

Projects in Asotin County

Asotin County Conservation District Placing Wood and Boulders in Asotin Creek

Grant Awarded: \$195,000

The Asotin County Conservation District will use this grant to place large woody materials and boulders in 0.8 mile of Asotin Creek. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, and boulders to a creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also slows the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the bottom, creating areas for salmon to spawn. Finally, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The work also will promote connection to a side channel. 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. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1115)

Asotin County Conservation District Restoring Asotin Creek

Grant Awarded: \$640,000

The Asotin County Conservation District will use this grant to place logjams and single log structures in Asotin Creek. 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, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The structures are expected to increase access to side and flood channels and improve floodplain connection. 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](#). (24-1049)

Projects in Chelan County

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Restoring Fish Passage in Pole Creek

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to correct a barrier to fish passage, opening access to more than one mile of cold-water habitat. The barrier is an undersized culvert in Pole Creek, in the Chiwawa River watershed, that is limiting flow and restricting fish access to cold-water habitat upstream. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. The creek is used by steelhead and bull 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](#). (24-1836)

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Restoring Peshastin Creek

Grant Awarded: \$754,500

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to restore a lower section of Peshastin Creek. The section suffers from a lack of trees along its banks, not enough high-quality cold-water pools, bank instability, and limited connections to floodplains and side channels. The fisheries enhancement group will place large wood structures in the creek, excavate multiple side channels to reconnect the floodplain area, and plant vegetation along the creek. The wood structures will create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. also changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. Finally, the wood will divert the water to the newly reconnected floodplain. Planting 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 salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1860)

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Restoring the Lower Wenatchee Riverbanks at the Lower Sleepy Hollow Preserve

Grant Awarded: \$130,000

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to restore forty acres of floodplain on the left bank of the lower Wenatchee River. The fisheries enhancement group will plant two acres of floodplain with willows, cottonwoods, and other native trees and shrubs. In addition, the group will maintain three acres of previously installed floodplain plantings, including irrigating, cutting brush, mulching, replacing dead plants, and protecting plants from wildlife grazing. Finally, the fisheries enhancement group will control noxious weeds on the entire forty acres. Planting trees and bushes along a floodplain 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 river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act.; bull trout, coho, and Chinook. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1837)

Chelan County **Assessing Colockum Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$125,000

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to assess Colockum Creek, a tributary to the Columbia River downstream of Wenatchee, that drains a 25,000-acre watershed. There are significant data gaps, including habitat availability, hydrology, fish passage barriers, fish distribution and use, irrigation use, watershed condition and function, potential sources of degradation, and feasible restoration opportunities. The assessment will fill in the data gaps, identify restoration strategies, and create a pathway for watershed recovery. The creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1828)

Chelan County **Designing Improved Water Flow to the Wilson Side Channel**

Grant Awarded: \$145,252

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to complete a preliminary design for a project to improve water flow through the Entiat River's Wilson side channel. The channel often has too little water in it, stranding and killing young salmon. The County will analyze replacing the triple barrel culvert under Roaring Creek Road with a more natural inlet that will improve the amount of water and lengthen the time it flows through the channel. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. The stream is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1827)

Chelan County **Designing Restoration of Nason Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$96,971

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to complete a preliminary design for a project to restore Nason Creek at its confluence with Kahler Creek and extending upstream about one-third mile. The future project calls for placing log structures in the creek to improve habitat and protect cold-water resting areas in the creek.. Adding logs 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 creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead and bull trout, both of

which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1825)

Chelan County
Designing Restoration of Peshastin Creek

Grant Awarded: \$206,928

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to complete a preliminary design for a project to reconnect Peshastin Creek to its entire historic channel. A highway built in the 1950s blocked the creek from its historic channel. The County will review data and develop hydraulic models, project alternatives, and an additional conceptual design for a smaller project to improve fish habitat. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1877)

Chelan County
Designing Restoration of the White River Floodplain

Grant Awarded: \$149,926

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to monitor the flow of the White River into a wetland ditch network, complete a comprehensive wetland restoration plan, and develop conceptual designs for replacement of the Little Wenatchee Road. This project will work in conjunction with a larger project led by the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation aiming to address the loss of habitat-forming processes, floodplain disconnection, and high temperatures of the lower White River caused by the Little Wenatchee Road and bridge and the complicated network of wetland ditches in the wide floodplain. The road bisects the White River and its floodplain and blocks the movement of trees and logs and hinders fish passage. Additionally, the wetland ditches have been known drain the wetland and create hazardous low flows for fish. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act; by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act; and by sockeye salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1829)

Chelan County
Planting the Entiat River Floodplain

Grant Awarded: \$272,698

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to plant 3.2 acres of degraded banks along the Entiat River. The work will re-establish a diverse assemblage of native plants on the expansive floodplains at the Bremmer and Stormy Preserve restoration sites. Historic grazing, clearing, and agricultural activities have left the area with compacted soil, sparse native vegetation, and invasive plants, mostly reed canary grass. The County will treat the

invasive reed canary grass, plant the area with native trees and shrubs, and monitor the plantings. 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 river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1826)

Chelan County

Grant Awarded: \$273,038

Restoring the Lower Chiwawa River

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to complete preliminary designs and draft applications for four projects on the lower Chiwawa River. The designs will identify restoration actions that will increase the number of trees along 1.3 miles of the river, create up to 1.1 miles of side-channel habitat, and better connect about 33.5 acres of floodplain. In addition, the County will complete some surveying, wetland delineations, a recreational use study to assess boating and boater safety in the river, and an evaluation of where to move the Big Meadow Campground. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1824)

Chelan County

Grant Awarded: \$80,130

Studying the Entiat River Food Chain

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to study the food, both its availability and complexity, for salmon and steelhead in the Entiat River. The County will collect samples in different habitat types in both restored and unrestored floodplain reaches. The County will compare the samples with samples from salmon captured in the same habitats. In addition, fish density and the average growth rates of young salmon in these habitats will be measured to understand how growth relates to food availability. Furthermore, the County will measure water temperature, flow, and depth to better understand what habitat types and environmental conditions in each reach are most productive and can provide for the highest number of fish. Finally, the County will apply modeling to predict growth, habitat selection by fish, and population carrying capacity, and then compare actual fish data to these predictions. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1856)

**Chelan-Douglas Land Trust
Conserving the Entiat River**

Grant Awarded: \$205,400

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will use this grant to buy 16.5 acres along the Entiat River, which is valuable spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. Acquisition and conservation of the land will facilitate future restoration projects to improve habitat for these fish. Chinook is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act and steelhead is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1834)

**Chelan-Douglas Land Trust
Conserving the White River Oxbow**

Grant Awarded: \$360,100

The Chelan-Douglas Land Trust will use this grant to buy 34.6 acres near the lower White River, including a half-mile of riverfront. The purchase would protect valuable spawning and rearing habitat, including an important oxbow that has the potential to be reconnected to the river. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act; by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act; and by sockeye salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1833)

**Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Moving State Route 207 Near Nason Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$600,000

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to remove a problematic segment of State Route 207 near Lake Wenatchee from the Nason Creek floodplain. The segment is eroding into Nason Creek, degrading the habitat and disrupting traffic. Removing the 0.6-mile-long segment of highway will reconnect more than fourteen acres of historic side channel and floodplain habitat. The creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. The Tribe is seeking additional funding from the Legislature for this project. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1861)

Projects in Clallam County

10,000 Years Institute

Grant Awarded: \$289,321

Clearing Harmful Weeds Along Calawah Riverbanks

The 10,000 Years Institute will use this grant to treat invasive plants along 46 miles of road along the Calawah River, along 128 miles of the river, along the lower end of its large tributaries, and on about 400 acres of its floodplain. In addition, the institute will map and assess floodplain forests for thinning and planting needs. Working along the roads, the institute can target sources of seeds, which drop from cars and trucks and spread to the rivers via ditch water, wind, humans, and animals. The invasive plants increase erosion, clog waterways, and prevent native species from growing. This project will partner with another to plant native species including trees in the treated areas. Trees shade 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 roots of the trees keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. This project is the beginning of a coordinated, watershed-scale effort to protect and restore salmon and steelhead habitat in the Calawah River watershed. The larger effort will include placement of woody materials in the stream, addressing road drainage, and improving fish passage. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1607)

Clallam Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$210,129

Planting the Banks of Waterways in the Quillayute River Watershed

The Clallam Conservation District will use this grant to plant the banks of waterways in the Quillayute River watershed and caretake previous plantings. The conservation district will plant more than forty-eight acres and maintain plants on another twelve acres at multiple sites throughout the watershed. Many of the new plantings will be in areas either lacking trees or infested with invasive weeds such as reed canary grass and Himalayan blackberry. Planting trees along a waterway 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 roots of the trees keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1608)

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Improving Salmon Habitat in the Upper Dungeness River

Grant Awarded: \$623,540

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will use this grant to place logjams in the upper Dungeness River to improve salmon spawning and rearing habitat. In the twentieth century, government agencies and private landowners regularly removed logjams in the upper river, damaging salmon habitat. This project is part of an ongoing and phased effort by the Tribe to restore logjams and increase salmon productivity in this part of the watershed. The Tribe will place the logjams in floodplain reaches flowing through state timberlands. 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 gravel 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. This part of the river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead and bull 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 pink salmon. The Tribe is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information about this project](#). (24-1420)

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Maintaining the Banks of the Dungeness River

