

Salmon Recovery 2014 GRANTS AWARDED



Project in Asotin County

\$40,000

Nez Perce Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$40,000

Restoring Fish Passage in Alpowa Creek

The Nez Perce Tribe's Department of Fisheries Resource Management, Watershed Division will use this grant to remove old bridge abutments that are blocking fish passage in Alpowa Creek. The creek is constricted by old, unused abutments at the Alpowa Creek Road Bridge that were left when the current bridge was installed. They caused an 18-inch drop that makes the stream impassable to fish. Removing this barrier will open 15 miles of upstream habitat primarily for Snake River steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Nez Perce Tribe will contribute \$7,100 in donations of cash. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1898)

Project in Benton County

\$133,766

Badger Mountain Irrigation District

Grant Awarded: \$133,766

Replacing Fish Screens on the Yakima River

The Badger Mountain Irrigation District will use this grant to install six new, belt-driven fish screens at the district's existing water diversion intake from the Yakima River. The screens will replace 38-year-old screens that are nearing the end of their service life. Upgrading the screens will allow for consistent running time and better debris clearing of the screens, making for an effective barrier to keep juvenile Chinook and other salmon and steelhead from entering the irrigation system at this site in the lower Yakima River. The Badger Mountain Irrigation District will contribute \$59,150 in cash and donated labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1348)

Projects in Chelan County

\$327,420

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

Grant Awarded: \$138,440

Designing the Reconnection of a Relic Channel

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to design a way to reconnect a relic channel from Peshastin Creek on property owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife near the confluence of the Wenatchee River and Peshastin Creek. The confluence is a critical location for migrating and rearing spring Chinook salmon,

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which are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened under the federal law, and coho salmon. Despite limited rearing and spawning habitat currently, the area supports high densities of juvenile salmon species, especially steelhead. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#) (14-1736)

Chelan County

Grant Awarded: \$126,480

Designing a Project for Nason Creek

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to collect data on existing conditions, evaluate alternatives, and develop design concepts to resolve problems in Nason Creek, near Leavenworth and off U.S. Highway 2. The creek doesn't have trees and plants along a half-mile, which contribute to making the water too warm. Nearby roads are dumping too much sediment into the water, there's not enough different types of habitat for salmon because of a lack of large tree root wads and logs in the river, and there aren't enough side channels where adult fish can rest and juvenile fish can grow. The creek is used by spring Chinook salmon, which are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened under the federal law. Chelan County plans to complete a geomorphic and hydraulic assessment as part of this work. Funding also would be used to work with the Bonneville Power Administration, U.S. Forest Service, and Weyerhaeuser on developing alternatives. Chelan County will contribute \$22,320 in a local grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#) (14-1738)

Chelan County

Grant Awarded: \$62,500

Designing a Solution to a Fish Barrier on Upper Peshastin Creek

The Chelan County Natural Resources Department will use this grant to design a fix to a rock slide that is blocking fish passage during low water in Peshastin Creek. The rock slide above the Ruby Creek confluence may be preventing steelhead from reaching high quality spawning areas upstream. The upper Peshastin Creek and tributaries above this area provide diverse habitat types and substantial spawning habitat, accounting for 12 percent of the steelhead redds in the Wenatchee River subbasin. Road building has altered the channel, severely constricting it in this area. Upper Peshastin Creek is used by steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Chelan County will contribute \$12,000 in a local grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#) (14-1739)

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Projects in Clallam County

\$995,407

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe Conserving Dungeness River Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$24,775

The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will use this grant to conserve and restore nearly 15 acres along the Dungeness River, which flows out of the Olympic Mountains across a glacial plain west of Sequim, and then into the Strait of Juan de Fuca. During the past century, people have built roads, levees, and other structures that have disconnected a significant portion of the river from its floodplain. The tribe will work with willing landowners to conserve the floodplain near U.S. Highway 101 by either buying the land or buying voluntary land preservation agreements.¹ If purchased lands have been cleared, the tribe will plant native trees and bushes to jumpstart floodplain reforestation. The Dungeness River is used by Chinook salmon, bull trout, summer chum salmon, and steelhead, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as coho, pink, and fall chum salmon. The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe will contribute \$125,496 from another grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1384)

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Abandoning a Road along the Hoko River

Grant Awarded: \$306,132

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will use this grant to abandon 2.5 miles of the 9000 Road and restore natural hill slope and drainage features by removing seven culverts, obliterating the road surface, and replanting the former road. In addition, the tribe will place 100 pieces of wood in a 1.5-mile reach of the river to improve spawning and rearing habitat for salmon. The 9000 Road parallels the Hoko River in Clallam County for 6.5 miles and has been a chronic producer of fine sediment to the river. While work on the road has improved conditions, large areas of unstable fill from the original construction have landslide potential and some have failed recently, dumping sediment into the upper Hoko River. Planting the riverbanks will shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. The plants stabilize hill slopes and prevent erosion of sediment that can bury salmon eggs. Placing large pieces of wood in the river slows the water, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. The Hoko River supports populations of Chinook, coho, and chum salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will contribute \$27,000 in staff labor and Rayonier Timberlands will

¹ A land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, is a voluntary agreement between a landowner and a private land conservation organization or government agency. The landowner maintains ownership of the land, continues to manage it, and receives compensation, such as cash, reduced taxes, or other incentives, in exchange for limiting development on the land.

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contribute \$40,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1379)

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Planning for Elwha Floodplain Restoration

Grant Awarded: \$185,000

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will use this grant to complete engineering designs for restoring the floodplain in the lower Elwha River. These actions include the abandonment of floodplain roads, removal of historic push-up dikes, and placement of logjams. These project will address factors most limiting habitat forming processes and salmon survival in the floodplain of the lower Elwha River. The *Elwha Fish Restoration Plan* recommends a number of strategies including removing dikes and placing large woody materials in the lower river floodplain. Since 2000, the Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe has led restoration efforts in the Elwha River and has removed four dikes, placed 50 engineered logjams, loaded four side channels with tree root wads and large logs, planted 50,000 native trees and shrubs, and removed noxious weeds. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1373)

Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe Planning the Restoration of Little River

Grant Awarded: \$200,000

The Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe will use this grant to design a project to restore salmon spawning and rearing habitat in the lower 1.5 miles of Little River, a tributary to the Elwha River. This planning project will result in a final design, cost estimate, and permit package. The Little River flows into the Elwha River at the delta of the former Aldwell Reservoir and was one of the first locations colonized by salmon following the removal of the Elwha Dam in 2012. Although the headwaters of Little River are protected in Olympic National Park, a significant proportion of the river has been damaged by logging, intentional removal of wood from the channel, and road construction. As a result, salmon habitat has degraded over time and the river has lost much of its spawning gravel. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1374)

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition Replacing Fish Barriers in Haehule Creek

Grant Awarded: \$117,000

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition, along with landowner Green Crow, will use this grant to remove two metal pipes that are too small and replace them with a 60-foot-long bridge over Haehule Creek, a tributary of Ponds Creek and Dickey River. The deteriorating culverts have outfall drops and are less than half the width of the stream, creating a barrier to fish migration. The replacement would open about 1.2 miles of habitat to coho salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. Haehule Creek is in Clallam County west of State Highway 113 and south of Hoko-Ozette Road on an unnamed spur of Green Crow Forest Road 22E. The Pacific Coast

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Salmon Coalition and its partner Green Crow will contribute \$63,000 in cash and donation of materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1660)

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition Replacing Squaw Creek Culverts

Grant Awarded: \$162,500

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition, along with landowner Rayonier Inc., will use this grant to remove two metal pipes that are too small and replace them with a 60-foot-long bridge to open fish passage on Squaw Creek. The deteriorating culverts have an outfall drop of 1.2 feet, rip rap at the outlet, and are less than half the width of the stream, meaning that the water rushes through too quickly creating a barrier to fish migration. The bridge would open about 3.5 miles of habitat to coho, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. Squaw Creek, a tributary of the Dickey River, is in Clallam County west of U.S. Highway 101 on Rayonier Inc. Forest Road 5230. The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition and its partner Rayonier Inc. will contribute \$87,500 in cash and donation of materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1661)

Project in Clark County

\$292,460

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group Restoring Haapa Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$292,460

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to place large tree root wads and logs along nearly a quarter-mile of the North Fork Lewis River near the Haapa boat launch, remove noxious weeds on 6.7 acres of riverbank, and plant more than 10,000 native trees and shrubs along the shoreline. Large tree root wads and logs in the river will slow the river, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Plantings along riverbanks shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. They also drop leaves and branches in the river, which increases the insects salmon eat. Finally, plants stabilize a shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. The Lewis River is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon and winter steelhead, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will contribute \$150,520 in a local grant and donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1339)

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Projects in Columbia County

\$774,997

Blue Mountain Land Trust

Grant Awarded: \$15,400

Assessing Conserving Land along the Tucannon River

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to evaluate the potential to buy a voluntary land preservation agreement² for 145 acres on a half-mile stretch of the Tucannon River, about 4 miles upriver from where U.S. Highway 12 meets Tucannon Road in Columbia County. The habitat conditions are slightly degraded, but there is some floodplain connectivity and no rip-rap or diking. If the assessment shows an agreement would be worthwhile, funding would be requested in 2015. The land preservation agreements conserve critical fish habitat and adjacent land forever, providing long-term benefits to salmon. Work will include negotiating the terms of the agreement with the landowner, investigating ownership encumbrances, appraising the value of the agreement, and developing a restoration plan for the site. The Tucannon River is used by Snake River spring Chinook, fall Chinook, steelhead, and Columbia River bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$2,800 in donations of cash. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1896)

Blue Mountain Land Trust

Grant Awarded: \$16,300

Evaluating Conservation Options on the Touchet River

The Blue Mountain Land Trust will use this grant to evaluate the potential for a voluntary land preservation agreement³ and develop a planting plan for a half-mile stretch of the Touchet River, between the towns of Waitsburg and Dayton. Current habitat conditions are somewhat degraded. The Touchet River is used by middle Columbia River steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook salmon. The Blue Mountain Land Trust will contribute \$2,900 in donations of cash. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1897)

² A land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, is a voluntary agreement between a landowner and private land conservation organization or a government agency. The landowner maintains ownership of the land, continues to manage it, and receives compensation, such as cash, reduced taxes, or other incentives, in exchange for limiting development on the land.

