

2025-27 Budget Requests - Orca Task Force Recommendations

Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Prey					
Recommendation 1: Significantly increase investment in restoration and acquisition of habitat in areas where Chinook stocks most benefit Southern Resident orcas.					
Puget Sound Partnership	Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Fund	Capital budget request for the Fiscal Year 2023-2025 Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration program, which includes \$30,000,000 for regular round projects and ~\$39,716,940 for large capital projects.	Capital	\$109,187,000	\$109,187,000
Department of Natural Resources	Family Forest Fish Passage Program	Family Forest Fish Passage Program was established by the Legislature in 2001. This request funds the ongoing program for financial assistance to family forest landowners to correct fish passage barrier, directly correcting 58 culverts over the biennium.	Capital	\$12,084,000	\$9,667,200
Department of Natural Resources	Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program	Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program acquires perpetual conservation easements from willing private forest landowners to protect riparian open space, especially channel migration zones. There are four eligible easements awaiting funding for this biennium. The Rivers and Habitat Open Space Program includes exploring opportunities to integrate protection restoration and enhancement of salmon habitat.	Capital	\$4,631,000	\$3,704,800
Department of Natural Resources	Correction of Fish Barrier Culverts - culvert injunction	Correction of Fish Barrier Culverts for improved salmon migration and survival.	Capital	\$3,260,000	\$2,608,000
Department of Natural Resources	Forest Riparian Easement Program	The Forestry Riparian Easement Program is a voluntary program that reimburses landowners for the value of the trees they are required to leave to protect fish habitat. The program provides compensation for a minimum of 50 percent of the timber value and applies to trees adjacent to streams, wetlands, seeps, or unstable slopes.	Capital	\$4,900,000	\$4,900,000
Department of Natural Resources	Reforestation Post wildfire	Reforestation grant program	Capital	\$2,500,000	\$1,250,000

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Recreation and Conservation Office	Riparian Grant Program	Funding through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board specific to riparian areas and grants.	Capital	\$25,000,000	\$25,000,000
Recreation and Conservation Office	Salmon Recovery Funding Request through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board	This includes project funds, funding for the Recreation and Conservation Office administration, Lead Entity capacity, Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group project planning costs, and request authority to spend up to \$75 million in Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund funds.	Capital	\$125,000,000	\$125,000,000
Recreation and Conservation Office	Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative	Funding for coastal restoration projects.	Capital	\$16,713,000	\$13,370,400
Department of Ecology	Floodplains by Design	Flooding is the number one natural hazard in Washington State. It has caused more than \$2 billion in damages to the state since 1980, with the highly populated areas in western Washington most at risk. In the past, solutions to flooding problems were often out of sync with other ecosystem protection or restoration activities. Floodplain by Design is a floodplain management program that uses an integrated approach to managing our flood-prone areas in the state. It combines flood hazard reduction actions with salmon recovery, habitat restoration, and other benefits to the community. It is a public/private partnership between Ecology, The Nature Conservancy, and Puget Sound Partnership.	Capital	\$84,001,974	\$67,201,579
Department of Ecology	Chehalis Basin Strategy	Aquatic Species Restoration portion of total request	Capital	\$80,000,000	\$16,000,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board	Fund fish passage barrier projects to allow salmon access.	Capital	\$76,790,000	\$61,432,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Restoring Biodiversity	We need bold action to avoid a collapse of fish, wildlife, and ecosystems in Washington. Ongoing habitat loss and degradation, increasing effects of climate change, and growing risks of disease and invasive species threaten the state's biodiversity. Continued biodiversity loss puts our own health and wellbeing at risk, along with unprecedented cultural, economic, and socio-political impacts. Requested funding will allow the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement the State Wildlife Action Plan and other efforts to have healthier fish and wildlife populations, improved and connected habitats, lasting natural benefits for people, and ongoing recreational and educational opportunities.	Operating	\$14,320,000	\$2,864,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Fish Barrier projects on state lands	Fish passage improvements on WDFW lands	Capital	\$817,000	\$817,000
State Parks	Statewide Fish Barrier Removals	Making barrier structures passabel to fish by removal or restoration.	Capital	\$3,895,000	\$3,895,000
Conservation Commission	Riparian plant propagation	Growing plants for restoration and riparian management	Operating	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000
Recommendation 2: Immediately fund acquisition and restoration of nearshore habitat to increase the abundance of forage fish for salmon sustenance.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration project	Improve estuary at Duckabush River entering Hood Canal	Capital	\$27,664,000	\$27,664,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Estuary and Restroation Program	Restore estuaries importatn to salmon habtiat in Washington State	Capital	\$27,534,000	\$27,534,000
Department of Enterprise Services	Deschutes Estuary Restoration	Restore estuarine habitat	Capital	\$25,523,000	\$25,523,000

