

**JEFFERSON COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

AGENDA REQUEST

TO: Board of County Commissioners
Philip Morley, County Administrator

FROM: Leslie Locke, Deputy Clerk of the Board

DATE: January 21, 2014

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Washington Coast Restoration Initiative (Pulling Together Initiative); Hans Dunshee, Chair, Capital Budget Committee and Senator Jim Hargrove

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

Letter of Support for Washington Coast Restoration Initiative (Pulling Together Initiative); Hans Dunshee, Chair, Capital Budget Committee and Senator Jim Hargrove

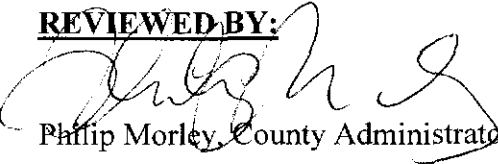
ANALYSIS:

Jill Silver, 10,000 Years Institute has requested that the Commissioners approve the above mentioned letter of support.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Letter of Support for Washington Coast Restoration Initiative (Pulling Together Initiative); Hans Dunshee, Chair, Capital Budget Committee and Senator Jim Hargrove

REVIEWED BY:


Philip Morley, County Administrator

1/16/14
Date

WASHINGTON COAST RESTORATION INITIATIVE

OUR CHALLENGE

Healthy forests, rivers, and fish and wildlife on our Washington Pacific Coast are essential to our communities, ecosystems, and economies. Efforts to protect and restore them are severely underfunded. Coastal communities have worked tirelessly for decades with limited funding to improve the health of our lands and waters. Yet we've lacked consistent funding to address our diverse, ongoing restoration needs.

There is an equally urgent need to improve the economic health of our region. The Coast continues to experience the **highest unemployment in the state** – still over 10% in some counties. Given the urgency of both of these needs, **we need a proactive approach to restoration** that:

- Addresses the region's highest priority restoration needs;
- Leverages existing funding; *and*
- **Puts people to work on the coast**, restoring our lands and waters.



River restoration on the upper Quinault River is an example of one of the investments needed on the coast that will improve salmon habitat, reduce flood risks, protect homes, and create jobs.

Photo - Larry Workman

A PROACTIVE APPROACH

The goal of the **Washington Coast Restoration Initiative** is to restore forests, water quality and fish and wildlife habitat through the highest priority projects in the region. These projects will both provide restoration jobs to local people now and will ensure sustainable natural resource jobs in the future. A coalition of partners from across the Coast has developed a comprehensive database of restoration and sustainable job needs and seeks funding for prioritized projects that will conduct critical restoration work and provide good-paying restoration and sustainable natural resource jobs, as the work will help ensure the resources remain healthy and abundant.

The Capital Budget request for the Washington Coast Restoration Initiative would provide \$10 million to leverage existing federal, state and private resources and will significantly scale up restoration across a suite of diverse restoration projects. Because of the benefits they will deliver, these projects enjoy support from local governments, the conservation community, the fishing industry, tribes, watershed groups and state and federal agencies.

WHY NOW

This is the right time to invest in the restoration of the lands and waters of the Coast and the people who depend on these natural resources for their livelihood. Investing now ensures the commercial, recreational, and ecological value of the lands and waters and protects both our best salmon runs and one of the most diverse economies of the state. It's clear that restoration is one of the best ways to invest in our local economies. Ninety cents of every dollar spent on restoration stays inside the state, and 80 cents of every dollar stays within the county where a project is located. Dollar for dollar, restoration projects create more jobs than other types of construction projects.

