



2023-2025
Biennial Work Plan
Governor's Salmon
Strategy Update

Governor's Salmon Recovery Office
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WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE

Governor's Salmon
Recovery Office

Table of Contents

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Overview | 3 |
| Background | 3 |
| Salmon recovery | 3 |
| Governor’s Salmon Strategy Update | 4 |
| 2022 supplemental budget..... | 4 |
| Development of the work plan | 5 |
| Natural Resources Subcabinet..... | 5 |
| Tribal engagement | 5 |
| Region priorities..... | 7 |
| Implementation | 7 |
| Work plan priorities | 7 |
| Summary of work plan priorities | 7 |
| Protect and restore vital salmon habitat..... | 9 |
| Invest in clean water infrastructure for salmon and people | 13 |
| Correct fish passage barriers and restore salmon access to historical habitat | 17 |
| Build climate resiliency | 18 |
| Align harvest, hatcheries, and hydropower with salmon recovery | 22 |
| Address predation and food web issues for salmon | 23 |
| Enhancing commitments and coordination across agencies and programs | 24 |
| Agency summary table..... | 26 |
| Appendix A: Summary of 2022 supplemental budget..... | 29 |
| Appendix B: Work plan evaluation criteria | 32 |

October 31, 2022

Overview

Background

In 2021, Governor Jay Inslee updated the statewide salmon strategy to renew the State's commitment to restoring salmon populations. The updated strategy establishes the development of a biennial work plan and a budget proviso¹ in the 2022 supplemental budget created a position in the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) to lead this work. The proviso directed that state agencies to develop biennial, statewide legislative and policy priorities with a recommended budget for salmon recovery that align with tribal priorities and regional salmon recovery plans.

Salmon recovery

Salmon have been present in the Pacific Northwest for more than 6 million years and a primary food source for Native Americans for more than 10,000 years. European colonization of North America changed the way land was used, and as early as 150 years ago, overfishing, dams, and habitat degradation were identified as threats to salmon abundance by the first U.S. Fisheries commissioner.

As Washington's population grew in the 1900s, many of the watersheds where salmon once thrived were impacted. Rivers were blocked, trees were removed, water was polluted, and food for salmon disappeared. These changes to the landscape and the intense harvest of salmon led to multiple populations of salmon in Washington being listed under the federal Endangered Species Act in the late 1990s.

These listings prompted state lawmakers to adopt the Salmon Recovery Act² in 1998. The Act created a framework for recovering salmon and tasked GSRO with coordination and maintenance of the State's strategy to recover salmon. The first statewide strategy, *Extinction is not an Option*, was adopted by Governor Gary Locke in 1999.

That first strategy served as the foundation of the state's recovery efforts for more than 20 years and much progress has been made to restore critical salmon habitat, improve land-use practices, reduce the impact of fisheries on at-risk salmon, improve hatchery management, and better manage hydropower facilities and other large dams. However, much has changed in the past two decades and the strategy and actions to save salmon

¹Section 305(14) Chapter 297 Laws of 2022

²Chapter 77.85 Revised Code of Washington

have not kept pace with the challenges. With more than 70 percent of the endangered or threatened salmon and steelhead populations either not keeping pace with recovery goals or requiring immediate action, it is clear that salmon are struggling.

In response, Governor Jay Inslee updated the statewide salmon strategy in 2021 to renew and strengthen the State's commitment to salmon recovery. The updated strategy expands priorities to include climate resiliency, addresses known threats, honors commitments to tribes, and is broadly consistent with regional recovery plans.

Governor's Salmon Strategy Update

The *Governor's Salmon Strategy Update* envisions healthy and resilient salmon, steelhead, and trout runs, restored to harvestable levels across the state. The updated strategy is organized around the following eight recommendations:

1. Protect and restore vital salmon habitat
2. Invest in clean water infrastructure for salmon and people
3. Correct fish passage barriers and restore salmon access to historical habitat
4. Build climate resiliency
5. Align harvest, hatcheries, and hydropower with salmon recovery
6. Address predation and food web issues for salmon
7. Enhance commitments and coordination across agencies and programs
8. Strengthen science, monitoring, and accountability

2022 supplemental budget

The 2022 supplemental budget included more than \$200 million in new investments to initiate implementation of the *Governor's Salmon Strategy Update*. A summary of these investments is in Appendix A and includes items recommended in the Governor's salmon budget proposal as well as other funding for salmon recovery. Highlights include significant funding for salmon recovery projects, assessments of riparian (streamside) areas and habitat improvements, salmon reintroduction in the upper Columbia River, improved salmon harvest monitoring, and predation management.

Development of the work plan

The legislative, policy, and budget proposals included in this work plan were provided by nine natural resource agencies through an interagency work group of director designees and the Office of the Governor. GSRO prioritized proposals based on how well each implemented specific actions in the strategy and aligned with regional recovery plans, and if they supported a known tribal priority. Appendix B provides more information on evaluation criteria.

Natural Resources Subcabinet

In addition to working closely with agency senior staff and the interagency work group, GSRO convened the Natural Resources Subcabinet to discuss proposed investments and better coordinate efforts of state agencies. GSRO will continue to convene the Natural Resources Subcabinet regularly to ensure agencies have a forum for coordinating activities across habitat, clean water, fish passage, climate resiliency, hatcheries, hydropower, harvest, predation, and science. The interagency work group will support the subcabinet and will meet regularly to track implementation of the work plan. This will strengthen the State's investment and accountability across agencies and commissions to effectively implement this statewide salmon recovery strategy.

Tribal engagement

Tribes are sovereign nations with rights inherent in the U.S. Constitution, reserved in treaties with the U.S. government, and reaffirmed through countless court cases and legal battles stretching back a century. Treaty Indian tribes have a legal authority to co-manage salmon with the State and state government relies on tribal knowledge, expertise, and experience to co-manage these iconic fish.

The Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians adopted a resolution in May 2022 stating that salmon “have been central to the cultures, traditions, economies, social structures, health, diet, religions, and way of life of the tribes since time immemorial, where Tribes developed an intimate understanding of the ecosystem and the water and land that support” salmon.³

The tribal priorities in this work plan were found in tribal documents, comments on the salmon strategy update, and meetings with tribal organizations and individual tribes. This

³Resolution 22-25, Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians

first work plan represents the beginning of a dialogue between the State and tribes; future work plans will more fully reflect the knowledge, experience, and priorities of the tribes.

