



Lake Washington/Cedar/Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8)

Project Subcommittee Funding Report – 2023

Salmon Recovery Funding Board and Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Program

Funding Recommendations – 2023

The WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee (Subcommittee) recommends grant awards totaling the full amount available of \$498,343 for Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) and \$5,133,490 for Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM). The recommendations allocate funds across eligible categories as follows (for a list of all proposals see Attachment 1):

- SRFB habitat protection and restoration projects - \$498,343
- CWM habitat protection and restoration projects - \$3,530,500
- CWM Riparian habitat and stewardship projects - \$440,442
- CWM Monitoring and Assessment - \$904,911
- CWM Outreach and Education - \$257,637

Salmon Recovery Funding Board Grant Program – 2023

Funding Summary: Table 1 summarizes 2023 Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) grant funding in WRIA 8. Grants for SRFB are available annually and are comprised of state and federal funds.

<i>Table 1. Summary of 2023 SRFB Grant Funds – WRIA 8</i>	
2023 SRFB Allocation	\$498,343
2023 Funding Requested	\$2,836,054
<i>Difference between Requested and Available Funds</i>	<i>(\$2,337,711)</i>

Grant Eligibility and Administration: Grants for SRFB are administered by the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO), and projects proposed for funding must meet the criteria and policies outlined in RCO’s Manual 18. Eligibility is geared toward acquisition and habitat restoration (including project design and planning activities that relate to project development), and a 15% match is required. All proposed projects must be on the WRIA 8 Four-Year Work Plan and have a clear link to one or more of WRIA 8’s recovery strategies.

Notice of Intent (NOI) Process:

This year, the WRIA 8 staff team added in an additional layer of review with the goal of reducing the number of proposals advancing through the full review proves to make most efficient use of the Project Subcommittee’s time spent on project reviews. The team reviewed eight notices of intent. Of those, one

opted not to move forward with an application and staff invited four sponsors to move forward with full proposals, worked with two sponsors to redirect their efforts to applying for CWM funding, and chose not to invite one sponsor to move forward with an application. This effort greatly reduced the Subcommittee's review time and allowed for some more in-depth conversations with project sponsors prior to application. We plan to replicate this effort in the 2024 grant round.

Project Subcommittee Process:

Project Subcommittee members (listed in Attachment 2) review grant proposals and develop funding recommendations for consideration by the WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council (Council). In March, the Subcommittee, an RCO grant manager, and two members of the SRFB Technical Review Panel visited two sites in person and heard online presentations from the remaining two applicants. The Subcommittee then evaluated the proposals using the WRIA 8 grant criteria. Funding is prioritized for proposals offering the greatest alignment with WRIA 8 goals and recovery strategies, articulate clear goals and objectives – including equity and environmental justice considerations - and demonstrate readiness and a strong likelihood of successful implementation.

King County Flood Control District Cooperative Watershed Management Grants

Funding Summary: Table 1 summarizes the 2023 Cooperative Watershed Management (CWM) grant funding in WRIA 8. The total funding available includes WRIA 8’s 2023 allocation from the King County Flood Control District plus returned funds from a past project that was unable to proceed as planned. .

2023 CWM Allocation	\$4,026,636
Returned Funds	\$1,106,854
Total Funding Available	\$5,133,490
2022 CWM Funding Requested	\$6,157,668
<i>Difference between Requested and Available Funds</i>	<i>(\$1,024,178)</i>

Grant Eligibility and Administration: Activities proposed for CWM funding must occur within King County, and the proposed scope and budget must meet the guidelines and policies outlined by King County, who administers CWM grants. Eligible activities include habitat restoration (including planning and design), acquisition, monitoring and assessment, and outreach and education. Matching funds are not required but are encouraged.

Project Subcommittee Process: Project Subcommittee members (listed in Attachment 3) individually reviewed the grant proposals using the WRIA 8 grant criteria. The Subcommittee visited four habitat project locations in-person for site visits, and all other applicants gave in-person or virtual presentations to describe their proposals. The Subcommittee met over several sessions to share perspectives about the merits of the proposals and to develop the funding recommendations presented in this report. Funding is prioritized for proposals offering the greatest alignment with WRIA 8 goals and recovery strategies, articulate clear goals and objectives – including equity and environmental justice considerations - and demonstrate a strong likelihood of successful implementation.

Salmon Recovery Council Guidance for Allocating CWM Funds: The Salmon Recovery Council (Council) annually issues guidance to inform the Subcommittee’s funding allocation discussions.