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Recommendation 3: Apply and enforce laws that protect habitat.					
Department of Ecology	River Migration Mapping	A State/Tribal Riparian Work Group working on salmon recovery identified Channel Migration Zone mapping as a priority for riparian habitat protection. This request is for ongoing funding to continue the work with Tribes, agencies, and other community partners to complete the remaining tasks to advance a statewide Channel Migration Zone mapping methodology effort and provide ongoing technical assistance to Tribes and local governments.	Operating	\$378,000	\$302,400
Department of Natural Resources	Statewide Lidar Data Update	A myriad of state, federal, and local partners rely on predictable lidar coverage to measure environmental change and apply adaptive management strategies. To meet the State's growing lidar needs, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is requesting ongoing funding to collect and refresh statewide lidar on a ten year cycle.	Operating	\$7,848,000	\$3,924,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Riparian Systems Assessment	Healthy, connected riparian habitat is critical for preserving, protecting, and perpetuating Washington's fish and wildlife, especially salmonid recovery. A lack of information on riparian conditions has been a barrier in prioritizing riparian restoration and protection. To optimize riparian investments, the Department of Fish and Wildlife was directed by the Legislature to create an online decision support tool the Riparian	Operating	\$2,006,000	\$2,006,000
Department of Ecology	Water management and compliance	Waters of the state belong to the public. Ecology issues rights to use a volume of water for a defined purpose in a specific place based on the "prior appropriations" system. Once water rights are issued, we manage water users to protect senior uses, including instream flows. This requires watermasters tracking water use and active water management practices to ensure compliance.	Operating	\$702,000	\$702,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 4: Immediately strengthen protection of Chinook and forage fish habitat through legislation that amends existing statutes, agency rule making and/or agency policy.					
Recommendation 5: Develop incentives to encourage voluntary actions to protect habitat.					
Department of Ecology	Riparian Buffer Incentive program	Incentives to improve riparian conditions.	Capital	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000
Conservation Commission	Natural Resource	Regional Conservation Partnership Program - Habitat restoration on working lands	Capital	\$10,000,000	\$8,000,000
Conservation Commission	Riparian Conservation	Riparian Conservation Grant Program.	Capital	\$25,000,000	\$20,000,000
Conservation Commission	Agriculture Science Program	The SCC Integrated Science Hub for Agriculture, Ecosystems, and Climate (Science Hub) serves as a collaborative nexus that facilitates the implementation of science-based solutions to protect and enhance natural resources, cultivate climate resilience, and improve agricultural viability on private working lands across the state.	Operating	\$5,000,000	\$4,000,000
Conservation Commission	Voluntary Stewardship Program Technical Assistance	VSP is designed to protect and enhance critical areas on agricultural land through voluntary conservation. This funding is for technical assistance.	Operating	\$3,000,000	\$2,400,000
Conservation Commission	Voluntary Stewardship Program	VSP is designed to protect and enhance critical areas on agricultural land through voluntary conservation.	Capital	\$4,000,000	\$3,200,000
Conservation Commission	Technical Assistance	Facing multiple environmental crises, Washington must engage more residents in conservation. Conservation Districts are trusted, nonregulatory entities uniquely positioned to develop local relationships and provide site-specific expertise on habitat restoration, farm planning, nutrient management, urban agriculture, local food systems and access, wildfire prevention and more.	Operating	\$20,000,000	\$16,000,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 6: Significantly increase hatchery production and programs to benefit Southern Resident orcas consistent with sustainable fisheries and stock management, available habitat, recovery plans and the Endangered Species Act. Hatchery increases need to be done in concert with significantly increased habitat protection and restoration measures.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Hatchery Investment Strategy		Operating	\$2,725,000	\$2,725,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Hatchery Conservation Programs		Operating	\$2,594,000	\$2,594,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Samish Hatchery Expansion		Capital	\$1,624,000	\$1,624,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Dungeness Hatchery Expansion		Capital	\$300,000	\$300,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Elwha Hatchery Expansion		Capital	\$250,000	\$250,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Sol Duc Hatchery Expansion		Capital	\$11,406,000	\$11,406,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Palmer Ponds Expansion		Capital	\$5,842,000	\$5,842,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Palmer Ponds Phase 2		Capital	\$2,960,000	\$2,960,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Toutle and Skamania Hatcheries		Operating	\$1,902,000	\$1,902,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 7: Prepare an implementation strategy to reestablish salmon runs above existing dams, increasing prey availability for Southern Resident orcas.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Fish Passage and Screening Capacity	Continue work on fish passage and screening	Operating	\$3,349,900	\$3,349,900
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Fish Passage Prioritization	WDFW is developing a comprehensive strategy to prioritize fish passage barrier removal statewide. A successful strategy will focus efforts of all culvert correction programs into a single approach to maximize the salmon and orca recovery benefits from the public investment.	Operating	\$768,000	\$768,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Reintroduction	Upper Columbia River fish reintroduction above dam.	Capital	\$2,003,000	\$2,003,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Reintroduction	Upper Columbia River fish reintroduction above dam.	Operating	\$1,325,770	\$1,325,770
Recreation and Conservation Office	Adopt-A-Fish passage program	Outreach to counties, cities, Department of Transportation and others) to do an Adopt a Fish Barrier project to remove salmon barriers	Operating	\$40,000	\$40,000
Recommendation 8: Increase spill to benefit Chinook for Southern Residents by adjusting Total Dissolved Gas allowances at the Snake and Columbia River dams.					
Recommendation 10: Support full implementation and funding of the 2019-28 Pacific Salmon Treaty.					
Recommendation 11: Reduce Chinook bycatch in west coast commercial fisheries.					

