



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington



Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead

November 2024 Solicitation

Overview of Eligible Proposal Categories and Activities

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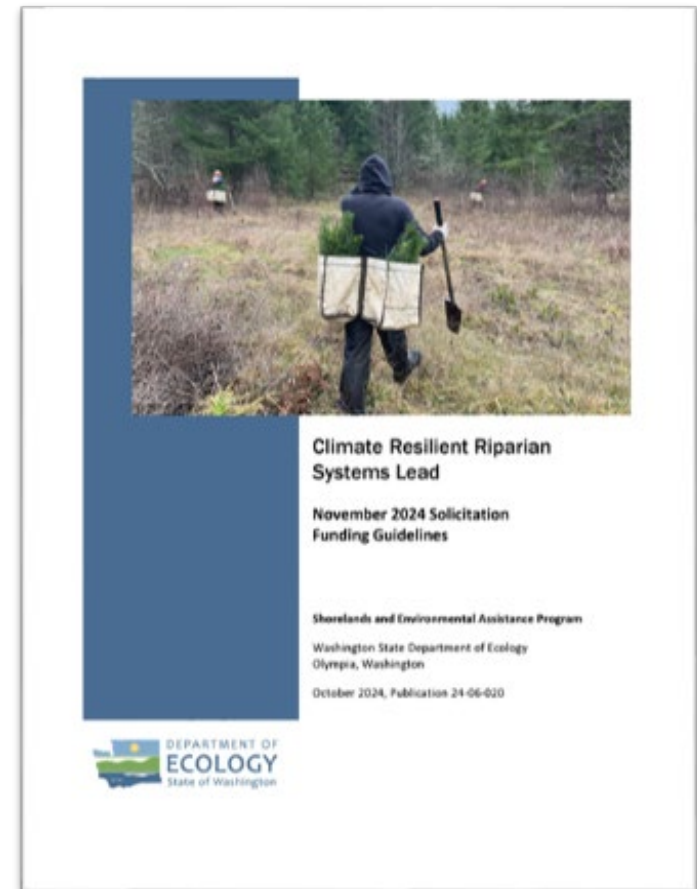


Topics Covered

1. Navigating the Funding Guidelines
2. Identifying categories for proposed activities
3. Eligible categories and activities by category
4. Requirements by category
5. Additional resources

Navigating the Funding Guidelines

- <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2406020.html>
- Go to the funding guidelines first!
- Use search tool
- Table of Contents is navigable
- Links within chapters to appendices
- Check the appendices!



Identifying Categories for Proposed Activities

Once you know what activities you are proposing, identify which categories those activities fall under. Use the following resources:

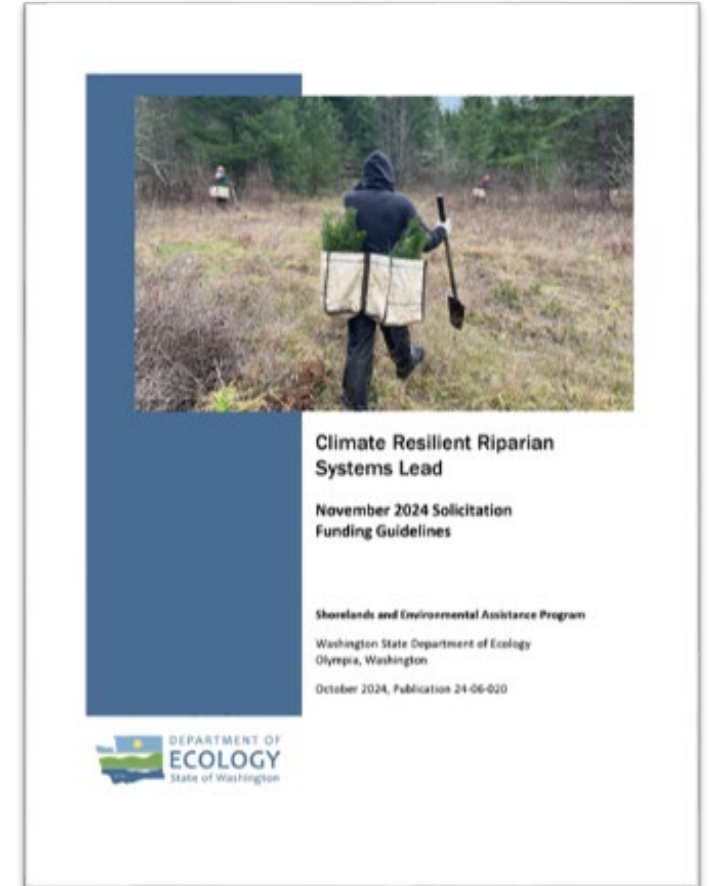
- This presentation recording and slide deck!
- Read through **Chapter 1.3** Eligible proposal categories in the Funding Guidelines, and look through the detailed lists of example eligible activities
- Use the search tool to identify where in the pdf your activities show up
- Contact the CR2SL Grant Lead, Libby Gier: libby.gier@ecy.wa.gov
- *Make note of the categories your activities fall under – you will need this information for the application!*

November 2024 Solicitation Eligible Proposal Categories

1. Reach-scale planning and outreach
2. Native plant materials
3. Riparian restoration implementation
4. Maintenance, site monitoring, and adaptive management
5. Landowner incentives
6. Permanent protection of riparian habitat



Encouraging programmatic, collaborative, reach-scale proposals that likely include activities from more than one of these categories!



Reach-scale Planning and Outreach

★ Chapter 1.3.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

- Focus on local collaboration and engagement efforts to support a holistic and efficient reach-scale restoration of riparian function.
- This includes costs associated with regional coordination and planning, data collection for restoration prioritization, landowner engagement, landowner recruitment to improve riparian management, and coordinated landowner engagement tracking across partner organizations.



