

Making the Habitat Recovery Pilot Program Permanent

January 9th, 2025

Today's Speakers:

- **Gina Piazza, Habitat Recovery Pilot Program Coordinator, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.** Gina has a Masters degree in Conservation Biology and has been a biologist for the department of Fish and Wildlife for over 17 years. She is dedicated to protection and restoration of Washington's natural resources and passionate about helping those also working towards the same goal.
- **Don Gourlie, Legislative Policy Director for the Puget Sound Partnership.** With both a marine science degree and a law degree, Don has spent his career connecting science to policy in support of the environment. In his current role, Don is a dedicated liaison between the Puget Sound recovery community and the state legislature. He works to ensure that state legislators understand what is needed for Puget Sound recovery and that the Puget Sound recovery community understands how the legislative process works.
- **Jason Griffith, Environmental Program Manager, Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians.** Jason has worked as for the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians since 2000, first as a fisheries biologist but now involved in nearly anything natural resource related. Most of Jason's time is spent planning and implementing a wide range of restoration/acquisition projects, but he also serves on various salmon recovery related committees.

Agenda:

- 12:00 - 12:05 - Welcome and Introductions
- 12:05 - 12:15 - Gina Piazza, WDFW, program highlights
- 12:15-12:25 - Don Gourlie, PSP, the upcoming legislative process
- 12:25 - 12:40 - Jason Griffith, Stillaguamish Tribe, project example and benefits
- 12:40 - 1:00 - Discussion

Habitat Recovery Pilot Program

*Presented for the Lunch and Learn
January 9th, 2025*

Gina Piazza
WDFW HRPP Coordinator



Washington Department of
FISH & WILDLIFE

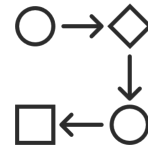
Agenda



Overview



What's New



Summary of Projects



Case Study



Overview

Habitat Recovery Pilot Program (HRPP)

- Multi-agency effort in WA
- Streamline restoration
- Benefit fish and their habitats
- July 2021 – June 2025
- RCW 77.55.480



Local Permits

Floodplain permit	Required if project is in a Special Flood Hazard Area per FEMA's federal flood risk reduction requirements
SEPA	Exempt
Demolition Permit	Exempt
Building permit	Exempt
Grading, clearing, and development permit	Exempt
Local stormwater management permit	Exempt
Special use permit	Exempt
Shoreline Master Program authorization	Exempt
Critical Areas Ordinance review	Exempt

State Permits

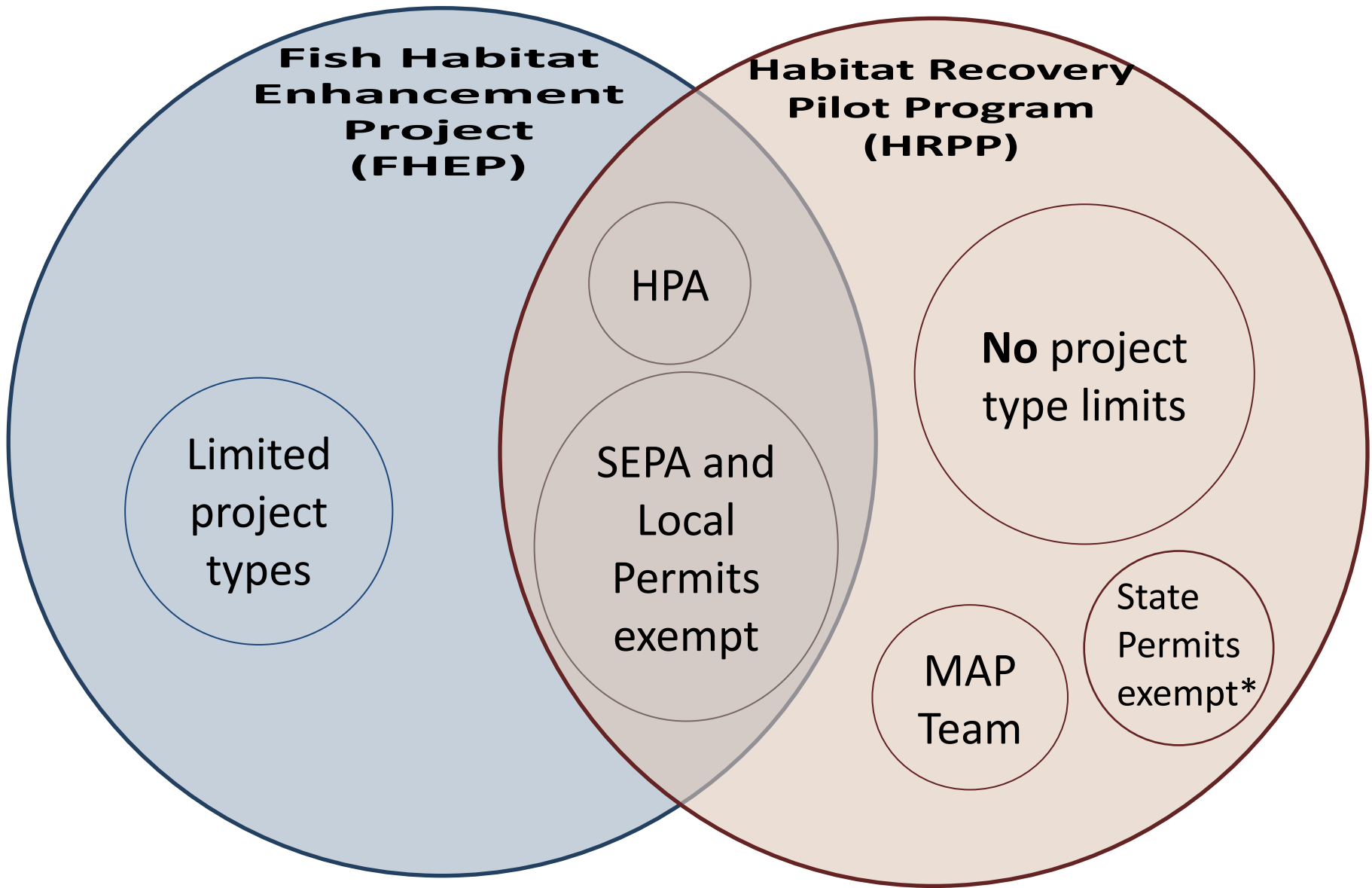
WDFW Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA)	Required
DAHP Archaeology and historical/cultural resources review	Required per 21-02
Dept of Ecology, 401 Water Quality Certification	Required if applicable per ACOE and Clean Water Act
Dept of Ecology, Construction Stormwater General Permit	Required if applicable per Clean Water Act
Dept of Ecology, CZM Federal Consistency Determination	Required if there is federal permitting and the project is in one of the 15 coastal counties
Dept of Natural Resources, Aquatic Lands Use Authorization	Required for projects on state-owned aquatic lands
Dept of Natural Resources, Forest Practices Application	Required if applicable