³ A land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, is a voluntary agreement between a landowner and private land conservation organization or a government agency. The landowner maintains ownership of the land, continues to manage it, and receives compensation, such as cash, reduced taxes, or other incentives, in exchange for limiting development on the land.

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Columbia Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$231,255

Placing Logjams in the Tucannon River to Increase Habitat

The Columbia Conservation District will use this grant to place logjams and wood structures in a three-quarter mile reach of the Tucannon River, breach several levees in the central area, and lower levees in the floodplain to create new side channels and reconnect about 1 acre of floodplain. The river is confined by levees and riprap. Using logjams and reconnecting side channels and floodplains aid in restoring natural river processes and provide multiple benefits for both salmon and people. Logjams will slow the river, allowing the water to penetrate the floodplain, reducing potential flooding and allowing that stored water to be released in the summer. They also create different types of habitat by providing places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. The Tucannon River is used by Snake River Chinook salmon, steelhead, and Columbia River bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Columbia Conservation District will contribute \$54,495 from a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1900)

Confederated Tribe of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Improving Habitat in the North Fork Touchet River

Grant Awarded: \$234,792

The Umatilla Confederated Tribes will use this grant to design and implement a project that will reconnect the floodplain and enhance habitat in more than a half-mile of the North Fork Touchet River near Dayton. The tribes will set back about 1,000 feet of levee, replace a bridge that confines the river channel with a longer bridge, enhance wood and rock habitat structures that are blocking fish passage, install numerous large woody habitat structures in the river, and plant trees and shrubs along the riverbanks. The goal of the project is to enhance habitat for fish by slowing the river and creating more places for fish to rest and hide from predators, allowing spawning gravel to settle out, reducing erosion and the amount of sediment in the water, connecting the river to its floodplain. Additional benefits include increased flood storage capacity and dissipating flood energy. The Touchet River is used by middle Columbia River steelhead and Columbia River bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by spring Chinook salmon. The Umatilla Confederated Tribes will contribute \$45,000 in donations of cash. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1893)

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Pomeroy Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$77,250

Restoring Pataha Creek with Simulated Beaver Dams

The Pomeroy Conservation District will use this grant to install a series of woody structures that mimic beaver dams in the lower reaches of Pataha Creek to improve habitat diversity, reduce channel incision, and reconnect the floodplain. The conservation district will build about ten structures on a single landowner's property as a trial before expanding implementation to a broader area. These beaver dam-like structures aid in restoring natural river processes and provide multiple benefits for both salmon and people. In this case, these structures will slow the stream, allowing the water to penetrate the floodplain, reducing potential flooding and allowing that stored water to be released in the summer. These structures also create more types of habitat that provide places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Pataha Creek is used by Snake River steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Pomeroy Conservation District will contribute \$19,700 in donations of equipment, labor, and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1903)

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Grant Awarded: \$200,000

Placing Logjams in the Tucannon River

The Department of Fish and Wildlife will use this grant to place about 70 logjams and wood structures in the Tucannon River. Logjams aid in restoring natural river processes and provide multiple benefits for both salmon and people. In this case, logjams will help slow the river, allowing the water to penetrate the floodplain, reducing potential flooding and allowing that stored water to be released in the summer. Logjams also create more types of habitat, giving salmon places to rest and hide from predators. By slowing the river, logjams also help reduce erosion and allow spawning gravel to settle out of the water. The work will be done in a 1.35-mile reach. The Tucannon River is used by Snake River spring Chinook, steelhead, and Columbia River bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Department of Fish and Wildlife will contribute \$36,000 from a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1899)

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Projects in Cowlitz County

\$957,290

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$388,500** **Placing Large Logs in the South and North Forks of the Toutle River**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to place tree root wads and large logs at the confluence of the North and South Forks Toutle River. Large woody materials in the river will slow the river, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. The restoration project will maintain 6.5 acres of off-channel habitat and beaver ponds, more than a half-mile of side channel, a 15-acre island, and 20 acres of stream bank. The rivers are used by Chinook and coho salmon and steelhead, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The work will be done on land owned by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Cowlitz County, and several private parties. Numerous community members including Harry Gardner Park Commission and Toutle High School have will provide labor and materials for the project. The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will contribute \$68,800 in donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1337)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$180,290** **Restoring the Banks of the South Fork Toutle River**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to buy, grow, and plant 25,000 native plants along the banks of the South Fork Toutle River, a mile upstream of Harry Gardner County Park. Plants native to the Toutle River will be grown locally and then planted to stabilize the riverbank and increase the types of habitat in the river. Plantings along riverbanks shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. They also drop leaves and branches in the river, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Large branches can slow the river and create places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, plants stabilize a shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. The South Fork Toutle is used by steelhead and Chinook and coho salmon, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Project partners include the Washington Department of Corrections, Hudson Bay and Toutle Lake High Schools, and Toutle area residents. The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will contribute \$114,070 in donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1338)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$378,500** **Restoring the South Fork Toutle River at Johnson Creek**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant plant about 65 acres of floodplain in the South Fork Toutle River at the confluence with Johnson Creek to improve

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habitat in the river. The project will enhance nearly a half-mile of the main river channel and side channels and reactivate a quarter-mile of new side channel. The plantings will reduce erosion by stabilizing the river banks and channel migration. The South Fork Toutle River is used by steelhead and coho and Chinook salmon, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The project is on Weyerhaeuser property and is upstream of four previously completed projects. The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will contribute \$68,800 in donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1335)

Projects in Grays Harbor County \$490,226

Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force Grant Awarded: \$155,226 **Removing a Fish Passage Barrier on Stevens Creek**

The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force will use this grant to replace a culvert under Minkler County Road in Grays Harbor County that is blocking fish passage in Stevens Creek. Stevens Creek is used by coho and chum salmon, and sea-run and resident cutthroat trout. The creek flows under the county road and the culvert outfall empties directly into the Chehalis River near Montesano. The culvert is too small and has a drop that makes its only 33 percent passable. The 6-foot-wide, steel culvert will be replaced with a bottomless arched culvert, opening 3.26 miles of prime spawning and rearing habitat. The Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force Chehalis will contribute \$160,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1168)

Grays Harbor Conservation District Grant Awarded: \$200,000 **Restoring Fish Passage to Delezenne Creek**

The Grays Harbor Conservation District will use this grant to restore the historic channel and oxbow of Delezenne Creek. The creek, a tributary to the Chehalis River, was diverted from its original channel by a dam to accommodate a logging road and to create a lake for scouting activities. The dam, and the resulting falls, created a barrier to fish passage. While the road still is used, the lake has dried up and the dam no longer functions. The district will install a bridge at each end of the creek's oxbow, bypassing the dam, and then plant trees and shrubs along the historic channel, remove accumulated sediment from the channel, place large tree root wads and logs in the creek to create habitat for fish, and lay streambed gravels in certain areas. The existing man-made channel will be filled in and abandoned. The work will open the upper 7 miles of Delezenne Creek to fish. The conservation district will work with Weyerhaeuser, which owns the road, and the Boy Scouts, which owns the bordering land. The Grays Harbor

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Conservation District will contribute \$110,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1159)

Quinault Indian Nation **Grant Awarded: \$135,000** **Controlling Invasive Plants along the Lower Quinault River Floodplain**

The Quinault Indian Nation will use this grant to treat invasive plants on 4,222 acres in the lower Quinault River floodplain on the Quinault Indian Reservation. This project continues a multi-year program to control knotweed and reed canary grass in the Quinault River watershed by using topical herbicide and seed source removal methods. Knotweed and reed canary grass harm salmon habitat by displacing native plants that would otherwise support natural shoreline functions. These invasive plants contribute to soil erosion, impair water quality, create a gap in the aquatic food web, and choke out stream channels used by salmon. The Quinault River is used by Chinook, chum, coho, sockeye, steelhead, cutthroat, and Dolly Varden/bull trout. The Quinault Indian Nation will contribute \$24,000 in staff labor and a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#) or contact [Bill Armstrong](#), lead entity coordinator, at 360-276-8215 Ext. 240. (14-1601)

