

Governor Inslee's 2025-27 Budget - Operating

Operating

1/14/2025 \$ in thousands - Biennialized FTEs

2025-27 Carryforward Level Base Budget

Governor Inslee's Budget Proposal - with January Update
1/14/2025

		FTE	GF-State	MTCA ¹	Other	Total
		2,180.4	77,385	353,778	484,572	915,735
Maintenance Level Changes						
1	WCC Member Wages and Benefits			235	351	586
2	Manchester Lab Facility Costs			638	70	708
3	Teck Metals Litigation Support			700		700
4	HQ Parking Garage Renovation COP		74	320	222	616
5	Public Participation Grants			939		939
6	Hanford Workload Adjustment ²				-	-
7	Minimum Wage Increases - Facilities		18	82	60	160
8	Meeting Air Operating Permit Needs	0.6			182	182
9	Lease Adjustments		24	100	76	200
10	Ongoing BIL/IRA Increase ^{3, 4}	5.5			12,892	12,892
11	Technical Adjustment ³	4.2	(1,892)	947	3,032	2,087
12	Drought Emergency Response ³				6,000	6,000
13	Other ML Changes ⁵		657	3,066	2,755	6,478
Policy Level Changes						
Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts						
14	Implementing Climate Resilience	3.5			580	580
15	Washington Fuel Report System	0.8			1,316	1,316
16	Offshore Wind Authorities Report	2.6			816	816
17	Offshore Wind Science Panel	1.8			731	731
18	Shifts to CCA ⁶		(710)		710	-
19	CCA Administration - Reduction ⁷				(3,000)	(3,000)
20	Tribal Capacity Funding ⁸				(5,000)	(5,000)
21	Tribal Capacity Grant Adjustment ⁹				3,000	3,000
Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution						
22	Laboratory Accreditation Auditors	5.8	4,025	(2,091)		1,934
23	Reduce Toxic Tire Chemical Exposure	16.1		2,212	6,292	8,504
24	PFAS Response	10.9		3,908	100	4,008
25	Solid Fuel Burning Devices	1.2		291	115	406
26	Lead in Cookware	2.1		419		419
27	Litter Control & Market Development	2.3			4,000	4,000
28	Hanford Cleanup Support	3.5			1,077	1,077
29	Air Quality Industrial Inspectors	2.3			558	558
30	Hanford Unit Closure & Construction	1.8			418	418
31	Photovoltaic Module Pgm Adjustment	1.0		774	(76)	698
32	Food Waste Reduction Grants ¹⁰				(3,000)	(3,000)
33	Recycling Reform Act	7.8			3,462	3,462
Protect and Manage Our State's Waters						
34	Protecting Washington's Shorelines	4.5			1,317	1,317
35	Accelerating Floodplain Resilience	2.3			1,122	1,122
36	Aquatic Permitting and Aquaculture	2.3		671		671
37	River Migration Mapping for Salmon	1.2	378			378
38	Water Resource and Climate Resilience	3.0			1,197	1,197
39	European Green Crab Research	2.3			542	542
40	Small Oil Spills Prevention				430	430

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		FTE	GF-State	MTCA ¹	Other	Total
41	WQ Grant & Loan Administration	2.3			604	604
42	Environmental Hazards Reporting	0.9			400	400
43	Spills Program Swap			(548)	548	-
44	Salmon Recovery Projects ¹¹	(1.2)	(262)			(262)
45	GSRO Direct Appropriation Transfer ¹²		(144)			(144)
46	Surface Water Mapping ¹³				(3,000)	(3,000)
Other						
47	Environmental Justice Capacity	6.9		882	704	1,586
48	Federal Authority for BIL/IRA Grants ⁴	9.1			83,620	83,620
49	DES Training Fee Increases			68	34	102
50	Bridge Point Settlement ^{11, 14}	3.5			8,950	8,950
51	WFSE General Government ¹⁵		1,758	9,503	8,653	19,914
52	Non-Rep General Wage Increase ¹⁶		314	1,516	1,484	3,314
53	Non-Rep Targeted Pay Increases ¹⁷		87	120	146	353
54	Other PL Changes ⁵		589	1,767	1,277	3,633
Total Changes		110.7	4,916	26,519	145,767	177,202
Total Operating Budget		2,291.1	82,301	380,297	630,339	1,092,937
Transportation Budget Reappropriation						
1	Electric School Bus Program			15,715	4,000	19,715

Notes:

¹ Model Toxics Control Operating Account (23P-1, 23P-7), Model Toxics Control Stormwater Account (23R-1), Model Toxics Control Capital (23N-1).

² Reflects a fund shift of \$826,000 from General Fund-Federal (001-2) to Radioactive Mixed Waste Account (20R-1).

³ Reflects maintenance level adjustments that the Office of Financial Management (OFM) included in the Governor's 2025-27 operating budget proposal, based on information provided by Ecology with its 2025-27 operating budget request. These planned adjustments had been discussed with both OFM and legislative fiscal staff.

⁴ General Fund-Federal appropriation to support increased federal funding applied for and/or received by Ecology through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA).

⁵ Reflects 13 statewide maintenance level (ML) and 10 policy level (PL) items, including adjustments for archives/records management, legal services, audit services, employee benefits, workers' compensation, pension and PEBB rate adjustments, state employee benefits, and central services (OFM, DES, CTS).

⁶ Funding for Zero-emission Vehicle rulemaking support and participation on the Interagency Electric Vehicle Coordinating Council are shifted from General Fund-State to the Climate Commitment Account (CCA).