Federal Permits

Clean Water Act Section 404 US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) permits	Required if project has federal nexus
Endangered Species Act consultation with USFW and NPAA	Required if project has federal nexus (Initiated by ACOE or the lead federal agency)
National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 cultural resources review	Required if project has federal nexus (Initiated by ACOE or the lead federal agency)





* except those minimally necessary for participation in a federal program



Application Process

Apply:

- Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) permit
 - Using the Aquatic Protection Permitting System (APPS)

Complete application per:

- RCW 77.55.021 and RCW 77.55.480
 - ✓ Supplemental application form
 - ✓ Restoration Program inclusion
 - ✓ DAHP letter
 - ✓ Appendix E

Send copy to:

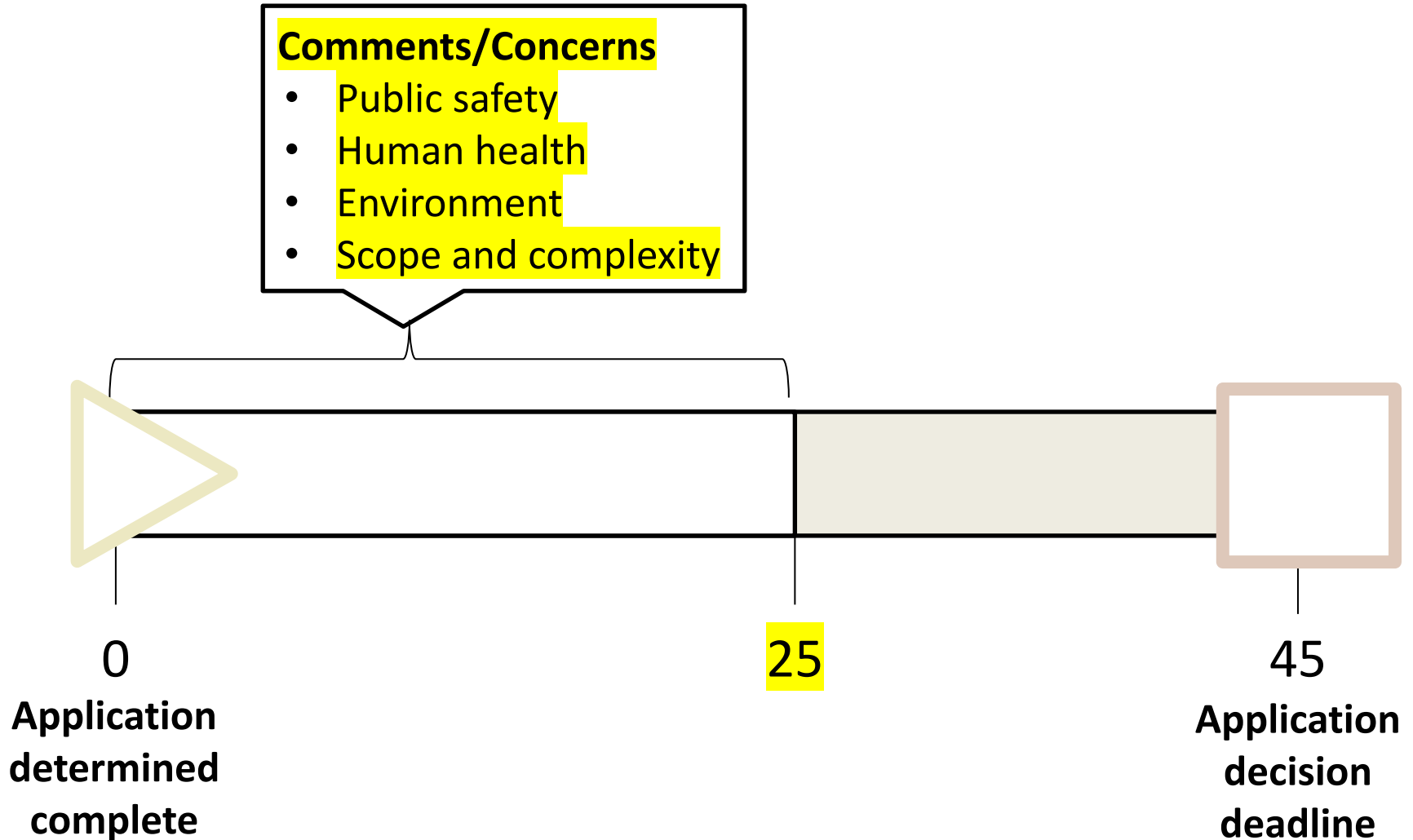
- Local government
- MAP Team members
- Affected federally recognized tribes



*Lost Lake Maury Island Aquatic Restoration Project : King County Water and Land Resources



Application Process



Local Permits

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SEPA	Exempt
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Grading, clearing, and development permit	Exempt
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Special use permit	Exempt
Shoreline Master Program authorization	Exempt
Critical Areas Ordinance review	Exempt

State Permits

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25 day comment period

30 day comment period for Tribes and DAHP

21 day public comment period posted on Ecology's website

30 day public comment period published in local newspaper

21 day public comment period posted on Ecology's website



Federal Permits

<p>Clean Water Act Section 404 US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) permits</p>	<p>Required if project has federal nexus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 30 day comment period published on website and sent to adjacent property owners and those signed up for public notice mailings for individual permits• Both nationwide and individual are sent to tribes
<p>Endangered Species Act consultation with USFW and NPAA</p>	<p>Required if project has federal nexus (Initiated by ACOE or the lead federal agency)</p>
<p>National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 cultural resources review</p>	<p>Required if project has federal nexus (Initiated by ACOE or the lead federal agency)</p> <p>30 day comment period for Tribe and DAHP (unless "little likelihood" to effect)</p>



What's New

- Shore Friendly
- Floodplain Review
- APPS
- Flow Chart



*Zangle Cove Bulkhead Removal: Thurston Conservation District



What's New



Home Applications Cases

Apply for a Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) Permit

Need help? Assess your permit needs with our [Assessment Questionnaire](#)

New Application

Standard is most common permit type selected.

*What permit type best categorizes your need?

- Standard
- Expedited
- Emergency
- Fish Habitat Enhancement Project (FHEP)
- Habitat Recovery Pilot Program (HRPP)
- General
- Perpetual
- Watershed
- Chronic Danger
- Forest Service Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
- Help Me Decide