Projects in Island County **\$240,780**

Island County **Grant Awarded: \$75,809** **Completing Restoration of Ala Spit**

The Island County Health Department will use this grant to complete the restoration of a sand spit by modifying the rock groin and removing the bulkhead in Ala Spit County Park. The County will move part of the rock groin landward and to the south to protect the bluff and a nearby house. The groin is a collection of large boulders placed perpendicular to the beach to trap sand. The County will remove the bulkhead to the north of the groin and realign the parking lot. Clean sand and gravel will be added to nourish the beach with sediment. The restoration will improve the flow of sediment, create habitat for salmon along the upper beach, reconnect the upland with the beach, improve recreation, and improve safety. The Island County Health Department will contribute \$53,600 from another grant and donated labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1108)

Whidbey Camano Land Trust **Grant Awarded: \$164,971** **Conserving Whidbey Island Shoreline**

The Whidbey Camano Land Trust will use this grant to buy and permanently conserve part of a 57-acre area on the southeast side of Whidbey Island along Saratoga Passage. The area includes

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30 acres of uplands, a bluff, two streams, and nearly 27 acres of tidelands. Eelgrass, Dungeness crab, pandalid shrimp, and geoduck are found in the tidelands and salmon travel along the shoreline. This project will protect a quarter-mile of unaltered bluffs and allow for the future removal of 434 feet of creosote armoring. Sediment that erodes from the bluffs enriches and maintains the shallow water needed for eelgrass and shellfish beds, which provide spawning areas for the fish salmon eat and places for juvenile Chinook salmon to hide from predators. The land trust also will provide public access to the beach and a walking and bike path that runs parallel to the shoreline. The land trust will seek additional funding to conserve the entire 57 acres. Whidbey Camano Land Trust will contribute \$450,000 from a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1114)

Project in Jefferson County **\$152,750**

Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition Replacing a Miller Creek Culvert

Grant Awarded: \$152,750

The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition will use this grant to remove a metal pipe that is too small and replace it with a 60-foot-long bridge over Miller Creek. The culvert has an outfall drop of 1.6 feet and is less than half the size of the stream, meaning that the water rushes through too fast and creates a barrier to fish passage. The replacement would open about 1 mile of habitat that is inaccessible to coho salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. Miller Creek is a tributary of the Clearwater River and is in Jefferson County southeast of U.S. Highway 101 on Rayonier Inc. lands. The Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition will contribute \$82,250 in donations of cash and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#) or contact [Bill Armstrong](#), lead entity coordinator, at 360-276-8215 Ext. 240. (14-1506)

Projects in King County **\$1,269,138**

Kent Building a Mill Creek Side Channel

Grant Awarded: \$327,353

The City of Kent will use this grant to build a floodplain wetland off Mill Creek, near the confluence with the Green River. Mill Creek is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as by coho, chum, and pink salmon, and cutthroat trout. The City will build 1,000 feet of new off-channel habitat, place 43 log structures in the river to increase salmon habitat, remove invasive plants, and plant 7 acres to increase plant diversity, density, and shading. Once complete, the overall restoration project will increase places where salmon can rest and hide from predators,

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enhance riverbank habitat, and increase floodplain storage. When water flows into the off-channel area, juvenile salmon will find cover, food, and protection from flood flows. Kent will contribute \$1.4 million from a local grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1001)

King Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$139,400

Restoring Shorelines at Two Mountains Farm

The King Conservation District will use this grant to restore habitat along two stream complexes on a cattle farm in north King County. The district will remove invasive plants and replant about 1.6 miles of the stream complexes, which include streams, wetlands, and ponds, at the Two Mountain Farm, which is just south of Duvall. The farm is used for grazing cattle and the streams on the farm flow into the Snoqualmie River Valley. The shorelines are dominated by non-native, invasive plants and grow relatively few native trees and shrubs. Plantings along riverbanks shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. They also drop leaves and branches in the river, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Large branches can slow the river and create places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, plants stabilize a shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. Off-channel watering facilities for the cattle will be installed as a part of this project. In a project outside this, the Washington State Conservation Commission will fund installation of fencing to prevent cattle from entering the stream complexes, improving and protecting water quality. The streams are used by Chinook, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The King Conservation District will contribute \$24,600 in donations of cash. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1416)

King County

Grant Awarded: \$200,000

Designing the Restoration of Middle Boise Creek Habitat

The King County Water and Land Resources Division will use this grant to complete preliminary designs for a restoration project on middle Boise Creek. The project involves placing tree root wads and large logs in Boise Creek, planting the creek banks, and creating a new channel. Boise Creek is the most important tributary of the White River downstream of Buckley Diversion Dam. The White River was listed as the eighth most endangered river in the United States by American Rivers. Boise Creek is used by Chinook and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The work will be done mostly on the south side of the creek and the north side of a forested hillside. Placing tree root wads and logs in the river will slow the water, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Plantings along riverbanks shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. They also drop leaves and branches in the river, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Plants

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stabilize a shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1377)

Seattle

Grant Awarded: \$206,025

Removing Invasive Knotweed and Replanting along the Cedar River

Seattle Public Utilities and its partners will use this grant to treat invasive knotweed and restore a forest canopy along the Cedar River and its tributaries. This project expands the ongoing collaboration with Forterra and the King County Noxious Weed Control Program known as Cedar River Stewardship-in-Action. The goal of the program is to improve streamside habitat for Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as for coho and sockeye salmon. Since beginning in 2008, Stewardship-in-Action has reduced knotweed infestations to 20 percent of the original area of infestation. Working with willing landowners, Stewardship-in-Action controls knotweed and other invasive plant species and restores native plant communities on the lower Cedar River. Stewardship-in-Action will survey about 450 acres of streamside habitat annually, and treat all knotweed found. Stewardship-in-Action will contact river-front property owners, offering to plant native plants. In 2013, 98 percent of the 350 landowners who received letters granted permission for treatment of their land. Seattle Public Utilities will contribute \$53,499 in donations of cash. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#) or contact [Jason Wilkinson](#), WRIA 8 actions and funding coordinator, at 206-477-4786. (14-1193)

Sno-King Watershed Council

Grant Awarded: \$70,000

Restoring the Shoreline in Squire's Landing Park

The Sno-King Watershed Council, along with the City of Kenmore and Adopt-A-Stream Foundation, will use this grant to remove invasive plants and plant native trees and shrubs at the confluence of the Sammamish River and Swamp Creek in Squire's Landing Park. The work will be done along each side of Swamp Creek near the mouth and on the right bank of the Sammamish River, for a total of 2 acres of treatment. Plantings along riverbanks shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. They also drop leaves and branches in the river, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Large branches can slow the river and create places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, plants stabilize a shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. Swamp Creek is used by Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon. The Sno-King Watershed Council will contribute \$12,353 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#) or contact [Jason Wilkinson](#), WRIA 8 actions and funding coordinator, at 206-477-4786. (14-1333)

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Sound Salmon Solutions

Grant Awarded: \$326,360

Beginning Restoration of Cherry Creek

Sound Salmon Solutions will use this grant to complete designs and restore the first 175 feet of Cherry Creek, beginning at the creek's mouth on private property. Work will include removing invasive Himalayan blackberry and knotweed, removing rip rap, re-sloping the creek's banks and widening the creek's mouth, creating a small island to mimic historic conditions at the mouth, and placing tree root wads and logs in the banks and around the island. The work will create spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The project also will benefit steelhead, and coho, chum, and pink salmon. Creek Cherry Creek is a tributary to the Snoqualmie River north of Duvall in King County. This is the first phase of a three-phase project. Sound Salmon Solutions will contribute \$70,000 in a local grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1226)

Projects in Kitsap County

\$144,655

Bainbridge Island Land Trust

Grant Awarded: \$61,625

Assessing Restoration and Conservation Projects for Springbrook Creek

The Bainbridge Island Land Trust will use this grant to assess the watershed of Springbrook Creek and develop conceptual designs for projects to improve or conserve salmon habitat. Springbrook Creek is on the west side of Bainbridge Island and is one of the most productive salmon streams on the island supporting populations of cutthroat trout, and coho and chum salmon. The land trust will examine the benefits of projects including removing fish passage barriers, enhancing shorelines, returning the creek to its historical path, and conserving intact fish habitat. The land trust also will evaluate the watershed by collecting stream data and completing geomorphic and hydrologic assessments to help understand the dynamics of the creek. Compiled information will lead to the identification of five restoration or conservation projects to be implemented in the future. Conceptual designs for restoration projects will be produced. The Bainbridge Island Land Trust will contribute \$10,875 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1517)

