



Financial Assistance Programs for Family Forests



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Financial Assistance Programs for Family Forests

| | |
|---|----|
| Cost-share Programs..... | 2 |
| Family Forest Fish Passage Program | 2 |
| Landowner Incentives Program..... | 2 |
| Environmental Quality Incentives Program..... | 3 |
| Forest Land Enhancement Program..... | 3 |
| Wetland Reserve Program | 4 |
| Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program..... | 4 |
| Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program..... | 5 |
| Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program | 5 |
| Conservation of Private Grazing Land Program | 6 |
| Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program..... | 6 |
| Grant Programs | 8 |
| Private Stewardship Program..... | 8 |
| Five-star Restoration Challenge Grants | 8 |
| Eastern Washington Pheasant Habitat Enhancement Program..... | 9 |
| NFWF Challenge Grants | 9 |
| Conservation Easements, Land Trusts and Purchase of Development Rights Programs..... | 10 |
| Forestry Riparian Easement Program | 10 |
| Forest Legacy Program..... | 10 |
| Riparian Open Space Program | 10 |
| Pacific Forest Trust..... | 11 |
| Land Trust Alliance..... | 11 |
| Riparian Open Space Program | 12 |
| Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund: Recovery Land Acquisition Grant..... | 12 |
| Purchase of Development Rights and Transfer of Development Rights..... | 13 |
| Small Business Development Programs | 14 |
| USDA Rural Business Development Program..... | 14 |
| Northwest Certified Forestry..... | 14 |

Information compiled by:
Small Forest Landowner Office
PO Box 47012
Olympia, WA 98504-7012
Ph: 360-902-1415
sflo@wadnr.gov
www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo

Cost-share Programs

Family Forest Fish Passage Program

Deadline for Enrollment: June 30th annually

Administered By: Department of Natural Resources, Department of Fish & Wildlife, Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation

Program Description:

The Family Forest Fish Passage Program provides 75%-100% of the cost of fixing fish barriers on qualifying family forestlands. To qualify for the program a landowner must be a small forest landowner (who harvests less than two million board feet of timber per year), the project must be on forestland and on a fish-bearing stream, and the project must be associated with a forest road.

Eligible Practices:

- Removing, repairing or replacing artificial instream structures such as culverts, dams, weirs, spillways, puncheons, etc.
- Assessing instream structures to confirm they are fish barriers
- Technical assistance with determining appropriate fish passage structures

Contact information:

Small Forest Landowner Office

P.O. Box 47012

Olympia, WA 98504-7012

Ph: (360) 902-1404

Fx: (360) 902-1428

sflo@wadnr.gov

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo/fffpp>

Landowner Incentives Program

Deadline for Enrollment: December Annually

Administered By: Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

Program Description:

The Landowner Incentives Program is a competitive cost-share program that provides financial assistance to private landowners for the protection and restoration of habitat to benefit species at risk on private lands.

Eligible Practices:

- Snag creation
- Conservation easements
- Large woody debris placement
- Fish barrier removal
- Planting trees, shrubs and other vegetation for habitat enhancement
- And other activities...

Contact information:

WDFW Wildlife Program

600 Capitol Way North

Olympia, WA 98501-1091
(360) 902-2478
<http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/lands/lip/>

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered By: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Program Description:

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program provides technical, educational, and financial assistance to eligible landowners to address soil, water, and related natural resource concerns on their lands in an environmentally beneficial and cost-effective manner. The program provides assistance in complying with Federal, State, and tribal environmental laws, and encourages environmental enhancement. The purposes of the program are achieved through the implementation of a conservation plan which includes structural, vegetative, and land management practices on eligible land. Five- to ten-year contracts are made with eligible landowners. Cost-share payments may be made to implement one or more eligible practices.

Eligible Practices:

- ◆ Establishing filter strips to reduce sedimentation
- ◆ Repairing/replacing fish-blocking culverts
- ◆ Reducing sediments from forest roads
- ◆ Tree planting to improve wildlife habitat

Contact information:

Natural Resources Conservation Service
316 W. Boone Ave., Suite 450
Spokane, WA 99201-2348
Ph: 509-323-2900
<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Forest Land Enhancement Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered By: Washington State Forest Stewardship Program

Program Description:

The Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) is a federally-funded program created by the 2002 Farm Bill to provide financial, technical, and educational assistance to family forest landowners to help them better manage their forested lands.