In November of 2022 the Council voted to use the same allocation formula as was used in the 2022 grant round (outlined in the table below). The Council approved a cap of 20% of the annual allocation for monitoring and assessment activities and 5% of the annual allocation for outreach and education activities. Of the amount remaining in the allocation, 85% is set aside for restoration and acquisition projects and up to 15% of the project total is available for projects focused entirely on riparian restoration and stewardship (Table 2). In previous years, all returned and carryover funds were added to the restoration and acquisition total regardless of their origin. This year, the amount of returned funds was far larger than previous years, totaling over \$1.1 million. Because of this, some of the subgroups reviewing non-habitat project types also recommended using some of these return funds. The subgroup reviewing Outreach and Education proposals felt strongly about fully funding several excellent proposals

and recommended allocating \$56,305 from the returned funding pool to the Outreach and Education category. The subgroup reviewing Monitoring and Assessment proposals recommended reallocating \$99,584 from the returned funding pool to priority proposals in the Monitoring and Assessment category. These recommendations are outlined in the tables at the end of the report. The original 2023 funding targets are illustrated in Table 2 (not reflecting proposed reallocation – those totals are reflected in the tables included in Attachment 1 at the end of this document).

Table 2. Funding Guidance by Category for 2023 CWM Grant Funds in WRIA 8	
Habitat Restoration and Acquisition Projects	\$2,566,980
Riparian Habitat and Stewardship Projects	\$452,997
Monitoring and Assessment Activities	\$805,327
Outreach and Education Activities	\$201,332
Total	\$4,026,636

2023 CWM and SRFB Funding Recommendation Summary – Acquisition and Restoration Projects

In 2023 WRIA 8 again received applications for an amount that far exceeded available funding. The Project Subcommittee recommended funding two SRFB projects and nine CWM projects, making some funding available to multiple projects rather than trying to fully fund requests in ranked order. CWM rankings are listed first and SRFB rankings (if applicable) are listed in parentheses.

1. (SRFB Ranking – 2) Cedar River Rutledge Johnson Floodplain Restoration Final Design and Implementation – King County Water and Land Resources Division

CWM Grant Request: \$2,075,000

CWM Funding Recommended: \$2,012,110

SRFB Grant Request: \$220,000

SRFB Funding Recommended: \$98,343

King County will implement a floodplain reconnection and salmon habitat restoration project on the left bank lower Cedar River near the mouth of Taylor Creek reach. The restoration project will reconnect up to 16 acres of the Cedar River floodplain and remove up to 600 feet of the Rutledge Johnson levee, with the goal of restoring riverine processes that benefit Chinook, coho, sockeye, and steelhead trout. The completed project will improve in-stream and off-channel salmon habitat and function by increasing channel complexity, creating more diverse flow conditions, and facilitating more direct connections to floodplain habitats. The Subcommittee is hopeful this funding award will enable the sponsor to construct this important project in 2024.

2. (SRFB Ranking – 3) Issaquah Creek In-Stream Restoration at Lake Sammamish State Park Phase II – Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

CWM Grant Request: \$550,147

CWM Funding Recommended: \$550,147

SRFB Grant Request: \$1,094,854

SRFB Funding Recommended: \$0

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, in partnership with Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission, is seeking the final installment of funding to complete restoration improvements along the 6,600 linear feet of Issaquah Creek that flow through Lake Sammamish State Park to benefit Chinook salmon - particularly the juvenile life stage - other salmonid species, and to provide myriad other benefits by increasing in-creek structural diversity, floodplain and side-channel connectivity, and more functional and complex refuge and foraging habitat through installation of large wood, targeted excavation, and riparian reforestation. The Subcommittee is pleased to provide full funding for the CWM request from this sponsor which will hopefully close the funding gap and allow construction to commence. Although no SRFB funding is recommended, the project will be on WRIA 8's SRFB project list and available for any additional funding that may become available.

3. Cottage Lake Creek Weir Removal and Restoration – Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

CWM Grant Request: \$283,243

CWM Funding Recommended: \$283,243

The lowest fish barrier in Cottage Lake Creek, a weir formerly used for irrigation, is currently failing and creating a 67% fish passage barrier. This project will remove the weir and concrete walls just

downstream of the weir, regrade the stream channel and banks, and replace existing noxious weeds with native vegetation. Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group is seeking funding for preliminary design, final design, and permitting. An application for this project was considered in last year's funding round and ultimately not funded, but the sponsor has continued to move the project forward and the Subcommittee recommends fully funding the design phase out of this year's funding.

4. Daniels Creek at 185th Ave NE Fish Passage Project – King County DLS, Road Services Division

CWM Grant Request: \$600,000

CWM Funding Recommended: \$300,000

The County proposes to remove a deteriorating 6-foot-diameter culvert on Daniels Creek under 185th Ave NE between NE 179th St and NE Woodinville-Duvall Rd. The culvert will be replaced with a 101-foot bridge that spans the entire creek and adjacent wetlands. Since the project is located at the upper end of Chinook use in the basin, and the Subcommittee proposes providing half of the requested amount to contribute to this fish passage barrier removal project.

5. May Creek Delta Restoration Design Project – Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

CWM Grant Request: \$ 270,364

CWM Funding Recommended: \$270,364

Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group (Mid Sound) proposes to assist with preliminary design, final design, and permitting of the restoration at the mouth of May Creek, where it enters Lake Washington. Mid Sound is working with the community homeowner's association to develop a project that will restore habitat at the mouth of May Creek. The Subcommittee recommends funding some early phases of this project including a sediment analysis which can help inform future design alternatives.