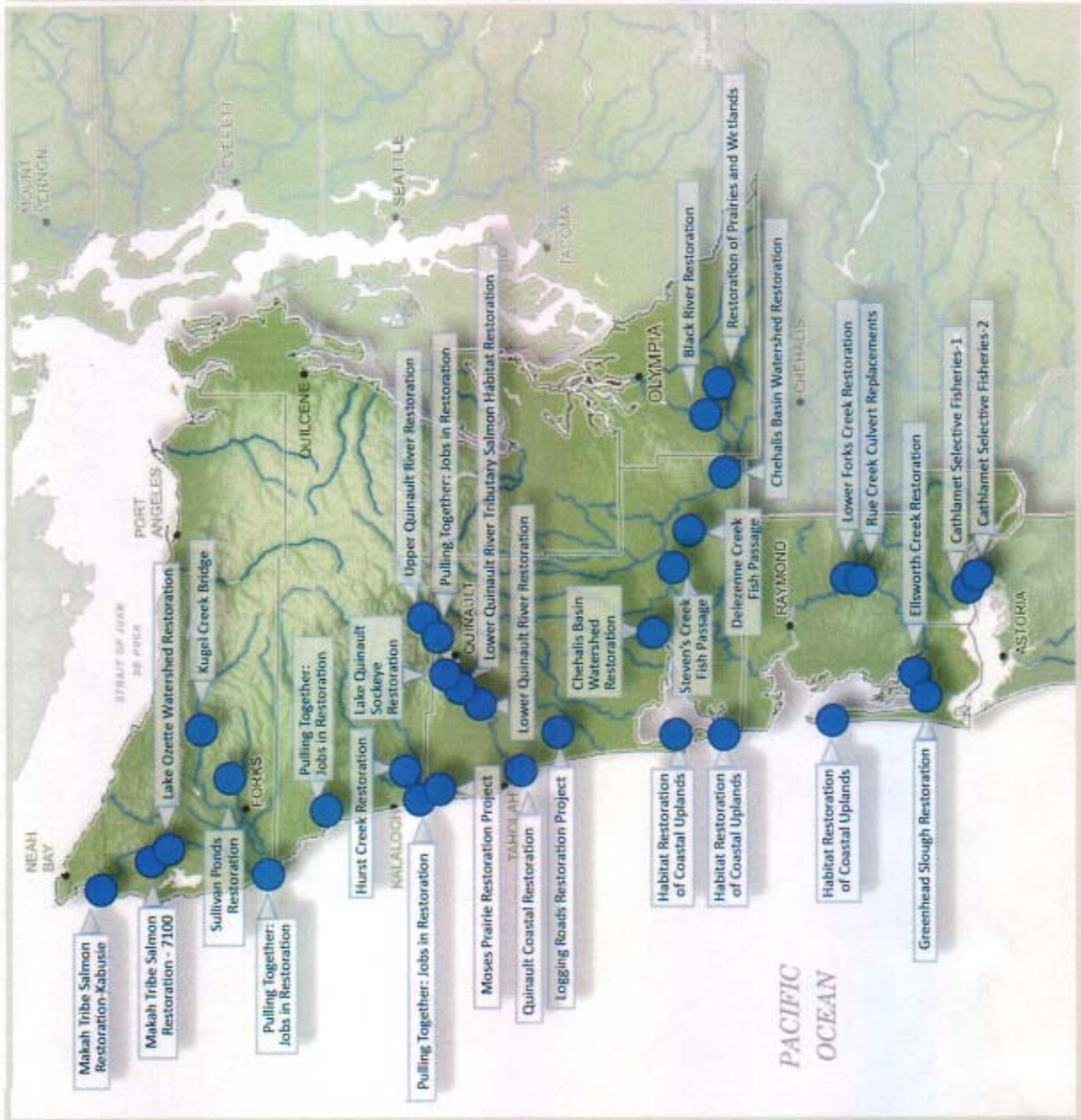
This budget request will help improve the economy of the Washington Coast while maintaining its diverse and healthy lands and waters. The Washington Coast Restoration Initiative will build a lasting foundation for healthy Coastal habitats and economies that benefits us all.



Washington Coast Restoration Initiative

January 2014

Collaborators...



Makah Tribe Salmon Restoration – Kabusie and 7100 Road

Sponsor(s): Makah Tribe

Legislative District: 24

County: Clallam

Jobs Created: 9 during operations

Project Benefits: Improved water quality and quantity, benefitting ESA listed Lake Ozette sockeye, coho, steelhead, chum, and chinook salmon.

Project Summary: This project will improve forest and stream habitat through road abandonment and upgrades, improving water quality and quantity, and benefitting Lake Ozette sockeye, coho, steelhead, chum, and chinook salmon. In a region that has some of the highest unemployment rates within Washington State, including the average 50% unemployment of the Makah Reservation, this project will supply direct temporary employment to local contractors. This project will also protect the Makah Passage Road from failure, which is the alternate emergency evacuation route for all of Neah Bay when Hwy 112 washes out by frequent landslides. The project includes two separate work sites:

- Kabusie Creek will include the replacement of an undersized and failed culvert on Makah Passage at Kabusie Creek, a tributary to the Tsoo-Yess River, with a pre-cast concrete bridge. This will restore approximately .2 miles of fish habitat, protect a public road and restore floodplain connectivity for a tributary that is subject to flash floods and high debris movement and feeds into a 303d listed impaired waters.
- 7100 Road will include the decommissioning of approximately 150' of forest road, remove a fish-blocking box culvert as well as approximately 250 cubic yards of fill on a tributary of Trout Creek in the Lake Ozette Watershed. It will restore approximately .2 miles of fish habitat for steelhead and coho. Trout Creek is a tributary to Big River, and has direct impact to the Swan Bay area, a historic beach spawning location for Lake Ozette sockeye, that currently is unable to support spawning due to degradation from sediment delivery. Both Trout Creek and Big River are 303d¹ listed impaired waters, and restoration of this area is critical for the survival of Lake Ozette sockeye through reduction of sediment delivery.

