



WASHINGTON
WATER TRUST

2024

Annual
Report

Washington Water Trust acknowledges that we are on Indigenous land that is home to many Tribes who have stewarded Washington's waters since time immemorial. We are honored to collaborate with Tribes and support their work for healthy lands, waters, and communities.

Our Mission

Our mission is to protect and restore healthy rivers and streams across Washington so that fish, farms, and communities can thrive for generations. WWT purchases and leases water rights, works with communities to balance water needs, and develops sustainable water sources in **17 watersheds**.



5.7 BILLION GALLONS

WWT restores more than **5.7 billion gallons of water** to rivers and streams across Washington every year, boosting flows for threatened species.



1.4 BILLION GALLONS

WWT projects are anticipated to permanently protect an additional **1.4 billion gallons of water** in salmon streams starting in 2025.



DONATE TODAY FOR HEALTHY RIVERS

Make a tax-deductible gift to keep rivers and streams flowing across Washington. Give back to the freshwaters you love.

Dear Friend of Washington Water Trust,

Fish, farms, and communities share one thing in common: the need for clean, abundant freshwater. This fundamental truth guides our work restoring streamflows across Washington and I am proud of the flow restoration progress we are making.

2024 was challenging for our freshwater. The Washington State Department of Ecology declared a statewide drought emergency following our eighth warmest winter since 1895. It was the fifth drought declaration in the past 10 years.

Climate projections show that this shift may be the new normal. Higher water temperatures and lower flows are projected to increasingly harm fish and wildlife. These changes are likely to compound issues like overuse that reduce flows even in normal water years.

Thankfully, your support is helping us bring more people and groups together to restore the health of our rivers. Farmers support permanent and emergency flow programs. Businesses back our drought relief work. Diverse coalitions come together to build a future where human and environmental water needs are balanced. Collaboration drives our work.

Whether you lease or donate your water right to WWT, partner with us on a local project, or provide financial support—your contribution to local rivers and streams is invaluable.



Washington's water belongs to us all. We will keep bringing people together to restore and protect our state's freshwater. Thank you for flowing with us towards a brighter future!

Sincerely,

James Kraft
Executive Director

Impact Highlights



Saving salmon during drought in Dungeness

WWT and the Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe collaborated with farmers and coordinated pulse flows to keep water in the Dungeness River for Chinook salmon and other fish during the summer drought. These efforts helped Chinook returns exceed recovery targets and allowed fish to reach spawning habitat in the upper river.



Hosting water rights workshops

WWT hosted a water rights workshop in the South Fork Chehalis Valley. Educating landowners about their water rights and building relationships are key steps in restoring and protecting streamflows for salmon, steelhead, and the threatened Oregon spotted frog in the Chehalis watershed.



Studying recycled water use on food crops

One way to restore flows to salmon streams is switching users from river water and groundwater to sustainable water sources like recycled water. WWT is working with partners in the Sammamish Valley to study recycled water use in growing food crops and advocate for its local adoption.



Watersheds of Washington



Maintaining flows in the Yakima basin

WWT partnered with landowners in the Teanaway River valley to lease water and maintain flows during the drought. This effort continues our work to support spawning and rearing fish in the Yakima basin, where permanent WWT water acquisitions keep up to a billion gallons instream annually.



Restoring flows for steelhead in the Okanogan

WWT is negotiating a 10-year water lease extension on Loup Loup Creek and a water purchase on Antoine Creek. Our partnership with the Colville Tribes and Helensdale Reclamation District transformed Loup Loup Creek from a dry bed with no fish in the summer to one of Okanogan's most productive steelhead streams.

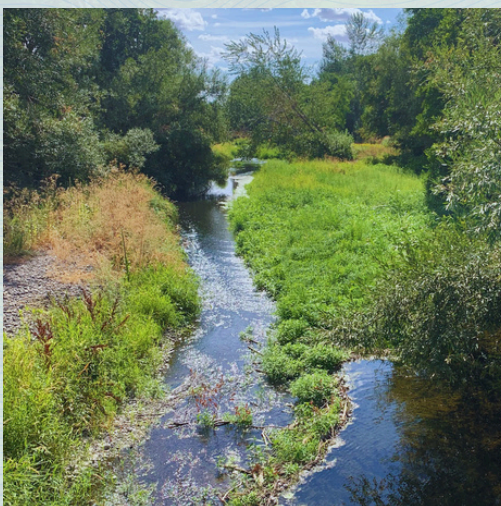
A major milestone for Icicle Creek



WWT signed agreements with the Cascade Orchard Irrigation Company and Chelan County to permanently restore more than 1.3 billion gallons of water annually to Icicle Creek. Chelan County broke ground on a new high-efficiency pump station that will keep critical flows instream in the lower 4.5 miles of the creek. This change will benefit steelhead, spring Chinook, and other fish.

Our agreement also allowed the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery and the United States Bureau of Reclamation to make updates that improved fish passage and safety.

