

WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM UPDATE: GRANTS AND NET ECOLOGICAL BENEFIT CHAPTER 90.94 RCW (ESSB 6091)



Bennett Weinstein
Annie Sawabini

Water Resources Program
Washington State Department of Ecology

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CRPAG

Today's Discussion

- Background
- Grants
- Net Ecological Benefit



We manage water resources to meet the needs of people and the natural environment, in partnership with Washington communities.



WATER for PEOPLE, FARMS & FISH

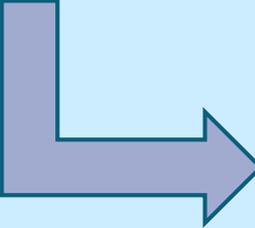


9094 Implementation Targets

1. Stewardship of Taxpayer Funds.
2. 15 Plans by Statutory Deadlines.
3. By 2022: Several Rounds of Grant Funds Obligated to Projects that are Delivering Demonstrable* Stream Flows as Planned.
4. Update Instream Flow Rules as Necessary to Ensure Compliance with Relevant Law.

NEW PERMIT EXEMPT WELLS

NEW PERMIT EXEMPT WELLS



1 QUANTIFY EXPECTED CONSUMPTIVE WATER USE OVER 20 YEARS

2 IDENTIFY WHERE IT IS POSSIBLE TO OFFSET

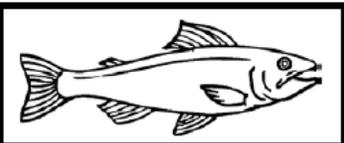
3  ECOLOGY MUST EVALUATE: DOES THIS PLAN HAVE A NET ECOLOGICAL BENEFIT?