Reach-scale Planning and Outreach



Chapter 1.3.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Example eligible activities:

- Regional coordination and planning that will lead to on the ground riparian restoration, especially Watershed Protection Plan development or similar plans that enable partners to come together around local implementation strategies;
- Data collection that provides additional context for local prioritization of restoration and protection efforts (ex: water typing, thermal imagery, etc.);
- Outreach staff capacity to engage landowners/operators/public in riparian restoration;
- Locally focused community based social marketing research studies and implementation of resulting outreach plans;
- Fair compensation for participation in regional coordination events and/or outreach events by individuals from Tribes, underrepresented or vulnerable communities, or Community Based Organizations;
- Creation of riparian focused educational and marketing materials supported by a community-based study/plan;
- Translation of existing or created riparian focused educational and marketing materials;
- Creation/customization of tools and software to improve coordinated outreach, communications, tracking, etc.;
- Creation/implementation of restoration and social science monitoring or tracking tools;
- Performing targeted public outreach and education about invasive weeds in riparian zones;

Native Plant Materials: Plant propagation, procurement, holding facilities, and small nursery support

★ Chapter 1.3.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

- Increase the accessibility, diversity and quality of site-appropriate and pest and pathogen free plant materials and facilities to produce native plants for riparian restoration and enrichment and tend these plants until out planting.
- This includes support for increased access to diverse, site appropriate, climate resilient plant materials, and capacity and implementation funds for new and existing plant holding facilities or small nurseries to augment production, implementation of best management practices for pest and pathogen testing, management and early detection rapid response (EDRR), irrigation efficiency upgrades, materials use, scaling activities, and training.

Native Plant Materials: Plant propagation, procurement, holding facilities, and small nursery support



Chapter 1.3.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



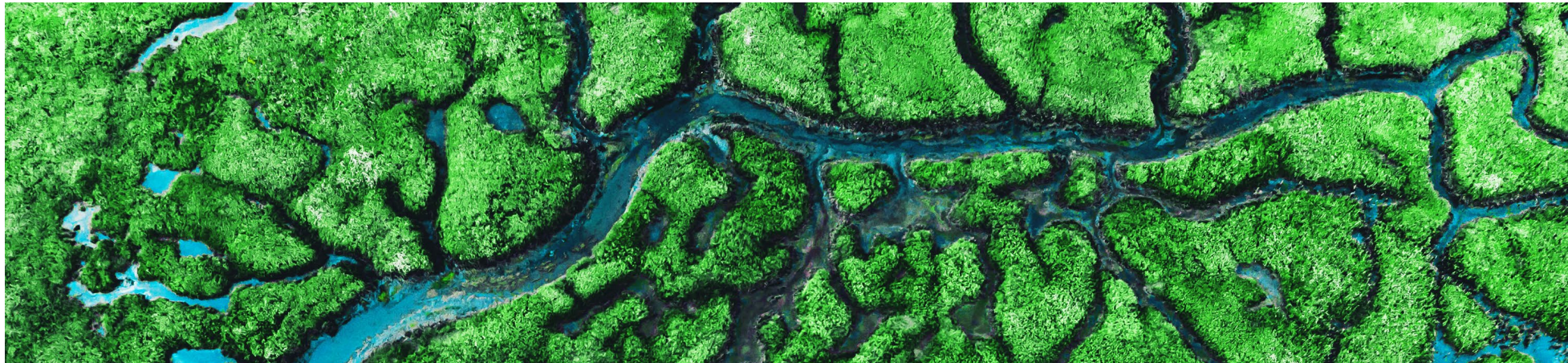
Example eligible activities:

- Establish cutting blocks;
- Purchase start-up materials;
- Enhance plant holding facility capacity;
- Upgrade facilities to meet best management practices in water use and pest and pathogen prevention, detection and management;
- Staff capacity for native plant production, seed collection, and native plant propagation (and land prioritization and land access)
- Regional collaboration on holding facilities and plant material solutions;
- Engage cultural experts and community members in plant propagation and cultivation;
- Funding to develop and communicate planting
- Funding to develop and communicate planting and maintenance practices to increase plant survival.

Riparian Restoration Implementation

★ Chapter 1.3.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

- Focus on improving and restoring functional riparian systems along rivers and streams both at new sites and at existing reach-scale priority restoration sites.
- This includes costs associated with project planning, project management, plant procurement, site preparation, natural bank stabilization, planting, plant establishment, and site maintenance for the initial 1-5 years after planting occurs.



Riparian Restoration Implementation

★ Chapter 1.3.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Example eligible activities:

- Project planning and management including developing of riparian planting plans, developing maintenance plans, coordinating with native plant nurseries, supporting work for landowner agreements, developing restoration designs, and completing cultural resource assessments;
- Purchase of native plants to be used for riparian restoration;
- Crew capacity for initial and ongoing riparian restoration and general programmatic capacity;
- Site preparation including invasive weed control, junk removal, demolition and removal of small structures within the riparian zone;
- Installing low-tech instream restoration activities, including Beaver Dam Analogs, small-scale woody debris structures, and similar instream restoration activities;
- Installation of functional riparian buffers using required widths and features;
- Irrigation and weed control treatments to improve plant survival such as mulch rings and spray rings;
- Maintenance and monitoring for the length of the grant;
- Small equipment purchases to support restoration activities (see eligible expenses for definition);

Maintenance, Monitoring and Adaptive Management

★ Chapter 1.3.4 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

- Focus on providing long-term riparian project support needs, learning from project successes and failures, and applying adaptive management.
- This includes costs associated with maintenance of existing riparian projects in priority watersheds that are outside of their original funding window and need targeted support for improved functionality, long term monitoring data collection efforts, and adaptively managing projects where site changes have led to impaired riparian function. Some of the possible activities could include invasive weed control, thinning, underplanting, monitoring, and adaptive management planning.