Grant Awarded: \$420,000

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will use this grant to take care of three hundred acres of trees and plants along the banks of the Dungeness River. The Tribe will plant, monitor, and maintain native plants, and remove invasive plants. Native trees and bushes along a waterway shade the water, keeping it cool for fish. The streamside plants drop insects into the water, which salmon quickly eat. The plants also drop leaves and branches, which provide food for the insects in the water that salmon also eat. Finally, streamside trees often fall into the water, creating prime salmon habitat. The lower Dungeness River is used by Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead and bull 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 pink salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information about this project](#). (24-1305)

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Conserving Indian Creek Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$304,884

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will use this grant to conserve land in the Elwha River watershed. The Tribe will work with a willing landowner to buy about twenty-one acres that includes the Indian Creek tributary, its side channels, overflow channels, floodplain, and wetlands. The land is a high priority because it will protect some of the most exceptional habitat in the watershed. Since the Elwha Dams were removed, Indian Creek has been the most productive area of the

Elwha River, producing abundant, sizeable, out-migrating salmon and steelhead, in large part due to the high-quality off-channel wetlands there. Indian 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 about this project.](#) (24-1315)

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Replanting the Elwha River Watershed

Grant Awarded: \$271,596

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will use this grant to continue planting trees and shrubs in the Elwha River watershed, primarily in the massive floodplain areas exposed after two large dams were removed. The Tribe will maintain and continue to plant the banks of the former Mills and Aldwell reservoirs as well as the banks of seventy river miles in the lower watershed and up to 3,176 acres of floodplains. 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 project's mission is to help rebuild Pacific salmon populations by protecting and enhancing developing salmon habitat on the Elwha River. The Elwha River is one of the largest and historically one of the most productive rivers along the Strait of Juan de Fuca. It is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead and bull trout, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon and Pacific lamprey, which are federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information about this project.](#) (24-1297)

North Olympic Salmon Coalition Maintaining the Banks of the Dungeness River

Grant Awarded: \$40,813

The North Olympic Salmon Coalition will use this grant to restore forty-five acres of habitat along 2.3 miles of the Dungeness River near Sequim. The salmon coalition will continue its efforts to control noxious weeds, with emphasis on invasive butterfly bush and knotweed. The salmon coalition also will plant and seed thirty-two acres and maintain the sites until the forest is established. Both butterfly bush and knotweed grow incredibly fast and tend to displace native vegetation. Along the lower Dungeness River, about 20 percent of riverbank vegetation has been removed in the past 150 years, leaving riverbanks significantly denuded. The loss of shade-providing trees and shrubs has led to warmer water, which can kill salmon. Planting trees and shrubs along a river shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. Also, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and pink salmon and steelhead and bull trout, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon,

which is a federal species of concern. The salmon coalition is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information about this project](#). (24-1009)

Quileute Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$60,642

Restoring Hermison Wetland Habitat

The Quileute Tribe will use this grant to install simulated beaver dams and plant the banks of Hermison Creek to restore up to three acres of a former wetland. Upcoming restoration projects will improve access to the creek and its wetlands. However, a six-hundred-foot stretch of the creek has been artificially channelized, resulting in low or no water flow in the summer. The simulated beaver dams are wood structures that can help deep, cool pools form by slowing the river. Salmon can rest, eat, and grow in those pools. The dams also help stabilize water levels, which helps during droughts. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. The creek is used by Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead and resident trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1177)

Trout Unlimited Inc.

Grant Awarded: \$268,395

Opening Fish Passage in Upper Wisen Creek

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to remove one of the final two barriers to fish passage in Wisen Creek and develop preliminary designs to remove the last barrier. Trout Unlimited will remove a culvert, which is a pipe that carries the creek under a private road and blocks fish passage. For the second barrier, which is where the creek plugged the culvert during a storm and now is flowing in a shallow sheet down the road, Trout Unlimited will complete a robust alternatives analysis and preliminary design for its correction. Fixing the barriers would open a half-mile of high-quality spawning and rearing habitat. Both sites are in a small private forest. The creek is used by coho salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1530)

Wild Salmon Center

Grant Awarded: \$182,871

Designing Fish Passage in Swanson Creek Tributary

The Wild Salmon Center will use this grant to complete final designs for a project to correct a barrier to fish passage in an unnamed tributary to Swanson Creek at the T-1010 road. Swanson Creek is a tributary that flows to the Sol Duc River near Forks and is part of the Quillayute River basin. Correcting the barrier would open 0.7 mile of spawning and rearing habitat in a complex forested wetland. The Wild Salmon Center will complete an analysis of alternatives including a

cost evaluation and an assessment of moving a private driveway and road gate, and final design of a preferred alternative. The tributary is used by coho salmon and steelhead, cutthroat, and rainbow trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1195)

Projects in Clark County

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Designing Restoration of Cedar Creek

Grant Awarded: \$94,164

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement group will use this grant to develop design materials and a cost estimate, and get permits for a restoration project in Cedar Creek. The future project calls for the placement of at least five structures along a nearly quarter-mile of Cedar Creek. Adding wood structures to the creek creates places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. It also changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied spawning and rearing habitat. Additionally, the fish enhancement group will build a side channel to create 0.2 acre of critical rearing habitat for juvenile fish. The creek is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1524)

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership Improving Habitat in Dyer Creek and the East Fork Lewis River

Grant Awarded: \$694,166

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will use this grant to remove four barriers to fish migration, opening access to twenty-seven acres of floodplain wetlands and a mile of Dyer and No Name Creeks. Additionally, the partnership will plant trees and bushes along Dyer Creek and adjacent wetlands. 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. Several coho and chum salmon have been seen in the degraded East Fork Lewis River tributaries and restoration actions will reconnect Dyer Creek and the wetlands to the Lewis River from winter through early summer, critical months for pre-spawn holding and egg incubation. The river 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](#). (24-1526)

**Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group
Planting the Banks of Cedar Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$274,665

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to control invasive species and plant fifteen thousand native plants on twelve acres along Cedar Creek. 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. 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1525)

**Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership
Restoring Campen Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$239,167

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will use this grant to restore about three-quarter-mile of Campen Creek, which is constrained, incised, and disconnected from its floodplain. This condition, combined with a lack of native vegetation on its banks, results in increased peak flows, erosion, flood risk, and warmer water temperatures. The partnership will reconnect Campen Creek to 3.5 acres of its historic floodplain in Mable Kerr Park. The creek is used by coho salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1528)

Projects in Columbia County

**Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Placing Large Wood in the South Touchet River**

Grant Awarded: \$300,000

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will use this grant to place large wood in the south Touchet River in the Rainwater Wildlife Area. Adding wood, such as tree root wads and logs, to the river 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 Tribe also will place a series of engineered structures with anchor piles at the downstream end of the wildlife area and upstream of the privately owned cabins to retain any wood that may move downstream. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal

Projects in Cowlitz County

Cowlitz Indian Tribe **Grant Awarded: \$336,262** **Designing Restoration of the Elochoman River Headwaters**

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to create a preliminary design to restore fish passage to 9.5 miles of inaccessible habitat and to build logjams to stop channel incision, reconnect floodplains, and allow sediment to settle out of the East and West Fork Elochoman River and Otter Creek. This design covers 5.7 miles of habitat degraded by past logging practices. This project will be the first phase of the Tribe's multi-year focus to address factors that continue to impair the recovery of salmon and steelhead trout populations in the Elochoman River watershed. The river and creek are used by Chinook and coho salmon, 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](#). (24-1851)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$349,782** **Removing Barriers to Fish Migration in the Delameter-Arkansas Watershed**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to design the removal of six barriers to salmon migration in the Delameter-Arkansas watershed. The fish enhancement group will complete engineering, permitting, and cultural resources analysis. A future project will remove the barriers and restore access to nearly 4.2 miles of habitat. The watershed 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](#). (24-1455)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$766,242** **Restoring Bear Creek**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to place habitat structures in eight miles of Bear Creek. The fish enhancement group will install five hundred habitat structures in the creek, plant fifty thousand plants along its banks, and place two thousand pieces of large woody materials. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads, logs, and wood posts, 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. It changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. sediment retention structure collection facility. 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. In the summer, upper Bear Creek runs dry, severely limiting the growth of plants along its banks. Raising the water height by adding woody materials will help ensure tree roots have access to the water during the summer. 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1454)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Restoring the Banks of the Coweeman River

Grant Awarded: \$191,484

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to begin restoring one hundred acres in Weyerhaeuser's Saint Helens Tree Farm. Work will focus on 2.6 miles of upper Coweeman River and the lower portions of three headwater tributaries: Baird Creek, Nineteen Creek, and Skipper Creek. The fish enhancement group will conduct surveys of past project reaches to document and treat invasive species and plant ten thousand native tree and shrubs to enhance species diversity. The area is used by coho salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1523)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Restoring the South Fork Toutle River at Brownell Reach

Grant Awarded: \$1,999,010

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to reestablish 38.8 acres of floodplain and riverbank habitat and restore a network of channels in 1.5 miles of the stream where Brownell Creek meets the South Fork Toutle River. The floodplain in this area is wide and the river runs through it in multiple channels. With the 1980 eruption of Mount Saint Helens and subsequent wood salvage from the river, there are very few trees and plants remaining to shade the river and provide nutrients and food to fish. The enhancement group will plant hundreds of trees in the floodplain and along the river. It also will place boulders, wood, and large tree root wads to create pools for the fish and structure for the river channels. 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, and by sea-run cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1450)

Projects in Garfield County

Pomeroy Conservation District Placing Wood Structures in Alpowa Creek

Grant Awarded: \$88,000

The Pomeroy Conservation District will use this grant to place wood structures in Alpowa Creek to increase habitat diversity and connection of the creek to its floodplain. Adding wood structures, such as tree root wads and logs, 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 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](#). (24-1046)