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 12: Direct the appropriate agencies to work with tribes and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to determine if pinniped (harbor seal and sea lion) predation is a limiting factor for Chinook in Puget Sound and along Washington's outer coast and evaluate potential management actions.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Pinniped Predation	WDFW is working to better understand what impact pinniped predation has on salmon and steelhead populations, and to actively mitigate these impacts. Additional knowledge is required about the timing, location, and magnitude of this predation and identify predation.	Operating	\$1,498,000	\$1,498,000
Recommendation 13: Support authorization and other actions to more effectively manage pinniped predation of salmon in the Columbia River.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Pinniped Predation	Pinniped (seal and sea lion) predation in Washington is negatively impacting Endangered Species Act listed salmon and steelhead populations of great importance to endangered Southern Resident Killer Whales and to commercial, recreational, and tribal fisheries. This package supports continued participation in a successful Columbia River sea lion management program partnering with regional states and tribes, as well as ongoing pinniped abundance, diet, and movement monitoring to better understand predation impacts.	Operating	\$1,620,000	\$1,620,000
Recommendation 14: Reduce populations of nonnative predatory fish species that prey upon or compete with Chinook.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Lake Washington Predation	Suppression of nonnative predators will increase survival for Chinook and sockeye, leading to increased adult returns	Operating	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 15: Monitor forage fish populations to inform decisions on harvest and management actions that provide for sufficient feedstocks to support increased abundance.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Enhancing Forage Fish Resilience	This initiative, included in WDFW's Climate Response request focuses on addressing critical data gaps concerning forage fish in Washington state. By employing advanced survey methods such as acoustic surveys and mid-water trawls, the project aims to identify key areas where forage fish aggregate and interact with predator species like salmon, steelhead, pinnipeds, and seabirds. The research will provide essential insights into how climate change and fisheries impact forage fish populations, crucial for both commercial and recreational fisheries. Collaborating with researchers and managers, the project will generate actionable information to enhance management strategies, including understanding trophic interactions driving predator-prey dynamics and improving predictions of species distribution and abundance. This effort directly supports climate resilience by informing adaptive management strategies, ensuring sustainable fisheries, and maintaining resilient marine ecosystems amidst climate	Operating	\$1,118,000	\$1,118,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 16: Support the Puget Sound zooplankton sampling program as a Chinook and forage fish management tool.					
NEW 2024: Manage invasive species with threats to ocean food web.					
Department of Natural Resources	European Green Crab Management	Managing European Green Crab on State owned aquatic lands	Operating	\$2,543,000	\$762,900