Maintenance, Monitoring and Adaptive Management



Chapter 1.3.4 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Example eligible activities:

- Building site or reach-scale maintenance and monitoring plans;
- Crew capacity to perform maintenance work on existing riparian sites;
- Invasive weed control on existing riparian sites, or continuation of reach-scale invasive weed control programs;
- Restoration thinning on existing riparian sites where excessive stem density is limiting the riparian system process;
- Purchase and installation of plants for underplanting for site enrichment to increase biodiversity, climate resiliency, beaver-adapted enrichment planting, and presence of culturally significant plants;
- Beaver coexistence management activities;
- Supplemental planning or research to support adaptive management at riparian sites that are not achieving the desired ecosystem results due to unforeseen changes in the system or site conditions, and there is potential for improvements;
- Funding to perform instream restoration effectiveness, monitoring and research activities on riparian restoration projects that have long-term outcomes available at this time. This may include data collection, data management, and reporting on long-term findings that support informing riparian best practices and climate resiliency, perhaps involving landowners and demonstration projects.

Landowner Incentives

★ Chapter 1.3.5 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

- Focus on incentivizing riparian restoration for landowners.
- This includes costs associated with harvestable agroforestry plantings and installation of other agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) that improve agricultural operations while providing riparian protection (e.g. livestock fencing, watering troughs, additional BMPs can be proposed for consideration).
- Applicants are invited to propose new incentives, which may be standalone or stacked with existing incentive programs or easements to leverage the potential and increase landowner participation (these will be considered on a case-by-case basis for eligibility).

Landowner Incentives

★ Chapter 1.3.5 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Example eligible activities:

- Development of user-friendly communications tool(s) or materials to inform landowners of incentive program options;
- Staff time to provide program specific technical assistance to participating landowners;
- Purchase and installation of native trees and shrubs for agroforestry (including harvestable native fruit and nut trees, etc.);
- Purchase and installation of livestock exclusion fencing and livestock watering troughs to protect eligible riparian areas.

Landowner Incentives *future

★ Chapter 1.4 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Future eligible proposal activities: Landowner Incentives

- May become eligible activities in future CR2SL solicitations
- Applicants are encouraged to be creative and include detailed ideas in their November 2024 proposals about potential future, reach scale, innovative incentive programs for consideration
- Focus on incentivizing riparian restoration for landowners. This includes costs associated with developing, implementing and supporting incentive programs, such as direct ecosystem service payments.
- In future solicitations, applicants are invited to propose new incentives, which may be standalone or stacked with existing incentive programs or easements to leverage the potential and increase landowner participation (these will be considered on a case-by-case basis for eligibility).

Landowner Incentives *future

★ Chapter 1.4 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Future eligible proposal activities: Landowner Incentives

Incomplete list of activities to consider for future proposals:

- New incentive program design, development and deployment (note that incentive design, development and planning activities are eligible for the November 2024 Solicitation under the Reach-Scale Planning and Outreach category, where a collaborative, regionally focused and targeted incentive program is being proposed);
- Incentive payments based on western WA market rates or commodity pricing; (model and amount TBD);
- Ecosystem service payments to landowners for implementation of riparian restoration and protection (model and amount TBD);
- Purchase and installation of non-native harvestable trees and shrubs (e.g. fruit and nut trees, blueberries, etc.) (model and amount TBD);
- Maintenance support stipends provided to landowners performing maintenance (invasive weed control) themselves (model and amount TBD).

Permanent Protection of Riparian Habitat

★ Chapter 1.3.6 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

- Focus on permanently protecting riparian zones in priority watersheds where reach-scale plans for restoration and protection are in place.
- This includes funding for conservation easements and acquisitions, or other proposed activities that stabilize or secure the conservation and cultural values of existing riparian areas.
- Riparian areas may be currently degraded, natural or established restoration sites, but must be located in the focus area described in the proposal and justified with mapping and contextual resources. The areas must also demonstrate support long-term riparian function and resiliency to climate change.

Permanent Protection of Riparian Habitat

★ Chapter 1.3.6 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Example eligible activities:

- Land acquisition and associated costs;
- Property Conservation easements and associated costs;



Requirements by Category



Chapter 2.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Build all general and category requirements into your proposal budget and work plan and consult CR2SL staff if you are unsure if they apply. Examples of some common requirements include:

- Landowner Agreements
- Cultural Resource Review
- BMP Approval Form
- Riparian Planting Plan and Maintenance Plan
- Local requirements such as permits, Critical Areas Ordinances
- Reporting
- Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)



Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Planning requirements

- Planning requirements may vary based on the scale and complexity of the proposal.
- Applicants should include time for Ecology review of all resulting plans in their proposal schedule and are strongly encouraged to discuss the proposal with the Ecology Project Manager early in the proposal planning process.
- Review and approval needs will be identified by the Ecology Project Manager during agreement negotiations.
- **Appendix J** of the Funding Guidelines provides guidance on what elements a reach-scale plan should contain

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Regional coordination requirements

Proposals that include regional coordination activities must:

- Track coordination efforts using the metrics provided in **Appendix O. Metrics Guidance**, including workshops hosted, coordination meetings, and other regional riparian focused gatherings to be supported by CR2SL funds.



Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Data collection for restoration prioritization requirements

- Restoration prioritization data collection efforts may include collecting social science information through Community Based Social Marketing (CBSM) studies, and collecting environmental information through water typing studies, thermal imagery data collection, and others.
- **CR2SL staff will work with Recipients to determine QA documentation needs, which will vary based on the scale and complexity of the proposed study.**
- Applicants are encouraged to provide ample time in proposal schedules and budgets for developing the required QA documentation.

