KING COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT

Staff Report

Agenda Item:	8	**Name:**	Michelle Clark
Proposed No.:	FCD2025-07	**Date:**	July 8, 2025

Proposed Resolution FCD 2025-07: A resolution relating to the operations and finances of the King County Flood Control Zone District; authorizing the expenditure of District funds for projects and activities in Water Resource Inventory Areas 7 (Snoqualmie Watershed portion) 8, 9 and 10 (King County portion).

The King County Flood Control District's ("District") Water Resource Inventory Areas ("WRIA") or Cooperative Watershed Management ("CWM") Grant Program is in its 13th year. Since doubling the program in 2020, District funds contribute 70-80% of the secured funds for WRIA restoration projects. The District's adopted 2025 budget allocated $11,634,742 in new funding for projects and activities in WRIAs 7 (Snoqualmie Watershed portion), 8, 9, and 10 (King County portion). Proposed Resolution FCD2025-07 authorizes the expenditure of $12,264,593, the 2025 allocation plus underspent or returned funds.

In compliance with the procedures outlined in District Resolution FCD2012-11.2, WRIA staff and committee members reviewed the projects for eligibility and visited project sites as part of a robust technical review process. Based on the allocation percentages outlined in Resolution FCD2013-13 and any returned or unused allocations from previous years, each WRIA voted on and then submitted its recommendations for projects to receive funding for water quality and water resource and habitat restoration projects and activities as follows:

1. WRIA 7 (Snoqualmie Watershed portion): $2,521,422;
2. WRIA 8: $4,531,019;
3. WRIA 9: $4,609,834; and
4. WRIA 10 (King County portion): $602,318.

The 2025 CWM Grant round received 99 applications requesting a total of $21,516,753 – $9,252,160 more than the grant funds available in 2025. The number of applications and specific recommendations are as follows:

- WRIA 7 received 25 applications totaling $3,946,189, $1,424,767 over its 2025 allocation and recommends 12 projects for full funding, 5 projects for partial funding, and the denial of 8 applications.

- WRIA 8 received 35 applications totaling $5,161,008, $629,989 over its 2025 allocation and recommends 26 projects for full funding, 3 projects for partial funding, and the denial of 6 applications.

- WRIA 9 received 36 applications totaling $11,739,694, $7,129,860 over its 2025 allocation and recommends 20 projects for full funding, 11 projects for partial funding, and the denial of 5 applications.

- WRIA 10 received 3 applications for $669,862, $67,544 over its 2025 allocation and recommends 2 projects for full funding and 1 project for partial funding.

Adoption of the proposed resolution does not change the District's adopted 2025 budget; it simply details which grant applicants receive the already allocated grant funding.

Attachments
Transmittal letters from WRIAs 7, 8, 9, and 10

Working together for salmon recovery and watershed health.

Carnation

Duvall

King County

North Bend

Skykomish

Snoqualmie

Snoqualmie Tribe

Tulalip Tribes

SNOQUALMIE WATERSHED FORUM

May 21, 2025

Supervisor Reagan Dunn, Chair
King County Flood Control District
516 3rd Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Snoqualmie Watershed Forum Funding Recommendations for 2025 Cooperative Watershed Management Grants

Dear Chair Dunn,

On behalf of the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum (Forum), we would like to express our gratitude to the King County Flood Control District (FCD) for supporting important regional salmon recovery work. The Forum is a partnership of elected officials, citizens and representatives from conservation organizations supporting salmon recovery and ecological health in the Snoqualmie and South Fork Skykomish Watersheds (spanning the King County portion of Water Resource Inventory Area 7). Member governments include King County, the Snoqualmie Tribe, Tulalip Tribes, the cities of Duvall, Carnation, North Bend and Snoqualmie, and the Town of Skykomish.