Eligible Practices:

- ◆ Forest Stewardship Plan preparation by private consultant
- ◆ Afforestation and Reforestation
- ◆ Forest Stand Improvement
- ◆ Water Quality and Watershed Improvement
- ◆ Fish and Wildlife Habitat Improvement
- ◆ Forest Health, Invasive Species Control
- ◆ Wildfire and Catastrophic Event Risk Reduction, Wildfire and Catastrophic Event Rehabilitation

Contact information:

WA State Department of Natural Resources
Forest Stewardship Program
Steve Gibbs
P.O. Box 47037
Olympia, WA 98504-7037
Phone: (360) 902-1706
FAX: (360) 902-1757
E-mail: sghh490@wadnr.gov

Wetland Reserve Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered By: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Program Description:

The Wetlands Reserve Program is a voluntary program to restore wetlands. Participating landowners can establish conservation easements of either permanent or 30-year duration, or can enter into restoration cost-share agreements where no easement is involved. In exchange for establishing a permanent easement, the landowner receives payment up to the agricultural value of the land and 100 percent of the restoration costs for restoring the wetlands. The 30-year easement payment is 75 percent of what would be provided for a permanent easement on the same site and 75 percent of the restoration cost. The voluntary agreements are for a minimum 10-year duration and provide for 75 percent of the cost of restoring the involved wetlands. Easements and restoration cost-share agreements establish wetland protection and restoration as the primary land use for the duration of the easement or agreement. In all instances, landowners continue to control access to their land.

Eligible Practices:

- ◆ Wetland restoration or enhancement

Contact information:

Natural Resources Conservation Service
316 W. Boone Ave., Suite 450
Spokane, WA 99201-2348
Ph: 509-323-2900
<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered By: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Program Description:

The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program provides financial incentives to develop habitat for fish and wildlife on private lands. Participants agree to implement a wildlife habitat development plan and USDA agrees to provide cost-share assistance for the initial implementation of wildlife habitat development practices. USDA and program participants enter into a cost-share agreement for wildlife habitat development. This agreement generally lasts a minimum of 10 years from the date that the contract is signed. Landowners agree to limit uses of land for length of contract.

Eligible Practices: Upland and riparian wildlife habitat improvement projects

Contact information:

Natural Resources Conservation Service
316 W. Boone Ave., Suite 450
Spokane, WA 99201-2348
Ph: 509-323-2900
<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

Deadline for Enrollment: September annually

Administered By: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Program

Program Description:

The PFW is a voluntary habitat restoration program that provides financial and technical assistance to private landowners, Tribes and other conservation partners in Western Washington. PFW focuses on restoring habitat for migratory birds, anadromous fish, and declining plant and animal species.

Eligible Practices:

Projects may include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ planting native trees and shrubs and other vegetation;
- ◆ installing fencing and off-stream livestock watering facilities;
- ◆ restoring wetland hydrology;
- ◆ removal of exotic plants.

Contact information:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Paco Rodriguez
360-753-4066
julio_rodriguez@fws.gov
<http://www.fws.gov/partners/>

Chehalis Fisheries Restoration Program

Deadline for Enrollment: September annually

Administered By: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Program Description:

The CFRP's goal is to recover Chehalis Basin fisheries by forming partnerships with private landowners, non-profit organizations, and local, tribal, and state agencies and implementing habitat restoration, habitat assessment, and public education projects. Projects located in watersheds that are in relatively good condition, have ongoing focused restoration efforts, and that have a complete watershed assessment will be given priority for on-the-ground projects. For assessment projects, priority will be given to projects that fill identified data gaps in existing watershed assessments. For outreach projects, priority will be given to projects that are established and successful or that are new and innovative.

Projects that are located within the Chehalis River Basin, including Grays Harbor and tributaries, are eligible for funding.

Eligible Practices:

- ◆ Any projects that contribute to the restoration of habitat for fish species in the Chehalis River Basin

Contact information:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Program

Brian Peck

360-753-8084

brian_peck@fws.gov

Conservation of Private Grazing Land Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered By: Natural Resource Conservation Service

Program Description:

The Conservation of Private Grazing Land Program (CPGL) is a voluntary program that helps owners and managers of private grazing land address natural resource concerns while enhancing the economic and social stability of grazing land enterprises and the rural communities that depend on them. CPGL provides for technical assistance from NRCS to owners and managers of private grazing land to voluntarily conserve or enhance their resources to meet ecological, economic, and social demands. This program does not include financial assistance.