Prey Subtotal: \$663,040,949

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Vessel Noise					
Recommendation 17: Establish a statewide “go-slow” bubble for small vessels and commercial whale watching vessels within half a nautical mile of Southern Resident orcas.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Adaptive Management Report 2024				
Recommendation 18: Establish a limited-entry whale-watching permit system for commercial whale-watching vessels and commercial kayak groups in the inland waters of Washington state to increase acoustic and physical refuge opportunities for the orcas.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Adaptive Management Report 2024				
Recommendation 19: Create an annual Orca Protection endorsement for all recreational boaters to ensure that all boaters are educated on how to limit boating impacts to orcas.					
Recommendation 20: Increase enforcement capacity and fully enforce regulations on small vessels to provide protection to Southern Residents.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Expanding Enforcement	Washington State, with eight million residents and twice the national growth rate, faces increasing demands on its natural resources. These circumstances necessitate additional Fish & Wildlife Enforcement Officers to ensure public safety and resource protection. This request includes a new marine vessel to respond to new SRKW law.	Operating	\$17,281,000	\$3,120,000
Recommendation 21: Discourage the use of echo sounders and underwater transducers within one kilometer of orcas.					
Recommendation 22: Implement shipping noise-reduction initiatives and monitoring programs, coordinating with Canadian and U.S. authorities.					

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 23: Reduce noise from the Washington state ferries by accelerating the transition to quieter and more fuel-efficient vessels and implementing other strategies to reduce ferry noise when Southern Residents are present.					
Recommendation 24: Reduce the threat of oil spills in Puget Sound to the survival of Southern Residents.					
Department of Ecology	Small Oil Spill Prevention	Over 26% of oil spills in Washington waters come from recreational boats, marinas, commercial fishing vessels, and ports. The Washington Sea Grant Small Spill Prevention Education Program was authorized by the Legislature in 1991 to target small spills from commercial fishing vessels, ferries, cruise ships, ports, and marinas (RCW 79A.60.620), but has not increased since inception. This request will enable Washington Sea Grant to increase its ability to provide crucial outreach throughout Washington on preventing spills. Related to Puget Sound Action Agenda Implementation.	Operating	\$600,000	\$600,000
Recommendation 25: Coordinate with the Navy in 2019 to discuss reduction of noise and disturbance affecting Southern Resident orcas from military exercises and Navy aircraft.					
Recommendation 26: Revise chapter 77.15.740 RCW to increase the buffer to 400 yards behind the orcas.					
Recommendation 27: Determine how permit applications in Washington state that could increase traffic and vessel impacts could be required to explicitly address potential impacts to orcas.					
Recommendation 28: Suspend viewing of Southern Resident orcas.					

