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MAY 19 2026

BOARD of CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MINUTES for the week of May 11-15, 2026

WORK SESSION – 9 a.m.

The work session convened at 9 a.m., Monday, May 11, 2025. Present were Commissioners Ozias, Johnson, and French and Administrator Mielke.

Items of discussion per the agenda published May 1 were:

- Calendar/Correspondence
- Postponed: Discussion and next steps regarding a land acquisition within the boundaries of the Olympic National Park
- Resolution appointing Lindsey Sehmel and Roger Magee to the Park and Recreation Advisory Board
- Resolution reappointing Gordon Gibbs and appointing John Teichert to the Board of Equalization
- Agreement with Lakeside Industries, Inc. for 2026 Hot Mix Asphalt and CCS-1 Liquid Asphalt
- Agreement with Washington State University for solid waste assistance
- Approval of final plat for PLDV2025-00020 Cooper Hawk Cluster Development
- Discussion and next steps regarding Np Riparian Buffer Rule Lawsuit
- Call for hearing to be held on Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at 10:30 a.m. regarding an Ordinance amending the employment contract for the County Administrator
- Discussion and next steps regarding the conclusions and responses to the Charter Review Commission recommendations
- Discussion on proposed budget revisions to be considered on May 26
- Discussion of proposed supplemental appropriations to be considered on May 26
- Discussion of proposed debatable emergencies to be considered on May 26

Meeting concluded at 11 a.m. and continued to an executive session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – May 11, 2026 at 12:30 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 12:30 p.m. on May 11, 2026, to discuss collective bargaining. Present were Commissioners Ozias, French and Johnson, Administrator Mielke, Human Resources/Risk Management Dennler, Finance Department Lane and Turner, and Sheriff's Office Bundy.

The Board may recess into Executive Session to consider employment or dismissal of personnel, to review the performance of a public employee, to consult with legal counsel, to consider the position to be taken in collective bargaining, to consider acquisition or sale of real estate, or other matters per RCW 42.30.110.

ACTION TAKEN: CMOm to executive session for 1 hour, CMFs, mc

The Board recessed into executive session at 12:30 p.m.

The Board convened in open session at 1:30 p.m. and CRJ noted no action will be taken.

The meeting concluded at 1:30 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair French called the meeting to order at 10 a.m., Tuesday, May 12, 2026. Also present were Commissioners Ozias and Johnson, and Administrator Mielke.

REQUEST FOR MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION TAKEN: CMOm to adopt the agenda as presented, CMFs, mc

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PUBLIC COMMENT

- Sean Coleman, Clallam County, commented on item 1a
- Dr. Sarah Huling, Clallam County, commented on public comment
- Renee, commented on item 3a
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on item 1a
- Eric Fehrmann, Sequim, commented on item public comment
- Teresa Miller, Sequim, commented on the Proclamations, child abductions in Carrie Blake Park, requesting the Sheriff's Office to attend the BOCC meetings, not feeling safe
- Karin Cummins, Sequim, commented on Sequim Irrigation Festival, item 1a
- Sandra Larson, commented on item 3a
- Patrice Johnston, Sequim, commented on item 1d
- Denise Lapio, Sequim, commented on items 3a and 1d
- Kenneth Reandeau, Port Angeles, commented on item 3a
- Jeff Tozzer, Sequim, commented on item 1d

HEARING(S)

4a Resolution adopting Policy 580 – Electronic Funds Transfer Policy

- Jennifer White - Treasurer's Office and Mark Lane - Finance Department provided a staff report

ACTION TAKEN: CMOM to open the public hearing, CRJs, mc

- The following signed up to speak:
 - Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay
 - Kenneth Reandeau, Port Angeles

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to close the public hearing and adopt, CMOs, mc

CONSENT AGENDA

1a Approval of vouchers for the week of April 27 – May 1, 2026

The following warrants and electronic payments are approved for payment:

Accounts Payable:	Total
Warrant numbers: 9952534 – 9952849	\$3,693,118.40
Electronic payments dates: n/a	\$0.00
Total Accounts Payable:	\$3,693,118.40

1b Approval of minutes for the week of April 27

1c Resolution appointing Daniel Peacock and Lynne Kastner to the Revenue Advisory Committee

1d Resolution appointing various members to the Developmental Disabilities Advisory Committee

1e Resolution authorizing action on current use assessment CUA applications pursuant to Clallam County Code Chapter 27.08, Open Space

1f Proclamation recognizing May as ALS Awareness Month in Clallam County

1g Proclamation recognizing the week of May 10-16 as Peace Officer Memorial Week

1h Proclamation recognizing the 60th Anniversary of Olympic Community Action Program OlyCAP

1i Approval of final plat for PLDV2025-00020 Cooper Hawk Cluster Development

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to adopt the consent agenda as presented, CMOs, mc

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

- CRJ read the Proclamation recognizing the week of May 10-16 as Peace Officer Memorial Week
- CMO read the Proclamation recognizing the 60th Anniversary of Olympic Community Action Program OlyCAP
- CMO read the Proclamation recognizing May as ALS Awareness Month in Clallam County
- CRJ reported on Olympic Area Agency on Aging (O3A) 50th Anniversary, Board of Natural Resources, Feiro Marine Life Center, Peninsula Behavioral Health Gala
- CMO commented on Sequim Irrigation Festival, National Association of Counties Conference (NACO), Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC), Olympic Coast National Marine Sanctuary

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CONTRACTS AND AGREEMENTS

2a Agreement with Clallam County Parks, Fair and Facilities for 2026 Hotel/Motel Tax Funding

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

2b Agreement amendment 2 with Department of Ecology for Puget Sound Nutrient General Permit

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

2c Agreement amendment 1 with Quillayute Valley School District for Transition Program Services for eligible students who experience intellectual and developmental disabilities

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

2d Agreement amendment 1 with Department of Social and Health Services for adult Developmental disability services

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

2e Agreement amendment 1 with Department of Ecology for the Enhanced PIC in Clallam County's CWD Matriotti-Bell Project

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

2f Agreement with Lakeside Industries, Inc. for 2026 Hot Mix Asphalt and CCS-1 Liquid Asphalt

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to approve, CMOs, mc

BUDGET

3a Notice that the following budget revisions will be considered for adoption on May 26:

NonDept-Affordable Housing Sales Tax – The budget is being revised to add \$500,000 in funding for the Eklund at Gales project/\$500,000

NonDept-Hotel/Motel Tax – Reallocate remaining unanticipated project funds to support grants awarded to lodging tax recipients after a second round of applications/\$101,000

Parks and Facilities-Capital Projects – This budget revision is to move 2026 funds from the Courthouse Fuel Tank project, completed in 2025, to the Office Space Reconfiguration project/\$10,000

HHS-Foundational Public Health Services - Budget revision is to fund public health planning, outreach, disease prevention, communications, and facility improvements, including kiosks, materials, furniture, advertising, and parking lot safety upgrades/\$71,000

DCD-Administration - Budget is reallocated to increase the Code Enforcement Field Officer position to 30 hours per week to address rising violation complaints in 2026/\$6,510

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to issue notice, CMOs, mc

3b Notice that the following Supplemental Appropriations will be considered for adoption on May 26:
HHS-Developmental Disabilities – DSHS Developmental Disabilities is adding \$34,890 for services and administrative costs in Clallam County/\$34,890

Superior Court – Superior Court entered into an interagency agreement with the Administrative Office of the Courts to provide \$5,000 in therapeutic support for LIFT (Living in Families Together) Court participants/\$5,000