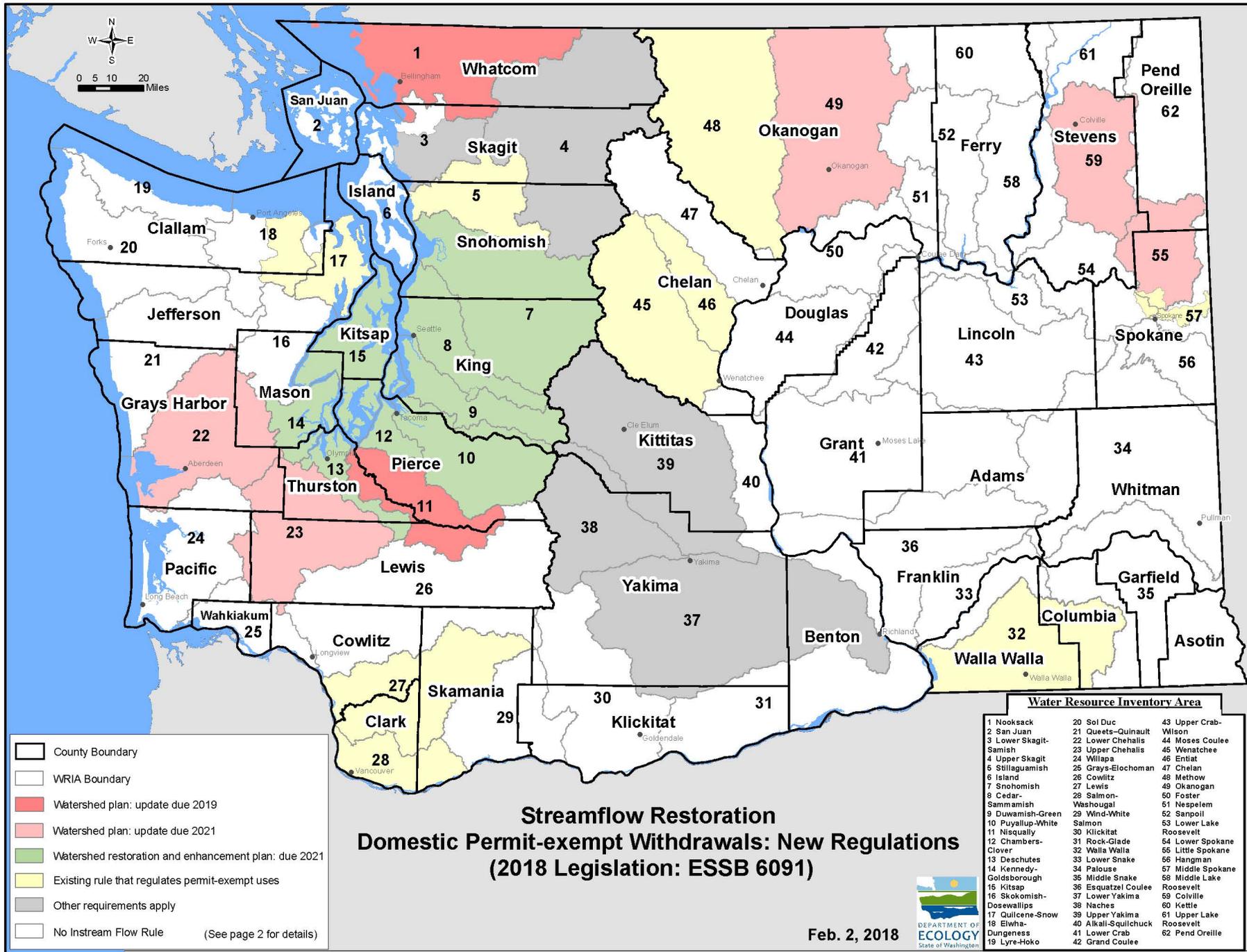
FIRST PRIORITY

 FOR  IN  AND 

SECOND PRIORITY

 FOR  ≠  AND/OR  FOR  ≠  AND 

PROJECTS THAT ENHANCE  AND/OR 



2

"202" Local Led
*Plans Adopted By Ecology: Feb 1, 2019

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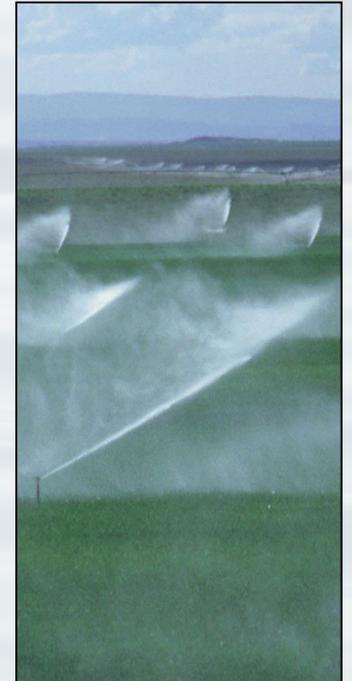
"202" Local Led
*Plans Adopted By Ecology: Feb 1, 2021

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"203" Ecology Led
*Plans Adopted By Ecology: June 30, 2021

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90.94 Grants

- Annual Participation Grants
- Project Grants



90.94 Grants

- Annual Participation Grants
 - Tribal Governments
 - Counties



90.94 Grants



Grant
Funding
Opportunities

| Eligible Grantee | Base Participation Grant | Additional Participation Grants Funds |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Tribal Governments | \$25k/ yr. 1 st WRIA | \$15k/ yr. each additional WRIA |
| “202” Lead Agency | \$50k /yr. Lead WRIA | \$150k* “Planning Support” |
| “202” Non-lead Counties | \$25k /yr. 1 st WRIA | \$15k / yr. each additional WRIA |
| “203” Counties | \$25k /yr. 1 st WRIA | \$15k / yr. each additional WRIA |

* These Funds Are One-Time for Planning Support

90.94 Grants

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90.94 Grants

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 - Pilot Round: 2018
 - Future Rounds



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90.94 Project Grant FAQ: (2018 Pilot Round)

Grant Purpose?

Funds Available this Year?

Grant Award Limit?

Grant Cycle?

Who is Eligible?

Priority Watersheds?

Eligible Projects?

Are there Funding Guidelines?

Future rounds of funding?

How Do I Apply?