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
<p align="center">Recommendation 46: Expand the Governor's Maritime Blue scope of work and provide funding to implement recommendations and pursue shipping and other maritime innovations that benefit SRKW.</p>					
<p align="center">Recommendation 49: Conduct comprehensive environmental review and take action to prevent whale-strike risk and underwater noise posed by fast-ferries and water taxis in critical habitat.</p>					

Vessels Subtotal: \$3,720,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Contaminants					
Recommendation 29: Accelerate the implementation of the ban on polychlorinated biphenyls in state purchased products and make information available online for other purchasers.					
Recommendation 30: Identify, prioritize and take action on chemicals that impact orcas and their prey.					
Department of Ecology	Protect Remedies	At Superfund-financed sites, or when Washington assumes liability for a cleanup, the state has financial responsibility for cleanup costs. When the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency cleans up a site in Washington, the state enters a State Superfund Contract. It binds Washington to pay for ten percent of the cleanup construction costs and 100 percent of the long-term operation and maintenance costs of the cleanup remedy. When Washington assumes responsibility for a cleanup site – like after a bankruptcy, or when a site is orphaned or abandoned – protecting the remedy requires ongoing investment. This request will provide funding to meet legal requirements, protect public investments in cleanup, and protect human health and the environment from remedy failure. Related to Puget Sound Action Agenda Implementation.	Capital	\$4,450,000	\$3,560,000
Department of Ecology	Product Replacement Program	Program is requesting \$6.5 million to continue the Product Replacement Program in the 2023-2025 biennium, by collaborating with local government partners, provides financial incentives to businesses to remove or replace the worst chemicals through technology and infrastructure upgrades, BMPs, disposal programs, and use of safer chemicals.	Capital	\$9,000,000	\$9,000,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Department of Ecology	Centennial Clean Water Program	Ecology's Centennial Clean Water Program will provide grants to public entities to finance the construction of water pollution control facilities and to plan and implement nonpoint pollution control activities. Ecology distributes the funds through a statewide competitive rating and ranking process. Grant recipients are public entities that use the funds to address high priority statewide water quality needs. The work done by public entities using these funds is an integral and essential part of the state's strategy to reduce pollution and protect our marine waters, estuaries, lakes, rivers, and groundwater resources. The Centennial Clean Water Program is a critical program for meeting the clean water needs for small disadvantaged communities.	Capital	\$80,000,000	\$40,000,000
Department of Ecology	Clean Up Toxic Sites - Puget Sound	A significant source of pollution to Puget Sound is contaminated sites around the basin and its shorelines. For more than ten years, Ecology has been identifying and cleaning up contaminated sites in the Puget Sound basin. This emphasis on bay-wide cleanup in Puget Sound and surrounding areas has highlighted a valuable link between toxic site cleanup and habitat restoration. This request will support projects that integrate shoreline habitat restoration opportunities with cleanup projects to protect public and environmental health, create jobs, and promote economic development. Related to Puget Sound Action Agenda implementation.	Capital	\$3,150,000	\$3,150,000
Department of Ecology	PFAS Response	Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a family of more than 12,000 synthetic organic chemicals. PFAS does not break down in the environment and are colloquially called "forever chemicals." In addition to being toxic, these chemicals accumulate in human and animal tissues. Exposure to some PFAS is harmful to human health.	Capital	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 31: Reduce stormwater threats and accelerate clean-up of toxics that are harmful to orcas.					
Department of Ecology	Stormwater Financial Assistance Program	Ecology's Stormwater Financial Assistance Program provides grants to public entities to finance stormwater retrofit projects that treat polluted stormwater in priority areas throughout the state. Stormwater Financial Assistance Program funding will be awarded through an integrated competitive rating and ranking process to ensure projects provide good water quality value and address problems from existing urban development. This request for \$75 million will fund work accomplished by local governments to help reduce toxics and other pollution from entering our waterways and protect our marine waters, estuaries, lakes, rivers, and groundwater resources.	Capital	\$80,000,000	\$76,000,000
Department of Natural Resources	Derelict removal of large vessels	Remove large vessels that can release toxics into waterways	Capital	\$13,500,000	\$13,500,000
Department of Ecology	Address Toxic Tire Wear Chemical	Reduce toxic tire chemical exposure	Operating	\$8,974,000	\$8,974,000
Department of Ecology	Remedial Action Grant Program	Ecology manages the Remedial Action Grant program to help local governments clean up contaminated sites in Washington. This request will fund pass-through grants for ready-to-proceed projects and actual spending requirements for the 2023-2025 biennium. Remedial Action Grants support cleanup at contaminated industrial sites that impact the air, land, and water resources of the state, and continued cleanup of Puget Sound. This grant funding will protect public and environmental health, create jobs, promote economic redevelopment by allowing contaminated properties to be redeveloped, and leverage local match funding for this work.	Capital	\$108,231,000	\$64,938,600

