## 1.1 Introduction

This restoration plan has been prepared for the Town of Riverside pursuant to direction and funding under the Washington State Department of Ecology SMP grant number G1400612 to create the town's Shoreline Master Program (SMP). The purpose of this plan is to improve overall habitat conditions and shoreline resources.

A significant feature of the Department of Ecology's shoreline management guidelines is the requirement that local governments include within their shoreline master program a "real and meaningful" strategy to address restoration of shorelines, (see WAC 173-26-186(8)). The state guidelines emphasize that any development must achieve **no net loss of ecological functions**. The guidelines go on to require a goal of using restoration to improve the overall condition of habitat and resources and makes "planning for and fostering restoration" an obligation of local government. From WAC 173-26-201(2)(c):

Master programs shall also include policies that promote restoration of ecological functions, as provided in WAC 173-26-201 (2)(f), where such functions are found to have been impaired based on analysis described in WAC 173-26-201 (3)(d)(i). It is intended that local government, through the master program, along with other regulatory and non-regulatory programs, contribute to restoration by planning for and fostering restoration and that such restoration occur through a combination of public and private programs and actions. Local government should identify restoration opportunities through the shoreline inventory process and authorize, coordinate and facilitate appropriate publicly and privately initiated restoration projects within their master programs. The goal of this effort is master programs which include planning elements that, when implemented, serve to improve the overall condition of habitat and resources within the shoreline area of each city and county.

WAC 173-26-2012(f) states further that "...master programs provisions should be designed to achieve overall improvements in shoreline ecological functions over time when compared to the status upon adoption of the master program."

Restoration planning should be focused on tools such as economic incentives, broad funding sources such as Salmon Restoration Funding, volunteer programs, and other strategies. WAC 173-26-186(8)(c) and WAC 173-26-201(2)(f) explain the "basic concept" of restoration planning.

Furthermore, because restoration planning must reflect the individual conditions of a shoreline, restoration planning provisions contained in the guidelines expressly note that a restoration plan will vary based on:

- Size of jurisdiction
- Extent and condition of shorelines
- Availability of grants, volunteer programs, other tools
- The nature of the ecological functions to be addressed

The restoration chapter is designed to meet the requirements for restoration planning outlined in the Ecology guidelines, in which restoration planning is an integrated component of shoreline master programs that include inventorying shoreline conditions and regulation of shoreline development.

The restoration plan builds off of the Town of Riverside Shoreline Inventory and Characterization report, (see Appendix A) which provides a comprehensive inventory and analysis of shoreline conditions in Riverside, including rating specific functions and processes of each shoreline segment.

This restoration plan provides a vision for ecological restoration, includes goals, objectives and opportunities. It also establishes town strategies for implementation, including recognition of existing and ongoing programs, and it provides a framework for long-term monitoring of shoreline restoration and shoreline conditions.

While this restoration plan includes broad objectives, specific implementation measures, budgets, and schedules, individual monitoring programs will be needed for individual restoration projects as they occur. Periodically, it is important for the town to evaluate the effectiveness of this plan and to adapt to changing conditions. At a minimum, this restoration plan (as well as the entire Shoreline Master Program) will be reevaluated according to the schedule adopted by the state Legislature.

## 1.2 Vision Statement and Restoration Goals

The vision statement establishes the overarching idea of the future restored ecosystem and provides a basis for the framework, including the restoration goals. This statement seeks to explain the intent of addressing ecological restoration.

**Restoration Vision:** The degraded processes of the Riverside Shoreline will be restored to the extent that when protected under the policies of this plan, a net improvement to the shoreline ecosystem is obtained to benefit water quality, vegetation and the residents of Riverside. Restoration occurs through a combination of public and private opportunities that enhance the shoreline through improvements to the key processes.

The Riverside Inventory and Characterization report was used as the basis for identifying the following restoration goals:

- Protect and improve water quality
- Preserve existing natural riparian vegetation
- Preserve and restore habitat functions.
- Reduce impacts of flooding events.
- Preserve and improve physical and visual public access to the shoreline

As the Inventory and Characterization report noted, the improvement of water quality and habitat functions is directly tied to the health of riparian vegetation. For this reason, the protection of existing riparian vegetation, and the restoration of areas of compromised or non-existent riparian vegetation, is a major priority of this plan.