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Social science data collection requirements and guidance

- Must have a defined focus on a specific riparian restoration related behavior;
- Must be completed within the identified proposal focus area;
- Must hire a qualified consultant to perform the study. See the Terms and Conditions in **Appendix I** for information on solicitation and contracting procedures and requirements;
- OR the Recipient may perform the study themselves. In this case, Recipient must provide a description of staff experience such as education and trainings completed, a list of prior studies completed and a statement describing why this is the preferred approach.

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Social science data collection requirements and guidance

These requirements located in **Appendix J**

- Receive initial approval of the study plan from Ecology Project Manager and Technical Lead before launching the study;
- Provide updates on study progress through regular PRPRs;
- Submit a detailed final report of the study to include, at a minimum:
 - Background or situation statement;
 - Statement of purpose and study goals;
 - Detailed description of data collection methods; o Data and results; o Key findings; o Recommendations for next steps to reach desired behavior change;

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Social science data collection requirements and guidance

These requirements located in **Appendix J**

- When included in the scope of work, submit a detailed final campaign plan based on the report findings, to include, at a minimum:
 - Summary of target audience(s);
 - Summary of trusted messenger(s);
 - Audience preferred language or messaging;
 - Summary of points of conflict, if any, and recommendations;
 - Description of recommended tools and outreach approaches to achieve desired behavior change;
 - Proposed actionable timeline for next steps.

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★



Environmental data collection requirements

Recipients that receive funding for environmental data collection efforts must follow the requirements outlined in **Chapter 5.6.1**.

- Prior to initiating any environmental data collection activities as identified during contract negotiations, the Recipient must prepare a QAPP.
- The QAPP must follow Ecology's [Guidelines and Specifications for Preparing Quality Assurance Project Plans for Environmental Studies](#)
- Additional guidance and resources for QAPP development, including example QAPPs and presentations, are available on the [Ecology webpage: Quality assurance for grantees](#).

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Environmental data collection requirements cont. . .

- The Ecology Technical Lead will provide an updated QAPP template upon request. The template reflects changes to QAPP requirements and is the preferred method to allow for efficient Ecology review and to ensure completeness.
- The QAPP must:
 - Describe in detail the monitoring and data quality objectives, procedures, and methodologies that will be used to ensure that all environmental data generated will meet the QAPP requirements;
 - Describe in detail the monitoring approach and laboratory protocols, including types of data and samples to be collected, sample location, sampling frequency, sampling procedures, analytical methods, quality control procedures, and data handling protocols;
 - Describe data assessment procedures;
 - Explain how the project will yield sufficient information to achieve the purpose and intent of monitoring;
 - Discuss data accuracy and statistical requirements.

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Environmental data collection requirements cont. . .

- The Recipient must submit the QAPP to Ecology's Technical Lead for Ecology review, comment, and again for final approval from Ecology's QA Officer before starting environmental monitoring activities.
- Any monitoring activity conducted before the QAPP receives final approval is not eligible for reimbursement.

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Outreach and education requirements

Proposals with public outreach and education components must:

- Be targeted within the identified proposal focus area;
- Inform the public on the importance of riparian zones;
- Incorporate accessibility requirements (See **Appendix D**) and consider language access needs (See **Appendix D**) of the communities being engaged;
- Include elements of environmental education on the impacts of climate change on riparian zones.

Reach-scale Planning and Outreach Requirements



Chapter 2.2.1 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Outreach and education requirements cont. . .

These requirements located in **Appendix J**

- Track engagement efforts using the metrics decided on in agreement negotiations (See Appendix O for potential metrics) including mailers, door-knocking, public meetings, volunteer events, etc.;
- Submit sign-in sheets for in-person events;
- Submit photos from in-person events;
- Submit outreach materials and/or tools created or distributed with CR2SL funds;
- Include an Ecology and EPA funded reference or logo on all outreach materials and/or tools created with CR2SL funds (Ecology Project Manager will provide logos on request);
- Meet accessibility and language requirements (more information in **Appendix D**).

Native Plant Materials Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

- Proposals including native plant materials activities must support increasing native plant materials availability for riparian restoration within the proposal's identified focus area.
- Details around the requirements for sharing or selling plants to be used for riparian restoration by partners (partners not included in the proposal) are not well defined at this time and will be included in a future update to the funding guidelines.



Native Plant Materials Requirements



Appendix K of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Applicants must:

- Describe the geographic necessity for the increased native plant production capacity that will result from the proposal;
- Describe the proposed activities for native plant materials propagation, procurement, holding facility support, and/or small nursery support.
- Describe activities that increase the accessibility, diversity, and quality of site appropriate and pest and pathogen free plant materials and facilities.
- Produce native plants for riparian buffer establishment and enrichment and tend these plants until out planting.
- Describe the native plant material activities for the proposal.

Native Plant Materials Requirements



Appendix K of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Recipients must:

- Possess expertise in cultivating and propagating woody plant materials, or request funding to engage this expertise;
- Own or rent/manage secured land or,
- When partnering with entities who have existing greenhouses or land where plants can be cultivated and/or propagated, provide either a signed agreement or a signed letter indicating commitment to developing an agreement, prior to funds being awarded.
 - The agreement must include the following, at a minimum:
 - Agreement that CR2SL funded plants will be clearly marked as sold and belonging to the Recipient;
 - Agreement that CR2SL funded plants will be set aside from other plants at the facility, or provide a description/map that describes how stock associated with CR2SL funds is to be identified (example: % of a given bed);
 - Agreement that CR2SL funded plants will be cared for until they are ready to be picked up by the Recipient or designated partner, when ready to be used in a riparian restoration project, or provide a schedule/plant production timeline that indicates pickup windows;

Native Plant Materials Requirements



Appendix K of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Recipients must:

- Follow Ecology's Cultural Resource Review Requirements (See Appendix G) when proposals include any on-the-ground practice implementation or facility construction/modification/repairs that may include soil disturbance.
- Recipients must receive a final determination and Ecology approval before on-the-ground work can begin. Any work completed prior to submitting the final determination and receiving Ecology approval will not be eligible for reimbursement.

