 

REQUEST FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS

CLIMATE RESILIENT RIPARIAN SYSTEMS LEAD

NOVEMBER 5, 2024 - JANUARY 15, 2025

# Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead Application Materials

## Directions

This application holds all of the questions necessary to complete the application including preliminary questions that will be answered using Ecology’s Administration of Grants and Loans (EAGL) management system. Use the headers for information about whether the questions in the section apply to different sections in the EAGL system, or whether to use this application form to capture responses. This application is in response to the [Climate Resilient Riparian Systems grant funding opportunity](https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/payments-contracts-grants/grants-loans/find-a-grant-or-loan/climate-resilient-riparian)[[1]](#footnote-2) released by the Washington State Department of Ecology. Responses are limited to a character count (with spaces) for each question, as noted in this document.

**Important dates for CR2SL Grant Applicants:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Grant Funding Opportunity Opens | 11/5/2024 |
| Pre-application webinar | 11/13/2024 | 2:00-3:00pm |
| Climate Resilient Riparian Systems virtual and in person | 12/10/2024 |
| Applicant technical assistance virtual “office hours” #1 | 12/12/2024 | 9:00-11:00am |
| Applicant technical assistance virtual “office hours” #2 | 1/8/2025 | 1:00-3:00pm |
| Initial Grant Funding Opportunity Closes | 1/15/2025 at 5:00pm |
| Initial Proposal Screening, Evaluation and Scoring | 1/22/2025-2/05/2025 |
| Initial Notification to Successful Applicants | 3/5/2025 |
| Contract Development | March-July 2025 |
| Total Project Period | March 2025-June 2030 |

**Application Forms and Resources are available in EAGL (**located under the Application Menu – Forms) **and/or on the** [Grant Resources Website](https://ecology.wa.gov/water-shorelines/puget-sound/helping-puget-sound/riparian-restoration/Grant-application-resources)**:**[[2]](#footnote-3)

**A Complete CR2SL Application submittal includes the below items.** All these items will be used by Ecology to screen, evaluate, and score your application.

* Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead Application Materials (This Word document); (Available in EAGL as “SEACR2SL-2025 Application”);
  + EAGL Application Forms; details of these forms provided in this document;
  + Scope of Work example and Template (Provided in this document);
* Budget Spreadsheets (Template Available in EAGL);
* Draft Work Plan Template (Available in EAGL); or equivalent;
* Tribal Awareness Letter (Template Available in EAGL); upload dated copies of all letters sent.

**Additional Resources Available:**

* [Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead Funding Guidelines](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406020.html)[[3]](#footnote-4) (Available in EAGL as “SEACR2SL-2025 Funding Guidelines”);
* SEACR2SL-2025 Application Instructions (Available in EAGL);
* [2024 Investment Plan](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/2406015.html)[[4]](#footnote-5) (Available in EAGL).

**Applications must be submitted by January 15, 2025, by 5:00pm. Once completed, place the required documents in the uploads section of EAGL.**

## Applicant Information to be Copied into EAGL by Applicant

We recommend the applicant complete all sections noted within EAGL in this Word document. After completing, copy and paste the information into the appropriate EAGL Application Forms in the order they appear.

## Questions from the General Information Form in EAGL

The **General Information Form** is the first form you will see. The red asterisk (**\***) indicates questions where an answer is required.

Enter the following information:

* **\*Project Title:** Enter a concise project title. (75-character limit, including spaces.)
* **\*Project Short Description:** Enter a concise description of the overall project and environmental benefits. (500-character limit, including spaces.)
* **\*Project Long Description:** Enter a more detailed description of the project purpose, benefits, background information, and other funding associated with the project. (4,000-character limit, including spaces.)
* **\*Total Cost:** Enter the total project cost. This includes the Climate Resilient Riparian Systems grant funding and any other eligible or ineligible costs associated with the project.
* **\*Total Eligible Cost:** Enter the total amount of the grant. Minimum award limit of $500,000 and up to $2,750,000. There is no match required.
* **\*Effective Date:** Enter the start date of the project no earlier than March 2025. To be eligible for grant reimbursement, the incurred project costs must occur within the grant effective start and expiration dates.
* **\*Expiration Date:** Enter a date no later than June 2030.
* **\*Project Category:** Automatically selected as “Climate Resiliency and Riparian Systems Lead Grant”.
* **\*Will Environmental Monitoring Data be collected?** Choose yes or no.
  + Note: If environmental monitoring data is collected, Recipients must meet Ecology’s requirements for a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). See [Ecology’s QAPP website](https://ecology.wa.gov/Issues-and-local-projects/Investing-in-communities/Scientific-services/Quality-assurance/Quality-assurance-for-NEP-grantees)[[5]](#footnote-6) for more information.
* **\*Overall Goal:** Enter a concise paragraph describing the overall goal and environmental benefits. (1,000-character limit, including spaces.)
* **SAVE** the form.

## Questions from the Project Characterization Form in EAGL

Ecology uses this form for data collection. If there is not a perfect fit for your project, pick the best option.

Enter the following information:

* **\*Primary Theme:** Select “Shorelands” from the drop-down menu.
* **\*Secondary Themes:** Select the secondary theme from the drop-down menu and **SAVE** the form.
  + “Riparian Restoration Planning and/or Implementation”
* **Project Website:** Enter project website address, if available then **SAVE** the form if a website is added.
* **SAVE** the form.