## 1.3 Town Shoreline Reach Descriptions

The Town of Riverside shoreline is divided into 3 segments, called reaches, as shown on Figure 1.3.1 on the following page, and in more detail on Figures 11 and 12 in the Inventory and Characterization Report provided in Appendix A.



Figure 1.3.1: Shoreline Reach Map

These reaches were determined primarily by current land uses. The following is a brief description of each shoreline segment:

## Reach 1 – North Side of Town

Reach 1 begins at the north city limit boundary, and extends south approximately 0.9 miles to the city limit boundary just south of Riverside Street. This area is characterized by large parcels mostly used for agricultural, (primarily alfalfa production). There are some undeveloped parcels and an area of Freshwater Forested/Shrub Wetland located at the southern end of the segment. The SMP environment designation is predominantly Conservancy, with areas of Shoreline Residential at the southern end of the reach in the vicinity of undeveloped lands. As is true with all other town shoreline reaches, lands located waterward of the OHWM are classified as Aquatic. All of the lands within the reach are privately owned.

## Reach 2 – Downtown Riverside

Reach 2 begins at the city limit boundary, just upstream from the Tunk Valley Road bridge, and extends south about 0.60 miles to the WDFW boat ramp. The reach is located on both the west and east sides of the Okanogan River, centered around the small downtown area of Riverside. Johnson Creek, which is not a shoreline of the state, enters on the west side of the river near the middle of the reach. This reach is characterized primarily by small residential and commercial properties, with the exception of some agricultural lands located on the east side of the river, and a couple of publically owned parcels on the west side of the river. These public lands are the town park and WDFW boat ramp. The SMP environment designation is Shoreline Residential, to reflect the predominate land use within the reach. Lands located waterward of the OHWM are classified as Aquatic.

## Reach 3 – South Side of Town

Reach 3 begins at the east boundary of the WDFW boat ramp parcel and extends south approximately 0.8 miles to the south city limit boundary. The majority of the reach is located on the west side of the river, other than a small portion located on the east side across from the boat ramp. This reach is characterized by large parcels used for agricultural, (primarily livestock grazing). There is a single residential property located at the southern end of the reach. The SMP environment designation is Conservancy. Lands located waterward of the OHWM are classified as Aquatic. All of the lands within the reach are privately owned.

# 1.4 Restoration Opportunities

Restoration opportunities are identified below by stream reach. Most lands within the shoreline jurisdiction are privately owned, so voluntary cooperation of landowners will be necessary to complete most restoration activities. As mentioned, the only publically owned lands are the town's park and WDFW boat ramp, both of which are located within Reach 2.

## **Reach 1 Restoration Opportunities**

**Opportunity A:** <u>**Riparian Vegetation Protection and Enhancement.</u>** This reach has limited tree cover and sources for large woody debris (LWD) recruitment. The riparian zone vegetation generally varies between 20 and 50 feet wide, however, portions of the central and southerly reaches are almost entirely devoid of riparian vegetation in some places. The Town, local conservation groups and area watershed councils could work with private landowners to voluntarily restore native riparian vegetation. These groups could also assist landowners and the Town with suggestions for planting materials and labor for plantings.</u> Further clearing of trees and other riparian vegetation should be prohibited. The establishment of conservation easements is one mechanism that could be explored by the Town and private landowners to prevent further encroachment on riparian areas.</u>

The re-establishment of vegetation in this reach is somewhat limited by the existence of the dike. Trees and large shrubs cannot be planted on the dike for maintenance reasons, as large tree roots could potentially cause dike failure.

**Opportunity B:** <u>Prevent further "Hard" Shoreline Stabilization.</u> Hard shoreline stabilization is not present in most sections of the reach, other than small areas located in the vicinity of the residential home near the mid-point of the reach. Rip rap has been used at this location for river bank stabilization. Future development in the reach should be encouraged to utilize "soft" shoreline stabilization which utilizes native vegetation and bio-engineering approaches instead of "hard" stabilization which utilizes hardened structures such as rip rap. Because soft shoreline stabilization techniques often take advantage of vegetation, they can provide added benefits such as creating fish and wildlife habitat and filtering pollutants from agricultural runoff from adjacent fields.