Next

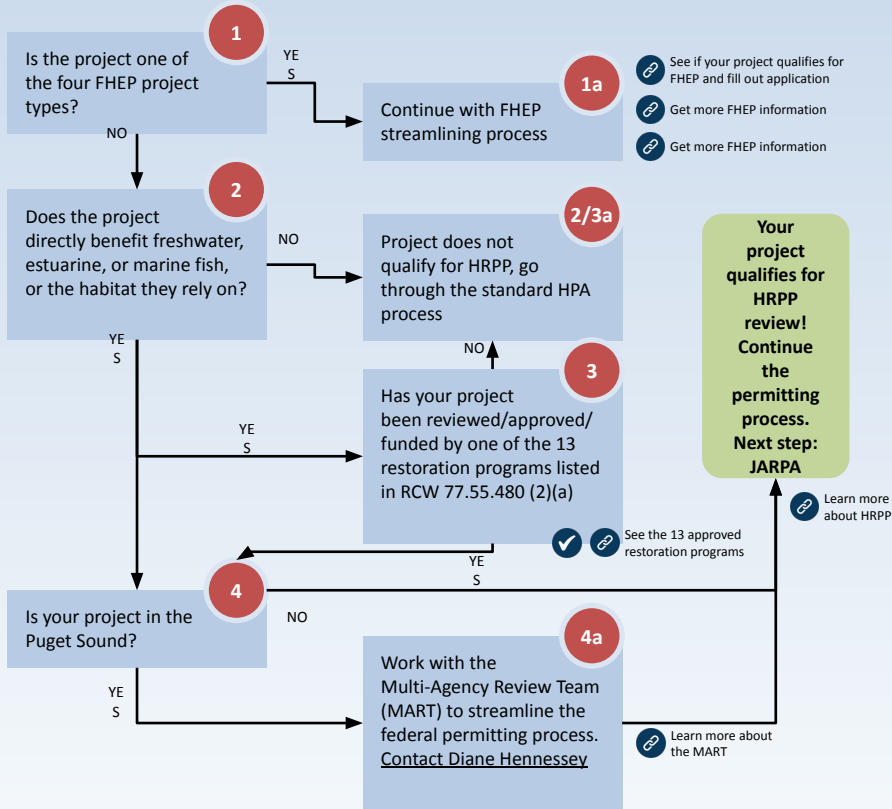
Steps

- Permit Type
- Application Requirements
- Contact Information
- Property Ownership
- Project Information
- Project Impact & Mitigation
- SEPA Compliance
- Project Identification
- Project Location(s)
- Upload Documents
- Submit
- Submitted for Review