Requested Amount: \$174,000

Match: \$342,600 (Makah Tribe, USDA NRCS-EQIP, NOAA PCSR)

¹ 303d is short for a list of impaired and threatened waters (stream/river segments, lakes) that the Clean Water Act requires all states to submit for EPA approval every two years.

Lake Ozette Watershed Restoration

Sponsor: Makah Tribe

Legislative District: 24

County: Clallam

Jobs Created: 1 full time and 4 during operations

Project Benefits: The project benefits both riparian and upland habitats within the Ozette watershed by improving habitat conditions for native fish and wildlife and builds upon extensive Makah Lake Ozette sockeye recovery efforts. The project will strengthen existing relationships between the Tribe and private timberland owners as well as establish relationships with small private landowners in the project area to work together to benefit north coast natural resources.

Project Summary: The project has two components, including a noxious weed inventory and treatment plan. The inventory will provide a comprehensive detailed GIS based inventory of the Ozette Watershed that will set priorities for treatment during the summer months on the landscape under this proposal and provide a valuable tool for future restoration efforts. Treatments will occur along 9.1 miles of Big River to restore important riparian habitat for both fish and wildlife.

Requested Amount: \$195,000

Match: \$38,000 (Makah Tribe), partnerships for access by Rayonier, Green Crow, Merrill and Ring, and Campbell Group.

Kugel Creek Culvert Replacement

Sponsor(s): Clallam County

Legislative District: 24

County: Clallam

Jobs Created: 5 during operations

Project Benefits: Access to 2.5 miles of anadromous fish habitat, an additional 4.5 miles of resident fish habitat, and allow passage of woody debris.

Project Summary: The project removes a failing, undersized, partial fish-barrier culvert on Kugel Creek with a fully fish passable structure (buried bridge), providing full access to over 2.5 miles of anadromous habitat and an additional 4.5 miles of resident habitat in Kugel Creek. The failing culvert will be replaced with a "Con/Span O-Series" bridge, a pre-cast buried bridge structure. Modular concrete arches will be set into matching pre-cast footings, minimizing installation time and road closure. This bridge is also needed because of the construction of the Olympic Discovery Trail through this location.

Requested Amount: \$650,000

Match: \$100,000 (Clallam County Road Department)

Sullivan Ponds Restoration

Sponsor(s): Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition

Legislative District: 24

County: Clallam

Jobs Created: 5 FTE for four weeks

Project Benefits: Salmon wintering habitat for the Calawah in the Quillayute River system and public outreach on salmon restoration in the region.

Project Summary: This restoration project sponsored by the Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition (PCSC) will enhance and expand on overwintering ponds on the North Fork of the Calawah River in Clallam County. During the driest part of the year, when a section of the NF Calawah dries up near the ponds, Sullivan Pond maintains flow providing refuge to juvenile salmonids, providing life-sustaining flow to a pool in the mainstem of the NF Calawah. PCSC will partner with Rayonier Inc. to create ponds where the historic channel has been destroyed by illegal ORV access. The ponds will be excavated at the center of ORV access. Upstream of the ponds a second smaller stream will be diverted into the inlet of the pond to ensure year-round water flows. Between the pond and the NF Calawah River is a 300-foot channel that provides suitable spawning habitat for salmon. This project will enhance habitat benefitting coho salmon and cutthroat and steelhead trout.

Requested Amount: \$39,500

Match: \$10,500

Pulling Together: Jobs in Restoration

Sponsor(s): 10,000 Years Institute

Legislative District: 24

County(s): Clallam, Jefferson, Grays Harbor

Jobs Created: 3 FTE (full time), 10 Seasonal (4 months per year)

Project Benefits: This project benefits salmon and wildlife habitats, forests, and agricultural lands in four important coastal watersheds through an invasive species 'Early Detection/Rapid Response' program.

Project Summary: This project will create local watershed SWAT teams whose primary focus will be the early detection and control of invasive plants that harm salmon and wildlife habitats, impact timber production, reduce property values, and can be toxic to people and livestock. These teams will address introductions of noxious and invasive plant species, partnering with local landowners, federal and state agencies and local governments, tribes, outdoor recreation businesses, and local community groups, to provide key information, and achieve prevention and control.