**Opportunity C:** <u>Manage Existing and Prevent New Noxious Weed Invasions.</u> It's likely that invasive weed species occur in riparian and upland areas in this reach, especially in areas that have been disturbed. Aquatic weeds may also be present in the river and in wetland areas. The Town should work with organizations such as the Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board to develop a list of known Class A and B noxious weeds that are present or potentially present in the shoreline in order to develop an integrated pest management plan. Invasions should be mapped and monitored to allow for rapid and effective treatment. New invasions of Class A weeds should be reported to the Noxious Weed Control Board. The use of pesticides should follow best management practices for protecting shoreline and wetland habitats.</u>

**Opportunity D:** <u>Protect Existing Wetlands</u>. According to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory Data, areas of Freshwater Emergent wetland and Freshwater Forested/Shrub wetland occur in this reach. Landowners should be encouraged to limit agricultural activities in these areas, and fencing could potentially be installed around the perimeters of wetlands for their protection.

**Opportunity E:** <u>Flood Hazard Reduction</u>. The entire reach is located within the 100-year floodplain. While there are currently very few residential homes located within the reach, future development could potentially add more residential areas. The Town should continue to enforce its floodplain development permitting procedures, and enforce policies and regulations given in Chapter 6, Section 6.6 – Frequently Flooded Areas Provisions of this SMP as it relates to future development.

**Opportunity F:** <u>Reconnect Floodplain to River Channel.</u> An evaluation could be conducted to determine the feasibility of removing sections of the dike, or installing culverts under the dike, which would allow the river channel to access adjacent flood plains during high water events. Careful planning would be necessary to determine the potential hazards to homes, structures, and agricultural lands by completing such action. The reconnection of the floodplain to the river channel could provide better side channel habitat for aquatic species and benefit wetland areas.

## **Reach 2 Restoration Opportunities**

**Opportunity A:** <u>**Riparian Vegetation Enhancement.**</u> This area is comprised primarily of private residential properties. The Town could encourage residents to plant native vegetation in their landscape areas, and to limit further clearing and disturbance along river banks. Land immediately adjacent to the river, just north of the boat ramp has almost been entirely cleared of large trees. This area could especially benefit from the planting of native trees such as black cottonwood, water birch and alder.

**Opportunity B:** <u>Construct Storm Water Runoff Treatment Facilities.</u> At the present time, storm runoff from developed impervious surfaces (streets, sidewalks, building roofs) is allowed to sheet flow into riparian areas and the river without any pre-treatment to remove pollutants. Existing storm water discharges could be retrofitted with treatment facilities such as detention ponds, sediment settling basins and oil/water separators to treat storm runoff prior to discharge to the river. However, a detailed evaluation would be necessary to identify areas in the public right of way for such facilities. Re-grading of existing areas might also be necessary to direct runoff to the treatment facilities. Any future development should be required to follow the storm water and erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) defined in the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington.

**Opportunity C:** <u>Manage Existing and Prevent New Noxious Weed Invasions.</u> It's likely that invasive weed species occur in riparian and upland areas in this reach, especially in areas that have been disturbed. Aquatic weeds may also be present in the river and in wetland areas. The Town should work with organizations such as the Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board to develop a list of known Class A and B noxious weeds that are present or potentially present in the shoreline in order to develop an integrated pest management plan. Invasions should be mapped and monitored to allow for rapid and effective treatment. New invasions of Class A weeds should be reported to the Noxious Weed Control Board. The use of pesticides should follow best management practices for protecting shoreline and wetland habitats.</u>

**Opportunity D:** <u>Flood Hazard Reduction</u>. The majority of this reach is located within the 100-year flood plain. The area in the vicinity of the boat ramp at the south end of the reach is known to flood annually. Existing properties subject to frequent flooding include the boat ramp parcel and a residential parcel to the immediate north. Any future development should be greatly limited in this area to reduce flooding

hazards, and to prevent the need for the construction of future dikes, fills and hard shoreline stabilization measures, which could have a negative impact on existing habitat conditions. The Town should continue to enforce its floodplain development permitting procedures, and enforce policies and regulations given in Chapter 6, Section 6.6 – Frequently Flooded Areas Provisions of this SMP as it relates to future development.

**Opportunity E:** <u>Improve Public Access on Publically Owned Properties.</u> The only two publically owned properties within the town's shoreline jurisdiction, the town's park and WDFW boat ramp, are located within this reach. At the town park, public access could be improved to allow for better access to the river bank. At the current time, there is no established trail or stairs to the river bank in the park, only an informal dirt bath down a steep bank. Fencing could also be utilized in this area to control access to the river in order to reduce the potential for vegetation disturbance and erosion.