Great Peninsula Conservancy

Grant Awarded: \$33,000

Assessing How to Protect Curley Creek

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to determine how best to protect some of Curley Creek's most important salmon habitat. Curley Creek is in south Kitsap County and flows north to Yukon Harbor near Blake Island in central Puget Sound. The creek is one of the largest

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and most productive salmonid streams in the area and is used by steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act as well as coho salmon and cutthroat trout. The Great Peninsula Conservancy will work with Kitsap County, the Suquamish Tribe, and landowners to identify the best strategy to protect permanently the shorelines of the creek and tributaries, forests, and wetlands on the lower 2 miles of Curley Creek, from Sedgwick Road to the estuary. The conservancy and its partners will inventory undeveloped land, talk with landowners, clarify encumbrances and easements, and get appraisals. The Great Peninsula Conservancy will contribute \$6,000 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1632)

Kitsap County

Grant Awarded: \$50,030

Gathering Information to Plan for Steelhead Recovery

The Kitsap County Department of Community Development will use this grant to summarize existing information on the habitats and population of Puget Sound steelhead in the east Kitsap Demographically Independent Population. This assessment will encompass the entire east Kitsap population from Foulweather Bluff in the north, to the Tacoma Narrows in the south, including all freshwater lowland streams. The County will develop information not currently available on fish use of streams and shorelines, relative abundance by sub-watershed, and the types of streams in the area. Once complete, this information will give planners a basis for the development of a recovery plan for steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Kitsap County will contribute \$8,804. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1957)

Projects in Kittitas County

\$825,566

Kittitas Conservation Trust

Grant Awarded: \$133,260

Designing the Restoration of the Upper Yakima River

The Kittitas Conservation Trust will use this grant to develop final designs for restoration elements that will expand and enhance spawning and rearing habitat in a half-mile reach of the Yakima River. The project is in the Easton Reach about 7 river miles upstream of the confluence with the Cle Elum River. The project will produce designs for large wood structures to be placed along the river's edge to slow it and create places for fish to rest, feed, and hide from predators. The project also calls for planting the riverbanks to shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. Riverbank plants also drop leaves and branches in the river, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, plants stabilize a shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. The Yakima River has a critical shortage of rearing habitat for small juvenile fish. The upper Yakima River is used by middle Columbia River steelhead and bull trout,

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both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as Chinook and coho salmon. The land is protected forever from future development by a land preservation agreement covering 438 acres on both banks of 1.3 miles of the Yakima River. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1214)

Kittitas County

Grant Awarded: \$235,286

Conserving and Restoring Manastash Creek

The Kittitas County Public Works Department will use this grant to buy and restore nearly 2 acres of floodplain on Manastash Creek, just below the Brown Road Bridge and upstream of the delta at the Yakima River, in Kittitas County. The purchase will prevent development, allow the removal of existing structures and berms, and allow future restoration of the creek. The County also will buy voluntary land preservation agreements⁴ for up to 17 acres of the Manastash Creek delta at the Yakima River and along the Manastash Creek corridor from Brown Road to the delta. Manastash Creek is used by middle Columbia River steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as by Chinook and coho salmon and rainbow and cutthroat trout. Kittitas County will contribute \$41,522 in staff labor and donations of labor and property interest. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1196)

Kittitas County Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$140,120

Improving Fish Passage on Naneum and Coleman Creeks

The Kittitas County Conservation District will use this grant to install fish screens and correct fish passage barriers on irrigation diversions on Naneum and Coleman Creeks, near Ellensburg. Both diversions are the most downstream barriers on their respective streams and addressing these diversions is part of an incremental effort to continue to provide safe fish passage in the watershed. The creeks are used by middle Columbia River summer steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as by Chinook and coho salmon. The Kittitas County Conservation District will contribute \$28,745 from a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1215)

⁴ A land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, is a voluntary agreement between a landowner and private land conservation organization or a government agency. The landowner maintains ownership of the land, continues to manage it, and receives compensation, such as cash, reduced taxes, or other incentives, in exchange for limiting development on the land.

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Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Enhancing Oak Creek Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$133,090

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to improve steelhead habitat in the north and south forks of Oak Creek. Oak Creek is a tributary to the Tieton River, west of Yakima. The fisheries enhancement group will remove portions of a decommissioned road next to lower South Fork Oak Creek, allowing the creek to reconnect to the floodplain and reducing the amount of sediment entering the creek. Work also will include placing about 300 tree root wads and large logs in the creek to slow the water and create places for fish to rest and hide from predators, and planting native trees and shrubs along the creek banks. The fisheries enhancement group also will evaluate habitat potential in North Fork Oak Creek to assess the value of future proposals for habitat reconnection in the North Fork. Oak Creek is used by middle Columbia River steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$23,600 in cash and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1238)

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group Maintaining Yakima River Shoreline Plantings

Grant Awarded: \$183,810

The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to protect previous Yakima basin restoration investments by maintaining plants at nine restoration sites on the Yakima River and its tributaries. The arid conditions and intense weed competition mean that some sites need more than 2 years of maintenance to establish robust, native plant communities. Work will include weed control, mulching, removal of weed fabric, repairing fences, and selective planting and watering. At Reecer Creek, work will include placement of tree root wads and large logs in the creek to increase the types of habitat found there. The Yakima River is used by steelhead and bull trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as Chinook and coho salmon, and resident rainbow and cutthroat. The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$32,442 from a federal grant and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1203)

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Project in Klickitat County

\$539,076

Eastern Klickitat Conservation District Conserving Rock Creek

Grant Awarded: \$539,076

The Eastern Klickitat Conservation District will use this grant to buy voluntary land preservation agreements⁵ on up to 850 acres on Rock Creek and its tributary, Squaw Creek, in Klickitat County, 15 miles east of Goldendale on Rock Creek Road. Rock Creek is the largest Columbia River tributary in Washington between the Klickitat and Walla Walla Rivers. The agreement will allow the conservation district to protect forever 8.2 miles of Rock Creek, 8.8 miles of Squaw Creek, and 1 mile on Luna Gulch. The area provides critical spawning and rearing habitat for middle Columbia River steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Eastern Klickitat Conservation District will contribute \$95,470 from another grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1857)

Projects in Mason County

\$1,252,670

Capitol Land Trust Conserving Goldsborough Creek Habitat

Grant Awarded: \$110,925

Capital Land Trust will use this grant to buy 420 acres on the North Fork Goldsborough Creek, near Shelton. The land is bisected by about a half-mile of North Fork Goldsborough Creek and tributaries and contains wetlands and second-growth forest. The land is next to property already conserved by the land trust. The property will provide abundant habitat for steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and for coho salmon and cutthroat trout. Capitol Land Trust will contribute \$19,575 in a donation of land. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1433)

⁵ A land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, is a voluntary agreement between a landowner and private land conservation organization or a government agency. The landowner maintains ownership of the land, continues to manage it, and receives compensation, such as cash, reduced taxes, or other incentives, in exchange for limiting development on the land.

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Capitol Land Trust Maintaining Oakland Bay Shoreline Plantings

Grant Awarded: \$23,500

Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to maintain plantings on two of the largest conserved shorelines on Oakland Bay – Twin Rivers Ranch Preserve and Oakland Bay Historical Park. The land trust will maintain 12 acres of shoreline plantings on Deer, Cranberry, and Malaney Creeks. These creeks support runs of native coho and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as chum and Chinook salmon and coastal cutthroat trout. Capitol Land Trust and its partners will maintain plantings, remove competing invasive plants along the shoreline, and replace dead plants. Capitol Land Trust will contribute \$5,000 in a private grant and donations of cash. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1432)

Great Peninsula Conservancy Restoring Beards Cove

Grant Awarded: \$297,132

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to restore habitat in Lynch Cove, on the Union River Estuary, at the toe of Hood Canal. The conservancy will remove fill, structures, infrastructure, and invasive plants; restore the grade to conditions before it was filled in 1973; restore side channel habitat; and plant native trees and bushes. The work will restore about a quarter-mile each of natural shoreline and tidal channels and about 7 acres of tidal marsh and estuary. The conservancy also will accept a donation of a voluntary land preservation agreement⁶ on 7 acres, conserving the final gap in the surrounding preserved estuary. This estuary provides habitat vital to Puget Sound Chinook, Hood Canal summer chum, and winter steelhead, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The restoration, along with the 7-acre donation, will create 1.7 miles of contiguous, preserved estuarine habitat along the northern shore of Lynch Cove. Finally, the conservancy will buy about 2 acres in Beards Cove that contains derelict structures and fill. The Great Peninsula Conservancy will contribute \$491,000 from an Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program grant and donations of labor and property interest. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1326)

⁶ A land preservation agreement, also called a conservation easement, is a voluntary agreement between a landowner and private land conservation organization or a government agency. The landowner maintains ownership of the land, continues to manage it, and receives compensation, such as cash, reduced taxes, or other incentives, in exchange for limiting development on the land.

