

WATER RESOURCE INVENTORY AREA (WRIA 8) SALMON RECOVERY COUNCIL



Beaux Arts Village
Bellevue
Bothell
Clyde Hill
Edmonds
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

Cedar River Council
Friends of the Cedar River Watershed
Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery
Greater Seattle Chamber of Commerce
Long Live the Kings
Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
Mountains to Sound Greenway
Northwest Marine Trade Association
Sno-King Watershed Council
Trout Unlimited
Water Tenders

Alderwood Water and Wastewater District
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
US Army Corps of Engineers
Washington Departments:
Ecology
Fish and Wildlife
Natural Resources
Washington Association of Sewer and Water Districts
King Conservation District

April 22, 2016



The Honorable Richard Shelby
Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, & Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
S-128, U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Vice Chairwoman, Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice, Science, & Related
Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
S-128, U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Culberson
Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science, & Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
H-310 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Honda
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on
Commerce, Justice, Science, & Related
Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
H-310 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund support

Dear Chairman Shelby and Culberson, Vice Chairwoman Mikulski, and Ranking Member Honda:

On behalf of the Salmon Recovery Council for the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (or Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 8), I want to express strong support for appropriating \$80 million for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) in the Fiscal Year 2017 budget, as requested by the governors of Washington, Oregon, California, Alaska, and Idaho. We thank you for your past support for PCSRF funding, which is critical to our watershed's salmon recovery efforts. Your leadership for a strong federal investment in PCSRF ensures watersheds like ours can continue our work to protect and restore habitat for salmon listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Please continue your strong leadership by supporting an \$80 million PCSRF appropriation, and at a minimum the \$65 million funding level in President Obama's proposed 2017 budget.

In Washington State, PCSRF supplies essential funding to implement the highest priority restoration and protection projects for salmon recovery—projects which are locally-supported and scientifically-based. WRIA 8 uses PCSRF dollars to implement on-the-ground restoration projects and to acquire property that protects sensitive habitat and allows for future restoration. Our work advances regional efforts to

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recover threatened salmon species and restore a healthy Puget Sound, as well as provides economic benefits by supporting local jobs. Additionally, many of our habitat protection and restoration actions advance other important goals, including flood hazard reduction and water quality improvements.

Salmon recovery is a long-term commitment, and continued Congressional support for PCSRF will be needed. We appreciate the challenges you face in making difficult budget decisions, and we applaud your leadership and thank you for continuing to be a strong voice for salmon recovery in Washington D.C. If you have any questions about projects funded in WRIA 8, please contact Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager at 206-477-4780 or jason.mulvihill-kuntz@kingcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andy Rheame', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andy Rheame
Chair, WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council
Mayor, City of Bothell

Cc: Members of the Washington State Congressional Delegation
Governor Jay Inslee, State of Washington
Members of the Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8) Salmon
Recovery Council