At the present time, there is no formally delineated parking lot at the WDFW boat ramp. Vehicles and boat trailers are allowed to park in dirt areas adjacent to the gravel boat launch driveway. During wet periods, it is likely sediment and other contaminants could sheet flow directly into the river from these areas. The Town could start a dialogue with WDFW to determine if any funds could be allotted to modernize the boat ramp, including installing a paved parking lot and driveway. It would be important to install storm runoff treatment facilities with these improvements to ensure runoff is property treated prior to being discharged to the river. Such a project could also include the planting of native vegetation to enhance habitat functions and filtration of storm runoff.

**Opportunity F:** <u>Organize Community River Bank Clean-Up.</u> The Town and/or local conservation groups could organize volunteer community stream bank litter pick-up events. In addition to removing harmful and unsightly garbage, this type of event would have the added benefit of generating greater awareness and concern for the shoreline environment and water quality issues through hands-on efforts by the citizens who live and work along the river. The Town, in coordination with conservation groups, could also utilize such volunteer events to distribute educational materials to participants, such as pamphlets and other materials discussing the impacts fertilizer, pesticide, herbicide and septic systems have on the shoreline environment, or to address other shoreline issues.

### **Reach 3 Restoration Opportunities**

**Opportunity A:** <u>Restrict Livestock Access to the River.</u> Most of the agricultural lands on the west side of the river in this reach are utilized for livestock grazing. At the present time, livestock are allowed to access the river at multiple locations. Grazing has removed riparian vegetation in this area, and river banks have been trampled at some locations. Fencing could be installed to limit livestock grazing to areas outside of the riparian zone, and to consolidate river access locations for livestock.

**Opportunity B:** <u>**Riparian Vegetation Protection and Enhancement.</u>** This reach has limited tree cover and sources for large woody debris (LWD) recruitment. The riparian zone vegetation generally varies between 20 and 70 feet wide, and has been impacted by livestock grazing. The Town, local conservation groups and area watershed councils could work with private landowners to voluntarily restore native riparian vegetation. These groups could also assist landowners and the Town with suggestions for planting materials and labor for plantings. Further clearing of trees and other riparian vegetation should be prohibited. The establishment of conservation easements is one mechanism that could be explored by the Town and private landowners to prevent further encroachment on riparian areas.</u>

**Opportunity C:** <u>Manage Existing and Prevent New Noxious Weed Invasions</u>. It's likely that invasive weed species occur in riparian and upland areas in this reach, especially in areas that have been disturbed.

Aquatic weeds may also be present in the river and in wetland areas. The Town should work with organizations such as the Okanogan County Noxious Weed Control Board to develop a list of known Class A and B noxious weeds that are present or potentially present in the shoreline in order to develop an integrated pest management plan. Invasions should be mapped and monitored to allow for rapid and effective treatment. New invasions of Class A weeds should be reported to the Noxious Weed Control Board. The use of pesticides should follow best management practices for protecting shoreline and wetland habitats.

**Opportunity D:** <u>Protect Existing Wetlands</u>. According to the US Fish and Wildlife Service, National Wetlands Inventory Data, an area of freshwater pond occurs within this reach. Landowners should be encouraged to limit agricultural activities and livestock grazing in these areas, and fencing could potentially be installed around the perimeter of the wetland to protect and enhance sensitive vegetation.

**Opportunity E:** <u>Flood Hazard Reduction</u>. The entire reach is located within the 100-year floodplain. While there is currently only one residential home in the reach, future development could add more residential properties. The Town should continue to enforce its floodplain development permitting procedures, and enforce policies and regulations given in Chapter 6, Section 6.6 – Frequently Flooded Areas Provisions of this SMP as it relates to future development.

# 1.5 Existing Projects

There are currently no existing restoration projects or programs occurring within the Town of Riverside itself. The restoration plan presented in this chapter is the first such plan for the town. In the region, however, there are a number of public and private agencies that have some management or oversight responsibilities regarding the protection of shoreline areas. Many of these agencies participate in shoreline restoration activities. Other agency responsibilities include: maintaining shoreline aesthetics, enhancing public access, maintaining recreation values and maintaining wildlife habitat. The agencies having interests in shoreline protection and restoration are provided below. The Town and private landowners may be able to partner with these agencies to accomplish restoration goals.