⁷ A one-time reduction in CCA administration funding to balance to available CCA auction revenue. The reduction will slow the implementation of some activities related to linkage.

⁸ Reduction in available tribal capacity funding in response to reduced CCA revenue. Reduction aligns total funding level with the amount available in the 2023-25 biennium.

⁹ One-time increase in available tribal capacity funding to allow projects started after January 2025 to continue to completion.

¹⁰ One-time (\$2 million) and ongoing (\$1 million) reduction of Food Waste Reduction Grants to balance to available CCA revenue.

¹¹ Adjusted in Governor's January update (errata) released January 14, 2025.

¹² Funding for an ongoing interagency agreement (IAA) between the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) and Ecology is shifted into the Recreation and Conservation Office's budget to support the GSRO operations and mission.

¹³ One-time reduction in funding for surface water mapping work to balance to available CCA revenue. This reduction will slow the development of updated hydrological maps for Washington state.

¹⁴ General Fund-Private/Local spending authority to support settlement funding received from developers of a large warehouse facility in South Tacoma to reduce air quality impacts on nearby communities.

¹⁵ Funding is provided for a general wage increase of 3%, effective July 1, 2025; a general wage increase of 2%, effective July 1, 2026; and targeted job classification base range increases for represented employees.

¹⁶ Funding is provided for a general wage increase of 3%, effective July 1, 2025, and a general wage increase of 2%, effective July 1, 2026, for non-represented employees.

¹⁷ Funding is provided for targeted job classification base range increases for non-represented employees.

Protecting the Environment | Ensuring Public Health | Supporting Economic Growth & Jobs

As the state's lead environmental agency, Ecology strives to protect and preserve the environment for current and future generations, while valuing and supporting Washington's economic success. We're tackling challenges that are unique to our times and require us to take a broad and holistic approach to our work that focuses on not only *what* we do, but also *how* we do it.

Ecology's strategic goals are to:

- Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees.
- Reduce and prepare for climate change impacts.
- Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution.
- Protect and manage our state's waters.

Our agency's deep commitment to environmental justice is tied to each of our strategic goals and guides our work to accomplish those goals.

Governor Inslee's 2025-27 operating budget proposal for Ecology totals \$177.2 million above Ecology's carryforward budget level for the 2025-27 biennium. It includes new investments that will:

- Protect people, fish, wildlife, and our environment from the impacts of emerging toxic chemicals, including Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and 6PPD-quinone, which are associated with a wide range of adverse health impacts and impacts to salmon.
- Continue effectively implementing enacted climate policy legislation aimed at reducing carbon pollution and responding to climate change, including Washington's Clean Fuel Standard and Climate Resilience Strategy.
- Continue supporting priorities and actions from the Governor's 2021 Salmon Strategy Update and State/Tribal Riparian Protection & Restoration Workgroup needed to better monitor the health of our riparian buffers and protect salmon.
- Assist local communities with environmental issues, including contaminated drinking water, air quality, coastal climate hazards, flood risks, drought response, invasive species, and the impacts of solid waste and litter accumulation.
- Advance efforts in meeting the state's environmental justice goals under the Healthy Environment for All law (HEAL Act) and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.

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- Pass through and use federal funding available from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to support environmental and public health work and projects across the state.
- Meet obligations related to Hanford cleanup and respond to federal changes impacting the aquaculture industry.

The following summarizes each budget item included in the Governor's operating budget proposal for Ecology and includes the Governor's January update (errata) released on January 14, 2025. These items are supported primarily by federal grants, dedicated environmental funds, and direct charges to customers for services provided.

The numbers for each item correspond with the numbers in the spreadsheet above. Funding duration detail included in the descriptions below aligns with the WinSum outlook backup provided by the Office of Financial Management for the Governor's 2025-27 operating budget proposal.

Maintenance Level

- 1. WCC Member Wages and Benefits. \$586,000.** The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) collaborates with organizations to complete environmental restoration and recreation enhancement projects statewide. As the state minimum wage continues to increase, WCC must increase the living allowances and benefits package for its AmeriCorps members to remain competitive with other opportunities, retain members for their full terms, and allow anyone eligible the opportunity to serve, regardless of socioeconomic background. This is an equity adjustment in the living allowance to ensure it is comparable to, and consistent with, the state minimum wage law. Funding will maintain 389 members and staff with WCC's cost share model. (Multiple funds)
- 2. Manchester Lab Facility Costs. \$708,000.** Ecology shares space with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at their Manchester Environmental Laboratory in Kitsap County. Ecology has been notified by EPA that costs have increased as of January 2024. This maintenance level increase to cover the additional costs ensures that core environmental laboratory analysis will continue to inform Ecology's important environmental work and the work of other state agencies, Tribes, and local partners. (Water Quality Permit and Model Toxics Control Operating Account)
- 3. Teck Metals Litigation Support. \$700,000.** This request aligns with the Office of the Attorney General's (AGO) budget request for continuation of Phase 3 of the Pakootas v. Teck Metals, Ltd. (Teck) litigation, in which Washington and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation are co-plaintiffs in federal district court. The case has been ongoing since 2003,

and Phases 1 and 2 of the litigation previously established Teck's liability for releases of metals and other chemicals into the Columbia River from its smelting complex in Canada. Phase 3 of the litigation is needed to recover natural resource injuries and damages because of pollution from the smelter operations. This item supports expert and AGO resources needed next biennium to complete this phase of the litigation, which Ecology will then be billed for. (Model Toxics Control Operating Account)