We would like to present the attached Forum funding recommendations for the 2025 Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant Program funded through the FCD. The projects and programs on the list have been vetted according to King County's CWM Grant Program rules and procedures. The recommended projects and programs have also been thoroughly reviewed and prioritized by the Forum's local Project Review Committee and were approved by the Forum on May 21, 2025.

Through the 2025 CWM Grant Program, the Forum received $2,521,422 (including $211,926 in return funds), to allocate to high-priority salmon recovery projects and programs. In this grant round, we received 25 final proposals for a total request of over $3.9 million, resulting in a $1.4M funding shortfall.

We recommend funding 17 of the 25 proposals received this grant round. These grant funds help implement critical salmon recovery priorities called for in the Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan, including habitat restoration projects, watershed education and sustaining critical capital project coordination activities. Many of our high priority salmon restoration projects provide multiple benefits, including flood hazard risk reduction, water quality improvements, and landowner stewardship.

As you know, our efforts in WRIA 7 are part of the overall regional effort to recover threatened Puget Sound Chinook salmon as well as other salmonids, and we have been engaged with our partners in that effort for over 25 years. These CWM funds are a crucial component of our habitat acquisition and restoration funding that allows us to move important salmon recovery projects forward.

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Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation. If you have any questions, please contact Erin Ryan-Peñuela, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum Project Coordinator, at (206) 707-1354.

Sincerely,

Henry Sladek – Forum Chair
Town of Skykomish Mayor

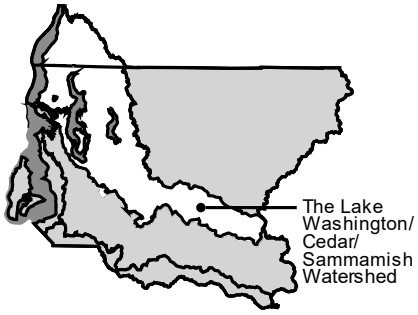
Cc: Michelle Clark, Executive Director, King County Flood Control District
Josh Baldi, Director, King County Water and Land Resources Division
Kim Harper, King County, Grant Program Administrator
Elissa Ostergaard, Snoqualmie Salmon Recovery Manager

Attachments

Beaux Arts Village
Bellevue
Bothell
Edmonds
Everett
Hunts Point
Issaquah
Kenmore
Kent
King County
Kirkland
Lake Forest Park
Maple Valley
Medina
Mercer Island
Mill Creek
Mountlake Terrace
Mukilteo
Newcastle
Redmond
Renton
Sammamish
Seattle
Shoreline
Snohomish County
Woodinville
Woodway
Yarrow Point

Alderwood Water and Wastewater District
The Boeing Company
Cedar River Council
Forterra
Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery
Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Sno-King Watershed Council
Trout Unlimited
US Army Corps of Engineers
Washington Departments:
Ecology
Fish and Wildlife
Natural Resources
Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts
Washington Policy Center
Water Tenders

May 15, 2025



Supervisor Reagan Dunn, Chair
King County Flood Control District
516 3rd Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council Funding Recommendations for 2025 Cooperative Watershed Management Grants

Dear Chair Dunn:

On behalf of the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Salmon Recovery Council, thank you to the King County Flood Control District for supporting important salmon recovery work through the Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant Program. The WRIA 8 partnership is comprised of 28 local governments, businesses, community groups, and state and federal agencies who have been working since 2000 to recover Chinook salmon and improve the health of our watershed.

Please find attached the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council's approved funding recommendations for the 2025 CWM Grant Program. We recommend awards for 29 salmon recovery projects and programs, obligating the entire amount available to us in 2025 – $4,531,019. All proposals are consistent with CWM program rules and procedures and were evaluated and prioritized by the WRIA 8 Grant Review Committee, and funding recommendations were approved by the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council on May 15.

