

Maintain fishing on the Columbia River

A 2020 supplemental funding request



Emergent need

\$659,000 for 2019-21
biennium

At-risk fishing impacts

\$3 million for 2021-23
biennium ongoing need



For nearly a decade, the Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement provided funding critical to the ongoing monitoring and enforcement of recreational fisheries along this vital waterway.

This endorsement expired in July 2019, leaving a significant funding gap for WDFW. The CRSSE Program funded 143 projects in nine years, totaling approximately \$10.5 million and leading to an increase of over 1 million angler days.

The department was able to use the funds collected from endorsement sales in the first half of 2019 to sustain work already taking place, but without a more secure source of funding in coming years, the impacts to anglers and the many at-risk fish populations that use this major waterway are likely to be severe.

The Problem

Without this funding, numerous recreational fisheries on the Columbia are at risk of disappearing, as well as important monitoring, science, and enforcement work on the river that protects fish runs listed under the Endangered Species Act. This could also have a profound effect on local economies.

The Solution

Funding this request will allow WDFW to continue research, monitoring, and enforcement vital to Columbia River salmon and steelhead, as well as those fishing opportunities.

Contact

Tom McBride

Legislative Director

360-480-1472

tom.mcbride@dfw.wa.gov