

# WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council

## Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Program (Flood Control District)

### Funding Guidance

January 16, 2014

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#### Background

In 2012 the King County Flood Control District (FCD) established the Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) grant program, which provided \$1.2 million to WRIA 8 in 2012 and 2013 for priority salmon recovery projects and programs. Recognizing the WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan calls for habitat projects, monitoring activities, and outreach and education efforts, the Salmon Recovery Council approved the allocation of CWM grant funds across these categories using the same formula formerly applied to King Conservation District (KCD) grant funding for salmon recovery. The allocation of past KCD and CWM grant funds is as follows:

- Site-specific restoration and acquisition projects – at least **67%** of total available
- Monitoring – up to **25%** of total available
- Education and outreach – up to **8%** of total available
- The WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee was also granted the discretion to balance funding recommendations across the three categories based on applications received and their merits.

The FCD's 2014 budget, adopted in November 2013, authorized an increase to the property tax levy assessed by the FCD and approved an increase in the CWM grant funding provided to WRIAs. For the 2014 CWM grant round, WRIA 8's allocation will increase from \$1,200,000 to \$1,508,846. The funding increase is effective through 2017 and will grow annually with inflation. Beyond 2017, this funding level is uncertain due to possible levy suppression, which could require the FCD to reduce the tax it collects.

#### Funding Allocation Options

As with past years, the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council is being asked to provide guidance to the WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee for allocating CWM funds. The Salmon Recovery Council's funding guidance also informs grant applicants as they evaluate whether to apply for funding and how much funding to seek from the CWM program. The following allocation options are offered for Salmon Recovery Council consideration for the 2014 CWM grant round.

Option 1: Apply the same formula used in past years to the new, increased funding amount. Also, retain flexibility for the Project Subcommittee to develop funding recommendations that reflect watershed priorities and are based on application of the WRIA 8 grant review criteria.

#### Option 1 Proposed Funding Amounts

Activity	Amount
Site-specific projects and acquisitions (at least 67% of total)	\$1,010,927
Monitoring (up to 25% of total)	\$377,212
Education and outreach (up to 8% of total)	\$120,707
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,508,846</b>

Option 2: Direct the balance of new funding to site-specific acquisition and restoration projects and retain the same funding amounts used in past years (based on \$1.2 million total funding) for monitoring and outreach and education. Also, retain flexibility for the Project Subcommittee to develop funding recommendations that reflect watershed priorities and are based on application of the WRIA 8 grant review criteria.

**Option 2 Proposed Funding Amounts**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Site-specific projects and acquisitions (at least 74% of total)	\$1,112,846
Monitoring (up to 20% of total)	\$300,000
Education and outreach (up to 6% of total)	\$96,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,508,846</b>

Option 3: Determine another funding allocation for each of the three categories. Retain flexibility for the Project Subcommittee to develop funding recommendations that reflect watershed priorities and are based on application of the WRIA 8 grant review criteria.