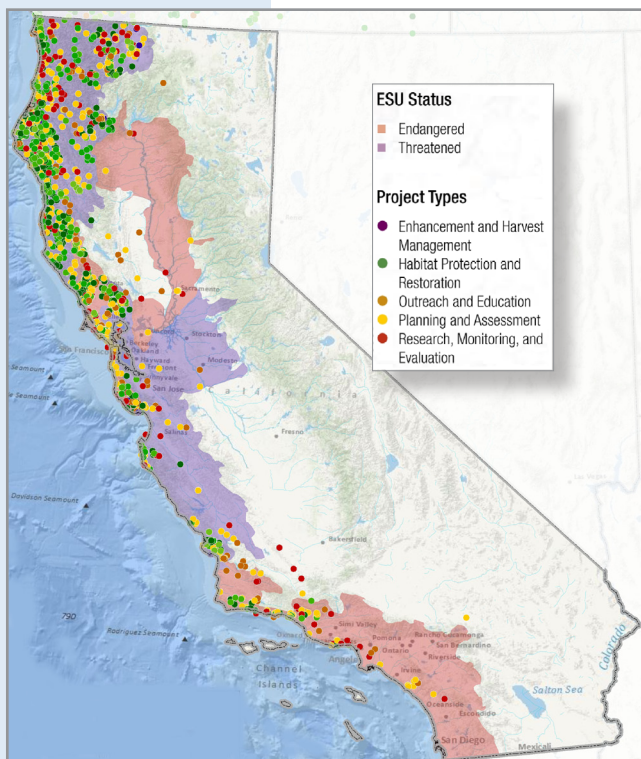




## NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE

*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.*

### PCSRF restoration projects in California



## Economic Benefits of Salmon Restoration in California

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.

Over the past 12 years, PCSRF catalyzed the development of a vibrant community of salmon restoration experts and fostered indispensable partnerships among land owners, local governments, and state, tribal and Federal agencies. The collaborative nature and strong scientific foundation of

**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 restoration efforts ensures that funds are effectively and efficiently benefiting salmon populations and their habitats.

NOAA Fisheries, the agency charged with administering PCSRF's competitive grants process, has awarded states and tribes an average of \$77 million annually since the program's inception. The program has also leveraged nearly \$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 and \$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 pro-



# Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

jects; 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).

With this funding and these jobs, states and tribes have undertaken over 10,700 projects, resulting in significant changes in salmon habitat conditions and availability. Since 2000, access to over 920,000 acres of spawning and rearing habitat has been restored and protected for salmon and now they can migrate through 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.

In California alone, the California Department of Fish and Game has received over \$138 million in PCSRF funds with an additional \$71.5 million in state matching funds. These funds have supported the implementation of over 2,600 projects and the restoration of 7,300 acres of habitat since 2000. For example, the California Department of Fish and Game, together with a landowner and NOAA Fisheries, worked with a habitat assessment team to improve access to more than one mile of upstream



Fish Creek before restoration



Fish Creek after restoration

spawning and rearing habitat on Fish Creek, an important tributary of the Eel River. A stream habitat assessment concluded that upstream access for migrating salmon and steelhead was severely limited. The mouth of Fish Creek was wide, shallow, and braided and presented fish with an impassable eight foot waterfall above the confluence with Lawrence Creek. No fish were found above this barrier. In response to these assessments and with the help of PCSRF dollars, crews worked to construct a boulder fishway and install and modify complex habitat structures using large woody debris and boulders. During the late 1990s and early 2000s, upstream monitoring showed very few fish. In 2010, however, scientists conducted additional monitoring and discovered over 25 coho salmon and steelhead utilizing pools scoured by the previously installed habitat structures. PCSRF funding not only supported the restoration projects themselves, but also the long-term monitoring program that tracks the effectiveness of these projects over time.

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 Humboldt County, where salmon are integral to the cultural landscape.

California State Performance Measures FY 2000-2010		
Output	Indicator	Completed
Instream Habitat Projects	Stream Miles Treated	105
Wetland Habitat Projects	Acres Created	---
	Acres Treated	.87
Estuarine Habitat Projects	Acres Created	---
	Acres Treated	.44
Land Acquisition Projects	Acres Acquired or Protected	25,261
	Stream Bank Miles Acquired or Protected	1.86
Riparian Habitat Projects	Stream Miles Treated	337
	Acres Treated	4,327
Upland Habitat Projects	Acres Treated	2,541
Fish Passage Projects	Number of Barriers Removed	419
	Stream Miles Opened	625
	Number of Fish Screens Installed	94
Monitoring Projects	Stream Miles Monitored	2,847