacent upland habitat at Clayton Beach, Larrabee State Park, Skagit County. Nearshore habitats and processes are degraded and impeded by riprap, pilings, debris, and fill from the historic Interurban Trolley that ran from Bellingham to Mount Vernon between 1912 and 1928. Remnant pilings on the beach represent some of the 5,000 pilings used to build the trestle. The armor is uniquely situated on the mid-intertidal, creating a perched beach, impeding sediment transport alongshore and across-shore, and burying intertidal and forage fish spawning habitats. Removal of armor will restore cross-shore connectivity and natural topography allowing for greater exchange of terrestrial and aquatic nutrients, insects and organic matter, and landward expansion of the eelgrass beds that are constrained by the armor. The restored site will improve salmonid migratory pathways by restoring eelgrass and removing areas where they may be vulnerable to predation, provide a source of insects critical in the diet of juvenile Chinook salmonids and migrating bull trout, as well as foraging habitat for marine and shore birds. The restored shoreline will be more resilient to sea level rise and become more complex and better able to recruit and store LWD. Phase 2 aims to restore the historic wave climate by filling a sub-tidal dredge hole facilitating 13 acres of eelgrass restoration.	Caromile, Kay	\$1,399,826	\$621,558	\$2,021,384

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027

Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Dewey Beach Armor Removal	24-1252	NW Straits Marine Cons Found	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	3 - Lower Skagit - Samish	Skagit	The Dewey Beach Armor Removal project aims to remove shoreline armor across a minimum of two adjacent parcels and a third currently under consideration spanning 250 linear feet located at Dewey Beach north of the Deception Pass bridge in Skagit County. Armor and fill removal, added beach nourishment, relocation of a shoreline cabin, and relocation of a drainfield will restore nearshore connectivity, provide shading and nutrient exchange for juvenile salmonids, improve habitat for forage fish spawning and allow for landward migration of habitats and species with sea level rise. The project will also remove invasive vegetation and re-slope with a native plant riparian community. This Shore Friendly project will provide a positive example to adjacent and nearby landowners of the feasibility and benefits of shoreline armor removal.	Caromile, Kay	\$427,208	\$186,489	\$613,697

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Swinomish Shore Friendly Program 2025-2031	24-1307	Swinomish Indian Tribal Comm	Shore Friendly Program	Planning & Restoration	3 - Lower Skagit - Samish	Skagit	The Swinomish Shore Friendly Program aims to improve the management of residential shorelines through a three-pronged approach: Education and Outreach: We will engage shoreline homeowners through informative materials, neighborhood meetings, and individual consultations. This will create a positive environment for identifying those interested in removing shoreline armor and exploring "soft-shore" alternatives that benefit both property and habitat. Technical Assistance and Incentives: Our team will provide expert guidance on the permitting process, cost-sharing opportunities, and design plans for armor removal and soft-shore solutions. We'll also offer cost-sharing and other incentives for planting native vegetation along the water's edge and completing smaller removal projects. Larger Project Preparation and Funding: For more extensive armor removal projects, the program will pave the way by preparing shovel-ready designs and plans. These "teed-up" projects will then be eligible for funding and assistance from other non-state sources, ensuring their successful implementation.	Warinner, Bob	\$428,728	\$0	\$428,728

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Spatial Variation in Natural Channel Levees	24-1914	Skagit River Sys Cooperative	Learning Program	Planning	3 - Lower Skagit - Samish	Skagit	Advances in tidal channel design have occurred mostly through the development of allometric predictions of channel form with the expectation that form determines hydrological and ecological function. An overlooked aspect of channel form is the geometry of the natural levees along tidal channels that are formed when suspended sediment is deposited on channel banks during flood tides and river floods. Natural levees are known to provide important topographic variation that influences vegetation species distributions and associated ecological function. Natural levees also affect flood and ebb tide water routing with likely consequences for fish access to marsh platforms and distribution of organic carbon (including invertebrate drift prey for fish). Tidal levee form likely varies with channel size, along channel lengths, and with location in the estuarine continuum. This project will quantify levee geometry and relate it to these likely predictors. Work will take place in representative large river deltas throughout Puget Sound, e.g., the Skagit (North and South Fork sub-deltas), Nooksack, Nisqually, Dosewallips. Results will provide design guidance for channel design in tidal marsh restoration projects which will maximize the ecological and hydrological function of excavated channels and their associated marshes.	Caromile, Kay	\$88,482	\$26,544	\$115,026

