



# Fish, wildlife and Washington's economy

## Fish and wildlife activities support business and jobs

Spending by fishers, hunters and wildlife viewers generates more than \$4.5 billion annually for Washington state's economy. Their spending supports jobs and small businesses around the state, particularly in rural areas. They keep cash registers ringing in restaurants, motels, gas stations, convenience stores and sporting-goods outlets.

Spending by hunters, fishers and wildlife watchers supports 60,250 jobs in Washington state and generates more than \$4.5 billion annually for the state's economy.

## Broad benefits for citizens

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) manages the state's fish and wildlife resources and related recreational and commercial opportunities.

WDFW operates on a combination of user fees, contracts with federal and local agencies and state General Fund dollars. General Fund support comprises less than a quarter of WDFW's operating

budget and pays for services that benefit citizens across the state, including those who don't fish or hunt. Salmon-recovery efforts, habitat protection, production of salmon sold in markets and restaurants and public safety protection are among the activities supported by general revenue.

## Users are paying for services

Fishers, hunters and other users of state recreation lands pay to support their pursuits. The cost of hunting and fishing licenses was increased by an average of 10 percent by the 2011 Legislature. At the same time, visitors to state recreation lands—including wildlife areas and water-access sites managed by WDFW—are required to purchase an annual vehicle-access pass, known as the Discover Pass, to help meet the cost of land maintenance.

### Contact Information:

Phil Anderson, WDFW Director  
360-902-2720  
philip.anderson@dfw.wa.gov

Ann Larson, Legislative Liaison  
360-902-2226  
ann.larson@dfw.wa.gov

[wdfw.wa.gov](http://wdfw.wa.gov)



# WDFW 2011-13 Funding and Activity Overview

**WDFW uses State General Fund to support broad societal values, such as:**

**WDFW uses State Wildlife Account funds generated by the sale of licenses and permits to provide specific services, such as:**

## Native fish recovery — 246.7 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$43.8 million

GFS	\$8.41 M	Support salmon recovery through mass marking, coded wire tags, genetics and hatchery reform to meet federal protection requirements. Implement actions in the Puget Sound Rockfish Conservation Plan to recover listed rockfish species including fisheries restrictions and habitat restoration through removal of derelict fishing gear.	Monitor populations and impacts on listed fish and set recreational fishing season when conservation objectives are met.
WLS	\$4.3 M		
F	\$16.88 M		
P/L	\$11.14 M		
Other	\$3.05 M		

## Fish production — 288.8 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$61.6 million

GFS	\$14.68 M	Produce salmon to support commercial and recreational fishing opportunities and meet tribal treaty obligations for salmon and steelhead.	Produce trout and steelhead for recreational fisheries.
WLS	\$ 6.65 M		
F	\$13.05 M		
P/L	\$22.27 M		
Other	\$5.0 M		

## Fisheries management — 197.8 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$39.0 million

GFS	\$5.02 M	Monitor and manage sustainable fisheries for commercial salmon, shellfish, and groundfish. Negotiate tribal and international treaty allocations.	Monitor and manage sustainable fisheries for recreational fishing.
WLS	\$9.92 M		
F	\$13.59 M		
P/L	\$5.3 M		
Other	\$5.19 M		

## Wildlife protection — 52.3 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$11.8 million

GFS	0		Support non-game species management including threatened and endangered species recovery and land conservation.
WLS	\$5.91 M		
F	\$3.21 M		
P/L	\$823,000		
Other	\$1.87 M		

## Hunting and wildlife viewing — 59.9 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$ 14.7 million

GFS	0		Monitor wildlife populations and conduct management activities for game species to ensure sustainability and manage hunting. Respond to dangerous wildlife threats. Develop opportunities for fish and wildlife viewing.
WLS	\$9.35 M		
F	\$3.92 M		
P/L	\$362,000		
Other	\$1.08 M		

### Abbreviations

State General Fund — GFS	Private/Local funding — P/L
State Wildlife Account — WLS	Other funding sources —
Federal Funding — F	Other

**Funding also supports:** Commercial and recreational licensing; asset management; regional operations; information technology; fiscal and budget management, public information, human resources, safety, revolving accounts; Fish and Wildlife Commission activities; policy and executive management.

**WDFW uses State General Fund to support broad societal values, such as:**

**WDFW uses State Wildlife Account funds generated by the sale of licenses and permits to provide specific services, such as:**

**Land management** — 112.0 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$ 32.9 million

GFS	\$1.65 M	Payment-in-Lieu-of Taxes (PILT) to counties and local government assessments.	Provide operation and maintenance on wildlife areas, weed management, grazing monitoring, technical expertise to partner agencies and non-government organizations for habitat enhancement. Provide hunting, fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities. Manage and restore habitat to sustain wildlife populations.
WLS	\$12.1 M		
F	\$14.66 M		
P/L	\$921,000		
Other	\$3.6 M		

**Enforcement** — 155.8 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$ 39.4 million

GFS	\$13.88 M	Enforcement of commercial fishing regulations; endangered species protection; response to dangerous or problem wildlife; boating safety; shellfish safety; hydraulic code enforcement; and general law enforcement.	Enforce recreational fishing and hunting regulations.
WLS	\$20.05 M		
F	\$3.41 M		
P/L	\$461,000		
Other	\$1.63 M		

**Ecosystem restoration** — 32.7 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$ 29.0 million

GFS	\$4.40 M	Lead and coordinate statewide habitat restoration efforts for the benefit of fish and wildlife, including Puget Sound estuary restoration for nearshore and salmon recovery. Provide biological and engineering expertise statewide to identify and correct fish passage barriers.	
WLS	\$30,000		
F	\$17.9 M		
P/L	\$528,000		
Other	\$6.10 M		

**Hydraulic project approvals** — 57.5 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$ 9.8 million

GFS	\$5.96 M	Protect fish life through the regulatory Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) permit process, including permit issuance, compliance and effectiveness monitoring. (Federal funding is solely dedicated to the development and implementation of a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the HPA Program.)	Regional HPA application review and processing for construction projects in state waters, including forest practices and fish restoration projects.
WLS	\$2.21 M		
F	\$1.54 M		
P/L	\$115,000		

**Habitat conservation** — 45.5 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$ 8.7 million

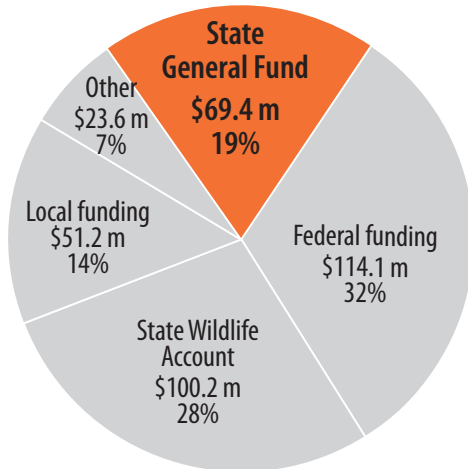
GFS	\$4.94 M	Provide exclusive expertise for land use planning to protect species and critical habitat and assist salmon recovery entities. Protect instream water needs for fish and provide water quantity needs for fish and wildlife. Mitigate impacts of hydropower, wind and other energy development projects.	Provide expertise for salmon recovery entities to secure funding for implementation of salmon recovery efforts.
WLS	\$370,000		
F	\$2.17 M		
P/L	\$180,000		
Other	\$1.0 M		

**Aquatic invasive species monitoring /control** — 9.7 FTEs | Total biennial budget — \$ 1.5 million

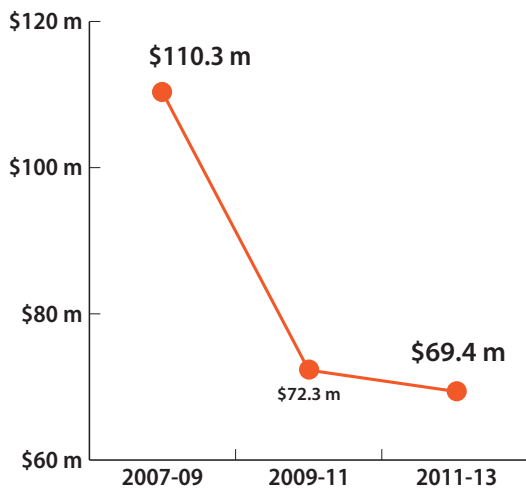
GFS	\$697,000	Prevent and control aquatic invasive species including inspecting ballast water in vessels entering Washington ports.	
WLS	0		
F	\$172,000		
Other	\$626,000		



# Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife—by the numbers

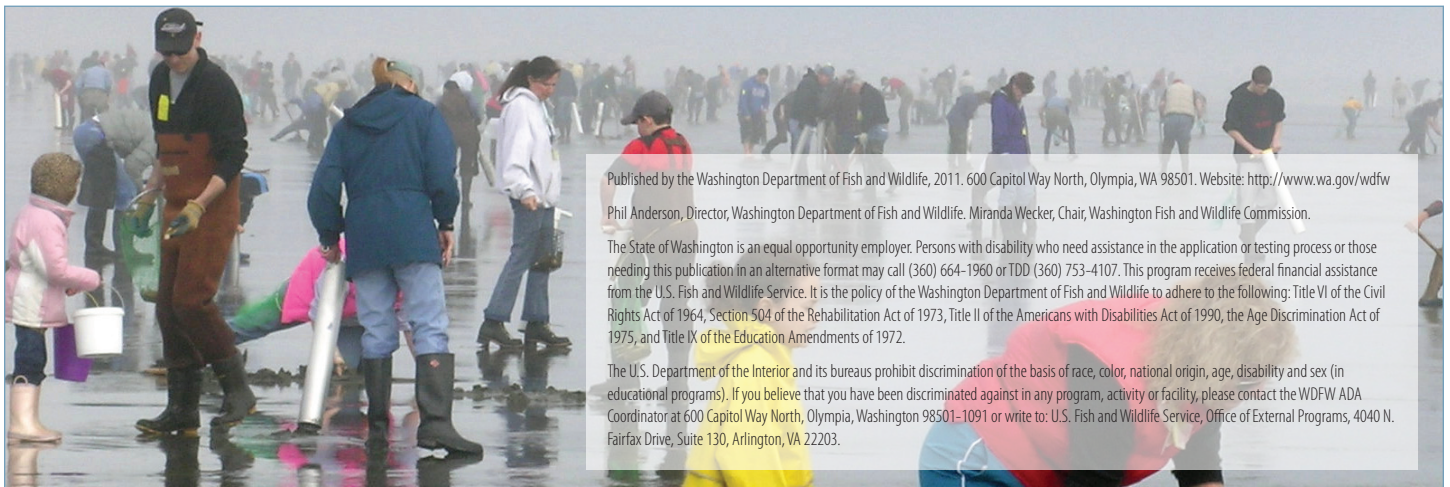


**2011-13 Total Budget**  
**\$358.5 million**



**State General Fund Support**  
**2007-09 to 2011-13**

- 1.2 million** People purchase state fishing or hunting licenses from WDFW each year.
- 163 million** Salmon, steelhead, trout and warm water fish such as bass, perch, and walleye are reared at WDFW hatcheries for release into Washington waters each year.
- 95 million** Hatchery-produced coho and chinook salmon and steelhead are marked by WDFW each year so fishers can distinguish them from protected wild fish.
- 2.2 million** Hunter days of recreation are provided through WDFW's management of 55 game species.
- 55,000** Pheasants are released annually by WDFW.
- 856,000** Acres of state lands are managed by WDFW to provide habitat for fish and wildlife and recreational opportunities for citizens.
- 700** Water-access sites are operated by WDFW for fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing and other recreational activities.
- 4,000** Applications for hydraulic permit approvals (HPAs) are reviewed by WDFW each year to protect fish habitat.
- 55** Threatened or endangered species are the focus of WDFW conservation and recovery efforts.
- 261,000** Public contacts a year are made by WDFW enforcement officers to protect public safety and natural resources.
- 1,650** Citizen complaints about cougars and black bears are responded to by WDFW in an average year.
- 13,000** People each year complete hunter education courses offered by WDFW.
- 1,900** Acres of beach area restored in Puget Sound
- 4,360** Fish passage barriers corrected and 4,420 stream miles opened statewide
- 29** Counties in Washington incorporate WDFW Priority Habitat and Species (PHS) information into their regulatory framework



Published by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, 2011. 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501. Website: <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw>  
Phil Anderson, Director, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Miranda Wecker, Chair, Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission.

The State of Washington is an equal opportunity employer. Persons with disability who need assistance in the application or testing process or those needing this publication in an alternative format may call (360) 664-1960 or TDD (360) 753-4107. This program receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is the policy of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife to adhere to the following: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.

The U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex (in educational programs). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, please contact the WDFW ADA Coordinator at 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 or write to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of External Programs, 4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 130, Arlington, VA 22203.