90.94 Project Grant FAQ: (2018 Pilot Round)

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Grant Purpose? | Statewide Funding to Improve Stream Flows and Instream Resources |
| Funds Available this Year? | Up to \$20 million |
| Grant Award Limit? | None |
| Grant Cycle? | *Opened Oct. 1, 2018 *Closed Oct. 31, 2018 |
| Who is Eligible? | *Public entities (state and local agencies and special use districts) *Non-profit organizations |
| Priority Watersheds? | Yes. *Watersheds and areas addressed in RCW 90.94 *Basins with Endangered Species Act-listed fish species |
| Eligible Projects? | *Water Acquisition *Water Storage *Altered Water Management or Infrastructure *Riparian and Fish Habitat Improvement |
| Are there Funding Guidelines? | Yes. *“Streamflow Restoration Grants Fiscal Year 2019 Interim Funding Guidelines” * https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/1811010.pdf |
| Future rounds of funding? | 15-year grant program will be based on a rule under development |
| How Do I Apply? | Ecology’s Administration of Grants & Loans (EAGL) system |

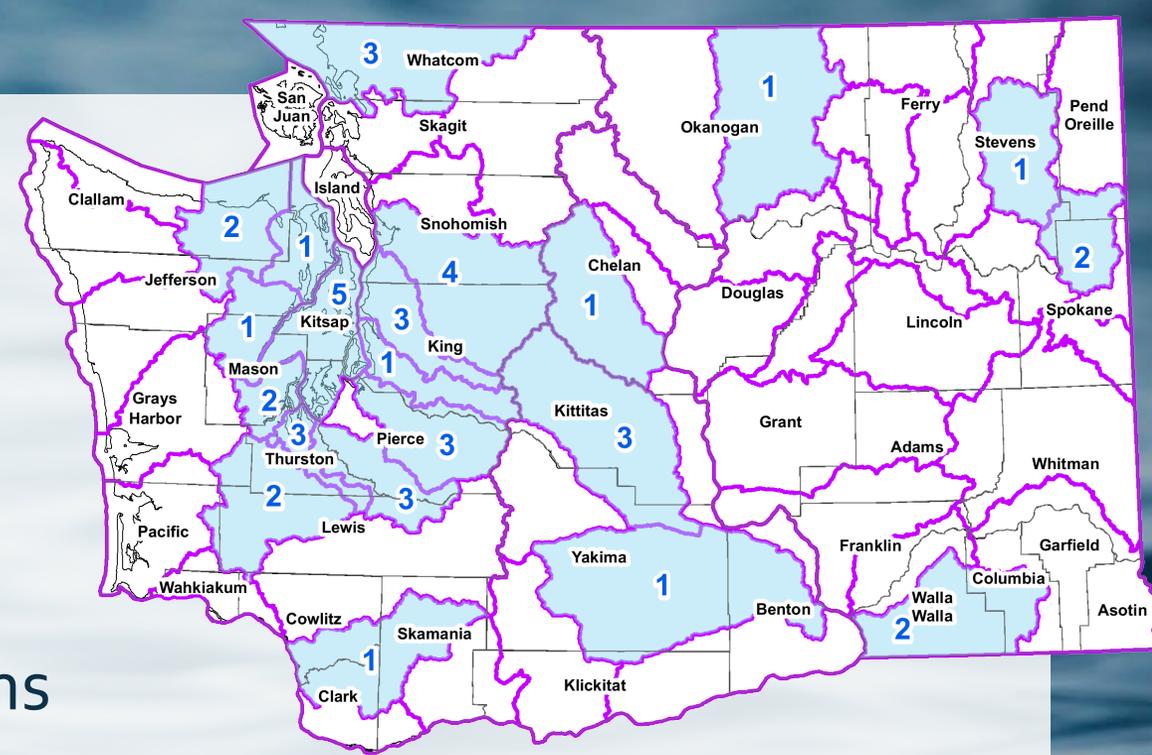
90.94 Project Grants Pilot Round

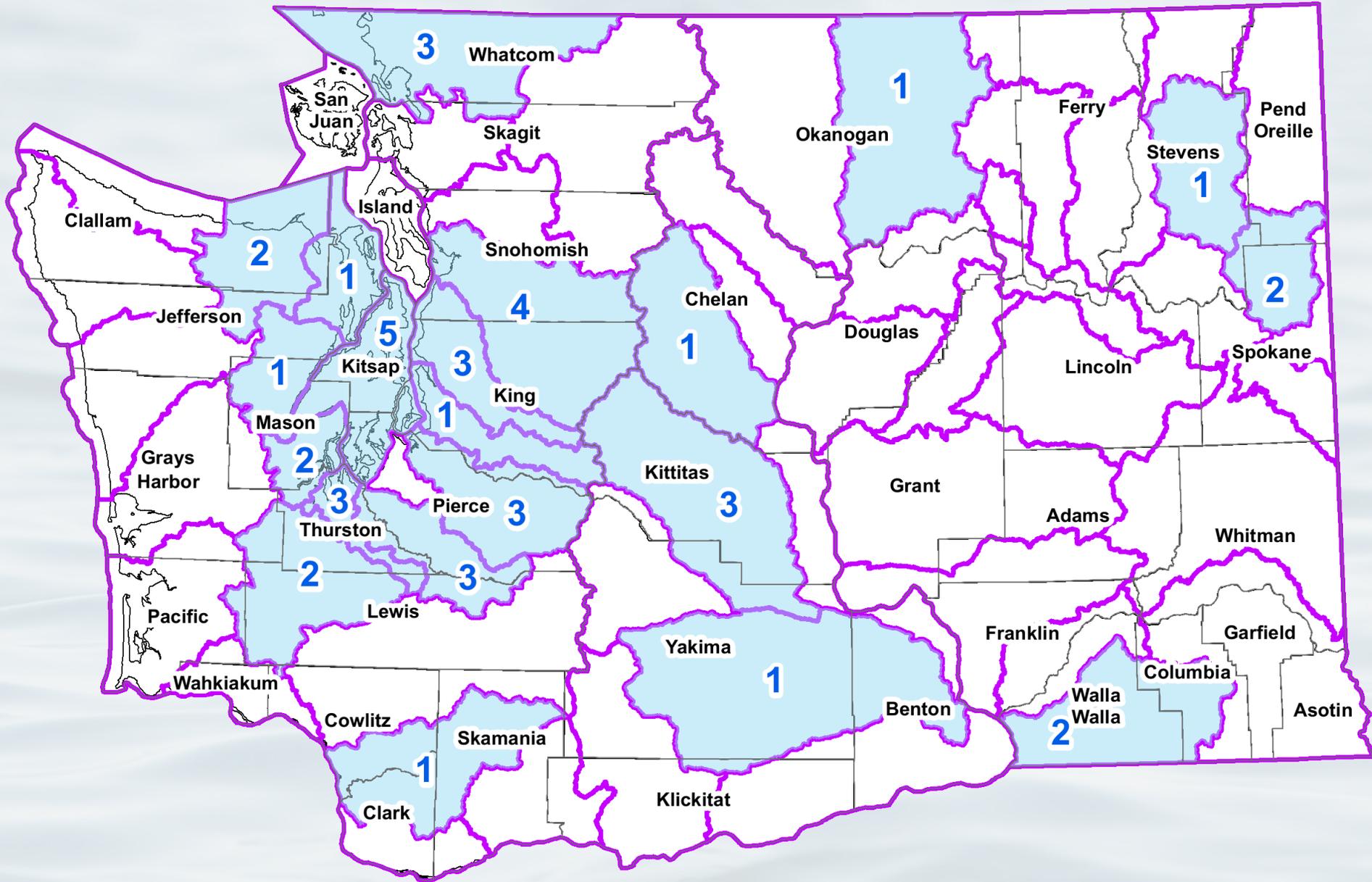
- 46 Applications Received
- Executive Summaries On-Line
- Evaluation: Ecology and WDFW
- Offer Letters Sent Late January 2019