GSRO met with tribal organizations including Upper Columbia United Tribes, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, and Columbia River Intertribal Fish Commission. Additionally, the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission facilitated a conversation between tribal government staff and GSRO.

GSRO heard from the tribes that they are limited in their capacity to engage in multiple forums and to continue to educate the State on their priorities. GSRO looked to existing publications of salmon recovery priorities and shared what was learned with the tribal organizations.

Priority tribal themes

- Dedicate sufficient funding to implement regional salmon recovery plans
- Protect and restore habitats and ecosystems that are holistic, sustainable, and resilient
- Increase regulatory land-use protection and enforcement for salmon habitat (particularly riparian areas)
- Ensure clean water standards are based on sound science and are enforced
- Use hatcheries to support salmon conservation and harvest
- Enhance monitoring and enforcement for state commercial and recreational salmon and steelhead fisheries
- Improve predation management including seal, sea lions, and northern pike suppression and prevention
- Remedy fish passage barriers statewide
- Reintroduce salmon and steelhead to blocked habitat in the upper Columbia and Snake River basins
- Address the effects of climate change. This includes building climate resilience by restoring ecological functions and implementing strategies to prevent the energy supply system from placing undue reliance on the Columbia River ecosystem
- Recognize, honor, and incorporate tribal culture and values as part of the solution

Region priorities

Regional salmon recovery organizations lead implementation of salmon recovery plans. Federally approved recovery plans were developed in response to proposed or actual listings under the federal Endangered Species Act and provide federal assurances under the Act.⁴ However, these assurances are contingent upon accomplishing local, state, and federal commitments outlined in the plans. That is why state government is committed to aligning strategy work plan priorities with implementation of regional recovery plans.

Directors of regional recovery organizations provided insight about which state agency proposals aligned with recovery plans' priorities. Located across the state, these directors oversee development and implementation of regional recovery plans on behalf of their boards, which include state, local, and tribal governments; agriculture and business interests; forestry; recreation; watershed coalitions; and other stakeholders.

The agency priorities included in this work plan are supported by one or more regions. Regional directors have requested an opportunity in future biennia to inform state agencies of their priorities before agency budget development in order to elevate and improve implementation of recovery plans.

Implementation

This biennial work plan outlines the near-term legislative, policy, and budget priorities for salmon recovery but it is not a static document. The work plan will evolve with adoption of the Governor's budget, legislation, and legislative budgets.

After adoption of the final legislative budget, GSRO will continue to work with state agencies, tribes, and regional recovery organizations to ensure a coordinated and consistent approach to implementing salmon recovery programs.

Work plan priorities

Summary of work plan priorities

Of the eight strategy recommendations, the biennial work plan focuses on specific actions related to habitat, clean water, fish passage, climate, hatcheries and harvest, and

⁴A state-approved sustainability plan was developed for the Washington coast region, with the goal of preventing future Endangered Species Act listings of salmon and steelhead.

predation. The bulleted actions areas listed below are the highest priorities to be implemented this biennium in each recommendation.

Protect and restore vital salmon habitat

- Regulatory protection
- Riparian management
- Voluntary protection and restoration
- Restoration of habitat on working lands

Invest in clean water infrastructure for salmon and people

- Toxics reduction
- Stormwater and wastewater infrastructure improvements

Correct fish passage barriers and restore salmon access to historical habitat

- Fish passage barrier removal
- Reintroduction
- Barrier information and regulation improvements

Build climate resiliency

- Streamflow restoration
- Columbia River basin water supply
- Greenhouse gas emissions reduction
- Technical capacity for climate resilience

Align harvest, hatcheries, and hydropower with salmon recovery

- Harvest management
- Hatchery investments

Address predation and food web issues for salmon

- Pinniped management

The proposals highlighted in the following section align with regional recovery plans and known tribal priorities, directly implement the strategy, and are needed urgently in the

coming biennium. The highest priority investment requests total \$829.8 million (\$110.1 million operating budget, \$699.7 million capital budget, \$20 million transportation budget).

Following each summary of the highest priority proposals is a section that outlines additional budget requests that more broadly support salmon recovery, including climate resiliency, water conservation, environmental cleanup, and biodiversity. These investments do not directly implement the strategy but provide critical agency work for maintaining and improving environmental baseline conditions for salmon. The fiscal impact for these additional budget requests is not included in this work plan.

\$417
MILLION

Protect and restore vital salmon habitat

Salmon need healthy places to live. This means cool, clean water and a variety of habitats that allow them to feed, travel, rest, hide from predators, and spawn. Protecting and restoring these habitats requires a combination of voluntary programs and regulatory tools.

Regulatory protection—\$5.5 million

The strategy recommends specific actions to better enforce and expand land-use regulatory protections for habitat. Regulatory protection is necessary as Washington continues to grow, develop, and use more land and water. Regulations can prevent degradation and restore unavoidable impacts of permitted development. The following regulatory protection proposals are the highest priorities this biennium:

- **Growth Management Act⁵ update for salmon habitat** (Department of Commerce)—fund technical assistance and grants to local governments to integrate salmon recovery plans and watershed characterization work into planning and regulation updates. (\$5.5 million operating budget)
- **PLACEHOLDER Net ecological gain** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund the integration of a net ecological gain standard into state land-use, development, and environmental laws and rules. A process to develop recommendations was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget with a legislative report due December 1, 2022. The fiscal impact is not determined yet.

⁵Chapter 36.70A Revised Code of Washington

- **Additional regulatory protection proposals** that more broadly address salmon recovery are as follows:
 - **Floodplain management grants (Department of Ecology)**—fund additional grants to local governments for updating their local flood hazard management plans and preparing cost-share feasibility studies for new flood hazard and maintenance projects.
 - PLACEHOLDER **Reduce flooding in the Nooksack Basin** (Department of Ecology)—continue to fund transboundary coordination, support for local flood planning and technical assistance, and construction for flood hazard reduction projects. Funding was provided in the 2022 supplemental budget. The fiscal impact is not determined yet.
 - **Wetland mitigation bank oversight** (Department of Ecology)—fund additional staff needed to oversee these mitigation banks while in operation, which is usually at least 10 years.

