

Grays Harbor Conservation District



Annual Work Plan for 2024-2025

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Mission

To sustain and enhance the quality of and preservation of natural resources while providing for their use by current and future citizens of Grays Harbor County through locally led conservation practices.

Natural Resource Priorities

Enter overall district natural resource concerns in priority order- use the format below for each priority area. These should be based on the strategies and priority actions identified in your 5-year plan.

Natural resource priority description:

- Watershed Restoration
 - This resource priority is a local, regional, and state priority.
 - Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP)
 - Salmon Recovery Plans for WRIA's #22, #23, and #24
 - Department of Ecology 303(d) listings
- Agricultural Viability
 - This natural resource priority is a local, regional, and statewide priority.
 - Department of Ecology 303(d) listings
- Marine Resiliency
 - This natural resource priority is a local and regional priority.
 - Emergency proclamation no. 22-02, Green Crab infestation, by the Washington State Governor's Office.
- Forest Stewardship
 - This natural resource priority is a local, regional, and statewide priority.
 - The Washington State Department of Natural Resources 2020 Forest Action Plan
 - The Washington State Department of Natural Resources Integrated Forest Management Planning Guide 2017 Update
- Natural Resource Education
 - This natural resource priority is a local, regional, and statewide priority.
 - The Washington State Department of Natural Resources Youth Education & Outreach Program Strategic Plan 2024-2029
 - Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) Environmental and Sustainability Education (ESE) goals document.

Natural Resource Programs

Natural Resource Priority Program Area #1:

Watershed Restoration Program

Goal(s):

To restore and enhance aquatic species habitat while implementing best management practices that reduce erosion throughout the stream systems within the boundary of the Grays Harbor Conservation District.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Installation of; eighty plus engineered log jams, ten acres of riparian vegetation and elimination of three acres of Japanese knotweed.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Twenty-four landowners will receive technical assistance resulting in twelve watershed project-based plans / designs developed and twelve projects implemented.

Funding Source(s):

Activities for FY2025	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time & Capacity (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
<p><i>Vegetation management:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to control Invasive Japanese Knotweed in the Wishkah, Wynoochee, Satsop, Hoquiam and Cloquallum Stream Systems. • Monitor, conduct outreach and eliminate poison hemlock within the city limits of Hoquiam, WA. • Assess, monitor, and eliminate scotch broom from the residential and oceanfront areas of Westport and Ocean Shores, WA. 	June 2025	Watershed Restoration Program Manager	1,984 hours (248 days) 1 FTE	\$500,000.00
<p><i>Riparian Habitat Restoration / Enhancement:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess, monitor, and install 70,000 native trees and shrubs throughout the stream systems within the boundary of the Grays Harbor Conservation District. • Installation of 80plus engineered log jams and other instream structures within the boundary of the Grays Harbor Conservation District. 	June 2025	Watershed Restoration Program Manager and Project Management Staff	4,960 hours over (248 days) 2.5 FTEs	\$5,500,000.00

Natural Resource Priority Program Area #2:

Marine Resiliency Program

Goal(s):

To increase the marine environment's resilience to the threat of invasive European Green Crab (EGC) using means and methods that are both legal and measurable.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Removal of 40,000 EGC from Grays Harbor waterways in FY 2025.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Recruit six volunteers throughout Grays Harbor County to assist in the trapping and removal of EGC.

Funding Source(s):

Activities for FY2025	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time & Capacity (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Conduct Education and Outreach around the European Green Crab (EGC) and its undesired presence throughout Grays Harbor: • Host two trapping training events geared towards recruitment of ten volunteers to trap EGC by land-based means. • Film, edit and release two videos of underwater activity of EGC through GHCD's existing platforms.	March 2025	Marine Resiliency Program Manager and Project Management Staff	1984 Hours (248 days) 1 FTE	\$50,000.00
Removal of 40,000 European Green Crab throughout Grays Harbor.	June 2025	Marine Resiliency Program Manager and Project Management Staff	1984 Hours (248 days) 1 FTE	\$650,000.00

Natural Resource Priority Program Area #3:

Forest Stewardship Program

Goal(s):

To develop mindful forest management plans that result in best management practice implementation throughout private forest landowner parcels within the boundaries of the Grays Harbor Conservation District.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Three hundred acres of forest lands thinned.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Fifteen landowners will be provided with technical assistance resulting in five plans written and implemented. Additionally, GHCD intends to secure forest health funding through a regional conservation partnership program (RCPP) grant application.