90.94 Project Grants Pilot Round

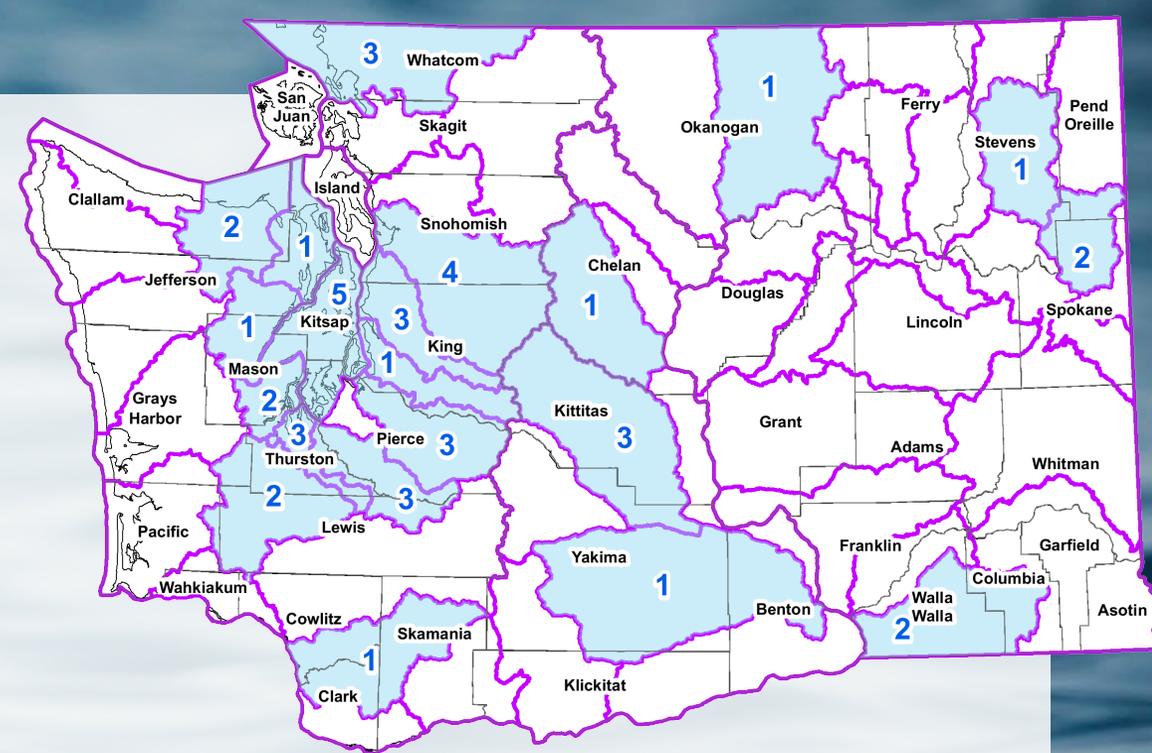
- \$300 Million (2018-2033)
- \$20 Million Available 2019
- ≈\$74 Million in Project Applications
- 46 Projects
 - 10 Water Rights Acquisition
 - 9 Land Acquisition
 - 9 Habitat Improvement
 - 7 Habitat Restoration
 - 4 Water Conservation
 - 4 Water Recharge
 - 1 Water Transfer
 - 1 Water Storage
 - 1 Study