- 4. HQ Parking Garage Renovation COP. \$616,000.** The 2022 Legislature authorized Ecology to finance and proceed with a major restoration project of the parking garage structure at Ecology's Headquarters building in Lacey. This operating appropriation authority is for a Certificate of Participation (COP) for this restoration project. The anticipated total cost for the restoration project COP is approximately \$3,077,479 based on a financing schedule over 10 years. (Multiple funds)
- 5. Public Participation Grants. \$939,000.** The Public Participation Grant (PPG) Program is a competitive grant program that funds individuals and nonprofit public interest organizations to conduct education and outreach work related to investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites and carry out recycling and waste management projects that improve recycling rates and waste management outcomes. A maintenance level adjustment keeps grant funding aligned with the mandated level of 1% of money collected under RCW 82.21.030, Hazardous Substance Tax. (Model Toxics Control Operating Account)
- 6. Hanford Workload Adjustment. \$826,000 Radioactive Mixed Waste Account / (\$826,000) GF-Federal.** As the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) continues to ramp up mixed waste permitting and mixed waste management activities for the Hanford site, Ecology has observed a declining percentage of Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) cleanup work at Hanford. This trend has been observed for several biennia and is expected to continue as tank waste treatment, storage, and disposal funding continues to increase in Hanford's federal budgets. A net-zero fund shift of expenditure authority from General Fund-Federal to the Radioactive Mixed Waste Account supports the transition of workload related to permitting and oversight of mixed waste management activities. (Radioactive Mixed Waste Account and General Fund-Federal)
- 7. Minimum Wage Increases – Facilities. \$160,000.** Washington State's minimum wage has increased every year since 2011 and, under RCW 49.46.020, it is adjusted each year based on the U.S. consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers. These increases, along with changes in prevailing wage rates, continue to increase costs across Ecology's existing service and maintenance contracts, including janitorial and security services. A maintenance level adjustment is made to cover the increased costs associated

with these minimum and prevailing wage changes in existing service and maintenance contracts for Ecology facilities. (Multiple funds)

- 8. Meeting Air Operating Permit Needs. \$182,000, .6 FTE.** Federal and state laws define the scope and content of the Air Operating Permit Program. Under these laws, industrial facilities that emit large amounts of air pollution are required to comply with and pay the full cost of the program. State law requires Ecology to use a workload analysis model to determine the budget necessary to administer the program each biennium. In June 2024, Ecology published its final workload analysis, projecting an increased workload for the 2025-27 biennium, based on current costs and workload projections. Additional spending authority is provided to match the revenue levels already set by the 2025-27 workload analysis. (Air Operating Permit Account)
- 9. Lease Adjustments. \$200,000.** This is a maintenance level lease increase for Ecology's Central Region Office in Union Gap. This lease increase is negotiated by the Department of Enterprise Services Real Estate Services on behalf of Ecology. The work done at this facility benefits the public, other state agencies, Tribes, and local partners and helps protect, preserve, and enhance Washington's environment for current and future generations. (Multiple funds)
- 10. Ongoing BIL/IRA Increase. \$12,892,000, 5.5 FTEs.** Additional federal spending authority is necessary for Ecology to spend Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) grant funding. (General Fund-Federal)
- 11. Technical Adjustment. \$2,087,000, 4.2 FTEs.** This adjusts funding for several items from previous budgets to align with fiscal notes and decision packages for ongoing program needs. (Multiple funds)
- 12. Drought Emergency Response. \$6,000,000.** This adjustment provides the appropriation authority needed on an ongoing basis so revenue available in the Emergency Drought Response Account can be accessed and used to respond to impacts from drought conditions in each year where a declaration is issued. (Emergency Drought Response Account)
- 13. Other ML Changes. \$6,478,000.** This reflects 13 maintenance level items, including adjustments for legal services, audit services, archives/records management, and central services (OFM, DES, CTS). (Multiple funds)

Policy Level**Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts**

- 14. Implementing Climate Resilience. \$580,000, 3.5 FTEs.** The 2024 update to the state's Climate Resilience Strategy recommended a governance structure to support interagency coordination. Staff at Ecology will provide support for an ongoing state agency resilience workgroup and support capacity for and participation of overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribes. (Natural Climate Solutions Account)
- 15. Washington Fuel Report System. \$1,316,000, 0.8 FTE.** The Clean Fuel Standard requires fuel suppliers to reduce the carbon intensity of their products by 20% below 2017 levels by 2038. The Washington Fuels Reporting System—the online market platform allowing entities to register for the program, report fuel transactions, and calculate compliance progress—is built on aging technology. Ecology was provided funding to collaborate with the state of California on developing a new market platform system. California was delayed, but now anticipates reinitiating the project by summer 2025. Funding unused during the 2023–25 biennium is provided again for fiscal years 2026 and 2027 so Ecology has the resources needed to support the project. (Clean Fuels Program Account)
- 16. Offshore Wind Authorities Report. \$816,000, 2.6 FTEs.** Offshore wind development is on the rise in the United States, most recently on the West Coast. In coordination with five other agencies, Ecology is provided one-time funding to report on the potential siting and permitting of floating offshore wind energy projects in federal waters off Washington's Pacific Coast. (Climate Commitment Account)
- 17. Offshore Wind Science Panel. \$731,000, 1.8 FTEs.** Offshore wind development is on the rise in the United States, most recently on the West Coast. One-time funding is provided for Ecology to convene a Tribal-state science advisory panel to guide the advancement of scientific understanding of potential ecological impacts of floating offshore wind projects on Washington coastlines. (Climate Commitment Account)
- 18. Shifts to CCA. \$710,000 Climate Commitment Account / (\$710,000) GF-S.** Funding for zero-emission vehicle rulemaking support and participation on the interagency Electric Vehicle Coordinating Council is shifted from the General Fund-State to the Climate Commitment Account. (Climate Commitment Account and General Fund-State)
- 19. CCA Administration - Reduction. (\$3,000,000).** This is a one-time reduction in CCA administration funding to balance to available CCA auction revenue. The reduction will slow the implementation of some activities related to linkage. (Climate Investment Account)