6. Fish Passage Improvements on Little Bear Creek at 134th Avenue NE – Phase 1 - City of Woodinville

CWM Grant Request: \$190,000

CWM Funding Recommended: \$190,000

The City of Woodinville proposes to remove three 60-inch deteriorating and undersized concrete culverts and replace them with a bridge on Little Bear Creek located at 134th Avenue NE. These culverts are a documented fish passage barrier by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife . The proposed work under Phase 1 includes stakeholder engagement, project permitting, and design.

7. Ebright Creek Acquisition and Enhancement - Phase 1 Assessment – City of Sammamish

CWM Grant Request: \$

CWM Funding Recommended: \$0

The City of Sammamish will be establishing a formal evaluation and prioritization process to consider property acquisition and developing and prioritizing alternative acquisition strategies to maximize resource protection. This proposal would support this evaluation and potential future acquisition of a parcel along Lake Sammamish at Ebright Creek. The Subcommittee ultimately decided not to recommend funding of this work because of its lack of strong connection with WRIA 8 priority recovery actions during this phase of the project.

(SRFB Ranking – 1) Helen Sherry Floodplain Acquisition – Seattle Public Utilities

SRFB Grant Request: \$1,025,000

SRFB Funding Recommended: \$400,000

This proposal supports the next phase in ongoing acquisition and restoration work by Seattle Public Utilities in the Royal Arch Reach. This proposal seeks to acquire the large 20-acre Sherry Parcel adjacent to the Royal Arch Reach floodplain restoration project WRIA 8 funded last year. The parcel provides opportunity to add to the current floodplain restoration work. The Subcommittee enthusiastically supports the proposed acquisition, and recommends partial funding given the small size of this year's SRFB funding allocation.

(SRFB Ranking 4) – Perrinville Creek Fish Passage and Estuary Restoration – City of Edmonds

SRFB Grant Request: \$306,600

SRFB Funding Recommended: \$0

The City of Edmonds proposes to complete 90% and final design to replace two undersized road crossing culverts and remove a third fish passage barrier on Perrinville Creek. The project will address the barriers and seek to restore estuary/stream habitats currently impacted by existing culverts. All three culverts to be addressed are total barriers within the lowermost 500 ft of the creek. These are the only three fish passage barriers in the creek. The Subcommittee recognizes the importance of creating pocket estuary habitat and encourages the City to pursue additional landowner outreach and design work to identify feasible alternatives, which can serve as the basis for potentially apply for funding again in future years.

Cost increases:

Bear Creek Tretheway Floodplain Reconnection Construction – Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

CWM Grant Request: \$N/A

CWM Funding Recommended: \$35,000

WRIA 8 funded this project in prior grant rounds, and this modest cost increase will close the gap between funding awarded last year and the revised engineer's estimate recently provided to Mid Sound. The Subcommittee recommends funding the cost increase to keep implementation on track.

2023 CWM Funding Recommendation Summary – Riparian Habitat/Stewardship Projects

Cedar River Knotweed Control and Riparian Planting – Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

CWM Grant Request: \$247,341

CWM Funding Recommended: \$247,341

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust and King County Noxious Weed Control Program are partnering to continue control of invasive knotweed and revegetate riparian areas on the lower Cedar River and its tributaries. The Cedar River knotweed project is in its final phase, and this will be the last three years of funding requested for knotweed control before shifting fully to riparian revegetation and periodic knotweed maintenance. This effort will build on over 15 years of work on the Cedar River to minimize the impacts of invasive knotweed and plant and restore healthy riparian buffers.

Bear Creek Watershed Riparian Enhancement Program – *Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group*
CWM Grant Request: \$119,979 **CWM Funding Recommended: \$119,979**

Mid Sound proposes to continue critical knotweed control started by Forterra and King County Noxious Weeds along the length of Bear Creek and its tributaries to minimize lapses in treatment and revegetate riparian buffers on key public and private properties where knotweed has been successfully controlled. This effort seeks to reinforce and expand knotweed control throughout the Bear Creek Watershed through landowner outreach and education to open new opportunities for future revegetation.

Orcas Inspiring Riparian Restoration – *Whale Scout*

CWM Grant Request: \$73,122 **CWM Funding Recommended: \$73,122**

This project will engage the community in restoring the Sammamish River at the Former Wayne Golf Course and Bear Creek on a private homesite, with the effort led by diverse student interns. Riparian restoration will improve habitat and water quality for Chinook salmon, lowering water temperatures and increasing cover. Additional project outcomes include increased engagement in salmon recovery efforts by a wide audience and more equitable opportunities for students to pursue careers in environmental fields.

2023 CWM Funding Recommendation Summary – Monitoring and Assessment

The WRIA 8 Technical Committee (Committee) heard presentations from all applicants in the Monitoring and Assessment category. In addition to proposals for long-running monitoring programs, we received several proposals seeking to answer questions affecting salmon survival or assessing effectiveness of innovative restoration techniques. The Subcommittee considered the ranking criteria as well as proposal sequencing and overall management implications in preparing funding recommendations. The category was highly competitive, and the Subcommittee was unable to allocate funds to all the good work proposed. The Subcommittee recommends awarding \$99,584 from the returned funds pool in addition to the full allocation of \$805,327, for a total of \$904,911.