HHS-Operations – Funding is being received from FPHS to support public health planning, outreach, disease prevention, communications, and facility improvements, including kiosks, materials, furniture, advertising, and parking lot safety upgrades/\$71,000

DCD-Environmental Quality - Environmental Quality received pass-through funding to support staff time for restoration project capacity training/\$15,000

Parks & Facilities – Lodging tax award to support strategic marketing and advertising program and organization/\$90,000

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to issue notice, CMOs, mc

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3c Resolution calling for a hearing to be held May 26 at 10:30 a.m. to consider adopting the for the following Debatable Emergencies:

NonDepartmental – Hotel/Motel Tax – Additional funding is required to support grants awarded to lodging tax recipients after a second round of applications/\$181,000

ACTION TAKEN: CRJm to issue notice, CMOs, mc

PUBLIC COMMENT

- OlyCAP, Port Angeles, commented on public comments, Olympic Community Action Program OlyCAP, Safe Parking Program
- Karin Cummins, Sequim, commented on paying for the trip Commissioner Ozias took to Hawaii, taxpayer money, item 3a, Administrator Mielke explaining what Commissioner Ozias was doing in Hawaii
- Kenneth Reandeau, Port Angeles, commented on mill, fresh water, inflation, filing season, Commissioner District III
- Eric Fehrmann, Sequim, commented on wants the BOCC to have a raffle to go on WSAC trips, Commissioner Ozias report from conference, taxpayer money paying for trips, uninformed
- Mark Curtis, Sequim, commented on harm reduction
- Glen Parker, Sequim, commented on Bureau of Indian Affairs extension, oyster farms, harm reduction
- Ed Bowen, Clallam Bay, commented on Commissioner French being on video at work session, board and committee appointments, Olympic National Park work session item, Peace Officer Memorial Week Proclamation, Bear Springs Hatchery Department of Natural Resources
- Rich James, Port Angeles, commented on Department of Natural Resources, Clallam Fire District 2, timber harvest, join in on lawsuit
- Teresa Miller, Sequim, commented on Commissioner French weekly report, code enforcement funding, item 3b, harm reduction, Parks conditions, noxious weeds, funding adjustment
- John Worthington, Sequim, commented on Olympic Community Action Program OlyCAP paid his rent for him, fish culverts
- Unknown name, commented on harm reduction, elections, Dungeness Recreation, take care of the public
- Claudia Swing, Sequim, commented on harm reduction
- Jeff Tozzer, Sequim, commented on Peace Officer Memorial Week Proclamation, Veteran's Bell drug and homeless issues, Commissioner Ozias collecting salary while attending the conference is Hawaii, Olympic Community Action Program OlyCAP, taxpayer funds for Safe Parking Program
- Denise Lapio, Sequim, commented on North Olympic Library System Levy Lid Lift, paying taxes
- Diana Morales Henderson, Sequim, commented on paying taxes, harm reduction

Meeting concluded at 12:15 p.m. and continued to 9 a.m., Monday, May 18, 2026.

The Board of Commissioners attended WSAC Virtual Update, Olympic Area Agency on Aging 50th Celebration, Coffee with Colleen and KONP Radio Show during the week of May 11, 2026.

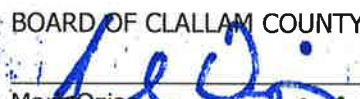
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 19th day of May 2026

ATTEST:


Loni Gores, MMC, Clerk of the Board



BOARD OF CLALLAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Mark Ozias


Randy Johnson


Mike French, Chair

BOCC Mail Correspondences Received from other Jurisdictions



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
OLYMPIC PENINSULA AGENCY
2707 COLBY AVENUE
SUITE 1101
EVERETT, WA 98201

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Real Estate Services
TR-4609-P5

Case Number: 66530

Certified Mail - 7020 0640 0002 1120 7859 - Return Receipt Requested

Board of Clallam County Commissioners
223 East 4th Street, Suite 4
Port Angeles, Washington 98362-3015

EXTENSION LETTER FOR FEE-TO-TRUST

Dear Board of Clallam County Commissioners,

We are in receipt of your letter dated 04/14/2026 wherein you request an extension of time to furnish comments regarding case 66530.

Your request for an additional 30 days is granted.

If you have any questions, please contact: MONICA DAHRENS, REALTY SPECIALIST, at (360) 614-5883.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY CRILL

Digitally signed by ANTHONY
CRILL
Date: 2026.04.23 10:55:17 -07'00'

Anthony Crill, Acting Superintendent
Olympic Peninsula Agency

cc: Leo Gaten, Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

FTG0D01



Office Codes: PIP-06-129 AD Number: 4200516126 Case: 66530

APR 28 2026

1...2...3...A...



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Northwest Regional Office

911 Northeast 11th Avenue

Portland, Oregon 97232

RECEIVED
APR 27 2026

IN REPLY REFER TO:
Division of Realty

April 24, 2026

BY:

CERTIFIED MAIL - 7020 0640 0002 1037 2985 - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

The Honorable Douglas Woodruff Jr.
Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation
Post Office Box 279
La Push, Washington 98350-0279

Dear Chairman Woodruff:

This is the decision of the Bureau of Indian Affairs ("BIA"), Northwest Regional Director, on the Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation's ("Tribe") off-reservation land-into-trust application for the property more fully identified below, known as the "Ki'tla Center Property" ("Property") consisting of 22.4 acres, more or less, located in Clallam County, State of Washington. The property will be used for self-determination and economic development purposes. The application is not for gaming purposes. For the reasons set forth below, I approve the Tribe's request to acquire the Property into trust.

By Tribal Resolution Number 2025-A-67 dated December 4, 2025 and fee-to-trust application dated December 11, 2025, the Tribe requested BIA to acquire 22.4 acres, more or less, into trust. The Tribe presently owns the Property in fee status.

The Tribe acquired the Property from Olympic Forest Properties, LLC, a Washington limited liability company, by Statutory Warranty Deed dated November 26, 2014, and recorded the purchase on December 10, 2014, in Clallam County, Washington under Instrument No. 2014-1315127.

Location/Land Description

Address: 100 La Push Road, Forks, Washington.

The Property is approximately 13 miles from the Quileute Reservation. The property is described as follows:

PARCEL A:

THAT PORTION OF GOVERNMENT LOT 2, SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M., CLALLAM COUNTY, WASHINGTON DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT AN IRON PIPE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF SAID LOT 2;
THENCE SOUTH 89° 15' EAST 735.8 FEET;
THENCE SOUTH 3° 00' WEST 385.6 FEET;
THENCE SOUTH 88° 00' WEST 222.3 FEET;
THENCE SOUTH 86° 15' WEST 101 FEET;
THENCE SOUTH 83° 00' WEST 100 FEET;
THENCE SOUTH 80° 00' WEST 100 FEET;

THENCE SOUTH 77° 15' WEST 100 FEET;
THENCE SOUTH 77° 30' WEST 75 FEET;
THENCE SOUTH 74° 00' WEST 36.3 FEET TO THE WEST LINE OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 2;
THENCE NORTH 0° 45' EAST 490 FEET, MORE OR LESS, TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING;

EXCEPT ANY PORTION THEREOF LYING WITHIN STATE ROAD NO. 9 CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON BY DEED RECORDED UNDER AUDITOR'S FILE NO. 162146 AND 284319;

AND EXCEPT ANY PORTION LYING WITHIN SECONDARY STATE HIGHWAY NO. 9B CONVEYED TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON BY DEED RECORDED UNDER AUDITOR'S FILE NO. 216626;