Riparian management—\$10.1 million

The Governor’s salmon strategy emphasizes preservation and rehabilitation of riparian lands. Healthy riparian zones provide a safe environment for salmon at critical life stages and increase climate resilience by reducing summer water temperature and removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. The following proposals are the highest priority for riparian management this biennium:

- PLACEHOLDER **Riparian habitat improvements** (Office of the Governor)—fund riparian policy and spending recommendations to improve riparian habitat. A process to develop reports and recommendations was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. The fiscal impact is not determined yet.
- **Riparian systems assessment** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund identification of streams that if conserved or restored will provide the greatest habitat value and offer the most efficient approach to recovering salmon and other native species and will demonstrate cumulative improvements of statewide riparian conditions and extent over time. This work was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$2 million operating budget)
- **River migration and stream mapping for salmon** (Department of Ecology)—fund standardized methodology, an implementation plan, and mapping channel migration zones across the state. The 2022 supplemental budget provided one-time

funding to develop a standard channel migration zone mapping methodology. (\$354,000 operating budget)

- **Statewide lidar acquisition and refresh** (Department of Natural Resources)—fund collection of statewide lidar (light detection and ranging) data to provide better fundamental data to understand and protect salmon habitat and stressors. This funding is related to Puget Sound Partnership *Action Agenda* implementation and was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$7.8 million operating budget)

Voluntary protection and restoration—\$381.4 million

It is critically important to continue capital investments in habitat protection and restoration. These grant programs fund the highest priority projects in watersheds throughout the state—projects that have been scientifically and publicly vetted. This includes grant programs that implement the lead entity process established by the Salmon Recovery Act to ensure implementation of regional recovery plan priorities. It also includes state grant programs with a specific benefit to salmon recovery such as floodplain management, near-shore restoration, or region-specific programs for Puget Sound or the Coast. These programs also support implementation of regional recovery plans and have kept extinction at bay. Dedicating full funding for voluntary protection and restoration is critical as many watersheds narrow in on the critical pinch points to recover salmon.

The highest priority investments that will help salmon the most in the coming biennium include the following:

- **Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund Puget Sound near-shore recovery. (\$25.5 million capital budget)
- **Floodplains by Design** (Department of Ecology)—fund the re-establishment of floodplain functions to improve salmon habitat and reduce flood risk in Washington’s major river corridors. (\$70.4 million capital budget)
- **Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program** (Puget Sound Partnership)—fund habitat restoration and protection to restore Puget Sound's natural systems. (\$65.4 million capital budget)
- **Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program** (Department of Natural Resources)—fund conservation easement purchases from willing private forest landowners to protect riparian open space, especially channel migration zones for Endangered Species Act-listed species. (\$5 million capital budget)

- **Salmon Recovery Funding Board** (Recreation and Conservation Office)—fund habitat projects and other activities necessary to achieve overall salmon recovery. This program received one-time funding in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$82 million capital budget)
- **Salmon recovery region and lead entity capacity** (Recreation and Conservation Office)—fund local capacity to fully implement and integrate recovery plans with state agency programs. This proposal includes ongoing funds for the newly established Spokane Lead Entity, which was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$4.5 million operating budget)
- **Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative** (Recreation and Conservation Office)—fund grants to proactively address the region’s highest priority ecological protection and restoration needs to ensure resilient coastal lands and waters. (\$17.6 million capital budget)
- **Chehalis strategy implementation** (Department of Ecology)—fund the long-term flood damage reduction and aquatic species restoration plan in the Chehalis River basin. (\$70 million capital budget)
- **Duckabush—Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund the next phase of the Duckabush estuary restoration project. This multi-phase project received one-time funding of \$25 million in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$41 million capital budget)
- **Additional voluntary protection and restoration proposals** that more broadly support salmon recovery are as follows:
 - **Coastal wetlands** (Department of Ecology)—authorize a federal grant program to acquire wetlands and coastal and estuarine lands.
 - **Restoring Washington’s biodiversity** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund to expand agency engagement and leadership in multiple species recovery processes, habitat protection and restoration, research and monitoring, and coordination with partners and the public, which will benefit salmon recovery directly and indirectly.
 - **Wooten floodplain management at Deer Lake** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund improvements to habitat for fish and other wildlife by reducing the impact of human-made lakes on the floodplain.

Restoration of habitat on working lands—\$20 million

Washington State is known for farming and forestry. Several state programs are reducing impacts and improving habitat conditions on agricultural and forest lands. The following investments are the top priorities this biennium to restore habitat on working lands:

- **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program** (Conservation Commission)—fund state match to continue the federal Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, which works with willing farmers to plant native trees and shrubs and remove livestock and agricultural activities from riparian areas. This program received funding in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$7.7 million capital budget, \$100,000 operating budget)
- **Forest Riparian Easement Program** (Department of Natural Resources)—fund reimbursement of landowners for the value of the trees they are required to leave to protect fish habitat. This program was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$6.3 million capital budget)
- **Salmon Recovery Program** (Conservation Commission)—fund conservation districts to implement salmon riparian projects. This includes a request to move \$10 million in the 2022 supplemental budget from operating to capital. (\$3 million operating budget)
- **Watershed Resilience Action Plan for Snohomish** (Department of Natural Resources)—fund the Snohomish watershed-scale salmon recovery plan including kelp and eelgrass monitoring, large woody material installations, and fish passage barrier surveys and outreach. This program was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$2.9 million operating budget)
- **Additional working lands restoration proposal** that more broadly address salmon recovery:
 - **Voluntary Stewardship Program** (Conservation Commission)—fund county monitoring requirements and agency reporting requirements to implement this program, which protects critical areas including salmon habitat through voluntary farm-friendly options.