Native Plant Materials Requirements



Appendix K of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Recipients must:

- Track plants cultivated and propagated with CR2SL funds, to include:
 - Species;
 - Seed source;
 - Number of plants;
 - Container size at maturity;
 - Date of delivery to implementation partner or date of installation;
 - Name of implementing partner, if not used by the Recipient;
 - Name of final destination project;
- Include an estimate of plant production per year by species. Recipient will promptly notify Ecology of any significant deviations in anticipated production. Additional follow up may be requested and support may be offered.

Native Plant Materials Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Regional native plant materials collaboration requirements

Recipients that will convene regional workgroups and experts for collaborative planning around native plant materials must provide the following:

- Plan for workshops or meeting series to be hosted, topics to be discussed, experts to be consulted and expected outcomes;
- Sign in sheets for in-person events or documentation of participants for virtual events;
- Detailed summary of each workshop or meeting hosted and digital copies of presentations or materials provided;
- Final report including:
 - Summary of workshop or workgroup findings;
 - Accomplishments;
 - Plan for implementing findings into the future or continuing the workgroup;
 - Photos from in-person events.

Native Plant Materials Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Plant propagation requirements

Species eligibility:

- Recipients may use CR2SL funds to cultivate and/or propagate a wide variety of native plant species that have evolved and are naturally adapted to grow in riparian habitats within Puget Sound.
- CR2SL funding may support the growth of typical native trees and shrubs used for riparian restoration, as well as less common species that hold cultural significance for indigenous peoples. For examples, please visit the [NRCS list](#) of common native riparian trees and shrubs by region.
- When Tribes are not the funding Recipient or partner on the proposal, Recipients should consider consulting with local Tribes to learn about culturally significant species availability and needs.

Native Plant Materials Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Plant propagation requirements

Recipients that will use CR2SL funding to grow and propagate native plants or collect seeds to be used for riparian plantings must:

- Provide a complete list of species to be collected and/or propagated, and/or supported through additional growing seasons prior to outplanting, and expected final container size or type;
- Describe seed sources or a seed sourcing plan and explanation for selection of these locations;
- Provide a staffing plan to provide plant care support, capacity and training needs;
 - o If staff training is needed: submit staff training plans, training materials, workshop plans, source of training content or experts to be consulted;
- Provide an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan to include a description of the expected pests and pathogens and plan for treatment and control, description of BMPs to be used, and early detection rapid response (EDRR) plan;
- Follow the BMPs outlined in [Native Plant Nursery Best Management Practices to Prevent the Introduction or Establishment of Phytophthora and Other Pathogens](#)

Native Plant Materials Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Plant propagation requirements

Recipients that will use CR2SL funding to grow and propagate native plants or collect seeds to be used for riparian plantings must:

- Follow the [S449 BMPs for Nurseries and Greenhouses](#) outlined in the Washington State Department of Ecology 2019 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington;
- Follow an efficient irrigation plan;
- Define partner relationships and plans for plants and where they will be utilized for riparian restoration (must be in relation to proposal focus area with general reach/watershed locations defined), expected timeline;

Native Plant Materials Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Small nursery or holding facility construction or upgrade requirements

- Provide detailed plans and materials lists provided for nursery or holding facility construction and upgrade activities;
- Description of expected increase in capacity and plant yield and benefits to production;
- Provide documentation of having acquired any necessary permits;



Native Plant Materials Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.2 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Nursery equipment purchase requirements

- Equipment purchases are limited to \$5000. Any equipment costs above this must receive Ecology special approval.
- Proposals that include equipment purchases must provide an explanation of needs for proposed equipment purchases and why the proposed approach is the most cost-effective option.



Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Design requirements

- Funding for engineered designs for stream restoration and enhancement projects is only eligible when implementation is included in the scope of work. Some exceptions may be allowable with Ecology approval, such as large-scale projects that CR2SL will not fund implementation for but would support, including:
 - Instream restoration projects involving channel creation or reconstruction, large woody debris, and some bank stabilization strategies;
 - Floodplain reconnection projects that involve removal of bank armoring or fill-removal.

Applicants should include time for Ecology review of all plans/designs in their proposal schedule and are strongly encouraged to discuss the proposal with the Ecology Project Manager early in the planning process.

Some activities can go straight from planning to implementation, and batch review may be possible for reach-scale proposals with multiple sites.

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Design requirements

Recipients must do the following before implementing designed projects:

- Submit the plans/designs to the Ecology Project Manager for review and approval. The document should include documentation that the project is the cost-effective approach to achieving the habitat benefit.
- Receive Ecology's resulting approval letter for the site-specific project plans.

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Pre-implementation review

- Proposals that do not provide all site-specific details for restoration work to be completed at the time of application submission will be required to go through a pre-implementation review process, performed by the Ecology Project Manager and Technical Lead
- Provide site specific details when they become available to confirm eligibility of proposed sites and activities as well as completion of the implementation requirements, before implementation can begin.

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Implementation requirements

Requirements may vary based on the scale and complexity of the proposal.