Walla Walla flows make history



WWT has partnered with the City of Walla Walla and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation to restore Mill Creek flows. In 2024, the City used aquifer-stored water in the summer instead of its Mill Creek diversion in Oregon. Washington and Oregon passed legislation—that WWT supported—to allow Oregon water rights to be protected into Washington.

The Mill Creek water that WWT leased from the City was protected in both states and provided summer flows for Chinook salmon, steelhead, and other fish. It's a historic win for streamflows in the Walla Walla basin.

Thank you project partners!

21 Acres	Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe	Stockholm Environment Institute
American Farmland Trust	JB Instant Lawn & Nursery	Taneum Canal Company
American Water Resources Association-WA Section	King County Wastewater Treatment Division	Thurston Conservation District
Anchor QEA	Kittitas Conservation District	Thurston County
Aspect Consulting	Kittitas Conservation Trust	Tonnemaker Valley Farm
Blue Mountain Land Trust	Kittitas Reclamation District	Touchet Westside Irrigation District
Bluewater GIS	Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery	Tri-State Steelheaders
Bonneville Power Administration	Lewis Conservation District	University of Washington
Capitol Land Trust	Mason County Conservation District	Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
Cascade Orchards Irrigation Company	McCormick Water Strategies	Underwood Conservation District
Cascadia Conservation District	Methow Conservancy	United States Bureau of Reclamation
Chehalis Basin Partnership	Methow Watershed Council	United States Dept. of Agriculture
Chelan County Dept. of Natural Resources	Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	Natural Resources Conservation Service
City of Bothell	Middle Klickitat Conservation District	Viva Farms
City of Dayton	Mott MacDonald	Walla Walla 2050 Planning Initiative
City of Sequim	National Fish & Wildlife Foundation	Walla Walla County
City of Walla Walla	Natural Systems Design	Walla Walla County Conservation District
Clallam Conservation District	Nisqually Land Trust	Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Clallam County	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries	Washington Resource Conservation & Development Council: Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program
Clallam County Clallam Public Utility District No. 1	Nooksack Indian Tribe	Washington State Conservation Commission - Irrigation Efficiency Grants Program
Columbia County	North Yakima Conservation District	Washington State Dept. of Ecology
Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation	Office of Chehalis Basin	Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office - Salmon Recovery Funding Board
Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation	Office of the Columbia River	Washington State University
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Oregon Water Resources Dept.	Wells Habitat Conservation Plan Tributary Committee
Cowiche Canyon Conservancy	Point No Point Treaty Council	Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board
Dry Farm Institute	Priest Rapids Coordination Committee	Yakima/Klickitat Fisheries Project
Dungeness Water Users Association	San Juan County	
Forterra	San Juan County Conservation Land Bank	
Greys Harbor Conservation District	Skagit Watershed Council	
Helensdale Reclamation District	Snoqualmie Indian Tribe	
Icicle and Peshastin Irrigation District	Squaxin Island Tribe	
Intertox, Inc.		

Thank you Healthy Rivers Partners!

Chinook Level (\$10,000+)



King County

Department of
Natural Resources and Parks

Sockeye Level (\$1,000-\$5,000)

**AMP Insights
Brown & Caldwell
Environmental Science Associates
Jacobs
Van Ness Feldman**

Thank you supporting organizations!

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Medosweet Farms
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Squaxin Island Tribe
Swinomish Indian Tribal Community
The Russell Family Foundation
Tulalip Tribes
Washington State Dept. of Ecology
Wildhorse Foundation
Sustainable Path Foundation
United States Bureau of Reclamation**

Thank you event partners!



— Gesa — **POWER HOUSE THEATRE**

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Browne Family Vineyards
Burwood Brewing Company
Canyon River Ranch
Cayuse Vineyards
Copperworks Distilling Company
The Couer D'Alene Golf Spa & Resort
Dansko
Dry Fly Distilling
DW Distilling
Far Bank Enterprises
Feathered Friends
Foundry Vineyards
Gård Vintners
GRAYL
Hilleberg The Tentmaker
Iron Horse Brewery
Ivar's and Kidd Valley Restaurants
Juniper Ridge
KEEN
Kokopelli
Kontos Cellars

Mountaineers Books
Outdoor Research
Outside Walla Walla
Pacific Gyotaku
Pagliacci Pizza
Paramount Hotels
Patagonia Seattle
Pursued by Bear
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Rep Your Water
Revelry Vintners
Scott Fly Rods
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Water Buffalo Brewery
Woodland Park Zoo
Yellowhawk Resort

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These businesses support
WWT through services
and in-kind donations.

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Wells Fargo

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Sung Yang

2024 UNAUDITED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

REVENUES & SUPPORT

Operating Revenue*	\$1,844,955
Water Acquisition Revenue	\$491,075
Other Income	\$60,310
Release of 2023 Restricted Cash	\$1,395,984
TOTAL REVENUE:	\$3,832,324

* \$439,537 of Operating Revenue will be held for use in 2025 and beyond

EXPENSES

Operating Expenses	\$3,016,574
Water Acquisition Expenses	\$501,868
Other Expenses	\$7,130
TOTAL EXPENSES:	\$3,525,572



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