

# PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY FUND

*The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund advances the protection, restoration, and conservation of Pacific salmon and their habitats. The program also plays a vital role in supporting the economies of local communities from California to Alaska, upholding Tribal Treaty fishing rights and subsistence fishing traditions, and restoring salmon populations to productive and viable levels along the entire West Coast.*

## Economic Benefits of Salmon Restoration in Washington State

Pacific salmon and steelhead are much more than essential elements of a healthy Pacific Coast ecosystem; they are cultural icons woven into the fabric of local communities and economies. Salmon runs tie the region's people to the landscape, but pressures from a changing environment and human activities have compromised the strength of these runs. The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) was established by Congress in 2000 to reverse the declines of Pacific salmon and steelhead, supporting conservation efforts in California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, Idaho, and Nevada. The program is essential to preventing the extinction of threatened and endangered populations and, in many cases, has stabilized the populations and contributed to their recovery course.

**A \$1 million investment in watershed restoration, of which PCSRF funding plays a significant role, results in 15-33 new or sustained jobs and \$2.2-2.5 million in total economic activity.**

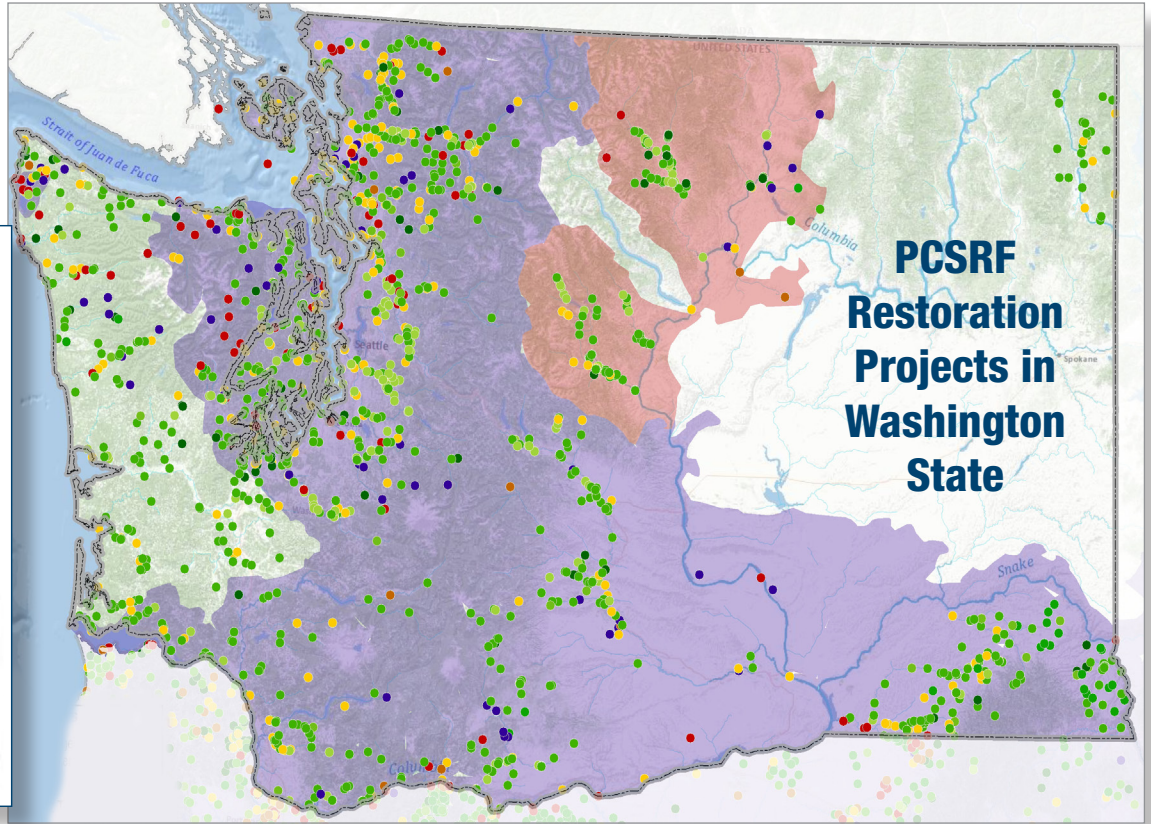
**PCSRF in Washington State**

**ESU Status**

- Endangered
- Threatened

**Project Types**

- Enhancement and Harvest Management
- Habitat Protection and Restoration
- Outreach and Education
- Planning and Assessment
- Research, Monitoring, and Evaluation



