

Green/Duwamish & Central Puget Sound Watershed 2026 Legislative Priorities

SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET PRIORITIES

CAPITAL BUDGET

Support supplemental appropriations to fully fund 2025-27 biennium agency requests for salmon recovery programs. *Natural Climate Solutions Account funding should continue to support implementation of priority salmon recovery programs which remain strongly aligned with the intended purposes outlined in RCW 70A.65.270. Associated project lists include shovel-ready projects that have already been technically vetted and recommended for funding.*

- Salmon Recovery Funding Board (Recreation & Conservation Office)
- Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (Puget Sound Partnership)
- Floodplains by Design (Department of Ecology)
- Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife)
- Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board (Recreation & Conservation Office)

OPERATING BUDGET

\$1.56 Million – Salmon in Schools Program (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction)
Salmon in Schools is an education program designed to support the next generation of environmental stewards, through a unique, hands-on, STEM-based learning opportunity. Students learn first hand about the amazing journey of salmon by raising eggs and releasing fry into neighborhood streams.

POLICY PRIORITIES

Streamline Regulatory Review and Permitting for Salmon Habitat Restoration

Accelerate project delivery by reducing the regulatory burden for ecologically beneficial projects – especially those posing no adverse impacts to existing development. Renew the Fish & Wildlife Habitat Recovery Pilot Program (exp. June 2025) and explore additional opportunities for improved coordination and collaboration between local, state and federal agencies (e.g., National Flood Insurance Program).

Mitigate Impacts from 6PPD-Q and Accelerate Phasing Out 6PPD in Tires

Support ongoing efforts to both accelerate phasing-out 6PPD and minimize exposure pathways for aquatic ecosystems. Despite recent investments in monitoring and treatment, 6PPD remains a major threat to salmon.

Improve Regulatory Habitat Protections and Conservation Incentives

Build on previous legislative initiatives around riparian buffer protections, the concept of “net ecological gain,” and integrating salmon recovery into the Growth Management Act, to address stakeholder concerns and strengthen the regulatory protections for salmon habitat.

Mitigate Impacts of Climate Change on Salmon

Support initiatives to improve watershed resilience to shifts in streamflow, water temperature, and sea-level rise. Salmon recovery projects support climate resilient watersheds that benefit local communities.



MAKING OUR WATERSHED
FIT FOR A KING