

NOAA
FISHERIES

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

FY 2023 Report to Congress

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VI. PCSRF at Work: Featured Projects Back Cover

Cover: Project partners wading through the [Finn Rock Reach Project](#), Mckenzie River, Oregon. Credit: Adam Spencer, Eugene Water and Electric Board.



Salmon River, Oregon. Credit: NOAA Fisheries.

I. Executive Summary

Since 2000, Congress has provided funding for the protection, conservation, and restoration of Pacific salmon.¹ The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF), administered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), distributes funds to states and tribes through competitive grants. Eligible projects include all activities that contribute to recovering Pacific salmon listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) or supporting Pacific salmon species important to tribal treaty fishing rights and Native subsistence fishing.

This Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 report to Congress documents the program's contributions to Pacific salmon recovery over the past 24 years (2000-2023). This report summarizes program-wide accomplishments, highlights the value of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) – as well as features projects that demonstrate the geographic breadth and extent of work completed to improve salmon habitat, maintain healthy salmon populations, and recover Pacific salmon. The PCSRF program is vital to supporting state- and tribal-led recovery efforts and in fostering associated local partnerships to advance salmon recovery.

¹ In this report, the reference to 28 species listed under the ESA includes evolutionarily significant units and distinct population segments that are listed as threatened or endangered, and the term "salmon" is inclusive of both salmon and steelhead.



Spawning coho salmon, in Salmon River, Oregon. Credit: Bureau of Land Management.

II. Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund Program Objective and Priorities

In 2000, Congress established PCSRF to reverse the decline of Pacific salmon populations in California, Oregon, Washington, Alaska, and Idaho. PCSRF is a competitive grant program through which NMFS administers funding to states and tribes to protect, conserve, and recover these populations (Exhibit 1).

The PCSRF program objective is to supplement state and tribal programs for salmon recovery by allocating Federal funding to projects that provide demonstrable and measurable benefits to Pacific anadromous salmonids (i.e., Chinook, coho, chum, sockeye, pink salmon and steelhead) and their habitat. These projects are those necessary for conservation of salmon populations listed as threatened, endangered, or identified by a state as at-risk to be so listed; for maintaining populations necessary for the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or Native subsistence fishing; or for conservation of Pacific coastal salmon habitat. A large need exists for recovery activities as demonstrated by annual PCSRF grant funding requests. For example, PCSRF grant requests over the past 5 years range from \$107 million (2019) to \$174 million (2023).

The PCSRF program priorities are described below in ranked order.

Priority One

Eligible projects are those that address factors limiting the productivity of Pacific salmon that are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and/or are necessary for the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing.

Priority Two

Eligible projects consist of monitoring habitat restoration actions, population status and trends, and for the exercise of tribal-treaty fishing rights or native-subsistence fishing, or conducting watershed-scale or larger recovery planning.

Priority Three

Eligible projects include all other projects consistent with the congressional authorization with a demonstrated need for PCSRF funding.



Since 2000, PCSRF has:



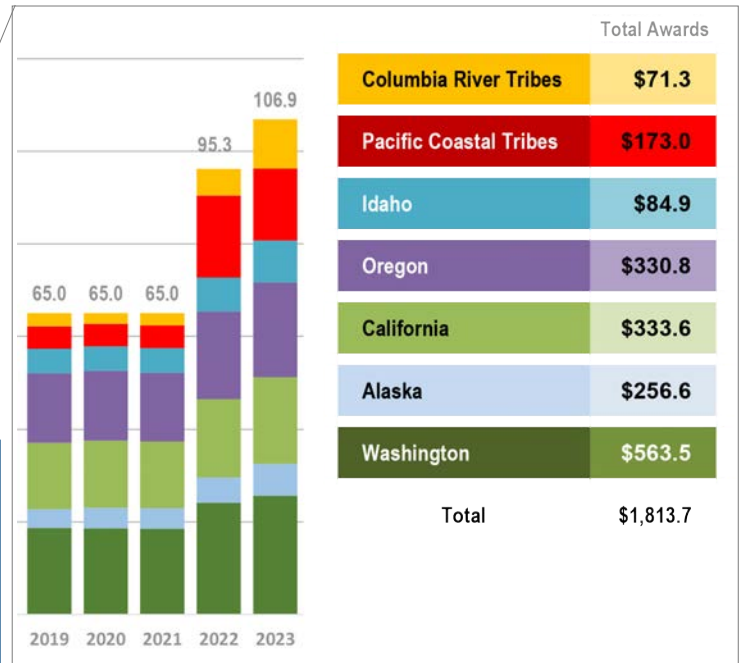
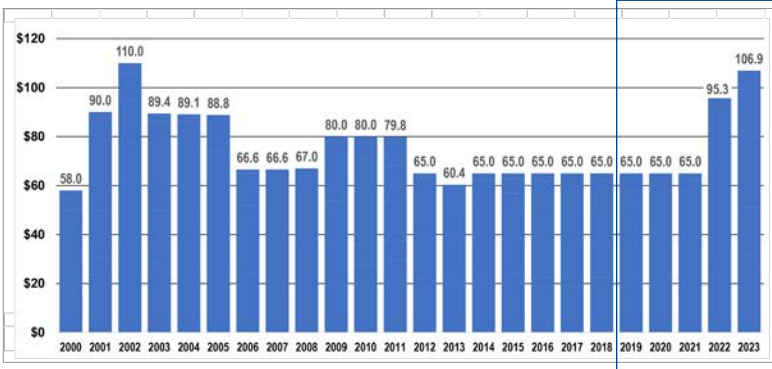
Awarded
\$76.0 million
(average/year)

III. Tracking Funding

Since 2000, PCSRF has appropriated \$1.8 billion to state and tribal salmon recovery programs and projects (Exhibit 1). With this funding, states and tribes have leveraged additional resources to collectively implement nearly 16,000 projects to conserve West Coast salmon. State grant recipients are required to match at least 33 percent of received Federal funds.