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Mason Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$13,617

Designing Enhancements to the Allyn Shoreline

The Mason Conservation District will use this grant to complete final designs for a project to enhance up to 480 feet of shoreline along Case Inlet in Allyn. The project would include removing about 120 feet of shoreline armor and planting trees and shrubs there. This shoreline is used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by chum, coho, and pink salmon and sea-run cutthroat trout. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1586)

Mason Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$360,500

Designing Projects in the Skokomish River Basin

The Mason Conservation District, working on behalf of Mason County, will use this grant to complete feasibility-level (35 percent) designs and an environmental impact statement for a series of projects to improve the Skokomish River ecosystem. The conservation district already has evaluated significant degradation in the river basin, developed and evaluated potential solutions to these problems, and recommended a series of projects. With this grant, the district will begin designs for projects to submit to Congress for funding. This effort has been ongoing since 2007. This grant will be matched by outside funds for a total project cost of \$2.45 million. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1328)

Mason Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$362,096

Placing Logjams in the South Fork Skokomish River to Improve Habitat

The Mason Conservation District will use this grant to place 21 logjams in the Holman Flats area of the South Fork Skokomish River to improve habitat for salmon. The area was logged and cleared in the 1950s in preparation for construction of a new dam and reservoir. The plan for the reservoir and dam eventually was abandoned but the extensive land clearing significantly degraded habitat in the upper watershed and tributaries. This project extends more than 1 mile downstream of previously completed work. The Skokomish River is used by Puget Sound steelhead, coastal bull trout, and Puget Sound Chinook, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Mason Conservation District will contribute \$900,000 from another grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1332)

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South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$84,900** **Removing a Culvert Blocking Fish Passage in Likes Creek**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to replace the Simpson railroad culvert on Like's Creek, opening spawning and rearing habitat that has not been accessible for roughly a century because of impassable culverts. Like's Creek is a major tributary to Goldsborough Creek in Mason County and is used by coho salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will contribute \$43,000 from another grant and will partner with Mason County to remove a second blocking culvert further upstream. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1410)

Projects in Okanogan County **\$1,625,580**

Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$525,287** **Improving a Methow River Side Channel**

The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to enhance a 1.23-mile-long side channel of the Methow River, near the town of Twisp. The work will create channel and wetland habitat and will include planting plants along the channel banks. The goal is to increase the amount of salmon habitat in the side channel and floodplain for upper Columbia River spring Chinook salmon, which are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal law. The Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$525,287 from a Bonneville Power Administration grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1735)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation **Grant Awarded: \$91,561** **Maintaining Riverbank Plantings in the Methow River Watershed**

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will use this grant to plant, water, and protect shoreline plantings along the Methow, Twisp, and Chewuch Rivers, and Beaver Creek. Some of these areas were damaged by recent wildfires in the Methow Valley. It is important that streams have healthy trees and plants along their banks. The plants shade the water, keeping water cool for salmon. They also drop branches into the water, which can slow the streams, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, shoreline trees and plants drop leaves and branches into the water, creating food sources for the insects salmon eat. The Methow River watershed is used by upper Columbia River spring Chinook salmon, which are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by upper Columbia River steelhead

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South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$84,900** **Removing a Culvert Blocking Fish Passage in Likes Creek**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to replace the Simpson railroad culvert on Like's Creek, opening spawning and rearing habitat that has not been accessible for roughly a century because of impassable culverts. Like's Creek is a major tributary to Goldsborough Creek in Mason County and is used by coho salmon, steelhead, and cutthroat trout. The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will contribute \$43,000 from another grant and will partner with Mason County to remove a second blocking culvert further upstream. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1410)

Projects in Okanogan County **\$1,625,580**

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and Columbia River bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal law. The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will contribute \$16,158 in a local grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1761)

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation

Grant Awarded: \$182,500

Moving Nuisance Beavers in the Methow River Watershed

The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation, along with the U.S. Forest Service, will use this grant to trap nuisance beavers on Methow Valley farmland and move them into upland tributaries. The foundation's goal is to place beavers where they historically occurred, as a strategy to increase water storage and improve water quality. The Methow River basin provides significant spawning and rearing areas for upper Columbia River spring Chinook salmon, which are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and spawning and rearing habitat for upper Columbia River steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal law. The basin also supports Pacific lamprey, cutthroat trout, and coho salmon. The Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will contribute \$33,500 in a local grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1764)

National Forest Foundation

Grant Awarded: \$102,500

Improving Habitat in Goat Creek

The National Forest Foundation will use this grant to place large tree root wads and logs in Goat Creek, a tributary of the upper Methow River. The woody structures will slow the creek, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. By slowing the creek, they also improve the likelihood that gravels will settle out of the water, creating areas for spawning. The foundation will install fencing to prevent cattle and vehicles from entering sensitive areas while still providing needed access to cattle for water and shade. The work will be done in nearly 1 mile of the creek that is used by bull trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The project also may provide downstream benefits to upper Columbia River spring Chinook and upper Columbia River steelhead, both of which are listed as either endangered or threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The National Forest Foundation will contribute \$109,000 in cash and donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1753)

Trout Unlimited Inc.

Grant Awarded: \$723,732

Building an Irrigation System to Save Salmon

Trout Unlimited-Washington Water Project will use this grant to eliminate or dramatically reduce fish deaths in the Methow River, specifically in the Barkley Irrigating Company's diversion side-channel. Historically, Barkley has diverted water from the Methow River for irrigation by building

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a seasonal gravel dam in the river, upstream of its intake canal. This annual dam construction required use of heavy equipment in the river, disturbing the plants and animals there. This project will build a permanent, pressurized irrigation system to serve all Barkley users. With this grant, Trout Unlimited-Washington Water Project and its partners will build the irrigation system about 2 miles downstream of the current diversion. The project will improve survival of upper Columbia River spring Chinook, which are listed as endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal law, as well as Pacific lamprey and west slope cutthroat trout. Additionally, this project will reconnect Bear Creek with the Methow River. Trout Unlimited is partnering with the Barkley Irrigation Company, the Methow Conservancy, and the Bureau of Reclamation on this project. Trout Unlimited Inc. will contribute \$723,732 in a local grant and another grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1737)

Projects in Pacific County

\$698,524

Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce

Grant Awarded: \$325,000

Removing a Fish Passage Barrier on a Columbia River Tributary

The Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce (CREST) will use this grant to replace an undersized culvert in Megler Creek, where it meets the Columbia River estuary, opening more than 1 mile of spawning habitat and enhancing tidal connection to 2 acres of wetlands used for rearing. This work is part of a three-phase project involving three tributaries to the Columbia River estuary and 7 miles of Columbia River shoreline. Megler Creek is a tributary to the Columbia River in the town of Chinook and is upstream of Fort Columbia State Park. It is used by Chinook, chum, and coho salmon, and cutthroat trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead. CREST will contribute \$692,000 in a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1380)

Friends of Willapa Refuge

Grant Awarded: \$373,524

Removing a Barrier to Fish Passage in Greenhead Slough

The Friends of Willapa Refuge will use this grant to remove a barrier in Greenhead Slough blocking 149 acres of estuary and 10 miles of spawning and rearing habitat. The friends group will remove a culvert, re-align the existing channel, and install a 70-foot-long, single lane bridge over the new channel for logging access. This project is in the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge and is a part of its overall 15-year restoration plan. This area historically supported large numbers of chum, coho, Chinook, cutthroat trout, and steelhead, but their numbers have dramatically decreased due to poor land management. The Friends of Willapa Refuge will

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contribute \$146,960 in a federal grant, materials, and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1158)

Projects in Pend Oreille County \$360,000

Pend Oreille County **Grant Awarded: \$250,000** **Opening Fish Passage in Indian Creek**

The Pend Oreille County Public Works Department will use this grant to replace a concrete culvert under Leclerc Road South with a 58-foot-long bridge, opening 5 miles of habitat in Indian Creek to bull trout. This project is multifaceted with a total cost approaching \$2 million. The final project will realign the road to increase drivers' safety and enhance wetlands and provide passage to habitat used by bull trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Pend Oreille County will contribute \$44,200 in a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1871)

Pend Oreille County **Grant Awarded: \$110,000** **Opening Fish Passage in Smalle Creek**

The Pend Oreille County Public Works Department will use this grant to replace a culvert with a 50-foot-long bridge over Smalle Creek, a tributary to Calispell Creek. The work will open 6 miles of habitat for bull trout, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and restore the creek to a natural, free flowing channel. Replacing the culvert also reduces the risk of road failure and potential sediment delivery to the stream. Pend Oreille County will contribute \$19,450 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1975)

Projects in Pierce County \$928,819

Great Peninsula Conservancy **Grant Awarded: \$150,000** **Conserving Filucy Bay Estuary Shoreline**

The Great Peninsula Conservancy will use this grant to buy 19.5 acres of coastal inlet estuary and shoreline on North Cove at the head of Filucy Bay on the Key Peninsula in Pierce County. These shorelines are used by Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and chum and coho salmon and cutthroat trout. This project is part of a larger initiative to conserve the entire North Cove estuary of Filucy Bay to ensure intact shoreline, estuary, and stream channels that provide critical

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rearing, refuge, transitional, and migratory fish habitat. The Great Peninsula Conservancy will contribute \$30,000 in Conservation Futures⁷ and donations of property interest. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1946)