- 20. Tribal Capacity Funding – Reduction. (\$5,000,000).** This represents a reduction in available Tribal capacity funding in response to reduced CCA revenue, which aligns total funding level with the amount available in the 2023-2025 biennium. (Climate Investment Account)
- 21. Tribal Capacity Grant Adjustment. \$3,000,000.** This represents a one-time increase in available Tribal capacity funding to allow projects started after January 2025 to continue to completion. (Climate Investment Account)

Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution

- 22. Laboratory Accreditation Auditors. \$1,934,000, 5.8 FTEs.** Ecology's Laboratory Accreditation Unit audits environmental and drinking water labs, which is part of the lab accreditation process to help ensure analyses are conducted properly and according to prescribed methods based on credible, defensible data. Ongoing funding is provided for five auditor positions that will allow Ecology to remain current on drinking water lab auditing schedules and continue to address a backlog of environmental lab audits. This item also shifts Ecology's base funding for this work, so it aligns with where lab accreditation fees are deposited. (General Fund-State and Model Toxics Control Operating Account)
- 23. Reduce Toxic Tire Chemical Exposure. \$8,504,000, 16.1 FTEs.** Using one-time funding in both the current and previous biennia, Ecology addressed 6PPD and its transformation product, 6PPD-quinone, which is lethal to Coho salmon and other aquatic life. Ongoing funding is provided to continue the work, including identifying effective stormwater treatments, finding safer alternatives, monitoring the environment, and developing laboratory methods to analyze its presence in water and sediment. (Multiple funds)
- 24. PFAS Response. \$4,008,000, 10.9 FTEs.** Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a family of more than 12,000 synthetic organic chemicals used in many products. Recent significant regulatory changes include new federal drinking water standards and proposed federal PFAS waste regulations that will affect some cleanup sites. A combination of one-time and ongoing funding and staff resources are provided to enhance testing and monitoring of PFAS contamination throughout the state, identify sites requiring remediation and areas where clean drinking water is threatened, work to reduce or eliminate the use of PFAS by businesses around the state, and research PFAS in stormwater and municipal and industrial wastewater. (Water Quality Permit Account and Model Toxics Control Operating Account)
- 25. Solid Fuel Burning Devices. \$406,000, 1.2 FTEs.** Wood smoke from residential wood heating (RWH) is the largest source of fine particle air pollution from human activity in Washington and has negative health impacts. Federal regulations are more protective than Washington's

outdated laws, creating challenges with regulating RWH devices in Washington. Through agency-request legislation, Ecology will align and clarify Washington's RWH policies. A combination of ongoing and one-time funding and resources are provided to update agency rules, review test results for new solid fuel burning devices, and develop a list of devices approved for sale in Washington. (Woodstove Education Account and Model Toxics Control Operating Account)

- 26. Lead in Cookware. \$419,000, 2.1 FTEs.** In 2024, the Legislature banned the manufacture, sale, and distribution of cookware that contain lead or lead compounds that exceeded five parts per million, effective January 1, 2026. Ongoing funding is provided for staff to develop compliance and testing programs, conduct outreach to cookware manufacturers and sellers, and educate consumers—especially those in overburdened communities—about the dangers of lead in cookware and how to purchase safer pots, pans, and bakeware. (Model Toxics Control Operating Account)
- 27. Litter Control & Market Development. \$4,000,000, 2.3 FTEs.** Investments in the state's Recycling Market Development Center will continue its business accelerator program, furthering innovation in the recycling market. Additionally, funding will increase on an ongoing basis to support local governments, nonprofits, and state agency litter collection and prevention programs, including cleaning up roadways and highway interchanges. (Waste Reduction/Recycling/Litter Control Account)
- 28. Hanford Cleanup Support. \$1,077,000, 3.5 FTEs.** In 2024, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), EPA, and Ecology signed a new settlement agreement laying out a realistic and achievable course for cleaning up radioactive and chemical waste from underground tanks at the Hanford Site. Ongoing funding for five additional positions for permitting and engineering support necessary to ensure safe and effective cleanup operations will allow Ecology to support DOE cleanup deadlines agreed upon in the settlement agreement. (Radioactive Mixed Waste Account)
- 29. Air Quality Industrial Inspectors. \$558,000, 2.3 FTEs.** Ecology inspectors monitor industrial facilities located across Central and Eastern Washington to ensure compliance with state and federal air quality regulations and permits. Ongoing funding will support two additional industrial inspectors that will allow Ecology to meet inspection targets, improve compliance, protect air quality and public health, and ensure consistent application of pollution reduction strategies in overburdened communities highly impacted by air pollution. (Air Pollution Control Account)
- 30. Hanford Unit Closure & Construction. \$418,000, 1.8 FTEs.** New Dangerous Waste Management Units (DWMUs) will close at the Hanford Site as required by closure plans.

