



NATURAL RESOURCES

See the Capital Budget section for other natural resources appropriations.

Department of Agriculture

Asian gypsy moths

Continue programs to eradicate and monitor nonnative Asian gypsy moths, which threaten forests and the timber, nursery and Christmas tree industries. (\$180,000 General Fund-State; \$543,000 General Fund-Federal)

Department of Ecology

Clean Air Rule

Implement the agency's Clean Air Rule to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This will reduce public health impacts; economic damage to industry, agriculture, forestry and infrastructure; and ecological damage to forests, fish and oceans. (\$4.6 million GF-S)

Washington Conservation Corps and Ecology Youth Corps minimum wage increase

Provide funding to cover the cost of Initiative 1433, which increased the state minimum wage. This will allow the agency to maintain 315 placements in the Washington Conservation Corps and 282 placements in the Ecology Youth Corps litter pickup program. (\$1.7 million State Toxics Control Account; \$114,000 other funds)

Oil spill prevention

Increase the tax on oil transported by rail and vessel to maintain oil spill prevention programs to protect water and lands. (Generates revenue of \$3.6 million per biennium)

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Enhance fishing opportunities

Maintain and increase recreational and commercial fisheries, associated jobs and economic benefits through investments in hatchery production, hatchery maintenance and fisheries management. Supported largely through increasing recreational and commercial licensing fees. (\$2.3 million GF-S; \$20.4 million State Wildlife Account)

Aquatic invasive species

Design prevention, enforcement and response activities to protect Washington waters from aquatic invasive species such as zebra and quagga mussels and green crabs. Impose new fees on seaplanes, nonresident-owned small watercraft and commercial vessels. Set new ship ballast water inspection fee. Expansion of these programs will benefit citizens, shellfish, fisheries and

Salmon and Habitat: A Commitment to Progress

For the past 18 years, the state has worked with tribal co-managers, regional salmon recovery organizations and local watershed groups to restore salmon. Despite improvements in habitat, hatchery practices and fisheries management, 13 of the 15 listed salmon and steelhead populations are still not meeting goals set in federally approved recovery plans.

The governor's budget makes significant investments in programs to protect and restore salmon and steelhead. It provides \$2.2 million to increase hydraulic project approval compliance and technical assistance to improve habitat protection and cut compliance costs. It invests another \$907,000 in the Puget Sound Partnership to maintain capacity – affected by shrinking federal funding – to manage the recovery of Puget Sound and \$780,000 to continue efforts at the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop solutions to halt the decline of Puget Sound steelhead.

Salmon habitat and the removal of fish passage barriers are addressed with \$268.0 million in the capital budget through Floodplains by Design, Salmon Recovery Funding Board grants, Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration projects, the Puget Sound Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program and the Coastal Restoration Initiative.

Primarily through increases for commercial and recreational fishing licenses, the governor's budget provides nearly \$25.0 million to stabilize hatchery programs and boost production in selected fisheries. Fisheries monitoring and enforcement is also increased to meet federal Endangered Species Act permit requirements. In addition, the capital budget includes \$70.2 million for improvements to the state hatchery system, including the Clarks Creek facility in Puyallup.

For other important work, the Yakima River Basin Integrated Plan is appropriated \$35.2 million for various projects, including the Cle Elum Dam and Clear Lake Dam fish passage. And \$31.8 million is directed to implementation of the Columbia River Basin Water Supply Development program to ease the burden on aquifers, among other projects.