Requested Amount: \$500,000

Match: \$195,000 (SRFB-WRIA 20, WSDA, Olympic National Park, Hoh River Trust, TNC, Tribes: Quinault, Quileute, Hoh)

Hurst Creek Restoration

Sponsor(s): The Nature Conservancy

Legislative District: 24

County: Jefferson

Jobs Created: 3 FTEs

Project Benefits: The project directly benefits Clearwater River coho salmon, winter steelhead, and cutthroat trout populations and improves riparian habitat.

Project Summary: The goals of this project are to (1) restore healthy, complex in-stream and stream-side forest habitat, and (2) increase Clearwater coho salmon productivity by improving the quality and quantity of juvenile salmonid rearing habitat in Hurst Creek. The project will use forest thinning and planting to restore stream-side forests by increasing tree growth and re-establishing native conifer species. Large wood will be procured from off-site to augment available on-site wood and added directly to the stream channel. Construction of 10-15 ELJs throughout the stream is expected to improve in-stream habitat features critical for rearing salmon, such as large, deep pools.

Requested Amount: \$570,000

Match: \$133,350 (SRFB, Quinault Indian Nation, private grant)

Lower Quinault River Restoration

Sponsor: Quinault Indian Nation

Legislative District: 24

County: Grays Harbor

Jobs Created: 10 seasonal jobs

Project Benefits: Improved wildlife habitat, increased plant diversity and ecosystem processes, reduced streambank erosion, salmon habitat restoration.

Project Summary: To restore ecological processes and riparian function, the QIN invasive species program will spot-treat knotweed infestations on gravel bars and island complexes on 15 miles of the lower Quinault River (river miles 8 to 23) using cost-effective helicopter delivery of herbicides that are certified by the EPA to be safe for aquatic use. Work crews will follow the aerial treatment with on-the-ground treatment of understory plants to assure thorough coverage of a riverine area heavily used by Chinook, sockeye and coho salmon, steelhead, bull trout, beaver and otters.

Requested Amount: \$150,000

Leveraged Funds: \$83,000 (SRFB-WRIA 12, QIN boats & operators)

Moses Prairie Restoration Project

Sponsor: Quinault Indian Nation

Legislative District: 24

County: Grays Harbor

Jobs Created: 10 seasonal

Project Benefits: Open 3.5 miles of restored fish habitat, restore culturally important food and medicine plants, improve wildlife forage and bird habitat, improve water quality, reduce wildfire hazard, increase ecosystem biodiversity and function.

Project Summary: This restoration pilot project will burn approximately 10 acres, re-route a quarter-mile of road, cut trees and brush, pull culverts to open five channels to fish passage, build a small bridge, and remove cedar waste in Moses Prairie to restore fish and wildlife habitat and native plants. Expertise in prescribed burning has been offered by the Dept. of Defense. Ethnobotanical data pre- and post-burn will be collected in conjunction with a separately funded project. The state Salmon Recovery Funding Board will fund 85% of the culvert-removal and bridge-building work. A four-person crew will remove cedar from high-priority sites on the 98-acre wetland/prairie.

Requested Amount: \$113,000

Match: \$126,350 (SRFB, DoD, NPS, QIN Forestry & QIN fire crew)

Logging Roads Restoration Project

Sponsor: Quinault Indian Nation

Legislative District: 24

County: Grays Harbor

Jobs Created: 1 FTE, 2 seasonal hydro-mulching contractors, 1 seasonal road-grader

Project Benefits: More than 100 acres of elk forage created in two years, increased quality and quantity of wildlife habitat, decreased sediment runoff from roads into fish-bearing streams.

Project Summary: The QIN Wildlife Department proposes to decommission logging roads and seed them with grasses and forbs to boost nutrition of resident elk and deer populations and to decrease sediment runoff into fish-bearing waterways. Five miles of roadway can be transformed into approximately 55 acres of wildlife habitat each year. In addition, long-abandoned roads in areas of high elk usage will be investigated for decommissioning. A verified road inventory and management plan will help prioritize areas for restoration in the future.

Requested Amount: \$200,000

Match: \$27,960 (USDA NRCS, QIN Wildlife & Forestry sections)

Upper Quinault River Restoration

Sponsor: Quinault Indian Nation

Legislative District: 24

Counties: Grays Harbor and Jefferson

Jobs Created: 11 seasonal contractors, 17 local seasonal jobs

Project Benefits: Salmon habitat restoration; improved habitat for threatened native char; restored floodplains and riparian habitat; creation or retention of 28 professional, construction, and labor jobs.

Project Summary: This innovative project uses engineered logjams and forest restoration techniques to improve and restore in-stream salmon habitat, riparian forests, and floodplains in the upper Quinault River valley. Pending final project design, the project will treat an estimated 1.1 miles of in-stream habitat, restore approximately 270 acres of floodplain, and reduce erosion risks to approximately 135 acres of privately owned land in a 2.5-mile (540 acres) reach of the upper Quinault River. Approximately 35 acres of riparian habitat will be planted with trees and native vegetation.

