

Salmon Recovery



2011 FACT SHEET

Who can apply?

- Conservation districts
- Landowners
- Local governments
- Special purpose districts
- Nonprofit organizations
- Regional fisheries enhancement groups
- State agencies
- Tribes

Types of Projects Funded

- Assessments
- Acquisitions
- Fish passage repair
- Monitoring
- Planning
- Project design
- Restoration

What Do these Grant Programs Do?

Overview

In 1991, the federal government listed the first species of salmon in the Pacific Northwest under the Endangered Species Act. By the end of the decade, populations had dwindled so much that salmon and bull trout were listed as threatened or endangered in nearly three-fourths of the state.

Five grant programs provide funding to protect and restore salmon habitat:

- General salmon recovery grants
- Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program
- Family Forest Fish Passage Program
- Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration fund
- Puget Sound Critical Stock

These grant programs fund projects that:

- Remove barriers to fish migration, opening new habitat.
- Replant riverbanks and remove roads to reduce the amount of fine

sediment entering streams and destroying spawning habitat.

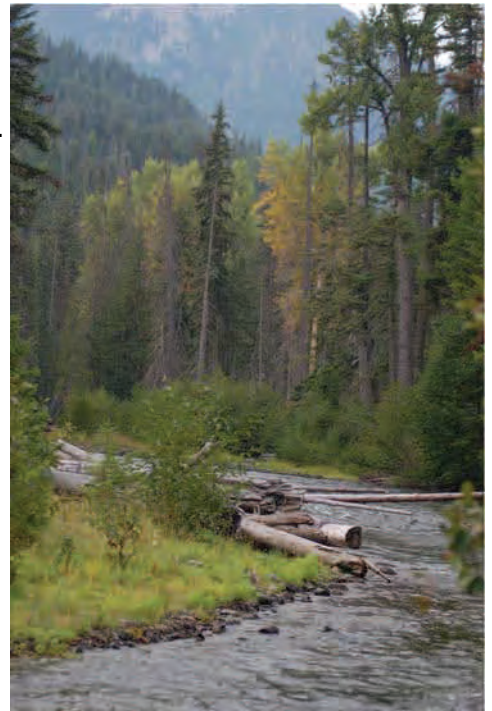
- Restore rivers, estuaries, wetlands, and beaches to create a variety of habitats.
- Conserve water use so more is left in rivers for salmon.
- Protect quality habitat.
- Gather salmon and habitat data to prioritize and design better projects.

Funding

Funding for all the salmon recovery grants comes from a mix of the sale of state general obligation bonds, the federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund, and other federal funds.

Accomplishments

Since 1999, nearly \$462 million in grants has been awarded for 1,983 projects in 35 of the state's 39 counties.



Grant recipients have contributed more than \$205 million, bringing the total investment to more than \$667 million.

Is Salmon Recovery Working?

Washington State is beginning to see the effects of a decade of salmon recovery funding.

According to independent reports, 9 of 12 salmon populations (with sufficient data in 2008 or 2010) are stable or increasing.

Salmon Recovery

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Crews fix a barrier to fish passage on Garrard Creek in Grays Harbor County. The funding came from a \$21,000 grant through the Family Forest Fish Passage Program. The work opened up 1.2 miles of habitat to coho salmon and cutthroat trout.

How are Projects Selected?

Washington's approach to salmon recovery combines local community interests with scientific priorities to ensure projects with the best chance of success and the highest benefit to salmon are funded.

There are several different ways projects are selected.

For general salmon recovery and for Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration grants, local and regional citizen groups develop plans and solicit projects to protect and restore salmon species and their habitats. Projects are evaluated by local scientific panels and community groups to ensure they are scientifically sound and fit with the regional recovery plans approved by the federal government. The project are then reviewed by regional organizations, and sent to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board.

Using its technical review panel, the board reviews the projects to ensure they benefit fish and have a high certainty of success before awarding funding.

This combination of citizen-generated projects, endorsed by local communities and reviewed by scientists means only the best projects move forward.

For the Family Forest Fish Passage Program grants, landowners apply and their projects are reviewed and ranked by staff from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. A steering committee, made up of representatives from the Washington Department of Natural Resources, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Recreation and Conservation Office, makes funding recommendations to the Washington Department of Natural Resources, which approves projects.

For Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program grants and Puget Sound Critical Stock program, other agencies make the funding decision and the Recreation and Conservation Office administers the grants.

Matching Resources

Grant recipients provide matching resources for

some grants, ranging from 15-25 percent.

Grant Schedule

Applications for all five programs are accepted annually.