



The purpose of this project is to investigate the direct financial outcomes of urban floodplain restoration on local and state budgets. In communities across Puget Sound, river valleys and historic floodplains are often the epicenter of competing interests - pitting economic development against restoration efforts. **That is not the full story.**

Our research shows that when properly designed floodplain restoration can have substantial economic benefits for communities through:

- **Reduced flood risk and lower flood insurance rates**
- **Increased property values**
- **Increased high value development outside of the floodplain**
- **Increased jobs and economic activity**
- **Increased business and employee attraction and retention**
- **Increased tax revenue**

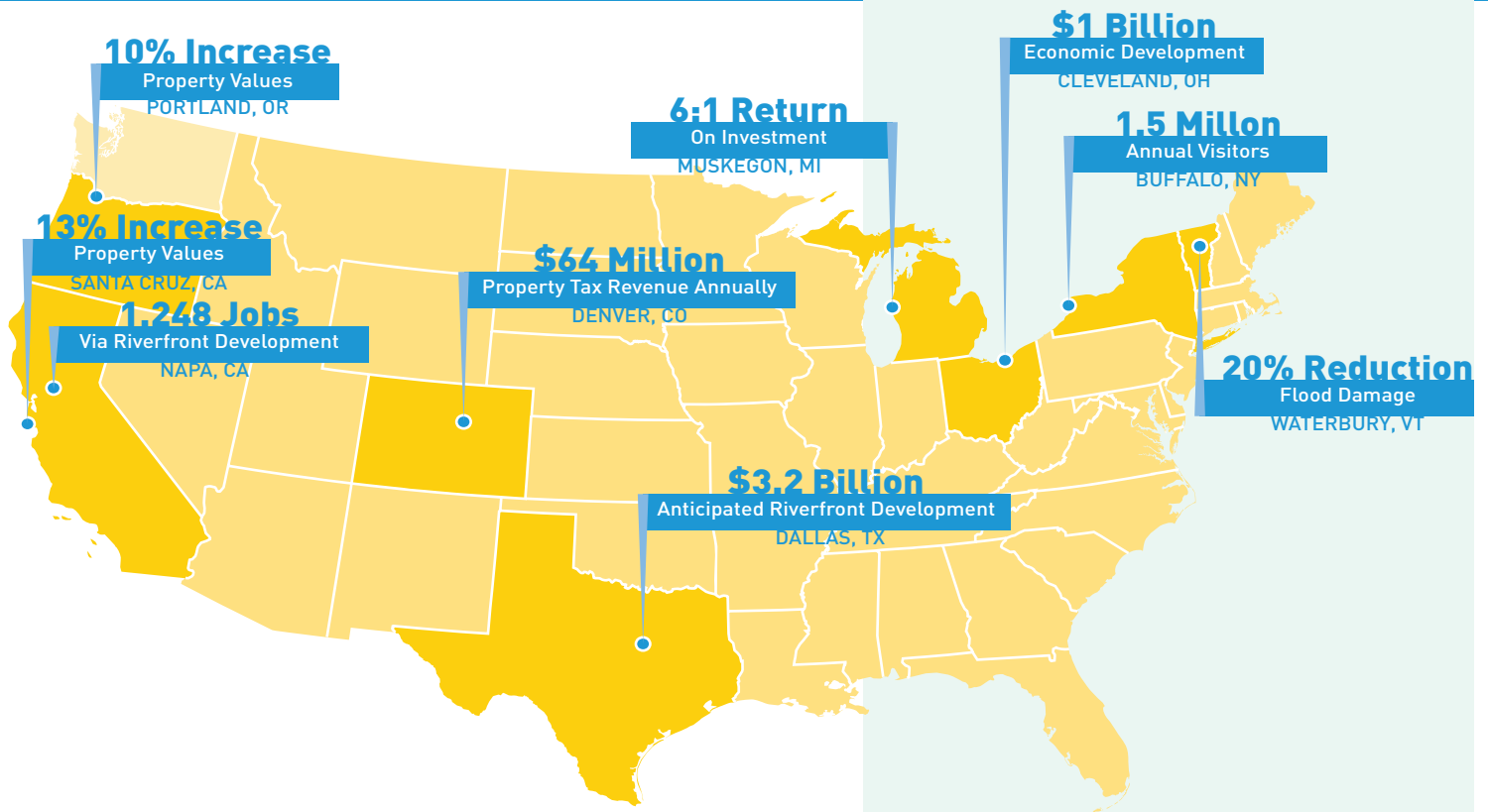
KEY FINDINGS

Restoring floodplains and promoting economic activity are not mutually exclusive.

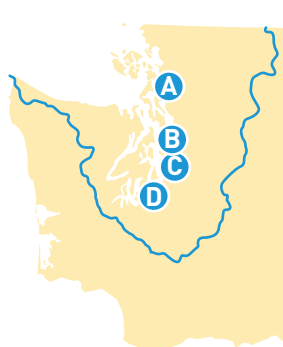
When planned appropriately, the benefits of floodplain restoration outweigh the costs, yielding positive net impacts on local and state budgets.

Successful urban floodplain restoration is designed to improve local ecosystems, reduce flood risk and improve quality of life.

NATIONAL PRECEDENTS



PUGET SOUND EXAMPLES



- A Fisher Slough Restoration**
\$9.1 - \$20.6 Million in Economic Benefits
- B Thornton Creek Restoration**
\$166,000 to \$1.46 Million in Ecosystem Services
- C North Winds Weir**
24 full-time jobs and \$3.5 Million in Economic Output
- D Thea Foss Waterway**
2 to 1 Return on Investment & \$67.3 M in Tax Revenue

PARTNERS

This project is made possible by the generous support of our funding partners:

- King County Flood Control District
- Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) #9
- The Urban Waters Federal Partnership
- The Russell Family Foundation
- The Bullitt Foundation

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