

# Natural Resources/Operating

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## Department of Ecology

### Clarify water rights

Initiate adjudication process to address water rights uncertainties in the Upper Columbia and Nooksack watersheds. State funds will match county funds to support negotiations to improve water availability for the Nooksack basin. The adjudication process aims to protect water right holders from illegal use, determine priority of use during water shortages and encourage responsible water management to meet emerging economic and environmental needs. (\$1.25 million General Fund-State)

### Take action on climate

Implement a low-carbon fuel standard for transportation fuels. Creates a comprehensive climate program to meet statewide greenhouse gas limits, including establishing a cap on greenhouse gas emissions for the largest-emitting industries. Authorizes Ecology to ensure compliance through the auction, tracking and accounting of compliance instruments. Also improves the quality and accuracy of greenhouse gas emission reporting from industry and state agencies. (\$2.5 million GF-S; \$9.5 million Model Toxics Control Operating Account; \$3.1 million other)

### Reduce risk from toxics contaminants and pollutants

Accelerate efforts to reduce toxins in the environment and reduce toxic chemicals in children's and consumer products. This includes

identifying high-exposure products, evaluating safer alternatives, and developing appropriate regulations to restrict their use. Increase testing for toxics in children's and consumer products. This will support regulatory actions against the sale and manufacture of products containing toxics. Accelerate development of water body cleanup plans. (\$8.2 million Model Toxics Control Operating Account)

### Respond to changes in federal protection

Allows Ecology to continue protecting Washington wetlands and waterways now excluded from protection under federal permitting requirements. Funding will also support increased workload and avoid disruption to the shellfish industry, which now must seek individual water quality certification from the state rather than through the more general nationwide permit that was vacated by the federal courts. (\$2.2 million Model Toxics Control Operating Account)

### Shift General Fund-State costs to toxics operating account

Shifts \$11 million of one-time and ongoing General Fund-State expenditures to the Model Toxics Operating Account to address the state revenue shortfall. This fund shift is for programs related to air quality, environmental assessment, shore lands, water quality and solid waste management at the Department of Ecology; Puget Sound recovery at the Puget

Sound Partnership; and pesticide safety and soil health at the Department of Agriculture and the State Conservation Commission. (\$11 million Model Toxics Control Operating Account; save \$11 million GF-S)

Department of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources, Puget Sound Partnership, State Parks and Recreation Commission, Recreation and Conservation Office

### **Advance environmental justice**

Expands efforts at the Department of Ecology to involve communities of color and limited English speaking populations in the agency's programs to meet federal civil rights act requirements. New work will also align agency practices to advance nondiscrimination, equity and environmental justice. (\$328,000 Model Toxics Control Operating Account)

### **Urban and Community Forestry**

Provides ongoing state capacity for the Department of Natural Resources' Urban and Community Forestry program. Updates the Evergreen Communities Act to target areas with higher health disparities and lower levels of existing tree canopies. (\$2.1 million GF-S)

### **Improve equitable access to athletic fields**

Creates a task force supported by the Recreation and Conservation Office to consider ways to improve equitable access to K-12 school fields and athletic facilities. The goal will be to increase physical activity for youth and families. (\$175,000 Youth Athletic Facility Account)

Incorporate equity into the Puget Sound Action Agenda

Integrate diversity, equity, inclusion and environmental justice into the Puget Sound Partnership's Action Agenda to restore Puget Sound. (\$576,000 Model Toxics Control Operating Account)

Improve diversity at Parks

Expand diversity of State Parks' workforce and conduct a study — in collaboration with the Governor's Office and the Washington Commission on African American Affairs — to identify modes of systemic racism for Black Washingtonians as they access public outdoor recreation. (\$345,000 GF-S)

## **Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Increase conservation

Increase conservation efforts to protect fish and wildlife. Ramping up technical assistance for compliance with the state hydraulic code; provide science and policy expertise for instream flow management; increase measures to protect and recover state-listed sensitive species; develop new ways to protect endangered humpback whales from entanglement in crabbing gear; expand the network of wildlife rehabilitation centers; and increase efforts to restore wildlife areas after wildfires. (\$5.7 million GF-S, \$300,000 Wildlife Rehabilitation Account)