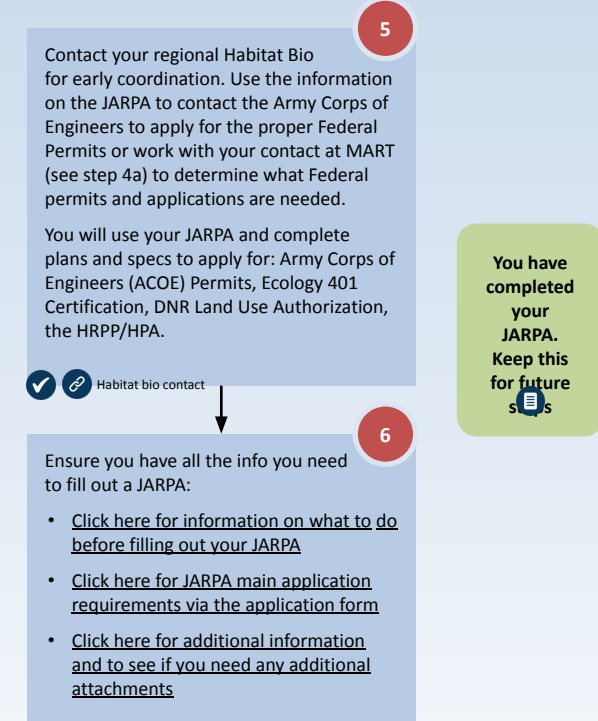


Sequential First Steps

Initial Project Qualification



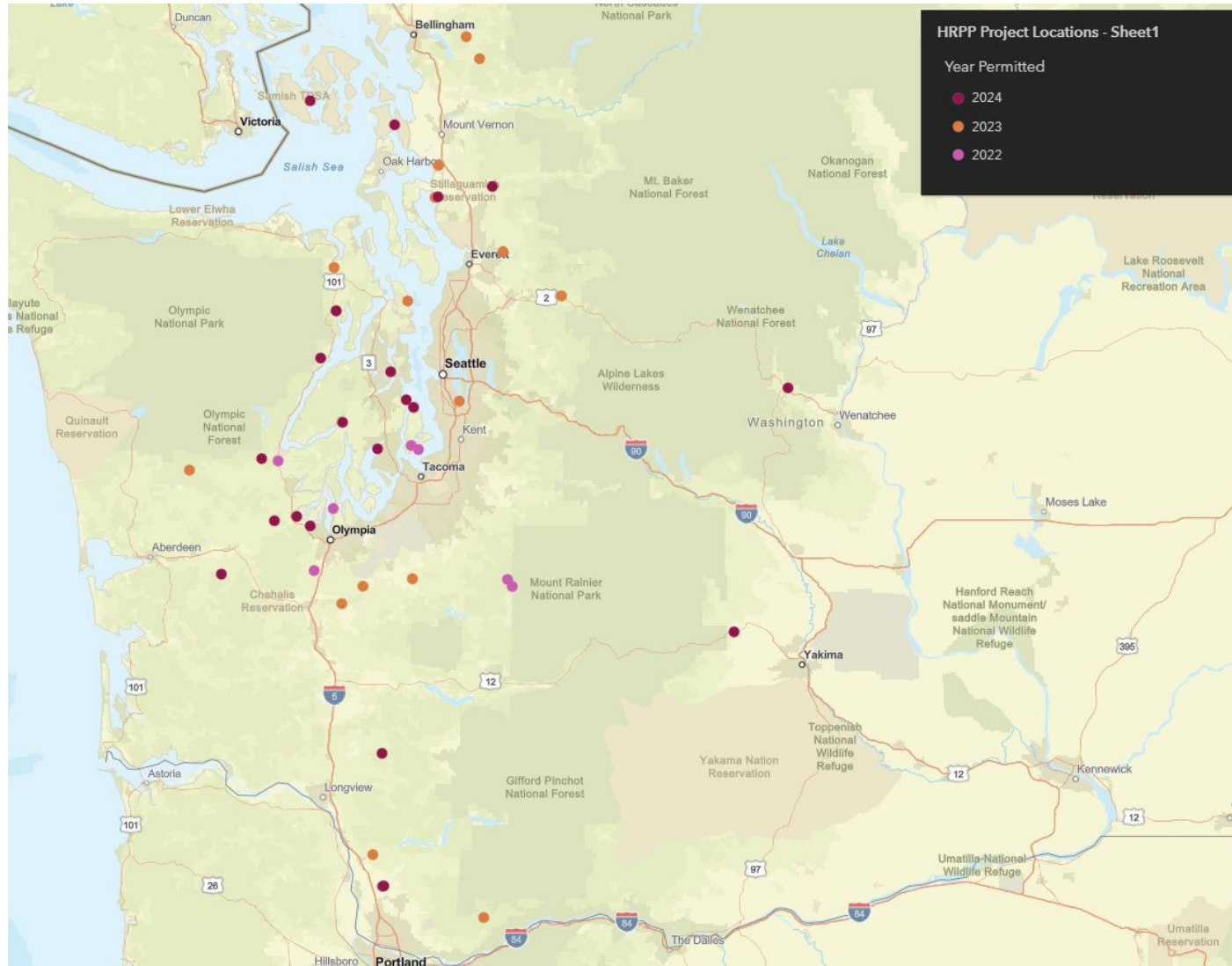
Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA)



Legend

- Link
- Need for final HRPP application
- Need for JARPA
- Time sensitive
- Federal
- State
- Local

Project Summary



Restoration Totals:

- 310 ELJs installed
- 10,845 logs or key pieces installed
- 5.7 miles of side channel creation