## Questions from the Mapping Information Form in EAGL

Applicants are required to provide a location for the project, draw a boundary, or upload a shape file.

**Helpful Tip:** Only one person may check out and edit the map at a time. The identity of the person with the map checked out will appear above the Add/Modify Location(s) button. The map form must be checked in before the application can be submitted.

Click on **Add/Modify Location(s)** to enter the EAGL Project Map.

There are several options to define your project map area, select the option that works best for your project:

* Click on the link Project area options. Make appropriate selections. Map the project boundary. Click Go.
* Fill in “Define project area by city”, “Define project area by county”, or Select the tool options of: “Draw Boundary”, “Edit Boundary”, or “Import Shapefile”. Once information filled in or selected, you will see the newly added layer in the Project Areas.

Click **Next**.

After the page refreshes, and the Location table appears on the page, you will notice that the map is still checked out in your name.

Click **SAVE** again in the top right corner to check the map back in. You must check the map back in, or you will get an EAGL error that will prevent you from submitting the grant application. In addition, no one else will be able to access the EAGL Project Map until the map is checked in.

To verify the map is checked in, when you look at the Add/Modify Location(s) box, you shouldn’t see the map is checked out - the space should be blank above the Add/Modify Location(s) button.

If needed, please refer to “Map Instructions (Recipient)” available in EAGL under “My Training Materials.”

## Questions from the Recipient Contacts Form in EAGL

Staff listed on this form must be Recipient staff, not consultants or contractors. Staff listed on the Recipient Contacts form can be changed later *if* the Application is selected for funding. The following staff contacts must be identified and have both Secure Access Washington (SAW) and EAGL user accounts to appear in the drop-down menu:

* **\*Project Manager** (EAGL Role): The person responsible for the overall project and for completing quarterly progress reports.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project Manager Name: |  |
| Phone: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Mailing Address: |  |

* **\*Authorized Signatory** (Not an EAGL role, consider assigning in the role of Reader\*\*): The person that has legal authority to enter the organization into an agreement with Ecology. This may be a mayor, department or program director, or chair of a board of commissioners. The Authorized Signatory will be the first name shown on the signature page of the agreement.

If there are additional signatories that must appear on the signature page (as determined by each Recipient), the additional signatory name(s) and title(s) can be manually added to the **Other recipient signatories on printed agreement** fields (see below)**.** These additional signatories do not need SAW or EAGL accounts.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signatory Name: |  |
| Phone: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Mailing Address: |  |

* **\*Billing Contact** (EAGL Role): The person responsible for completing and submitting payment requests and associated back-up documentation.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Billing Contact Name: |  |
| Phone: |  |
| Email: |  |
| Mailing Address: |  |

* **SAVE** the form.

## Eligibility Review (pass/fail)

All submitted applications will be reviewed for consistency with minimum eligibility requirements (see Section 1 of the [Funding Guidelines](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406020.html))[[6]](#footnote-7) and graded either Pass or Fail. Failure to meet minimum eligibility requirements will result in the application not being evaluated further.

## Provide Applicant Responses to Questions 1-11 Within this Word Document or Other Template as Specified. Once Complete, Save Document(s) and Upload to EAGL.

## Methodology

### Scope of Proposed Work (30 points, 15% of score)

Fill in the fields and table below to describe the proposed Scope of Work for this application. A Scope of Work template with additional instructions is provided following Task 2.

In the fields and table below, provide a detailed Scope of Work that includes the information requested including task descriptions, budget, responsible party, periods of performance, deliverables, etc. See eligibility information in the Funding Guidelines for specific reporting requirements and eligible costs.

**Note:** Task 1 is Required for all CR2SL Grant Applicants, and most information has been filled in to align with the standardized text fields located in the CR2SL Scope of Work template. Please provide: Task Cost, Recipient Task Coordinator, and the proposed Deliverable Due Dates. As required tasks, please also factor Task 1 into your Budget Spreadsheet (download from EAGL).

**Task #: 1**

**Task Title:** Project Administration/Management

**Task Cost:** $Fill in Budget.

**Task Description**: The reporting requirements below will be required for all recipients. Provide the Recipient Task Coordinator and the Task Cost which matches the Task amount provided in the overall Budget Spreadsheet. This category should not exceed 15% of the total cost of the proposal.