### Support orca recovery

Implement whale watching regulations designed to protect Southern Resident orcas, monitor recreational and commercial vessels, and provide “whale wise” public education. (\$542,000 GF-S)

### Initiate Columbia River license buyback program

Creates a voluntary commercial gillnet fishing license buyback program on the Columbia River. Due to the dramatic decline in returning salmon, the buyback is needed to align the number of license holders with the available catch. The goal is to purchase approximately 100 Columbia River gillnet licenses during the 2021–23 biennium. (\$1.1 million GF-S)

## State Parks

### Improve customer services

Add park staff and park rangers to improve visitor experiences, conduct preventative maintenance, install more automatic pay stations, and update the Seashore Conservation Area Plan. In addition, funding will backfill lost revenue due to ongoing closures of indoor park facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic. (\$22 million GF-S, \$970,000 Park Renewal and Stewardship Account)

## Department of Agriculture, Department of Health and State Conservation Commission

### Food security

Expands the capacity of the state’s Emergency Food Assistance Program that supports over 500 hunger relief organizations working to

reduce food insecurity for approximately 2.2 million children and adults during the COVID-19 pandemic. Also expands the Fruit and Vegetable Incentives Program to more families on limited incomes. (\$26 million GF-S)

### Food system resiliency

Increases food infrastructure and market access grants for farms, food processors and food distributors to pivot to new markets and business models. Also increases grants to schools so they can incorporate more local farm products into school meal programs. Supports the work of the Food Policy Forum. (\$15 million GF-S)

## Department of Agriculture

### **Pesticide and fertilizer safety**

Streamlines pesticide permit processing; increases training and education to agricultural workers on safe pesticide handling and application requirements; improves communication to communities near agricultural lands about pesticide drift; provides non-English educational materials; and fully supports the fertilizer registration program. (\$2.5 million Agriculture Local Account)

## Department of Agriculture, Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Recreation and Conservation Office

### **Invasive species**

Eradicate invasive species including Asian giant hornet, gypsy moths, northern pike, zebra quagga mussels and European green crab. Extends the Washington State Invasive Species Council for 10 more years. (\$3.4 million GF-S, \$2 million other)

## Department of Fish and Wildlife, Recreation and Conservation Office, Governor's Office

### Salmon recovery

Reduce pinniped predation on salmon and steelhead in the Columbia River; study pinniped predation of salmon in Puget Sound; improve fish passage around the Hood Canal bridge; pilot reintroduction of salmon above Chief Joseph Dam; continue rearing endangered Chinook salmon in the Elwha River; and support the Columbia River Partnership efforts with adjoining states to recover Columbia River salmon. (\$7.8 million GF-S)

## Department of Fish and Wildlife, Department of Agriculture

### Wolf-livestock conflicts

Manage wolf conflicts with livestock by working with ranchers on nonlethal methods to deter wolves from preying on cattle; respond to livestock depredations; coordinate nonlethal deterrents with ranchers; and provide technical assistance and support. (\$1.7 million, GF-S)

## Department of Natural Resources

### Aggregate mapping and planning

Creates county aggregate resource maps to assist counties, cities and agencies in planning. Counties are required to base land-use decisions related to mineral resources on geologic

information that the Department of Natural Resources provides. Funding will help the department produce county-based aggregate resource maps to assist counties in making sound land-use decisions. (\$614,000 GF-S)

### Columbia Basin climate resilience

Geologic research in the Columbia Basin will increase our understanding of the geology and hydrology to lessen the long-term impacts of climate change and support rural economies. The department will develop geothermal-potential maps, and improve water availability data and groundwater identification models in the Columbia Basin. (\$1.7 million GF-S)

### Forest practices

Replaces outdated forest practices application system to improve usability and reliability. This will help ensure that state forest practices protect water quality and salmon habitat. (\$3.7 million GF-S)

# Natural Resources/Capital

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## Flood reduction and water supply