Requested Amount: \$250,000

Match: \$2,043,300 (WDNR/legislative allocation, USFS Title II funds, QIN Fisheries)

Lake Quinault Sockeye Restoration

Sponsor: Quinault Indian Nation

Legislative District: 24

County: Grays Harbor

Jobs Created: 10 seasonal

Project Benefits: Improved rearing conditions for juvenile salmon including sockeye, coho, chinook, steelhead and coastal cutthroat; support of 10 professional and service-level jobs.

Project Summary: Restoration of the depressed "blueback" sockeye and other salmon requires proactive efforts on many fronts including restoration of rearing conditions in Lake Quinault to sustain a much larger number of juvenile fish. Liquid fertilizers containing ammonium polyphosphate (P) and urea-ammonium nitrate (N) will be applied weekly to surface water of Lake Quinault from April through October to enrich nutrients while natural processes in the upper river are healing. Monitoring will be conducted biweekly to assess trophic level responses and effectiveness of the fertilizer treatments to improve rearing conditions for juvenile salmon.

Requested Amount: \$210,000

Match: \$132,600 (PCSRF/NOAA grant; QIN staff, equipment and boat)

Lower Quinault River Tributary Salmon Habitat Restoration

Sponsor: Quinault Indian Nation
Legislative District: 24
County: Grays Harbor
Jobs Created: 16 seasonal

Project Benefits: In-stream salmon habitat restoration; improved in-stream habitat complexity; reduced mass wasting and sediment input; improved habitat for threatened native char; creation or retention of 16 professional, construction and labor jobs.

Project Summary: This innovative project uses engineered logjams and large woody debris strategically placed to improve and restore in-stream salmon habitat in Prairie Creek, an important tributary to the lower Quinault River. Pending final project design, the project will treat an estimated 0.5 miles of in-stream habitat and reduce bank erosion and sediment input originating from a mass wasting area along the stream.

Requested Amount: \$210,000

Match: \$151,350 (PCSRF, SRFB-WRIA 21, QIN Fisheries staff)

Quinault Coastal Restoration Project

Sponsor: Quinault Indian Nation
Legislative District: 24
County: Grays Harbor
Jobs Created: 1 full time FTE

Project Benefits: First-ever comprehensive assessment and documentation of intertidal-zone organisms on 56 miles of Washington coast; detection and removal of tsunami debris; establishment of permanent coastal monitoring sites; detection of invasive species resulting in prioritization of restoration initiatives.

Project Summary: This project will detect and remove marine debris and prioritize restoration on the Quinault coastline. Permanent geo-database photo plots will be established to monitor species and habitats along the coastline. Beached tsunami debris – particularly debris infested with non-native invasive species – will be removed. Local school students will assist with restoration activities. Project results and additional coastal data collected through a UW SeaGrant project will be shared in regional biological assessments of coastal health and restoration needs.

Requested Amount: \$317,800

Match: \$201,388 (Taholah School, NOAA, TNC, WA SeaGrant, QIN Fisheries)

Chehalis Basin Watershed Restoration

Sponsor(s): Center for Natural Lands Management (CNLM), Pacific/Grays Harbor County Conservation Districts and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Legislative Districts: 19th, 20th

County: Grays Harbor

Jobs Created: 10 seasonal FTE's

Project Benefits: This project will improve riparian and stream habitat through removal of invasive species and placement of native trees and shrubs.

Project Summary: This project is designed to use a coordinated approach to protect and restore degraded properties within the Chehalis Basin that have been impacted by invasive species and/or erosion issues. It will improve coordination among the projects and implement on-the-ground work in key areas of the Basin. Funding for this project will restore approximately 50 acres of riparian habitat spanning over 100 river miles through seasonal monitoring, removal of invasive species, and planting native woody species. Targeted invasive species include parrot-feather (a milfoil), knotweed species, purple loosestrife, and yellow iris.

Requested Amount: \$450,000

Match: \$50,000 (CFRP – USFWS), \$37,500 (Dept. of Ecology Aquatic Weed Management Fund)

Stevens Creek Fish Passage

Sponsor(s): Chehalis Basin Fisheries Task Force

Legislative District: 19

County: Grays Harbor

Jobs Created: 20 Seasonal FTEs

Project Benefits: This fish barrier correction project will open unimpeded passage to 2.5 to 3 miles of prime spawning and rearing habitat for coho and chum salmon and cutthroat trout.