\$108
MILLION

Invest in clean water infrastructure for salmon and people

Salmon and people need clean water to survive. As cities have developed, the amount of paving and hard surfaces has increased. Today, stormwater running off those hard surfaces is a major pollution source impacting water bodies in and around Puget

Sound and other areas across the state. Emerging toxics in stormwater pose ongoing threats to water quality and salmon.

Toxics reduction—\$9.7 million

The highest priority proposals this biennium will address a toxic chemical—6PPD-quinone—that is produced when vehicle tires wear on road surfaces. Scientists only recently identified this specific chemical, found in almost every automobile tire. Concentrations of the chemical often reach levels lethal to coho in urban streams.

- **Emerging toxics in Chinook salmon and Southern Resident killer whale** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund work to track contaminants of emerging concern, including 6PPD-quinone, in the orca-salmon food web. (\$1.8 million operating budget)
- **Tire dust in stormwater** (Department of Ecology)—fund expanded research of effective best management practices to treat 6PPD-quinone before the next updates to the stormwater manuals and permits. This work was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$5.2 million operating budget)
- **Toxic tire wear chemical** (Department of Ecology)—fund work to develop alternative assessments and applied 6PPD research to reduce or mitigate coho-killing chemicals in streams. This work was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$2.7 million operating budget)
- Additional proposals to reduce toxics that broadly support salmon recovery:
 - **Cleanup of toxic sites in the Puget Sound** (Department of Ecology)—fund projects that integrate shoreline habitat restoration opportunities with cleanup projects to protect public and environmental health, create jobs, and promote economic development. Related to Puget Sound *Action Agenda* implementation.
 - **Contaminated Sites Redevelopment** (Department of Ecology)—fund work to address toxics in stormwater runoff from industrial and contaminated sites, and in turn, get contaminated properties back into use sooner.
 - **Pesticide assessment in groundwater** (Department of Agriculture)—fund current programs and develop a regional assessment for pesticides in groundwater, with the primary goal of determining if legal uses of pesticides are contributing to groundwater degradation.

- **Product Replacement Program** (Department of Ecology)—fund this program, which improves collaboration with local government partners and provides financial incentives to businesses to remove or replace the worst chemicals through technology and infrastructure upgrades, best management practices, disposal programs, and use of safer chemicals.
- **Remedial Action Grant Program** (Department of Ecology)—fund cleanup at contaminated industrial sites that impact the air, land, and water resources of the state, and continued cleanup of Puget Sound.

Stormwater and wastewater infrastructure improvements—\$98.3 million

Untreated stormwater can decrease the oxygen levels in the water, limit the ability of some salmon species to find food and avoid predators, and lead to large fish die-offs in urban streams. The strategy recommends stormwater retrofits and improving stormwater infrastructure to reduce negative impacts to salmon.

The strategy also recommends actions to improve wastewater infrastructure to achieve clean water for salmon and people, as well as implement nonpoint source pollution best management practices. Nonpoint source pollution occurs when rain and snowmelt pick up contaminants, such as oil, pet waste, and pesticides from yards, roads, and other areas and deposits them into water ways. That is why the highest priority stormwater and wastewater investments this biennium include the following:

- **Addressing nonpoint pollution** (Department of Ecology)—fund technical assistance to landowners, implementing best management practices and improving the timeliness of the State's water quality assessment to improve the control of nonpoint pollution—one of the leading sources of water pollution in Washington. (\$2.3 million operating budget)
- **Municipal wastewater permitting** (Department of Ecology)—fund, supported by a planned fee increase, additional staff needed to address the municipal wastewater permit backlog. (\$5 million operating budget)
- **Stormwater Financial Assistance Program** (Department of Ecology)—fund grants to local governments to finance stormwater retrofit projects that treat polluted stormwater in priority areas throughout the state to reduce toxics and other pollution entering waterways and to protect marine waters, estuaries, lakes, rivers, and groundwater. This proposal is a component of Ecology's water quality combined funding program and supports a Puget Sound *Action Agenda* priority to clean up toxic sites in Puget Sound. (\$68 million capital budget)

- **Stormwater public-private partnerships** (Department of Ecology)—fund technical assistance and competitive grants to assist between 8 and 12 communities as they work through the assessment and stormwater project development process. This was funded in the 2022 supplemental. (\$3 million capital budget)
- **Stormwater retrofits** (Department of Transportation)—fund work to apply best management practices to improve stormwater quality and reduce pollutants in stormwater entering surface waters. (\$20 million transportation budget)
- **Additional water quality proposals** that more broadly support salmon recovery include actions to fund clean water infrastructure, address wastewater discharges, and reduce non-point pollution. Many of the following activities involve leveraging and authorizing significant increases in federal funding. The activities are as follows:
 - **Centennial Clean Water Program** (Department of Ecology)—fund grants to public entities to finance the construction of water pollution control facilities and to plan and implement nonpoint pollution control activities.
 - **Industrial Permitting** (Department of Ecology)—fund additional staff to process and manage sand and gravel permits, industrial general permits, and stormwater general permits, and to support statewide permitting policy development.
 - **Reducing nitrate pollution** (Department of Agriculture)—fund implementation of key recommendations made by the Lower Yakima Valley Groundwater Advisory Committee to reduce nitrate pollution sources to groundwater from irrigated agriculture.
 - **Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Program** (Department of Ecology)—fund the match for a new federal grant program through the bipartisan infrastructure law that pays for essential municipal infrastructure projects designed to address water quality and public health impacts caused by urban stormwater and combined sewer overflows.
 - **Washington State Water Pollution Control Revolving Program** (Department of Ecology)—fund the match for federal grants that provide low-interest loans to local governments, special purpose districts, and tribes for high-priority, water quality projects statewide.
 - **Water Quality Program grants and loan administration** (Department of Ecology)—fund additional capacity to manage Centennial Clean Water

Program grants and to support the additional loans offered through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

\$123.2
MILLION

Correct fish passage barriers and restore salmon access to historical habitat

Improving fish passage is a long-recognized critical action of recovery and the State has been making steady progress since the first strategy was adopted. The Department of Fish and Wildlife estimates there are 18,000 to 20,000 barriers remaining⁶ in Washington. These barriers either partially or fully block salmon and steelhead from reaching their spawning grounds.

