

The Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act of 2008



Supporters

States and Counties:

- Washington Salmon Recovery Office
- Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Oregon Governor's Office
- Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Idaho Office of Species Conservation
- California Department of Fish and Game
- Chelan County Dept. of Natural Resources
- Illinois Valley Soil & Water Conservation District

Individuals:

- Bill Ruckelshaus, Madrona Venture Group
- Bill Neukom, K & L Gates
- David Montgomery, University of Washington
- John Kitzhaber, former Governor of Oregon
- Peter Moyle, UC Davis

Tribal Governments:

- Quinault Indian Nation
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians

NGOs and Fishing Associations:

- Wild Salmon Center
- Trout Unlimited
- The Nature Conservancy
- Pacific Coast Federation of Fisherman's Associations
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- Sierra Club
- Ecotrust
- Cascade Lands Conservancy
- American Whitewater
- Oregon WaterWatch
- Oregon Wild
- Oregon Natural Desert Association
- Oregon Trout
- California Trout
- Smith River Alliance
- Cape Blanco Challenge

The Pacific Salmon Stronghold Conservation Act of 2008 will establish a federal program to support the protection and restoration of a network of the healthiest remaining wild Pacific salmon ecosystems in North America—"Salmon Strongholds." These Salmon Strongholds will sustain core centers of wild salmon abundance, productivity and diversity, reflecting a basic principle of conservation biology: protect the best, first.

This Act will complement efforts to recover threatened and endangered stocks by directly supporting public-private incentive-based efforts to maintain strong "seed" stocks, sustaining the economic, ecological, cultural, and health benefits of wild Pacific salmon for future generations.

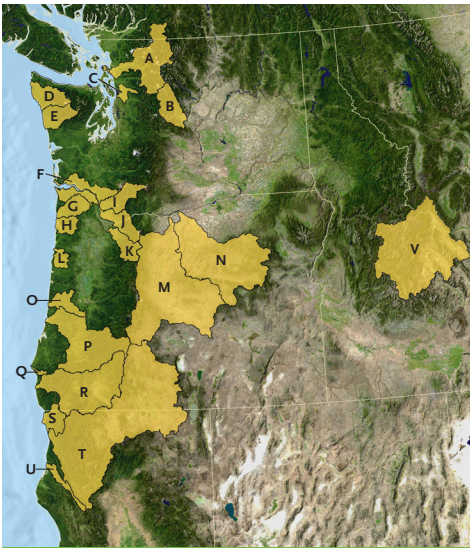
What will this legislation do?

- 1) **Provide statutory direction** to focus resources on protection of healthy Pacific Salmon Strongholds, complementing existing recovery efforts
- 2) **Leverage private funding** to support cooperative conservation in stronghold basins
- 3) **Streamline delivery** of incentive-based programs in Salmon Strongholds
- 4) **Enhance coordination** among federal, state, and local governments, tribes, non-governmental organizations and other entities to implement an effective wild salmon conservation strategy
- 5) **Save billions of dollars** in future restoration, stock rebuilding, and emergency funding, by making strategic investments in the highest value conservation actions within Salmon Strongholds

How will this benefit West Coast communities?

This Act will protect key production zones for commercial, recreational, and tribal salmon fisheries, thereby:

- Sustaining thousands of jobs
- Maintaining vibrant fishing communities
- Safeguarding millions of dollars in related economic activity
- Preserving a source of sustainably harvested local seafood



Current Identified Salmon Stronghold Basins

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Skagit | K. Clackamas |
| B. Wenatchee | L. Siletz |
| C. Snohomish | M. Deschutes |
| D. Upper Olympic Peninsula | N. John Day |
| E. Lower Olympic Peninsula | O. Siuslaw |
| F. Columbia Estuary | P. Umpqua |
| G. Nehalem | Q. Elk River |
| H. Tillamook Basin | R. Rogue Basin |
| I. Lewis | S. Smith |
| J. Sandy | T. Lower Klamath Basin |
| | U. Mad River |
| | V. Upper Salmon |

How will this work on the ground?

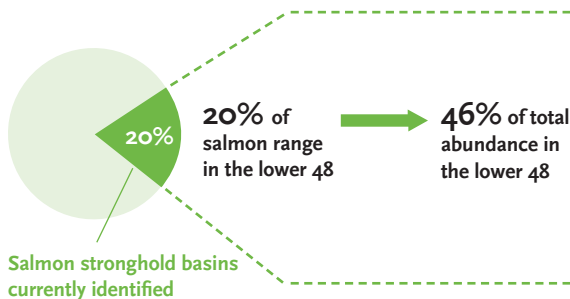
1. Partners identify biologically important strongholds based on scientific criteria
2. Local stakeholders within stronghold basins obtain Partnership endorsement
3. Partners review existing conservation plans to identify limiting factors and focal areas
4. Partnership works with local stakeholders to develop and implement high impact conservation projects capable of achieving long term protection on a finite timeline and budget
5. Partnership supports project implementation (enhancing coordination, leveraging funding, improving delivery mechanisms, providing technical expertise)

Focus on core centers of wild salmon abundance and diversity

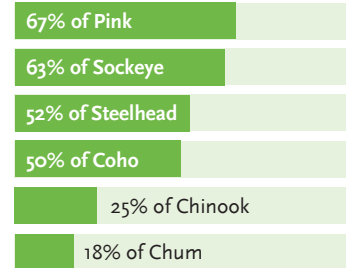
Based on expert scientific opinion, the North American Salmon Stronghold Partnership has identified Pacific Salmon Strongholds in the lower 48 states. Criteria include abundance, productivity, wildness and diversity. Alaska, as a regional salmon stronghold, will target program resources to the highest priority conservation actions and policies identified by federal, state, tribal and private entities.

Currently identified Pacific Salmon Strongholds cover approximately 20 percent of the existing range of Pacific salmon in the lower 48 states. By focusing on this 20 percent, we will conserve nearly half of the total abundance of salmon in this region.

Existing Salmon Range in the lower 48 states*



Existing Salmon Abundance in the lower 48 states*



* Based on data from Pacific Salmon Conservation Assessment

For more information, please contact:

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Sample Project Proposals

WENATCHEE BASIN

Chinook, Steelhead and Sockeye Stronghold in WA

Large multi-jurisdictional land exchange to protect riparian corridor



ILLINOIS (ROGUE) BASIN

Chinook, Steelhead and Coho Stronghold in OR

Stream channel and floodplain restoration to protect critical spawning and rearing areas



SMITH RIVER BASIN

Chinook, Steelhead and Coho Stronghold in CA

Voluntary land acquisition in headwaters to protect key spawning areas; support monitoring of escapement to basin; flood plain restoration