Proposals Recommended for Funding

2024 Chinook (Fish-In) Monitoring – *King County Water and Land Resources Division*

CWM Grant Request: \$27,982 **CWM Funding Recommended: \$27,982**

The proposed ‘fish-in’ monitoring involves the collection of escapement data for spawning adult Chinook in the Cedar River. The project is part an ongoing, annual, inter-agency effort to support long-term monitoring of the effectiveness of the WRIA 8 Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan.

Improving Lake Washington juvenile Chinook PIT tag interrogation systems 2024 - *Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife*

CWM Grant Request: \$178,437

CWM Funding Recommended: \$145,000

The primary objective of this project is to describe Chinook parr-to-smolt survival using Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tags that are inserted into Chinook parr and then re-detected at various sites in the watershed. WDFW seeks to improve their ability to estimate juvenile survival during smolt outmigration and the marine portion of the life cycle. The Subcommittee chose to support the portion of this work proposed for the Ballard Locks, which includes installing rigid floating antennas upstream of the three of the spillways in the forebay at the Ballard Locks and replacing one of four antennas in the adult fish ladder. While the entire proposal has merit, due to limited funds availability the Subcommittee recommends funding only the Locks portion.

Lake Washington Ship Canal (LWSC) Roundtable – Data Gaps II - *Long Live the Kings*

CWM Grant Request: \$133,160

CWM Funding Recommended: \$133,160

This project advances the work from the previously funded project to reduce the impacts of high temperature and low dissolved oxygen on salmon in the Lake Washington Ship Canal (LWSC). The sponsor expects this effort to refine cold water outfall temperature, quantity, and location estimates needed to create a continuous pathway of cold water in the LWSC and advance the feasibility of an approach from an engineering perspective.

Artificial Light at Night and Consequent Predation Risk for Juvenile Salmon-Phase 3 - *U.S. Geological Survey, Western Fisheries Research Center*

CWM Grant Request: \$125,675

CWM Funding Recommended: \$125,675

Salmon predators hunt visually and increasing artificial light at night (ALAN) has expanded the spatial-temporal threat of predation to rearing and migrating juvenile Chinook, sockeye, and other key species in the ecosystem. The sponsor will quantify ALAN spectral intensity patterns into estimates of predation risk as functions of time, date, location, and depth in nearshore-offshore regions of Lake Washington and the Ship Canal. The sponsor will also conduct controlled lab experiments to parameterize a visual foraging model for northern pikeminnow in terms of reaction distances to prey fish as functions of light and turbidity. The advances in ALAN spectral quantification combined with development and application of a visual foraging model for NPM will improve the capability to identify ALAN hotspots and provide more informative guidance on localized and regional restoration efforts to reduce predation mortality on juvenile salmon via changes in light direction, intensity, and spectral characteristics.

Sentinel studies to determine disease factors for Chinook salmon in the Lake Washington Ship Canal – *U.S. Geological Survey*

CWM Grant Request: \$ 128,379

CWM Funding Recommended: \$128,379

Climate change combined with water quality issues in the Lake Washington Ship Canal are stressors that increase susceptibility of Chinook salmon to pathogens and disease, including myxozoan parasites,

during their respective juvenile and adult migrations. The goal of this study is to determine the temporal prevalence of pathogens associated with Chinook salmon in the ship canal by live-caging Chinook salmon in three different time-periods and evaluating them for infectious agents and disease. This data will inform managers on temporal disease risks within the ship canal and help suggest mitigation practices to reduce disease impacts during Chinook salmon migration in the ship canal.

Managing Predation of Juvenile Chinook Salmon and Sockeye Salmon by Nonnative Fishes in WRIA 8 – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

CWM Grant Request: \$ 130,571

CWM Funding Recommended: \$80,571

This project is an effort by USFWS to continue to collect and process diet samples in partnership with WDFW, King Co., and Muckleshoot Indian Tribe to expand predator evaluation and management in the Lake Washington system. The sponsor will obtain information on the number of juvenile Chinook salmon and other salmonids in predatory fish diets, and the spatial distribution of predation risk to inform management actions targeting this key limiting factor to salmon recovery in WRIA 8. They also propose to collect information on predator attraction to ALAN in the south end of Lake Washington. The Subcommittee recommends funding a scaled-back version of this proposal focused on south Lake Washington.

Monitoring Aquatic Weed Regeneration and Fish Utilization Post Treatment Trout Unlimited – Trout Unlimited

CWM Grant Request: \$49,744

CWM Funding Recommended: \$49,744

With the significant investment being made to remove aquatic weeds in project areas in spring 2023, Trout Unlimited (TU) is proposing a complementary project to their 2022 CWM-funded aquatic weed removal project. TU is proposing additional surveying post treatment in late summer/fall 2023, spring 2024, and summer 2024 in the study sites to record plant regeneration and fish utilization. This will provide effectiveness monitoring of treatment type, treatment longevity, inform potential future maintenance needs if largescale treatment is pursued, and changes in fish abundances and species present.