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Department of Ecology	Clean Up settlement account projects	Managing toxic pollutants in discharges from contaminated sites is important to protect human health and Washington waters. Using a system of water quality permits and water cleanup plans, Ecology helps prevent toxic chemicals from entering the environment. However, toxic chemicals, including those of emerging concern, may become mobilized during site remediation activities and threaten our ability to achieve state and national goals for fishable waters, salmon recovery, and healthy watersheds. This request will help provide the support needed to address toxics in stormwater runoff from industrial and contaminated sites, and in turn, get contaminated properties back	Capital	\$650,000	\$650,000
Department of Ecology	Community Based Public-Private Partnerships	This budget request will support Phase 2 of the pilot, providing stormwater technical assistance and funding through a competitive grant process to assist between 8 and 12 communities as they work through the assessment and project development process described in the Department of Commerce's Guidebook. Completion of this phase will qualify participants for pilot project implementation funding in future biennia during Phase 3 of the pilot.	Capital	\$25,000,000	\$23,750,000
Department of Ecology	Water Pollution Control Revolving Program	The Washington State Water Pollution Control Revolving Account, established under Chapter 90.50A RCW, implemented the loan program to provide low-interest loans to local governments, special purpose districts, and recognized tribes for high-priority water quality projects statewide. Ecology uses these funds to finance planning, designing, acquiring, constructing, and improving water pollution control facilities and for related nonpoint source activities that help meet state and federal water pollution control requirements.	Capital	\$614,000,000	\$184,200,000

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Recommendation 32: Improve effectiveness, implementation and enforcement of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits to address direct threats to Southern Resident orcas and their prey.					
Recommendation 33: Increase monitoring of toxic substances in marine waters; create and deploy adaptive management strategies to reduce threats to orcas and their prey.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Emerging Toxics in Chinook impacting Southern Resident Killer Whales	Salmon are exposed to two emergent, highly toxic chemicals, PFAS and 6PPDq, that may threaten species health. This investment would allow the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to track the presence of these two contaminants in specific juvenile salmon habitats and in key fish species throughout Puget Sound. Results will be used to guide cleanup and pollution prevention efforts to protect threatened Chinook salmon.	Operating	\$1,946,000	\$1,946,000
Recommendation 39: Develop a National Pollution Discharge Elimination permit framework for advanced wastewater treatment in Puget Sound to reduce nutrients in wastewater discharges to Puget Sound by 2022.					
Department of Ecology	Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction grant program	The health of Puget Sound is significantly degraded by excess nutrients that cause low dissolved oxygen, disrupt the food chain, and harm our orca and salmon populations. To help address this issue, Ecology issued the Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit in 2021, and in 2022, the Legislature provided onetime funding to develop recommendations on how to establish a nutrient credit trading program that could lead to quicker and more efficient nutrient reductions. This is a request to provide funding for a grant program.	Operating	\$30,000,000	\$30,000,000
Recommendation 40: Better align existing nonpoint programs with nutrient reduction activities and explore new ways to achieve the necessary nonpoint source nutrient reductions.					

Contaminants Subtotal: \$464,668,600

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Monitoring and Accountability					
Recommendation 34: Provide sustainable funding for implementation of all recommendations.					
Recommendation 35: Conduct research, science and monitoring to inform decision making, adaptive management and implementation of actions to recover Southern Residents.					
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Salmon and Steelhead Monitoring	Robust fisheries monitoring and planning efforts are critical to species conservation and recovery.	Operating	\$1,644,000	\$1,644,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Coastal Salmonid management	Coastal Chinook and steelhead are regarded as stronghold populations in Washington, but they were petitioned for ESA listing in 2023 due to low abundance. The value of these fish and fisheries cannot be overstated. This package represents a holistic approach to fisheries conservation and management on the coast.	Operating	\$4,820,000	\$4,820,000
Recommendation 36: Monitor progress of implementation and identify needed enhancements.					
Recommendation 37: Protect against regulatory rollbacks at the state and federal level.					
Recommendation 38: Explore minimum standards for local stormwater funding.					
Recommendation 41: Collect high quality nutrient data in watersheds to fill key knowledge gaps of baseline conditions.					