Fish passage barrier removal—\$119.2 million

Capital grant programs have been established to identify and remove impediments to salmon and steelhead migration. Investing in the programs below as well as reintroduction efforts are the priorities for salmon recovery this biennium.

- **Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund and implement the statewide barrier correction strategy. (\$94.1 million capital budget)
- **Culvert injunction requirements** (Department of Transportation)—completing the requirements of the culvert injunction is a specific action in the statewide strategy. The culvert injunction requires the State to correct all state-owned fish barriers in the Puget Sound and outer Coast by 2030. A total of \$3.6 billion was secured to meet the requirements of the injunction with the Move Ahead Washington package enacted in the 2002 supplemental transportation budget. Although this is a high priority, funding has been secured and therefore it is not included as a proposed new investment in the agency summary table.
- **Family Forest Fish Passage Program** (Department of Natural Resources)—fund the ongoing grant program that provides financial assistance to family forest landowners to correct fish passage barriers, directly correcting 58 culverts during the biennium. (\$10.9 million capital budget)
- **Toutle River fish collection facility upgrades** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund improvements to the collection and transport of Endangered Species Act-listed coho salmon and steelhead to historic spawning habitat upstream of the Toutle River sediment retention structure. (\$14.2 capital budget)

⁶ 2021 *Biennial Report on Fish Passage*—Department of Fish and Wildlife

Reintroduction—\$3 million

A priority action in the strategy is to reintroduce salmon above dams and other human-caused barriers to meet native peoples’ cultural and spiritual values, honor treaty rights, support recovery efforts, and increase cultural and economic benefits for all Washingtonians.

- **Upper Columbia River reintroduction** (agency to be determined)—fund salmon reintroduction efforts in the upper Columbia River. This proposal builds upon work funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$3 million operating budget)

Barrier information and regulation improvements—\$1 million

In addition to correcting barriers, it is important to invest in planning and improving regulations to prevent future barriers. The following proposals are a high priority this biennium:

- **Fish passage rulemaking** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—complete rulemaking for fishways, flow, and screening to protect fish passage when rivers and streams are modified for human uses. This work was funded one-time in the 2022 supplemental budget and additional funds are needed to complete this work. (\$450,000 Operating)
- **Statewide prioritization of barriers** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—This funding will maximize salmon recovery efforts, integrate with regional organization barrier prioritization, and coordinate with the State’s schedule for culvert corrections. This work was funded one-time in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$584,000 operating budget)

\$165.4 MILLION **Build climate resiliency**

Climate change has warmed the air across Washington by 0.15 degree Fahrenheit every decade during the past 100 years and this trend is expected to continue. Glaciers, which store much of the freshwater in Washington, are melting, resulting in less cold water to feed streams in the summer when salmon need it the most. Precipitation patterns, such as declining snowpack, more intense winter rains, and less precipitation in the summer, are intensifying. For example, scientists estimate that the amount of water that was released from melted snow declined 21 percent in the western United States from 1955 to 2016. Summer low flows have become lower and for longer periods of time, affecting juvenile salmon at a critical stage in their lives.

In the coming biennium, there are clear priorities to prevent and reduce stresses from climate change and improve the ability of natural systems to withstand and recover from extreme events.

Streamflow restoration—\$47 million

The strategy recommends actions to address changing conditions and protect and enhance stream flows for salmon at all life stages. The following investments are the highest priority this biennium:

- **Streamflow policy support** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund staff to participate in the water resource management discussions occurring around the state (e.g., assessing mitigation adequacy, climate change impacts, drought response and preparedness, water banking, trust water rights, in-stream flow rulemaking, and future water right adjudications). This was funded in the 2021-23 biennium. (\$1 million operating budget)
- **Streamflow Restoration Program** (Department of Ecology)—fund continued implementation of the Streamflow Restoration Program⁷ by funding projects to acquire senior water rights, promote water conservation and water reuse, monitor streams and groundwater, and develop natural and constructed infrastructure to improve in-stream flows statewide. (\$40 million capital budget)
- **Water Irrigation Efficiencies Program** (Conservation Commission)—fund projects to improve efficiency of how water is delivered and applied on agricultural lands. (\$6 million capital budget)

Columbia River basin water supply—\$113.3 million

It is important to ensure that clean, cold water remains in streams and rivers in the future with a changing climate. Water quantity and quality is a critical concern in the Columbia River basin with increased temperatures, longer periods of low flows, and disappearing glaciers that feed streams clean, cool water. The following water supply proposals are the highest priority this biennium:

- **Columbia River Water Supply Development Program** (Department of Ecology)—fund implementation of the Columbia River Basin Water Supply Development Program to deliver additional water supplies for agricultural purposes, meet the water needs for growing communities, make several existing water uses more

⁷Chapter 90.94 Revised Code of Washington

efficient, and improve streamflow conditions for fish and other wildlife. (\$49 million capital budget)

- **Drought preparedness and response** (Department of Ecology)—permanently fund drought planning, preparation, and response to improve resiliency to the effects of climate change, which include recent droughts that have resulted in decreased streamflow and increased stream temperatures, killing hundreds of thousands of salmon and other aquatic species. (\$11 million operating budget)
- **Upper Columbia and Nooksack adjudications** (Department of Ecology)—fund work to determine who has the legal right to use water and the volume of each right in the upper Columbia River (Water Resource Inventory Area 58) and Nooksack (Water Resource Inventory Area 1) watersheds. This was funded in the 2021-23 biennium. (\$4.3 million operating budget)
- **Walla Walla 2050 water management plan** (Department of Ecology)—proposed legislation authorizes the development of projects to improve water supplies to benefit in-stream resources and out-of-stream uses. The proposal would enact a coordinated effort to implement the Walla Walla 2050 water management plan. There is no fiscal impact.
- **Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Water Supply** (Department of Ecology)—fund implementation of the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resources Management Plan to provide a comprehensive, long-term water resources and habitat improvement program to address the environmental and economic demands that support basin wildlife, irrigation, and municipal water supplies. (\$49 million capital budget)
- **Additional Columbia region water supply proposal** that more broadly supports salmon recovery as follows:
 - **The Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District water conservation** (Department of Ecology)—fund state match to manage conservation improvements mandated by a court order.