Multiple Stressor Influences on Juvenile Chinook Salmon in Lake Washington Priority Locations - University of Washington, Office of Sponsored Programs

CWM Grant Request: \$158,941

CWM Funding Recommended: \$75,000

UW proposes to investigate the impact of multiple key stressors on juvenile Chinook salmon in priority locations in the Lake Washington watershed. The group proposes to prioritize stressors including artificial light at night (ALAN) and habitat (e.g., armoring, overwater structures, non-native aquatic macrophytes). They propose to use intensive day/night snorkel and acoustic sampling to understand the interactive influence of the ALAN and habitat modifications, which may be more complicated than the

sum of both. The Subcommittee is excited about the opportunity to work with this new sponsor in the Lake Washington environment but recommends rescoping the project to work on framing research questions as a pilot study and focusing on south Lake Washington.

Predation Reduction Project for the Lake Washington Basin - *Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife*

CWM Grant Request: \$149,400

CWM Funding Recommended: \$99,400

The proposed project would build on previous sampling efforts that have identified areas of Lake Washington, Lake Sammamish, and the Ship Canal where non-native piscivorous fish species such as yellow perch, rock bass, and black crappie consume juvenile Chinook and sockeye during the Lake-rearing and out-migration periods. Gill net surveys would be conducted in the south end of Lake Washington (near the mouth of the Cedar River), the south end of Lake Sammamish (near the mouth of Issaquah Creek), the Lake Washington Ship Canal, and other near-shore areas of Lake Washington to assess areas of acute predation by non-native predator fishes during the time that lake-rearing Chinook fry are rearing in Lakes Washington and Sammamish (February-April 2024) and throughout the juvenile Chinook out-migration period (April-June 2024). In cooperation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), diet samples of piscivorous fishes will be analyzed for evidence of predation on juvenile salmon. The subcommittee recommends funding a scaled-back version of this proposal focused on south Lake Washington.

Bear Creek Tretheway Floodplain Reconnection Effectiveness Monitoring - *Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group*

CWM Grant Request: \$ 79,801

CWM Funding Recommended: \$40,000

This floodplain reconnection and riparian restoration project includes 1,000 linear feet of Bear Creek north of 116th Street. The project involves adding large woody material to the stream, recontouring the stream banks, adding low velocity side channel habitat, and planting native riparian plants. Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group (Mid Sound) proposes a three year monitoring project to measure: impacts of restoration on habitat complexity; use of large wood structures and off-channel habitat by juvenile salmonids; impact of restoration on water temperature throughout the reach, particularly at the up and downstream ends of the reach, as well as temperature variation at different depths in the newly created pools; longevity of low velocity off-channel habitat, movement of large and small woody material over time; and impact of large woody material on formation of pools and other habitat structures. The Subcommittee proposes reduced funding to support a scaled-back version of the project focused on snorkeling and visual surveys and that the sponsor work with the WRIA 8 Technical Committee members to scope the project.

Spatial variation in seasonal development of plankton in Lake Washington: implications for juvenile salmon - *University of Washington, School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences, Schindler Limnology Lab*

CWM Grant Request: \$ 85,746

CWM Funding Recommended: \$0

The timing and location of primary and secondary plankton production in Lake Washington are important factors affecting the resources juvenile salmon need for survival. Zooplankton constitute the most important diet item for juvenile Chinook and sockeye salmon in Lake Washington, while phytoplankton abundance affects light attenuation properties thereby regulating the predator-prey interactions between salmon and zooplankton. The plankton community responds to seasonal changes in temperature; however, the timing of these once predictable patterns is shifting due to climate change. The sponsor proposes to increase limnological sampling to include the southern and northern ends of Lake Washington to provide insight into juvenile salmon food sources and inform production trends in the lake, benefiting adjacent research and other WRIA 8 funded projects. While the Subcommittee was interested in potentially exploring future collaborations with the project sponsor, no funding is recommended for this project at this time.

2023 CWM Funding Recommendation Summary – Outreach and Education

Demand in the Outreach and Education category continues to exceed available funding, with more than double the amount of available funds requested in 2023. In addition to applications from some annual outreach programs, there were several first-time applications. The Subcommittee was pleased to see an increasing interest in outreach and education related to salmon recovery in our watershed but ultimately recommends funding only the programs most clearly and directly aligned with the WRIA 8 Communications and Outreach Framework, community engagement and equity and environmental justice considerations, and recovery strategies. The Subcommittee recommends awarding \$56,305 from the returned funds pool in addition to the full allocation of \$201,332, for a total of \$257,637.