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Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
<p>Recommendation 42: Create one or more entities with authority and funding to recover and advocate for Southern Resident orcas by implementing task force recommendations as needed and report to public, governor, and comanagers on status.</p>					

Monitoring Subtotal: \$6,464,000

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Climate Change					
Recommendation 43: Take aggressive, comprehensive and sustained action to reduce human-caused greenhouse gas emissions with goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2050.					
See Department of Ecology's budget for climate change related to Green House gas reductions					
Recommendation 44: Increase Washington's ability to understand, reduce, remediate, and adapt to the consequences of ocean acidification.					
Recommendation 45: Mitigate the impacts of a changing climate by accelerating and increasing action to increase the resiliency and vitality of salmon populations and the ecosystems on which they depend.					
Department of Ecology	Climate Resiliency	Ecology requests funding and staff resources to implement the state's climate resilience strategy.	Operating	\$1,158,000	\$694,800
Department of Ecology	Protecting Washington's Shorelines	climate change resilience and environmental justice goals to the state's Growth Management Act. Lawmakers also required updates be made to local comprehensive development plans and shoreline master programs. Washington communities need Ecology support and guidance to effectively complete these new requirements, address other implementation challenges, and build climate resilience.	Operating	\$1,317,000	\$790,200
Department of Ecology	Climate Resiliency	This request is to continue this a drought planning and climate reilience grant program on an ongoing basis.	Operating	\$2,000,000	\$1,200,000

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Department of Ecology	Water resources and climate resiliency	Washington State's water supply is experiencing the acute impacts of climate change, including less snowfall, earlier snowmelt, and reduced summer streamflow. People and fish compete for a shrinking water supply when salmon and other aquatic life need it most. Understanding the impacts of climate change and population growth on the environment and water supply is crucial to implementing solutions that benefit all water users.	Operating	\$1,895,000	\$1,895,000
Department of Ecology	Accelerating floodplain resiliency	Accelerating floodplain resiliency. Ecology is seeking additional resources for staff to update flood risk maps, provide technical support to communities, and help move salmon recovery projects forward.	Operating	\$1,112,306	\$1,112,306
Department of Ecology	Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Water Supply	Current water resources infrastructure, programs, and policies in the Yakima River Basin have not been able to consistently meet the environmental and economic demands that support basin aquatic resources, fish and wildlife habitat, dry-year irrigation, and municipal water supplies. A diverse set of local stakeholders developed the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resources Management Plan to provide comprehensive long-term water resources and habitat improvement program to address this situation. Ecology is requesting \$50 million to continue implementing this program in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and local stakeholders. This program will support the regional economy and protect the environment.	Capital	\$59,000,000	\$35,400,000

2025-27 Budget Requests - Orca Task Force Recommendations

Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Department of Ecology	Streamflow Restoration Program	Ecology is requesting \$40 million in new appropriation authority to continue implementing the RCW 90.94 (ESSB 6091) Streamflow Restoration Program. This request will fund projects that include acquiring senior water rights, water conservation, water reuse, stream gaging, groundwater monitoring, and developing natural and constructed infrastructure, for the purpose of improving instream flows statewide. Ecology will deliver additional water supplies to meet the water needs for growing communities and improve stream flow conditions for fish and wildlife.	Capital	\$40,000,000	\$40,000,000
Department of Ecology	Columbia River Water Supply Development Program	Ecology is requesting \$50 million in new appropriation authority to continue implementing the Columbia River Basin Water Supply Development Program (90.90 RCW). This request will fund projects that are in various stages of completion and provide the Office of Columbia River with resources needed to continue progress in the 2023-2025 biennium. With this request, Ecology will be able to deliver additional water supplies for agricultural purposes, meet the water needs for growing communities, make several existing water uses more efficient, and improve stream flow conditions for fish and wildlife. These investments will help meet priority needs of the water users in the Columbia River Basin.	Capital	\$57,884,000	\$28,942,000
Conservation Commission	Streamflow Restoration Program	Water Irrigation Efficiencies to increase streamflow for salmon.	Capital	\$30,000,000	\$15,000,000
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Streamflow policy support	Climate change, human population growth, and struggling salmon populations require a longterm, strategic vision for Washington's water management into the future. The historical overallocation of Washington's rivers and groundwater has negatively impacted fish and wildlife in many watersheds. WDFW will provide technical expertise and policy support to streamflow issues.	Operating	\$1,100,000	\$1,100,000