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Large Wood and Low-Tide Pool Habitat	24-1915	Skagit River Sys Cooperative	Learning Program	Planning	3 - Lower Skagit - Samish	Skagit	This work assesses the interaction between large wood (logs and root-wads) and low-tide pools (with a residual depth > 20 cm) in blind tidal channels draining the Skagit Delta marshes. Low-tide pools are thought to provide important rearing habitat for juvenile Chinook salmon (a threatened species) allowing them longer residence in tidal channels, greater feeding opportunities, and greater growth before emigration to other near-shore habitats. Large wood likely plays an important role in forming low-tide pools. For this reason, restoration planners and engineers often propose installation of large wood to create or sustain low-tide pools and provide cover for fish, in extrapolation of fluvial paradigms to estuarine habitats. But is this extrapolation appropriate in very low gradient systems with bi-directional flow (flood and ebb tides) and semi-diurnally varying meso- to macro-tidal water levels? The proposed work will use field surveys and GIS analysis of aerial photos to tidal channel bathymetry and geometry with the abundance, size, and orientation of large wood in tidal channels. Additionally, the effect of pools and benthic detritus accumulation and invertebrate detritivores will be quantified, as well as that of fish species richness and abundance. Results will provide design guidance for large wood placement for restoration planners and engineers.	Caromile, Kay	\$174,962	\$52,489	\$227,451

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Spencer Island Estuary Restoration	24-1030	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	7 - Snohomish	Snohomish	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% design, permitting, contracting, and construction. Funding from this grant would go towards restoration construction expenses. Specific process-based restoration objectives to be achieved with this project 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.	Caromile, Kay	\$1,500,000	\$642,858	\$2,142,858

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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zis a ba II Restoration-Construction Supplemental	24-1227	Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians	Restoration and Protection Program	Restoration	5 - Stillaguamish	Snohomish	The Stillaguamish Tribe proposes to restore key ecological processes to 230 acres of tidal wetlands between Hatt Slough and Port Susan Bay to restore rearing habit for juvenile salmonids, especially ESA listed Whidbey Basin Chinook populations (Skagit, Stillaguamish, Snohomish), which are a critical prey source for ESA listed Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKWs). Diked in the late 1800's, the zis a ba II site was farmed with a variety of European crops in the intervening years. However, this land was historically a complex mosaic of brackish wetlands which helped to support the abundant fish and wildlife populations upon which local Tribes depended. Restoration of this site includes the demolition of infrastructure (shops, barn, mobile homes, and office building), dike removal and setback, blind tidal and distributary channel excavation and connection. Completing this project has the potential to bring the restored area of the Stillaguamish delta to over 700 acres. This is an important project for the Whidbey Basin, as tidal wetland restoration opportunities of this scale are rare.	Caromile, Kay	\$1,020,000	\$437,200	\$1,457,200

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Deschutes Estuary Restoration & 5th Ave Dam Removal	24-1089	Enterprise Services Department	Restoration and Protection Program	Planning	13 - Deschutes	Thurston	The Deschutes Estuary Restoration and 5th Ave Dam Removal project is located at the mouth of the Deschutes River and extends upriver to Tumwater Falls at RM 2. The dam forms Capitol Lake, separating the Deschutes watershed from Budd Inlet in southern Puget Sound. The project will complete final designs to remove the dam, restore 260 ac of estuary habitat, and create 85 ac of new salt marsh habitat. To remove the dam the project must first construct a new bridge; this would replace the bridge that is on top of the existing dam, which is a key route connecting east and west Olympia. These actions would produce significant habitat and other benefits. ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead would benefit through improved estuarine conditions that support their early life stages; Coho salmon, a species of concern, would have freer access to spawning grounds 40 miles upriver. Southern Puget Sound provides important rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids that spawn elsewhere in the region, of which Chinook is a key food source for the ESA-listed Southern Resident killer whale. Dept of Ecology has found that removal of the dam is the most important action to resolve chronic dissolved oxygen depletion in Budd Inlet and to meet state water quality standards. The project would restore ecosystem services important to the Squaxin Island Tribe, restore and expand recreational access to the water including non-motorized boating and new boardwalks, and reduce flood risk for downtown Olympia.	Caromile, Kay	\$2,000,000	\$10,550,000	\$12,550,000

