

Fund the Green River Fish Passage Facility Project

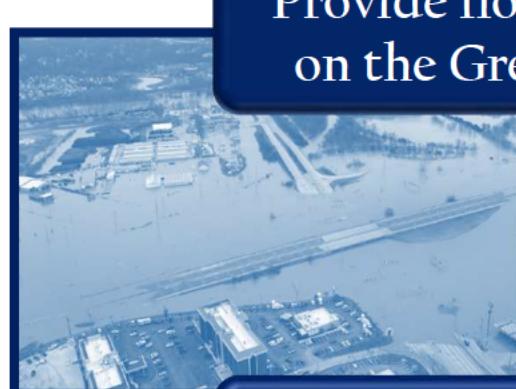
For more than 60 years the US Army Corps of Engineers Howard A. Hanson Dam on the Green River has blocked salmon and steelhead from utilizing over 100 miles of prime spawning and rearing habitat. Completion of the proposed downstream fish passage project will produce more salmon than any other project in the entire Puget Sound region.

Immediate action is needed to provide federal funding to complete the Additional Water Storage Project (AWSP) Phase 1..

ACTION TODAY CAN...



Protect our Salmon and Orca populations



Provide flood control on the Green River.



Ensure adequate water supply for millions.

Fund the Green River Fish Passage Facility Project



What's the Issue?

Howard A. Hanson Dam (HAHD) is an earthen dam, 21 miles east of Auburn. The dam was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1950 and completed in 1962.

The Howard A. Hanson Dam serves multiple purposes by providing flood risk reduction, municipal water supply and summer and fall low flow augmentation for fish.

A downstream fish passage and additional water storage project for Tacoma Water was congressionally authorized in 1999. The Green River serves as Tacoma Water's primary water supply. Construction began in 2003 on the fish passage which is authorized as an ecosystem restoration feature. Work stopped on the passage project in 2011 because costs were projected to exceed congressionally authorized funding limits and require reauthorization to obtain more funding.

A Feb. 15, 2019, biological opinion (BiOp) issued by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) found that the construction of a downstream fish passage facility at the dam was necessary for the recovery of salmon and steelhead stocks and the recovery of Southern resident orcas.

A 2020 bipartisan Washington congressional delegation sent a letter to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requesting that the next phase of the Howard A. Hanson Dam project be funded and prioritized in the FY2020 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Work Plan.

Other priorities have prevented the AWSP Phase 1 from moving forward. The time for action is now to protect the Lower Green River Sub-watershed from flooding, increase drinking water storage capacity, and uphold the federal government's trust responsibilities to impacted Tribes.

Securing Federal Funding to Complete AWSP Phase I means...

Fish Habitat Restoration



Completing the activities outlined in the NOAA Fisheries BiOp would provide over 100 miles of necessary salmon and steelhead habitat. The additional habitat will increase salmon populations and support Southern resident orcas currently listed under the Endangered Species Act.

River flows are too low now without help from water stored behind the dam. By storing more water, the river can be maintained to meet consistent higher flows during dryer periods, when needed most by fish and people.

Warming climate also means warmer water which is not good for native fish. Storing water to deeper depths provides colder water which is needed during critical salmon runs. Increased storage behind HAHD provides a great opportunity for colder water due to steep topography.

NOAA ordered fish passage be in place and operational at the Howard A. Hanson Dam no later than 2030.



Completing this project opens more habitat than what was opened by the celebrated Elwha Dam removal project.

Securing Federal Funding to Complete AWSP Phase I means...

Flood Control



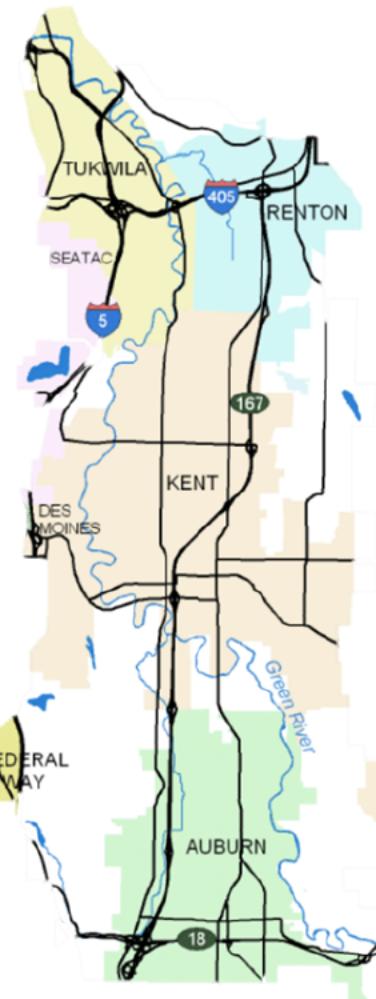
Warming climate also means increased flooding. HAHD was built to prevent devastating floods more than 60 years ago. It cannot meet today's risk.