DWMU closure is an increasing workload, with 32 additional units that meet closure criteria. The Hanford Federal Facility Agreement and Consent Order also requires construction of the Contact Handle Facility, a new group of DWMUs that will allow for processing, shipment and disposal of radioactive and hazardous waste. Ongoing funding will support two new permitting and closure specialists for permitting and oversight of DWMU closure and construction at Hanford. (Radioactive Mixed Waste Account)

- 31. Photovoltaic Module Program Adjustment. \$698,000, 1.0 FTE.** The current Photovoltaic Module Stewardship and Takeback Program has yet to be implemented due to challenges manufacturers are having developing stewardship plans. Through agency request legislation, Ecology will hire a contractor to facilitate, research, and lead a collaborative process with stakeholders to develop recommendations for necessary changes to the law. One-time funding is provided for the agency to coordinate the advisory process, research market data, and manage reporting and communications. (Photovoltaic Module Recycling Account and Model Toxics Control Operating Account)
- 32. Food Waste Reduction Grants - Reduction. (\$3,000,000).** A combination of one-time (\$2 million) and ongoing (\$1 million) funding for food waste reduction grants is reduced to balance to available CCA revenue. (Climate Commitment Account)
- 33. Recycling Reform Act. \$3,462,000, 7.8 FTEs.** Preventing and reducing waste and increasing recycling are important strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reduce the use of landfills. One-time funding is provided to establish an extended producer responsibility program for certain packaging and paper and to expand recycling and reuse targets and minimum recycled content standards. (Waste Reduction/Recycling/Litter Control Account)

Protect and Manage Our State's Waters

- 34. Protecting Washington's Shorelines. \$1,317,000, 4.5 FTEs.** In 2023, the Legislature added climate change resilience and environmental justice goals to the state's Growth Management Act and required updates be made to local comprehensive development plans and shoreline master programs. Ongoing funding will support Ecology to provide guidance to municipalities to complete these new requirements, address implementation challenges, and build climate resilience. Four new staff will provide technical assistance, build review capacity, and support implementation of new shoreline master program provisions. (Natural Climate Solutions Account)
- 35. Accelerating Floodplain Resilience. \$1,122,000, 2.3 FTEs.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) administers the National Flood Insurance Program to inform communities about flood risks. FEMA produces and updates flood risk maps, but many in

Washington are out of date, which hinders the state's ability to protect homes, businesses, and public infrastructure and slows and drives up costs for many salmon restoration projects. Ongoing staff resources are provided to update Washington flood risk maps, provide technical support to communities, and help move salmon recovery projects forward. (Climate Investment Account)

- 36. Aquatic Permitting and Aquaculture. \$671,000, 2.3 FTEs.** Since March 2024, shellfish aquaculture projects that had previously been authorized by Nationwide Permit 48 now require Ecology to review, carry out a public notice, and issue a decision for each operation. Ongoing staff are provided to manage this new workload, safeguard Washington waters, and ensure project proponents understand and comply with water quality certification conditions. (Model Toxics Control Operating Account)
- 37. River Migration Mapping for Salmon. \$378,000, 1.2 FTEs.** A State/Tribal Riparian Work Group on salmon recovery identified Channel Migration Zone mapping as a priority for habitat protection. Ongoing funding will allow Ecology to begin full-scale migration zone mapping (to be complete by 2030 or 2031), continue coordination with Tribes, agencies, and other community partners and provide ongoing technical assistance to Tribes and local governments. (General Fund-State)
- 38. Water Resource and Climate Resilience. \$1,197,000, 3.0 FTEs.** People and fish in Washington are competing for a shrinking water supply brought on by climate change just when salmon and other aquatic life need it most. Ongoing funding will support Ecology to analyze data to further understand the impacts of climate change and population growth on the environment and water supply and undertake rulemaking to maximize the use of reclaimed water and address instream flows for the Wenatchee River Watershed. (Natural Climate Solutions Account)
- 39. European Green Crab Research. \$542,000, 2.3 FTEs.** European green crab is an invasive species threatening Washington's coastal resources with long-term ecological and economic damage. Ongoing funding is provided to research the crab's behavior to inform long-term strategic management and monitoring, helping natural resource managers better predict the crab's impacts on coastal resources. (Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account)
- 40. Small Oil Spills Prevention. \$430,000.** The Washington Sea Grant Small Spill Prevention Education Program targets small spills from commercial fishing vessels, ferries, cruise ships, ports, and marinas. Authorized in 1991, the program has not received an increase in funding since inception. New, ongoing funding will allow the program to increase its ability to provide outreach throughout Washington on preventing oil spills. (Oil Spill Prevention Account)

- 41. WQ Grant & Loan Administration. \$604,000, 2.3 FTEs.** This technical adjustment moves ongoing funding for two current FTEs for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan program from the capital budget to the operating budget, aligning funding for these positions with the rest of the funding and staff administering these loans. (Water Pollution Control Revolving Administration Account)
- 42. Environmental Hazards Reporting. \$400,000, .9 FTE.** Communities impacted by environmental health inequities face disproportionate harms from environmental violations, systemic barriers to reporting, and access to determining whether any enforcement action was taken. One-time funding is provided for Ecology to consult with state agencies, local governments, and community-based organizations to develop a report analyzing equity and accessibility considerations for environmental incident reporting and resolution and provide recommendations for changes and improvements. (Climate Commitment Account)
- 43. Spills Program Swap. \$548,000 Oil Spill Prevention Account / (\$548,000) MTCA Operating.** Funding for vessel and oil transfer inspectors is shifted from the Model Toxics Control Operating Account on an ongoing basis to Fund 217 - Oil Spill Prevention Account. (Oil Spill Prevention Account and Model Toxics Control Operating Account)
- 44. Salmon Recovery Projects - Reduction. (\$262,000), (1.2) FTEs.** Ongoing funding and FTE authority are removed for the completion of the four-year Habitat Recovery Pilot Program created by ESSB 1382 (Salmon recover projects) in the 2021 session. (General Fund-State)
- 45. GSRO Direct Appropriation Transfer. (\$144,000).** The Governor's Salmon Recovery Office (GSRO) was moved to RCO in the 2009 legislative session. This included the historic GSRO funding from interagency agreements with Ecology and the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The three agencies have identified that a direct appropriation would be more efficient than continuing to maintain the agreements. This ongoing funding is to be used solely for the original intent of the agreements to directly support the GSRO operations and mission. (General Fund-State)
- 46. Surface Water Mapping - Reduction. (\$3,000,000).** This one-time reduction in funding for surface water mapping work will balance the available CCA revenue. This reduction will slow the development of updated hydrological maps for Washington State. (Natural Climate Solutions Account)