1. The RECIPIENT shall provide necessary project oversight to complete the scope of work in compliance with this ECOLOGY agreement, which includes project coordination, administration, and management.
2. The RECIPIENT shall coordinate and maintain effective communication with ECOLOGY throughout the project. The RECIPIENT will provide ECOLOGY opportunities to review draft deliverables as appropriate.
3. The RECIPIENT shall conduct project management activities including submittal of quarterly progress reports and payment requests (PRPRs) with supporting documentation; recipient closeout report (including photos); maintain project records; and submit ECOLOGY-approved deliverables by the due dates established between ECOLOGY and the RECIPIENT; and compliance with all required permits, licenses, easements, or property rights necessary for the project, if applicable. Quarterly reporting periods are:
   1. Quarter 1 reporting period: January 1 –March 31; due April 30.
   2. Quarter 2 reporting period: April 1 – June 30; due July 30.
   3. Quarter 3 reporting period: July 1 – September 30; due October 30.
   4. Quarter 4 reporting period: October 1 – December 31; due January 30.
4. The RECIPIENT will submit invoices at least quarterly, but no more frequently than monthly.
5. Two times per year, the reporting will include budgetary and project progress information on specific indicators, to be rolled up into a programmatic financial reporting to EPA. More information on reporting metrics will be available at the start of each grant.
6. Using the template provided, the RECIPIENT must complete an initial one-page project factsheet at the outset of the grant and a final one-page factsheet at the end of the grant. The initial factsheet will provide an overview of the project and a brief description of the s RECIPIENT’s organization. The RECIPIENT will submit the initial factsheet with the first quarterly progress report. The RECIPIENT will submit the final factsheet at the end of the grant to summarize project outcomes, lessons learned, and next steps.
7. The RECIPIENT will complete a final report. The final report will summarize methods, results, lessons learned, and recommendations for future work. The final report will also include information about any of the reporting metrics that are discussed and supported by the Puget Sound Institute reporting framework. These measures will help to showcase the impact and benefits of this work across the Climate Resilient Riparian Systems grantees. The Final Report requirement will generally include (subject to final negotiations) direct engagement with the CR2SL at points throughout the duration of the grant, such as: Project kickoff interview and initial establishment of reporting framework, periodic updates to the reporting framework and key metrics to be tracked, project closeout meeting and interviews to finalize and summarize key outcomes/outputs and associated metrics that will be included in the Final Report deliverable.
8. The RECIPIENT will complete a Recipient Close Out Report in EAGL.

**Task Goal Statement:** Properly manage and fully document the project meets agreement and ECOLOGY administrative requirements.

The recipient will communicate project outcomes, lessons learned, and recommendations.

**Task Expected Outcomes**: Timely and complete submittal of requests for reimbursement, quarterly progress reports, and recipient closeout report. Properly maintained project documentation.

**Recipient Task Coordinator** (100-character limit, including spaces.)**:** Fill in the Recipient Task Coordinator

**Deliverables for Task #1, Title: Project Administration/Management**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Task Number** | **Deliverable Description** | **Due Date** |
| 1.1 | Payment Request / Progress Report (PRPR) | Quarterly, until project end date |
| 1.2 | Provide bi-annual programmatic reporting information | April 1 – September 30. Due with Quarter 3 progress reporting.  October 1 – March 31. Due with Quarter 1 progress reporting. |
| 1.3 | Initial Factsheet | Due with first quarterly report |
| 1.4 | Final Factsheet | 2 weeks prior to Grant end date |
| 1.5 | Final Report |  |
| 1.6 | Recipient Close Out Report (RCOR) |  |

**Note:** Task 2 - If your project includes any environmental monitoring or data collection, the following “Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP)” information should be included within Task 2 for your project, as well as the specified deliverables. If your project includes any site disturbance, the following “Section 106, cultural resource” information should be included within Task 2 for your project, as well as the specified deliverables. All the remaining Task fields and Deliverable table information should be provided and/or completed. Provide an amount for this Task within the Budget Spreadsheet including the required Tasks and Deliverables (if these pertain to your project). Delete these provided Tasks and Deliverables, if this information does not apply to your project.

**Task #: 2**

**Task Title** (50-character limit, including spaces.)**:** Fill in information

**Task Cost:** $Fill in Budget.

**Task Description** (3500-character limit, including spaces.)**:**

Fill in Task Description

Information about Tasks that may be required for Task 2:

1. Prepare a QAPP. The RECIPIENT will:
   1. Provide ECOLOGY a draft QAPP, based on ECOLOGY’s determination of the level of detail needed.
   2. Revise the QAPP to reflect ECOLOGY’s comments (iterative rounds as needed).
   3. Finalize the QAPP for ECOLOGY’s approval. Refer to the Funding Guidelines for guidance and details on [QAPP requirements](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406020.html).[[7]](#footnote-8)
2. The RECIPIENT will comply with Section 106 cultural resources review requirements that involve any project site disturbance. To initiate cultural resources, review the RECIPIENT will:
   1. Complete and submit an [Ecology Cultural Resources Review Form](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070537.html),[[8]](#footnote-9) and or a cultural resources report completed by a licensed professional to ECOLOGY of the Area of Potential Effect (APE).
   2. Complete and submit an [Ecology Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP)](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070560.html)[[9]](#footnote-10) to ECOLOGY. The RECIPIENT will ensure that all contractors and subcontractors have a copy of the completed IDP prior to and while working on-site.
   3. The RECIPIENT will complete all cultural resource review requirements as required by ECOLOGY and receive a Final Determination by ECOLOGY prior to any site disturbing work. Email the Ecology Cultural Resources Review Form and any supplemental cultural resource documentation, including surveys, to the ECOLOGY PM. Upload an IDP for each site to EAGL, prior to project installation (do NOT upload any other cultural resources related documents to EAGL).
   4. Cultural Resources Review may take up to 45-60 days to complete.
3. The Water Quality Exchange (WQX) is the tool for data partners to submit monitoring data to EPA, and EIM is Ecology’s Environmental Information Management System If the RECIPIENT collects any physical, chemical, or environmental data (e.g., dissolved oxygen, water temperature, salinity, turbidity, pH, phosphorous, total nitrogen, *E. coli* or enterococci, and other biological and habitat data), then the RECIPIENT’s QAPP will specify data to be reported through WQX and EIM. Data for a calendar year (Jan 1 – Dec. 31) must be submitted at least annually.