According to the U.S Army Corp of Engineers the reduced flood storage capacity at HAHD has resulted in more frequent and larger volume releases during flood events, which increases the probability that levees in the Lower Green River Sub-watershed could be overtopped.

To date HAHD has prevented \$21 billion in flood damage in the Lower Green River Sub-watershed, which includes the cities of Tukwila, Renton, Kent, and Auburn. This area is the second largest warehousing district on the west coast; and vital to regional and national supply chains.

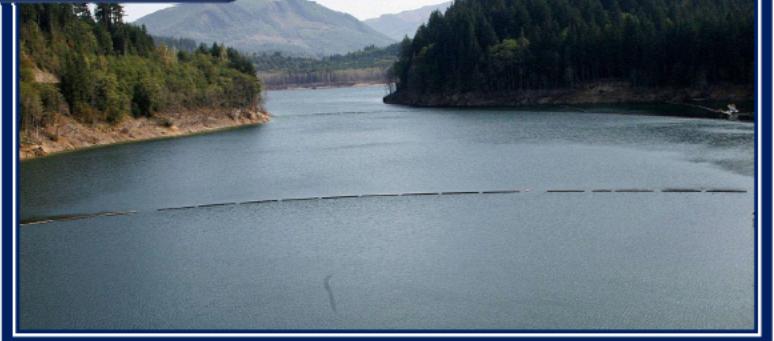
Lower Green River Sub-watershed Facts:

- Human Population 172,983 (2009 estimate)
- Primary land uses:
 - Residential (50%)
 - Industrial (17%)
 - Commercial (10%)
- Mean annual discharge over 2,000 cubic feet per second



Securing Federal Funding to Complete AWSP Phase I means...

Water Supply



We don't have a water shortage problem; we have a water storage problem.

Currently during the rainy season, we waste excess water to the Puget Sound. Approval of AWSP will provide the flexibility of adding 10 feet of additional storage behind HAHD when Phase 2 of the project is enacted. This water can be put to beneficial use during the dry seasons and will keep Green River levels more viable and healthier for fish.

With warming climate there is less snow and rainfall; we need to store more water than ever before to get through drought periods.

Population growth and climatic conditions requiring water resources have outgrown availability during the dry months. Storing excess wet season water to use during the dry season benefits salmon, plants, wildlife, pollution control, agriculture, recreation, and people.

Regional Water Supply System (RWSS) partners (Tacoma Public Utilities, City of Kent, Covington Water District, & Lakehaven Water and Sewer District) have invested more than \$400 million for supply and treatment facilities necessary to provide clean drinking water to the area in anticipation of funding. Additionally, RWSS partners have worked diligently to improve the ecosystem within the watershed, making improvements upstream and downstream of the diversion(s). For these investments to be realized the HAHD project must be funded.

**Our future depends
on action today!**



Howard Hanson Dam



Time for Action

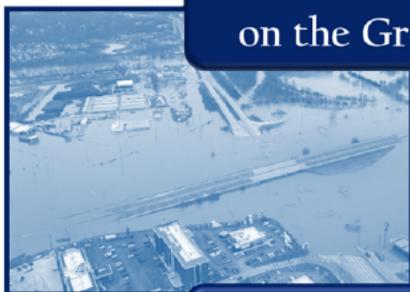
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Water is life.

There is plenty for all IF we store and use it wisely.

Past decision-making paralysis has proven costly. The bill is being paid by our salmon and orca populations. If we continue, we can be assured our future problem will only get worse and impact all of us.

How can you make a difference?

Further discussions with the Army Corp of Engineers should be prioritized to demonstrate the array of benefits associated with AWSP Phase 1 and to secure federal funding in support of this critical project.

For more information



Vision of Tomorrow | Action Today

Marc Marcantonio
Fish Passage Liaison
(253) 259-5590

marc.marcantonio@covingtonwater.com
www.covingtonwater.com