- Landowner Agreements: Must be signed and approved prior to implementation.
- Cultural Resources Review: Must obtain a final determination from the lead agency prior to implementation (See **Chapter 5.6** and **Appendix G**).
- Site-Specific Plans and/or Designs: Plans and designs must be reviewed and approved in writing by Ecology prior to implementation at each site. Design requirements may vary based on the complexity of the project.

Requirements may include:

- Riparian Planting Plans for each site;
- Maintenance Plans for each site.

Templates will be available on the [CR2SL applicant resources webpage](#).

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Implementation requirements

- **BMP Approval Form:** Submit the form and supporting documents such as maps, designs, and maintenance plans, etc. to Ecology at least 30 days before implementation.
- If the recipient begins work prior to Ecology approval, the recipient assumes the risk that Ecology may delay or deny part or all the reimbursement for that activity.
- **Local Requirements:** Permits, Critical Areas Ordinances, etc. as needed. These may need to be submitted to Ecology for review.
- **Reporting:** Most projects will be required to report BMP implementation metrics (see **Appendix O** for metrics guidance). Specific reporting requirements will be established during agreement negotiations for successful applicants.

Riparian Buffer Width Requirements



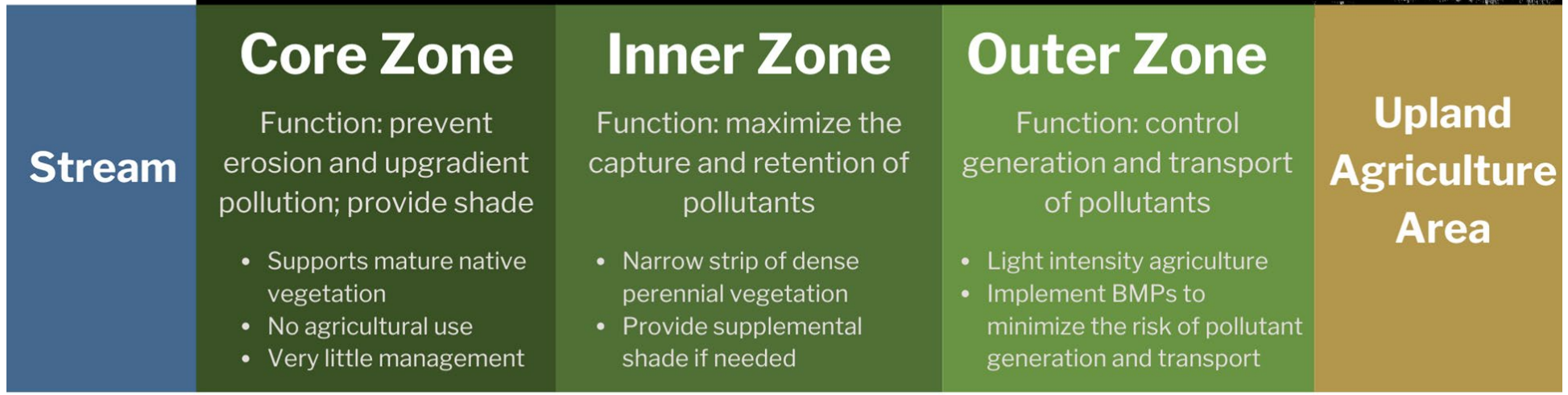
Appendix L of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



- All restoration activities must be consistent with WDFW's [Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines](#)
- CR2SL will fund riparian buffers at and above the Core Zone buffer widths (See Ecology's [Voluntary Clean Water Guidance for Agriculture](#))
- Core Zone widths are based on stream hydrology, bankfull width.
- Buffer widths must be measured starting from the ordinary high-water mark and apply to both sides of the stream where accessible.
- [Mapping tool indicates which buffer width applies.](#)

Stream Category	Ephemeral	Intermittent & Perennial			
Bankfull Width	All widths	<5 ft	5-30 ft	30-150 ft	>150 ft
Minimum Buffer Width (Core Zone)	35 ft	65 ft	80 ft	100 ft	125 ft
Inner (Middle) Zone Width	0-25 ft	0-25 ft	0-25 ft	0-25 ft	0-25 ft
Outer Zone Width	155-180ft	125-150 ft	110-135 ft	90-115 ft	65 – 90 ft
Total RMZ Width	215 ft	215 ft	215 ft	215 ft	215 ft

Riparian Buffer Width Requirements



One Site Potential Tree Height

A horizontal line with vertical end caps, indicating the width of the riparian buffer zones. The line spans the width of the Core, Inner, and Outer zones.

Riparian Buffer Width Requirements



Appendix L of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



- At sites where the Inner or Outer Zones of the RMZ are not also planted with riparian vegetation, recipients will be asked to provide basic site-specific information about the activities expected to take place within the RMZ and will call out the protective BMPs in place or to be installed as a part of the proposal (i.e. livestock exclusion fencing, filter strips, etc.).
- These requirements ensure that Ecology funded buffers are in compliance with state water quality law and are protective of participating landowners.
- Ecology may allow a conditional exemption from the minimum buffer width requirements where the presence of a structure, property line, or topography impedes the ability to meet the conditions. The recipient must submit an adequate justification as to why these cannot be met and provide an alternate written plan to Ecology's Project Manager for review and written approval.

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Stream restoration and bank stabilization

- All stream restoration and bank stabilization projects must also meet the standards established in the [Washington State Aquatic Guideline Program's Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines](#).
- Streambank protection designs must be consistent with the Aquatic Habitat Guidelines Program's, [Integrated Streambank Protection Guidelines](#).

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.3 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Streambank protection requirements

- Streambank protection projects must not stand alone but be part of a larger riparian buffer or stream restoration project.
- Streambank protection projects primarily intended for structure or property protection are not eligible.
- Rock or concrete may not be used to fully armor a bank against the erosive forces of a stream, river, or marine waters.
- In any situation where rock is to be used, the recipient must submit the design to Ecology's Project Manager for an evaluation.