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## Guiding Restoration Through Science & Collaboration

Over the past 12 years, PCSRF catalyzed the development of a vibrant community of salmon restoration experts and fostered indispensable partnerships among landowners, local governments, and state, tribal, and federal agencies. The collaborative nature and strong scientific foundation of PCSRF restoration efforts ensures that funds are effectively and efficiently benefiting salmon populations and their habitats.

## Leveraging Funds & Stimulating Local Economies

NOAA Fisheries, the agency charged with administering PCSRF's competitive grants process, has awarded states and tribes an average total of \$77 million annually since the program's inception. To date, the program has leveraged an additional \$518 million in total matching state funds. These investments have significant impacts on local economies and support local job development. A \$1 million investment in watershed restoration, of which PCSRF funding plays a significant role, results in 15-33 new or sustained jobs (Edwards et al. 2012; Nielsen-Pincus and Moseley 2010). In Oregon, a recent study indicates that this \$1 million investment also creates \$2.2-2.5 million in total economic activity (Nielsen-Pincus and Moseley 2010).

Every dollar invested in salmon restoration travels through the economy in several ways: Restoration project managers hire consultants, contractors, and employees to design, implement, and maintain projects; consultants and contractors hire field crews, rent or purchase equipment, and buy goods and services; and employees spend wages on goods and services to support their livelihoods in their own community (Nielsen-Pincus and Moseley 2009).

## On-the-Ground Success

With this funding and these jobs, states and tribes have undertaken over 10,700 projects, resulting in significant changes in the availability and quality of salmon habitat. Since 2000, access to over 920,000 acres of spawning and rearing habitat has been restored and protected for salmon, and now they have access to 7,100 miles of previously inaccessible streams. The program has also established robust planning and monitoring programs to support prioritization and tracking for salmon and steelhead population conservation.

## PCSRF at Work in Washington State

In Washington State alone, the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office has received over \$337 million in PCSRF funds with an additional \$157 million in state matching funds. These funds, largely allocated through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board, have supported the implementation of over 2,500 projects and the restoration of over 46,000 acres of habitat since 2000.

Ecological Metrics in the State of Washington FY 2000-November 2012		
Output	Indicator	Completed
Instream Habitat Projects	Stream Miles Treated	447
Wetland Habitat Projects	Acres Created	35
	Acres Treated	304
Estuarine Habitat Projects	Acres Created	2,162
	Acres Treated	3,220
Land Acquisition Projects	Acres Acquired or Protected	34,963
	Stream Bank Miles Acquired or Protected	288
Riparian Habitat Projects	Stream Miles Treated	1,399
	Acres Treated	17,909
Upland Habitat Projects	Acres Treated	24,728
Fish Passage Projects	Number of Barriers Removed	466
	Stream Miles Opened	1,661
	Number of Fish Screens Installed	374
Monitoring Projects	Stream Miles Monitored	22,437

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In 2010, for example, Washington State and the Skokomish Tribe restored the natural tidal hydrology to 214 acres in the Skokomish Estuary with the help of PCSRF dollars. This estuary provides important habitat for listed Puget Sound Chinook, Hood Canal summer-run chum, and Puget Sound coho. By removing dikes, levees, and roads, this project benefits not only listed salmon but other aquatic species because it improves riparian habitat and water quality conditions.

*PCSRF's role in restoring the region's salmon runs to healthy, viable levels is critical but just as important is the program's role in supporting the economies of local communities, like those in Mason County.*



Photo left: Skokomish Estuary after restoration  
Photo below: Aerial image of Skokomish Estuary restoration.