Project Summary: This fish barrier project is ranked 61st in priority in the Chehalis Basin on the Lead Entity list of more than 2700 documented barriers to be corrected. It is located under Minkler County Road at the 2.3 mile mark and enters the Chehalis River at RM 15.8. The culvert is only 33% passable; at extreme high tides the river floods the culvert and some passage may occur. The correction would be a bottomless arch culvert 21 feet wide and 120 feet long; this larger structure will provide unimpeded fish passage. Project construction would take about 7 days, to be completed in 2015. The Task Force will sponsor and manage the project in cooperation with Grays Harbor County.

Requested Amount: \$260,000

Match: \$80,000 (Grays Harbor County), \$25,000 (pending USFWS)

Delezenne Creek Fish Passage

Sponsor(s): Grays Harbor Conservation District.

Legislative District: 19th

County: Grays Harbor

Jobs Created: 20 Seasonal FTEs

Project Benefits: This project will restore more than 7 miles of spawning and rearing for coho, steelhead, cutthroat trout, as well as enhance the incidental populations of Chinook and chum salmon.

Project Summary: This project will correct two fish passage barriers consisting of a derelict water retention dam and a falls that was created immediately downstream due to the channel change to accommodate the dam. The goal is to restore the stream to its natural channel, bypassing the dam and falls and allowing access to over 7 miles of stream above this location. In order to accommodate fish passage, two bridges will be installed on the access road within a short distance to redirect the stream into the currently abandoned oxbow. The oxbow will be restored to accommodate the stream by adding large woody debris, riparian planting of native shrubs and conifers as well as a small amount of gravel at the bridge sites.

Requested Amount: \$260,000

Match: \$50,000 (USFWS), \$50,000 (pending – Weyerhaeuser or SRFB)

Black River Watershed Restoration

Sponsor(s): Capitol Land Trust

Legislative District: 20th and 35th

County: Thurston

Jobs Created: 4 FTEs, 6-8 individuals

Project Benefits: This project benefits salmonids and other species within the Black River watershed and results in improved water quality and ecological function.

Project Summary: The Black River Watershed Restoration project is designed to restore self-sustaining natural area ecological function for the benefit of salmonids and other species, including elk and Oregon spotted frog. This project will build upon previous work by Capitol Land Trust and partners to conserve almost 2,000 acres in the Black River Watershed. Funding for this project will improve forest, wetland and freshwater shoreline habitat through the removal of invasive plants, installation of locally adapted native plants and other habitat manipulations—such as stand management—on multiple properties conserved by Capitol Land Trust in the Black River watershed.

Requested Amount: \$250,000

Match: \$20,000 (pending USFWS)

Restoration of Prairies and Wetlands

Sponsor(s): Center for Natural Lands Management

Legislative District: 20, 35, 2

County: Thurston

Jobs Created: 2-3 FTEs

Project Benefits: Restoration or habitat for four prairie-associated species proposed to be federally listed as endangered or threatened.

Project Summary: Restoration and recovery of current and proposed federal listed species will be conducted by a team of land managers in cooperation with public and private partners including WDFW, WDNR and others. The actions will benefit a suite of three prairie-associated species (Taylor's checkerspot butterfly, streaked horned lark and Mazama pocket gopher) along with a wetland-associated species (Oregon spotted frog). The specific restoration actions conducted by the labor resources will include removal and control of pest plants over hundreds of acres, planting of 100,000 native plant plugs annually, seeding of hundreds of prairie acres with forbs and grasses, and participation in prescribed fires.

Requested Amount: \$160,000

Match: \$52,000 (Army Compatible-Use Buffer); \$50,000 (USFWS, NRCS)

Habitat Restoration of Coastal Uplands

Sponsor(s): Center for Natural Lands Management, WDFW, WDNR, WSP, and USFWS

Legislative District: 19 & 24

County: Pacific, Grays Harbor, Wahkiakum

Jobs Created: 7 seasonal positions

Project Benefits: Restoration of coastal habitats to support several upland species identified as Species of Greatest Conservation Need by the State of Washington.

Project Summary: The project's primary focus is to remove invasive species, particularly Scot's broom and beach grass, from currently occupied and historically occupied coastal habitats where streaked horned lark and western snowy plover occur. Partners will prioritize core occupied areas for enhancement and utilize proven integrated pest management techniques to remove invading vegetation, opening areas for lark and plover colonization. The project will also support collection of native seed and employ established plant production facilities for this unique habitat type.

Requested Amount: \$350,000

Match: \$28,000 - WDNR (\$11,000), WDFW (\$5,000), Private Sources (\$12,000 anticipated)

Lower Forks Creek Restoration

Sponsor(s): WDFW
Legislative District: 19th
County: Pacific
Jobs Created: 10-20 seasonal FTEs

Project Benefits: The project improves fish passage, fish habitat, stream diversity, and riparian habitat benefiting, chum, coho, chinook, steelhead and cutthroat.