**Task Goal Statement** (1500-character limit, including spaces.)**:** QAPP that meets Washington and EPA data quality requirements. Fill in additional information.

**Task Expected Outcomes** (1500-character limit, including spaces.): Copy of signed QAPP or QAPP waiver documentation. Fill in additional information.

**Recipient Task Coordinator** (100-character limit, including spaces.)**:** Fill in the Recipient Task Coordinator

**Deliverables for Task #2, Title:** Fill in information.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Task Number** | **Deliverable Description** | **Due Date** |
| 2.1 | Ecology approved QAPP or QAPP waiver. Upload to EAGL. |  |
| 2.2 | ECOLOGY Cultural Resources Review Form, and any supplemental cultural resource docs and surveys. Email to ECOLOGY PM. |  |
| 2.3 | An ECOLOGY Cultural Resources Review Waiver or Section 106 Determination and IDP. Upload to EAGL. |  |
| 2.4 | WQX and EIM Data Reporting. Upload to EPA. | Annually, until project end date |

**< Scope of Work Template Starts Here >**

Copy and paste the Scope of Work Template to use for the remaining number of tasks in this proposal to describe the proposed project activities. Insert the number of tasks needed to describe all tasks in the proposal. Complete with description of the specific activities you will use to communicate your project results, deliverables, timeframe, and responsible organization.

**Task #:**

**Task Title** (50-character limit, including spaces.)**:**

**Task Cost:** $

**Task Description** (3500-character limit, including spaces.)**:**

**Task Goal Statement** (1500-character limit, including spaces.)**:**

**Task Expected Outcomes** (1500-character limit, including spaces.):

**Recipient Task Coordinator** (100-character limit, including spaces.)**:**

**Deliverables for Task** [insert #], **Title:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Task Number** | **Deliverable Description** | **Due Date** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |

**< Template Ends Here >**

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *Does the proposal include tasks in the statement of work that would accomplish the goals of the proposal?*
* *How well the scope describes goals, outcomes and deliverables including those identified for interim steps.*
* *Degree to which the tasks and deliverables described in the scope of work are likely to accomplish stated project objectives.*
* *Degree to which tasks are logically sequenced*
* *Degree to which stated timelines are achievable.*

**Provide Additional Tasks Below:**

### Budget Detail and Budget narrative (10 points, 5% of score)

Download a copy and complete the Budget Spreadsheet provided in EAGL to include the amount of proposed project costs by spending category and tasks included along with this application. The budget template provides definitions of each spending categories and eligible costs. The administration category may not exceed 15% of the total project cost. For more information about eligible costs, visit the Funding Guidelines. The task information should align with those referenced in the Scope of Proposed Work section in this application. Once completed, place the Budget Spreadsheet in the uploads section of EAGL.

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *Are the proposed costs reasonable for the amount of work and timeline an applicant team and/or partners with the necessary skillset to complete the proposed workplan?*
* *The degree to which the budget information is clearly presented, and cost basis and assumptions are reasonable.*

### Leverage (5 points, 2.5% of score)

Describe other sources of funding that are a part of your programmatic approach to riparian management in your focus area. Match is not required but additional leveraged funding is encouraged. (Recommended maximum of 4,000-characters including spaces.)

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *How does the applicant intend to bring other resources from partners or from the organization to leverage this source of funding to the fullest extent? Will any resources or other sources of funding be documented and shared as part of the programmatic approach to riparian management in the proposed focus area?*

Enter your response here…

### Work Plan (15 points, 7.5% of score)

Provide an overview of your Riparian Program work plan referencing specific investment priority categories (i.e., Reach Scale Planning and Outreach, Native Plant Materials, Landowner Outreach, Riparian Restoration Implementation), related tasks, task leads, timelines, and approach to accomplish the work. A Draft Work Plan template is provided for your use to download from EAGL for this purpose, though the applicant is welcome to provide the information in a different format. If the template, or alternative format is used, place in the Uploads section of EAGL and reference the filename(s) in the space below.

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *The work plan provides a brief, clear overview of the specific investment priority categories, related tasks, task leads, timelines, key milestones, and approaches to accomplish the work.*

Enter your response here…

## Riparian Strategy

### Geographic Focus and Integration with Existing Priorities (30 points, 15% of score)

Provide a series of at least three maps as attachments and reference them in the following response that illustrates and provide context for the geographic areas that will be a focus of the grant and lead to a sustainable and durable riparian management program. Reference Appendix N for resources and guidance about the mapping and data that may be helpful to describe this context. **Provide map attachments in .pdf or .jpeg format for each of the views listed below with clear titles that can be referenced in the narrative response portion of this question.**

### 5.a. Focus Area, reach-scale, and neighborhood level mapping

Map and describe the Focus Area for your Riparian Implementation Program using the “nested-scale” approach described below, mapping your Focus area broadly at a landscape level, down to a more focused level.