Nisqually Indian Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$135,000

Designing a Floodplain Restoration Project at Wilcox Farm

The Nisqually Indian Tribe will use this grant to assess restoration feasibility and complete preliminary design for a project to reconnect and restore the Nisqually River floodplain at Wilcox Farm. The dikes, on the Pierce County side of the river, lock the channel in place, yet it is unknown if they offer significant flood prevention. The tribe will assess the impacts on adjacent property of moving the dikes, determine what dikes to remove, estimate the costs, and determine where the setback dike, if any, should be placed. The tribe would like to move part or all of the dike on Wilcox Farms to allow the Nisqually River to naturally meander in the area, improving spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Nisqually Indian Tribe will contribute \$23,825 in donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1935)

Nisqually Land Trust

Grant Awarded: \$80,000

Conserving the Middle Ohop Creek

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to buy up to 52 acres of pasture and forest in the middle stretch of Ohop Creek. The proposed land is next to other protected lands owned by the Nisqually Indian Tribe or Washington Department of Natural Resources and includes more than a quarter-mile of Ohop Creek waterfront. Protection of this functioning habitat will benefit an array of wildlife, including steelhead and Chinook salmon, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as cutthroat trout and coho salmon. The Nisqually Land Trust will contribute \$400,000 in Conservation Futures⁸. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1929)

Nisqually Land Trust

Grant Awarded: \$90,000

Conserving Upper Ohop Valley

The Nisqually Land Trust will use this grant to buy and permanently conserve up to 202 acres of the upper Ohop Valley, in the Nisqually River watershed near Eatonville. The property includes

⁷ Conservation futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

⁸ Conservation futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

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1.2 miles of Ohop Creek, nearly a half-mile each of tributaries and Ohop Lake shoreline, 66 acres of wetlands, and 89 acres of forested creek banks. Protection of this functioning habitat will benefit an array of fish and wildlife, including steelhead trout and Chinook salmon, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as pink and coho salmon, in upper Ohop Creek, 25-Mile Creek, and an unnamed tributary. The Nisqually Land Trust will contribute \$205,800 in Conservation Futures.⁹ For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1791)

Pierce Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$111,803

Removing Invasive Knotweed along the Nisqually River

The Pierce Conservation District will use this grant to remove Japanese knotweed in the Nisqually River basin, and replant at least 20 acres of previously infested riverbank. Volunteers coordinated by the Nisqually Stream Stewards and Pierce County Stream Team will replant the area. The conservation district also will continue surveys of the Nisqually River and its tributaries verifying data previously collected and continue to map knotweed presence in areas not previously mapped. The conservation district hopes to reduce knotweed in the basin to a maintenance level. Aggressive eradication will continue until 2020, when knotweed is expected to have been controlled successfully. The Nisqually River is used by Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Pierce Conservation District will contribute \$35,500. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1919)

Pierce County

Grant Awarded: \$136,388

Buying Land along the Puyallup River for a Levee Project

The Pierce County Surface Water Management Division will use this grant to buy about 20 acres of the 68 acres needed for a future project to move a levee on the left bank of the Puyallup River, south of Orting. In the future project, Pierce County will dismantle about 1,000 feet of the levee, place a series of logjams in the river, and place another series of logjams along 1.5 miles of river to eliminate the need for continued rebuilding of washed out levees that protect Orville Road. The Puyallup River is used by Chinook and chum salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The County will contribute \$24,069. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1188)

⁹ Conservation futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

Salmon Recovery

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Pierce County

Grant Awarded: \$225,628

Restoring the South Fork Puyallup River Floodplain

The Pierce County Surface Water Management Division will use this grant to restore the left bank of the Puyallup River between South Fork Road and 144th Street East, west of State Route 162 in Orting. The County will build a floodplain side channel, place logjams, plant disturbed areas, and add other fish habitat features. The County also will move fiber optic cables and a gas main. This is the second phase of a project designed to expand and improve off-channel and floodplain habitat along the Puyallup River for Chinook salmon and steelhead, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. Fish use off-channel and floodplains for spawning, rearing, hiding from predators, and over-wintering. Pierce County will contribute \$273,773. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1180)

Projects in San Juan County

\$307,270

Friends of the San Juans

Grant Awarded: \$43,654

Restoring an Orcas Island Pocket Beach

The Friends of the San Juans will use this grant to restore a pocket beach along Orcas Island's West Sound so it can better function as spawning and rearing habitat for the fish that salmon eat. In partnership with the landowner and Coastal Geologic Services, the Friends of the San Juans will remove a large creosote and rock bulkhead and fill, re-grade the bank, and plant the slope with native plants. Removing the extensive toxic materials, as well as more than 530 tons of bank and beach rock and fill, will allow for sediment flow, unbury spawning habitat for the fish that salmon eat, and improve a place where juvenile salmon can feed and grow on their way to the ocean. The Friends of the San Juans will contribute \$16,130 in donations. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1913)

Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group

Grant Awarded: \$263,616

Removing a Barrier to Fish in West Beach Creek

The Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and San Juan County will use this grant to replace an undersized culvert where West Beach Road crosses West Beach Creek. The new culvert will be 14 feet in diameter and will allow fish to enter the lower West Beach Creek system. West Beach Creek historically supported sea-run cutthroat trout that were fished recreationally and the lower part of the creek contains rearing habitat suitable for juvenile Chinook salmon. Chinook salmon are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act and are known to enter tributaries to feed and escape predators when they are rearing in saltwater.

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As part of this project, the fisheries enhancement group will plant the creek banks, help with permitting and construction, and will reach out to landowners about future projects further upstream. San Juan County's Public Works Department will contribute \$380,000. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1931)

Projects in Skagit County **\$1,239,822**

Skagit County **Grant Awarded: \$85,000**

Assessing the Best Way to Improve Fish Passage in Martin Slough

The Skagit County Public Works Department will use this grant to complete a feasibility study to determine if abandoning a section of Martin Road or upgrading a 3-foot-diameter pipe is the most appropriate way to improve fish passage under this residential road over Martin Slough. This site is in the upper Skagit River near Rockport. If the culvert is removed or replaced, Chinook salmon would have access to about 7.6 acres of high quality, off-channel habitat in the Skagit River floodplain. Salmon use floodplains for rearing and resting, which is particularly important during high flows. Chinook salmon are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. This project would restore access to much of Martin Slough. This project also includes the design for the replacement of an upstream culvert to further enhance fish access to unused habitat. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1264)

Skagit River System Cooperative **Grant Awarded: \$366,213**
Conserving Hansen Creek Shoreline

The Skagit River System Cooperative will use this grant to buy about 50 acres along Hansen Creek. This project continues the efforts of the cooperative, Swinomish Tribe, Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Puget Sound Energy, and Skagit County to restore Hansen and Red Creeks from State Highway 20 downstream to Minkler Road. The Skagit River System Cooperative will contribute \$71,553 from a private grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1248)

Skagit River System Cooperative **Grant Awarded: \$395,250**
Planning the Restoration of Barnaby Reach

The Skagit River System Cooperative will use this grant to complete preliminary designs for a project identified in a feasibility study. The study noted that Barnaby Reach, which is near Rockport in the upper Skagit River, has too few types of habitat in the river because of wood removal, bank armoring, and hatchery infrastructure. Barnaby Reach is home to Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal

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Endangered Species Act. This project has the potential to be one of the most beneficial floodplain restoration projects in Puget Sound, returning valuable slow-water habitats for fish. The preliminary design work will complete needed studies such as wetland delineation, geotechnical analyses, surveys, and more intensive archaeological investigations. Preliminary design deliverables will include a basis of design report, excavation profiles and quantities, construction approach, a preliminary cost estimate, and drawing package for the development of permits. The Skagit River System Cooperative will contribute \$69,750. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1255)

Swinomish Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$63,359

Designing the Restoration of the Kukutali Preserve

The Swinomish Tribe will use this grant to design projects to restore habitat at the eastern tombolo in the Kukutali Preserve in Skagit Bay. Kukutali Preserve, which has been co-owned and co-managed by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Swinomish Tribe since 2010, is the first of its kind in the nation. The preserve encompasses about 90 upland acres, including Kiket Island, adjacent to 11 acres of tribal tidelands that include a natural tombolo connecting Kiket and Fidalgo Islands, a natural coastal lagoon, and wetlands. About a quarter of the historic Kiket Lagoon footprint has been filled and the tombolo is armored completely, limiting natural habitat processes. This project will prepare a range of design alternatives for the tombolo, focusing on restoring sediment transport that historically maintained the lagoon, spit, and tombolo. A design report and 60 percent design will be produced for the preferred alternative for tombolo restoration. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1257)

The Nature Conservancy

Grant Awarded: \$330,000

Developing a Project Scorecard for the Skagit Delta

The Nature Conservancy will use this grant to complete an alternatives analysis, which can be thought of as a scorecard for measuring projects in the Skagit River delta for their relative benefits to a variety of local interests, including fish, farms, and flood protection. Completing this analysis will inform partners about which estuary restoration projects in the Skagit Delta achieve the largest gains for salmon recovery as well as other community benefits. This project contributes to a larger effort known as the Skagit Farms, Fish and Flood Initiative (3FI), which aims to create strategies that support the long-term viability of agriculture and salmon while reducing the risks of destructive floods. The Skagit River delta is used by Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Nature Conservancy will