ALSO EXCEPT PARCELS A AND C OF SURVEY RECORDED IN VOLUME 69 OF SURVEYS, PAGE 34, UNDER RECORDING NO. 2009 1245277, BEING PORTIONS OF GOVERNMENT LOT 2 IN SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M., AND OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 32-TOWNSHIP 29 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M., CLALLAM COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

SITUATE IN CLALLAM COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON

PARCEL B:

A PORTION OF GOVERNMENT LOT 3, SECTION 5, TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M., CLALLAM COUNTY, WASHINGTON, BEING MORE PARTICULARLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

BEGINNING AT THE NORTH QUARTER SECTION CORNER OF SAID SECTION 5;
THENCE NORTH 87° 26' 56" WEST ALONG THE NORTH LINE OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 3 OF SAID SECTION 5 A DISTANCE OF 150.00 FEET;
THENCE SOUTH 2° 33' 04" WEST A DISTANCE OF 533.45 FEET TO A POINT ON THE NORTHERLY LINE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF THE LAPUSH ROAD;
THENCE NORTH 75° 49' 04" EAST ALONG SAID NORTHERLY LINE OF THE RIGHT OF WAY OF THE LAPUSH ROAD A DISTANCE OF 160.29 FEET TO A POINT ON THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID

GOVERNMENT LOT 3;
THENCE NORTH 2° 09' 04" EAST ALONG THE EASTERLY LINE OF SAID GOVERNMENT LOT 3 A
DISTANCE OF 487.12 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SITUATE IN CLALLAM COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON.

PARCEL C:

PARCEL 1 OF SURVEY RECORDED MAY 8, 1987 IN VOLUME 12 OF SURVEYS, PAGE 128,
RECORDED UNDER AUDITORS FILE NO. 590868, BEING A SURVEY OF A PORTION OF THE EAST
HALF OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER AND A PORTION OF THE
SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER, ALL IN SECTION 32, TOWNSHIP 29
NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M., CLALLAM COUNTY.

EXCEPT PARCEL A OF SURVEY RECORDED IN VOLUME 69 OF SURVEYS, PAGE 34, UNDER
RECORDING NO. 2009 1245277, BEING PORTIONS OF GOVERNMENT LOT 2 IN SECTION 5,
TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M., AND OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE
SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 32-TOWNSHIP 29 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M., CLALLAM
COUNTY, WASHINGTON

SITUATE IN CLALLAM COUNTY, STATE OF WASHINGTON.

PARCEL D:

PARCEL A AND C OF SURVEY RECORDED IN VOLUME 69 OF SURVEYS, PAGE 34 UNDER
RECORDING NO. 2009-1245277, BEING PORTIONS OF GOVERNMENT LOT 2 IN SECTION 5,
TOWNSHIP 28 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M., AND OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE
SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF SECTION 32, TOWNSHIP 29 NORTH, RANGE 13 WEST, W.M.,
CLALLAM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

A Land Description Examination and Validation ("LDEV") Request was submitted on January 6,
2026, and approved by BIA OTS Liaison, Trisha Johnson on January 13, 2026. The LDEV received
a concur, low risk, and stated the following:

The subject property for this case consists of four county parcels. Parcels are
described using metes & bounds descriptions as well as parcels based on
surveys. The surveys that created the subject parcels have been included with
this application package. The descriptions are all tied to the PLSS and close
within an acceptable as written. There are a couple minor typos in the draft
warranty deed from the Tribe to the USA in Trust have been highlighted and
should be corrected.

The GIS acreage was calculated to be within 5% of the recorded TAAMS acreage
of 22.4 acres is deemed acceptable.

Based on the most recent available NAIP satellite imagery there do not appear to be any unauthorized encumbrances or encroachments.

I find the Tribe has fulfilled the requirements of 25 C.F.R. § 151.8 governing requests for approval of acquisitions by submitting the Fee-to-Trust Application and Tribal Resolution Number 2025-A-67 dated December 4, 2025 that sets out the identity of the parties, description of the land, and other information that shows that the acquisition fulfills the requirements of 25 CFR Part 151.

Regulatory Requirements, 25 C.F.R. (“CFR”) Part 151:

This decision of the Northwest Regional Director, BIA, is discretionary. This application was submitted after Bureau of Indian Affairs issued the revised 25 CFR Part 151 regulations for fee-to-trust acquisitions, effective January 11, 2024 (“2024 Regulations”). Therefore, this decision is issued pursuant to the revised 25 CFR Part 151 regulations.

§ 151.3 – Land acquisition policy

Section 151.3 of Title 25 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* sets forth the Department’s land acquisition policy. I find that this acquisition is consistent with the policy because:

1. The Tribe already owns this land in fee as evidenced by the Statutory Warranty Deed and the title evidence. The Office of the Solicitor, Pacific Northwest Region, U.S. Department of the Interior, reviewed the title evidence and provided the Preliminary Title Opinion BIA-00118479 dated February 11, 2026, finding title vested in the Tribe; and
2. The acquisition will further Tribal interests by facilitating Tribal self-determination and economic development purposes.

25 CFR § 151.3(b) (2)-(3).

§ 151.11(a)(1) – Statutory Authority

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 (IRA), the Secretary of the Interior has statutory authority to acquire land in trust for “Indians.” 25 U.S.C. § 5108. The term “Indian” as used in Section 5 includes “all persons of Indian descent who are members of any recognized Indian tribe now under Federal jurisdiction.” 25 U.S.C. § 5129. The Supreme Court held that “now under Federal jurisdiction” refers to tribes that were under federal jurisdiction in 1934, when the IRA was enacted. *Carcieri v. Salazar*, 555 U.S. 379, 395 (2009).

One form of conclusive evidence of federal jurisdiction in 1934 is a tribe’s participation in a Section 18 election to accept or reject the IRA, as documented in the Haas Report, regardless of

whether the tribe voted to adopt or reject the Act. Solicitor's Opinion M-37029, *The Meaning of "Under Federal Jurisdiction," for Purposes of the Indian Reorganization Act*, at 20-21 (Mar. 12, 2014) (citing Theodore H. Haas, *Ten Years of Tribal Government Under I.R.A. (1947)*).

Additionally, inclusion of a tribe's members on Indian Census rolls between 1884 and 1934, including the 1934 Indian Population Report, further demonstrates that the tribe and its members were under federal jurisdiction in 1934.

On October 10, 1936, the Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation voted in an IRA election to adopt a Constitution and By-Laws, which the Department approved on November 11, 1936, and ratified on August 21, 1937. Haas Report, at 26. The Tribe's members were also counted on Indian Census rolls, including one dated 1934, which documented the Tribe's population residing at the Quileute Reservation. Annual Report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, at 150 (1934).

The record demonstrates that the United States recognized that the Quileute Tribe as under federal jurisdiction in 1934, and that its members met the IRA's definition of "Indian." Accordingly, the Secretary is authorized under Section 5 of the IRA, 25 U.S.C. § 5108, to acquire land in trust for the Quileute Tribe.

§ 151.11(a)(3) – Purposes for which the land will be used

The Tribe's current/proposed purposes of the Property is to facilitate Tribal self-determination and continued economic development purposes. The Tribe does not yet have a specific business plan for the property, but it intends to continue its current uses, including operation of the self-storage facility, the event center for meetings and weddings, and the existing office and retail spaces.

The Tribe has no formal plans to develop or alter the property; therefore, there is no change in land use for the BIA to consider.