* (Broadest view) Provide a Focus Area Map that includes all of the focus reaches and or small watersheds that you propose for your riparian program. Things to consider in this map are:
  + Jurisdictional boundaries
  + Watershed boundaries
  + Major streams and rivers
* (Medium view) Provide a Focus Reach(es) map(s) of each focus reach or small watershed within your Focus Area with enough detail to illustrate at a minimum:
  + Water Quality Impairment Information
  + Salmon presence
  + Areas of Impervious Surface
  + Major Land Uses (e.g., Agricultural Lands, Urban areas)
  + Significant areas of intact or degraded riparian habitat
  + Other major contextual information that your reach-scale strategy will account for (e.g., areas of existing restoration project efforts, salmon recovery priority areas)
* (Small Scale) Within a given Focus Reach or small watershed, highlight key areas to a multiple “parcel or property level” (e.g., neighborhood) that will be the focus of your reach-scale strategy and where early opportunities may exist. Within these maps, where possible indicate:
  + Landowners that have already been engaged by partners and may be interested in restoration or protection activities. If possible, provide documentation of these (e.g., Landowner Acknowledgement Forms)[[10]](#footnote-11) in your application.
  + Previously restored, in-progress, or proposed restoration project locations
  + Areas of existing riparian area that are in good functional condition
  + Areas of potential riparian areas in need of restoration

*\*\*****Note****: – this small scale mapping does not need to be an exhaustive inventory of landowners across all of the Focus Area. This is intended to illustrate where key areas and opportunities are at the time of application. Weight will be given to applicants that can document and describe landowners already engaged to some degree and have a sense of the opportunities for restoration and protection activities.*

List and briefly describe the maps provided in attachments at each scale described with key identifiers to be referenced in the following response area

Response here…

**5.b. Integration with Existing Strategies to Advance Riparian Management**

Describe how the riparian program you propose will integrate with existing strategies and watershed plans (such as Salmon Recovery Plans, Total Maximum Daily Load plans, Ecosystem Recovery Plans, etc.), to build on and fill gaps to advance riparian objectives in the Focus Area. Describe partners that will be engaged to advance the programmatic strategy in planned focus reaches. Consider the maps provided, and/or bring additional information that establishes the context for this focus area and the strategy that will be established. Where appropriate, reference key tasks that are designed to address this context. At a minimum: (recommended maximum of 8,000-characters including spaces)

* Describe the water quality context and strategy (referencing key tasks where appropriate) to address key impairments and opportunities.
* Describe the status of salmon recovery efforts in the Focus Area and explain how the proposal fits into and supports those efforts.
* Describe how climate change may affect this focus area specifically, citing studies and projections where possible, particularly related to water quality context and salmon use.
* Describe the land use and landowner context and strategy. Include descriptions of how the benefits of this work might align with existing work or goals of underserved and disadvantaged communities in your focus area.
* Describe any existing reach or watershed scale management/ restoration plan(s) that includes the proposal focus area and describe the status of these efforts. Explain how the plan(s) inform the proposal and how proposed activities fit into and support that plan.

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *Given each level of mapping provided, does the proposal describe an appropriate level of broader context of the riparian management issues and needs and make a strong connection to the proposed work?*
* *Would the proposed work make a significant contribution to the issues identified?*
* *Does the program describe existing strategies and watershed plans relevant to the proposal, and the status of those efforts?*
* *Does it build on and fill gaps to advance riparian objectives in the focus area?*
* *Are key partners are listed that will be engaged to advance the programmatic strategy in planned focus areas?*

Enter your response here…

### Programmatic Approach to Riparian Management (50 points, 25% of score [25 points from question 6 and 25 points from questions 6a-6f])

Summarize the proposed approach, within the context described in question 5, to establishing and/or expanding upon existing riparian management efforts in your Focus Area to support a programmatic approach to riparian management. Describe the planning basis (i.e., existing or proposed reach-scale plans) for restoration and protection priorities that will guide landowner outreach and recruitment. Highlight the interrelated elements of your proposal as they relate to the Investment Priority categories (i.e., Reach-scale Planning and Outreach, Native Plant Materials etc.) and what is needed to establish and/or accelerate riparian restoration and protection activities in your proposed Focus Area. Provide details on how the proposed activities will lead to a durable program that can continue past the immediate funding available under this funding opportunity. (Recommended maximum of 4,000-characters including spaces.)

Scoring Guide (question 6 only, 0-25 points):

* *Does the proposal describe a holistic programmatic approach to work within the Focus Area that may be sustainable beyond the current funding? (Generally, a programmatic approach will advance activities within most, if not all of the Investment Priorities established by the CR2SL).*
* *Does the proposal describe activities likely to accelerate riparian restoration and/or protection in the Focus Area given landowner and land use context described in question 5?*
* *Does the proposal propose to fund or is based in a reach-scale plan that has clearly established priorities for landowner engagement and implementation activities.*

Enter your response here…

Questions 6a-6f below are specific to each priority listed in the Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Investment Plan. For each priority, answer the associated questions. If your application scope of work does not include elements listed in the investment priority section, leave that section blank or mark the question as “Not Applicable”. Each question answered will be evaluated on a 0-10 scale, where the final score (out of 25 total possible) will be based upon percentage of total possible points where each question (6a-6f) will receive equal weight for this category of criteria.