2025-27 Budget Requests - Orca Task Force Recommendations

Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Department of Fish and Wildlife	Climate Response Strategy and Planning	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is already experiencing climate change impacts, which will worsen over the coming decades. This package prioritizes investment based on a strategic assessment of climate-related resource management challenges and existing and emerging opportunities. Building climate resilience requires moving beyond risk assessment to identify, evaluate, implement, and learn from response actions. This package will increase capacity to continue to fulfill four aspects of the Department's mission that are vulnerable to climate change: (1) guide species recovery efforts, (2) provide harvest and recreation opportunities, (3) provide technical assistance, permitting, and planning support, and (4) manage agency lands and infrastructure.	Operating	\$13,027,000	\$5,210,800
Department of Natural Resources	Watershed resiliency	Watershed Resilience Program (WRP) is accelerating salmon recovery and watershed health through improved coordination and funding of habitat restoration and resilience projects, piloting innovative approaches to address barriers, and providing agency capacity and expertise for salmon restoration and watershed resilience projects.	Operating	\$1,756,000	\$1,756,000
Department of Natural Resources	Climate Resiliency	Maintaining healthy, resilient forests is a critical component of climate adaptation and mitigation efforts. The Department of Natural Resources' Plan for Climate Resilience and Forest Action Plan identify the need for treatments to ensure that Washington's forests: are resilient to drought, insects, disease, and invasive species; provide clean and cold water to support aquatic species and habitat; sequester more carbon.	Operating	\$3,224,000	\$1,934,400
Department of Natural Resources	Nursery Capacity and Reforestation	Seed plant capital construction request and Webster expansion major capital design request. Funding for one FTE for one million acres of land by 2040 agency reforestation strategy, one FTE for mapping, and contracting services to map areas of need, engage stakeholders, and conduct ecological assessments.	Operating	\$5,591,000	\$838,650

2025-27 Budget Requests - Orca Task Force Recommendations

Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
<p>Recommendation 47: Identify and mitigate increased threats from contaminants due to climate change and ocean acidification. Prioritize actions that reduce exposure where impacts expected to be most severe.</p>					
<p style="text-align: right;">Climate Change Subtotal: \$135,874,156</p>					

2025-27 Budget Requests - Orca Task Force Recommendations

Agency	Title	Description	Budget	Agency Request	Southern Resident Orca Portion of Funding*
Future Growth					
Recommendation 48: Adopt and implement policies, incentives and regulations for future growth and development to prevent further degradation of critical habitat and sensitive ecosystems; enable growth in ways that result in net ecological gain; evaluate and report outcomes.					

Future Growth Subtotal: \$0
Grand Total: \$2,025,732,950 \$1,273,767,705

* Generated through prior Office of Financial Management estimates and agency work to determine potential orca benefit
Not included: Department of Transportation funding of \$3.5 billion for culvert corrections and \$50 million for stormwater retrofits, both of which are part of the Move Ahead Washington package approved in 2022.

SRKW-Related Funding Summary	
Prey	\$663,040,949
Vessel Noise	\$3,720,000
Contaminants	\$464,668,600
Climate Change	\$135,874,156
Monitoring and Accountability	\$6,464,000
Future Growth	\$0
Total	\$1,273,767,705