Greenhouse gas emissions reduction

In addition to building climate resiliency in waterways, the State must meet its mandated targets for greenhouse gas emissions. Doing so includes fully implementing new policies designed to help the State achieve significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, each of which limit ecosystem impacts on salmon and complements the work prioritized in this plan. This section does not include a fiscal impact because these investments broadly

implement the strategy. Some examples for reducing greenhouse gas emissions include the following:

- **Clean diesel grants** (Department of Ecology)—fund a pass-through grant program for the electrification of school buses.
- **Electrification of state ferries** (Department of Transportation)—fund the construction of vessels that will use 95 percent less diesel fuel by using electricity to power the boats, and electrifying terminals.
- **Greenhouse gas inventory development** (Department of Ecology)—fund work to establish a state-specific, greenhouse gas model to forecast de-carbonization pathways and model new policy measures, develop economic sector-specific emissions expertise to provide advanced guidance for policy development, and increase public access to data.
- **Hydrofluorocarbon compliance and equity** (Department of Ecology)—fund enforcement of restrictions on the sale of products containing certain hydrofluorocarbons.
- **Climate Commitment Act⁸ implementation** (Department of Ecology)—fund auction contracting costs to run the new economy-wide cap and invest program.

Technical capacity for climate resilience—\$5.1 million

Building climate resilience requires moving beyond risk assessment to identify, evaluate, implement, and learn from response actions. Investments that increase technical capacity will help inform land-use planning and permitting to incorporate changing conditions and build climate resilience for salmon. The following investments are the highest priority this biennium:

- **Climate resilient Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund technical assistance, permitting, research, and planning that account for projected changes in climate. This request is a portion of a larger budget package. (\$1.5 million operating budget)
- **Growth Management Act update for climate resiliency** (Department of Commerce)—fund technical assistance and grants to local governments to integrate climate planning into updates of their comprehensive land-use plans and development regulations. (\$3.6 million operating budget)

⁸Chapter 70A.65 Revised Code of Washington

- **An additional climate resiliency proposal** that more broadly supports salmon recovery is as follows:
 - **Chronic environmental deficiencies** (Department of Transportation)—fund work to prioritize improvements at locations where maintenance crews have made repairs at a site three times in the previous 10 years and also where the maintenance negatively affects aquatic fish habitat.

**\$13.7
MILLION**

Align harvest, hatcheries, and hydropower with salmon recovery

The State must maintain and support co-manager processes between the State and tribes for harvest and hatchery management to better align with salmon recovery and meet tribal treaty rights. Salmon harvest in Washington State is highly managed and relies primarily on hatchery production of salmon and steelhead. More than 80 percent of the salmon harvested in the ocean and rivers come from hatcheries.

Harvest management—\$8.7 million

The following investments support strategy actions to transition the Columbia River commercial gillnet fishing industry to other types of fishing gear to reduce impacts to wild salmon and increase food for Southern Resident orcas. The strategy also recommends monitoring and enforcement of harvest rates and limits. The following harvest management proposals are the highest priority this biennium:

- **Emerging fishery implementation in the Columbia River** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund implementation of a new fishery in 2023 and inform the utility and economic viability of alternative gears in the lower Columbia River commercial fishery. (\$3.1 million operating budget)
- **Fisheries enforcement compliance** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund additional enforcement officers to increase fishery compliance as officers are encountering more recreational harvesters than ever before and finding many taking more salmon than allowed. This was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$4 million operating budget)
- **Salmon and steelhead monitoring** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund work to improve Puget Sound steelhead spawning estimates and monitor salmon migration in order to inform recreational fishery management decisions. This was funded in the 2022 supplemental budget. (\$1.6 million operating budget)

- **Additional harvest management proposals** that more broadly support salmon recovery are as follows:
 - **Building salmon team capacity** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund work to evaluate fisheries and associated impacts to ensure they are not slowing or preventing the recovery of Endangered Species Act-listed salmon and steelhead.
 - **Columbia River Endangered Species Act Permitting** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund work that includes an update of fishery management plans to develop harvest rules that could expand fishing opportunities in years of high abundance.

Hatchery investments—\$5 million

The strategy calls for protecting, restoring, and enhancing salmon and steelhead productivity, production, and habitat to ensure they remain for Native Americans' food, recreation, ceremonies, and businesses. The following hatchery investment proposal is the highest priority this biennium:

- **Hatchery investment strategy** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—address increased operational needs at facilities to support recreational, commercial, and tribal harvest; expanded production of salmon to feed endangered orcas; and conservation efforts for wild salmon. (\$5 million operating budget)
- **Additional hatchery investments proposals** that more broadly support salmon recovery are as follows:
 - **Beaver Creek Hatchery renovation** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund significant hatchery upgrades and improvements to maintain and increase salmon and steelhead production to provide sustainable fishing opportunities.
 - **Elochoman Hatchery abandonment** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund removal of structures left in the river after the hatchery’s closure in 2009 that restrict fish passage and the natural movement of sediment and wood, harming spawning and rearing habitat.

**\$2.5
MILLION**

Address predation and food web issues for salmon

As people modified habitat, they upset the food webs and made it more accommodating to predators and more hostile to salmon. Managing predators is a

complicated issue, confounded by scientific uncertainty and ethical issues. Consider California sea lions, which are protected under federal law and have greatly increased their numbers in Washington. Pinnipeds (seals and sea lions) take full advantage of dams, fishways, and other habitat modifications to eat large amounts of juvenile and adult salmon.

