



Snohomish County
Office of the Executive
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Snohomish River projects garner funding

Snohomish County will combine \$1 million in state salmon-recovery funds with \$235,000 in funding, labor and materials to improve fish habitat and aquatic resources found throughout the Snohomish and Stillaguamish River systems.

The \$1.1 million is part of more than \$60 million in grants being awarded statewide by the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, which provides money for habitat protection and restoration projects.

Snohomish County has secured \$585,000 for two projects within the extended Snohomish River watershed. Another \$525,619 will help two projects on the South Fork of the Stillaguamish River.

Specifically, \$300,000 will be used to begin planning how and where to improve 400-acres of tidal marshlands within Smith Island. The future improvements will provide key habitat for salmon. The restoration work includes breaching dikes, building set-back levees, filling a drainage ditch network and connecting a number of tidal channels to Union Slough. The county will contribute \$55,000 to the project.

On the Skykomish River, \$285,000 – along with \$65,000 in local funding and donated materials – will allow the county to add wood debris to the river channel so that juvenile fish can rest, feed and hide from predators. In addition, crews will reconnect the river to side channels, allowing for protection from floodwaters.

County crews will use \$325,619 in grant money and \$65,000 in matching funds and materials to place logjams in the South Fork of the Stillaguamish River. The logjams will increase the quantity and quality of habitat for Chinook salmon and reduce erosion.

Finally, \$200,000 will be used to collect and analyze data on the South Fork of the Stillaguamish River below Granite Falls to determine what future restoration work is needed. The river is used by Chinook salmon, steelhead and bull trout, all of which are protected under the Endangered Species Act. The county will contribute \$50,000 in donated labor.

Snohomish County rivers also will benefit from another \$3.5 million in additional funding awarded from the state salmon recovery board to tribal and nonprofit agencies. Among the recipients are the Tulalip and Stillaguamish tribes, the Cascade Land Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited and the Stilly-Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force.

For more information go to:
Snohomish County Surface Water Management –
[www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Public Works/Divisions/SWM/](http://www1.co.snohomish.wa.us/Departments/Public_Works/Divisions/SWM/)
Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board – www.rco.wa.gov/srfb/board/board.htm.

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