- 476 acres of floodplain restored
- 199.2 acres of riparian planting
- Removed 7 fish passage barriers
- Removed 10,151 feet riprap armor



*Riverbend Ranch Restoration Project: Thurston Conservation District



Restoration Totals:

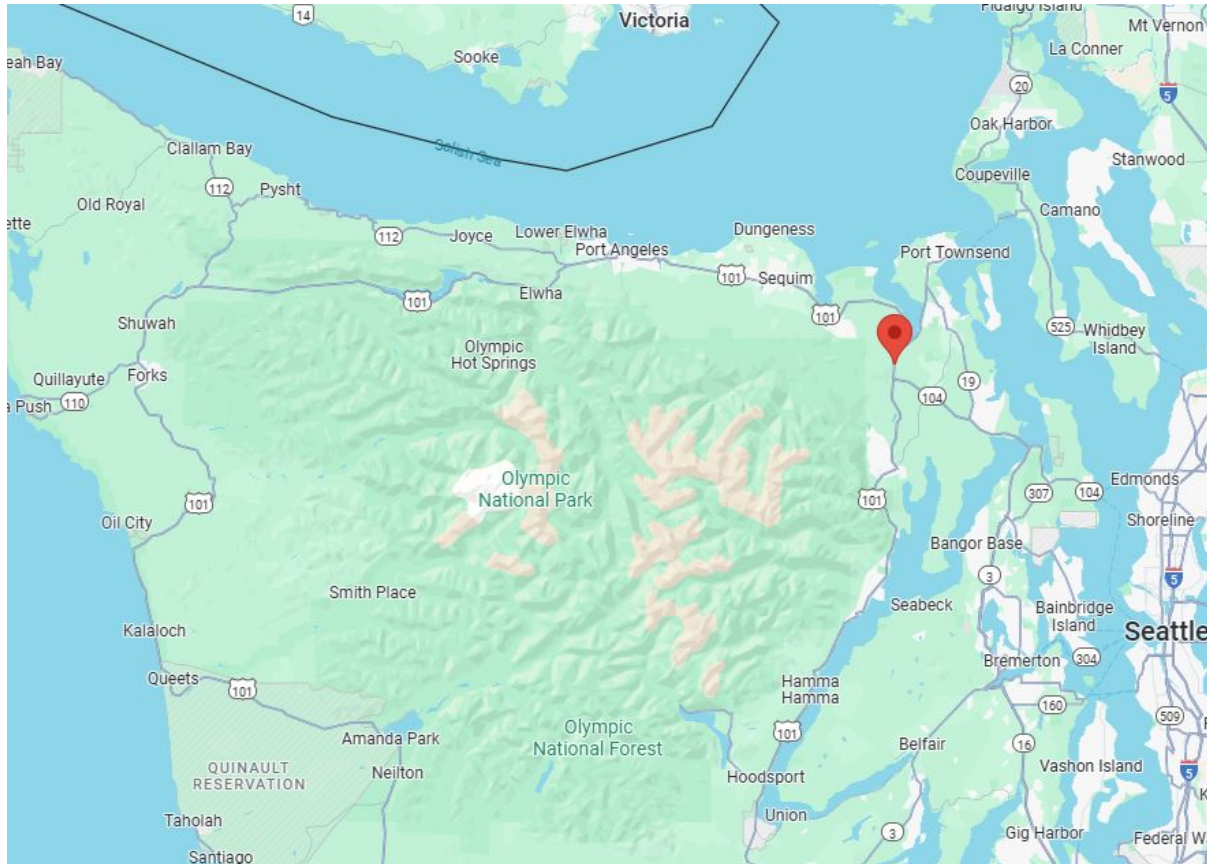
- Removed 46 piles, 2 docks, 1 boat ramp
- Removed 13,962' of bulkhead/dike/levee
- 410 acres of Estuary restoration
- 12.1 miles of tidal channel creation



