Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP): Part of an Ambitious Strategy for a Resilient Future





The ASRP is a key element of the Chehalis Basin Strategy to address two of the basin's greatest challenges: **1) the devastating decline of salmon and other aquatic species; and 2) catastrophic flooding.** Habitat degradation from climate change and other human-related impacts threaten the viability of aquatic species. The ASRP provides a science-informed plan and collaborative approach to identify and implement actions to restore and protect aquatic habitats throughout the Chehalis Basin.

A Collaborative Approach

The ASRP uses **a collaborative approach** toward implementation to ensure projects are technically viable, locally supported, and making progress toward meeting program and strategy goals across the basin. **Local organizations work with landowners and restoration professionals** on Regional Implementation Teams to identify and develop projects. **Guided by priorities**,¹ projects are funded on a continuous basis, allowing flexibility to act on opportunities as they arise while ensuring the highest-priority activities are addressed first.

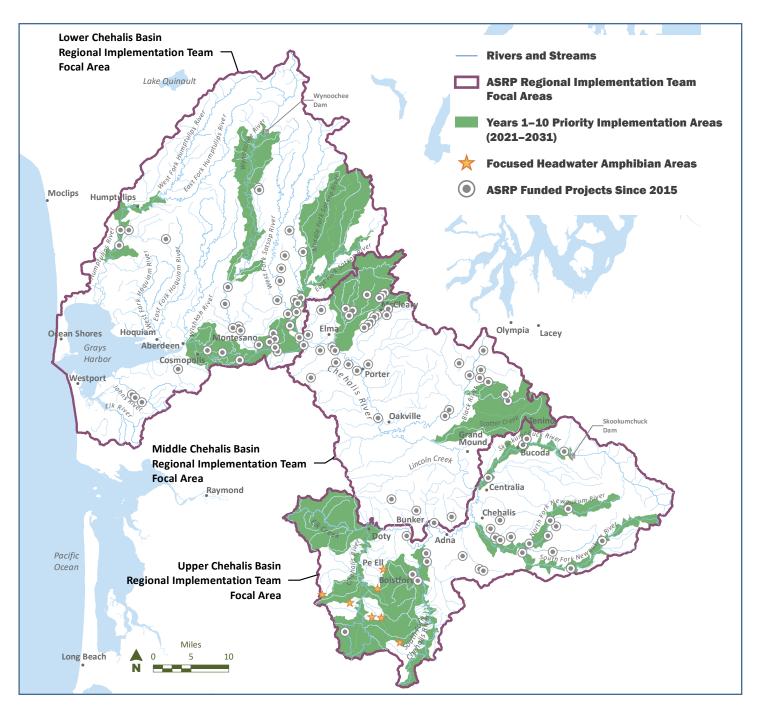
Goals and Outcomes

Since 2015, approximately \$58 million dollars has been invested in ASRP project development, design, and implementation. Of this total, approximately \$32.2 million dollars supported on-the-ground restoration actions across Grays Harbor, Thurston, and Lewis counties. **The ASRP is on track to meet its 2021–2023 biennial goal to restore 9 miles of river habitat and 400 acres of floodplain habitat.**

	Grays Harbor County (\$17.5 million)	Thurston County (\$3.5 million)	Lewis County (\$11.3 million)	Total
River miles restored	4.8	1.1	2.6	8.5
Acres of floodplain restored	137	101	30	269
Acres of habitat protected	156	102	38	295
Miles made newly accessible through barrier corrections	73	0.5	32	106
Acres of invasive vegetation treated	223	20	40	283
Acres of native plants installed	76	67	45	188

The Chehalis Basin Board will continue to evaluate the components of a long-term Chehalis Basin Strategy in the 2023–2025 biennium. The ASRP will continue to implement projects with available funding until a finalized strategy with legislative support is in place to support long-term implementation.

^{1. &}lt;u>https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2213001.html</u>; <u>https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/ASRP_Near-Term_Implementation_Update_1-13-2022_Tagged.pdf</u>



The ASRP's 10-Year Implementation Objectives

- **Prioritize actions** that benefit species at highest risk: spring-run Chinook salmon, Oregon spotted frog, and coastal tailed frog.
- Increase native species abundance and diversity to help mitigate climate change.
- Restore and protect core habitats that are currently productive and stable.
- Plant trees and shrubs along streams and rivers to provide habitat and shade.
- **Restore habitat access** for migrating fish and amphibians.
- **Continuously improve** on restoration effectiveness, funds spent, and community engagement.