Funding Recommendations:

Cedar River Salmon Journey - Seattle Aquarium

CWM Grant Request: \$38,500

CWM Funding Recommended: \$38,500

The Cedar River Salmon Journey (CRSJ) program raises awareness in our community about local salmon, the challenges they face and the opportunities for all of us to engage with and support salmon recovery in WRIA 8. Both a volunteer program and a public outreach program, CRSJ provides multiple entry points for audiences to see and learn about salmon. Volunteers are recruited and trained as naturalists, and then make free, family-friendly presentations to the public in October when salmon are spawning in the Cedar River, and at the Ballard Locks in the summer, when salmon are passing through on their way to their spawning grounds.

Salmon Heroes: Improving stewardship behaviors through science-based studies - Environmental Science Center

CWM Grant Request: \$15,000

CWM Funding Recommended: \$15,000

Salmon Heroes is a four-part, six-hour education and stewardship program for students in south King County each fall. This includes two classroom lessons framing a three-hour field study outside at the Cedar River in Renton. Classes also have the opportunity for an optional one-hour stewardship project outside on their school campus. Using salmon as a local phenomenon to center the program, Salmon Heroes goals are to use outdoor education experiences to increase awareness and understanding of limiting factors of salmon survival, and to improve stewardship behaviors to keep our waters healthy for salmon and humans alike.

Beach Naturalist Program - Seattle Aquarium

CWM Grant Request: \$13,200

CWM Funding Recommended: \$13,200

The Beach Naturalist program is designed to engage people who visit our local beaches in learning and getting excited about the nearshore environment and its importance for salmon. Beach Naturalists seek to inspire behavior change by raising awareness about the value and fragility of the intertidal ecosystem, salmon, the nearshore and Puget Sound. With 250+ active volunteers engaged on 11 local beaches (three in WRIA 8) for 15-23 days each year, the Beach Naturalist program connects with thousands of beach visitors annually.

Greenway Education Program - Forests and Fins – Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust

CWM Grant Request: \$38,750

CWM Funding Recommended: \$27,500

The Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust seeks three-years of funding to support the "Forests and Fins" curriculum, which teaches 5th-8th grade students about the vital role of salmon in the Pacific Northwest. Over five curriculum components, students receive up to 10 hours of instruction about salmon life cycle and habitat needs and what we can do to contribute to ongoing salmon recovery efforts. Students use Issaquah Creek at Lake Sammamish State Park as their outdoor classroom as they evaluate the health of a salmon-bearing creek and help improve habitat for salmon and other wildlife through an ecological restoration project. The Subcommittee recommends two years of funding for this program.

Community Action Training School 2024-2025 Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group

CWM Grant Request: \$65,156

CWM Funding Recommended: \$27,500

Community Action Training School will recruit, educate, and engage 40+ watershed residents over two years in becoming active lifelong stewards of their local watershed and its salmon. Class participants will attend a series of eight evening classes and three weekend field trips and will return 50+ hours of service each in a stewardship action project that benefits watershed health and WRIA 8 salmon recovery goals. The subcommittee recommends funding for one year of the CATS program.

Friends of North Creek Forest General Programming 2023/2024 - *Friends of North Creek Forest*

CWM Grant Request: \$46,400

CWM Funding Recommended: \$35,000

Friends of North Creek Forest works to maintain and improve the ecological function of North Creek Forest (NCF) through education, stewardship and conservation in perpetuity. They do this through focusing on field trips for K-12 students, hosting 2-3 work party crews that will train local high school students on stewardship practices and develop their leadership skills, hosting four summer camps for ages 6-14, and hosting educational booths and public events such as birdwatching, plant identification hikes, and art walks. The subcommittee recommends awarding program funding for one year..

Enhancing Education and Outreach for FISH - *Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery*

CWM Grant Request: \$35,000

CWM Funding Recommended: \$10,000

Friends of the Issaquah Salmon Hatchery (FISH) is a salmon-centered non-profit whose mission is "Protecting our salmon and ensuring their survival for future generations through education, advocacy, and outreach." FISH is currently working to increase hatchery accessibility and create an equitable and inclusive outdoor education space through projects like audio tour translations, Native Plant Garden renovations, and providing financial aid to low-income schools and families. FISH seeks to continue these projects with much needed support for staffing and technological equipment updates, allowing them to maintain and increase their operational capacity. The Subcommittee recommends reduced funding and focusing the scope of work on key salmon recovery elements and messaging.

Engage, Educate and Discover at Mapes Creek - *Rainier Beach Link to Lake Steering Committee*

CWM Grant Request: \$90,764

CWM Funding Recommended: \$45,000

The Rainier Beach Link to Lake Committee proposes to monitor the impact of a community designed natural beach and underwater salmon habitat at Be'er Sheva Park and Mapes Creek Estuary and engage local educators and community stakeholders to create educational opportunities to identify interest in partnerships that raise awareness and stewardship of salmon recovery needs and priorities. The outreach and educational component of this proposal intends to develop strong partnerships with Rainier Beach schools to build Environmental Justice activities that engage children and young people in learning Mapes Creek's significance, history, and ecosystem; understanding their own neighborhood's environment, both built and natural; and environmental justice issues through continued interrogation of disparities in monitoring results and in action. The Subcommittee recommends partial funding for this effort and is excited to engage with this relatively new sponsor in this effort.