*Milltown Island Restoration: WDFW



Snow Creek Uncas Preserve Channel Restoration Project



Snow Creek Uncas Preserve Channel Restoration Project

Project sponsor: North Olympic Salmon Coalition

OBJECTIVES:

- Reduce bank erosion
- Improve floodplain connectivity
- Increase channel complexity
- Winter Steelhead
- Fall Chum
- Summer Chum
- Coho
- Coastal Cutthroat



Snow Creek Uncas Preserve Channel Restoration Project

Project sponsor: North Olympic Salmon Coalition

- Standard permitting would have included: a Shoreline Development Permit Application, SEPA review, review under the Critical Areas Ordinance, and a Stormwater Management Permit
- County permit review in Jefferson County typically takes 1 year+
- Delay would have setback project implementation at least one year or more.



Snow Creek Uncas Preserve Channel Restoration Project

Project sponsor: North Olympic Salmon Coalition

- **Estimated 6-12 months time savings and \$20,000-\$80,000 cost savings.**
- *Constructed: summer of 2023*
- Restored 1.4 acres of floodplain by installing 39 log jams and 77 key pieces
- Spawning and rearing stream habitat restored for Winter Steelhead, Hood Canal Summer Chum, Fall Chum, Coho, and Cutthroat



The Future of HRPP





Thank You!

WDFW HRPP Webpage: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/hpa/types/pilot>
WDFW HRPP Email – HRPP@dfw.wa.gov



HRPP Pilot Legislation

Legislative intent = enable projects throughout the state to “advance to construction as quickly and efficiently as possible, thereby creating jobs and further bolstering the natural resources and natural resource economy of Washington.”