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Avian Communities Informing Estuary Restoration	24-1905	Ecostudies Institute	Learning Program	Planning	11 - Nisqually	Thurston	Salish Sea river deltas support vast biotic communities, from plankton and plants to fish, birds, and people. Estuary restoration efforts have a responsibility and opportunity to provide multi-species benefits for the inhabitants of these ecosystems. Birds are ideal indicator species in estuaries. They occupy a range of microhabitats, occur in all seasons, and are conspicuous, making them easy to sample. We lack baseline knowledge about the status and habitat relationships of many estuarine bird species - knowledge that is key to understanding the impacts of restoration actions and facilitating future planning efforts. The proposed project advances the Salish Sea Estuaries Avian Monitoring Framework (SSEAM), a collaboration between Ecostudies Institute and others, to establish standardized protocols for elucidating fine-scale avian habitat relationships in low marsh habitats of estuarine ecosystems. We aim to progress from a 2020 ESRP-funded pilot study and initial application of SSEAM into a fully operational stage utilizing updated field protocols and statistical methods to address stakeholder questions and facilitate widespread application including identifying restoration practices that achieve avian conservation goals. With new and existing partners representing estuaries throughout Puget Sound, this project will help establish a baseline of habitat characteristics associated with avian use, which in turn will help generate recommendations for estuary restoration design.	Caromile, Kay	\$275,000	\$110,500	\$385,500

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



Project Name	Project Number (link to project details)	Grant Applicant	Grant Program	Project Type	Water Resource Inventory Area	County	Project Description (Not edited by RCO)	RCO Grants Manager	Grant Request	Applicant Match	Total
Evaluating beach service change for restoration	24-1907	Ecology Dept of	Learning Program	Planning	13 - Deschutes	Thurston	Washington State Department of Ecology Applied Coastal Research and Engineering section (ACRE) was funded by ESRP in 2021 (project number 20-1946) to evaluate beach services for protection and restoration across 16 sites in Puget Sound (herein referred to as "Phase I"). During Phase II of the Beach Services project, ACRE will use existing repeat surveys at a sub-set of Phase I sites to conduct change analysis and investigate temporal trends and variability in beach services for use by management and restoration practitioners. A minimum of 8 Beach Services sites and roughly 3 additional restored sites will be selected to expand upon with a comprehensive change analysis. At each selected site, data collected for Phase I will be compared to the beach metrics and ecological indicators extracted from a previous boat-based lidar survey along the same 10-m spaced cross-shore transects. Sites selected will offer a comparison between 2015 and 2021 data. The addition of a change analysis will provide an indicator of the temporal changes in ecological features fronting shoreline armor, and the relative benefits of capital restoration projects projected over various timescales. Results will help to inform management decisions by providing context for restoration prioritization at sites likely to exhibit positive outcomes over longer timescales.	Caromile, Kay	\$170,016	\$52,635	\$222,651

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Coastal stream delta evaluation for restoration	24-1911	Ecology Dept of	Learning Program	Planning	13 - Deschutes	Thurston	Washington Department of Ecology's Applied Research and Engineering Section (ACRE) will evaluate beach services provided by small stream deltas in Puget Sound to improve our understanding of the relative benefit of capital restoration projects including coastal fish barrier removal and other restoration efforts. Drone-based imagery and high-resolution topographic data will be collected at a minimum of 12 small coastal stream deltas with roughly half of the selected sites at unobstructed stream outlets and half at obstructed stream outlets around Puget Sound. Geomorphic features including backshore and foreshore area, stream channel length, average channel slope, beach width and slope, shoreface complexity, and relative sediment size will be extracted from the topographic data. Ecological indicators including woody debris and vegetation cover will be delineated from the associated imagery and related to the delta morphology at each site. Results will be carefully situated within each small delta's geomorphic context to identify potential geomorphic drivers contributing to ecological function and the relative benefit that can be expected following stream delta restoration.	Caromile, Kay	\$151,267	\$64,829	\$216,096