Projects in Grays Harbor County

Grays Harbor Conservation District Designing Restoration of Garrard Creek

Grant Awarded: \$142,736

The Grays Harbor Conservation District will use this grant to develop conceptual and preliminary designs for restoration of a 0.6-mile segment of Garrard Creek. This part of the creek suffers from a lack of trees and logs in the water and along its banks, disconnection from the floodplain, eroded banks, a lack of spawning gravels, and water that is too warm. Two small tributaries that enter Garrard Creek have been altered by past land-use practices and ditching. Their banks are eroding and are dominated by non-native plants such as reed canary grass. Due to these alterations, off-channel rearing habitat is limited in the tributaries and natural water storage capacity is degraded. The future restoration could include planting the banks, adding logjams, and restoring the wetlands and tributary meanders. 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. 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, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The creek is used by coho and chum salmon and steelhead and cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1364)

Grays Harbor Conservation District Restoring Mox Chehalis Creek

Grant Awarded: \$886,772

The Grays Harbor Conservation District will use this grant to plant the creek banks and place wood structures along one mile of Mox Chehalis Creek. The creek is in Grays Harbor County and starts southeast of McCleary and flows into the Chehalis River northwest of the town of Porter. The creek has no trees on its banks and minimal large woody materials in this reach, meaning there is no shade whatsoever to cool the creek, there are no roots to stabilize the bank, there are few nutrient inputs to support fish and the food they eat, and there are no trees that could fall into the water to help the creek store water and sediment or maintain connection to its floodplain. The conservation district will plant nineteen acres along the south side of the banks of the reach and install log structures in the creek. 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. Adding 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, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The creek is used by Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead, cutthroat, and rainbow trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1366)

Quinault Indian Nation

Grant Awarded: \$449,423

Continuing Removal of Invasive Plants Along the Lower Quinault River

The Quinault Indian Nation will use this grant to continue to control invasive plants in the lower Quinault River valley bottom. Many of the rivers on the Coast are infested with knotweed, which is a highly invasive plant that displaces native plant communities, accelerates bank erosion, and degrades salmon spawning habitat by clogging the stream and keeping large trees from growing and falling into the stream. Now that the Nation has completed a full inventory and weed control of the entire lower river, it will use this grant to check on previously treated areas, looking for Himalayan blackberry, and treat any new infestations. Where invasive weeds have been controlled, the Nation will plant native trees to re-establish streamside forests. Having native 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. This project continues efforts that have been ongoing for years. The watershed is used by Chinook, chum, coho, and sockeye salmon and steelhead, cutthroat, and bull trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1605)

**Trout Unlimited-Washington Coast Chapter
Designing Fish Passage Solutions in July Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$310,067

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to produce preliminary designs to correct a road culvert that is completely blocking fish passage in July Creek, a tributary to Lake Quinault in Olympic National Park. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. This barrier is just above Lake Quinault and under the Northshore Road, which is owned and managed by the National Park Service. The creek is used by coho and sockeye salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1570)

**Wild Salmon Center
Designing and Opening Fish Passage in a Raft River Tributary**

Grant Awarded: \$217,970

The Wild Salmon Center will use this grant to complete final designs and get permits for two projects to fix barriers that are blocking all fish access to a tributary to the lower Raft River. The center will design the removal of one of the barriers that recently collapsed and the pull-back of roadway fill that is no longer needed to open a half-mile of habitat. The center will design the replacement of the second fish-blocking culvert with a bridge to maintain access for people and restore full access for fish. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. The Raft River basin is the second largest basin on the Quinault Indian Reservation. When both barriers are removed, fish will have access to 0.7 mile of habitat. The river and tributary are used by coho salmon and steelhead, sea-run cutthroat, bull, and resident trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1501)

Projects in Island County

**Tulalip Tribes
Connecting the Cultus Bay Estuary**

Grant Awarded: \$35,201

The Tulalip Tribes will use this grant to develop preliminary designs for a project to remove or replace a flap tide gate with bridges, reconnecting the inner estuary of Cultus Bay. Recently, a flood blew out part of a dike and road where the tide gate was. The road provides access to a house and other structures. The Tribe will consider alternatives, such alternate access routes, tide gate and levee removal, alternative bridge crossings, and a setback berm. 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 and pink salmon. The Tribe is seeking additional funding from the

Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1274)

Whidbey Camano Land Trust Conserving North Livingston Bay

Grant Awarded: \$750,000

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust will use this grant to help the Tulalip Tribes buy nearly 21 acres that connect with 127 acres previously purchased by the Tribes and moving this former estuary one step closer to future restoration. This purchase will build off other large-scale protection in the Livingston Bay and Port Susan Bay area, including 3,218 acres of tidelands protected by the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, nearly 4,000 acres protected by The Nature Conservancy, and 13,000 acres managed by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The tidelands at Livingston Bay are a top priority for protection because they are used by salmon during their migration to and from the Stillaguamish River. 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 and pink salmon. Funding for this project is partially from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1118)

Projects in Jefferson County

North Olympic Salmon Coalition Maintaining Riverbank Plantings in East Jefferson County

Grant Awarded: \$592,507

The North Olympic Salmon Coalition will use this grant to maintain plantings on 280 acres of previously restored land along the Big Quilcene River, Chimacum Creek, Donovan Creek, Dosewallips River, Duckabush River, Little Quilcene River, Salmon Creek, and Snow Creek. The waterways are 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 pink salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1092)

North Olympic Salmon Coalition Restoring the Nearshore in Discovery Bay

Grant Awarded: \$348,726

The North Olympic Salmon Coalition will use this grant to restore more than an acre and nearly a quarter mile of degraded nearshore habitat critical to migrating chum salmon and steelhead trout. The coalition will remove the abandoned railroad grade that lays across a historical spit, saltmarsh, and back water. The coalition also will remove creosote timber, a bulkhead and the

house perched on it, and fill material on the historical beach and backshore marsh. The bay 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. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1090)

Projects in King County

King County

Grant Awarded: \$205,589

Designing a Barrier Removal Under Southeast High Point Way

The King County Road Services Division will use this grant to design a bridge to replace an undersized culvert that carries the East Fork Issaquah Creek under Southeast High Point Way. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. The East Fork Issaquah Creek provides spawning habitat for salmon. The bridge will restore full access for salmon to more than five miles of stream and will accommodate climate change during the next fifty to seventy-five years. 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, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. King County is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1222)

King County

Grant Awarded: \$461,925

Rehabilitating Northeast Auburn Creek

The King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to improve fish passage, create off-channel areas for young salmon, and restore the banks of Northeast Auburn Creek. The County will replace a poorly functioning flap gate and culvert that are barriers to fish passage in the creek. A flap gate is placed in a creek channel, opens only one way, and closes automatically when the flow of the creek reverses. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. The County will create a newly oriented tributary channel between the new flap gate and the Green River and connect a wetland to the creek. The work will give salmon access to nearly four miles of off-channel habitat. Off-channel habitat is crucial for salmon because it gives them a place to rest out of the fast-flowing river, feed, hide from predators, and grow larger. Finally, the County will place large woody materials in the new channel and plant the banks of the channel and the Green River. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, 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. Planting native trees and shrubs along a waterway shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep sediment from entering the water, where it can smother spawning gravel and reduce the flow of oxygenated water. The creek and river are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. King County is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1108)

King County

Grant Awarded: \$497,722

Replanting the Banks of Newaukum and Big Spring Creeks

The King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to plant native trees and shrubs on seventeen acres on Newaukum and Big Spring Creeks. The creek banks and wetlands were degraded when forests and wetlands were converted to pasture, the streams were dredged, livestock grazed the banks, and houses and roads were built. Newaukum Creek often is too warm for salmon spawning and incubation and for juvenile rearing. Planting native trees and shrubs along the creeks shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants provide food for the insects that salmon eat. Finally, the roots of the plants keep sediment from entering the water, where it can smother spawning gravel and reduce the flow of oxygenated 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, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1157)

Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

Grant Awarded: \$300,531

Restoring the Banks of Waterways in the Sammamish River Watershed

The Mid-Puget Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to restore or maintain nearly sixteen acres along waterways in the Sammamish River watershed in King County. The fisheries enhancement group will plant 0.7 acre and maintain plants on another 15.2 acres along the Sammamish River, Bear Creek, and Cottage Lake Creek. 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 waterways are used by Chinook salmon, which is species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is partially from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1286)

**Mountains to Sound Greenway
Restoring the Banks of Issaquah Creek**

Trust Grant Requested: \$150,000

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and City of Issaquah will use this grant to continue restoring the banks of Issaquah Creek to enhance salmon habitat. The partners will focus on controlling invasive weeds and planting native trees and shrubs. Work will be done on fifteen acres of city land and along more than a half-mile of the creek. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. The creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1221)

**Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
Restoring the Banks of Little Bear Creek Park**

Grant Awarded: \$93,255

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and the City of Woodinville will use this grant to continue restoring the banks of Little Bear Creek. The partners will remove and treat invasive weeds and plant at least one thousand native plants in one acre of Little Bear Creek Park. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. The creek is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1312)

**Whale Scout
Restoring the Banks of the Sammamish River**

Grant Awarded: \$81,850

Whale Scout will use this grant to plant the banks of the Sammamish River, along the former Wayne Golf Course, in Bothell. Whale Scout will plant two riverbank sections and control invasive weeds around all mature trees on both banks to support their continued survival. Most of the work will be done by diverse students and college seniors. Planting trees and bushes along a waterway shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves in 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 plantings will connect to newly created habitat for juvenile salmon located just upstream. The river is used by Chinook, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal

Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1233)