Example hypothetical scoring for 6a-6f:

6a = 5/10 points possible

6b NA

6c NA

6d = 9/10 points possible

6e = 3/10 points possible

6f = 6/10 points possible

Total score for 6a-6f = 23/40 = 57.5%

**Total Evaluation points for 6a-6f = 0.575 \* 25 = 14.4**

Questions 6a-6f reflect the funding priorities established in the CR2SL Eligible Funding Table in the [Funding Guidelines](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406020.html) (Chapter 1). This funding opportunity prioritizes creation or expansion of sustainable, locally supported, programmatic approaches to riparian management in priority areas. Programmatic approaches to riparian management will contain elements of most, if not all the following investment areas. Describe how activities under the following investment priorities will accelerate and advance sustainable approaches to riparian restoration and protection. Where possible, describe and quantify the Measure of Impact of the activities as they relate to the Key Goals, Outcomes and Outputs described in the [2024 Investment Plan](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406015.html).[[11]](#footnote-12) Appendix O of the [Funding Guidelines](https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406020.html) should be considered as well for relevant metrics for each Investment Priority. If only one investment priority is proposed, provide documentation of other activities, programs, or leveraged work that will allow for a programmatic approach to the work.

Scoring guide (applies to each of the questions 6a-6f below):

* *Does the proposal describe, and where possible quantify (referencing Key Investment Priority Goals/Outcomes/Outputs) a significant impact with lasting outcomes on the riparian management programs in the area?*
* *Does the lead applicant and partners on the application, have the expertise and capabilities relative to the focus area and the focus reaches to achieve the desired outcomes?*

### 6.a Reach-Scale Planning and Outreach

Describe the proposed local collaboration and outreach efforts to support a holistic and efficient reach-scale restoration approach. This may include 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. Proposals may also want to include a description of how the planning efforts will lead to implementation and other sources of funding that would be leveraged for the implementation activities (if not requested in this proposal). Describe the reach-scale planning and outreach activities for this proposal.

Scoring Guide: Applications that include Reach-scale Planning and Outreach activities will be evaluated based on how they accomplish the following (recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces):

**Investment Priority Goal:**

Collaborative reach or watershed scale planning leads to increased rates of riparian restoration, quality and quantity of riparian areas are increased, and long-term ecosystem function is supported and climate resiliency is improved.

**Key Investment Priority Outcomes:**

* A pipeline of landowners willing to implement riparian restoration and protection activities in priority reaches and watersheds throughout the region;
* Key partners and landowners on a collaborative reach scale planning effort in the watershed and the holistic priorities and implementation needs;
* More efficient, prioritized approach to engaging and tracking landowner engagements are completed.

**Key Investment Priority Outputs:**

* Increased number of landowners reached;
* Increased number of landowners added to project pipeline;
* Collaborative reach-scale management plan;
* Identification and prioritization of restoration and protection activities;
* Social marketing campaigns developed;
* Database management tools developed.

Enter your response here…

### 6.b Native Plant Materials: Plant propagation, procurement, holding facilities, and small nursery support

Describe the proposed activities for native plant materials propagation, procurement, holding facility support, and/or small nursery support. These activities will increase the accessibility, diversity, and quality of site-appropriate and pest and pathogen free plant materials and facilities to produce native plants for riparian buffer establishment and enrichment and tend these plants until out planting. Describe the native plant material activities for this proposal. (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

**Investment Priority Goal:**

The improvements in supplying native plant materials to the supply chain leads to increased restoration and long-term protection, increased quality and quantity of riparian areas, supported long-term ecosystem function, and improved climate resiliency.

**Key Investment Priority Outcomes:**

* Local and regional needs for diverse, high quality, and site-appropriate plant supplies are supported by a robust network of nurseries with efficient management systems to ensure the timely delivery of plants and meet the demand for increasing rates of riparian restoration;
* Collaborative approaches to solve current systemic challenges in growing native plants on a regional level;
* The system for providing plant supplies is improved;
* Native plant supply increases to match the rate of riparian restoration.

**Key Investment Priority Outputs:**

* Cutting block programs are established;
* Increase holding facility capacity and implement Best Management Practices;
* Upgraded facilities;

Enter your response here…

### 6.c. Landowner Incentives

Describe the proposed activities for incentivizing riparian restoration for landowners. This may include costs associated with direct ecosystem services payments (a future eligible expense as described in the Funding Guidelines), harvestable agroforestry plantings, and installation of agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) that would improve agricultural operations and provide riparian protection. Describe the landowner incentives activities for this proposal. (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

**Investment Priority Goal:**

Improvements to landowner incentives and availability lead to increased restoration and long-term protection, increased quality and quantity of riparian areas, supported long-term ecosystem function, and improved climate resiliency. Payments and incentives also lead to increased protection and maintenance of existing riparian habitat.

**Key Investment Priority Outcomes:**

* Improved communication and understanding amongst landowners about incentive program options;
* Improved trust and collaboration between landowners and incentive program providers;
* Increased interest, demand for and participation in riparian incentive programs in priority Puget Sound watersheds;
* Demonstrated pilot models of innovative incentive programs that can shift practices and provide a sustainable roadmap for the future;
* New and improved incentive opportunities offered to riparian landowners in priority Puget Sound watersheds;

**Key Investment Priority Outputs:**

* Increased number of riparian acres in priority Puget Sound watersheds enrolled in incentivized riparian restoration programs;
* New and improved incentive opportunities offered to riparian landowners in priority Puget Sound watersheds
* New or improved incentive programs increase participation in restoration projects and riparian plantings
* Payments and incentives that align with market rental rates, commodity pricing, and other ecosystem values are provided;

Enter your response here…

### 6.d. Riparian Restoration Implementation

Describe the proposed activities for riparian restoration implementation. This may include costs associated with project planning, project management, plant procurement, site preparation, planting, plant establishment, and initial site maintenance. Describe the riparian restoration activities for this proposal. (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

**Investment Priority Goal:**

Leveraged funding and increased plantings in riparian areas and stream enhancement leads to increased restoration and long-term protection, increased quality and quantity of riparian areas, supported long-term ecosystem function, and improved climate resiliency. Reach and watershed scale approaches also lead to increased long-term maintenance of existing riparian habitat.