§ 151.11(a)(4) – Whether the BIA is equipped to discharge additional responsibilities

The programs at the Northwest Regional Office are capable of handling the additional responsibilities brought by acquiring this land into trust. The principal programs affected will be Realty, Division of Environmental, and the Northwest Land Titles and Records Office.

Based on the above facts, I find the additional 22.4 acres, more or less, will not unduly burden the BIA staff. Therefore, I conclude that the BIA is equipped to discharge the additional responsibilities associated with bringing this land into trust status.

§ 151.11(b) - Great Weight

The Secretary shall give great weight to acquiring land that serves certain tribal interests. This acquisition furthers tribal interests by facilitating tribal self-determination and economic development. I find that this interest weighs in favor of the acquisition of the Property in trust for the Tribe.

25 CFR § 151.11(b)(8).

§ 151.11(c) – Notice to State and Local Governments

The Secretary presumes the Tribe will benefit from the trust acquisition and considers the Property's location and potential land use conflicts when reviewing State and local input as part of a comprehensive analysis. *See* 88 Fed. Reg. 86222, 86228 (Dec. 12, 2023) (final rule streamlining the fee-to-trust process to support tribal self-determination and homeland restoration under revised 25 CFR Part 151, effective Jan. 11, 2024).

A Notice of Application was sent on January 30, 2026 to the State of Washington, Governor's Office of Indian Affairs ("State") and Clallam County ("County"), and on February 24, 2026 to the City of Forks ("City"). The State and County received their notices on February 4, 2026, and the City of Forks ("City") received their notice on March 2, 2026. The Notice provided 30 days for a written response.

The City, State and County did not respond to the Notice of Application.

Absent comments from the State, County and City, the regulations do not mandate consideration of the acquisition's potential impact on regulatory jurisdiction, real property taxes, and special assessments.

§ 151.14 - Title Review

The Office of the Solicitor, Pacific Northwest Region, U.S. Department of the Interior, reviewed the title evidence and provided Preliminary Title Opinion ("PTO") BIA-00118479 dated February 11, 2026, which stated that all taxes and other assessments must be paid through the date of closing. The post-acquisition title evidence submitted must provide confirmation that all were paid, removed, and otherwise addressed as required.

§ 151.15 – Environmental Conditions

The Secretary shall comply with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), applicable Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Department of Interior regulations and guidance (59 IAM 5 dated January 10, 2025) regarding Hazardous Substances Determinations. An Exception Checklist for BIA Categorical Exclusions dated April 9, 2026

indicates that an Environmental Assessment is not required because the tribe indicated that no development, physical alteration, or change of land use after acquisition is planned or known. Therefore, I find that approval of this acquisition falls under 516 DM 10.5 (I) and is categorically excluded. Should future development occur, compliance with NEPA will be required if federal funding or a federal decision is involved.

Historic/Endangered Species Compliance

Since there are no plans for further development of this property at this time, I anticipate no impact to any historic or archaeological resources or to any threatened or endangered species that may exist on the property. Should future development occur, compliance with laws governing historic properties and endangered species, if applicable, will be required.

Phase I Environmental Site Assessment

A Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (“ESA”) was completed on February 8, 2022 by Andrew S. Blake, R.G., L.G., of Succeed Environmental Consulting LLC (“SEC”) for fee-to-trust application purposes. The consultant found no known Recognized Environmental Conditions (“RECs”), controlled RECs, Business Environmental Risks (BERs), or other evidence of environmental liability.

Historical REC (“HREC”):

The project site was historically occupied by a cedar sawmill and lumber yard from approximately 1947 until 2008. Soil exploration activities were conducted by SEC between July and October 2020, which identified an isolated pocket of soil impacted with oil-range hydrocarbons and benzo(a)pyrene at the site. In January 2021, the project site was enrolled in WADOE’s Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP). The above-noted impacted soil was excavated between February and April 2021, and a series of confirmation soil samples were collected. In addition, SEC collected an additional soil vapor sample within the former mill building at WADOE’s request.

Based on the data collected and SEC’s efforts, WADOE closed their file on the site in May 2021. This is classified as a HREC which is defined as a past release of hazardous substances or petroleum products that has occurred in connection with the property and has been addressed to the satisfaction of the applicable regulatory authority [e.g., WADOE] or meeting unrestricted use criteria established by a regulatory authority, without subjecting the property to any required engineering or institutional controls.

In summary, SEC indicated that no further environmental assessment is recommended.

Updated Phase I ESA

SEC and BIA updated the following ESA components:

- SEC provided an updated ASTM E1528-22 environmental questionnaire completed by Larry Burtress, Quileute Planner & Grant Writer/Owner Representative on 12/09/2025
- SEC provided an updated regulatory database (radius) report dated 2/27/2026
- BIA reviewed October 2025 aerial Google Earth photographs of the property, and
- BIA endorsed this research as a qualified Environmental Professional.

Results

No new RECs and/or other issues of environmental concern were identified at the property that would appear to alter the conclusions of the original 2022 Phase I ESA report. BIA concurs with SEC that no further environmental assessment is recommended or appears warranted.

NOTE: Based on this, no further fee-to-trust related environmental review is required for this parcel.

Summary:

The Phase I Environmental Site Assessment and supporting documents were reviewed on March 25, 2026, by Brian J. Haug, Northwest Regional Environmental Scientist. Mr. Haug stated that: "The updated Phase I ESA and supporting documents fulfill the requirements of DOI's 602 DM 2, 52 IAM 12-H, 59 IAM 5, NEPA, ASTM E1527 Standard Practice, 25 CFR §151, 40 CFR § 312, and the property is suitable for acquisition."

Decision

The proposed uses and purposes of the Property is non-gaming, legal and not in conflict with the existing land use. In view of the foregoing, I find that all applicable legal requirements are satisfied, and I hereby approve the fee-to-trust application of the Quileute Tribe's Ki'tla Center Property.

Appeal Rights

This decision may be appealed against by any person or entity who is adversely affected by the decision of the Regional Director. A notice of appeal shall be in writing, signed by the appellant or by their attorney of record or other qualified representative as provided by 43 CFR § 1.3, and filed with the Interior Board of Indian Appeals at 801 N. Quincy Street, Suite 300, Arlington, VA 22203, ibia@oha.doi.gov, in accordance with 43 CFR § 4.310 and the Office of Hearings and Appeals ("OHA") Standing Orders on Contact Information and the OHA Standing Orders on Electronic Transmission, found on the Department of the Interior OHA website: <https://www.doi.gov/oha>. The IBIA will be the reviewing official, and your appeal will be governed by the IBIA regulations at 43 CFR Part 4.

Deadline for Appeal.

The notice of appeal must be filed within 30 days of the date you receive notice of the Regional Director's decision. A copy of your notice of appeal must simultaneously be sent to the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs and the Associate Solicitor, Division of Indian Affairs. If you do not file a timely notice of appeal, you will have failed to exhaust administrative remedies, and this decision will become effective at the expiration of the appeal period. A notice of appeal not timely filed shall be dismissed for lack of jurisdiction.

Service of a notice of appeal is considered effective on the date it is electronically transmitted, mailed, or hand-delivered in accordance with 43 CFR § 4.310(c).

Appeal Contents and Packaging.

Both the notice and envelope in which it is mailed should be clearly labeled "Notice of Appeal." If submitting by electronic filing, "Notice of Appeal" must appear in the subject line of the email submission. Your notice of appeal must certify that you have sent copies to all interested parties; this office; the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs; and the Associate Solicitor of Indian Affairs, Office of the Solicitor. (See OHA Standing Orders for current AS-IA and Office of the Solicitor contact information.)