Wild Fish Conservancy

Grant Awarded: \$350,000

Designing Restoration of the Stillwater Unit Floodplain

The Wild Fish Conservancy will use this grant to develop conceptual and preliminary designs for a project to restore more than 240 acres of Snoqualmie River floodplain in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Snoqualmie Wildlife Area's Stillwater Unit. The goal is to restore historical natural processes and floodplain structure to the Snoqualmie River. Previous restoration in the area is encouraging the river to migrate and move into a historic oxbow area. The river and oxbow area lacks woody materials. The project focuses on placing wood structures. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, 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. This is a unique opportunity to place woody materials throughout a river reach as it is evolving. The Snoqualmie 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](#). (24-1255)

Projects in Kitsap County

Great Peninsula Conservancy Conserving Dickerson Creek

Grant Awarded: \$477,972

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, for 162 acres and 2 miles of Dickerson Creek and its tributaries in Kitsap County. The creek is an important tributary of Chico Creek, the most productive salmon run on the Kitsap Peninsula. Next to 14,000 acres of public and protected land, the project site provides spawning and rearing habitat and critical resting habitat in the watershed. The purchase will protect a wide, four-hundred-foot buffer along the creek, safeguarding the mature forest there. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. The conservancy is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1139)

Kitsap Conservation District
Maintaining Plantings in Kitsap Watersheds

Grant Awarded: \$15,756

The Kitsap Conservation District will use this grant to hire a Washington Conservation Corps crew to maintain restored sites. The conservation district has restored streambanks in Blackjack, Chico, Clear, Curley, and Olalla watersheds. The conservation district will remove weeds, plant replacement plants where the original plants died, and install tree protectors to prevent the plants from being eaten by deer, beavers, and voles. The waterways 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](#). (24-1168)

Kitsap County
Removing the Dyes Inlet Lagoon Bulkhead

Grant Awarded: \$97,030

Kitsap County will use this grant to remove more than 514 feet of rockery bulkhead, revetment, pilings, and fill at a lagoon in Dyes Inlet. Shore armor interrupts beach processes by reducing the supply and movement of sediment, changing tidal flow, and degrading habitat. High-quality, near-shore habitats are important to salmon because they provide places to rest, eat, and grow before salmon migrate to the ocean. Removing the bulkhead will allow the tides to flow to more areas and increase the habitat for salmon. The County also will replace more than three-quarter acre of lawn with plants. 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 lagoon 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](#). (24-1148)

Wild Fish Conservancy
Restoring Finn Creek Estuary

Grant Awarded: \$140,328

The Wild Fish Conservancy will use this grant to remove barriers to fish migration in Finn Creek and restore its estuary. A culvert and a tide gate at the mouth of Finn Creek in Norwegian Point County Park block fish access. In addition, the creek's estuary has been buried under fill for decades. These conditions have blocked fish access to two miles of spawning and rearing habitats. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. The Wild Fish Conservancy will remove the culverts and place large woody materials, such as trees and root wads, in the creek and plant its banks. 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. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. 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; by chum and pink salmon, and by sea-run cutthroat trout. The conservancy is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1159)

Projects in Kittitas County

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Designing Forest Along the Yakima River

Grant Awarded: \$39,391

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to develop conceptual designs and a plan for establishing a riverside forest along more than one-third mile of the Yakima River's right bank, northeast of Ellensburg. Planting trees 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 river is used by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as Chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1810)

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Designing Restoration of the Middle Fork Teanaway River

Grant Awarded: \$256,500

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to hire an engineer to help with designs and permitting for restoration of about two miles of the Middle Fork Teanaway River. The river suffers from severe incision and bedrock exposure, which pose barriers to fish passage when the water is low, exacerbate high summer water temperatures, limit habitat availability, and prevent floodplain connection. The engineer will work with the U.S. Forest Service to produce a design package including a Basis of Design report, an engineering plan set, technical specifications, and probable construction costs. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act,

and by Chinook and coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1718)

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Restoring the West Fork Teanaway River

Grant Awarded: \$385,000

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to reconnect the Teanaway River to its floodplain and place large woody materials in the river to slow runoff and maintain habitat-forming processes. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, 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. This is the first phase of large-scale restoration work in the West and Middle Forks of the Teanaway River in the Teanaway Community Forest. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and Chinook and coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1717)

Trout Unlimited Inc. Designing Fish Passage in Cold Creek at Keechelus Lake

Grant Awarded: \$197,071

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to design a project to replace a culvert under the Palouse to Cascades Trail near Snoqualmie Pass, allowing fish to move freely between Cold Creek and Keechelus Lake. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under trails and roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. When built, the passage will open about 2.7 miles of habitat to fish. The culvert was built as part of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, and Pacific Railroad in the early 1900s. It completely blocks fish from moving upstream and likely blocks them seasonally from moving downstream. The creek is used by bull trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by westslope cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1247)

Projects in Klickitat County

Columbia Land Trust Acquiring Klickitat River Floodplain

Grant Awarded: \$223,357

The Columbia Land Trust will use this grant to buy almost forty acres along the Klickitat River in Klickitat County. The land is in the eight-mile Klickitat River Haul Road restoration corridor, which includes more than one-third-mile of active river channel and side channels and just

under a quarter-mile of backwater habitat used by steelhead, cutthroat, and rainbow trout, and Chinook salmon. The dynamic nature of the property makes it susceptible to weed infestations that could degrade habitat. The purchase will allow the land trust to manage the land as wildlife habitat, open the area to the public, and ensure that this critical part of the restoration area is managed as a corridor forever. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1794)

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Designing Snyder Creek Restoration

Grant Awarded: \$332,214

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to complete the design for a restoration project on lower Snyder Creek in the Klickitat River basin. A previous mill owner relocated the stream to the south side of the valley in this former log sorting and storage yard. The new landowner would like to complete habitat restoration and improvements on the property. 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](#). (24-1643)

Projects in Lewis County

Lewis Conservation District Opening Fish Passage in a Newaukum River Tributary

Grant Awarded: \$128,300

The Lewis Conservation District will use this grant to replace two undersized culverts limiting fish passage from an unnamed tributary to the Middle Fork Newaukum River. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. Replacing the two culverts, which are on the same stream on private land near Onalaska, will open access to more than a mile of unimpeded habitat. The tributary is used by coho salmon and steelhead and sea-run cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1116)

Lewis County Designing Fish Passage in a South Fork Newaukum River Tributary

Grant Awarded: \$219,428

The Lewis County Public Works Department will use this grant to design the replacement of a culvert that spans an unnamed tributary to the South Fork Newaukum River at Clark Road near Onalaska in Lewis County. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. Correcting this barrier will give fish

unimpeded access to more than two miles of habitat. The tributary is used by coho salmon and steelhead and sea-run cutthroat trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1236)

Trout Unlimited Inc. Grant Awarded: \$200,000
Assessing Wood Placement in the Newaukum River Headwaters

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to assess nineteen miles of the upper and lower North Fork Newaukum River and Lucas Creek for wood placement and to prioritize reaches for future restoration projects. These headwaters of the Newaukum River have high-quality habitat crucial for salmon and steelhead. Historical land-use practices have depleted wood in the streams, disrupting natural processes and diminishing water quality, habitat, and floodplain connectivity. Adding wood, such as tree root wads and logs, 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 streams targeted by the assessment are used by Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1165)

Trout Unlimited Inc. Grant Awarded: \$349,731
Placing Wood in Bernier Creek

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to complete final designs and place wood structures in Bernier Creek, a tributary to the South Fork Newaukum River in Lewis County. Past logging practices, such as splash damming, reduced the logs and tree root wads that were naturally present in the creek. As a result, the creek more severely erodes its banks, disconnecting it from its floodplain and muddying the water with fine sediment. Adding wood structures 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. Bernier Creek is used by coho salmon and steelhead trout, and the South Fork Newaukum River is used by Chinook salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1164)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Grant Awarded: \$288,648
Designing the Restoration of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area's Spears Unit

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to design the restoration of the Cowlitz Wildlife Area's Spears Unit. The trees there were logged historically and the land was cleared to make way for farm fields. Streams were moved, ditched, and diked. Constructed earthen berms reduced the water connections to wetlands and obstructed fish access to off-channel areas. The

department will plan for restoration actions that will remove barriers to fish passage in Siler Creek, remove berms to create better channels for Siler Creek and Gibbs Creek, install large woody materials and streambed gravels, and plant the streambanks. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, 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, the wood changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. 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 restoration actions also will include removal of reed canary grass. The creeks are 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](#). (24-1753)

Projects in Mason County

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group Monitoring Union, Tahuya, and Dewatto River Fish

Grant Awarded: \$138,180

The Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to continue studying the fish entering and leaving the Union River. The group will count the number of chum salmon carcasses and collect life history and genetic data from the Union, Tahuya, and Dewatto Rivers. The group also will count the number of young chum heading out to sea and collect genetic samples to identify the timing of summer and fall runs. 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](#). (24-1101)

Mason County Conservation District Continuing Restoration of Southern Hood Canal

Grant Awarded: \$746,762

The Mason Conservation District will use this grant to continue restoration of forty-five acres of degraded habitat, control five hundred acres of knotweed, and maintain another four hundred acres (fifteen miles of streambank) in the Skokomish River floodplain. This project is a continuation of work that began in 2009 to restore hundreds of acres of native plant communities and control large infestations of knotweed in southern Hood Canal. The Skokomish River 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. The conservation district is seeking additional funding from

the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1100)

Mason County Conservation District **Grant Awarded: \$1,277,088**
Continuing Restoration of the South Fork Skokomish River