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements



Appendix L of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Invasive species removal and treatment requirements

- All chemical applications must be performed by staff holding a current [Washington State pesticide license](#) and follow appropriate application methods and rates indicated on the label.
- Staff must have the Safety Data Sheets (SDS) available for all chemicals being applied.

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements



Appendix L of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Riparian planting requirements

- Recipients must only plant species that are native to the proposal focus area where the buffer is being established and will thrive in the riparian zone.
- Recipients must consider the origin of the genetics of native plant materials used, aiming to use plant materials collected from the primary or secondary watershed where the buffer is to be established, or following a provided assisted migration plan.

Riparian Restoration Implementation Requirements



Appendix L of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Agroforestry planting requirements

- When site plans include an agroforestry planting in the Inner or Outer Zone, the Recipient must develop site-specific plans for all agroforestry plantings.
- The plans must meet the specifications described in [Chapter 12 of the Clean Water Guidance](#). At this time, only native trees and shrubs are eligible for reimbursement from Ecology and may be planted in the inner (middle) zone if an agroforestry practice is implemented.

Maintenance, Site Monitoring and Adaptive Management Requirements



Chapter 2.2.4 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Maintenance requirements

- The Recipient must obtain and submit a signed landowner agreement to the Ecology Project Manager before performing maintenance activities.
- Site specific maintenance plans are a required element of the landowner agreement.
- The landowner agreement must include, but not be limited to:
 - A minimum 10-year maintenance agreement that is transferred with the ownership, rental, and leasing of the land;
 - Allowance of inspection of the project area by the Recipient and by Ecology staff with prior notification;
 - A written and signed maintenance plan that covers establishment and long-term maintenance of the BMP(s). This plan will detail responsibilities for both the landowner and the Recipient and must include details concerning, but not limited to, watering plants, maintaining a reasonable level of plant survivability, replacing dead plants, controlling noxious weeds, and repairing and maintaining exclusion fencing, off-stream watering provisions, or other eligible BMPs. This maintenance plan is generally the responsibility of the Recipient unless otherwise written in the landowner agreement.
- Planting activities and invasive weed control activities that occur as a part of site maintenance must meet the requirements outlined in **Appendix L**.

Maintenance, Site Monitoring and Adaptive Management Requirements



Chapter 2.2.4 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Site monitoring requirements

- Submit a Monitoring Plan to Ecology prior to beginning site monitoring activities. The plan should include the following, at a minimum:
 - A monitoring goal;
 - Questions to be answered by monitoring;
 - A monitoring timeline;
 - Locations to be monitored;
 - Response indicators;
 - Monitoring design;
 - Decision criteria;
 - Methods;
 - Equipment to be used;
 - Data management procedures

Maintenance, Site Monitoring and Adaptive Management Requirements



Chapter 2.2.4 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Site monitoring requirements

- Recipients must submit an annual monitoring progress report to summarize monitoring work completed during the prior year;
- Recipients must submit a Final Report of their monitoring findings during grant closeout, as an addendum to the Monitoring Plan. The final report should include the following, at a minimum:
 - The Monitoring Plan;
 - All of the annual progress reports;
 - Site photos;
 - Summarized data (answers to the questions being asked);
 - Estimates of data precision and variance;
 - Determination whether projects (sites) met decision criteria for effectiveness;
 - Conclusions and lessons learned, or BMP recommendations;
 - Analysis of completeness of data, sources of bias.

Maintenance, Site Monitoring and Adaptive Management Requirements

★ Chapter 2.2.4 of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Adaptive management requirements

Recipients of funding to support supplemental planning or adaptive management research at riparian sites that are not achieving the desired ecosystem results must:

- Provide a summary describing the circumstances and history at the site, the unforeseen changes in the system, and any supportive evidence that indicates there is potential for improvements in habitat function;
- Follow the design requirements outlined in **Chapter 2.2.3**.

Landowner Incentives Requirements



Chapter 2.2.5 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) Requirements

- All agricultural BMPs must be consistent with Ecology's [Combined Clean Water Funding Program Requirements](#) (CCWF) and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) [Field Office Technical Guide](#) (FOTG) construction specifications or equivalent construction standards and be recommended in the Voluntary Clean Water Guidance for Agriculture (Clean Water Guidance).
- If NRCS specifications are not available, the structural design of the proposed BMP must be designed by a licensed engineer.

Landowner Incentives Requirements



Chapter 2.2.5 of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Agricultural Best Management Practice (BMP) Requirements

- Above Ground Storage Tanks (Manure Storage)
 - Refer to Appendix I of the CCWF guidelines and Chapter 11 (pages 18-21) of the Clean Water Guidance for design and installation requirements.
- Agroforestry
- Livestock Exclusion Fencing
 - Recipients are required to plant the minimum Core Zone width buffer established by the fencing setback with native trees and shrubs to provide a higher level of water quality improvement.
- Livestock Off-stream Watering Facilities
 - Appendix H of the CCWF contains eligibility conditions for off-stream watering facilities.
- Livestock Feeding BMPs
 - Funding for livestock feeding BMPs only applies to projects that will protect riparian areas and water quality and may not be used to rebuild feeding facilities where the primary purpose is to repair existing structures.
 - Appendix I of the CCWF contains eligibility conditions for livestock feeding and waste management BMPs.
- Silvopasture
 - Light intensity rotational grazing within the riparian management zone must be in accordance with a Grazing Management Plan as described in the Clean Water Guidance

Permanent Protection of Riparian Habitat Requirements

★ Appendix M of the [Funding Guidelines](#) ★

Acquisitions must be for one the following purposes:

- Riparian area preservation and protection;
- Protection of areas directly contributing to riparian processes, habitats, and function;
- Protection of areas that are planned for riparian restoration.
- Unless otherwise negotiated with Ecology, documents may be rejected if they do not follow the requirements generally outlined in [RCO Manual 3](#), Acquisition Policies and Procedures.