A notice of appeal must include:

1. A full identification of the case.
2. A statement of the reasons for the appeal and of the relief sought; and
3. The names and addresses of all additional interested parties, Indian tribes, tribal corporations, or groups having rights or privileges which may be affected by a change in the decision, whether they participated as interested parties in the earlier proceedings.

43 CFR § 4.332(a).

If possible, attach a copy of this decision letter to your notice of appeal.

Within 40 days from the IBIA's receipt of a notice of appeal, the Assistant Secretary—Indian Affairs may decide to review the appeal. 43 CFR § 4.332(b).

Assistance.

When the appellant is an Indian or Indian tribe not represented by counsel, the official who issued the decision appealed shall, upon request of the appellant, render such assistance as is appropriate in the preparation of the appeal. 43 CFR § 4.332(c).

Sincerely,

RUDY
PEONE

Digitally signed by
RUDY PEONE
Date: 2026.04.24
09:09:57 -07'00'

Kurt Fredenberg
Acting Northwest Regional Director

Distribution List for the Notice of Decision

State of Washington
Governor's Office of Indian Affairs
1110 Capital Way South, Suite 225
Olympia, Washington 98501
Certified Mail: 7020 0640 0002 1037 2992
Regular mail

Clallam County
223 East 4th Street Suite 2
Port Angeles, Washington 98632
Certified Mail: 7020 0640 0002 1037 3005
Regular mail

City of Forks
500 East Division Street
Forks, Washington 98331
Certified Mail: 7020 0640 0002 1120 7828
Regular mail

TO: County Executives and Chairs of Boards of County Commissioners

FROM: Jane Wall, Executive Director

RECEIVED
CLALLAM CO. COMMISSIONERS

DATE: May 1, 2026

MAY 11 2026

1...2...3...A...

RE: Certificate of Good Practice

It is my pleasure to send you a copy of the enclosed Certificate of Good Practice that was approved by resolution of the County Road Administration Board at its meeting on April 30, 2026. We have mailed the original certificate to your County Engineer as they are required to post it in a publicly accessible location in the Public Works office. We encourage you to acknowledge this great achievement at an appropriate time for recognition should you wish.

A Certificate of Good Practice has been transmitted to the State Treasurer on behalf of your county pursuant to the authority contained in RCW 36.78.090 as shown on the certificate enclosed. This action by the CRABoard will assure the continued distribution of your monthly state gas tax allotment from the Office of the State Treasurer.

On behalf of the members and staff of the CRABoard, I would like to express my appreciation for the cooperation we have received from and through your county engineer's office during the past year.

Enclosure

Cc: County Engineer



JANE WALL

Executive Director



RESOLUTION 2026-003

WHEREAS RCW 36.78.090 provides that the County Road Administration Board each year shall transmit to the State Treasurer Certificates of Good Practice on behalf of the counties which during the preceding calendar year have submitted to the State Transportation Commission or to the CRABoard all reports required by law or regulation of the CRABoard and have reasonably complied with provisions of law relating to county road administration and with Standards of Good Practice as formulated and adopted by the Board; and

WHEREAS the County Road Administration Board met on April 30th, 2026 in Olympia, Washington to make such a determination pursuant to an analysis of annual certification questionnaires in accordance with WAC 136-04 by the counties; and

WHEREAS the County Road Administration Board determined that 35 counties were in compliance with the provisions of RCW 36.78.090 and 4 counties were in conditional compliance as they relate to the issuance of Certificates of Good Practice;

WHEREAS the Director of Highways and Local Programs has certified to CRAB that all 39 counties are current and in compliance with National Bridge Inspection Standards (NBIS), and

WHEREAS 37 of the 39 counties' required submittals were submitted to CRAB by the April 1st deadline. Of the 2 counties missing the deadline, 1 county had reasonable explanations, complied soon after the deadline and, is considered to be in reasonable compliance. The remaining county, Pacific County, failed to meet the deadline and subsequently to finish their submittals, this was largely due to personnel issues, but is symptomatic of the larger issue of not having had a County Engineer lead the county road department since September 2023. Pacific County is not considered to be in reasonable compliance, and

WHEREAS 3 counties, Walla Walla, Pend Orielle, and Ferry responded in their Annual Certifications for 2025 that their counties were not in compliance with RCW 36.80, in that the County Engineer did not perform all of the statutory duties and/or have all of the statutory responsibilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a Certificate of Good Practice be transmitted to the State Treasurer on behalf of the following counties:

ADAMS
ASOTIN
BENTON
CHELAN
CLALLAM
CLARK
COLUMBIA

COWLITZ
DOUGLAS
FRANKLIN
GARFIELD
GRANT
GRAYS HARBOR
ISLAND

JEFFERSON
KING
KITSAP
KITITAS
KLICKITAT
LEWIS
LINCOLN

MASON
OKANOGAN
PIERCE
SAN JUAN
SKAGIT

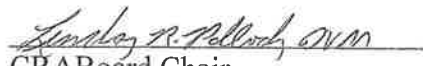
SKAMANIA
SNOHOMISH
SPOKANE
STEVENS
THURSTON

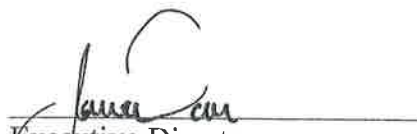
WAHKIAKUM
WHATCOM
WHITMAN
YAKIMA

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Conditional Certificate of Good Practice be transmitted to the State Treasurer on behalf of the following counties and, that Walla Walla, Pend Oreille, and Ferry counties shall provide for review by the CRABoard organization charts and position job descriptions that are in compliance with RCW 36.75.020/050 and RCW 36.80 for the County Engineer and, Public Works Director or similar position, by one week prior to the Summer CRABoard meeting in July 2026. Failure to meet the conditions will result in the county(s) being requested to appear before the CRABoard in July to discuss potential measures the CRABoard may employ to encourage compliance. Pacific County shall provide to the CRABoard by one week prior to the Summer CRABoard meeting in July 2026 a written plan describing what steps will be taken to ensure required compliance reporting will be submitted on time in the future. Failure to meet the conditions will result in the county being requested to appear before the CRABoard in July to discuss potential measures the CRABoard may employ to encourage compliance.

WALLA WALLA, PEND OREILLE, FERRY, AND PACIFIC

Adopted by the CRABoard on April 30, 2026.


CRABoard Chair
Commissioner Pollock


Executive Director
Jane Wall

COPY

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD PRACTICE

HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO THE STATE TREASURER ON BEHALF OF

Clallam County

FOR THE YEAR 2025

Pursuant to the authority contained in RCW 36.78.090 and in recognition of the fact that this county has submitted to the Department of Transportation or to this Board all reports required by law or regulation of the Board; and has reasonably complied with provisions of law relating to county road administration and with the Standards of Good Practice as formulated and adopted by the Board.

APRIL 30, 2026



Lindsey N. Pollock
LINDSEY POLLOCK, CHAIR OF THE BOARD



Dear Commissioner Johnson,

Please enjoy the enclosed copy of our latest annual report to join us in celebrating another year of successes towards salmon resiliency on the Washington Coast. This work is made possible through support from local public officials like you.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "JBA", is written over the printed name and title.

Jane Atha
Executive Director

RECEIVED
CLALLAM CO. COMMISSIONERS
MAY 11 2026
1...2...3...A...

COAST SALMON PARTNERSHIP

2025 Annual Report



What's Inside?

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The Coast Community	3
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WASHINGTON COAST REGION

The Washington Coast Region includes all watersheds that drain to the Pacific Ocean between Cape Flattery and Cape Disappointment. These watersheds support 118 populations of salmon and steelhead, 12 populations of coastal cutthroat, and 5 populations of bull trout. The Coast Salmon Partnership is a Washington State salmon recovery organization established in 2009 by Interlocal Agreement among tribes, counties, cities, and port districts in the Washington Coast Region. The region includes four local watershed groups based on Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA): North Pacific Lead Entity, Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity, Chehalis Basin Collaborative for Salmon Habitat, and Willapa Bay Lead Entity.

Collectively, we envision a future when all watersheds in the Washington Coast Region contain healthy, diverse, and self-sustaining populations of salmon, maintained by healthy habitats and ecosystems, which also support the ecological, cultural, social, and economic needs of human communities.

Protect the Best • Restore the Rest



La Push. Photo: John Gussman



eDNA collection upstream from a project completed in 2024.
Photo: Alex Bradberry



Steelhead on the Sol Duc River. Photo: Alex Bradberry

Letter from the Executive Director

The year 2025 proved that when the coast works together, we can build resilience and make meaningful progress toward sustainable salmon and steelhead populations through tumultuous times. I am truly inspired by our partner organizations and tribes, staff, foundation members, and funders who rose to the challenge and thrived in a year defined by change.

Together, we weathered government funding uncertainties, staff transitions, federal job losses and retirements, and the potential Endangered Species Act listings of Olympic Peninsula steelhead and Washington Coast Chinook. Despite these challenges, your support enabled us to forge new connections and carry forward critical salmon recovery efforts across the region.

We adapted to evolving capacity needs by supporting the Lake Ozette Sockeye salmon recovery plan through vegetation removal coordination and sediment sampling analysis. We broadened our coastal signage network and participated in educational community events coast-wide. We also launched a public salmon survey map in the Chehalis Basin, allowing community members to report salmon sightings that are

then added to an interactive web map. These collaborative education efforts are essential for increasing awareness, curbing misinformation, and expanding the network of support for salmon recovery on the coast.

In hosting the first-of-its-kind Coast Chinook Symposium, we learned just how much can be gained by coming together as a region to share knowledge, explore challenges, and develop a collective roadmap toward a sustainable future for coastal Chinook.

Through a multi-pronged approach of boots-on-the-ground technical support, project coordination, education and outreach, grant administration, and deep community engagement, the Coast Salmon Partnership remains committed to strengthening resilience for coastal salmon and steelhead through 2026 and beyond.



With gratitude,
Jane



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Across the region, coastal communities are coming together to collaborate and celebrate salmon, steelhead, and the beautiful rivers they thrive in. The Coast Salmon Partnership staff participated in planning and attending a variety of events throughout the year, aiding in partner fundraising efforts and adding capacity to outreach efforts made by our tribal partners.

Fish N Brew

The Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group (RFE) Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition (PCSC) based in Forks brought back a longstanding festival in October 2025. After COVID, this much-loved gathering fell off many folks' calendars, but the turnout this year made for huge successes.

With the guidance and planning of PCSC, environmental partners like Trout Unlimited and Wild Salmon Center, local businesses in Forks, and local residents alike all teamed up to raise over \$13,000 for PCSC in one evening. Charged with the vibrant energy of live music, local beer, a smoked salmon competition, and various crafts and wares for auction, this event was an exemplary illustration of how a community can come together. The city of Forks awarded the organization an additional \$10,000 from the Forks Lodging Tax which covered all overhead and allowed all proceeds to directly benefit salmon habitat projects and keep PCSC staff employed. After a tumultuous funding year where RFEs suffered heavy losses of federal contributions, PCSC was unsure if their crew would have employment past spring 2025. With an even larger \$20,000 award from the Forks Lodging Tax in 2026, Fish N Brew is slated to find further success in the coming fall – and they have a clear line of sight to keep their crew employed through at least October 2026.



Fish N Brew entry table for guests arriving at the Ki'tla Center in Forks. Photo: Pacific Coast Salmon Coalition.

Chehalis Basin Citizen Science — Salmon Mapping



**Chehalis Basin Collaborative
for Salmon Habitat**

The freshly redesigned CBCfSH logo is the first thing you'll see when you log on to share salmon sightings.

In the Chehalis Basin, residents are often surprised there are fish in the small creeks and streams near their homes. In an effort to raise awareness of where salmon exist in the area while simultaneously gathering important salmon presence information, the Coast Salmon Partnership's spatial data analyst worked directly with the Chehalis Basin Collaborative for Salmon Habitat to develop a salmon mapping survey.

["See a salmon? Fill out this survey!"](#) is a webpage that everyone in the Chehalis Basin should keep open on their phones. On the page, residents are asked to share when and where they spot salmon in their local creeks. In addition to raising awareness about the number of places fish call home, the results will help restoration practitioners learn about salmon and stream conditions. Date and time, current weather, flow levels, and even photos are collected to pinpoint when salmon are present.

Streamfest 2025

For the second year, Coast Salmon Partnership participated in Streamfest, a longstanding river-focused festival highlighting various habitat restoration efforts throughout the area. By teaming with the North Pacific Coast lead entity this year, we engaged over 75 families and their children with a "make your own salmon bracelet" activity, an aquatic entomology display, and a multilayered map that shares various details of projects within local watersheds. All of these efforts contribute to continuing our community education and outreach campaign, Strong Salmon Future.



Anna Geffre, the lead entity coordinator for the North Pacific Coast, tables at the Coast Salmon Partnership booth with our outreach director Alex Bradberry. Photo: Alex Bradberry

PROGRESS IN SALMON RESTORATION

The Coast region is comprised of four strong lead entity areas that manage water resource inventory areas (WRIAs). Throughout 2025, we collaborated with other environmental nonprofits, tribal partners, legislators, and various stakeholders to restore valuable habitat through focusing on employing local contractors and community members. Channeling funds to the small communities that make up our region is critically important to sustaining stable, well-paying jobs for the people who thrive here. In a region where communities invest in their salmon, we see deeper connectivity to the rivers that sustain us all.

North Pacific Coast Lead Entity (WRIA 20)



Throughout 2025, collaboration and partnerships led the way for improvements to habitat throughout the North Pacific Coast lead entity area. Tribes of the area, conservation districts, the local Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group, and other stakeholders have stretched funding for maximum impact across more than 25 projects. These projects hired local contractors to support local families and the small-town economies within our region.

Project Highlight: Owl Creek

Funding: Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative, Trout Unlimited

Part of a multi-phase effort by Trout Unlimited and the Hoh Tribe to restore habitat complexity and control invasive plant species has been underway on Owl Creek, a tributary of the Hoh River. Home to coho, Chinook, steelhead, and resident trout, Owl Creek was once the site of thorough deforestation. When large wood is removed from streams, it leads to streambed scouring, diminishes the availability of deep pools, and leads to spawning areas not forming, due to the lack of available structure for sediment recruitment. By replacing wood and anchoring it with large boulders and cables, engineered log jams (ELJs) are formed. ELJs re-establish a river's ability to form gravel beds and restore valuable habitat for both juvenile and adult fish. During this project's construction phase, adult Chinook were seen actively spawning downstream from the site. We're looking forward to seeing them further upstream and into their new habitat in the coming years!