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contribute \$58,500 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1258)

Projects in Skamania County **\$724,707**

Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board **Grant Awarded: \$135,000** **Building a Community-based Restoration Strategy for the Wind River**

The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board will use this grant to work with the community to analyze data, develop a list of restoration projects, and complete two preliminary designs for the highest priority projects for the Wind River, from its mouth to the hatchery. Wind River is used by steelhead and chum, coho, and Chinook salmon, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board will contribute \$23,800 in donations of cash and labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1392)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$281,960** **Creating Spawning Habitat in Dougan Creek and the Washougal River**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to place tree root wads and large logs in the lower 850 feet of Dougan Creek and in the Washougal River. Large tree root wads and logs in the river slow the water and trap larger gravel, creating places for salmon to spawn. They also provide a place for salmon to rest, hide from predators, and grow. The creek and river are used by four salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The land is owned by Skamania County, Washington Department of Natural Resources, and several private landowners. The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will contribute \$97,780 in donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1360)

Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$307,747** **Placing Logs in the Upper Washougal River**

The Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group will use this grant to place large tree root wads and logs in lower Silver Creek and in the upper Washougal River in Skamania County. The root wads and logs will slow the water and allow sediment to settle out, creating places for salmon to spawn. The project is on land owned by the Chaffee family and is several miles upstream of three previous projects that collectively installed more than 500 pieces of large wood to meet similar objectives. The creek and river are used by summer steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Lower Columbia Fish

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Enhancement Group will contribute \$177,000 in donations of labor and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1336)

Projects in Snohomish County **\$809,460**

Edmonds **Grant Awarded: \$157,331** **Designing Willow Creek's Restored Connection to Puget Sound**

The City of Edmonds will use this grant to prepare preliminary designs for a project that will redirect Willow Creek from a pipe and outfall system into an open channel, restoring the connection between Edmonds Marsh, a remnant estuary along the Edmonds shoreline, and Puget Sound. Once redirected, the creek will flow through a culvert under the Burlington Northern Santa Fe railroad and across Marina Beach to Puget Sound. Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho salmon historically used Willow Creek and Edmonds Marsh to feed and grow. Fish passage into the marsh was all but eliminated when the creek was piped, cutting off access to more than 30 acres of marsh. This is part of a larger project to restore the entirety of Edmonds Marsh. The full project involves connecting upstream tributaries, eradicating invasive plants, and improving water quality and flooding issues from urban storm water runoff. The City of Edmonds will contribute \$36,160. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#) or contact [Jason Wilkinson](#), WRIA 8 actions and funding coordinator, at 206-477-4786. (14-1299)

Snohomish Conservation District **Grant Awarded: \$100,000** **Designing Moga Back-Channel**

The Snohomish Conservation District will use this grant to design a project to remove a barrier to fish passage and improve the habitat in a back channel to the Snohomish River. The work will re-connect nearly 10 acres of back-channel habitat, 2.4 miles downstream of the confluence of the Skykomish and Snoqualmie Rivers southwest of Monroe. The back-channel will provide rearing and resting habitat for Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1404)

Snohomish County **Grant Awarded: \$150,000** **Designing the Reconnection of the North Meander of the Stillaguamish River**

The Snohomish County Department of Public Works will use this grant to complete preliminary designs for a project that will reconnect about a half-mile of abandoned channel meander and restore about 8.5 acres of habitat in the lower Stillaguamish River at the north meander. The

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department will investigate and plan restoration of the western portion of the north meander, enhancing connectivity with the Stillaguamish River or Cook Slough. When completed, the restored area will create habitat for rearing and foraging for Puget Sound Chinook, Puget Sound steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as for Puget Sound-Strait of Georgia chum and coho salmon. The department also will evaluate what types of wood structures would be best for increasing habitat. Five different variations of off-channel and floodplain restoration scenarios will be analyzed and the preferred alternative selected for design work. Restoration design will include excavation of deposited material west of the connection with the Stillaguamish River, channel reconfiguration, wood placement, and shoreline planting. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1306)

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians **Grant Awarded: \$402,129**

Conserving and Restoring Stillaguamish River Floodplain

The Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians will use this grant to buy up to 200 acres of the North Fork and main stem of the Stillaguamish River. The tribe also will remove invasive plants and plant native plants on up to 25 acres of riverbank. The Stillaguamish River is used by Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. For natural river migration processes to be protected and restored, a corridor of conserved lands is needed along North Fork, South Fork, and main stem of the Stillaguamish River. The 2005 Chinook recovery plan identifies the need to acquire a total of 7,225 acres by 2055, and this project will work incrementally towards that goal. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1356)

Projects in Thurston County **\$518,755**

Capitol Land Trust **Grant Awarded: \$90,000**

Conserving a Rare Wetland along the Black River

The Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to buy 54 acres of Black River floodplain, including nearly a half-mile of the Black River (both banks) and more than 1.3 miles of side channel. The majority of this Thurston County property is a rare wetland type, unique to the Black River, which is a tributary to the Chehalis River. The property is next to 75 acres already conserved by Capitol Land Trust, and the purchase will result in the continuous and perpetual conservation of more than three-quarter mile of the Black River. The project will protect multiple habitat types for Chinook, coho, and chum salmon; steelhead; coastal cutthroat trout; as well as numerous Neotropical bird species. The Black River sub-basin is one of the largest remaining wetland systems in western Washington and also one of the most rapidly developing areas in the state.

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Conservation of the land will prevent future habitat loss and water quality degradation associated with development. In addition, a significant recreation opportunity exists because Thurston County's "Gate to Belmore" trail borders the site and will provide public access. The Capitol Land Trust will contribute \$90,000 in Conservation Futures.¹⁰ For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1268)

Heernett Environmental Foundation **Grant Awarded: \$234,000** **Conserving the Schweikert Farm along the Chehalis River**

The Heernett Environmental Foundation, along with two other organizations, will use this grant to buy a 113-acre farm, conserving 27 acres along the Chehalis River and Scatter Creek in south Thurston County. The farm is next to 48 acres of land already conserved for salmon and wildlife by the foundation. The purchase will conserve active floodplain reaches of the Chehalis River, and will protect habitat for coho and chum salmon, and cutthroat trout. The purchase will conserve a half-mile reach of Scatter Creek and more than a quarter-mile of the Chehalis River. Acquiring this property, with its high level of productive habitat and ground water connectivity, will provide abundant, long-term functional benefits to both the lower reach of Scatter Creek and the upper Chehalis River. The Heernett Environmental Foundation will contribute \$36,500 in cash and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1390)

Capitol Land Trust **Grant Awarded: \$30,000** **Designing the Restoration of Harmony Farms' Shoreline**

Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to evaluate and prepare a final design for a project to restore the Harmony Farms' shoreline. The 56-acre farm has nearly a quarter-mile of shoreline on the eastern side of Henderson Inlet in Thurston County. The full project design would include removing derelict structures from the shoreline and restoring the shoreline, and removing invasive plants and replanting with native plants. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1429)

Capitol Land Trust **Grant Awarded: \$11,000** **Maintaining Allison Springs Estuary Plantings**

Capitol Land Trust will use this grant to maintain recently planted plants, remove competing invasive plants along the shoreline, and replace dead plants in the Allison Springs estuary. A recent project there restored 5 acres of estuarine shorelines and tide flats, saltmarsh, forested freshwater tributaries and springs, and uplands, providing greater fish access to the end of Eld

¹⁰ Conservation futures are a portion of property taxes used by local governments to buy land or development rights to protect natural areas, forests, wetlands, and farms.