Department of Ecology

### **Floodplains by Design**

Restore natural floodplain conditions by preserving open spaces, correcting problems created by erroneous flood control actions, improving long-term community flood resilience, reducing flood risks to infrastructure and development, and improving habitat conditions for salmon and other species. Floodplains by Design is an integrated approach that combines flood-hazard reduction actions with salmon recovery, river and habitat restoration and other public benefits. (\$70 million bonds)

### **Chehalis Basin strategy**

Pursue and oversee an integrated Chehalis Basin strategy to reduce long-term flood damage and restore aquatic species habitat. Five of the largest floods in the basin's recorded history have occurred in the past 30 years. Delaying action could cost families and communities \$3.5 billion in flood-related damages, and the survival of the basin's spring-run chinook salmon populations will be imperiled. (\$70 million bonds)

### **Yakima River Basin water supply**

Fund infrastructure, programs and policies in the Yakima River Basin that support aquatic resources, fish and wildlife habitat, dry-year irrigation and municipal water supplies. (\$42 million bonds)

## **Columbia River Water Supply Development Program**

Develop new municipal, domestic, industrial and irrigation water throughout the Columbia River Basin and place one-third of these new water supplies in-stream to meet the flow needs of fish, wildlife and recreational users. (\$38.5 million bonds; \$1.5 million other)

## **Local government infrastructure**

### **Stormwater Financial Assistance Program**

Finance retrofit projects that treat polluted stormwater in priority areas throughout the state. Distribute funds to the highest priority projects through a competitive rating and ranking process to ensure projects provide good water quality value and address problems from urban development. The work accomplished by local governments will help reduce toxics and other pollution from entering waterways and protect marine waters, estuaries, lakes, rivers and groundwater resources. (\$75 million Model Toxics Control Stormwater Account)

### **Water Pollution Control Revolving Program**

Provide low-interest loans to local governments, special purpose districts and recognized tribes for high-priority water quality projects statewide. Ecology uses these funds to finance planning, designing, acquiring, constructing and improving water pollution control facilities. Funding is also used for

related nonpoint source pollution control activities that help meet state and federal water quality requirements. (\$210 million Water Pollution Control Revolving Account; \$75 million federal; \$15 million bonds)

### Centennial Clean Water Program

Finance the construction of water pollution control facilities, and plan and implement nonpoint pollution control activities. Grant recipients are public entities that use funds for high-priority statewide water quality needs. (\$40 million Model Toxics Control Capital Account)

### Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Program

Provide financial assistance to Puget Sound municipalities for wastewater nutrient reduction planning and optimization projects. This funding will support local governments implementing new permit requirements, and help projects that will address significant impairments to the health of Puget Sound. (\$9 million bonds)

## Toxics cleanup

Department of Ecology

### Remedial Action Grant Program

Clean up contaminated sites in Washington with help from local governments. Supports cleanup at contaminated industrial sites that affect the air, land and water resources of the state, and continuing cleanup of Puget Sound. Funding protects public and environmental health, creates jobs, promotes economic redevelopment by allowing contaminated

properties to be redeveloped. Leverages local match funding. (\$70.9 million Model Toxics Control Capital Account)

### Eastern Washington Clean Sites Initiative

Remediate contaminated sites, including cleanup work related to metals contamination, leaking underground storage tanks, landfills, salvage yards and wood treatment facilities. (\$20.5 million Model Toxics Control Capital Account)

### Clean up toxics sites in Puget Sound

Integrate shoreline habitat restoration opportunities with cleanup projects. This will protect public and environmental health, create jobs and promote economic development in the Puget Sound Basin. (\$5.8 million Model Toxics Control Capital Account)

### Product Replacement Program

Identify the sources of the worst chemicals reaching the environment and develop recommendations on how to reduce or eliminate those sources. (\$6.5 Model Toxics Control Capital Account)

### Stormwater Financial Assistance Program

Retrofit projects that treat polluted stormwater in priority areas throughout the state. Funds will be distributed to the highest priority projects through a competitive rating and ranking process to ensure they provide good water quality value and address problems from urban development. The work that local

governments accomplish will help reduce toxics and other pollution from entering waterways and protect marine waters, estuaries, lakes, rivers and groundwater resources throughout the state. (\$75 million Model Toxics Control Stormwater Account)