**Key Investment Priority Outcomes:**

* Process-based riparian forest establishment is supported and natural regeneration is encouraged;
* Functional riparian systems in priority reaches and watersheds throughout the region are restored, preserved, and sustainably managed;
* Increased climate resiliency in priority reaches and watersheds;

**Key Investment Priority Outputs:**

* Plantings in riparian areas in priority reaches and watersheds, by acres;
* Plantings in streambanks in priority reaches and watersheds, by miles;
* Increase average riparian widths in priority reaches and watersheds, by feet;
* Increase the amount of leveraged funds for riparian restoration;

Enter your response here…

### 6.e. Maintenance, Monitoring, and Adaptive Management

Describe the proposed activities for maintenance, monitoring, and adaptive management. Activities may provide long-term riparian project support needs beyond the typical 3-4 year grant term. This may include costs associated with site maintenance of existing riparian projects in priority watersheds. Describe the maintenance, monitoring, and adaptive management for this proposal. (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

**Investment Priority Goal:**

Provide long-term riparian maintenance and monitoring support to increase quality and quantity of riparian areas, support long-term ecosystem function, and improve climate resiliency.

**Key Investment Priority Outcomes:**

* Improved long-term riparian function and climate resilience on existing sites;
* Increased number of crew hours performing maintenance on existing riparian sites;
* Increased number of maintenance hours provided to riparian landowners that participate in an existing incentive program with limited maintenance support;
* Increased number of riparian project monitoring data points collected and available;
* Decreased presence of invasive weed infestations on existing riparian sites;
* Increased survival rates of native trees and shrubs on existing riparian projects;

**Key Investment Priority Outputs:**

* Increased number of riparian acres in priority Puget Sound watersheds moving from “good” to “excellent” habitat quality;
* Improved understanding and sharing of riparian best practices for climate resilience;
* Improved community perception of less weedy riparian restoration actions;
* Riparian best practices for climate resilience are improved;

Enter your response here

### 6.f. Permanent Protection of Riparian Habitat

Describe the proposed activities for permanent protection of riparian habitat. These activities focus on conserving intact, quality riparian buffers in priority areas and permanently protecting riparian areas where reach-scale plans for restoration are in place. This may include costs associated with conservation easements and acquisitions, or other proposed activities that stabilize or secure the conservation and cultural values of existing riparian areas. Describe the permanent protection of riparian habitat activities for this proposal. (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

**Investment Priority Goal:**

Permanent protection leads to increased rates of riparian restoration and long-term protection, quality and quantity riparian areas, long-term ecosystem function is supported, and climate resiliency is improved. Additionally, increases in permanent protection leads to protected and maintained existing high quality riparian habitats.

**Key Investment Priority Outcomes:**

* Innovative riparian restoration easement programs support landowner engagement and recruitment efforts;
* Long-term maintenance needs support landowner engagement and recruitment efforts;
* Replicable riparian restoration easement programs support landowner engagement and recruitment efforts;

**Key Investment Priority Outputs:**

* Increased miles of streambank protected by land or easement acquisition;
* Acres of restored land maintained;
* Replicable riparian easement programs developed;
* Support a region wide effort to prevent degradation of ecosystem function;

Enter your response here

### Programmatic Capability (15 points, 7.5% of score)

Describe the lead applicant and partners on the application, their expertise and capabilities relative to the Focus Area and Focus Reach(es) context as well as how they are positioned to advance key tasks within the Investment Priorities that will be supported with this proposal. (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

Scoring Guide for the section: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *Does the proposal describe how the lead applicant and partners engaged in activities under each of the relevant investment priorities will accelerate and advance sustainable approaches to riparian restoration and/or protection?*
* *Does the lead applicant and partners on the application bring the right expertise, and capabilities relative to the focus area and the focus reaches they intend to implement the project within?*

Enter your response here

## Cross-Cutting Considerations

### Community Engagement and Environmental Justice (10 points, 5% of score)

Community Based Organization (CBO) applicants, please describe how the proposal reflects community priorities. Non-CBO applicants, please describe your collaboration and engagement with local CBOs for this proposal and how proposal activities may affect overburdened communities and vulnerable populations. A Community-Based Organization is one that is driven by community residents in all aspects of its existence. By that we mean:

* The majority of the governing body and staff consists of local residents,
* The main operating offices are in the community,
* Priority issue areas are identified and defined by residents,
* Solutions to address priority issues are developed with residents, and
* Program design, implementation, and evaluation components have residents intimately involved in leadership positions.

Consider the following in your response:

For CBO applicants:

* What are the anticipated environmental justice or environmental health impacts (positive and negative) of the proposal on vulnerable or disadvantaged communities. Where negative impacts are possible, describe how the proposed approach will mitigate these.
* Does the proposed Focus Area include communities with high impacts from toxics and have low scores in the WA Health Disparities Map?
* Describe how community input and priorities have informed the proposal.
* Describe potential benefits of the proposal to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
* Describe how you will engage the communities who will be affected by this work throughout the life of the project.

