

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program

FACT SHEET

Who may Apply?

- State, local, and federal agencies
- Native American tribes
- Nonprofit organizations
- Private institutions
- Academic institutions

Grant Categories

Program priorities steer funding toward projects focused on restoring physical ecological processes.

- Acquisition
- Design
- Restoration

Funding

Funding comes from the State Building Construction Fund and federal sources depending on availability.

Leveraging State Dollars

Grant recipients must provide at least 30 percent in matching resources.

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Advancing Puget Sound Restoration and Protection

The Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program provides grants to protect and restore Puget Sound beaches, bays, and river deltas. The grants focus on strategic, ecosystem restoration projects that align with regional recovery efforts in the Puget Sound *Action Agenda*.

Benefiting Local Communities by Investing in Natural Systems

Ecosystems are the plants, animals, and natural processes that work together for life to thrive. Disruptions to one element in an ecosystem can be disastrous to life in the ecosystem, like links in a chain. Healthy, functioning ecosystems provide many things—fish, shellfish, other wildlife, clean water and air, opportunities for recreation, and reduced damage from floods and erosion.

As people have developed cities and towns around Puget Sound, they have altered shorelines, damaging the plants, animals, and waters there, reducing ecosystem benefits enjoyed by humans.

By linking science and ecosystem-scale projects, the Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program ensures that investments are strategic and will translate into shorelines that are intact, functioning naturally, and resilient to climate change.



The Mason Conservation District worked with the Skokomish Tribe to restore and reconnect more than 1,500 acres of wetlands to the Skokomish River estuary and shoreline. Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program funding was instrumental in opening channels and creating fish access to the estuary.

The Value of Nature

Ecosystem services are defined as the benefits people derive from nature, free of charge.

Trees, water, and animals provide goods and services such as breathable air, drinkable water, nourishing food, flood risk reduction, waste treatment, and stable atmospheric conditions. These are all examples of ecosystem services.

Three of those services: Aesthetics, which is the value we get from enjoying the sights, sounds, smells, and presence of nature; wildlife habitat, and water quality were valued at between \$115 billion and \$216 billion a year on public lands in Washington State.¹



Washington
Department of
**FISH and
WILDLIFE**



WASHINGTON STATE
Recreation and
Conservation Office

Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program Fact Sheet

RESTORING AND PROTECTING PUGET SOUND

The Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program is a critical part of recovery efforts for salmon and other animals, such as the southern resident killer whales.

Funding is broadly distributed throughout the Puget Sound area and supports jobs in multiple sectors from design and engineering to on-the-ground construction.

Typical Projects

- Protecting near-shore and wetland habitat
- Restoring salmon habitat and estuaries
- Removing or breaching dikes and removing bulkheads
- Conducting feasibility studies or designing projects
- Decommissioning roads and removing fill

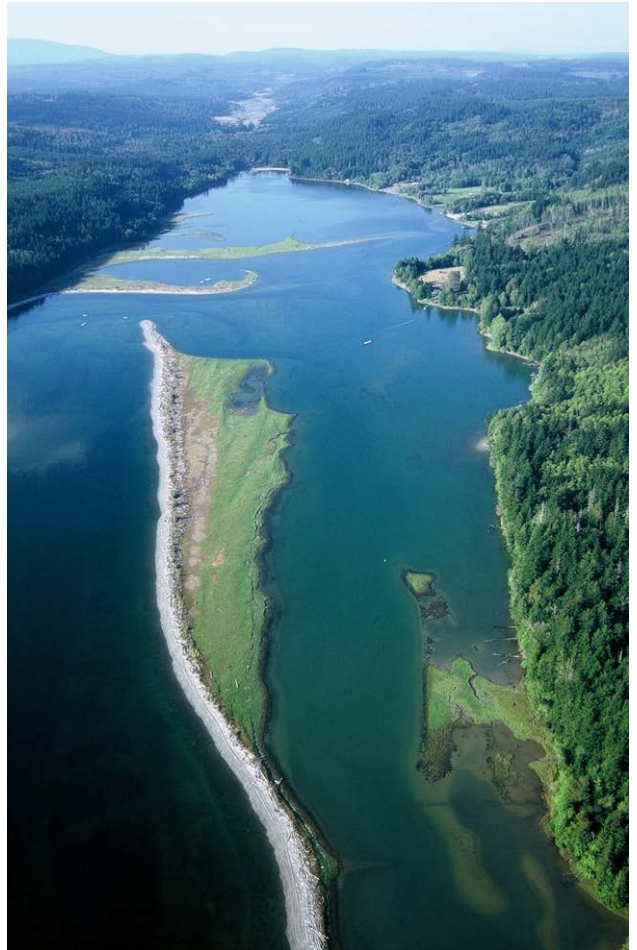
Ensuring the Best Projects are Funded

The annual grant process is open and competitive. A technical review committee evaluates projects on their cost and likelihood of addressing high priority ecosystem impairment. Proposals are ranked and funded in order.

Grant Recipients (2007-2017)

Bainbridge Island Land Trust
Burien Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department
Capitol Land Trust
Coastal Geologic Services Inc.
Coastal Watershed Institute
Ducks Unlimited-Vancouver
Forterra
Friends of the San Juans
Great Peninsula Conservancy
Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
King County
Lummi Nation
Mason Conservation District
National Marine Fisheries Service
Nisqually Indian Tribe
Nisqually River Foundation
North Olympic Land Trust
North Olympic Salmon Coalition
Northwest Watershed Institute
Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Foundation
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe
Seattle
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
Skagit Land Trust
Skagit River System Cooperative
Snohomish County

Snohomish Conservation District
South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group
Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
Suquamish Tribe
The Nature Conservancy
University of Washington
U.S. Geological Survey
Washington Department of Ecology
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District
Whatcom County



The Northwest Watershed Institute used a \$527,000 grant to buy 9 acres in the Dabob Bay Natural Area and restore the shoreline. The natural area is one of the highest quality estuarine embayments remaining in Puget Sound.

¹Tania Briceno and Greg Schundler, "Economic Analysis of Outdoor Recreation in Washington State," Earth Economics, Tacoma, WA, January 2015, pp. 40-41,44.