Other

- 47. Environmental Justice Capacity. \$1,586,000, 6.9 FTEs.** This item provides ongoing funding to fill capacity gaps in implementation of environmental justice requirements in the Healthy

Environment for All (HEAL) Act and state and federal environmental justice and equity mandates. Ecology has identified workload issues and challenges meeting deadlines and maintaining work quality. Staff resources are provided to meet statutory demands and embed expertise within specific environmental programs with the greatest need. (Multiple funds)

- 48. Federal Authority for BIL/IRA Grants. \$83,620,000, 9.1 FTEs.** Additional federal spending authority via the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act will allow Ecology to leverage seven new funding opportunities that have been awarded as of August 1, 2024. This federal funding supports climate resilience projects on Washington coastlines, ambient air monitoring, assessment of toxics in fish, replacement of diesel school buses with electric buses, and assistance to businesses to reduce use and release of pollutants. (General Fund-Federal)
- 49. DES Training Fee Increases. \$102,000.** The cost of procuring training from the Department of Enterprise Services and contracted instructors has increased due to rising administrative fees. To cover these increased costs, funding is provided to continue training for Ecology staff. (Multiple funds)
- 50. Bridge Point Settlement. \$8,950,000, 3.5 FTEs.** Ecology has obtained settlement funding from developers of a large warehouse facility in South Tacoma to reduce air quality impacts on nearby communities. Ecology will establish a healthy indoor air program to provide improvements to residences and install an air monitoring station in the areas most impacted by the warehouse operations. (General Fund-Private/Local)
- 51. WFSE General Government. \$19,914,000.** Funding for bargaining includes a 3%/2% general wage increase, targeted job classification increases, wildfire disaster leave, expanded bereavement leave, and paid vaccine travel time during pandemic emergencies. The agreement also includes: an additional \$1 per hour supplemental shift premium for eligible employees who are assigned to a facility that provides direct care residents, patients, and/or clients and whose duties are performed on location on evenings and weekends; 5% premium pay for employees who are assigned to a 24/7 facility that provides direct care to residents, patients, at-risk youth, and/or clients and whose duties are required to be performed on location, which will be in effect for the 2025–27 biennium; three additional steps to the nurse salary schedule; and an increase to the annual lump-sum payment for employees in LNI risk codes 7200/7201 from \$50 to \$750. (Multiple funds)
- 52. Non-Rep General Wage Increase. \$3,314,000.** Funding is provided for wage increases for state employees who are not represented by a union or are not under a bargaining agreement that is subject to financial feasibility determination. It is sufficient for a general

wage increase of 3%, effective July 1, 2025, and a general wage increase of 2%, effective July 1, 2026. This item includes both general government and higher education workers.

(Multiple funds)

53. Non-Rep Targeted Pay Increases. \$353,000. Funding is provided for classified state employees who are not represented by a union or not covered by a bargaining agreement subject to financial feasibility determination, for pay increases in specific job classes in alignment with other employees. (Multiple funds)

54. Other PL Changes. \$3,633,000. This reflects 10 policy level items, including adjustments for legal services, audit services, archives/records management, and central services (OFM, DES, CTS). (Multiple funds)

Transportation Budget Reappropriation

1. Electric School Bus Program. \$19,715,000. The Clean Diesel Grant Program provides pass-through grant funding to Washington school districts to reduce greenhouse gases and protect residents from toxic diesel emissions. This grant program's primary purpose is to fund replacement of fossil fuel buses with electric buses. Ecology received additional funding for this ongoing program in the 2024 supplemental budget; however, because electric school bus delivery can take approximately 12 months, Ecology will be unable to fully obligate and expend these funds prior to the 2025-27 biennium. Ecology requested reappropriation of \$19.7 million to allow sufficient time for school bus owners to receive their school buses, test them, and put them into operation. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account and Carbon Emissions Reduction Account)