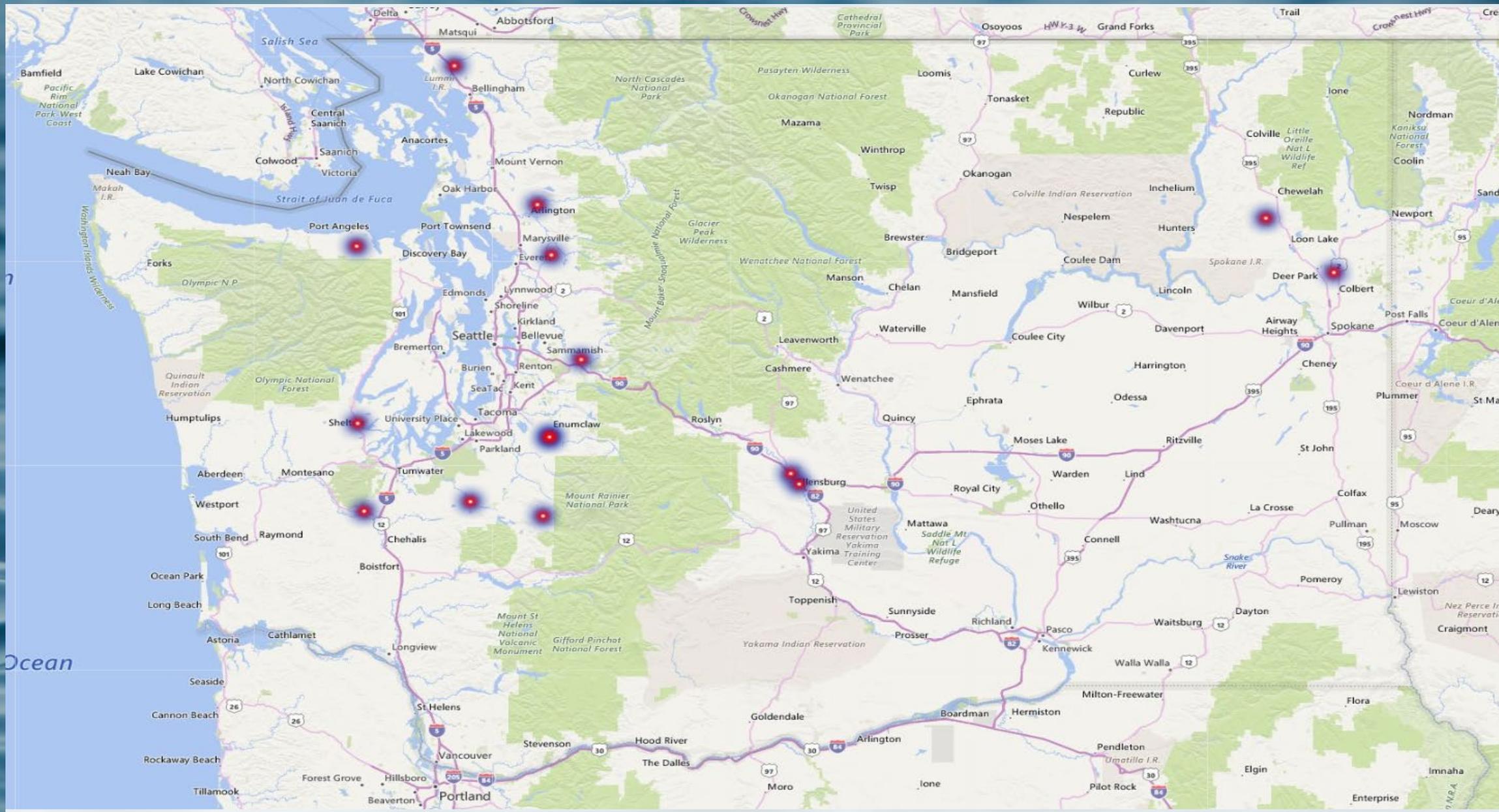




90.94 Project Grants Pilot Round Offers Sent January 2018

- ~\$20 Million Available 2019
- 15 Projects
- Evaluation Ecology and WDFW
- Guidance Priorities:
 - Water Projects - higher priority
 - Water acquisition.
 - Water storage..
 - Altered water management (e.g. conservation /infrastructure)
 - Non-water Projects – lower priority
 - Protects/improves instream resources but do not replace water.