Eligible Practices:

- Maintaining and improving private grazing land and its management;
- Implementing grazing land management technologies;
- Protecting and improving the quality and quantity of water;
- Enhancing recreational opportunities;
- Maintaining and improving the aesthetic character of private grazing land;
- Identifying opportunities and encouraging diversification; and
- Encouraging the use of sustainable grazing systems.

Contact information:

Natural Resources Conservation Service

316 W. Boone Ave., Suite 450

Spokane, WA 99201-2348

Ph: 509-323-2900

<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered By: Natural Resources Conservation Service

Program Description: The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program reduces soil erosion, protects the Nation's ability to produce food and fiber, reduces sedimentation in streams and lakes, improves water quality, establishes wildlife habitat, and enhances forest and wetland resources. It encourages farmers to convert highly erodible cropland or other environmentally sensitive acreage to vegetative cover, such as tame or native grasses, wildlife plantings, trees, filterstrips, or riparian buffers. Farmers receive an annual rental payment for the term of the multi-year contract. Cost sharing is provided to establish the vegetative cover practices.

Eligible Practices:

- ◆ Reforestation of riparian areas
- ◆ Fencing

Contact information:

Natural Resources Conservation Service

316 W. Boone Ave., Suite 450

Spokane, WA 99201-2348

Ph: 509-323-2900

<http://www.wa.nrcs.usda.gov/>

Grant Programs

Private Stewardship Program

Deadline for Enrollment: January annually

Administered By: U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Program Description:

The Private Stewardship Program provides grants and other assistance on a competitive basis to individuals and groups engaged in local, private, and voluntary conservation efforts that benefit federally listed, proposed, or candidate species, or other at-risk species. Eligible projects include those by landowners and their partners who need technical and financial assistance to improve habitat or implement other activities on private lands for the benefit of endangered, threatened, candidate, proposed, or other at-risk species.

Eligible Practices:

- ◆ Restoring natural hydrology to streams or wetlands that support imperiled species
- ◆ Fencing to exclude animals from sensitive habitats
- ◆ Planting native vegetation to restore degraded habitat

Contact information:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Leanne Weidimeyer

510 Desmond Drive SE, Ste. 102

Lacey, WA 98503-1263

Ph: 360-753-9536

http://endangered.fws.gov/grants/private_stewardship.html

Five-star Restoration Challenge Grants

Deadline for Enrollment: March annually

Administered By: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Program Description:

The Five-Star Restoration Program provides modest financial assistance on a competitive basis to support community-based wetland, riparian, and coastal habitat restoration projects that build diverse partnerships and foster local natural resource stewardship through education, outreach, and training activities.

Projects should involve diverse partnerships of ideally five organizations that contribute funding, land, technical assistance, workforce support, and/or other in-kind services.

Eligible Practices:

Projects must include a strong on-the-ground wetland, riparian, or coastal habitat restoration component and should also include education, outreach, and community stewardship components.

Contact information:

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Suzanne Piluso

503-417-8700

Suzanne.Piluso@nfwf.org

<http://nfwf.org/programs/5star-rfp.htm>

Eastern Washington Pheasant Habitat Enhancement Program

Deadline for Enrollment: December annually

Administered By: WA Department of Fish & Wildlife

Program Description:

The 1997 Washington State Legislature passed Substitute Senate Bill 5104 creating the Washington Pheasant Enhancement Program in order to increase pheasant hunting opportunities. Under this law, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is authorized to release pheasants and award grants to improve pheasant habitat. To fund this program \$10 from the small game license of each eastern Washington pheasant hunter is placed in a special account. Up to 20% of these funds may be used for pheasant habitat enhancement; approximately \$50,000 will be available annually for habitat projects.

Eligible Practices:

For pheasant habitat enhancement in areas that will be available for public hunting in Eastern Washington.

