

Fish Passage Funding Programs

Family Forest Fish Passage Program (FFPP)

Contact: [Dan Barrett](#), WDFW

Program Description: The [Family Forest Fish Passage Program](#) assists small-forest landowners with stream blockages to alleviate legal obligations and simplify the permitting process to address the barriers. Projects are sponsored by local agency or nonprofit partners.

Eligibility: Properties with a road over a fish-bearing stream on or accessing forestland utilizing less than two million harvestable boardfeet per year. The most eligible projects have willing landowners and include human-made barriers limiting harvestable timber and impacting a mile or more of stream blockage since there are currently 1,300 listed sites. Barriers must have been installed prior to May of 2003 to be eligible for the program.

Access: Department of Natural Resources reviews program eligibility when a Forest Practices Application (FPA) is submitted, although small forest landowners may apply to the program without an FPA through an [online application](#). The Department of Fish and Wildlife assesses and prioritizes each barrier meeting basic eligibility criteria. The Recreation and Conservation Office manages program funding and turns implementation of barrier corrections over to local sponsors which may be agencies or non-profits.

Fish Barrier Removal Board Grant Program (FBRB)

Contact: [Julie Grobelny](#), WDFW

Program Description: The [Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board](#) was re-established by the state legislature in 2014 to develop a coordinated approach to the removal of human-made fish passage barriers [[RCW 77.95.160](#)]. In 2021, the Pilchuck River was identified by the Puget Sound region as a priority watershed, and projects in the Pilchuck basin may rank more favorably for grant funding.

Eligibility: Barrier corrections must result in full passage and not be upstream of 0% passable barriers. The board does not consider federal structures, injunction culverts, or projects as part of mitigation requirements for funding. The 'Forests & Fish Law' requires all state and private forest roads be brought up to standards with [Road Maintenance and Abandonment Plans](#) (RMAPs), so the Fish Barrier Removal Board grant program does not cover large-forest landowner projects.

Projects must be one of three types: Design/Planning, Construction/Restoration, or Design+Build/Restoration. Abandonment is preferred, followed by bridges, then stream simulation. All grants must result in final designs and require 15% match, unless the project cost is under \$200k and will be completed in less than two years.

Applications: Project sponsors should contact the Lead Entity to discuss application, ensure project is on 4YWP and seek a LE letter of support for the proposal submission.

Timeline: The biennial grant round begins in the fall (2023) with a workshop. The application is open for three months. After applications close in early 2024, the board sends a ranked list to the Governor's office in the fall; the Governor sends a funding threshold to the legislature at the start of 2025, and the legislature deliberates on a budget and approves funding in time for contract development in summer of 2025.

Snohomish Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee

Fish Passage Focus

May 2023

What's the status of Fish Passage Barriers in the Snohomish Basin?

King County	Contact: Evan Lewis
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessed 950 county-owned barriers and evaluated with a coho intrinsic potential model and updated stream network map to prioritize and identify the top 50 barriers contributing to almost 50% of the total possible habitat gain.Scoring Criteria: Chinook/Kokanee benefits, habitat quality & quantity, stream connectivity.14 out of 60 barriers in WRIA 7 are identified in the 10-year correction plan.50% of ~\$150M need to address the 10-year correction plan will be supported with King County funds, including real estate excise taxes and Surface Water Management funds.Next Steps: identify and develop strategies to address barriers higher in the watersheds.	
Fish Passage Restoration Program Website GIS Data	
Snohomish County	Contact: Daniel Howe
<ul style="list-style-type: none">From 2020 to 2022, 900 culverts with an unknown barrier status were investigated by Surface Water Management and WDFW. Developing a GIS database of 1,735 known crossings.Multi-benefit projects are prioritized by the internal group for correction due to their non-competitive disadvantage in most grant programs. For example, 185 failing culverts need to be addressed regardless of potential habitat gain. Other prioritization criteria include emergencies, political pressure, and habitat gain.Next Steps: develop a comprehensive list of barriers prioritized based on habitat. Partner with nonprofits on private lands – county is limited to work within the right-of-way, but is interested in using county-owned culverts as match for partners to address barriers in private or federal lands.	
Fish Passage Culvert Program Website Interactive Webmap (updated twice a year)	
The Tulalip Tribes	Contact: Brett Shattuck
<ul style="list-style-type: none">\$9.7M from a NOAA grant will address 16 barriers in 11 projects in the Snohomish Basin, supported by interlocal partnerships between the Tribes and Snohomish County, Snohomish Conservation District.Next Steps: Prioritization efforts have been helpful to get funding and submit funding packages; Tulalip is interested in a basin-wide prioritization and private inventory gap assessment compilation to pursue these partnerships on funding packages while the influx of funding is happening.Challenges: Limited staff capacity to inventory data gaps.Natasha Coumou is assembling a basin webmap including information from WDFW, King and Snohomish Counties, City of Marysville, Snohomish Conservation District, RMAP, and internal Tulalip records. Contact her to share data to the collaboration: ncoumou@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov	
Fish Barrier Removal Website	
Snohomish Conservation District	Contact: Kristin Marshall
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Collaborating with Tulalip and Snohomish County on NOAA grant.Interested in leveraging work throughout the basin to apply a coordinated approach.	
Fish Passage Blog Posts	