## Salmon and habitat protection

State Conservation Commission

### **State match for the federal Regional Conservation Partnership Program**

Add matching funds for federally approved Regional Conservation Partnership Program projects to increase the restoration and sustainability of soil, water, wildlife and related natural resources on regional or watershed scales. (\$7 million bonds)

Department of Natural Resources

### **Grouse Ridge Road culvert replacement**

Funds second phase to replace additional culverts and cross drains. This will bring 2.5 miles of forest road up to the standards of current forest practice rules and provides the only access to the Washington State Fire Training Academy. (\$1.7 million bonds)

Recreation and Conservation Office

### **Salmon Recovery Funding Board programs**

Implement the Salmon Recovery Act and provide funding for projects that protect or restore salmon habitat, and for other salmon recovery programs and activities across the state. While other grant programs concentrate on a particular geographic region or focus on

other non-salmon values, this is the only grant program in Washington that focuses exclusively on protecting and restoring salmon habitat statewide. Projects are developed locally and evaluated to assess if and how well each will implement priorities listed in federally adopted salmon recovery plans. (\$40 million bonds; \$50 million federal)

### **Puget Sound acquisition and restoration**

Protect and restore salmon habitat. A large portion of the habitat restoration is for chinook salmon, which provide one of the most critical food sources for Southern Resident orcas. (\$50 million bonds)

### **Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board**

Funding is provided for 35 fish barrier removal projects that aid the restoration of healthy and harvestable levels of salmon and steelhead statewide. (\$39 million bonds)

### **Washington Coastal Restoration Initiative**

Restore aquatic and terrestrial habitat on the Washington coast to protect salmon populations and provide jobs. Projects strengthen communities through job creation, more work options for local contractors, flood control, access improvement, climate resiliency and more. (\$15 million bonds)

Department of Fish and Wildlife

### **Hatchery improvements for orca**

Improve aging hatchery infrastructure and increase fish production for Southern Resident orcas. (\$94.7 million bonds)

## **Fire prevention**

Department of Natural Resources,  
Department of Fish and Wildlife and  
State Parks

### **Forest hazard reduction**

Reduce severe wildfire risk and increase forest resiliency through fuels reduction, thinning, fuel break creation and prescribed burning. (\$26.8 million bonds)

## **Recreation**

Parks and Recreation Commission

### **Nisqually State Park**

Construct a new campground, welcome center and trails to create Nisqually State Park, the state's first park constructed since 1997. Located along the Nisqually and Mashel rivers near Eatonville, the park is a cooperative project between State Parks and the Nisqually Indian Tribe. (\$30.9 million bonds)

### **Palouse Falls State Park**

Redevelop trails, viewpoints and parking for visitors viewing Palouse Falls, the official state waterfall. The project will complete improvements to the day-use area to enhance ice-age flood event and cultural heritage interpretive stations, pedestrian and traffic circulation, and visitor safety. (\$2.8 million bonds)

### **Lyons Ferry Campground reestablishment**

Reconstruct and reopen the closed campground at the confluence of the Palouse and Snake rivers. The project will reestablish up to 40 campsites and bring camping back to this underserved area. (\$3.1 million bonds)

### **Palouse to Cascades Trail – Crab Creek trestle replacement**

Reconstruct a trestle for the cross-state Palouse to Cascades Trail. The trestle replaces the old one destroyed by a brush fire, which left a gap in the trail and forced trail users to detour onto local roads. (\$2.2 million bonds)

Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

### **Washington Wildlife Recreation Program**

Renovate new local and state parks, protect and restore wildlife habitat and preserve working farms and forests. Projects funded by this grant program contribute significantly to economic opportunities and a healthier population. (\$100 million bonds)

Department of Commerce, Recreation and Conservation Funding Board

### **Youth recreation programs**

Build or renovate 15 indoor and outdoor recreational facilities for youth. (\$11.2 million bonds)