Hoh Tribe staff and local construction crews stand back while a Chinook helicopter moves logs from a staging area on a former timber site down into Owl Creek. Photo: Alex Bradberry



LEFT: Chinook helicopter with active load. Photo: Alex Bradberry. RIGHT: A spawning Chinook salmon – a few of which were spotted near the project site in September 2025. Photo: John Gussman

Quinault Indian Nation Lead Entity (WRIA 21)



In 2025, many organizations and landowners worked together to advance salmon habitat restoration in strategic areas identified by the Quinault Indian Nation (QIN). For instance, Wild Salmon Center removed a failed culvert blocking fish access into a tributary to the Raft River, and the QIN Environmental Protection Department controlled invasive plant species which damage salmon habitat in the Lower Quinault River. The QIN Fisheries Department completed a full retrospective review of 17 years' worth of floodplain restoration in the Upper Quinault River while also installing 14 new engineered log jams (ELJ) near Big Creek. This conserves Quinault blueback spawning grounds, completing nearly half of all priority ELJ placements in the Upper Quinault River.

WRIA 21's newest long-term initiative is implementing the Queets/Clearwater 2024 Resiliency Plan with strong partnerships from QIN, Wild Salmon Center, Trout Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy, Washington Department of Natural Resources, and contractors. Using funding provided by NOAA, 45 ELJs were placed by helicopter to treat about 2.2 miles of Shale Creek (right). Shale Creek is one of several major tributaries to the Clearwater River that have been degraded by historic land use and stream clearing, impacting coho and other salmon rearing habitat and productivity.



Above: One of the Natural Systems Design engineers, Eleanor, points out progress from her installation diagram. Crews work quickly and efficiently to maximize available funding. Photo: Alex Bradberry



Above: The construction lead on the water climbs over logs and boulders as a Chinook helicopter installs more structure for the ELJ in Shale Creek. Wood and boulders are placed strategically to lock the wood securely, while still allowing enough water flow for fish to pass. Left: An established jam installed in 2021, about 200 yards downstream from the 2025 jams. In the past 4 years, this jam has formed a new large pool and gravel bar. Photos by Alex Bradberry



Chehalis Basin Collaborative for Salmon Habitat (WRIA 22/23)



In the Chehalis Basin, even smaller projects can make a huge difference. By working closely with landowners, streams that flow through private property are not overlooked. With ongoing large scale restoration efforts, every project contributes towards the goal of watershed resiliency.

Project Highlight: Ripple Creek at Romerman

Funding: Recreation and Conservation Office, Lewis Conservation District

Not all projects require lengthy assessment, design, and construction phases to make a large impact. This culvert replacement on private property in the Chehalis Basin is a single-phase project that includes the design and build in one funding round. The culvert is currently 33% passable (roughly, 2/3 fish can't get through) and removal of this culvert and replacement with a 100% fish passable structure will expand the benefits from fish passage corrections Lewis County Public Works plans to do downstream.

This project was selected for funding in part because it is part of a coordinated strategy among restoration practitioners to correct upstream and downstream barriers, which ensures effective use of funding.

This project is part of a larger effort within the Stearns Creek Basin. The Chehalis Tribe is seeking grant funding for correction of upstream barriers, in coordination with Lewis County, the City of Napavine, and BNSF Railway.

As part of this project, the Lewis Conservation District will plant 360 ft of riparian area. This project will benefit coho as well as steelhead.



Fish passage barrier culvert at Ripple Creek before construction. Photo: Christa Bale



Downstream habitat below culvert. Photo: Alex Bradberry

Willapa Bay Lead Entity (WRIA 24)



While active construction and culvert removals make for shiny headlines, the work to determine where we can make the most impact is critical to ensuring long term project successes. Assessment projects are important steps to understanding how fish behave, where they reside during different life stages, and how they interact with varying habitat conditions. In Willapa Bay, this assessment potentially serves to steer habitat recovery projects for the next decade.

Project Highlight: Juvenile Fish Assessment

Funding: Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative

Designed to investigate the estuarine habitat use of juvenile salmonids, this study aims to provide a scientific basis for the selection and prioritization of future salmon habitat restoration projects within the Willapa Bay estuary. By determining relative abundance, community composition, and migration timing, areas with the highest likelihood of success can be determined and ranked, ensuring funding is allocated for the highest priority projects.



Left: The project will use beach seines to sample sites (above) throughout Willapa Bay for the three-year assessment. Above: A Chinook early outmigrant obtained while sampling. Photo: Tom Kollasch

CHINOOK SYMPOSIUM

On October 8th and 9th, at the Quinault Beach Resort in Ocean Shores, the Coast Salmon Partnership hosted the first Washington Coast Chinook Symposium. This event emerged from concerns over the declines in spring-run Chinook in the Chehalis River over the past 20 years. The event Steering Committee decided to expand the scope to explore threats across the entire geographic range and at each stage of the life cycle to identify opportunities for recovery actions. Over two days, we learned from fisheries experts in the five major spring and fall Chinook basins on the Washington coast (Chehalis, Quinault, Queets/Clearwater, Hoh, and Quillayute) and researchers undertaking critical research and monitoring of Chinook across life histories. The symposium included a full day of discussion that led to identifying data gaps, uncertainties, and actions to address population and status concerns.

Attendees collectively developed **5** different potential actions to improve outcomes for Chinook:

- 1 Comprehensive genetic sampling in the Quillayute basin to better differentiate spring, summer, and fall returning fish and use associated demographic data to identify threats
- 2 Combine archival scale samples and genetic sampling across the coast region to better assign run-timing within and across watersheds to illustrate life history diversity
- 3 A social and political campaign for range-wide action to reduce pinniped predation on salmon, including wildlife-inspired management and better research and monitoring
- 4 Use hatchery-produced and coded-wire tagged releases from the Queets River to calculate better fishery exploitation rates for spring-run Chinook to inform the Pacific Salmon Commission quota-setting process
- 5 Improve management of predatory non-native fish that consume juvenile Chinook by forming a coalition to build grassroots support, perform public outreach, and communicate with regulatory agencies



Photos (clockwise from top): 1) Attendees split into groups with varying topics of discussion to formulate plans of action. Once individual tables had formulated their respective plans, members from each table rotated throughout the room to present their ideas to others and gain insight, serving as a small-scale peer-review process. Photo: Alex Bradberry; 2) and 3) Chinook salmon near their end of life stage while spawning in a coastal river. Photos: John Gussman; 4) "The Eddy" served as a space for attendees to share their thoughts and ideas that weren't already included in the event's agenda. Photo: Alex Bradberry

This event provided a platform for productive conversation among Chinook experts across the region, and we look forward to continuing to develop next-step actions to improve the future of Washington Coast Chinook. Additional resources from the Symposium are available at this address:

CoastSalmonPartnership.org/Washington-Coast-Chinook/

LOW-TECH RESTORATION HIGHLIGHTS



1 “Grassroots” Vegetation Removal at Lake Ozette

At Lake Ozette, a crew of 50 volunteers from local agencies, tribes, and communities removed encroaching native vegetation to expose 380 m² of good-quality spawning gravel on the beaches where ESA-listed sockeye spawn. This was the fourth year of a partnership among the Makah Tribe, Olympic National Park, US Coast Guard Station Neah Bay, and the Coast Salmon Partnership that has cumulatively restored 165 linear meters of shoreline and 968 m² of beach area since 2022.

Photos by Liz Allyn: Valuable Lake Ozette Sockeye spawning grounds before and after vegetation removal efforts.