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Inlet in Thurston County. Capitol Land Trust will contribute \$2,000 in donations of cash and materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1430)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$58,315** **Designing a Restoration Project in Pioneer Park**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to develop a preliminary design for a project along the Deschutes River at Pioneer Park in Tumwater. The project would place logjams in the river, including along an eroded clay bank, and replant the shoreline forest. Logjams will slow the river and create places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. They also create pools, which provide cold water refuge for rearing salmon when water temperatures rise in the summer. Trees and plants along riverbanks shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. They also drop leaves and branches in the river, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Finally, plants stabilize a shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1405)

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group **Grant Awarded: \$95,440** **Placing Logjams in McLane Creek**

The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will use this grant to place two logjams on private land in lower McLane Creek. The logjams will slow the creek, creating pools where salmon can rest and hide from predators. The pools create cold water refuge in the summer when water levels decrease. They also allow spawning gravel and sediment to settle out of the water. The area is used heavily by spawning and rearing steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho and chum salmon and coastal cutthroat trout. The logjams will be placed at two bends in the creek to increase accumulation of logs and branches where it would naturally occur if wood were available in the stream. The South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group will contribute \$16,850 from another grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1406)

Projects in Wahkiakum County **\$410,543**

Wahkiakum Conservation District **Grant Awarded: \$69,850** **Restoring the Banks of the Grays River**

The Wahkiakum Conservation District will use this grant to plant the banks of the Grays River, creating more habitat in the river, stabilizing the river banks, and establishing a forested buffer

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along more than a quarter-mile of river shoreline immediately upstream of the State Route 4 bridge crossing. Plantings along riverbanks shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon and increasing insects for salmon to eat. Large branches can slow the river and create places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Finally, plants stabilize a shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. The river is used by coho, Chinook, and chum salmon, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and steelhead. The Wahkiakum Conservation District will contribute \$14,000 in donations of labor and a state grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1292)

Wahkiakum County

Grant Awarded: \$340,693

Removing a Barrier to Fish Passage in Clear Creek

The Wahkiakum County Public Works Department will use this grant to replace an undersized culvert with a bridge on Elochoman Valley Road. The culvert carries Clear Creek under the road. Removing the culvert would open a quarter-mile of high quality spawning and rearing habitat. The County also will place logjams, individual logs, and boulders in the creek to increase the habitat complexity and plant plants along 200 feet of each side of the creek. Logjams slow the water, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Clear Creek is used by fall Chinook, coho, and chum salmon, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and winter steelhead. The County also has received a grant to realign the southerly approach to the bridge. Wahkiakum County will contribute \$96,000 in cash and donations of materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1308)

Projects in Walla Walla County

\$770,753

Tri-State Steelheaders Inc.

Grant Awarded: \$112,000

Designing a Restoration Project in the Walla Walla River

The Tri-State Steelheaders will use this grant to complete final designs for a habitat project to restore 1.25 miles of the Walla Walla River near Walla Walla. The project will build upon a previous project completed just upstream. This section of the river has degraded shorelines and relatively poor habitat. The Walla Walla River is used by middle Columbia River steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and Chinook salmon. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1902)

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Tri-State Steelheaders Inc.

Grant Awarded: \$465,973

Opening Fish Passage in Mill Creek

The Tri-State Steelheaders will use this grant to remove barriers to fish passage in Mill Creek between 9th and 6th Avenues in Walla Walla. Mill Creek runs in a more than 2-mile-long concrete channel through Walla Walla. The concrete channel hinders fish passage at different times of the year. In winter and early spring, the water is too fast for fish to navigate, in summer and fall, the water is too low. In addition, salmon often become trapped in the flood control channel in the spring, and then warm water temperatures kill them. The Tri-State Steelheaders will replace part of the concrete channel with a concrete mold that has been designed to include resting pools and other habitat features to help fish on their journey to near-pristine habitats further up the creek. Mill Creek is used by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook salmon. Tri-State Steelheaders Inc. will contribute \$82,231. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1894)

Walla Walla County Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$62,400

Designing the Restoration of the Touchet River's McCaw Reach

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to develop final designs and specifications to restore fish habitat in three-quarter mile of the Touchet River near Waitsburg. The project will place tree root wads and large logs in the river and its side channels to improve habitat. Tree root wads and large logs will slow the river, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. The river channel doesn't have a variety of habitat types, has degraded plantings on its banks, and is incised in some areas. The Touchet River is used by middle Columbia River steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and by Chinook salmon. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1895)

Walla Walla County Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$130,380

Improving Fish Passage in Titus and Mill Creeks

The Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to make three specific improvements for fish habitat in Titus and Mill Creeks. Titus Creek branches off Mill Creek, and both creeks are used by steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. In the first action, the conservation district will design and build a diversion dam with a fishway on a Mill Creek side channel. The dam will maintain the existing diversion of water into Titus Creek and fish into the Mill Creek side

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channel, which provides excellent spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead. Steelhead and bull trout currently can swim into the canal, which dries up in the summer, killing the fish. In a second action, the conservation district will plant trees and plants along the Mill Creek side channel and place tree root wads and large logs in the side channel to improve fish habitat. Tree root wads and large logs provide multiple benefits including slowing the river and creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. Plantings along riverbanks shade the water, keeping temperatures cool for salmon. They also drop leaves and branches in the river, which provide food for the insects salmon eat. Plants stabilize the shoreline and prevent erosion of fine sediment that can bury salmon eggs. Finally, in a third action, the conservation district will install a fish screen to prevent fish from entering the irrigation canal from the bottom. The Walla Walla County Conservation District will contribute \$23,009 in donation of materials. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1892)

Projects in Whatcom County

\$711,475

Nooksack Indian Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$108,100

Designing Restoration Projects in the South Fork Nooksack River

The Nooksack Indian Tribe will use this grant to finalize designs for the restoration of the South Fork Nooksack River at Nessel Reach near Acme, in Whatcom County. The south fork doesn't have enough deep pools and the water is too warm for salmon. The tribe will design the placement of 23 logjams in the river. The logjams will slow the river, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. The restoration work will benefit Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho, chum, sockeye, and pink salmon and cutthroat trout. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1658)

Nooksack Indian Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$320,264

Placing Logjams in the South Fork Nooksack River

The Nooksack Indian Tribe will use this grant to restore habitat in the South Fork Nooksack River near Acme, in Whatcom County. The south fork doesn't have enough deep pools and the water is too warm for salmon. The tribe will place eight logjams in the south fork. The logjams will slow the river, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. This project is the last of three phases of restoration in the broader Hutchinson reach. This project will benefit Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho, chum, sockeye, and pink salmon and cutthroat trout.

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The Nooksack Indian Tribe will contribute \$56,518 in a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1659)

Whatcom County-Marc

Nooksack Indian Tribe

Grant Awarded: \$283,111

Restoring the Farmhouse Reach of the North Fork Nooksack River

The Nooksack Indian Tribe will use this grant to place eight logjams in the North Fork Nooksack River near Kendall in Whatcom County. The north fork moves frequently, flushing Chinook salmon eggs downstream before they can hatch. Logjams will protect developing forests and slow the river, creating places for salmon to rest and hide from predators. They also can increase the length of side channels available for spawning. This project will be the second of six phases of restoration planned in the Farmhouse reach. This project will benefit Chinook salmon, steelhead, and bull trout, all of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and coho, chum, sockeye, and pink salmon and cutthroat trout. The Nooksack Indian Tribe will contribute \$59,938 from another grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1655)

Project in Whitman County

\$12,650

Palouse Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$12,650

Designing Fish Passage Improvements in Steptoe Creek

The Palouse Conservation District will use this grant to develop a final design for replacing a culvert that would open 5.3 miles of habitat on Steptoe Creek near Clarkston. The existing culvert goes under Steptoe Creek Road at too steep an angle and with a large drop that completely blocks fish passage. Addressing the barrier would open habitat, including 2.1 miles of Steptoe Creek and 3.2 miles of Stuart Creek to steelhead, which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Palouse Conservation District will contribute \$2,500 in a state grant and donations of labor. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#), contact [Steve Martin](#), or visit www.snakeriverboard.org. (14-1914)

Salmon Recovery

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Projects in Yakima County

\$278,192

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group

Grant Awarded: \$71,800

Reducing the Number of Roads in the Naches watershed

The Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group will use this grant to help the Naches Ranger District decommission 4.72 miles of national forest road in the Nile Creek and lower Rattlesnake Creek watersheds. Forest roads alter stream systems, resulting in increased peak flows. The roads often are a source of chronic sediment input and can block large tree branches, logs, and root wads from moving at stream crossings. This project will benefit steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group will contribute \$14,050 from a federal grant. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1204)

North Yakima Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$76,392

Designing a Naches River Side Channel

The North Yakima Conservation District will use this grant to develop an assessment and preliminary design to create a groundwater-fed, side-channel in remnant and historic channels in the Naches River floodplain, about 2.5 miles upstream from the town of Naches. Side channel habitat in this reach of the Naches River will improve habitat conditions for middle Columbia River steelhead and bull trout, both of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, and for Chinook and coho salmon, lamprey, and other fish by providing refuge from the changing water levels created by releases from dams in the fall. The assessment will focus on using the entire 50 acres of property along a half-mile of the Naches River to achieve the maximum possible benefit to fish. Work will include site assessments, groundwater level investigation, hydraulic modeling, preliminary designs, and a preliminary design report. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1217)

North Yakima Conservation District

Grant Awarded: \$130,000

Designing the Restoration of Ahtanum Creek

The North Yakima Conservation District will use this grant to develop a preliminary design for a stream and floodplain restoration project in Ahtanum Creek, west of Union Gap. In this part of Ahtanum Creek, the banks don't have enough plants and trees, the floodplain doesn't function well, the channel is incised, and the bank is eroding, all of which translate into poor fish habitat. The conservation district will be designing a project that encompasses about 1.5 miles of stream and more than 25 acres of floodplain. Ahtanum Creek is used by steelhead and bull trout, both

Salmon Recovery 2014 GRANTS AWARDED



of which are listed as threatened with extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act, as well as Chinook and coho salmon, lamprey, and other fish. For more information and photographs of this project, visit [RCO's online Project Search](#). (14-1222)