The Mason County Conservation District, in coordination with the U.S. Forest Service, will use this grant to restore the upper South Fork Skokomish River. The conservation district will place at least fourteen logjams at different locations to increase the types of habitat there. 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 logjams also will push water towards the side channels, which are connected to an extensive network of wetlands. This is the sixth phase of work in a ten-mile reach of the river. This project is part of an effort to restore the watershed that historically was the largest salmon fishery in Hood Canal. The conservation district is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. 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](#). (24-1099)

Mason County Conservation District **Grant Awarded: \$290,697**
Restoring Creek Banks in Multiple Watersheds

The Mason County Conservation District will use this grant to plant the banks of Mill, Goldsborough, and Skookum Creeks and their tributaries. The sites proposed for restoration lack trees and are dominated by reed canary grass and Himalayan blackberry, which do not provide properly functioning habitat for fish. 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. The roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. Finally, once the trees die, they may fall into the water, where they can slow the water and create riffles, pools, and more varied habitat for fish. The creeks are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1239)

Mason County Conservation District Restoring Gosnell Creek

Grant Awarded: \$328,702

The Mason Conservation District will use this grant to install ten large wood habitat structures in Gosnell Creek and build a back-channel connecting to the creek's floodplain. Work will be done south of West Cloquallum Road and upstream of Isabella Lake in Mason County. Gosnell Creek is the upper reach of the largest waterway in the Mill Creek watershed, which is one of the largest watersheds in the area. Gosnell Creek's cool temperatures and gravelly tributaries allow salmon and trout to spawn and rear. Many of the natural processes in the watershed are intact in its forested upper reaches, however agricultural practices and rural development have affected the lower ones. The wood structures create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. They also slow the water, which reduces erosion and allows small rocks to settle to the 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. The creek is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. The conservation district is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1203)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group Planting the Skookum Valley

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to plant the banks of Skookum Creek and its floodplain. The work will be done at two sites owned by the Squaxin Island Tribe. The salmon enhancement group will maintain the plants for three years. At one site, the salmon enhancement group will convert open, grass-and-shrub-dominated areas to forest by planting trees. At the second site, known as Skookum Ranch, the salmon enhancement group will replace dead plants and fill in empty areas. 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. The roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. Finally, once the trees die, they may fall into the water, where they can slow the water and create riffles, pools, and more varied habitat for fish. 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1243)

Projects in Okanogan County

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Restoring the Methow River

Grant Awarded: \$747,978

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to remove some levees and place large wood in the Methow River near the confluences with Goat Creek. Adding large wood, such as tree root wads and logs, to the river 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. The combined actions of levee removal and large wood placement will increase inundation in the floodplain, improving habitat quantity and quality for fish. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1835)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Creating a Road Buffer at the Twisp Ponds

Grant Awarded: \$238,505

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to create and plant that banks of a bench with a toe made from woody materials at the Twisp ponds. The bench will serve as a buffer between a county road and three connected off-channel ponds, intercepting road runoff that could contain tire particles harmful to coho salmon. Planting trees and bushes on the bench 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. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, to the toe of the bench will create habitat 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 ponds are used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act; by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act; and by coho salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1819)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Improving Water Flow at Twisp Ponds

Grant Awarded: \$108,749

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to improve the ability of the Twisp River to reach downstream ponds and channels that provide high-quality spawning and rearing

habitat for salmon and trout. The lower Twisp River feeds a system of five ponds and channels via an unscreened diversion structure. While the diversion has been effective, undersized culverts between the diversion and the highest ponds are often clogged with debris, which reduces the water entering the downstream ponds and channels, degrades water quality, and sometimes goes dry, stranding or killing the fish. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and can block fish passage when they are too small, too high, or plugged. The foundation will replace undersized culverts with larger ones, cattle guards, or drivable fords that are less likely to become plugged with debris. The foundation also will reconnect former alternative flow pathways to ensure water flow to the pond and channel system continues if the primary channel is blocked. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act; by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act; and by bull trout, coho salmon, and Pacific lamprey. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1820)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation Planting the Banks of the Methow River

Grant Awarded: \$250,894

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to plant 4.3 acres along the Middle Methow Reach of the Methow River, between the towns of Twisp and Winthrop, in Okanogan County. Planting trees and shrubs along a river shades the water, keeping it cool for fish. The plants also drop branches and leaves into the water, which provide important nutrients for the river community. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The foundation will maintain the plantings for up to five years until they are established and self-sufficient. The river is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1821)

Trout Unlimited Inc. Restoring and Virtually Fencing Creek Banks

Grant Awarded: \$175,000

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to plant creek banks and use virtual fencing technology to keep cattle away from thirty-two miles of waterways and stream banks in the Cub Allotment of the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest. The Cub Allotment covers portions of upper Goat Creek, Cub Creek, Eight Mile Creek, Falls Creek, and part of the Chewuch River. In collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service and the cattle permittee, Trout Unlimited will use this grant to help pay for the virtual fencing technology and cattle collars through 2029, and identify up to five areas in need of planting along stream banks. 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 nutrients to the river system. Finally, the roots of the plants keep soil from entering the water, where it can smother fish spawning gravel. The waterways are used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1822)

Projects in Pacific County

Ducks Unlimited Inc. Grant Awarded: \$175,660 **Designing the Reconnection of North River to the Willapa Bay Wildlife Area**

Ducks Unlimited, in partnership with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, will use this grant to complete conceptual and preliminary designs for a project that will reconnect the floodplain of the lower North River to a 380-acre portion of the north Willapa Bay Wildlife Area in Pacific County. The future project calls for breaching levees, removing tide gates, and removing blocking drain ditches. The river is used by Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1516)

Pacific Conservation District Grant Request: \$269,847 **Maintaining Riverbanks in Pacific County**

The Pacific Conservation District will use this grant to maintain plantings along riverbanks across Pacific County from North River to the South Fork Naselle River. The grant will fund a crew of four for three years to maintain up to ten miles of riverbank a year. The crew will trim brush, add mulch, fix fences, water plants, and plant areas where plants have died. In addition, the crew will buy equipment for the work, such as tools, mowers, and a trailer. The rivers are used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1687)

Pacific Conservation District Grant Awarded: \$140,000 **Opening Fish Passage in Smith Creek**

The Pacific County Conservation District will use grant to pay increased costs for a project to design and replace two side-by-side malfunctioning tide gates with a bridge over Smith Creek on Parpala Road. The work will provide fish access to 4.9 miles of creek and restore about 140 acres of tidal estuary habitat in the lower Naselle River that is behind the tide gate. Restoration activities include digging new estuarine channels and moving back a levee to open more habitat on the upstream side of the new bridge while still protecting adjacent private property. The

creek is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon. This grant is a cost increase to a project funded in 2018. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (18-1193)

Sea Resources

Grant Awarded: \$256,000

Designing Restoration of Fish Passage to the Naselle River Estuary

Sea Resources will use this grant to complete a preliminary design for a project to replace an undersized, deteriorating culvert with a bridge on an unnamed creek that is a tributary to the lower Naselle River estuary. The culvert is on Pacific County Government Road, north of the U.S. Route 101. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high. The culvert is not aligned properly with the channel and partially blocks fish and saltwater from reaching the seventy-five-acre estuary upstream. In addition, the culvert creates a whirlpool suction at every tide change. Removing the culvert will restore tidal inundation and reconnect the estuary wetland. The creek is used by Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead trout. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1244)

Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

Grant Awarded: \$1,984

Designing Restoration of Fish Passage in Patton Creek

The Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant for increased costs to design a project that will remove a culvert that blocks fish passage and return Patton Creek to its natural channel at its confluence with the Willapa River. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads but often block fish passage when they are too small or too high. The design will include actions to restore four miles of the lower Patton Creek, a portion of the Willapa River, and the remainder of Patton Creek above a homesite. The design will incorporate elements to improve summer water flows, reduce water temperature, and improve the types of habitat found in the creek. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and steelhead trout. This grant is a cost increase to a project funded in 2023. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (23-1124)

Willapa Bay Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group

Grant Awarded: \$214,253

Planting Trees and Shrubs in the Rue Creek Watershed

The Willapa Bay Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to plant trees and shrubs in the Rue Creek watershed, south of Rue Creek Road in Raymond. Logging has left the banks of Rue Creek dominated by a single type of tree—alder. The valley floor along West Fork Rue Creek was a spruce-dominated forest until the mid-1990s, when logging and storms left few trees standing. Now, the valley floor is dominated by beaver dams and extensive reed canary grass. The fisheries enhancement group will plant forty-eight acres with different types of trees and shrubs

to diversify the habitat. 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 river is used by Chinook and chum salmon and steelhead trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1769)

Projects in Pend Oreille County

Trout Unlimited Inc.

