

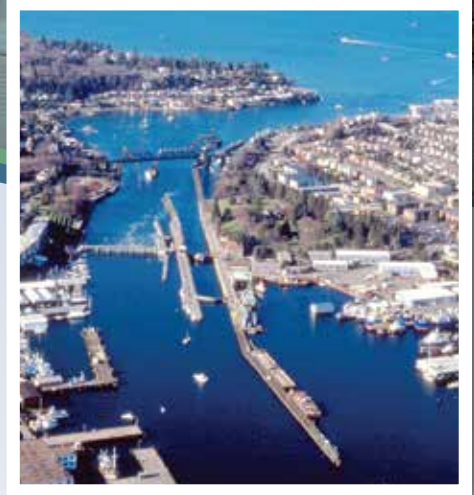


2018 Legislative Priorities for Puget Sound Watershed Health and Salmon Habitat Recovery

Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Partners

FEDERAL PRIORITIES

- **Support a Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations request of \$65 million for the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) in Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill.** The PCSRF program is the primary federal funding for salmon recovery and supports priority salmon habitat protection and restoration.
- **Support the “Promoting United Government Efforts to Save Our Sound Act” (PUGET SOS Act), which will establish a Puget Sound Recovery National Program Office in the Environmental Protection Agency to coordinate federal efforts with state, local and tribal efforts and enable greater levels of federal funding for Puget Sound recovery.** The bill enhances the federal role and investment in Puget Sound by amending the Clean Water Act to add a section dedicated to Puget Sound, providing lasting and structural recognition of the Puget Sound as a waterbody of national significance on par with the Chesapeake Bay and the Great Lakes.
- **Request the Army Corps of Engineers allocate and reserve \$60 million beginning in FY 2018, to accelerate implementation of prioritized critical facility repairs and updates to the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks (Locks).** Much of Locks machinery and facilities are past their design life, with some beginning to fail. Repairs and updates are immediately necessary for continued safe operation of the Locks for navigation, regional safety and economic benefits, maintaining lake levels (needed for the SR-520 and I-90 floating bridges), and providing safe passage for threatened Chinook salmon.



- **Support legislation that seeks to increase funding and incentives for green stormwater infrastructure, including:**
 - Introduced legislation titled, “Green Stormwater Infrastructure Investment Act” (H.R. 4648), which would expand eligibility criteria in transportation grants to include green stormwater components, thereby creating incentives for states and local governments to adopt green stormwater practices. For states like Washington that already have high standards, this legislation would prioritize projects and direct more federal funding to the state.
 - Draft bill amending Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that would provide a 30 percent tax credit for green stormwater expenditures from private businesses and individuals.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THESE PRIORITIES PLEASE CONTACT:

Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, Salmon Recovery Manager, Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8)

jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov • 206-477-4780 • <http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/>