Governor Inslee's 2025-27 Budget - Capital

Capital

1/14/2025 \$ in thousands

Governor Inslee's Budget Proposal - with January Update

		SBCA	MTCA ¹	Other	Total
Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution					
1	Protect Investments in Cleanup Remedies		4,450		4,450
2	Remedial Action Grant Program	52,126	28,571		80,697
3	Reducing Diesel Greenhouse Gases (GHG) and Toxic Emissions		15,632		15,632
4	PFAS Response	5,000			5,000
5	Eastern Washington Clean Sites Initiative		4,250		4,250
6	Affordable Housing Cleanup Grant Program		9,654		9,654
7	Swift Creek Natural Asbestos Flood Control and Cleanup	5,000			5,000
8	Product Replacement Program		9,000		9,000
9	ASARCO Everett Smelter Plume Cleanup		7,239		7,239
10	Reducing Toxic Wood Stove Emissions		4,164		4,164
11	Clean Up Toxic Sites-Puget Sound Initiative		3,150		3,150
12	Waste Tire Pile Cleanup and Prevention			1,000	1,000
13	Cleanup Settlement Account Projects			650	650
Protect and Manage Our State's Waters					
14	Water Pollution Control Revolving Program			614,000	614,000
15	Centennial Clean Water Program	17,500	22,500		40,000
16	Floodplains by Design	59,629			59,629
17	Stormwater Financial Assistance Program	2,000	66,781		68,781
18	Columbia River Water Supply Development Program	53,519		1,415	54,934
19	Yakima River Basin Water Supply	49,020			49,020
20	Chehalis Basin Strategy	70,029			70,029
21	Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Program	15,000			15,000
22	Streamflow Restoration Program			40,000	40,000
23	State Match – Water Pollution Control Revolving Program			41,000	41,000
24	Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District Water Conservation	3,320			3,320
25	Stormwater Community-Based Public-Private Partnerships	10,000			10,000
26	Freshwater Algae Grant Program			468	468
27	Freshwater Aquatic Invasive Plants Grant Program			1,300	1,300
28	Coastal Wetlands Federal Funds			10,000	10,000
Total Capital Budget		342,143	175,391	709,833	1,227,367

Notes:

¹ Model Toxics Control Capital (23N-1) and Stormwater (23R-1) Accounts.

Protecting the Environment | Ensuring Public Health | Supporting Economic Growth & Jobs

As the state's lead environmental agency, Ecology strives to protect and preserve the environment for current and future generations, while valuing and supporting Washington's economic success. We're tackling challenges that are unique to our times and require us to take a broad and holistic approach to our work that focuses on not only *what* we do, but also *how* we do it.

Ecology's strategic goals are to:

- Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees.
- Reduce and prepare for climate change impacts.
- Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution.
- Protect and manage our state's waters.

Our agency's deep commitment to environmental justice is tied to each of our strategic goals and guides the way we work to accomplish those goals.

Governor Inslee's 2025-27 capital budget proposal totals \$1.23 billion in new appropriations for environmental and public health work throughout the state and includes priority investments that:

- Promote local economic development through cleaning up contaminated sites for redevelopment.
- Improve water quality.
- Reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Deliver water for fish, farms, and people.
- Address local environmental and public health priorities.
- Protect, restore, and enhance state-owned facilities.
- Create jobs.

The following summarizes each budget item for Ecology. The numbers for each item correspond with the numbers in the spreadsheet at the beginning of this section.

Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution

- 1. Protect Investments in Cleanup Remedies. \$4,450,000.** Funding is provided to meet legal requirements, protect public investments in cleanup, and protect human health and the environment from remedy failure under the Superfund State Contract that provides financial assurance and a legal commitment for the state to share costs. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 2. Remedial Action Grant Program. \$80,697,000.** This appropriation funds pass-through grants for ready-to-proceed projects for the 2025-27 biennium. Grants support cleanup at contaminated industrial sites that affect the air, land, and water resources of the state and the continued cleanup of Puget Sound. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account and State Building Construction Account)
- 3. Reducing Diesel Greenhouse Gases (GHG) and Toxic Emissions. \$15,632,000.** This appropriation funds a pass-through grant program to transition from fossil-fueled to zero-emission school buses and support zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, other fossil-fueled vehicle replacement, and zero-emission vehicle vocational training programs. Ecology will prioritize projects that replace the oldest diesel-fueled vehicles, especially those that operate in or near vulnerable populations and overburdened communities. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 4. PFAS Response. \$5,000,000.** This project will decontaminate fire engines across the state and conduct sampling to identify contaminated sites, initiate the cleanup process, and provide safe drinking water during cleanups. The funding will support the deep cleaning of approximately 50 fire engines. (State Building Construction Account)
- 5. Eastern Washington Clean Sites Initiative. \$4,250,000.** This initiative funds remediation activities on contaminated sites with hazardous wastes that have been abandoned or have owners unwilling or unable to pay for site investigation and cleanup. Includes cleanup work related to metals contamination, leaking underground storage tanks, landfills, salvage yards, and wood treatment facilities. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 6. Affordable Housing Cleanup Grant Program. \$9,654,000.** This funding will allow Ecology to work directly with affordable housing developers on cleanup projects that support the Governor's priorities on housing and homelessness. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 7. Swift Creek Natural Asbestos Flood Control and Cleanup. \$5,000,000.** This funding will continue the next phase of work on the Swift Creek cleanup and flood control. This includes design, construction, and maintenance of a series of flood control and sediment management measures to reduce these threats. The Swift Creek landslide is a long-term, slow-moving debris slide that contains naturally occurring asbestos and heavy metals,

affecting residents in the downstream floodplain east of Everson. (State Building Construction Account)

- 8. Product Replacement Program. \$9,000,000.** This program provides financial incentives to Washington businesses to remove or replace consumer products containing toxic chemicals through technology and infrastructure upgrades, best management practices, disposal programs, and use of safer chemicals. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 9. ASARCO Everett Smelter Plume Cleanup. \$7,239,000.** This funding continues the cleanup and remediation of contaminated soil from operation of the ASARCO smelter site in Everett. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 10. Reducing Toxic Wood Stove Emissions. \$4,164,000.** This funding will replace wood stoves with cleaner home heating options and deploy cleaner-burning emission control solutions. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 11. Clean Up Toxic Sites-Puget Sound Initiative. \$3,150,000.** This funding supports projects that integrate shoreline habitat restoration opportunities with cleanup projects to protect public and environmental health, create jobs, and promote economic development. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 12. Waste Tire Pile Cleanup and Prevention. \$1,000,000.** Illegally dumped tires in Washington remain a significant threat to public health and the environment. Tire piles release pollutants into the environment, create breeding grounds for mosquitoes and other disease carriers, and increase the risk of dangerous fires. Ecology requested this funding to sustain efforts in preventing and removing waste tire piles, as well as to enhance enforcement and education regarding tire storage and hauling regulations. (Waste Tire Removal Account)
- 13. Cleanup Settlement Account Projects. \$650,000.** This funding will support cleanup work associated with one toxic site previously operated by ASARCO. The account ensures settlement funds are used to support specific site cleanup activities or address injuries to natural resources from the settled liability. (Cleanup Settlement Account)