Grant Awarded: \$1,156,753

Designing and Restoring Lower Harvey Creek

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to design and restore the lower nearly half-mile of Harvey Creek. Trout Unlimited will place logjams in the creek and plant its banks. 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 trout to spawn. Finally, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give trout more varied habitat. 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 trout 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 native westslope cutthroat trout and introduced kokanee salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1383)

Projects in Pierce County

Nisqually Land Trust

Grant Awarded: \$453,000

Conserving Middle Ohop Creek

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to conserve 34.4 acres, including one-third mile of Ohop Creek shoreline and 9 acres in the Ohop Valley. The land is immediately downstream of the Ohop Valley Extension Road bridge that crosses the creek. The land contains steep slopes with seeps, springs, and three small canyons that contribute flow to Ohop Creek. Much of the slopes contain wetland plants, including skunk cabbage in many locations. 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](#). (24-1035)

Nisqually Land Trust
Conserving the Lower Ohop Valley

Grant Awarded: \$116,337

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to conserve 65.2 acres, including 0.1 mile of Ohop Creek shoreline and 48 acres in the Ohop Valley, in preparation for the next phase of restoration. The land contains steep slopes along the edge of the valley. The purchase will allow restoration partners to maximize in-stream, floodplain, and stream bank habitat improvements in this part of the valley. The creek is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. The land trust is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1034)

Pierce Conservation District
Caretaking South Prairie Creek Plantings

Grant Awarded: \$639,459

The Pierce Conservation District will use this grant to take care of more than eighty-five acres of plantings along the forested floodplain and off-channel wetlands of South Prairie Creek, which is one of the most productive tributaries for salmon in the Puyallup River system. The conservation district will remove invasive plants and fill in trees and shrubs on about twenty acres along South Prairie Creek and on fifty acres of forested floodplain. The conservation district also will remove invasive species at a site of a future restoration project on the floodplain and maintain plantings that were installed recently on forested floodplain. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1395)

Pierce Conservation District
Removing the DeMolay Sandspit Bulkhead

Grant Awarded: \$162,671

The Pierce Conservation District will use this grant to complete the project design and remove up to 865 feet of concrete armoring and intertidal debris at the Tacoma DeMolay Sandspit Nature Preserve on Fox Island in Pierce County. Removing the materials will reconnect and enhance the shoreline and allow a natural building of the upper beach over time and creation of a refuge area for salmon and spawning habitat for the fish they eat. The design will be extended to include two parcels being acquired by the Peninsula Metropolitan Park Districts. In addition

to removing the materials, the conservation district will re-slope some of the bank, plant native plants along the waterway, place large woody materials on upper beach, add sand to the beach, and manage the upland drainage. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, 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. 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 preserve 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](#). (24-1161)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$350,000** **Restoring Alluvial Fans at Fox and Rushingwater Creeks**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to produce designs for two projects to restore the alluvial fans at the confluences of the upper Puyallup River with Fox Creek and the Mowich River with Rushingwater Creek. At Fox Creek, the project will remove an abandoned forest road, railroad grade, and creosote timber bridge. It also calls for the placing of wood structures in lower Fox Creek and in the braided side channels of the Puyallup River. At Rushingwater Creek, the project calls for placing logjams around the confluence to increase habitat complexity and connectivity. Adding woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, 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 creeks are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1398)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$443,055** **Restoring South Prairie Creek**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to restore South Prairie Creek. The salmon enhancement group will remove floodplain fill from a former horse track, excavate side channels to restore a multi-threaded channel network in a relic channel, place wood structures in the creek and its side channel and floodplain to increase habitat complexity and floodplain engagement, and plant trees and shrubs on thirty acres of creek banks and wetlands. The work will reconnect the creek to its floodplain and increase the types of habitat in the creek. Adding wood structures, such as tree root wads and logs, 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. 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. The creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. The salmon enhancement group is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1396)

Projects in San Juan County

Friends of the San Juans

Grant Awarded: \$47,702

Restoring the Banks of Lower Cascade Creek

The Friends of the San Juans will use this grant to enhance vegetation on the banks of Cascade Creek on Orcas Island. The friends group will remove invasive plants then plant and maintain native trees and shrubs on a half-acre. The lower creek's banks have little vegetation, are compacted, and infested with blackberries. A side-channel wetland is disconnected from the creek and filled. An alder-dominated forest needs more and diverse trees. 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 creek is used by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern, and by Chinook salmon and coastal cutthroat trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1657)

San Juan County

Grant Awarded: \$176,144

Caretaking Plantings in the False Bay Watershed

The San Juan County Environmental Stewardship Department will use this grant to maintain plantings on thirty acres in the False Bay watershed. This is the largest watershed in San Juan County at 18.3 square miles and one of the County's most important for salmon. The County will maintain plantings along False Bay Creek, install fencing to keep livestock out of the creek, and plant the banks at the confluence of False Bay and San Juan Valley Creek. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. The watershed 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (24-1661)

San Juan County

Grant Awarded: \$261,746

Maintaining the Plantings at Lower Lake Zylstra

The San Juan County Environmental Stewardship Department will use this grant to maintain trees and shrubs along more than a half-mile of lower False Bay Creek, immediately below Lake Zylstra, and on the shores of lower Lake Zylstra. The County also will install fencing to keep livestock out of the creek and to control reed canary grass. The County will maintain more than eighteen acres for four years. Trees and shrubs on shorelines are important for salmon recovery. They 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 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (24-1660)

San Juan County

Grant Awarded: \$351,969

Restoring Jackson Beach

The San Juan County Environmental Stewardship Department will use this grant to reshape Jackson Beach to a more naturally functioning shoreline ideal for the fish that salmon eat. The County will remove about 335 feet of shoreline rock and fill and place the rock along the toe of the upland slope, burying it with sand and gravel from the excavation area. The work will reduce the unnaturally steep slope below Pear Point Road. Then, the County will replant the area with native backshore vegetation and create three beach access paths to direct people away from the native plants. In addition, the County will work with OPALCO, the local power company, to move two utility poles away from the shore. The area is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The County is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (24-1662)

**San Juan County Conservation Land Bank
Conserving Eastsound Shoreline**

Grant Awarded: \$142,027

The San Juan County Conservation Land Bank will use this grant to buy nearly twenty-four acres of undeveloped shoreline at Eastsound on Orcas Island. The land is a high-priority area for the rearing of Chinook salmon and for use by the fish salmon eat. The land includes a quarter-mile of rocky shoreline with a 260-foot pocket beach, an intermittent stream, mature vegetation, and a small holding area offshore for herring. The land bank has protected more than a mile of undeveloped shoreline in the county using previous grants. Public opportunities for hiking, kayaking, and wildlife viewing are anticipated in the future. 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 and pink salmon. The land bank is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1659)

Projects in Skagit County

**Seattle City Light
Conserving Habitat in the Skagit River Watershed**

Grant Awarded: \$559,594

The Seattle City Light will use this grant to buy seventy-five acres of freshwater floodplain habitats in the Skagit River watershed. Protecting high-quality habitat on the floodplain is crucial to providing for salmon recovery. It is less expensive to protect the area while it is in pristine or near pristine condition than to restore it. The watershed is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Seattle City Light is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1743)

**Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
Controlling Knotweed on the Upper Skagit River**

Grant Awarded: \$234,769

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to control knotweed on 4,500 acres of floodplain along thirty-four miles of the Skagit River and its tributaries. Work will be done in Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom Counties. Knotweed forms dense stands that choke out other plants. Once a generation of trees dies, there is nothing to take its place. In addition, a piece of knotweed can easily start a new stand. Knotweed does not provide the benefits that trees along a river do. 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 river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; by chum and pink salmon; and by bull trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1733)

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Finding Fixes for the Pressentin Side Channel

Grant Awarded: \$84,908

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to collect and analyze data and develop conceptual design alternatives to adjust the upper Skagit River's Pressentin side-channel project that was altered by a flood. The Pressentin project was completed in 2021, and immediately afterwards, a record flood impacted the site. Since the flood, the side channel has not functioned as anticipated, remaining dry during key periods for rearing of Chinook salmon and other fish. This project is a cost-effective way to start improving habitat and help make decision about the best way to proceed. 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](#). (24-1731)

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Restoring DeBay's Reach

Grant Awarded: \$119,385

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to the remove invasive plants on more than thirty-eight acres along the DeBay's Reach of the Skagit River and along a slough, then plant native trees and shrubs to create floodplain forests. The fisheries enhancement group will install 12,800 native trees and shrubs on 22.5 floodplain acres and replant an additional 15.5 acres with 2,000 plants. 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 river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; by chum and pink salmon; and by bull and cutthroat trout. The fisheries enhancement group is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1735)

**Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
Restoring the Banks of the Upper Skagit River**

Grant Awarded: \$225,000

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to plant 12,600 native trees and shrubs on forty-seven acres and control invasive plants on eighty-seven acres of floodplain along the upper Skagit River. Planting trees and bushes along a floodplain 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 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; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; by chum and pink salmon; and by bull and cutthroat trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1849)

**Skagit Land Trust
Conserving Land in Skagit River Watershed**

Grant Awarded: \$1,105,000

The Skagit Land Trust will use this grant to buy land or voluntary land preservation agreements, also called conservation easements, on at least fifty acres of high-quality habitat for Chinook salmon in the floodplains of the Skagit, Sauk, and Cascade Rivers and along major tributaries and some creeks. The watershed 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](#). (24-1742)

**Skagit River System Cooperative
Planting the Banks of Upper Martin Slough**

Grant Awarded: \$137,900

The Skagit River System Cooperative will use this grant to control invasive species and plant native trees and shrubs on 10.3 acres along Martin Slough. Past land uses have degraded the slough's banks and now they consist of pasture grasses and invasive species. Planting trees and bushes along a slough 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 slough is used by Chinook salmon, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1729)

**Skagit River System Cooperative
Restoring the Riverbanks in Rasar State Park**

Grant Awarded: \$142,800

The Skagit River System Cooperative will use this grant to control invasive species and restore native vegetation on 33.1 acres along the middle Skagit River in Rasar State Park. 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 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1730)

**Skagit River System Cooperative
Restoring the Skagit River Watershed**

Grant Awarded: \$189,000

The Skagit River System Cooperative, in partnership with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, will use this grant to restore 51.4 acres of habitat along the Skagit and Cascade Rivers and Diobsud Creek. The partners will treat invasive species and plant the banks with native trees and shrubs. 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 waterways are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1727)

Projects in Skamania County

**Cascade Forest Conservancy
Enhancing Stream Banks in the Wind River Watershed**

Grant Awarded: \$199,498

The Cascade Forest Conservancy will use this grant to plant the stream banks and install habitat-building structures in the Wind River watershed. In-stream structures are important for promoting restoration of the stream bank buffer because they can help re-engage the floodplain, promote water exchange between surface and subsurface flows, moderate high flows, and keep water in the system later into the summer, creating a buffer that is more resilient to a warming climate. The work will be done on U.S. Forest Service land. The watershed is used

by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1641)

Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$174,129

Designing Corrections to Fish Migration Barriers in Lena Springs

The Cowlitz Indian Tribe will use this grant to create a preliminary design for a project to restore fish passage and natural processes through nearly a half-mile of Lena Springs, a tributary to Hardy Creek, in the Pierce National Wildlife Refuge in Skamania County. The barriers are at a Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway crossing and a Bonneville Power Administration transmission line access road crossing. The designs will address degraded channel conditions and increasing habitat complexity and access to cool, spring-fed water. The stream is used by Chinook, coho, 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](#). (24-1617)

Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership

Grant Awarded: \$349,780

Designing Restoration of Lower Woodard Creek

The Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership will use this grant to develop restoration alternatives and preliminary designs for a project to realign Woodard Creek downstream of the State Route 14 Bridge to the Columbia River. This portion of the creek has barriers to fish passage and is disconnected from its floodplain by road construction and berms. The project will reconnect the creek to the floodplain and alluvial fan. Woodard Creek is a high-priority tributary of the Columbia River and this project creates an opportunity to connect to two other upstream restoration projects and restore floodplains and an alluvial fan at the confluence of the Columbia River. 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](#). (24-1527)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group

Grant Awarded: \$128,664

Designing Restoration of Timber Creek

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to design a culvert replacement and stream restoration project for Timber Creek in the upper Washougal River basin. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or too high off the water. The project, when completed, will provide fish passage to more than one mile of habitat and place woody materials in the creek to increase pools where salmon can rest and improve spawning areas. The stream bank also will be planted with

trees and shrubs to provide shade and food for fish and other wildlife. 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](#). (24-1453)

Projects in Snohomish County

Adopt A Stream Foundation

Grant Awarded: \$291,924

Maintaining Plantings on Snohomish River Tributaries

The Adopt A Stream Foundation will use this grant to maintain, for five years, thirty-seven acres of recently planted vegetation along Olaf Strad Creek, Quilceda Creek, and Coon Creek, all tributaries to the Snohomish River. The work will help to ensure the successful establishment of the plants. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. The creeks are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1264)

Snohomish County

Grant Awarded: \$546,550

Completing Designs for Restoration of the South Slough

Snohomish County Surface Water Management will use this grant to develop final designs, apply for permits, and demolish buildings on South Slough, an important side channel of the Skykomish River near Sultan. The designs are aimed at improving the habitat in the slough, creating off-channel wetland habitat, and planting the slough banks and floodplain. The slough 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](#). (24-1258)

Snohomish County

Grant Awarded: \$23,540

Conserving Community Floodplains

Snohomish County Surface Water Management will use this grant to acquire up to one-hundred acres of salmon habitat for permanent protection and future restoration along two sub-reaches of the lower Skykomish River near Sultan, and along Ebey and Steamboat Sloughs in the

Snohomish Estuary. The purchase and the restoration planned there will increase rearing habitat for young fish. The County plans to connect floodplains, restore wetland buffers, and improve habitat in the river and sloughs. The County also will move any buildings off the land. The river and sloughs are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. The County is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (24-1254)

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians Conserving Stillaguamish River Floodplain

Grant Awarded: \$518,198

The Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians will use this grant to buy thirty-five acres of riverbank and floodplain habitat along about one-third mile of the Stillaguamish River and the North Fork Stillaguamish River. The land is either next to or directly across the river from land owned by the Tribe or Snohomish County. The North Fork Stillaguamish River property is 10.2 acres and includes about 0.1 mile of shoreline with high-quality banks and upland forest. The Stillaguamish River property is 25.4 acres and includes nearly 0.2 mile of shoreline. It is split between fallow and actively farmed land. These properties will provide opportunities for restoration work and will protect the land forever. Conserving this land is part of a larger project to restore a corridor of lands along Chinook salmon-bearing waters, from spawning grounds to tidelands. 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. The Tribe is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project.](#) (24-1210)

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians Maintaining Plantings on the Banks of the North Fork Stillaguamish River

Grant Awarded: \$633,487

The Stillaguamish Tribe, in partnership with Sound Salmon Solutions, will use this grant to work at five locations, maintaining one hundred acres of plantings on the North Fork Stillaguamish River and planting another ten acres along the river. The partners will control invasive plants and incorporate plants used by tribal members for food and traditional cultural and medicinal uses. 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 and smothering fish spawning gravel. The trees planted along the riverbank may one day fall into the river if the river changes direction and then can provide important habitat for fish. The river is used by Chinook salmon

and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; by chum and pink salmon; and by rainbow, bull, and cutthroat trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1238)

Tulalip Tribes

Grant Awarded: \$342,027

Designing Restoration of Big Gulch Stream

The Tulalip Tribes will use this grant to evaluate alternatives and produce a preliminary design for a project that will restore Big Gulch Stream immediately upstream of a fish passage improvement project where the stream passes under the Burlington Northern Sante Fe railroad. The design will seek to realign the stream, restore intertidal processes, and improve the stream's banks, which will restore habitat that will be made more accessible by the fish passage project. The stream 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](#). (24-1223)

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Grant Awarded: \$349,800

Beginning Restoration of the West Fork Woods Creek and Carpenter Creek

The Department of Natural Resources will use this grant to assess habitat, develop plans, plant the creek banks, and improve habitat in West Fork Woods Creek, an important tributary of the Skykomish River, and Carpenter Creek. The department will complete a habitat survey of a 2.7-mile reach of West Fork Woods Creek, plant up to fifteen acres of creek bank, and design and install wood structures in Carpenter Creek. Adding 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, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. The creeks are 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1261)

**Wild Fish Conservancy
Completing Designs for Grant Creek Restoration**

Grant Awarded: \$150,000

The Wild Fish Conservancy will use this grant to complete designs for a project to restore habitat in 0.1 mile of Grant Creek at its confluence with the North Fork Stillaguamish River, northeast of Arlington. All fish that enter or leave Grant Creek must pass through the project area, which lacks important habitat, such as large wood. Adding large wood, such as tree root wads and logs, 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 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. The conservancy is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1028)

Projects in Thurston County

**Capitol Land Trust
Expanding the Inspiring Kids Preserve**

Grant Awarded: \$346,500

The Capitol Land Trust will use this grant buy 5.2 acres of unarmored marine shoreline, wetland, tributary stream, and older forest habitat on Henderson Inlet, directly north of the Capitol Land Trust's 110-acre Inspiring Kids Preserve. The land will be conserved in perpetuity and incorporated into the preserve. The purchase is part of a larger project that will include restoration of the shoreline. The inlet 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. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1187)

**Nisqually Land Trust
Conserving Nisqually River Floodplain**

Grant Awarded: \$299,700

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to help buy forty-one acres along Powell Creek and its tributary Elbow Lake Creek. The land includes the eastern third of the lower Powell Creek wetland, which is in the Nisqually River floodplain, 750 feet of Powell Creek, and 950 feet of Elbow Lake Creek, which is a tributary to Powell Creek. The grant will be used for pre-purchase activities and initial work on the land such as demolishing a cabin and several small sheds. This

project builds on habitat protection and fish passage projects that were completed downstream. 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. Funding for this project is partially from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1036)

Nisqually Land Trust **Grant Awarded: \$270,860** **Maintaining Plantings Along the Middle Reach of the Nisqually River**

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to maintain native trees and shrubs on fifty-five acres that recently were restored along the middle reach of the Nisqually River. Because of sandy soils in this reach, plant survival has varied. The land trust will plant trees and shrubs throughout thirty-five acres that have experienced varied survival, as well as completely replant ten acres. The land trust will till the soil, plant red alder and lupine seeds to establish nitrogen-fixing species, and plant eight-foot-tall cottonwood and willow trees. The land trust also will control invasive weeds on ten acre, while preserving the scattered mature alder and cottonwood along the river and its side channel. Finally, the land trust will install shade screens for new seedlings and wire fence cages around established seedlings to protect them from deer, and remove plant protectors where plants have established. The Nisqually 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](#). (24-1033)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement **Grant Awarded: \$274,817** **Placing Logjams in the Upper Deschutes River**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement will use this grant to place logjams in the upper Deschutes River and Mitchell Creek. The logjams will be placed in 1.7 miles of the upper Deschutes and 0.2 mile of Mitchell Creek at its confluence with the Deschutes. About one hundred trees will be tipped into the river as part of this project, and nearly 250 additional pieces of wood will be placed by helicopter. 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, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The waterways are used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; and by coho salmon and cutthroat trout. The salmon enhancement group is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1188)

**Thurston Conservation District
Developing Shoreline Restoration Projects**

Grant Awarded: \$71,132

The Thurston Conservation District will use this grant to develop eight planting projects and plant three acres of shoreline in Green Cove, Henderson Inlet, McLane Creek, and Percival Creek sub-basins. The conservation district will prioritize areas for restoration and then reach out to find willing landowners. The conservation district will complete designs for eight projects, plant two projects for up to three acres, and then maintain the plantings. 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 sub-basins are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; by chum and pink salmon; and by cutthroat trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1212)