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outdoor recreation industry by reducing damage to native fish and wildlife. It will also protect the agricultural and energy sectors from disruption caused by mussels fouling turbines and irrigation intakes. (\$125,000 GF-S; \$1.9 million Aquatic Invasive Species Management Account; \$1.6 million other funds)

Hydraulic permit application outcomes

Improve customer assistance to applicants to ensure that HPAs are complete and projects are designed properly. Additional staff will improve compliance with the state hydraulic code by offering more public education, technical assistance and compliance visits. This will improve the permitting process for applicants while increasing protections for fish and their habitats. (\$1.0 million GF-S; \$1.3 million Hydraulic Project Approval Account)

Wolf management

Continue cooperative agreements for livestock damage prevention with ranchers and farmers. The agreements support nonlethal methods to minimize losses from wolves and other carnivores. They also support facilitation of the Wolf Advisory Group, composed of livestock producers, hunters and others, to minimize conflicts that may occur during wolf recovery. (\$1.5 million GF-S)

Global wildlife trafficking

Enhance implementation of Initiative 1401 passed by voters in November 2015, which places prohibitions against trafficking nonnative endangered species, parts and products. (\$898,000 GF-S)

Teanaway Community Forest

Increase dedicated staff and supplies to manage the 50,241-acre Teanaway Community Forest. Staff will implement the newly adopted forest management plan and its goals for stewardship, including boosting watershed protection, restoring forest health, retaining working lands, maintaining recreation access and fostering community partnerships. (\$756,000 GF-S; \$1.5 million bonds)

State Parks and Recreation Commission

Park services

Continue using litter tax revenues to support state parks operations. This will enable State Parks to maintain its current level of customer service, programs and maintenance to accommodate 30 million visits a year at 125 developed parks. (\$10.0 million Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account)

Parks maintenance

Increase preventive maintenance and preservation to campgrounds and historic structures. Funds will cover installation of 38 new and replacement of 32 automated pay stations for Discover Passes, boat launch permits, Sno-park permits and other agency use permits. This will offer state park visitors better service while cutting agency costs. (\$3.0 million GF-S; \$700,000 Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account; \$61.7 million bonds)

Engage youth and underserved communities

Award grants to local governments and nonprofits through the No Child Left Inside program for outdoor recreation and environmental education opportunities for an estimated 15,000 children. A strategy will be developed to increase participation

of at-risk youth and minority communities. (\$260,000 GF-S; \$2.0 million Outdoor Recreation and Education Account)

Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources

Ocean acidification

Implement recommendations of the Marine Resource Advisory Council to combat ocean acidification. Funds will support research and propagation of native shellfish and seaweed populations at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Manchester research hatchery. Support is continued for the council. (\$448,000 GF-S; \$150,000 Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account)

Puget Sound Partnership, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Ecology

Puget Sound and salmon recovery

Backfill declining federal funding for the management and oversight of Puget Sound recovery efforts and the Puget Sound Action Agenda. Funds will be used to coordinate a Puget Sound monitoring program to ensure recovery efforts are guided by the most credible and useful data. Continues efforts to combat the decline in Puget Sound steelhead. Also continues investigation of impacts from urban stormwater on salmon survival to identify causes of pre-spawn mortality. (\$1.7 million GF-S; \$500,000 State Toxics Control Account)

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Reductions/shifts

Department of Ecology

Staff level reduction

Extend the reduced staffing levels at numerous programs at the Department of Ecology to help manage shortfalls in the Model Toxics Control Act accounts. (save \$4.0 million State Toxics Control Account; \$1.0 million Environmental Legacy Stewardship Account)

Stormwater and shoreline grants

Reduce grants to local government. This will shrink local government capacity to update shoreline master programs and to meet stormwater management needs and stormwater permit requirements. (save \$2.9 million Environmental Legacy Stewardship Account)

Flood management

Cut flood planning grants and technical assistance to local governments for flood damage reduction projects and flood hazard management plans. (save \$2.0 million Flood Control Assistance Account)

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Payment in lieu of taxes

Continue reductions in the PILT program to counties to compensate for lost tax revenues for agency-owned lands. Payments are increased by 15 percent to provide compensation for additional land purchases. (save \$3.2 million GF-S)

State Parks

Parks operation fund shift

Shift a portion of base funding for park operations from the State General Fund to the Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account due to higher-than-expected revenue growth. (\$2.1 million from GF-S to Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account)