Permanent Protection of Riparian Habitat Requirements



Appendix M of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



The following are likely review steps that would be required:

- Draft monitoring plan as outlined in approved QAPP for monitoring related activities;
- Buffer widths and location to be subject of a baseline survey, appraisal and/or review appraisal for easement acquisition;
- Draft restoration plans (e.g. planting plan) both on and off of eased lands;
- Draft easement terms negotiated with a landowner;
- Appraisal and/or review appraisal determining the market value for individual acquisitions prior negotiating closing with a landowner. Appraisals must be performed to [Ecology Yellow Book](#) and [Uniform Standards for Federal Land Acquisitions](#) (USFLA);
- Draft Stewardship Plans.

Permanent Protection of Riparian Habitat Requirements



Appendix M of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



Generally required deliverables for easement/acquisition tasks:

- Preliminary title report and insurance documentation;
- Notice of Voluntary Transaction letter;
- Appraisal (USFLA);
- Review Appraisal;
- Notice of Just Compensation letter;
- Baseline Inventory and Stewardship Plan;
- Hazardous Substances Certification;
- Environmental Site Assessment;
- Relocation Plan, if eligible displaced persons are on the property;

Permanent Protection of Riparian Habitat Requirements



Appendix M of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



- Signed and recorded deed or conservation easement;
- Signed and recorded Conservation Covenant (Notice of Federal Participation) for fee-simple purchases;
- Signed and recorded Conservation Easement (Notice of Federal Participation must be included) and Assignment of Rights with project boundary map;
- Purchase agreement;
- Final title insurance policy;
- Final Ecology inspection (may be on site or desk review);
- Three maps of varying scale, from small to large scale, including location within the state, specific location map, parcel or plat map;
- GIS Shapefile for each property acquired.

Permanent Protection of Riparian Habitat Requirements



Appendix M of the [Funding Guidelines](#)



- A Conservation Covenant or Conservation Easement and Assignment of Rights is required to be recorded with the local government where the property is being acquired.
- Prior to being recorded, a draft of the Covenant or Easement/Assignment of Rights must be reviewed and approved by Ecology. A template of these documents will be provided. Upon request, the grant recipient may adapt their own versions for use in their project. This will require review and approval by Ecology and the Attorney General's Office.

The following requirements may be applicable to your project on a case-by-case basis:

- EZ 1 form and cultural resources survey;
- Recorded legal survey;
- Boundary line adjustment.

Before You Apply - Tips

Gather required information

- Defined partners and roles
- Defined focus area, maps
- Existing, relevant reach-scale plans
- Context on local efforts, status, priorities
- Budgets
- Work plan

Prepare for requirements

- Read the guidelines, including Chapter 2. Eligible Proposal Category Requirements.
- Include as appropriate in your scope of work, budget, and work plan.



Funding Information Resources



November 2024 Solicitation Funding Guidelines



- Climate Resilient Riparian Systems webpage
- Applicant and Recipient Technical Resources webpage - templates located here!
- Applicant technical assistance virtual office hours:
 - December 12 from 9-11 am
 - January 8, 2025, from 1-3 pm
- Ask a human:
 - Libby Gier libby.gier@ecy.wa.gov



Tell us if you're interested in applying

Submit an Intent to
Apply here
(optional but helpful!)

Interest in Applying: Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Funding Opportunity for Fall 2024

Please submit this form to indicate interest in applying for the following funding opportunity from the Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead. This is not a required form to apply.

Priority funding categories:

- Collaborative, reach-scale planning and outreach;
- Native plant materials;
- Landowner incentives;
- Riparian restoration implementation;
- Maintenance, monitoring, and adaptive management;
- Permanent protection of riparian habitat;

Applications will be open on November 5, 2024 and close on January 15, 2025. Information and updates on the grant funding opportunity are available here: <https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/payments-contracts-grants/grants-loans/find-a-grant-or-loan/climate-resilient-riparian>

Your replies will help the funding team advise you on eligible activities, connect you with resources for developing a strong application, communicate with you during the application period, and help us understand how much interest there is in the funding opportunity to inform future investments. The information you provide will be shared with CR2SL coalition staff and partners but **will not** be used as part of the evaluation process. Responses will not affect the scoring of your application or final funding determinations.

Receive CR2SL Updates

[Sign up for the listserv here](#)



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Provide Feedback on the Opportunity

Do you wish this new funding program looked different? Fill out this form to tell us what issues you are running into, and how that is limiting your proposal or ability to apply.

[Fill out the Feedback Form here](#)

Feedback Form: Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Funding Opportunity for Fall 2024

Please submit this form to provide feedback for the following funding opportunity from the Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead. This is not a required form.

Priority funding categories:

- Collaborative, reach-scale planning and outreach;
- Native plant materials;
- Landowner incentives;
- Riparian restoration implementation;
- Maintenance, monitoring, and adaptive management;
- Permanent protection of riparian habitat;

Applications will be open on November 5, 2024 and close on January 15, 2025. Information and updates on the grant funding opportunity are available here: <https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/payments-contracts-grants/grants-loans/find-a-grant-or-loan/climate-resilient-riparian>

Your replies will help the funding team improve future funding opportunities. Responses will not affect the scoring of any application or final funding determinations.



Thank you!
Please send questions to:



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ECOLOGY
State of Washington



Libby Gier

libby.gier@ecy.wa.gov