For non-CBO applicants:

* What are the anticipated environmental justice or environmental health impacts (positive and negative) of the proposal on vulnerable or disadvantaged communities. Where negative impacts are possible, describe how the proposed approach will mitigate these.
* Does the proposed Focus Area include communities with high impacts from toxics and have low scores in the WA Health Disparities Map?
* Describe the integration of local CBOs or overburdened community engagement within this proposal. Identify specific tasks and areas of the work plan that will include coordination with CBOs and any plan to compensate CBO partners or community participants under this proposal.
* Describe CBO support for the current proposal. Provide detail of the nature of the support and documentation of such in the Letters of Support section (including attachments of these).
* Describe potential benefits of the proposal to specific overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
* Describe how you will engage the communities who will be affected by this work throughout the life of the project.
* How will you connect with local community forums to share and communicate project goals and outcomes to identify local issues?

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *Is the proposed work led by or does it meaningfully include a Community Based Organization(s), have support from the surrounding community, and/or benefit an overburdened community or vulnerable population?*
* *Does the proposed work consider the impacts on environmental justice, environmental health, and disproportionally impacted communities?*
* *Does the proposed work include meaningful engagement with the surrounding community?*

Enter your response here… (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

### Climate change resilience and adaptation (20 points, 10% of score)

Describe how the proposal takes action to prepare for, adapt, or increase ecological resilience under current and projected impacts of climate change. Describe the projected and observed ecological impacts of climate change to streams within your proposed focus area. Cite any references used. Organize your response by and include specific references to the activities proposed under the relevant Investment Priority category. Consider the following in your response: (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

* How do your reach-scale planning and restoration strategies support climate adaptation, mitigation and/or adaptive capacity? You may integrate information on climate change projections and how actions will improve resilience and adaptation.
* Describe cultural experts, technical leads, or other advisory groups for program designs that support resiliency and adaptation to climate change.
* Describe climate-smart practices you use or plan to use to improve riparian management and planting success in the Focus Area.

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *Does the proposed work support mitigation, adaptation, and adaptive capacity of communities to climate change?*
* *Does the proposal specify actions to prepare for and adjust to current and projected impacts of climate change?*

Enter your response here…

## Partner Engagement and Support

### Tribal Leadership and/or Engagement (10 points, 5% of score)

Tribal applicants please describe how the proposal reflects Tribal priorities. Non-tribal applicants please describe your collaboration and engagement with local Tribe(s) for this proposal and how proposal activities may affect Tribal treaty rights. Consider the following in your response: (Recommended maximum of 5,000-characters including spaces.)

For Tribal applicants:

* Describe how Tribal vision and priorities has informed the proposal.
* Describe potential benefits of the proposal to Tribal communities, including protection /promotion of Tribal Treaty Rights

For non-Tribal applicants:

* Describe the integration of local Tribal governments or Tribally-led organizations within this proposal. Identify specific tasks and areas of the work plan that will include coordination with other Tribal Governments and any plan to compensate Tribal partners under this proposal.
* Describe formal Tribal support for the current proposal. Provide detail of the nature of the support and documentation of such in the Letters of Support section (including attachments of these).
* Describe potential benefits of the proposal to specific Tribal communities, including protection /promotion of Tribal Treaty Rights.

Scoring Guide: Applications will be evaluated based on:

* *Is the proposed work led by or does it meaningfully include Tribal government(s), have support from affected Tribes and the surrounding community, and/or benefit the long-term promotion of Tribal Treaty Rights?*

Enter your response here…

### Letters of support (5 points, 2.5% of score)

Provide letters of support for the proposal from partners or coalition members. Describe the letters in the response space below and include as attachments to the application. At a minimum, include letters from:

* Letter from your own or a supporting Tribal Council/Leadership body or Tribal Natural Resource Department.
* Landowners pre-identified for implementation funding (restoration or protection activities) at the time of the proposal. Consider use of the Landowner Acknowledgement Form, example provided in our Funding Guidelines and on our Riparian [Grant Resources website](https://ecology.wa.gov/water-shorelines/puget-sound/helping-puget-sound/riparian-restoration/Grant-application-resources).[[12]](#footnote-13)
* Community based organizations identified as key partners or advisory groups to be used to inform the planning and outreach activities proposed.
* Tribal or indigenous led organizations identified as supportive, or project partners on the proposal.

**Questions about this application:**

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**For more information, see our** [**Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Grant webpage**](https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/payments-contracts-grants/grants-loans/find-a-grant-or-loan/climate-resilient-riparian)**.**

1. https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/payments-contracts-grants/grants-loans/find-a-grant-or-loan/climate-resilient-riparian [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. https://ecology.wa.gov/water-shorelines/puget-sound/helping-puget-sound/riparian-restoration/Grant-application-resources [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406020.html, *Climate Resilient Riparian Systems Lead November 2024 Solicitation Funding Guidelines* [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/2406015.html [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. https://ecology.wa.gov/Issues-and-local-projects/Investing-in-communities/Scientific-services/Quality-assurance/Quality-assurance-for-NEP-grantees [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406020.html [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406020.html [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070537.html [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070560.html [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. Landowner Acknowledgement Form example provided in our Funding Guidelines [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
11. https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/summarypages/2406015.html [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
12. https://ecology.wa.gov/water-shorelines/puget-sound/helping-puget-sound/riparian-restoration/Grant-application-resources [↑](#footnote-ref-13)