

# Natural Resources

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## Department of Ecology

### Southern Resident orca recovery – Enhancing prey

Step up enforcement of water quality and water quantity laws, conduct rule making to allow more spills over Columbia and Snake River dams and provide technical assistance to promote forage-fish friendly shoreline development. (\$7.3 million General Fund-State; \$2.2 million other funds)

### Southern Resident orca recovery – Reducing risk from vessels

Assist the Board of Pilotage Commissioners with rule making to require tug escorts for medium-sized oil-laden vessels, pursuant to legislation. (\$700,000 State Toxics Control Account)

### Southern Resident orca recovery – Reducing risk from contaminants

Accelerate efforts to reduce toxins in the environment by increasing the number of site managers for toxics cleanups, developing chemical action plans to identify sources of and reduce problem chemicals in the environment, boosting support for local governments to help small businesses manage their toxic substances, monitoring toxics affecting juvenile Chinook salmon and studying ways to remove pharmaceuticals from wastewater. (\$200,000 GF-S; \$15 million Model Toxics Control Act Accounts)

### Clarifying water rights

Investigate candidate basins for adjudication to address water rights uncertainties which, if resolved, could reduce conflict over water use, protect water right holders from illegal use, determine priority of use during water shortages and encourage water management to meet emerging economic and environmental needs. (\$600,000 Reclamation Account)

### Staffing the Office of Chehalis Basin

Staff the Office of Chehalis Basin, providing administrative support to the Chehalis Basin Board to develop and implement the strategy to reduce long-term damage from floods and restore aquatic species habitat in the Chehalis Basin. (\$1.5 million GF-S)

### Reducing litter and stabilizing the recycling system

Restore funds to the Department of Ecology for litter pickup, implement anticipated 2019 legislation to revitalize recycling markets hit hard by China-imposed import restrictions and reduce contaminants in the recycling stream. (\$6 million Waste Reduction, Recycling and Litter Control Account)

### Taking action on climate

Pursuant to anticipated 2019 legislation, reduce greenhouse gas emissions from powerful hydrofluorocarbon chemicals, implement a low-carbon fuel standard and fully adopt the zero-emission vehicle program. Funds will also improve the quality and accuracy of greenhouse gas emission reporting. (\$1.7 million GF-S; \$1.1 million other funds)

### Shifting Toxics Account costs back to General Fund-State

Free up capacity in the Model Toxics Control Act accounts by shifting \$20 million of MTCA-funded activities in the Air Quality, Environmental Assessment, Shorelands, Water Quality and Administration programs back to General Fund-State, where funding resided before the Great Recession. (\$20 million GF-S; save \$20 million MTCA Accounts)

## Puget Sound Partnership

### Southern Resident orca recovery – Recovery plans and monitoring

Advance recovery of endangered Southern Resident orcas by updating Puget Sound recovery plans for the Chinook salmon eaten by Southern Residents, conducting monitoring to advance understanding and guide recovery actions, and providing staff support to the Southern Resident Killer Whale Task Force Vessel Work Group. (\$4.8 million GF-S)

### Performance accountability

Add capacity in response to a recent Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee performance audit for evaluating actions, investments and barriers related to Puget Sound recovery. (\$800,000 GF-S)

## Department of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources and University of Washington

### Ocean acidification

Increase monitoring by the departments of Ecology and Natural Resources and the University of Washington for ocean acidification parameters and zooplankton in the nearshore and throughout the state's marine waters. Improve understanding of how ocean acidification impacts marine organisms. Conduct scientific research at the University of Washington on ocean acidification's impacts on salmon and forage fish and better understand the role of harmful algal blooms. (\$1.2 million GF-S; \$1.2 million Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account)

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

### Southern Resident orcas recovery – Increase prey and reduce threats

Increase efforts launched in the 2018 supplemental budget and identified by the SRKW Task Force to improve prey for and reduce disturbance of Southern Resident orcas. This includes \$11.3 million to increase salmon hatchery production by 19 percent; \$2.9 million to reduce predation of salmon from sea lions, harbor seals and nonnative

fish; \$2 million to increase technical assistance and enforcement of habitat protection laws; \$1.7 million to implement new restrictions on commercial and recreational vessels to reduce disturbance of orca behavior and cut down on oil spills from mid-sized barges; \$1.5 million to improve efforts to restore salmon habitat and manage forage fish populations and \$750,000 to convene a stakeholder process for the Lower Snake River dams. (\$19.2 million GF-S)

### Preserve current programs and production

Provide stable funding through recreational fishing and hunting license fee increases and the General Fund-State to maintain core operations for fishing, hunting, recreation, conservation and shellfish protection. Funding addresses a significant shortfall to maintain operations at current levels. (\$16 million GF-S; \$9 million State Wildlife Account; \$3 million Columbia River Salmon and Steelhead Endorsement Account)

### Payment in lieu of taxes

Provide additional resources to fully fund payments to counties in lieu of taxes for department-owned land. (\$761,000 GF-S)

## Department of Natural Resources

### Southern Resident orca recovery – Reduce pollutants

Remove marine debris and creosote pilings from the marine environment to reduce pollution harmful to orcas and salmon. (\$3.5 Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account; \$3.5 million State Toxics Account)

### Wildfire preparation and response

Increase the state's ability to respond to wildland fires. This includes \$6 million to hire 15 permanent engine leaders, \$4.1 million to purchase two helicopters to expand aerial fire response, \$3.9 million to expand correctional camp fire crews and \$2.2 million to enhance state and local fire crew training. (\$17 million GF-S)

### Forest health

Hire permanent staff to assist private landowners in protecting their homes from wildfire, conduct forest health treatments on federal lands and implement the department's forest health strategy. (\$4.9 million GF-S)

### State Parks

#### Southern Resident orca recovery – Boater education

Educate recreational boaters on “go slow” guidelines around orcas and boost public education on orcas at Lime Kiln State Park on San Juan Island. (\$539,000 GF-S)

#### Preserve park operations

Provide General Fund-State funding to maintain State Parks' critical core operations, including customer service, facility maintenance and law enforcement. (\$10 million GF-S)

#### Enhance park operations

Meet customer expectations for more services, replace outdated equipment and conduct critical preventive maintenance of park facilities. (\$7.5 million GF-S; \$169,000 Parks Renewal and Stewardship Account)

#### Forest health and land management

Conduct forest health and noxious weed treatments as well as inventories of rare and sensitive plant species. (\$1.3 million GF-S)

### Department of Agriculture

#### Tracking cattle for animal health

Expand a voluntary program to electronically track changes in cattle ownership to protect animal health and prevent the spread of disease. (\$698,000 Agriculture Local Account)

#### Pesticide safety education

Increase training and education to agricultural workers on safe pesticide handling and application requirements. (\$500,000 GF-S)

### Washington State University and Department of Agriculture

#### Soil health

Create an initiative to identify farming practices to improve soil health practices that will increase crop yield, improve food nutrients, enhance carbon sequestration and enhance water quality. This funds research at Washington State University and project support at the Department of Agriculture. (\$3.6 million GF-S)