90.94 Grants

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- Project Grants
 - Pilot Round: 2018
 - Future Rounds



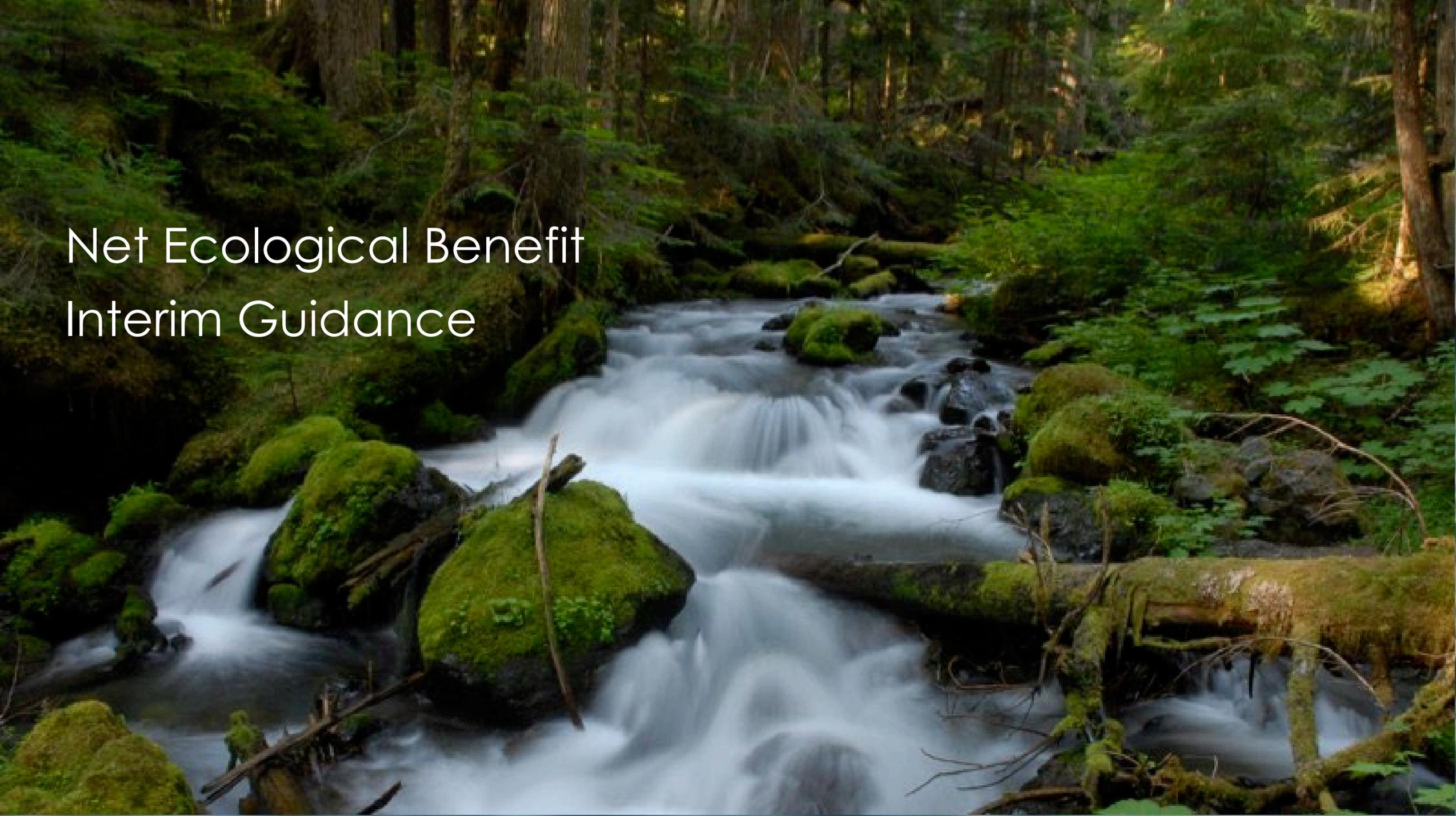
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2018 Law, RCW 90.94



A long-exposure photograph of a forest stream flowing over moss-covered rocks. The water is blurred, creating a soft, white, cascading effect as it moves through the dense forest. The surrounding vegetation is lush and green, with many trees and ferns visible. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Net Ecological Benefit Interim Guidance



Draft Final Guidance



Final Guidance

Bennett Weinstein
Annie Sawabini

Department of Ecology
Water Resources Program

(360)407-6757



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington