



The Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act of 2009

Supporters

State and Local Governments:

- Alaska Dept. of Fish & Game
- Washington Governor's Office
- Washington Salmon Recovery Office
- Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Oregon Governor's Office
- Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation
- California Department of Fish and Game
- California Department of Fish and Game Commission
- Chelan County Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois Valley Soil & Water Conservation District
- Illinois Valley Watershed Council
- South Coast Watersheds
- Curry County Soil & Water Conservation District
- City of Port Orford

Multi-State Organizations

- Northwest Power & Conservation Council

Individuals:

- Bill Ruckelshaus, Madrona Venture Group
- Bill Neukom, K & L Gates
- David Montgomery, University of Washington
- John Kitzhaber, former Governor of Oregon
- Peter Moyle, UC Davis

Tribal Governments:

- Quinault Indian Nation
- Quileute Indian Tribe
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

NGOs and Fishing Associations:

- Wild Salmon Center
- Trout Unlimited
- National Wildlife Federation
- Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Associations
- National Federation of Fly Fishers
- Rivers Without Borders
- Sierra Club
- American Whitewater
- Ecotrust
- Pacific Rivers Council
- Native Fish Society
- Western Washington Agricultural Association
- Washington Wildlife Federation
- Cascade Land Conservancy
- Network of Oregon Watershed Councils
- Oregon WaterWatch
- Oregon Wild
- Oregon Natural Desert Assoc.
- The Freshwater Trust
- California Trout
- Northern California Council of Federation Fly Fishers
- Southwest California Council of Federation Fly Fishers
- Smith River Alliance
- Molalla River Alliance
- Cape Blanco Challenge
- Elk River Land Trust
- Friends of Elk River
- Klamath Basin Rangeland Trust

Foundations Supporting the Stronghold Partnership:

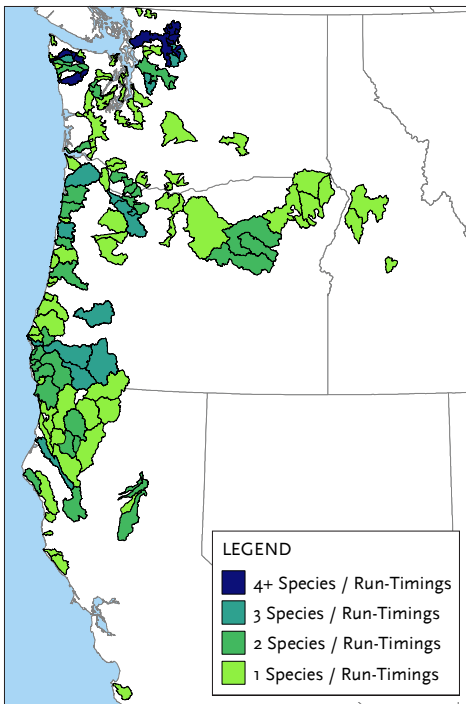
- William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
- Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund
- Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
- Jubitz Family Foundation

The Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act of 2009 will establish a federal program to support the protection and restoration of a network of the healthiest remaining wild Pacific salmon ecosystems in North America—"Salmon Strongholds." These Salmon Strongholds will sustain core centers of wild salmon abundance, productivity and diversity, reflecting a basic principle of conservation biology: protect the best, first.

This Act will complement efforts to recover threatened and endangered stocks by directly supporting public-private incentive-based efforts to maintain strong "seed" stocks, sustaining the economic, ecological, cultural, and health benefits of wild Pacific salmon for future generations.

What will this legislation do?

- 1) **Provide statutory direction** to focus resources on protection of healthy Pacific Salmon Strongholds, complementing existing recovery efforts
- 2) **Leverage private funding** to support cooperative conservation in stronghold basins
- 3) **Streamline delivery** of incentive-based programs in Salmon Strongholds
- 4) **Enhance coordination** among federal, state, and local governments, tribes, non-governmental organizations and other entities to implement an effective wild salmon conservation strategy
- 5) **Save billions of dollars** in future restoration, stock rebuilding, and emergency funding, by making strategic investments in the highest value conservation actions within Salmon Strongholds



Strong Salmon and Steelhead Populations

The shading on this map represents places where salmon and steelhead species remain strong according to three criteria: abundance and productivity (weighted twice), percent natural origin spawners, and life history diversity.

Current Endorsed Stronghold Basins

Queets-Quinalt	Lemhi
Wenatchee	Elk River
Siletz	Illinois
Sandy	Smith
John Day	

For more information, please contact:

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For a copy of the Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act, go to:
http://www.wildsalmoncenter.org/pdf/Salmon_Stronghold_Act_09.pdf

How will this benefit West Coast communities?

This Act will protect key production zones for commercial, recreational, and tribal salmon fisheries, thereby:

- Sustaining thousands of jobs
- Maintaining vibrant fishing communities
- Safeguarding millions of dollars in related economic activity
- Preserving a source of sustainably harvested local seafood

How will this work on the ground?

1. Partners identify biologically important strongholds based on scientific criteria
2. Local stakeholders within stronghold basins obtain Partnership endorsement
3. Partners review existing conservation plans to identify limiting factors and focal areas
4. Partnership works with local stakeholders to develop and implement high impact conservation projects capable of achieving long term protection on a finite timeline and budget
5. Partnership supports project implementation (enhancing coordination, leveraging funding, improving delivery mechanisms, providing technical expertise)

Focus on core centers of wild salmon abundance and diversity

Based on expert scientific opinion, the North American Salmon Stronghold Partnership has identified Pacific Salmon Strongholds in the lower 48 states. Criteria include abundance, productivity, wildness and diversity. Alaska, as a regional salmon stronghold, will target program resources to the highest priority conservation actions and policies identified by federal, state, tribal and private entities.

Sample Project Proposals

WENATCHEE BASIN

Chinook, Steelhead and Sockeye Stronghold in WA

Large multi-jurisdictional land exchange to protect riparian corridor

ILLINOIS (ROGUE) BASIN

Chinook, Steelhead and Coho Stronghold in OR

Stream channel and floodplain restoration to protect critical spawning and rearing areas

SMITH RIVER BASIN

Chinook, Steelhead and Coho Stronghold in CA

Voluntary land acquisition in headwaters to protect key spawning areas; support monitoring of escapement to basin; flood plain restoration