Pinniped management—\$2.5 million

The following investments implement the strategy action to reduce impacts from predators such as seals and sea lions and are the highest priority this biennium:

- **Columbia River pinniped predation** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund work to reduce the high number of sea lions eating salmon in the Columbia River. This was funded in the 2021 operating budget and is the Governor’s Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force’s Recommendation 13. (\$1.5 million operating budget)
- **Salish Sea marine mammal surveys** (Department of Fish and Wildlife)—fund expansion of efforts to survey the diets of seals and sea lions in the Salish Sea and identify nonlethal actions to deter them from eating salmon and steelhead. This is the Governor’s Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force’s Recommendation 12. (\$940,000 operating budget)

Enhancing commitments and coordination across agencies and programs

There are a few proposals that broadly support the strategy recommendation to enhance commitments and coordination. Although these investments do not directly implement the strategy and their fiscal impacts are not included, they are important to the State and prioritize environmental justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion, and increase salmon recovery outreach and education. These include the following:

- **Advancement of equity and environmental justice** (Puget Sound Partnership)—fund additional staff to integrate equity and environmental justice throughout the Puget Sound recovery community.
- **Salmon in schools** (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction)—fund at a higher level the Salmon in Schools Program, which works with educators in low-income schools to secure salmon eggs, study salmon development, and release fry into local creeks and lakes. This was first funded in the 2021-2023 operating budget.

- **Social sciences to improve recovery** (Puget Sound Partnership)–fund enhanced use of social science information and perspectives in recovery planning, communication, and implementation. Related to Puget Sound *Action Agenda* implementation.

Agency summary table

| Proposal | Agency | Amount | Budget |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| PROTECT AND RESTORE VITAL SALMON HABITAT | | | |
| Regulatory protection | | | |
| Growth Management Act update for salmon habitat | Commerce | \$5,494,000 | Operating |
| PLACEHOLDER–Net ecological gain | Fish and Wildlife | TBD | Operating |
| Riparian management | | | |
| PLACEHOLDER-Riparian habitat improvements | Governor's Office | TBD | Operating |
| Riparian systems assessment | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,994,000 | Operating |
| River migration and stream mapping for salmon | Ecology | \$354,000 | Operating |
| Statewide lidar acquisition and refresh | Natural Resources | \$7,756,000 | Operating |
| Voluntary protection and restoration | | | |
| Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$25,512,000 | Capital |
| Floodplains by Design | Ecology | \$70,392,000 | Capital |
| Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program | Puget Sound Partnership | \$65,400,000 | Capital |
| Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program | Natural Resources | \$4,980,350 | Capital |
| Salmon Recovery Funding Board | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$82,000,000 | Capital |
| Salmon recovery region and lead entity capacity | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$4,472,000 | Operating |
| Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$17,593,000 | Capital |
| Chehalis strategy implementation | Ecology | \$70,000,000 | Capital |
| Duckabush-Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project | Fish and Wildlife | \$41,000,000 | Capital |
| Restoration of habitat on working lands | | | |
| Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program | Conservation Commission | \$7,825,000 | Capital |
| Forest Riparian Easement Program | Natural Resources | \$6,360,000 | Capital |
| Salmon Recovery Program | Conservation Commission | \$3,000,000 | Operating |

| Proposal | Agency | Amount | Budget |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Watershed Resilience Action Plan for Snohomish | Natural Resources | \$2,864,000 | Operating |
| Subtotal: \$416,996,350 | | | |
| INVEST IN CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SALMON AND PEOPLE | | | |
| Toxics reduction | | | |
| Emerging toxics in Chinook salmon and Southern Resident killer whale | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,770,000 | Operating |
| Tire dust in stormwater | Ecology | \$5,195,000 | Operating |
| Toxic tire wear chemical | Ecology | \$2,702,000 | Operating |
| Stormwater and wastewater infrastructure improvements | | | |
| Addressing nonpoint pollution | Ecology | \$2,256,000 | Operating |
| Municipal wastewater permitting | Ecology | \$5,002,000 | Operating |
| Stormwater Financial Assistance Program | Ecology | \$68,000,000 | Capital |
| Stormwater public-private partnerships | Ecology | \$3,000,000 | Capital |
| Stormwater retrofits | Transportation | \$20,000,000 | Transportation |
| Subtotal: \$108,000,000 | | | |
| CORRECT FISH PASSAGE BARRIERS AND RESTORE SALMON ACCESS TO HISTORICAL HABITAT | | | |
| Fish passage barrier removal | | | |
| Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board | Fish and Wildlife | \$94,065,000 | Capital |
| Family Forest Fish Passage Program | Natural Resources | \$10,870,000 | Capital |
| Toutle River fish collection facility upgrades | Fish and Wildlife | \$14,239,000 | Capital |
| Reintroduction | | | |
| Upper Columbia River reintroduction | TBD | \$3,000,000 | Operating |
| Barrier information and regulation improvements | | | |
| Fish passage rulemaking | Fish and Wildlife | \$450,000 | Operating |
| Statewide barrier prioritization | Fish and Wildlife | \$584,000 | Operating |
| Subtotal: \$123,208,000 | | | |
| BUILD CLIMATE RESILIENCY | | | |
| Streamflow restoration | | | |
| Streamflow policy support | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,038,000 | Operating |
| Streamflow Restoration Program | Ecology | \$40,000,000 | Capital |

| Proposal | Agency | Amount | Budget |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Water Irrigation Efficiencies Program | Conservation Commission | \$6,000,000 | Capital |
| Columbia River basin water supply | | | |
| Columbia River Water Supply Development Program | Ecology | \$49,000,000 | Capital |
| Drought preparedness and response | Ecology | \$11,000,000 | Operating |
| Upper Columbia and Nooksack adjudications | Ecology | \$4,274,000 | Operating |
| Walla Walla 2050 water management plan | Ecology | \$0 | |
| Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Water Supply | Ecology | \$49,000,000 | Capital |
| Technical capacity for climate resilience | | | |
| Climate resilient Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,500,000 | Operating |
| Growth Management Act update for climate resiliency | Commerce | \$3,638,000 | Operating |
| | | Subtotal: | \$165,450,000 |
| ALIGN HARVEST, HATCHERIES, AND HYDROPOWER WITH SALMON RECOVERY | | | |
| Harvest management | | | |
| Emerging fishery implementation in the Columbia River | Fish and Wildlife | \$3,133,000 | Operating |
| Fisheries enforcement compliance | Fish and Wildlife | \$4,036,000 | Operating |
| Salmon and steelhead monitoring | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,644,000 | Operating |
| Hatchery investments | | | |
| Hatchery investment strategy | Fish and Wildlife | \$4,970,000 | Operating |
| | | Subtotal: | \$13,783,000 |
| ADDRESS PREDATION AND FOOD WEB ISSUES FOR SALMON | | | |
| Pinniped management | | | |
| Columbia River pinniped predation | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,506,000 | Operating |
| Salish Sea marine mammal surveys | Fish and Wildlife | \$940,000 | Operating |
| | | Subtotal: | \$2,446,000 |
| | | Total: | \$829,808,350 |

