

March 3, 2011

Announcing the Draft 2011 ESRP Investment Plan

The [Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program \(ESRP\)](#) is pleased to release its Draft 2011 Investment Plan for the 2011-2013 biennium. The Investment Plan was approved by resolution of the [Puget Sound Partnership](#)'s Leadership Council on February 17th 2011. The investment plan will be finalized once a state budget for the next biennium is passed.

The twenty-two projects contained in the Draft Investment Plan have all been recommended for funding based on a rigorous and transparent competitive process. Collectively, these projects represent the best available opportunities for investing in nearshore ecosystem restoration in Puget Sound. Protecting and restoring coastal processes in Puget Sound is vital to ensure that both existing fish and wildlife habitats and the benefits of complementary restoration efforts (including salmon recovery) are sustained over time in the face of increasing development and a changing climate.

Created in 2006 the Estuary and Salmon Restoration has been funding exemplary projects that are aligned with the strategic needs identified by the [Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project](#) and that implement the nearshore components of the Action Agenda. The nearshore restoration projects funded by ESRP not only contribute to Puget Sound recovery but also provide jobs and a range of community and ecosystem benefits including flood storage, drainage and infrastructure improvements, public access, recreation and resiliency to climate change. ESRP has also been successful in stimulating federal investments through program partnerships. The State's continued investment in project development is critical for maintaining federal interest in the Puget Sound region.

Accompanying this letter is an ESRP Fact Sheet which provides an overview of the ESRP program as well as a ranked list of projects recommended for funding in the draft 2011 Investment Plan.

For more information please contact:

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Estuary & Salmon Restoration Program Fact Sheet



The Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP) provides funding and technical assistance to restore Puget Sound shorelines. Created in 2006, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and its partners designed ESRP to provide a coordinated strategic and cost effective approach to nearshore ecosystem restoration.

Creating self-sustaining coastal ecosystems

ESRP develops projects that restore physical processes (for example, the movement of tides and sediment) that create and maintain coastal habitats in Puget Sound, as recommended by current scientific literature. Restoration of coastal processes is vital to ensure that both existing habitats and the benefits of complementary restoration efforts (like salmon recovery) are sustained over time in the face of increasing development pressures and a changing climate.

Producing results through collaboration

ESRP is also a model of collaboration, since the Program is jointly operated by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Recreation and Conservation Office, and NOAA Restoration Center staff. It reflects how agencies can combine resources and share expertise to more efficiently deliver high quality service with reduced administrative costs.



Skokomish River delta restoration work photo by Paul Cereghino, NOAA Restoration Center.

Top Reasons to Invest in ESRP

- 1 SUPPORTS THE ECONOMY BY CREATING JOBS IN LOCAL COMMUNITIES**
ESRP funding for restoration is broadly distributed throughout Puget Sound and supports jobs in multiple sectors from design and engineering to on-the-ground construction.
- 2 STIMULATES FEDERAL INVESTMENT IN PUGET SOUND RECOVERY**
ESRP has been recognized by partners including PSP, Army Corps, NOAA, and USFWS, as a model for implementation of restoration projects of all sizes. Our support for project development, aggressive development of regional strategies, and transparent competitive selection mechanisms is the catalyst for attracting new federal investments in Puget Sound.
- 3 RESTORES PUGET SOUND BY IMPLEMENTING THE ACTION AGENDA**
ESRP's robust and transparent technical evaluation process is informed by guidance and strategies from the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project and implements the Puget Sound Action Agenda and salmon recovery plans.