Contact information:

WDFW

600 Capitol Way N,

Olympia, WA 98501-1091

(360) 902-2515

<http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/grants/enhance.htm>

NFWF Challenge Grants

Deadline for Enrollment: April annually

Administered By: National Fish & Wildlife Foundation

Program Description:

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation funds projects to conserve and restore fish, wildlife, and native plants through matching grant programs. The Foundation awards matching grants to projects that address priority actions promoting fish and wildlife conservation and the habitats on which they depend, work proactively to involve other conservation and community interests, leverage Foundation-provided funding, and evaluate project outcomes. Federal, state, and local governments, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations are welcomed to apply for a general matching grant throughout the year, using the General Matching Grant Guidelines.

Eligible Practices:

- ◆ Broad range of fish & wildlife habitat restoration

Contact information:

NFWF Northwest Regional Office

806 SW Broadway, Suite 750

Portland, OR 97205

Phone: 503-417-8700

<http://www.nfwf.org/guidelines.cfm>

Conservation Easements, Land Trusts and Purchase of Development Rights Programs

Forestry Riparian Easement Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open Enrollment

Administered By: DNR's Small Forest Landowner Office

Program Description:

Pays a minimum of 50% of the stumpage value for trees that must be left in riparian areas in accordance to the state forest practices rules. In exchange for being compensated, landowners enroll trees in a 50-year easement.

Contact information:

WA State Department of Natural Resources

Small Forest Landowner Office

360-902-1427

dan.pomerenk@wadnr.gov

www.dnr.wa.gov/sflo/frep

Forest Legacy Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open Enrollment

Administered By: WA State DNR & U.S. Forest Service

Program Description:

The Forest Legacy Program is a federal grant program to protect forestlands from conversion to non-forest uses. In Washington State, the program is guided by the US Forest Service and carried out through the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR). Through the program, federal grants pay for conservation easements and other means that prevent development. The Forest Legacy Program provides for both traditional forest uses and the protection of water, cultural resources, fish and wildlife.

Contact information:

Department of Natural Resources

Forest Legacy Program

P.O. Box 47014,

Olympia, WA 98504-7014

forest.legacy@wadnr.gov

http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/amp/forest_legacy/legacyhome.html

Riparian Open Space Program

Deadline for Enrollment: Open Enrollment

Administered By: WA State DNR

Program Description:

The Riparian Open Space Program is a new program funded by the Washington state legislature to provide options for landowners with timber within unconfined avulsing river channel migration zones. Qualifying landowners can apply to donate or sell their land and/or timber in designated forest land that exists along migrating stream channels. There are also options to sell the state permanent conservation easements covering the timber and/or forestland. The Riparian Open Space Program will help provide ecological

protection and fisheries enhancement while compensating landowners prohibited under state Forests & Fish rules from harvesting timber on riparian land isolated by river channels that have migrated over time.

Contact information:

Department of Natural Resources
Riparian Open Space Program
P.O. Box 47014,
Olympia, WA 98504-7014
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 47014
Olympia, WA 98504-7014
360-902-1059
omroa.bhagwandin@wadnr.gov
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/amp/riparian/>

Pacific Forest Trust

Deadline for Enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered By: Pacific Forest Trust

Program Description:

The Pacific Forest Trust works in partnership with landowners, private investors, government agencies and communities to secure the lasting conservation of private, productive forestlands. As part of our Land Trust Services, the Pacific Forest Trust:

- Provides advice about conservation strategies appropriate to each landowner's needs and management situation.
- Designs, acquires and stewards conservation easements that protect forests from undesired development and guide sustainable forest management.
- Acquires and manages forestlands as examples of stewardship forestry techniques, while ensuring their permanent protection.

Contact information:

Pacific Forest Trust
157 Yesler WA, Ste 419
Seattle, WA 98104
Ph: 206-292-4747
pft@pacificforest.org
www.pacificforest.org

Land Trust Alliance

Deadline for enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered By: Land Trust Alliance

Program Description:

Founded in 1982, the Land Trust Alliance is the national leader of the private land conservation movement, promoting voluntary land conservation across the country and providing resources, leadership and training to the nation's 1,200-plus nonprofit, grassroots land trusts, helping them to protect important open spaces. The Land Trust Alliance can help you contact a land trust active in your area.