Snohomish Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee

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May 2023

Wild Fish Conservancy	Contact: Mary Lou White
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Assessing private barriers & natural barriers to supplement King County's prioritization in two phases – 70 were identified out of 172 assessed in Phase 1 (Tuck, Harris, Ames, Cherry, Mid Mainstem Snoqualmie), and 131 will be assessed in Phase 2 (Raging, Patterson, Griffin).Replacement criteria include: Chinook Recovery Plan, prioritized list, motivated landowners, FFFPP, partnerships, capacity, and funding sources.Challenges: Some parcels have many barriers. It costs a lot more to address culverts and reach landowners in the floodplain than in the uplands.	
Fish Passage Data Gap Evaluation Project Webpage	
Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)	Contact: Eliza McGovern
<ul style="list-style-type: none">A 2013 federal injunction for fish passage barriers requires WSDOT to correct 90% of blocked habitat by 2030; this is roughly 400 remaining barriers in the state.An additional 610 barriers throughout the state are at the end of their useful life or were identified during re-inventorying and need to be corrected.Out of 72 injunction barriers in WRIA 7, 12 have been corrected with 40 remaining in the 2030 plan. Some sites are tied to transportation projects, while others are standalone.Publishes and constantly updates Best Available Science in the Hydraulics Manual for large structures.Online trainings for contractors are held and are open to the public about monitoring, problems found during construction, design, and more.	
2030 Fish Passage Project Delivery Plan Website Interactive Webmap	
Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)	Contact: Rachel Benbrook
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Watershed Resilience Action Plan (WRAP) funding package included funds for DNR to inventory streams on small-forest landowner parcels with requests for addressing priority barriers.Challenges: Working through prioritization criteria	
Interactive WRAP Webmap	
Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)	Contact: Ashley Kees
Fish Passage Inventory, Assessment, and Prioritization Website Interactive Fish Passage Webmap	

Snohomish Basin Salmonid Recovery Technical Committee

Fish Passage Focus

May 2023

Snohomish Basin Salmon Recovery Technical Committee Meeting Attendance

May 2, 2023, 9:00—11:00; Zoom

Attendees

Matt Pouley, Tulalip Tribes (Chair)	Jamie Glasgow, WFC
Norah Kates, King County	Jim Shannon, Port/City of Everett, H&A
Gretchen Glaub, Snohomish County	Josh Chamberlin, NOAA NWFSC
Carston Curd, Snohomish County	Julie Grobelny, WDFW
Morgan Ruff, Tulalip Tribes	Keith Binkley, Snohomish County PUD
Ashley Kees, WDFW	Kevin Lee, WDFW
Austin Richard, Tulalip Tribes	Kirk Lakey, ARHPM WDFW
Brett Shattuck, Tulalip Tribes	Kristen Marshall, Snohomish CD
Christine Stevens, Snohomish CD	Kurt Nelson, Tulalip Tribes
Cindy Cullen, City of Everett	Kyle Legare, Snohomish County PUD
Dan Barrett, WDFW	Lisa Tario, Snohomish County
Daniel Howe, Snohomish County	Mary Lou White, Wild Fish Conservancy
Darcey Hughes, Snohomish County	Mike Rustay, Snohomish County
Denise Di Santo, King County	Natasha Coumou, Tulalip Tribes
Doug Hennick, Wild Fish Conservancy	Paul Crane, City of Everett
Elissa Ostergaard, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum	Paul Schlenger, ESA
Eliza McGovern, WSDOT	Rachel Benbrook, Department of Natural Resources
Erin Ryan-Peñuela, Snoqualmie Watershed Forum	Ryan Bartelheimer, Snohomish CD
Evan Lewis, King County	Ryan Lewis, Snoqualmie Tribe
Gwendolyn Hannam, WDFW	Sarah Yepez, Department of Ecology
Harry Richardson, Snohomish County	Walt Rung, Adopt a Stream
Heather Griffin, City of Everett	