

2022 Capital Funding Needs



Capital Projects | \$68.5M

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is requesting nearly \$68.5 million in capital funding for a variety of projects, including restoring estuary habitat on the Hood Canal, acquiring critical elk habitat, and conducting hatchery improvement projects.

Duckabush Estuary Restoration Project | \$50.9M

WDFW, in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, is proposing a restoration project on the Duckabush River estuary in Jefferson County. The project would occur primarily on public land at the Duckabush Wildlife Area Unit managed by WDFW.

The project would reconnect the Duckabush River to neighboring floodplains and wetlands by modifying local roads and elevating Highway 101 onto a bridge spanning the area where freshwater from the Duckabush River meets saltwater of Hood Canal.

Investing state funding (\$50.9M) in the Duckabush Estuary Restoration Project is necessary to bring millions of federal construction dollars to Puget Sound through the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project partnership. State capital funding will support construction of the bridge and highway road segments.

Hoffstadt Hills Habitat Acquisition | \$14.5M

The purchase of approximately 6,400 acres in southwest Washington will enhance secured habitat for the Mount St. Helens elk herd, aid in the recovery of listed salmonid stocks in the North Fork Toutle River, support old growth-dependent species, protect habitat connectivity, and provide recreation opportunities and public access to the outdoors.

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Deschutes Watershed Center Hatchery Planning | \$2.2M

The Department plans to construct a new salmon hatchery in the Deschutes River Basin to meet continued demands for Chinook salmon production in the South Puget Sound region. This \$2.2M request will allow for continued analysis of the planning, permitting, real estate, and design activities for the new hatchery. The proposed facilities will produce 3.8 million Chinook salmon annually with potential to raise steelhead as well.

Klickitat Wildlife Area Fencing | \$450K

The Department proposes to replace seven miles of deteriorated or missing fencing to provide clear land management boundaries between the Klickitat Wildlife Area, adjacent Yakama Nation land, and private landowner properties.

Taneum Creek Property Management | \$300K

Earlier this year, WDFW acquired a 318-acre property near Thorpe using \$1.7M in grant funding from the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office. The property is now part of the WDFW-managed L.T. Murray Wildlife Area and includes habitats such as wetlands and shrubsteppe. However, the grant funding did not support post-closing activities, and WDFW is requesting \$300K to complete demolition of existing substandard structures and install fencing, signage, road barriers, and gates.

Beaver Creek Hatchery Renovation | \$120K

To accommodate increased fish production at Beaver Creek Hatchery, WDFW needs to complete a pre-design study for renovations (\$120K). Design and construction funding will be requested in the following biennia. Fish production has increased at the Beaver Creek Hatchery due to the closure of the Grays River Hatchery that has aging facilities and is unable to maintain an adequate supply of water to the hatchery.

Toutle River Fish Collection Facility | Proviso Revision Only

The Department is proposing to revise the capital budget provision regarding the Toutle River Fish Collection Facility project. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is teaming up with the state to modify the fish collection facility to make it safer and more efficient. This effort is a component of a larger project to increase the height of the sediment retention structure downriver from Mount St Helens. Previous funding has been provided for WDFW to share costs for design and associated activities. WDFW proposes to revise the capital budget provision to allow real estate actions that directly support the Army Corps of Engineers project and to allow the use of state funding for design costs (\$1.2M).