



# Irrigation Efficiencies Grants Program

*A bridge between irrigated agriculture, salmon, and the community*

*Washington's IEGP*

## What have we done so far?

62

Projects completed

16,000+

Acre feet of water saved

66

Cubic feet per second of  
stream flow returned

23

Critical tributaries where stream  
flow has been enhanced



The Irrigation Efficiencies Grants Program (IEGP) provides an effective, voluntary solution that improves on-farm irrigation and helps vulnerable salmonid populations. Water-right holders use program funding and resources to increase the efficiency of their on-farm water application and conveyance systems. The saved water is returned to drought-prone streams that are home to ESA-listed fish species, without risk of relinquishing the irrigator's water right.

### How it works

- Eligible participants must have valid water rights in one of 16 identified fish-critical basins.
- Program pays up to 85 percent of total costs for landowners to implement prescribed best management practices that increase the efficiency of crop water delivery to irrigated agriculture (up to \$400,000 per contract).
- On-farm projects receive Irrigation Water Management planning.
- Source metering and fish screening prescribed as appropriate.
- Pro-rated portion of saved water is transferred to the state's Trust Water Rights program for in-stream flows (proration based on cost share amount).

### Program administration

At the local-level, conservation district staff work with program participants to design and implement effective and site-specific solutions.

State funding for the IEGP is appropriated to the Department of Ecology. The Washington State Conservation Commission (SCC) administers funding to conservation districts and provides state-level planning and coordination.

### More information:

- IEGP background and eligibility: [www.scc.wa.gov/iegp/](http://www.scc.wa.gov/iegp/)
- About the Washington State Conservation Commission: [www.scc.wa.gov/about-the-commission/](http://www.scc.wa.gov/about-the-commission/)
- About conservation districts: [www.scc.wa.gov/about-the-districts/](http://www.scc.wa.gov/about-the-districts/)