Pilot expires June 30, 2025



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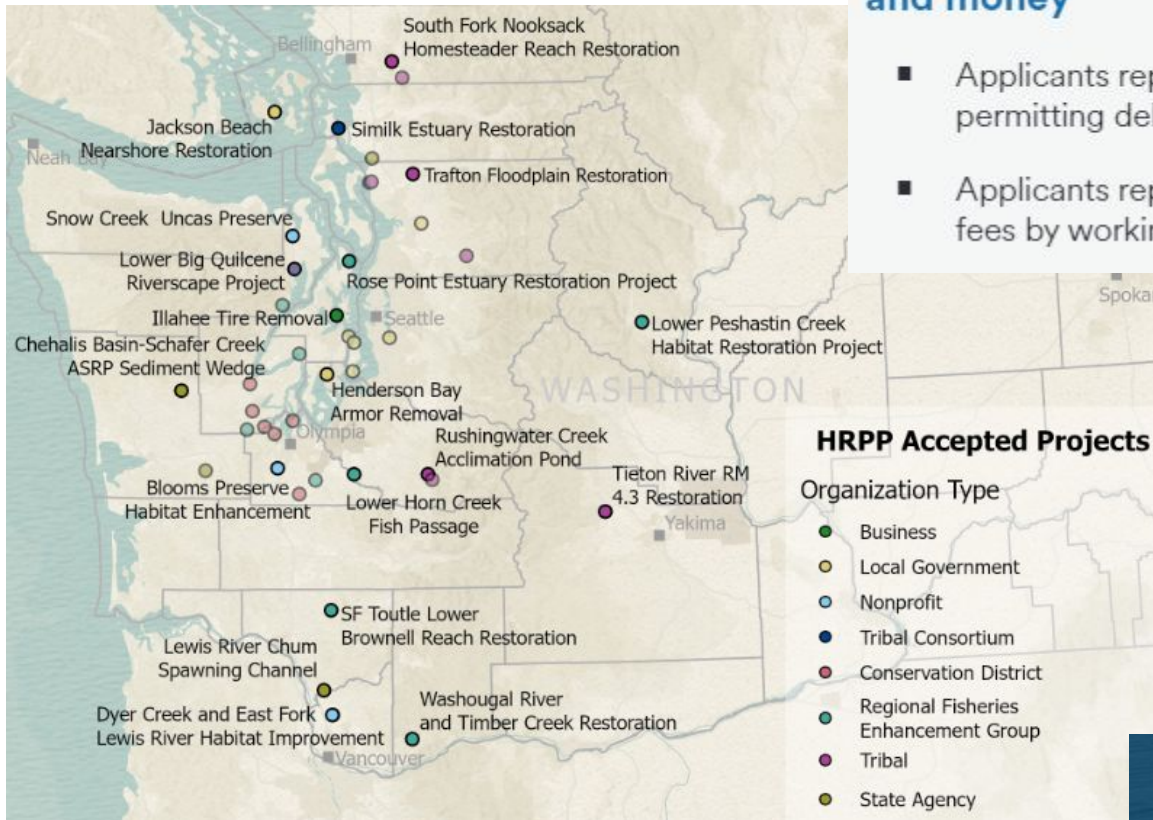
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HRPP Pilot Legislation

Was legislative intent met? Yes

The Habitat Recovery Pilot Program saves time and money

- Applicants report saving up to a **YEAR** in administrative permitting delays by working with the program.
- Applicants report saving up to **\$80,000** in staff time and fees by working with the program.



Upcoming Legislative Efforts

- Remove the expiration date
- Other process improvements
 - ~~reviewed~~, approved, or funded
 - state programs for eligibility
 - DNR authorizations sequencing
 - cultural resources requirements



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Upcoming Legislative Efforts

- Stakeholder support? Opportunities?
 - salmon habitat project implementers
 - many local governments
 - many tribal governments
- Stakeholder concerns? Challenges?
 - A county that isn't comfortable with streamlining permits for projects.
 - Funding for state agency staff is cut from Governor's budget



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What's next?

- [SB 5155](#) and HB #####(TBD)
- Public hearings and legislative process →

Current Version: SB 5155	Current Status: SPrefiled			
Where is it in the process?				
	Introduced	In Committee	On Floor Calendar	Passed Chamber
In the Senate:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
In the House:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
After Passage:	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
	Passed Legislature	On Governor's Desk	Governor Acted	Session Law