Projects in Wahkiakum County

**Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce
Restoring Fish Passage in the East Fork Deep River**

Grant Awarded: \$237,627

The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce will use this grant to improve fish passage to seventeen miles of the East Fork Deep River system. The taskforce will replace a bank of undersized culverts and tide gates that are blocking fish passage with a forty-foot-wide structure equipped with three muted tidal regulators. Culverts are pipes or other structures that carry streams under roads and block fish passage when they are too small or in disrepair. The taskforce also will expand and improve the habitat along the edge of the first 0.8 mile of the East Fork channel and remove two channel constrictions that contribute to flooding. The work is expected to reduce the severity, duration, and frequency of flooding to private farms and county roads. The work will improve fish access to the East Fork Deep River basin for adult salmon, provide access to juveniles to 2.1 stream miles, create or dramatically improve 2.8 acres of tidal habitat, and improve water quality and temperature in the lower East Fork Deep River by tidal flushing. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, 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](#). (24-1500)

**Wahkiakum Conservation District
Restoring Cleveland Skamokawa Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$225,085

The Wahkiakum Conservation District will use this grant to reestablish trees along the riverbank and place large woody materials, such as tree root wads and logs, in the middle valley portion of Skamokawa Creek. Trees and shrubs along the river will provide shade to help keep the water cool and provide nutrients and food for fish and other wildlife. Adding wood 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 creek is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1853)

**Wahkiakum Conservation District
Restoring Uncle Henry's on the Elochoman River**

Grant Awarded: \$177,372

The Wahkiakum Conservation District will use this grant to place wood structures in a half-mile of the Elochoman River and its side channel to increase habitat diversity. Adding tree root wads and logs 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 provide habitat for salmon. The river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, all 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](#). (24-1854)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Correcting Hatchery Structures in the Elochoman River**

Grant Awarded: \$973,575

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to remove and rebuild the upper intake associated with the Elochoman Hatchery, which is a barrier to fish passage. The department also will install a logjam where the channel is incised and has high-energy flows, increase the area and quality of regularly inundated floodplain areas, and place wood structures to improve habitat. Adding wood structures, such as tree root wads and logs, 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, the wood changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The department also will plant the riverbanks. 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 river is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, 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](#). (24-1756)

Projects in Walla Walla County

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Planting the Touchet River Floodplain

Grant Awarded: \$478,347

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation will use this grant to control invasive plants and then plant and maintain native cottonwoods, willows, dogwoods, and other plants on the 150-acre floodplain of the Touchet River in Walla Walla County. The project is entirely on privately owned land. The river and floodplain habitat have been damaged by the clearing of trees and plants along the riverbanks, agriculture, and erosion. 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. This project is part of an ongoing, larger, multiphase project to completely restore the floodplain. The river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1061)

Walla Walla County Conservation District Placing Logjams in the Touchet River

Grant Awarded: \$750,000

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to complete designs and implement a project to place logjams and create pilot channel cuts to reconnect the floodplain on the Touchet River, west of Prescott. The work will be done in a reach that starts at the north State Route 125 bridge crossing and extends upstream to the railroad crossing just south of Prescott. This reach of the river is in a major spawning area for steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Adding logjams to a river 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. In addition to steelhead trout, the river is used by bull trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook salmon, which is a species that was extirpated and has been reintroduced. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1050)

**Walla Walla County Conservation District
Planting the Walla Walla Riverbanks at McDonald Road**

Grant Awarded: \$699,508

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to plant the banks of the Walla Walla River at McDonald Road. 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 river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook salmon and bull trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1059)

**Walla Walla County Conservation District
Planting the Walla Walla Riverbanks at Swegle Road**

Grant Awarded: \$586,773

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to plant the banks of the Walla Walla River at Swegle Road. 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 river is used by steelhead trout, which is a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook salmon and bull trout. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1058)

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Developing a Restoration Plan for Mill Creek**

Grant Awarded: \$200,000

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to assess Mill Creek and develop a habitat restoration plan. The department will complete a watershed-scale geomorphic, hydrologic, and biological assessment of historical, current, and desired conditions in the Mill Creek watershed. The department will focus on forty miles of headwater stream. The assessment and action plan will provide prioritize projects for salmon recovery restoration. The creek is used by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook salmon, which is a species that was extirpated and has been reintroduced. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1071)

Projects in Whatcom County

Lummi Nation

Grant Awarded: \$283,263

Designing Restoration of the Middle Fork Nooksack River's Lower Porter Reach

The Lummi Nation Natural Resources Department will use this grant to develop preliminary designs for a project to place logjams in the lower Porter Reach of the Middle Fork Nooksack River and for planting along the banks. The work will improve habitat in 0.4 mile of the Middle Fork Nooksack River, north of Mosquito Lake Road in Whatcom County. The river suffers from low channel stability, low habitat diversity, and warm water. Adding logjams to a river 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. 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 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](#). (24-1388)

Lummi Nation

Grant Awarded: \$700,822

Restoring the Skookum Reach

The Lummi Nation Natural Resources Department will use this grant to restore more than one mile of habitat to the Skookum Reach area of the South Fork Nooksack River. The Tribe will place up to forty-nine logjams in the reach, create more than one-third mile of side channels, cover riprap with logs and other earthen material, excavate banks to widen the active channel, and add two floodplain berms. The area suffers from low habitat diversity and warm water. 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, it changes the flow of the water, creating riffles and pools, which give salmon more varied habitat. The waterway is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; by chum, pink, and sockeye salmon; and by bull trout. The Tribe is seeking additional funding from the Legislature through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1387)

Nooksack Indian Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$244,190

Completing a Restoration Needs Assessment for Stream and Riverbanks

The Nooksack Indian Tribe will use this grant to develop a centralized, web-based spatial database to guide restoration in riparian areas along stream and riverbanks in Water Resource Inventory Area 1. Riparian areas are the vegetated areas along waterways and are important to salmon. Trees and bushes along streams and rivers 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 database will help the Tribe and Water Resource Inventory Area 1 partners identify and prioritize riparian restoration projects and track implementation. Specifically, the database will be populated with information about the condition of riparian (year, condition, whether meeting goals), project implementation (project sponsor, year, what action taken, spatial extent), restoration plan (restoration priority, action needed), and opportunity (landowner willingness, access). The assessment that is part of this grant will include compiling and correcting hydrography, imagery, and other mapping layers. The water resource inventory 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; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1379)

Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association

Planting the Banks of the Nooksack River

Grant Awarded: \$500,000

The Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association will use this grant to restore 1.6 miles along rivers and creeks at five or more sites along the Nooksack River. The salmon enhancement association will remove invasive species, plant trees and shrubs, and maintain the plantings along the river and its tributaries. The river suffers from erosion, warm water, and lack of habitat diversity. 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 river is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead and bull trout, all of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act; by coho salmon, which is a federal species of concern; and by chum and pink salmon. Funding for this project is partially from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1180)

Projects in Yakima County

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Planting an Island in the Yakima River

Grant Awarded: \$761,194

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to plant twenty acres of an island gravel bar in the Yakima River, near Wapato and the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Pond 5 Recreation Area. 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. To protect plantings and discourage beavers, the Nation will install plastic tubes around the plants. The Nation also will place log structures in the river to dissipate the force of the water during high flows. The Nation will maintain and monitor the site for five years. The river is used by steelhead trout, a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1719)

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Restoring the Banks of Satus Creek

Grant Awarded: \$744,480

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to restore fifteen acres of creek bank along lower Satus Creek, on the Yakama Reservation, south of Toppenish. During the past seventy years, the creek banks have been degraded likely by past water diversion in the growing season, overgrazing by cattle and horses, and unnaturally high fire frequency due to the nearness of U.S. Route 97. The Nation will manage weeds, plant shrubs and trees, seed grass, and add fencing to protect the plants from grazing. Planting trees and bushes along a 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. The Nation also will place wood structures in the creek. Adding wood structures, such as tree root wads and logs, 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 steelhead trout, a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1722)

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Grant Awarded: \$400,000
Restoring the Klickitat River Floodplain Connection

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to pay increased costs 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)

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation Grant Awarded: \$822,879
Restoring the Tieton River

The Yakama Nation will use this grant to place boulders and a logjam in 0.6 mile of the Tieton River, known as Site 4, in Yakima County. The boulders and logjam will create a large pool, raising the water and pushing it into a side channel. The Nation will excavate an inlet to reconnect an abandoned side channel, giving young fish a place to get out of the fast-flowing river and grow. The Nation will sort the excavated material and place it in a bar to provide a source of spawning gravel for the river. This also will reconnect five acres of floodplain. The Nation will move part of the Tieton River Nature Trail out of this floodplain area to preserve the trail. Finally, the Nation will plant nearly three acres of riverbank habitat. This project is part of a long-term strategy to improve habitat conditions across the Yakima River basin for migrating fish. The river is used by steelhead and bull 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](#). (24-1673)

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Grant Awarded: \$118,180
Maintaining Plantings Along Lower Cowiche Creek

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to maintain plantings on a recently restored section of lower Cowiche Creek for two years. Recent restoration projects planted more than 3,200 plants on two acres and 942 feet of the creek. To ensure the plants establish successfully, the fisheries enhancement group will address site challenges such as naturally flashy floods, summer drought, heavy beaver activity, and high visibility next to a city trail. The fisheries enhancement group will control weeds, water select plants to promote deep root development for survival in summer drought, replace plants in some areas, and maintain

temporary protective fencing. The creek is used by steelhead trout, a species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and reintroduced coho salmon. Funding for this project is from the Climate Commitment Act. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1744)

Trout Unlimited Inc.

Grant Awarded: \$202,725

Designing Improvements to Water Flow in Rattlesnake Creek

Trout Unlimited will use this grant to complete preliminary designs to transfer the water diversions rights of five water users on Rattlesnake Creek from surface diversions to individual wells on the users' properties. The work is expected to improve flows in the creek by at least 5 percent during low flow periods in August and September, with greater impacts expected in drought years. The stream is used by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are species listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook and coho salmon. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot [for more information and photographs of this project](#). (24-1816)