Salmon Friendly Lakes Pilot Program Implementation - *Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group*

CWM Grant Request: \$70,848

CWM Funding Recommended: \$30,000

Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group (Mid Sound) proposes to implement the Salmon Friendly Lakes Program following the completion of its ongoing pilot phase, currently funded by a WRIA 8 Small Grant, by providing five landowner workshops and site tours along with free site visits for lakeshore landowners and additional outreach events to WRIA 8 communities. The Salmon Friendly Lakes Program seeks to work with waterfront landowners and communities to restore nearshore salmon habitat in Lake Sammamish and Lake Washington by providing landowners with educational and technical assistance resources. The Subcommittee recommends partially funding this work focusing on behavior change efforts.

Lake Sammamish UWRP Outreach Material Development - *Trout Unlimited*

CWM Grant Request: \$35,958

CWM Funding Recommended: \$0

Trout Unlimited proposes to work with WRIA 8, Lake Sammamish UWRP members, community-based organizations, and other local partners to coordinate outreach efforts, expand community engagement, and increase our collective impact by developing a suite of outreach materials to be shared at public events throughout the watershed, online, and through other outlets. Through this collaborative effort, they propose to create an informed, knowledgeable, and inspired community who actively steward their watershed and advocate for salmon recovery efforts. The Subcommittee ultimately does not recommend funding for this effort and encourages Trout Unlimited to research target audiences to guide development of outreach and education materials.

Inspiring Policy, Incentives and Design for Salmon Friendly Sites in Urban and Rural Watersheds - *Salmon-Safe*

CWM Grant Request: \$25,000

CWM Funding Recommendation: \$0

Salmon-Safe proposes to develop two education workshops and a watershed tour for policy makers and private landowners committed to salmon recovery in the WRIA 8 Watershed. The series will culminate with "Salmon in the City," an education program that historically has been a success at inspiring land use decisions for salmon habitat and water quality. The Subcommittee was intrigued by this proposal but chose to direct limited Outreach and Education funding toward projects that directly address key WRIA 8 Outreach and Education programs.

Attachment 1: WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee Funding Recommendations for 2023 CWM Grant Funds

Table 3: Habitat Restoration and Acquisition Funding Recommendations					
<i>Project Name and Sponsor</i>	<i>Project Phase</i>	<i>CWM Funding Request</i>	<i>CWM Funding Recommended</i>	<i>SRFB Funding Request</i>	<i>SRFB Funding Recommended</i>
Cedar River Rutledge Johnson Floodplain Restoration Final Design and Implementation – <i>King County WLRD</i>	Construction	\$2,075,480	\$2,012,110	\$220,000	\$98,343
Issaquah Creek In-Stream Restoration at Lake Sammamish State Park – <i>Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust</i>	Design	\$550,147	\$550,147	\$1,094,854	\$0
Cottage Lake Creek Weir Removal and Restoration Design and Permitting – <i>Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group</i>	Design	\$283,243	\$283,243	N/A	N/A
Daniels Creek at 185th Ave NE Fish Passage Project – <i>King County DLS</i>	Construction	\$600,000	\$300,000	N/A	N/A
May Creek Delta Restoration Design Project - <i>Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group</i>	Design	\$270,364	\$160,000	N/A	N/A
Fish Passage Improvements on Little Bear Creek at 134th Avenue NE – Phase 1 - <i>City of Woodinville</i>	Construction	\$190,000	\$190,000	N/A	N/A
Ebright Creek Acquisition and Enhancement - Phase 1 Assessment – <i>City of Sammamish</i>	Design	\$25,000	\$0	N/A	N/A
Bear Creek Tretheway Cost Increase - <i>Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group</i>	Construction	\$35,000	\$355,000	N/A	N/A
Helen Sherry Floodplain Acquisition – <i>Seattle Public Utilities</i>	Acquisition	N/A	N/A	\$1,094,854	\$400,000
Perrinville Creek Fish Passage and Estuary Restoration – <i>City of Edmonds</i>	Design	N/A	N/A	\$521,200	\$0
Totals		\$4,029,234	\$3,530,500	\$2,836,054	\$498,343

Attachment 1: WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee Funding Recommendations for 2023 CWM Grant Funds

Table 4: Riparian Habitat and Stewardship Funding Recommendations		
<i>Project Name and Sponsor</i>	<i>Funding Request</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Cedar River Knotweed Control and Riparian Planting – <i>Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust</i>	\$247,341	\$247,341
Bear Creek Watershed Riparian Enhancement Program – <i>Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group</i>	\$119,979	\$119,979
Orcas Inspiring Riparian Restoration – <i>Whale Scout</i>	\$73,122	\$73,122
Totals	\$440,442	\$440,442