- WSU Extension Service of Okanogan County
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Washington Department of Ecology
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Okanogan County
- Washington Department of Natural Resources
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- US Bureau of Reclamation
- Okanogan Conservation District
- Okanogan Basin Water Board
- Local Watershed Councils
- Trout Unlimited

# 1.6 Restoration Projects to Achieve Goals and Timelines

The Town's restoration opportunities were described in Section 8.4. These opportunities were identified based on the results of the inventory of the Town's shoreline. The table below and continued on the following page identifies restoration projects and opportunities, possible funding agencies, and establishes a timeline for achieving restoration goals. As that most lands within the shoreline jurisdiction are privately owned, voluntary cooperation from landowners is key to accomplishing goals. Section 8.7 –

Potential Funding Groups and Programs, goes into further detail about specific funding programs available in the area for restoration work.

	Potential Funding and Program	
Project	Sources	Timelines and Benchmarks
Encourage property owners to restore native	Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,	The Town will conduct further research of available funding
vegetation in shoreline areas, as well as to aggressively control invasive weed species.	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Okanogan County, Washington State Conservation Commission, Washington Dept. of Ecology, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Washington	programs. After doing so, the Town will make an effort to educate the public of potential restoration opportunities and available
	Dept. of Natural Resources, Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, WSU Extension Service of Okanogan County	funding sources by preparing and distributing a brochure on the subject. Develop brochure by 2017.
Restore native riparian vegetation buffers at the town's park. Explore opportunities for improving public access at the town's park and WDFW boat ramp.	Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Okanogan County, Washington State Conservation Commission, Washington Dept. of Ecology, Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Washington Dept. of Natural Resources, Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife	The Town will develop a shoreline advisory committee to identify restoration and public access improvement opportunities on city owned property. The committee will also contact WDFW to discuss potential improvements to the boat ramp; 2017.
Develop storm water pre- treatment infrastructure to protect the river habitat from non-point source pollution in runoff from adjacent development.	Washington State Department of Ecology	The Town will require on-site treatment and containment of storm water for new development; continuous. The Town will evaluate current storm runoff patterns from city streets in order to determine potential treatment options as funding is available.

## Table 1.6.1 Restoration Projects, Agency Partners and Timelines

	Potential Funding and Program	
Project	Sources	Timelines and Benchmarks
Protect existing wetland areas from encroachment by agricultural and future residential development.	WSU Extension Service of Okanogan County, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Washington State Dept. of Ecology, Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife.	The Town will educate landowners of funding programs available to protect and restore wetland areas that may be present on their lands by preparing a brochure on the subject; 2017. The town will enforce Critical Area ordinances as provided in this SMP; continuous.
Encourage property owners to consider installing fencing parallel to the stream bank to limit livestock access to the riparian area, and control access points to the river.	WSU Extension Service of Okanogan County, Okanogan County, Natural Resources Conservation Service	The Town will explore the possibilty of establishing an animal keeping ordinance to protect riparian vegetation; 2017.
Limit floodplain development and ensure that new development is raised above the 100-year floodplain elevation.	Okanogan County, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Continue to enforce existing floodplain management regulations and enforce Critical Area ordinances as provided in this SMP; continuous.

# 1.7 Potential Funding Groups and Programs

This section lists the programmatic measures available within Okanogan County designed to foster shoreline restoration, achieve a no-net loss in shoreline and upland ecological processes, functions and habitats. Many of these programs could be utilized to implement and fund shoreline restoration efforts in Riverside. While the Town of Riverside does not anticipate leading most restoration projects or programs, the SMP represents an important vehicle for facilitating and encouraging restoration projects and programs that could be led by public, private and/or non-profit entities. The Town will strive to educate private landowners within the shoreline jurisdiction of funding programs available if interest is expressed in completing restoration projects on their lands.

## Federal Programs – Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)** – is a joint partnership between the state of Washington and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that is administered by the Washington State Conservation Commission and the Farm Services Agency (FSA). The agreement was signed in 1998 and provides incentives to restore and improve salmon and steelhead habitat on private land. The program is voluntary for landowners; the land enrolled in CREP is removed from production and grazing under tenor 15-year contracts. In return, landowners plant trees and shrubs to stabilize the stream bank and to provide a number of additional ecological functions. Landowners receive annual rent, incentive and maintenance payments and cost share for practice installations. These payments made by FSA and the Conservation Commission can result in no cost to the landowner for participation.