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California Creek Estuary East	24-1121	Whatcom Land Trust	Restoration and Protection Program	Acquisition & Restoration	1 - Nooksack	Whatcom	Whatcom Land Trust will use this grant to acquire 3.26 acres of tidally-influenced mudflat wetlands at the confluence of California Creek and Drayton Harbor. The property is located at 4585 Drayton Harbor Road, Blaine, WA, 98230. By acquiring this property, approximately 600 feet of shoreline along California Creek will be preserved. Restoration will include the removal of a fire-damaged home, invasive species removal, and native species planting. Habitat protection and restoration will positively benefit several Endangered Species Act listed anadromous fish including Chinook, Coho, Chum, and Steelhead. Additionally, this coastal inlet provides valuable habitat for forage fish, which feed seabirds such as the State Endangered Marbled Murrelet. Located at the mouth of California Creek, this property has the opportunity to make an impactful contribution in improving the water quality that directly affects the shellfish habitat that recreational, commercial, and tribal entities rely on for oyster harvesting practices in Drayton Harbor. The property is also located directly across from the Blaine-Birch Bay Park Districts California Creek Estuary Park, an area used for passive recreation, which will be enhanced with this acquisition. Additionally, preserving riparian habitat in anticipation of sea level rise and changing precipitation patterns will prevent impervious surface development and allow the estuary to expand and contract in these changing conditions.	Caromile, Kay	\$369,263	\$166,446	\$535,709

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program 2025-2027
 Final Applications 2025-2027 (Sorted by County)



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Shore Friendly - Northwest Straits 2025-2027	24-1291	NW Straits Marine Cons Found	Shore Friendly Program	Planning	1 - Nooksack	Whatcom	Shore Friendly-Northwest Straits will utilize the interconnection of social and natural sciences to protect and improve coastal processes, beach habitat conditions, and prey availability for salmon, seabirds, and Southern Resident Killer Whales. The program builds upon landowner programs provided by NWSF, Friends of the San Juans, and MRCs preceding the Shore Friendly program in 2014 and lessons learned from the past 6 years of Shore Friendly activities. Program objectives: 1) Reduce barriers to recommended behaviors and motivate landowners to protect/restore natural shores; 2) At key armoring decision points, alleviate landowners' concerns about erosion by directing them to resources that will help them make smart choices for their property and the environment; 3) Reduce concerns about potential erosion by providing opportunities to learn about their waterfront from technical experts; and 4) Measure the impact of past expert site visits to help understand the success of armor reduction efforts. The program takes a multi-pronged approach to reach target audiences while considering and incorporating new and emerging issues and data. Landowner recruitment focus includes: workshops/community forums targeting newer landowners; targeted outreach to past site visit recipients; a focus on restoration opportunities following potential managed retreat actions. Technical assistance will continue to include site visits, expert guidance, feasibility assessments, designs, and permitting.	Warinner, Bob	\$1,860,396	\$0	\$1,860,396

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WDFW HSIL Outreach Support	23-1855	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	Shore Friendly Partnership Landowner Strategic Engagement Program	Outreach			This contract is the WDFW portion of the Habitat Strategic Initiative Lead's award to the Shore Friendly program, titled "Shore Friendly Partnership Landowner Strategic Engagement." This work supports increased outreach, a social media presence, influencer trainings, and community engagement. The intended outcome of this outreach work is more landowners choosing to restore or maintain their natural shorelines to improve nearshore ecosystem processes, structure, and the function of ecosystem services and habitats benefiting critical marine nearshore-dependent species.	Warinner, Bob	\$50,314	\$0	\$50,314
								Total	\$31,608,610	\$25,871,311	\$57,479,921