Funding Source(s):

Activities for FY2025	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Conduct Education and Outreach around Forest Health and Community Wildfire Resilience principles.	June 2024	Education and Outreach Project Manager	260 Hours (33 days) .125 FTE	\$10,000.00
Conduct fifteen site visits with small industry private forest landowners.	June 2024	Forest Stewardship Program Coordinator	1964 Hours (248 days) 1 FTE	\$175,000.00
Coordinate, draft and secure \$2,000,000.00 in funding through an RCPP grant application.	September 2024	Executive Director & Forest Stewardship Program Staff	496 Hours (62 Days) .25 FTE	40,000.00

Natural Resource Priority Program Area #4:

Agricultural Viability Program

Goal(s):

To provide technical and financial assistance to agriculture producers that sustains and enhances their operations.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Two acres and/or two thousand feet of shoreline will be protected through the establishment of riparian buffers. One thousand yards of manure will be stored in professionally engineered structures.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Ten landowners will be contacted and provided technical assistance resulting in ten plans written, ten grants secured, and ten projects implemented.

Funding Source(s):

Activities for FY2025	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Complete five landowner projects utilizing \$325,000.00 of WSCC Shellfish Investment funds.	June 2024	Natural Resource Project Manager	0.5 FTE	\$325,000.00
Complete three landowner projects utilizing \$150,000.00 of Grays Harbor County Voluntary Stewardship Program capital funds.	December 2024	Natural Resource Project Manager	0.25 FTE	\$150,000.00
Complete a needs and feasibility analysis for the hiring of a full time Agriculture Viability Program Manager	December 2024	Executive Director and Agriculture Viability Staff	0.125 FTE	\$15,000.00
Develop a <i>Mapseed</i> based project mapping tool that provides best management practice data in support of Voluntary Stewardship Program monitoring requirements.	August 2024	Executive Director	0.125 FTE	\$15,000.00
Develop and submit a Voluntary Stewardship Program monitoring plan.	July 2024	Natural Resource Project Manager	0.25 FTE	\$70,000.00

Natural Resource Priority Program Area #5:

Education and Outreach Program

Goal(s):

Educate people of all ages on the function of natural systems while providing hands-on learning opportunities free of entry barriers.

Natural Resource Measurable Result Objective:

Install 1,000 trees and shrubs with citizen volunteers. Hatch and grow five hundred coho salmon in local schools and release them into streams throughout grays harbor county.

Programmatic Measurable Result Objective:

Receive at least fifty volunteer signups for all project categories and activities offered by GHCD. Secure funding to enhance the Aberdeen Sunday market for the 2025 season.

Funding Source(s):

Activities for FY2025	Target Dates	Person Responsible	Time (Days) Required	Estimated Funding
Host an interactive booth at the Aberdeen Sunday Market every Sunday from May 2024 to September 2024. (20 days total) as well as participation at the summer 2024 Grays Harbor County Fair	October 2024	Education and Outreach Project Manager	992 Hours (124 days) 0.5 FTE	\$100,000.00
Secure and implement \$10,000.00 in NACD Urban and Community funds resulting in the planning and contracting for the adoption of the Aberdeen Sunday Market by the Grays Harbor Conservation District.	June 2024	Executive Director & Education and Outreach Project Manager	248 Hours (31 days) 0.125 FTE	\$15,000.00
Implement a River Roots 2.0 campaign aimed at educating the public on the value of riparian habitat restoration resulting in additional riparian based project requests.	June 2024	Executive Director & Education and Outreach Project Manager	992 Hours (124 days) 0.5 FTE	\$105,000.00
Collaborate with the Grays Harbor Stream Team (GHST) Coordinator to successfully implement a water quality-based grant program resulting in twelve volunteer events within the boundaries of the Grays Harbor Conservation District	June 2024	Education and Outreach Project Manager & GHST Coordinator	248 Hours (31 days) 0.125 FTE	\$57,000.00
Develop and successfully implement the salmon in the schools program with six local elementary schools.		Education and Outreach Project Manager & GHST Coordinator	248 Hours (31 days) 0.125 FTE	\$58,000.00

Annual Operating & Capital Budget

AREA / ITEM	ANNUAL COST (July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025)	Expense Type	% of total expenses
CD Salaries & Benefits for 17 FTEs	\$1,740,000.00	GHCD Operations	18%
Rents & Utilities	\$ 152,000.00	GHCD Operations	2%
Watershed Restoration Program Project Expenses	~\$6,000,000.00	Capital: Landowner & Contractor Payments	62%
Agriculture Viability Program Project Expenses	~575,000.00	Capital: Landowner & Contractor Payments	6%
Forest Stewardship Program Project Expenses	~\$225,000.00	Capital: Landowner & Contractor Payments	2%
Marine Resiliency Program Project Expenses	~700,000.00	Capital: Landowner & Contractor Payments	7%
Education & Outreach Program Project Expenses	~335,000.00	Capital: Landowner & Contractor Payments	3%
TOTAL	\$9,727,000.00		100%

Resources

Weblinks

RCW 89.08: <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=89.08>

Grays Harbor Conservation District Website: <https://www.graysharborcd.org/>

22'-27' Grays Harbor Conservation District Long Range Strategic Plan:
<https://sccwagov.app.box.com/s/jtmxq1jmenzuxq2vra8tm9egq72uu1j6>