

SNOQUALMIE WATERSHED FORUM

2025 State Legislative Priorities for Watershed Health and Salmon Recovery

November 20, 2024



Salmon Recovery Funding

Allocate Capital Budget funding:

- \$87.6 Million for Floodplains by Design for Department of Ecology
Fully fund the top 10 projects on the ranked list, including King County's Snoqualmie Collaborative project proposal.
- \$125 Million for Salmon Recovery Funding Board in the Recreation and Conservation Office
- \$25 Million for Salmon Recovery Funding Board Riparian in the Recreation and Conservation Office
- \$25 Million for Riparian Restoration Projects for the State Conservation Commission
- \$30 Million for Riparian Buffer Incentives for Department of Ecology
- \$77 Million for Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal
- \$27.5 Million for Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program
- \$110 Million for Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration program
- \$7.4 M for removing marine derelict structures for Department of Natural Resources
- Appropriation for SR 203 to Washington Department of Transportation for a new Tolt River bridge and roundabout at SR 203/Tolt Hill Road

Policy Legislation

- Support efforts to reduce and address effects of climate change on salmon and salmon habitat. Support policies and programs that address temperature-impaired water bodies to improve salmon migration and survival and increase the pace of salmon habitat protection and restoration to improve ecosystem resilience.
- Incorporate salmon recovery into the Growth Management Act and land use policies.
- Streamline permits for salmon recovery projects. Expand the Habitat Recovery Pilot Program (Department of Fish and Wildlife) and the federal and state Multi-Agency Review Team to establish and support a coordinated and streamlined permitting process for ecologically beneficial projects.
- Protect older forests from harvest (Department of Natural Resources).



King County's Floodplains by Design proposal will restore floodplains, reduce flood risk and train new workers to do restoration in partnership with Snoqualmie Tribe, Edmonds College, Latino Education Training Institute and others. Salmon recovery programs create jobs, improve habitat for salmon and store floodwaters to reduce risks to the community.

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