Appendix A: Summary of 2022 supplemental budget

| Proposal | Agency | Final Enacted | 2023-25 Work Plan |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| PROTECT AND RESTORE VITAL SALMON HABITAT | | | |
| Conservation project engineering | Conservation Commission | \$2,700,000 | No new request |
| Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program | Conservation Commission | \$7,000,000 | New |
| Duckabush-Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$25,000,000 | New |
| Spokane Lead Entity | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$200,000 | New |
| Forest Riparian Easement Program | Natural Resources | \$5,000,000 | New |
| Implement Governor's salmon strategy | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$139,000 | No new request |
| Kelp and eelgrass conservation | Natural Resources | \$1,149,000 | No new request |
| Net ecological gain | Fish and Wildlife | \$256,000 | Placeholder |
| Riparian habitat improvements | Governor's Office | \$300,000 | Placeholder |
| Riparian plant nursery | Conservation Commission | \$1,300,000 | No new request |
| Riparian program evaluations | Office of Financial Management | \$226,000 | No new request |
| Riparian systems assessment | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,067,000 | New |
| River migration and stream mapping for salmon | Ecology | \$1,065,000 | New |
| Salmon recovery and Growth Management Act integration | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,297,000 | No new request |
| Salmon Recovery Funding Board | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$75,000,000 | New |
| Salmon Recovery Program | Conservation Commission | \$10,000,000 | New |
| Statewide lidar acquisition and refresh | Natural Resources | \$3,481,000 | New |
| Upper Quinault River restoration project | Recreation and Conservation Office | \$1,000,000 | No new request |

| Proposal | Agency | Final Enacted | 2023-25 Work Plan |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Watershed Resilience Action Plan for Snohomish | Natural Resources | \$225,000 | New |
| Regional fisheries enhancement groups | Fish and Wildlife | \$500,000 | No new request |
| Salmon habitat improvements on Department of Natural Resources lands | Natural Resources | \$5,000,000 | No new request |
| Salmon recovery plan updates | Puget Sound Partnership | \$2,576,000 | No new request |
| Shoreline aerial photography | Ecology | \$200,000 | No new request |
| Shoreline management compliance assistance | Ecology | \$896,000 | No new request |
| Subtotal: \$145,577,000 | | | |
| INVEST IN CLEAN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SALMON AND PEOPLE | | | |
| Increase local stormwater capacity | Ecology | \$4,000,000 | No new request |
| Reduce nutrients in Puget Sound | Ecology | \$989,000 | No new request |
| Toxic tire wear chemical | Ecology | \$2,704,000 | New |
| Subtotal: \$7,693,000 | | | |
| CORRECT FISH PASSAGE BARRIERS AND RESTORE SALMON ACCESS TO HISTORICAL HABITAT | | | |
| Fish passage rulemaking | Fish and Wildlife | \$294,000 | New |
| Statewide prioritization of barriers | Fish and Wildlife | \$360,000 | New |
| Upper Columbia River reintroduction | Fish and Wildlife | \$3,000,000 | New |
| Subtotal: \$3,654,000 | | | |
| ALIGN HARVEST, HATCHERIES, AND HYDROPOWER WITH SALMON RECOVERY | | | |
| Compliance assistance participation | Ecology | \$557,000 | No new request |
| Compliance assistance participation | Fish and Wildlife | \$494,000 | No new request |
| Deschutes Watershed Center-Capital | Fish and Wildlife | 2,200,000 | No new request |
| Electronic catch record cards | Fish and Wildlife | \$372,000 | No new request |
| Enloe Dam removal study | Fish and Wildlife | \$250,000 | No new request |

| Proposal | Agency | Final Enacted | 2023-25 Work Plan |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| Environmental prosecution | Fish and Wildlife | \$852,000 | No new request |
| Fisheries enforcement compliance | Fish and Wildlife | \$1,283,000 | New |
| Hatchery production evaluation | Fish and Wildlife | \$4,283,000 | No new request |
| License reduction and alternative gear | Fish and Wildlife | \$14,400,000 | No new request |
| Marine fisheries compliance liaison | Fish and Wildlife | \$226,000 | No new request |
| Salmon and steelhead monitoring | Fish and Wildlife | \$6,912,000 | New |
| Skagit River protection | Commerce | \$4,500,000 | No new request |
| Snake river mitigation study | Governor's Office | \$375,000 | No new request |
| Support of tribal hatcheries | Fish and Wildlife | \$3,510,000 | No new request |
| Subtotal: \$40,214,000 | | | |
| STRENGTHEN SCIENCE, MONITORING, AND ACCOUNTABILITY | | | |
| Fish migration monitoring | Fish and Wildlife | \$2,392,000 | No new request |
| Forage fish spawning monitoring | Fish and Wildlife | \$721,000 | No new request |
| King County Conservation District artificial lighting impacts on salmon | Conservation Commission | \$125,000 | No new request |
| Subtotal: \$3,238,000 | | | |
| Total: \$200,376,000 | | | |

Appendix B: Work plan evaluation criteria

The following criteria were developed to prioritize state agency salmon recovery proposals. High-priority proposals are highlighted in the work plan and included in the agency summary table in Appendix A. Medium-priority proposals are mentioned in the work plan, but budget request amounts are not included. Proposals that do not directly or broadly implement a specific strategy action, but support environmental protection were given a low priority. Although these proposals may be a high priority for the State, they did not meet the evaluation criteria to implement the strategy and are not included in this work plan.

| Priority | Definition |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| High | The proposal meets the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identified as a specific strategy action• Urgent in this coming biennium• Aligned with a known tribal priority• Aligned with the regional recovery plan |
| Medium | The proposal meets all the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broadly addresses a specific strategy action• Implements salmon recovery |
| Low | The proposal meets the following criterion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Broadly supports environmental protection that will have benefits to salmon recovery |