2 Hermison Wetland Restoration Project

On Hermison Creek, a tributary of the Quillayute River, the Quileute Tribe and Clallam Conservation District have been working to restore historic wetland habitat and establish a riparian buffer. Washington Conservation Corps crews helped install Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs) to add habitat complexity and increase long-term water storage on a site that is prone to seasonal drying. BDAs are designed to be temporary structures and don't require advanced engineering like ELJs, but similarly help to store sediment and create deep pools. This creek and the nearby wetland complex are excellent rearing habitat for coho, as well as a home to Olympic mudminnows, Washington's only known endemic freshwater fish species. Funding for this project was provided by the Washington State Recreation & Conservation Office and the Washington Conservation Corps Environmental Justice Program.

Photo by Alex Bradberry: A BDA installed on Hermison Creek.

3 Dickey River Spotted Jewelweed Survey

The 10,000 Years Institute (10KYI), our longtime partner in vegetation treatment and removal, is continuing work on the Dickey River in the Quillayute watershed, where a spotted jewelweed infestation has been threatening to spread. While a relatively new species to the Olympic Peninsula, spotted jewelweed is native to the east coast and is an extremely aggressive invader of wet shaded riparian habitats. Utilizing ground crews from [Pulling Together In Restoration](#) as well as volunteers, the 10KYI crew continues a tactic they found successful on the Hoh, where a spotted jewelweed infestation was curbed in 2019.

Photos by Alex Bradberry: LEFT: Spotted jewelweed, a stubborn invasive weed that spreads quickly and easily through watersheds due to its seed dispersal methods. RIGHT: A 10KYI crew carefully removes seeds and flowers from an existing spotted jewelweed plant on the Dickey.

4 Calawah Prioritized Watershed Restoration – Riparian Protection

This Riparian Restoration project is in a priority watershed with the highest Chinook and steelhead intrinsic potential. It will improve riparian successional processes and protect aquatic ecosystem function and investments in restoration through a whole-watershed treatment of invasive plants. This treatment eliminates sources of invasive seeds and propagules from roads which spread with water, wind, human and animal vectors to new sites from which they impact the diversity and services of native plant communities. Covering 46 miles of road, 128 miles of river, and approximately 200 acres of floodplain complexes, crews from 10KYI have steadily been tackling species such as everlasting pea vine, reed canarygrass, and more.

Photo by Alex Bradberry: A 10KYI crewmate precisely applies a specific cocktail of herbicide to eradicate reed canarygrass; another invasive plant found during this project.

5 Bockman Creek Sub-Watershed Restoration

The planning of low-tech wood placements into headwater tributaries of Bockman Creek, a Sol Duc River tributary, aims habitat complexity and diversity to otherwise intact habitat for Chinook and steelhead. This Wild Salmon Center project utilizes Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative funds to plan dramatic improvements to the watershed with a low-cost approach.

Photo by Alex Bradberry: Pristine headwater spawning habitat for fall Chinook, fall coho, winter steelhead, and cutthroat trout is now accessible to more fish and has more complex riparian habitat to support various life stages.

6 Schafer Creek Headwaters Restoration

Aimed at restoring the hydrological processes of up to 10 miles of Schafer Creek, this project has led to the installation of post-assisted log structures, similar to BDAs, to raise the water table and increase alluvial storage. This work benefits water quality by regulating temperature and aiding in sediment retention, and habitat diversity. Schafer Creek is an important tributary of the Wynoochee River, and is a continuation of the successful Schafer Creek Pilot Project. Grays Harbor Conservation District has teamed with Trout Unlimited and Green Diamond Resource Co. to progress on this Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative project.

Photo by Alex Bradberry: One of dozens of post-assisted log structures installed within the Headwaters of Schafer Creek. Placed to maximize water storage, these structures allow for more consistent summer flows when the area is experiencing drought.



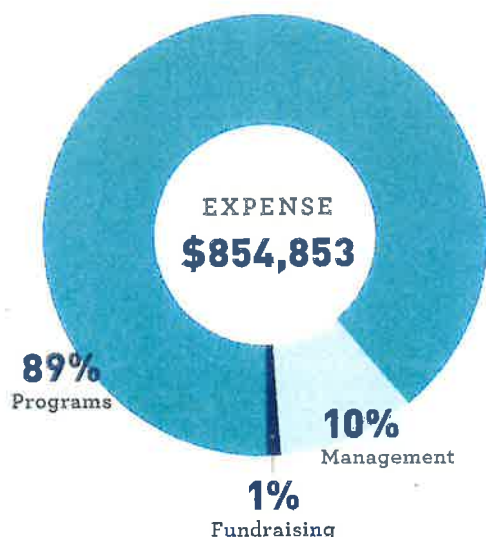
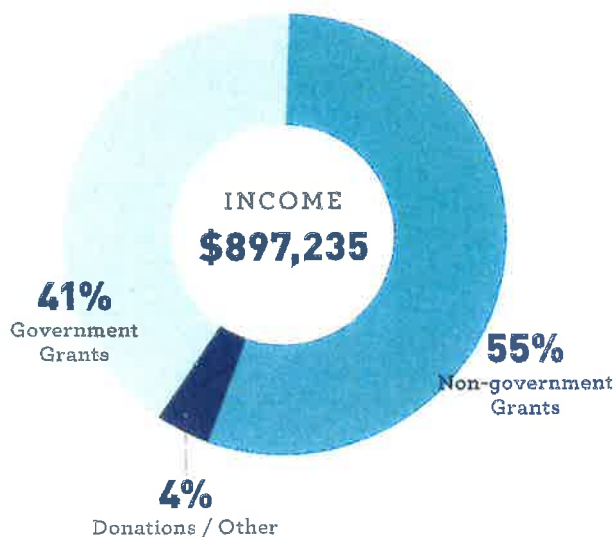
COAST SALMON FOUNDATION

The Washington Coast Sustainable Salmon Foundation (Coast Salmon Foundation) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit and fiscal sponsor of the Coast Salmon Partnership. The Foundation secures diverse public and private funds to empower the Partnership's durable salmon recovery outcomes in watersheds throughout the Washington Coast Region.

FINANCIALS

for the fiscal year 2024-2025

Statement of Activities



GRANT FUNDING

Burning Foundation
Harder Foundation
Margaret Keyes Trust
Resources Legacy Fund
Trout Unlimited
Wild Salmon Center
WA Recreation & Conservation Office
WA Dept of Fish & Wildlife

OTHER DONORS

Natural Systems Design
South Sound Fly Fishers
Target Circle
Washington Association of Retired Fish and Wildlife Employees
And many generous individuals!



Along with the incorporation of Dr. Jane Atha as our Executive Director in 2025, we also welcomed our salmon recovery coordinator Liz Allyn on full-time. Paired with the recent addition of a new program director, Conor Leahy, and our longer term staff Christa Bale (administrative assistant), Alex Bradberry (outreach director), and Vanessa LaValle (Special Data Analyst), 2026 is shaping up to build a Strong Salmon Future on the Washington Coast! (left to right: Bale, Allyn, Atha, Bradberry, LaValle, and Leahy)
Photo: Alex Bradberry



COAST SALMON
FOUNDATION

CONTACT

Jane Atha
Executive Director
Coast Salmon Partnership and Foundation
jane@coastsalmonpartnership.org

Coast Salmon Foundation
100 South I St, Suite 103
Aberdeen, WA 98520
360-532-9113

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 [/coastsalmonfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/coastsalmonfoundation)

VISIT US ONLINE. LEARN MORE. SUPPORT OUR WORK.

www.coastsalmonpartnership.org