Project Summary: The Lower Forks Creek Restoration Project is designed to restore the health and function of approximately 28 miles of habitat. The restoration will remove several in-stream concrete structures that are below the hatchery facility and add LWD from the intake down to the hatchery, which will provide the reach with much needed channel diversity, channel stability and the ability to capture gravels. The new riparian plantings along the lower reach will lower stream temperatures by providing shade and will provide bank stabilization. This project has been a high priority project for the WRIA 24 LE and for WDFW for many years.

Requested Amount: \$2,000,000

Match: \$1,400,000 (WDFW), \$30,000 (R2 Resource Consulting Firm)

Rue Creek Salmon Restoration

Sponsor(s): Pacific Conservation District and Pacific County
Legislative District: 19th
County: Pacific
Jobs Created: 10 seasonal FTEs

Project Benefits: The project benefits salmonids, improving fish passage, fish habitat, and stream diversity.

Project Summary: The Rue Creek Culvert Replacement Project is designed to restore the health and function of approximately 6.5 miles of habitat. The two crossing are fish passage barriers and are barriers for LWD to move through the system and limits gravel movement through the system. By allowing LWD and gravels to move through the system will help restore the lower reach stream functions of Rue Creek. The undersized culverts have caused flooding over Rue Creek Road numerous times. This project has been a high priority project for the WRIA 24 LE and for Pacific County for many years.

Requested Amount: \$1,000,000.00

Match: Pacific County Public Works will install the bridges.

Ellsworth Creek Watershed Restoration

Sponsor(s): The Nature Conservancy
Legislative District: 19th
County: Pacific
Jobs Created: 5.8 Jobs FTEs

Project Benefits: This project benefits salmonids, improves forest and riparian health, and directly supports seasonal (6mths) employment for up to 33 individuals (5.82 FTE).

Project Summary: The Ellsworth restoration program is designed to restore the health and function of the entire 5,000 acre Ellsworth Creek watershed. This project will build upon previous accomplishments in which we have removed 15.7 miles of failing or unnecessary forest roads and upgraded another 26.9 miles as part of a program to realign the road system to safer ridge top locations and limit their impact on the aquatic environment. Funding for this project will remove an additional 4 miles of forest road and upgrade another 6 miles. The project will also leverage existing SRFB funding to permanently remove a bridge over Ellsworth Creek and concurrently complete large woody material placement within one mile of Ellsworth Creek.

Requested Amount: \$1,000,000
Match: \$405,000 (SRFB – WRIA 24, USFWS)

Greenhead Slough Barrier Removal

Sponsor: U.S. Fish & Wildlife (Willapa National Wildlife Refuge)
Legislative District: 19th
County: Pacific
Jobs Created: 2-3 FTEs

Project Benefits: This project will benefit Coho, Chinook, Chum, Steelhead, and Cutthroat Trout and will improve the access to about 10 miles of spawning/ rearing habitat, and 149 acres of restored estuary.

Project Summary: This project will replace the existing blocking culvert with a 70x26 ft steel bridge. It will assure the HY101 road prism is protected and repair the existing scour damages to the road prism which has occurred as a result of the undersized culvert. This project will build upon previous projects design activities for the bridge and will be the final element in restoring this 2,317 acre watershed. Preliminary design has been completed. The requested funds will be used for construction and finalizing the necessary permitting from the Army Corps of Engineers.

Requested amount: \$590,000
Match: \$728,094

Cathlamet Selective Fisheries - 1

Sponsor(s): Wahkiakum County MRC

Legislative District: 19

County: Wahkiakum

Jobs Created: 40 commercial fishermen; 40 deckhands; 3 fish buyers; 3 fish processors

Project Benefits: Selective harvest, in concert with new select area fisheries and collective fish processing and marketing, will create benefits to the Lower Columbia economies and multiple wild salmon species.

Project Summary: Establish fishery sustainable for our community; mindful of ecological and sociological impacts. Implementation of the Cathlamet Selective Fishery requires 4 components: 1) Monitoring of spawning grounds of wild stock to track straying in local streams and rivers; 2) Support Spring Chinook rearing on Cathlamet Channel for selective harvest; working in partnership with WDFW. 3) Support early fall Coho rearing on Cathlamet Channel for selective harvest; working in partnership with WDFW. 4) Work with Columbia River fishermen in transition to selective gear; growing partnerships with revolving loan funders, growing community-supported fish marketing and sales with support by local EDC and Ports, and creating educational opportunities for fishermen to learn gear in low-risk environment.