Exhibit 1: PCSRF Awards to States and Tribes since 2000 (\$Millions)

Due to rounding to the nearest \$0.1 million, the total does not equal the sum of the state and tribal award totals. FY 2022 awards are inclusive of the BIL funds. FY 2023 awards are inclusive of the BIL and IRA funds.



Left: Fish Relocation, Phase 1 Deer Creek project. Credit: McKenzie Watershed Council.

Appropriated **\$1.8 billion**²



²The \$1.8 billion appropriated is inclusive of FY22 and FY23 BIL and IRA funds.

Leveraged
\$2.2 billion
non-PCSRF contributions



Protected, restored, and created
1,198,763 acres
of salmon habitat



IV. Measuring Progress

To ensure we can measure and evaluate progress and outcomes from PCSRF investments, all PCSRF recipients report on a standard list of metrics for all projects (Exhibit 2). In aggregate, these metrics provide estimates of program-wide accomplishments funded with PCSRF, state-matching, and other partner funds. PCSRF's project and performance metrics database is available online at: www.webapps.nwfsc.noaa.gov/pcsrp.

In addition to tracking funding and progress through a series of specific indicators as identified in Exhibit 2, some outcomes of the PCSRF program are harder to measure. Pacific salmon recovery requires strong partnerships, collaboration, sound science, and effective communication. In every project, there are teams of scientists, administrative and program staff, volunteers, landowners, and communities coming together to protect salmon and their habitats across the U.S. West Coast and Alaska.

Project Type	Performance Measure	FY2023	FY2000 - FY2023
Instream Habitat Projects	Stream Miles Treated	109	3,302
Wetland Habitat Projects	Acres Created	0	2,116
	Acres Treated	62	30,291
Estuarine Habitat Projects	Acres Created	0	2,353
	Acres Treated	14	7,417
Land Acquisition Projects	Acres Acquired or Protected	5,433	298,171
	Stream Bank Miles Acquired or Protected	35	5,366
Riparian Habitat Projects	Stream Miles Treated	963	14,619
	Acres Treated	13,801	165,941
Upland Habitat Projects	Acres Treated	2,476	676,461
Fish Passage Projects	Number of Barriers Removed	169	3,995
	Stream Miles Opened	202	12,043
	Number of Fish Screens Installed	2	2,038
Hatchery Fish Enhancement Projects	Number of Fish Marked for Management Strategies	12,369,985	402,445,400
Research, Monitoring and Evaluation Projects	Miles of Stream Monitored	19,967	600,603

Exhibit 2: Summary of PCSRF Program-wide Performance Measures, FYs 2000-2023

Reflects annual and accumulated totals at the time the database was queried for this report (December 15, 2023).

Made
12,043 stream miles
accessible

Partners leveraged
resources to implement
15,942 projects

V. Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act Investments

Climate change impacts every aspect of NMFS' mission – from managing fisheries and aquaculture to conserving protected resources and vital habitats. The BIL and IRA present an unprecedented opportunity to benefit Pacific salmon and their habitats. PCSRF will receive \$172 million (\$34.4 million per year) from the BIL over a 5-year period (2022-2026) and \$15 million from the IRA (\$7.5 million per year) over a 2-year period (2023-2024). The PCSRF BIL and IRA investments support project development and design, on-the-ground habitat restoration, and tribal capacity for grant administration, research, and monitoring.

PCSRF BIL and IRA investments funded the following recipients to date:³

Columbia River tribes:
\$11.9 million
21 projects

**Pacific Coast tribes
(including Alaska):**
\$24.0 million
41 projects

**U.S. West Coast
states and Alaska:**
\$40.1 million
49 projects

³All award amounts and number of projects were queried on December 21, 2023.

Project Type Distribution

67%

**Habitat
Restoration
and
Acquisition**

3%

**Program
Administration
and Tribal
Capacity**

13%

**Restoration,
Planning and
Assessments**

6%

**Enhancement
and Harvest
Management**

11%

**Research,
Monitoring
and
Evaluation**

PCSRF at Work: Featured Projects

ALASKA

Project: Protecting Salmon Habitat and Traditional Use Sites for the Native Village of Tazlina

PCSRF Funds: \$627,000

Matching and Other Funds: \$1,046,185

Targeted Species: Chinook, Coho, Sockeye, Steelhead (non-ESA listed species)



CALIFORNIA

Project: Watershed Stewards Program

PCSRF Funds: \$608,880

Matching and Other Funds: \$1,091,697

Targeted Species: Central California Coast Coho (E)

IDAHO

Project: Loon Creek Habitat Improvement Project

PCSRF Funds: \$464,513

Matching and Other Funds: \$159,371

Targeted Species: Snake River Basin Steelhead (T), Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon (T)



OREGON

Project: Vinegar to Vincent Fish Habitat Improvement

PCSRF Funds: \$166,746

Matching and Other Funds: \$1,021,529

Targeted Species: Mid-Columbia River Spring-run Chinook Salmon, Middle Columbia River Steelhead (T)

WASHINGTON

Project: Large Wood Installation on the Lower Skokomish River

PCSRF Funds: \$470,902

Matching and Other Funds: \$457,331

Targeted Species: Puget Sound/Strait of Georgia Coho Salmon; Puget Sound Chinook Salmon ESU (T); Puget Sound Steelhead (T); Hood Canal Summer-run Chum Salmon (T)



(T) denotes species listed as "threatened" and (E) denotes species listed as "endangered" under the ESA

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