Protect and Manage Our State's Waters

- 14. Water Pollution Control Revolving Program. \$614,000,000.** This program provides funding to plan, design, acquire, construct, and improve water pollution control facilities and related non-point source activities to meet state and federal water pollution control requirements. The Clean Water State Revolving Fund is a low-interest loan program that finances water quality facilities and activities. The state matches and administers federal funding, providing loans to local governments, special purpose districts, and federally recognized Tribes for high-priority water quality projects statewide. (Water Pollution Control Revolving Account)

- 15. Centennial Clean Water Program. \$40,000,000.** Grants to public entities for the construction of water pollution control facilities, and planning and implementing nonpoint pollution control activities are provided. (State Building Construction Account and Model Toxics Control Capital Account)
- 16. Floodplains by Design. \$59,629,000.** This funding will continue flood-hazard reduction efforts addressed by the Floodplains by Design grant program. These projects restore natural floodplain conditions by preserving floodplain open space, correcting problems created due to past actions to control floods, improving long-term flood resilience, reducing flood risks to infrastructure and development, and improving habitat conditions for salmon and other fish and wildlife species. (State Building Construction Account)
- 17. Stormwater Financial Assistance Program. \$68,781,000.** This funding continues to support constructing stormwater retrofit projects and implementing associated source control activities with high water quality and ecological benefit. This program provides a streamlined grant and loan application process for local governments seeking state funding for water quality improvement projects. (Model Toxics Control Stormwater Account and State Building Construction Account)
- 18. Columbia River Water Supply Development Program. \$54,934,000.** This funding will continue projects currently implemented and new projects managed through the Office of Columbia River. These projects include pursuing water supplies to benefit both instream and out-of-stream uses through storage, conservation, and voluntary regional water management agreements. (State Building Construction Account and Columbia River Basin Water Supply Revenue Recovery Account)
- 19. Yakima River Basin Water Supply. \$49,020,000.** This funds financing assessments and constructing new water projects and water conservation measures for the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan. These infrastructure investments will expand the available water supply, grant new water rights, and enhance instream flows in the Yakima River and its tributaries. (State Building Construction Account)
- 20. Chehalis Basin Strategy. \$70,029,000.** Funding the Chehalis Basin Strategy will reduce flood-related damage and restore aquatic species. (State Building Construction Account)
- 21. Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Grant Program. \$15,000,000.** This funding will build on initial planning grants to Puget Sound municipalities. It will be directed to 43 municipalities and provide grant assistance to those that move forward with planning and implementing necessary infrastructure improvements to reduce nutrient discharges and offset financial impacts that increase sewer rates. The Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit focuses on monitoring nutrient discharges from wastewater treatment facilities, optimizing operations of the facilities as they exist and planning for future improvements. Improvements to

infrastructure require multiple years of capital funding support. (State Building Construction Account)

- 22. Streamflow Restoration Program. \$40,000,000.** This program will continue implementing the Streamflow Restoration Act, which provides for actions in watersheds to offset potential impacts to instream flows associated with permit-exempt domestic water use. (Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Bond Account)
- 23. State Match – Water Pollution Control Revolving Program. \$41,000,000.** The 20% state match requirement for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund annual federal capitalization grant is funded. (Water Pollution Control Revolving Account)
- 24. Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District Water Conservation. \$3,320,000.** This item funds the state's share of the Sunnyside Division Water Rights Settlement Agreement in the Yakima River Basin Water Rights Adjudication. This project will implement water conservation measures that reduce diversions from the Yakima River to the Sunnyside Division. Meeting reduction requirements will provide an additional 100 cubic feet per second per year for instream flows in the Lower Yakima River. (State Building Construction Account)
- 25. Stormwater Community-Based Public-Private Partnerships. \$10,000,000.** This program provides pass-through funding to local governments for pilot stormwater projects that include either a private or community partnership to maximize water quality and other public benefits. This funds phase 3 of a multi-phase approach to program development. (State Building Construction Account)
- 26. Freshwater Algae Grant Program. \$468,000.** This will fund grants and technical assistance to local and state governments, Tribes, and special purpose districts to prevent and manage blue-green algae, with priority for treating lakes where harmful blooms have occurred within the past three years. Includes public education, technical assistance, a toxicity-testing program, and pass-through grants that address toxic freshwater blooms. (Aquatic Algae Control Account)
- 27. Freshwater Aquatic Invasive Plants Grant Program. \$1,300,000.** Funding is provided for grants and technical assistance to local and state governments, Tribes, and special purpose districts to reduce the propagation of freshwater aquatic invasive plants and manage the problems they cause. (Freshwater Aquatic Weeds Account)
- 28. Coastal Wetlands Federal Funds. \$10,000,000.** Expenditure authority is provided for National Coastal Wetland Conservation Program grants to protect coastal and estuarine areas. (General Fund-Federal)