Requested Amount: \$200,000

Match: \$200,000 (Cathlamet and WDFW)

Cathlamet Selective Fisheries - 2

Sponsor(s): Wild Fish Conservancy with WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

Legislative District: 19

County: Wahkiakum

Jobs Created: 4 seasonal FTEs

Project Benefits: The project will develop, test, and refine commercial fishing gears that can support sustainable Columbia River fisheries for generations to come.

Project Summary: In accordance Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission fishery reform policy, Wild Fish Conservancy and WDFW will extend operation of an ongoing Columbia River pound net trial in order to evaluate the feasibility of this historically effective selective fishing method in reducing bycatch and mortality of ESA listed species in the Lower Columbia Sub-basin commercial fishery.

Building on an ongoing WDFW-funded selective gear project, we will evaluate the efficacy of pound net gears targeting hatchery salmon while reducing harm and mortality (Take) of ESA-listed fish within the Lower Columbia Sub-basin. We will quantitatively assess gear effectiveness and evaluate the ability of pound nets to contribute to sustainable futures for lower Columbia River commercial fisheries and communities.

Requested Amount: \$175,000

Match: \$162,700 (WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife)



1820 Jefferson Street
PO Box 1220
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Phil Johnson, District 1 David W. Sullivan, District 2 John Austin, District 3

January 21, 2014

The Honorable Jim Hargrove
P.O. Box 40424
Olympia, WA 98504-0424

RE: Support of Washington Coast Restoration Initiative

Dear Senator Hargrove:

I am writing to request your support for funding the Pulling Together Initiative: Jobs in Restoration, which will create an innovative program to address noxious weeds in coastal counties. These non-native plants cause significant harm to salmon and wildlife habitats and impact timber and agriculture. The program will provide three full-time and 6 part-time local family wage jobs and training for a year. \$195,000 in collaborative efforts by the Quileute, Hoh and Quinault tribes, The Nature Conservancy, 10,000 Years Institute, State Department of Natural Resources, and Olympic National Park and Forest will be provided as match.

This project is part of the Capital Budget request for the *Washington Coast Restoration Initiative*, which has a goal of restoring forests, water quality and salmon habitat through implementing the highest priority projects in the region, while providing jobs to local people. A coalition of partners from across the coast has developed a comprehensive database of restoration needs and seeks funding for prioritized projects that will conduct critical restoration work and provide good-paying restoration jobs.

I encourage you to make this important funding decision in the 2014 legislative session to support critical restoration on the Washington Coast and to provide jobs for local citizens to restore their lands and waters. If you would like more information about this project, please contact Jill Silver at 10,000 Years Institute at 360.385.0715.

Sincerely,

John Austin, Chairman

Phil Johnson, Member

David Sullivan, Member

Cc:

Senator Brian Hatfield
Senator Jim Honeyford
Senator John Braun



1820 Jefferson Street
PO Box 1220
Port Townsend, WA 98368

Phil Johnson, District 1 David W. Sullivan, District 2 John Austin, District 3

January 21, 2014

The Honorable Hans Dunshee
Chair, Capital Budget Committee
314 John L. O'Brien Building
P.O. Box 40600
Olympia, WA 98504-0600

RE: Support of Washington Coast Restoration Initiative

Dear Representative Dunshee:

I am writing to request your support for funding the Pulling Together Initiative: Jobs in Restoration, which will create an innovative program to address noxious weeds in coastal counties. These non-native plants cause significant harm to salmon and wildlife habitats and impact timber and agriculture. The program will provide three full-time and 6 part-time local family wage jobs and training for a year. \$195,000 in collaborative efforts by the Quileute, Hoh and Quinault tribes, The Nature Conservancy, 10,000 Years Institute, State Department of Natural Resources, and Olympic National Park and Forest will be provided as match.

This project is part of the Capital Budget request for the *Washington Coast Restoration Initiative*, which has a goal of restoring forests, water quality and salmon habitat through implementing the highest priority projects in the region, while providing jobs to local people. A coalition of partners from across the coast has developed a comprehensive database of restoration needs and seeks funding for prioritized projects that will conduct critical restoration work and provide good-paying restoration jobs.

I encourage you to make this important funding decision in the 2014 legislative session to support critical restoration on the Washington Coast and to provide jobs for local citizens to restore their lands and waters. If you would like more information about this project, please contact Jill Silver at 10,000 Years Institute at 360.385.0715.

Sincerely,

John Austin, Chairman

Phil Johnson, Member

David Sullivan, Member

Cc:
Representative Brian Blake
Representative Richard DeBolt
Representative Dean Takko
Representative Steve Tharinger
Representative Van De Wege