Contact information:

Land Trust Alliance
3517 NE 45th St
Seattle, WA 98105-5640
206-522-3134
206-522-3024 (fax)
ltanw@lta.org
<http://www.lta.org/>

Trust for Public Lands

Deadline for enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered by: Trust for Public Lands

Program Description:

Land conservation is central to TPL's mission. Founded in 1972, the Trust for Public Land is the only national nonprofit working exclusively to protect land for human enjoyment and well-being. TPL helps conserve land for recreation and spiritual nourishment and to improve the health and quality of life of American communities.

Contact information:

<http://www.tpl.org>

Riparian Open Space Program

Deadline for enrollment: Open enrollment

Administered by: Washington Department of Natural Resources

Program Description:

The Riparian Open Space Program is a new program funded by the Washington state legislature to provide options for landowners with timber within unconfined avulsing river channel migration zones. Qualifying landowners can apply to donate or sell their land and/or timber in designated forest land that exists along migrating stream channels. There are also options to sell the state permanent conservation easements covering the timber and/or forestland. The Riparian Open Space Program will help provide ecological protection and fisheries enhancement while compensating landowners prohibited under state Forests & Fish rules from harvesting timber on riparian land isolated by river channels that have migrated over time.

Contact information:

Riparian Open Space Program
Asset Management & Protection Division
1111 Washington Street SE
PO Box 47014
Olympia, WA 98504-7014360-902-1059
omroa.bhagwandin@wadnr.gov
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/amp/riparian/index.html>

Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund: Recovery Land Acquisition Grant

Deadline for enrollment: December annually

Administered by: Washington Department of Natural Resources

Program Description:

The Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (Section 6) is a federal grant program to promote the conservation of species on the federal endangered species list. In Washington State, the program is under cooperative agreement with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR), and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).

Contact information:

Department of Natural Resources
Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund
1111 Washington Street
PO Box 47014
Olympia, WA 98504-7014
dnrconservation@wadnr.gov
Phone: 360-902-1059
Fax: 360-902-1789
<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/htdocs/amp/coopconfund/>

Purchase of Development Rights and Transfer of Development Rights

Contact: county zoning authority to see whether such programs exist in your county.

Washington planning and zoning laws give county and municipal governments the authority to adopt provisions for purchase of development rights and transfer of development rights. A purchase of development rights is a voluntary conservation easement that pays landowners the difference between the value of the land for agriculture or forestry and the value of the land for its potential use, which is generally residential or commercial development. Once the development rights have been sold, the land can no longer be converted to non-agriculture or forestry uses...in perpetuity.

Small Business Development Programs

USDA Rural Business Development Program

Administered by: U.S. Department of Agriculture

Program description:

Business and Industry Guaranteed Loans (B&I Guar.):

Direct loans made by USDA Rural Development and loans made by conventional lenders and guaranteed by USDA Rural Development to help maintain or establish private business and industry enterprises that create employment opportunities. Limited to communities of 50,000 population or less.

Rural Business Opportunity Grants (RBOG):

Grants to public bodies, nonprofit corporations, Indian tribes, and cooperatives (meeting certain criteria), which will be used to assist in the economic development of rural areas.

Rural Cooperative Development Grants:

Grants made by USDA Rural Development to nonprofit corporations and institutions of higher education for the purpose of establishing and operating centers for rural cooperative development. Grant will be used to facilitate the creation or retention of jobs in rural areas through the development of new rural cooperatives, value-added processing and rural businesses.

Technical Assistance for Cooperative Development:

Assistance for people interested in forming new cooperatives, or existing cooperatives facing specific problems or challenges.

Contact information:

USDA - Rural Development

State Office

1835 Black Lake Blvd. SW, Suite B

Olympia, WA 98512-5715

Phone: (360) 704-7740

<http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/wa/>

Northwest Certified Forestry

Administered by: Northwest Natural Resource Group

Program Description:

The NW Natural Resource Group has developed *NW Certified Forestry*, a program to provide group Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification for private forest landowners in the Pacific Northwest. NW Certified Forestry helps landowners gain access to markets for certified sustainably managed forest products. NW Certified Forestry also offers educational workshops, forest stewardship planning services, and market development services.

Contact information:

Ian Hanna, Program Director

PO Box 1067

Port Townsend, WA 98568

Phone: (360) 379-9421

ian@nnrg.org

www.nnrg.org