Table 5: Monitoring and Assessment Funding Recommendations		
<i>Project Name and Sponsor</i>	<i>Funding Request</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
2024 Chinook (Fish-In) Monitoring – <i>King County WLRD</i>	\$27,982	\$27,982
Improving Lake Washington juvenile Chinook PIT tag interrogation systems 2024 - <i>Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife</i>	\$178,437	\$145,000
LWSC Roundtable – Data Gaps II – <i>Long Live the Kings</i>	\$133,160	\$133,160
Artificial Light at Night and Consequent Predation Risk for Juvenile Salmon-Phase 3 – <i>US Geological Survey</i>	\$125,675	\$125,675
Sentinel studies to determine disease factors for Chinook salmon in the Lake Washington Ship Canal – <i>US Geological Survey</i>	\$128,379	\$128,379
Managing Predation of Juvenile Chinook Salmon and Sockeye Salmon by Nonnative Fishes in WRIA 8 – <i>US Fish and Wildlife Service</i>	\$130,571	\$80,571
Monitoring Aquatic Weed Regeneration and Fish Utilization Post Treatment – <i>Trout Unlimited</i>	\$49,744	\$49,744

Attachment 1: WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee Funding Recommendations for 2023 CWM Grant Funds

Multiple Stressor Influences on Juvenile Chinook Salmon in Lake Washington Priority Locations – <i>University of Washington</i>	\$158,941	\$75,000
Predation Reduction Project for the Lake Washington Basin – <i>Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife</i>	\$149,400	\$99,400
Bear Creek Tretheway Floodplain Reconnection Effectiveness Monitoring - <i>Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group</i>	\$79,801	\$40,000
Spatial variation in seasonal development of plankton in LK Wash: implications for juvenile salmon – <i>University of Washington</i>	\$85,746	\$0
Totals	\$1,247,836	\$904,911

Table 6: Outreach and Education Funding Recommendations		
<i>Project Name and Sponsor</i>	<i>Funding Request</i>	<i>Funding Recommended</i>
Cedar River Salmon Journey - <i>Seattle Aquarium</i>	\$38,500	\$38,500
Salmon Heroes - <i>Environmental Science Center</i>	\$15,000	\$15,000
Beach Naturalists - <i>Seattle Aquarium</i>	\$13,200	\$13,200
Greenway Education Program – Forest and Fins – <i>Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust</i>	\$38,730	\$27,500
Community Action Training School - <i>Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group</i>	\$65,156	\$43,437
Friends of North Creek Forest General Programming 2023-24 - <i>Friends of North Creek Forest</i>	\$46,400	\$35,000
Enhancing Education and Outreach for FISH- <i>Friends of Issaquah Salmon Hatchery</i>	\$35,000	\$10,000

Attachment 1: WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee Funding Recommendations for 2023 CWM Grant Funds

Engage, Educate and Discover at Mapes Creek – <i>Rainier Beach Link to Lake Steering Committee</i>	\$90,764	\$45,000
Salmon Friendly Lakes Pilot Program Implementation – <i>Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group</i>	\$70,848	\$30,000
Lake Sammamish UWRP Outreach Material Development – <i>Trout Unlimited</i>	\$35,958	\$0
Inspiring Policy, Incentives and Design for Salmon Friendly Sites in Urban and Rural Watersheds – <i>Salmon Safe</i>	\$25,000	\$0
Totals	\$474,556	\$257,637

Attachment 2

2023 SRFB Grant Round

WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee Members

1. Tor Bell – Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust*
2. Jim Bower – King County
3. Diane Buckshnis – City of Edmonds*
4. Aaron David – King County
5. Sarah Heerhartz – Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group*
6. Rachel Konrady – City of Kirkland
7. Brent Lackey – Seattle Public Utilities
8. Leah Mikulsky – City of Bellevue
9. Valerie O’Halloran – City of Renton*
10. Bethany Scoggins – Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
11. Rob Plotnikoff – Snohomish County
12. Lauren Urgenson – WRIA 8 Technical Coordinator
13. Carrie Byron – WRIA 8 Projects and Funding Coordinator and Subcommittee Chair

*Denotes WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council member

Attachment 3

2023 Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Round

WRIA 8 Project Subcommittee Participants

1. Tor Bell – Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust*
2. Aaron Bosworth - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
3. Jim Bower – King County
4. Diane Buckshnis – City of Edmonds*
5. Karl Burton – Seattle Public Utilities
6. Jesse Dykstra - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
7. Sarah Heerhartz – Mid Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
8. Christa Heller – City of Bellevue
9. Rachel Konrady – City of Kirkland
10. Leah Mikulsky – City of Bellevue
11. Jason Mulvihill-Kuntz – WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Manager
12. Cleo Neculae – Washington Department of Ecology
13. Jim Schloemer - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
14. Lauren Urgenson – WRIA 8 Technical Coordinator
15. Carol Volk – Seattle Public Utilities
16. Jordanna Warnek – Washington Department of Natural Resources
17. Carrie Byron – WRIA 8 Projects and Funding Coordinator and Subcommittee Chair

*Denotes WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council member