In this year's grant cycle, we received 35 applications for funding across all categories. As in recent years, there continues to be strong demand for grant funds to support this important work across all categories of funding. We greatly appreciate the Flood Control District's commitment to the CWM Grant Program and look forward to the important work that will be accomplished with 2025 grant funds. This funding provides critical support to salmon recovery efforts in our watershed and helps leverage additional state and federal funding. We appreciate the Flood Control District's ongoing commitment to and collaboration in multiple benefit floodplain restoration and salmon recovery.

All documents associated with the request for proposals and the review process are posted on our public website. Application materials and our Salmon Recovery Council funding recommendation memo have been made available to District staff. Please feel free to contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager, at 206-477-4780 or jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov for further information.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Kritzer
Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Council President, City of Redmond

Carston Curd
Vice-Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Councilmember, City of Bothell

Cc: Michelle Clark, Executive Director, King County Flood Control District
Krista Camenzind, Deputy Director, King County Water and Land Resources Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Kim Harper, King County, Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Program Administrator
Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager
Carrie Byron, WRIA 8 Projects and Funding Coordinator
WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council members

WATER RESOURCE INVENTORY AREA 9 (WRIA 9) WATERSHED ECOSYSTEM FORUM

Making Our Watershed Fit For A King
Green / Duwamish & Central Puget Sound

Algona
Auburn
Black Diamond
Burien
Covington
Des Moines
Enumclaw
Federal Way
Kent
King County
Maple Valley
Normandy Park
Renton
SeaTac
Seattle
Tacoma
Tukwila

American Rivers
The Boeing Company
Covington Water District
Duwamish River Community Coalition
Green River Coalition
King Conservation District
King County Flood Control District
Master Builders Association
Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
Port of Seattle
Save Habitat and Diversity of Wetlands (SHADOW)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Green-Duwamish Urban Waters Partnership
Washington Department of Ecology
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Natural Resources

May 20, 2025

Supervisor Reagan Dunn, Chair
King County Flood Control District
King County Courthouse
516 3rd Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Water Resource Inventory Area 9 (WRIA 9) Recommendations for Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Funding

Dear Chair Dunn and Flood Control District Supervisors,

On May 8, 2025, the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound (WRIA 9) Watershed Ecosystem Forum (WEF) unanimously approved funding recommendations for the 2025 Cooperative Watershed Management Grant (CWM) Program. If approved by the Board of Supervisors, these projects will continue to advance implementation of priority elements of the 2021 WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan.

The $4.5 million in funding provides critical funding for eleven high priority capital projects that were prioritized based on the limiting factors for increasing salmon productivity in our watershed. In addition to these high priority capital projects, CWM funding will support nine community-based revegetation projects (Regreen the Green); five Monitoring and Research projects that inform monitoring and adaptive management; and six Stewardship, Engagement and Learning (SEaL) programs to expand education and outreach initiates within the watershed.

If approved by the Board of Supervisors, the $4,609,834 in CWM funds will be leveraged to secure a total investment of $5.56 million from federal, state, and local sources to implement WRIA 9 salmon recovery priorities. These investments exemplify the district's policy to invest in multiple benefit projects by building community, creating equitable jobs, protecting, and restoring critical habitat and infrastructure, and promoting environmental stewardship.

Thank you for your continued partnership in improving the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed.

Sincerely,

Co-chair Jennifer Harjehausen
Councilmember, City of Covington
Watershed Ecosystem Forum

Co-chair Toni Troutner
Councilmember, City of Kent
Watershed Ecosystem Forum

Financial support provided by signers of Watershed Planning Interlocal Agreement for WRIA 9 including:
Algona, Auburn, Black Diamond, Burien, Covington, Des Moines, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Kent, King County, Maple Valley, Normandy Park, Renton, SeaTac, Seattle, Tacoma, Tukwila

May 9, 2025

Councilmember Reagan Dunn, Chair
King County Flood Control District
516 3rd Avenue, Room 1200
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Funding Recommendations for Puyallup & Chambers Watersheds 2025 Cooperative Watershed Management Grants in WRIA 10

Dear Chair Dunn,

On behalf of the Puyallup & Chambers Watersheds Salmon Recovery Citizen Advisory Committee and Technical Advisory Group, we sincerely thank you for your continued support of salmon habitat restoration, outreach, education, and monitoring in the Puyallup-White River Watershed through the King County Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) Grant Program.