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Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program Draft 2011 Investment Plan

<http://www.pugetsoundsnearshore.org/esrp.htm>

Rank	Project #	Project Name	Proposed Phase	Sponsor	Lead Entity	Leg Dist.	Max. Funding Rec.	Running Total
1	10-29	Port Susan Dike Setback [^] *	Construct/Eval	The Nature Conservancy	Stillaguamish	10	\$520,000	\$520,000
2	10-02	Barnum Point Acquisition [^]	Acquisition	The Nature Conservancy	Island County WRIA 6	10	\$1,280,000	\$1,800,000
3	10-30	Olympic Sculpture Park Monitoring*	Evaluation	Seattle Public Utilities	Green/Duwamish WRIA 9	36	\$100,000	\$1,900,000
4	10-05	Dabob Natural Area Acquisition	Acquisition	The Nature Conservancy	Hood Canal Coordinating Council	24	\$750,000	\$2,650,000
5	10-28	Skokomish Estuary Phase III [^] *	Adaptive Mgmt	Mason Conservation District	Hood Canal Coordinating Council	35	\$481,204	\$3,131,204
6	10-25	Washington Harbor Restoration	Construct/Eval	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	North Olympic Peninsula	24	\$1,091,622	\$4,222,826
7	10-14	Lower Nooksack Alternatives Analysis & Acq [^]	Feas/Acq	Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District	WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board	42	\$425,000	\$4,647,826
8	10-19	Milltown Island/S. Fork Restoration & Assess.	Construct/Eval	Skagit River System Cooperative	Skagit Watershed Council	10	\$251,745	\$4,899,571
9	10-18	Thatcher Bay Nearshore Restoration	Construct/Eval	Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group	San Juan County	40	\$833,447	\$5,733,018
10	10-26	Woodard-Chapman Bay Fill Removal	Construct/Eval	Department of Natural Resources	Thurston Conservation District	22	\$672,254	\$6,405,272
11	10-15	Point Heyer Drift Cell Preservation Phase II	Acquisition	King County	Green/Duwamish WRIA 9	34	\$1,800,000	\$8,205,272
12	10-11	Freestad Lake Barrier Lagoon Restoration Phase II	Design	Skagit County Public Works	Skagit Watershed Council	40	\$184,000	\$8,389,272
13	10-23	Triangle Cove Acquisition	Acquisition	Stillaguamish Tribe	Stillaguamish	10	\$314,900	\$8,704,172
14	10-17	Seahurst Park North Shoreline Restoration	Construct/Eval	City of Burien	Green/Duwamish WRIA 9	34	\$498,000	\$9,202,172
15	10-22	Titlow Estuary Restoration	Design	South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group	Pierce County	28	\$137,515	\$9,339,687
16	10-01	West Bainbridge Shoreline Acquisition	Acquisition	Bainbridge Island Land Trust	West Sound Watersheds Council	23	\$410,000	\$9,749,687
17	10-16	Salt Creek Marsh Reconnection	Feas/Design	North Olympic Salmon Coalition	North Olympic Peninsula	24	\$235,585	\$9,985,272
18	10-07	Edmonds Marsh Restoration Feasibility Study	Feasibility	People for Puget Sound	WRIA 8 Lake WA/Cedar/Sammamish	21	\$214,160	\$10,199,432
19	10-20	Squalicum Creek Estuary Restoration	Construct/Eval	Port of Bellingham	WRIA 1 Salmon Recovery Board	42	\$703,068	\$10,902,500
20	10-12	Johns Creek Estuary- Acquisition & Restoration	Acq/Feas-Constr	Cascade Land Conservancy	Mason Conservation District	35	\$1,874,250	\$12,776,750
21	10-09	Elwha Nearshore	Feas/Monitor	Coastal Watershed Institute	North Olympic Peninsula	24	\$400,000	\$13,176,750
22	10-08	Elliott Bay Park Nearshore Restore/Enhance	Feas/Design	Port of Seattle	Green/Duwamish WRIA 9	36	\$260,000	\$13,436,750
Total ESRP Funding Recommendation							\$13,436,750	

[^] PROJECT ENHANCEMENT: Project identified as having potential to advance ESRP's Adaptive Management objectives to reduce programmatic and project level risk and uncertainty. Total award includes nominal enhancement funding to be negotiated pending final awards.

* PORTFOLIO PROJECT