**Conservation Reserve Program** – provides technical and financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to address soil, water, and related natural resource concerns on their lands in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. The program provides assistance to farmers and ranchers in complying with federal, state, and tribal environmental laws, and encourages environmental enhancement. The program is funded through the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC). CRP is administered by the FSA, with National Resources Conservation Services (NRCS) providing technical land eligibility determinations, Environmental Benefit Index Scoring, and conservation planning.

**Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPS)** – helps Animal Feeding Operations owners and operators to achieve their production and natural resource conservation goals through development and implementation of CNMPs.

**Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program** – helps protect lives and property threatened by natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, and wildfires. The program is administered by the NRCS, which provides technical and financial assistance to preserve life and property threatened by excessive erosion and flooding. EWP provides funding to project sponsors for such work as clearing debris from clogged waterways, restoring vegetation, and stabilizing riverbanks. The measures that are taken must be environmentally and economically sound and generally benefit more than one property owner. NRCS provides up to 75 percent of the funds needed to restore the natural function of a watershed. The community or local sponsor of the work pays the remaining 25 percent, which can be provided by cash or in-kind services.

**Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)** – provides technical and financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to address soil, water, and related natural resource concerns on their lands in an environmentally beneficial manner. The program provides assistance to farmers and ranchers in complying with federal, state, and tribal environmental laws, and encourages environmental enhancement. The EQIP program is funded through the CCC. The purposes of the program are achieved through the implementation of an EQIP plan of operations, which includes structural and land management practices on eligible land. Contracts of up to ten years are made with eligible producers. Cost-share payments may be made to implement one or more eligible conservation practices, such as animal waste management facilities, terraces, filter strips, tree planting, and permanent wildlife habitat. Incentive payments can be made to implement one or more land management practices, such as nutrient management, pest management, and grazing land management.

**Farmland Protection Program** – provides matching funds to help purchase development rights to keep productive farm and ranchland in agricultural uses. Working through existing programs, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) partners with state, tribal, or local governments and non-governmental organizations to acquire conservation easements or other interests in land from landowners. USDA provides up to 50 percent of the fair market easement value. To qualify, farmland must: be part of a pending offer from a state, tribe, or local farmland protection program; be privately owned; have a conservation plan for highly erodible land; be large enough to sustain agricultural production; be accessible to markets for what the land produces; have adequate infrastructure and agricultural support services; and have surrounding parcels of land that can support long-term agricultural production. Depending on funding availability, proposals must be submitted by the eligible entities to the appropriate NRCS state office during the application window.

**Wetlands Reserve Program** – is a voluntary program offering landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. The USDA's NRCS provides technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration efforts. The NRCS goal is to achieve the greatest wetland functions and values, along with optimum wildlife habitat, on every acre enrolled in the

program. This program offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection. The program offers three enrollment options:

- Permanent easement conservation easement in perpetuity. This program pays the lowest of either agricultural value of land, established payment cap, or an amount offered by the landowner and pays 100 percent of wetland restoration costs.
- Thirty-year easement 75 percent of permanent easement and 75 percent of restoration costs.
- Restoration cost-share agreement agreement to re-establish degraded or lost wetlands for minimum of 10 years. The program pays 75 percent of the restoration costs.

# Federal Programs – U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

North American Wetlands Conservation Fund – has funds for local governments with at least a 50 percent match to: (1) acquire real property interest in lands or waters, including water rights, if the obtaining of such interest is subject to terms and conditions that will ensure that the real property will be administered for the long-term conservation of such lands and waters and the migratory birds and other fish and wildlife dependent thereon; and (2) restore, manage, or enhance wetland ecosystems and other habitat for migratory birds and other fish and wildlife species if such restoration, management, or enhancement is conducted on lands and waters that are administered for the long-term conservation of such lands and with right and wildlife dependent thereon.

**Cooperative Conservation Initiative** – has funds available to support efforts to restore natural resources and establish or expand wildlife habitat. The program pays up to 50 percent.

**Private Stewardship Grants** – provides grants or other assistance on a competitive basis to individuals and groups engaged in private conservation efforts that benefits species listed or proposed as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act, candidate species, or other at-risk species on private lands within the United States. The program pays up to 90 percent.

**Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (Recovery Land Acquisition Grants)** – is authorized under the Endangered Species Act. This fund provides grants to states and territories to support their participation in a wide array of voluntary conservation projects for listed species, as well as for species either proposed or candidates for listing. By law, the state or territory must contribute 25 percent of the estimated program costs of approved projects, or 10 percent when two or more states or territories undertake a joint project. One of the three grants available is the Recovery Land Acquisition Grants (\$17.8 million). These grants provide funds to states and territories for acquisition of habitat for endangered and threatened species in support of approved recovery plans.

## Federal Programs – Bureau of Reclamation

**National Fish and Wildlife Foundation** – the environmental restoration challenge grants program uses challenge grants, where recipients match funds, to encourage partnerships among federal agencies, tribes, state and/or local governments, nonprofit organizations, and individual landowners. The program offers reclamation awards grants for on-the-ground efforts to recover or conserve endangered or sensitive fish, plant, and wildlife species; restore riverine, wetland, riparian, or upland habitats; improve water quality; and control noxious weeds. All projects receiving reclamation funds must be connected to the waters or lands the Bureau of Reclamation administers.

### State Programs – Washington State Conservation Commission

**Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program** – a joint partnership between the state of Washington and USDA that is administered by the Washington State Conservation Commission (WSCC) and the FSA. See Federal programs above.

**Conservation Easements program (SHB 2754)** – the WSCC is creating a Washington purchase of agricultural conservation easements program that will facilitate the use of federal funds, ease the burdens of local governments launching similar programs at the local level, and help local governments fight the conversion of agricultural lands.

## State Programs – Washington State Department of Ecology

**Water Quality Financial Assistance** – The state Department of Ecology administers funding from three programs:

- The Centennial Clean Water Fund (Centennial), which provides low-interest loans and grants for wastewater treatment facilities and fund-related activities to reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution.
- The State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF), which provides low-interest loans for wastewater treatment facilities and related activities, or to reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution.
- The Section 319 Nonpoint Source Grants Program (Section 319), which provides grants to reduce nonpoint sources of water pollution.

Examples of the type of projects that they have funded in the past include:

- Planning, design, and construction of wastewater and storm water treatment facilities.
- Agricultural best management practices projects.
- Stream and salmon habitat restoration.
- Local loan funds for water quality projects.
- Watershed planning.
- Water quality monitoring.
- Water reuse planning and facilities.
- Wellhead protection.
- Acquiring wetland habitat for preservation.
- Public information and education.

### State Program – Salmon Recovery Funding Board

**Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)** – grants to provide funding of habitat protection and restoration projects and related programs and activities that produce sustainable and measurable benefits for fish and their habitat. Local governments, private landowners, conservation districts, Native American tribes, non-profit organizations, and special purpose districts are eligible to receive funding. Private landowners are eligible applicants only when the project takes place on their own land. All projects must come through the local lead entity group and a Technical Advisory Group to the SRFB for final funding decisions.

### State Program – Interagency Committee on Outdoor Recreation

**Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program** – funds for municipal subdivisions, tribes, and state agencies in seven categories, including critical habitat and natural areas. They must be able to document at least a 50 percent match in funding for a project.

### State Program – Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Aquatic Land Enhancement Grants – grants to state agencies, tribes, and local governments. The project sponsor must document a minimum 50 percent match in funds. Eligible projects must be associated with navigable waters and are limited to aquatic habitat acquisition projects (including conservation easements), restoration projects, and public access and development projects. Acquisition projects have first priority and restoration projects second priority.

### State Program – Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) Volunteer Cooperative Projects Grant Program – Provides monetary support, on a cost reimbursement basis, for qualifying individuals, non-profit organizations, tribes and municipal subdivisions (cities, towns, counties, park and recreation, public utility districts and school districts) who undertake projects that benefit Washington state's fish and wildlife resources.

## 1.8 Protection and Restoration Monitoring

At least every 5 years, the Town of Riverside will evaluate all restoration and protection strategies, and compile a report analyzing their success in achieving the restoration plan goals and policies. The report may include recommendations to amend or revise policies in order to improve the success of shoreline protection and restoration strategies.

In order to increase awareness of potential restoration opportunities, Riverside will provide the information in this plan to property owners who own shoreline properties that have been identified as presenting restoration opportunities. It will also be included in pre-application materials provided to potential applicants for shoreline permits and persons requesting exemptions from shoreline permitting requirements.