The CWM grant remains a vital funding source for advancing high-priority salmon recovery efforts outlined in the Salmon Habitat Protection and Restoration Strategy for the Puyallup and Chambers Watersheds. We are pleased to submit our 2025 funding recommendations for the Puyallup-White Watershed (WRIA 10), totaling $602,318. These projects have been thoroughly reviewed and approved in accordance with King County's CWM Program guidelines. Our advisory groups carefully assessed and ranked them based on salmon recovery benefits, feasibility, alignment with watershed strategies, and additional community benefits, including social and economic impacts.

Among the recommended projects, we're proud to continue supporting the White River Juvenile Assessment Project, led by the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. This critical monitoring effort provides foundational data essential to both local and regional recovery work. We deeply appreciate the flexibility of the CWM grant, which allows us to pursue such high-value, complex projects. We recommend fully funding the project at the requested amount of $223,078.

We are also thrilled that we have two new project sponsors this grant round. A new non-profit called Free the Green has stemmed from environmental studies at the Green River College. Their project *Ecological Restoration on the White River Tributaries* will continue the good work of the Enumclaw Plateau Community Association that has also been supported by Josh Kahan as the King County Watershed Steward for WRIA 10. The City of Enumclaw is also supporting this project by providing irrigation. We are pleased to support their request of $150,200 for their riparian planting and stewardship project on Boise Creek.

The other new project sponsor this year is Trout Unlimited, with a request for funding of barrier corrections on Pyramid Creek, which is a tributary to the Greenwater River. This project builds upon previously funded work in the Greenwater River, bolstering and protecting the downstream investments here, especially at the confluence of Pyramid Creek and the Greenwater River. This project will provide fish passage, restore natural processes including the reduction of sediment and enabling the transport of wood. While there is not enough funding to grant their full request, we recommend funding the project at $229,040.

The proposed allocation of $602,318 is summarized in the table below:

Project Name	Project Type	Project Sponsor	Funding request
White River Juvenile Assessment Project	Monitoring	Puyallup Tribe of Indians Fisheries	$223,078
Ecological Restoration on the White River Tributaries	Restoration	Free the Green	$150,200
Pyramid Creek Fish Passage Improvement Design	Design	Trout Unlimited	$229,040

The CWM grant funding plays a critical role in advancing the mission of the Puyallup & Chambers Watersheds Salmon Recovery Lead Entity—to restore self-sustaining salmon populations across Puget Sound. These funds directly support impactful projects and programs in the White River and its tributaries, where vital habitat sustains threatened Chinook, steelhead, and bull trout, along with other ecologically significant species.

The White River and its tributaries are particularly important, as they are home to South Puget Sound's only run of Spring Chinook. According to the National Marine Fisheries Service, this population is one of just five hatchery stocks considered essential to the recovery of Puget Sound Chinook. This underscores the unique and urgent nature of our work in this watershed.

We're deeply grateful for the King County Flood Control District's continued investment in WRIA 10. Your support allows us to move forward on high-priority recovery actions in some of the most productive tributaries of the White River.

All background documents related to the development of the project list, proposals, review process, and funding recommendations are available upon request.

Sincerely,

Jenn Stebbings,
Citizen Advisory Committee Chair
Puyallup & Chambers Watersheds Salmon Recovery Lead Entity

cc: Michelle Clark, Executive Director, King County Flood Control District
Josh Baldi, King County Water and Land Resources Division
Kim Harper, King County, Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Program Administrator
Lisa Spurrier, Pierce County, Puyallup & Chambers Watersheds Salmon Recovery Lead Entity Coordinator
Alex Lincoln, King County Water and Land Resources Division