Resources

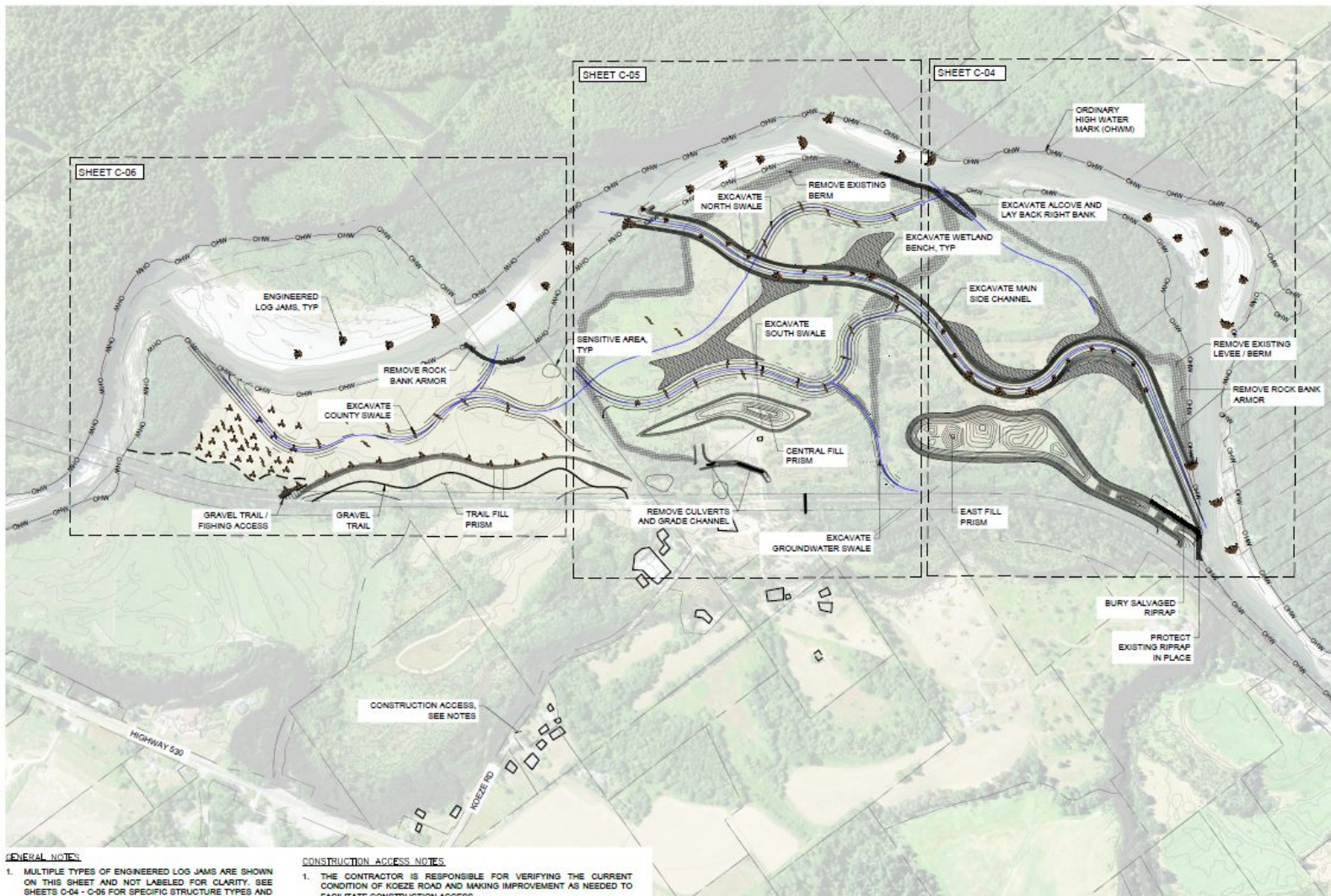
- [HRPP Pilot Fact Sheet](#)
- [HRPP FAQs document](#)
- [Sign up](#) to track SB 5155 with email notifications
- Track overall legislative process with [PSP resources](#) including weekly call

Stillaguamish Tribe's experience with HRPP

- Tribe's primary pathway for large habitat restoration projects
- Threads a balanced compromise between full permits and FHEP
- Exempts restoration projects from substantial local permit fees:
 - For example: SEPA- \$1k, Shoreline- \$10k, Grading- \$35k, plus misc smaller permit fees



Trafton Floodplain Restoration

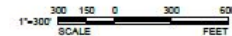


GENERAL NOTES:

- MULTIPLE TYPES OF ENGINEERED LOG JAMS ARE SHOWN ON THIS SHEET AND NOT LABELED FOR CLARITY. SEE SHEETS C-04 - C-05 FOR SPECIFIC STRUCTURE TYPES AND LOCATIONS.
- THE CONTRACTOR SHALL SEED ALL DISTURBED AREAS FOLLOWING EACH YEAR OF CONSTRUCTION. SEE SHEET L-01 FOR REQUIREMENTS.
- THE CONTRACTOR SHALL REMOVE ALL ROADS AND PARKING AREAS AT THE COMPLETION OF THE PROJECT. SEE SHEET C-16 FOR MORE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.

CONSTRUCTION ACCESS NOTES:

- THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR VERIFYING THE CURRENT CONDITION OF KOEZE ROAD AND MAKING IMPROVEMENT AS NEEDED TO FACILITATE CONSTRUCTION ACCESS.
- FOLLOWING THE OWNER DEEMING THE PROJECT COMPLETE, THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BEAR ALL COST TO REPAIR ROADWAY DAMAGE AND RETURN KOEZE ROAD TO THE CONDITION IT WAS IN PRIOR TO MOBILIZATION. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DOCUMENTING THE CONDITION OF THE ROAD PRIOR TO MOBILIZATION. SEE CONTRACT SPECIFICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.



2801 ALASKAN WAY, SUITE 200 SEATTLE, WA 98121 OFFICE: 206.759.9658 WWW.ESASOC.COM

STAMP



CLIENT



PROJECT NAME
TRAFTON REACH FLOODPLAIN RECONNECTION N.F. STILLAGUAMISH RIVER
TRAFTON, WA

REVISIONS

#	DATE	DESCRIPTION

DESIGNED GW / DE
DRAWN GW
CHECKED CM
IN CHARGE SM

PROJECT NUMBER D202100418

ISSUE DATE 11/15/2024

SCALE IS AS SHOWN WHEN PLOTTED TO FULL SIZE (22"x34")

PHASE
100% CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTATION

SHEET TITLE

SITE PLAN OVERVIEW

SHEET NUMBER

C-03

SHEET 7 OF 42

Zis a Ba Phase II- Tidal Wetland Restoration

