



King County

News Release

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Green/Duwamish watershed projects receive \$1.2 million boost from Flood Control District

Projects aimed at improving water quality, controlling flooding, protecting and restoring habitat, and supporting salmon recovery efforts in Water Resource Inventory Area 9 (WRIA 9) – which encompasses the Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound watershed – received a lift from the King County Flood Control District at its September 9 meeting.

The Flood Control District Board of Supervisors approved \$1.2 million in Cooperative Watershed Management Grant funding for WRIA 9 to boost the clean water and salmon recovery efforts of local organizations. The cities that are part of WRIA 9 include: Algona, Auburn, Black Diamond, Burien, Covington, Des Moines, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Kent, Maple Valley, Normandy Park, Renton, SeaTac, Seattle and Tukwila.

“It is vitally important to protect our local water resources and habitats,” said Supervisor Reagan Dunn, Chair of the Flood Control District Board of Supervisors. “I am pleased that the Flood Control District can partner with the 16 local governments and other agencies inside WIRA 9 and play a key role in helping to fund these projects.”

“This funding will help restore and protect the beautiful watershed in South King County, which provides environmental and economic benefits to our community,” said Julia Patterson, Vice-Chair of the King County Flood Control District. “I look forward to watching these dollars at work in protecting our South County resources.”

The grants, which also leveraged an additional \$1.25 million for WRIA 9, help it carry out WRIA 9 salmon conservation projects for Endangered Species Act-listed species according to annual priorities set by the WRIA Forum.

In the Cooperative Watershed Management Grant Program, projects must address high priority habitats or watershed processes that significantly influence productivity in each basin. To ensure high quality projects, only those that have been scientifically vetted and ranked competitively by their respective WRIA Forum are candidates for funding. Cities, towns, special districts, public schools, King County, federally recognized tribes and non-profits are eligible to apply for the grants.

“With the loss of King Conservation district funding, the funding WRIA 9 receives from the Flood Control District is instrumental in leveraging an additional \$5 million from local, state and federal agencies,” said Marlla Mhoon, Co-Chair WRIA 9 Watershed Ecosystem Forum and a member of the Covington City Council. “Without the FCD funding, we would not be able to move forward to implement the critical habitat projects to recover Chinook salmon and improve the water quality of the Green/Duwamish River and the coastal areas of King County. Flood control and habitat restoration projects are synonymous.”

King County’s Water and Land Resources Division in the Department of Natural Resources and Parks administers the grant allocation process with the Flood Control District executive committee overseeing project selections. The Flood Control District board will pursue on-going funding for future watershed management actions given the relationship between flood control and stormwater projects and cooperative watershed management.

Visit the Flood Control District website to view the list of the eight WRIA 9 projects approved for funding.

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The King County Flood Control District is a special purpose government created to provide funding and policy oversight for flood protection projects and programs in King County. The Flood Control District’s Board is composed of the members of the King County Council. The Water and Land Resources Division of the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks develops and implements the approved flood protection projects and programs. Information is available at <http://www.kingcountyfloodcontrol.org/>.

**KING COUNTY FLOOD DISTRICT COOPERATIVE WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GRANTS
2013 PROPOSALS**

WRIA	PROJECT	APPLICANT	DESCRIPTION	MATCH	REQUEST	2012 REQUEST	Project focus
9	Duwamish Gardens Construction(Year 2) CWM 13-9-2	<i>City of Tukwila</i>	Construct off-channel fish habitat, riparian plantings, and minor park elements on a 2.16 acre site owned by the City of Tukwila. This project will create approximately one acre of shallow water juvenile salmonid habitat in the Duwamish sub-watershed transition zone.	\$1,015,827	\$765,000		RESTORE
9	Changing Behaviors: Improving Watershed Health & Salmon Habitat CWM 13-9-3	<i>Environmental Science Center</i>	This program will help improve the Puget Sound watershed by delivering programs and engaging activities focus on teaching students and the community about the concerns with watershed health and salmon recovery. These programs and events ask participants to take personal responsibility for their watershed by making positive behavior changes.	\$31,385	\$30,000	\$ 30,000	EDU
9	Judd Creek Wood Placement CWM 13-9-1	<i>King County DNRP</i>	This project will work with a private property owner to create habitat improvements on their property to benefit salmon. Project includes installing large woody debris, native plantings and controlling invasive species.	\$3,318	\$80,000	\$ -	RESTORE
9	Cumulative Habitat Conditions Monitoring - Lower Green and Duwamish CWM 13-9-5	<i>King County DNRP</i>	The intent of this project is to collect large woody debris, pool and shoreline armoring information in the Lower Green and Duwamish sub-watersheds that can be compared with data collected in 2004. This leverages work that will be contracted by the US Army Corps of Engineers to continue sampling efforts downstream.	\$0	\$50,000	\$ -	MONITOR
9	Lower Green River Juvenile Fish Use Surveys CWM 13-9-6	<i>King County DNRP</i>	This project will collect pre-project construction fish use data in the Lower Green river where multiple projects will be occurring over the next five years. Juvenile fish use of the lower river is not well understood and this will help provide essential information for how restoration projects perform and guide future restoration design.	\$0	\$30,000	\$ -	MONITOR
9	WRIA 9 Capital Projects Implementation (2014)	<i>King County DNRP</i>	Funding would support the Green/Duwamish Habitat Project and Program Coordination, including coordination and evaluation of priority capital projects and programs. This function supports the resources, tools, and evaluation needed for capital improvement programming, acquisition, and program evaluation.	\$60,000	\$163,000	\$ 140,000	COORD /TECH ASSIST
9	Beach Naturalist Program CWM 13-9-7	<i>Seattle Aquarium</i>	The Beach Naturalist program is a public education and outreach program that uses local citizen volunteers to teach the general public about the importance of the nearshore environment. The request is for support for 2013 and 2014.	\$62,500	\$42,000		EDU
9	Green River Smolt Trap - Smolt Monitoring CWM 13-9-9	<i>Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife</i>	This funding will contribute towards operation of the Green River screw trap, located on the Middle Green River at Rivermile 34.5. The focus of this project is to estimate the number of naturally-produced Puget Sound Chinook originating from this river system and is part of a long-term monitoring effort.	\$80,000	\$40,000	\$ 60,000	MONITOR
				\$1,253,030	\$1,200,000		