

Floodplains by Design Grant Program

2027-29 Pre-Applications



Pre-Applications Received

In January 2026, Ecology received 27 pre-applications for the Floodplains by Design (FbD) grant program's 2027-29 funding round. We have reviewed all pre-applications and determined that each one meets eligibility criteria and invited all the project proponents (applicants) to move on to submit a full application later this spring (the application window will be March 12 to May 13, 2026). Below, you will find the list of applicants who submitted pre-applications in alphabetical order, along with brief descriptions of their proposed projects as submitted to Ecology. If you have questions about the pre-applications received or the 2027-29 funding round in general, please contact Amelia Petersen (she/her), Statewide Floodplain Planner, in the Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program: amelia.petersen@ecy.wa.gov.

Aberdeen, City of – North Shore Levee (NSL) Property Acquisition

The City will acquire privately owned properties between Market Street and the Wishkah River and provide relocation assistance in compliance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970. Structures and utilities will be removed, and environmental remediation will be completed, including hazardous materials abatement and restoration of impervious areas. An earthen levee/berm, anticipated to be funded and constructed through the NSL Project, will generally follow the Wishkah River alignment to Chicago Avenue, where it will transition into a raised roadway designed to provide up to 500-year flood protection. Acquired land water ward of the flood protection system will be permanently converted to open space and managed as a functional floodplain with a potential future use as a recreational area.

Benton, City of – Mobile Home Park Floodplain Restoration

The City proposes to acquire the property and remove residential structures and associated infrastructure from the floodplain. Following the acquisition, the project will restore the site to a flood-compatible condition by removing impervious surfaces and reestablishing natural floodplain functions. Restoration actions are expected to include grading as needed to support floodplain connectivity, planting native vegetation, and stabilizing the area to reduce erosion and pollutant transport. These actions will permanently eliminate residential exposure to flood hazards at the site while allowing the river to access its floodplain during high-flow events safely.

Chelan County – Mission Creek-Cashmere Floodplain Assessment

Chelan County Natural Resources Department was asked by the City of Cashmere to partner on a funding proposal to complete a community-based planning process including floodplain and habitat assessments, an alternatives analysis, and the development of project concepts. Outcomes/goals are to improve stream function and water quality, minimize flood impacts to private properties and roads and improve overall aquatic and salmon habitat. A proactive planning process will help identify current and future issues while providing opportunities for making improvements to stream conditions and function.

Clallam County – Bogachiel River Floodplain & Community Resilience

State Route (SR) 110 is a critical transportation corridor connecting the Quileute Reservation and the Tribal community of La Push to the rest of the Olympic Peninsula via US 101. Channel migration and overbank flooding pose a serious risk to a one-half-mile section of SR 110 near mile post 8.5. All utilities, including water supply, power lines, telephone lines, and fiber-optic cable, are co-located with the road. SR 110 becomes impassable from flooding every year, disrupting Tribal operations, and leaving the community without access to emergency services. In addition to frequent flooding, this stretch of SR 110 sits in a known avulsion pathway for the Bogachiel River, placing the roadway and utilities at risk of potentially catastrophic damage. To facilitate a healthy and resilient river corridor, the County seeks integrated solutions to address SR 110 flooding and avulsion risk while restoring salmon habitat, securing conservation easements, increasing floodplain connectivity, and enhancing climate resilience.

Columbia Conservation District – Touchet Stream Design & Restoration

Columbia Conservation District is applying for 4 project areas within the Touchet Watershed. These 4 projects include: Touchet North Fork (NF) 1/ South Fork (SF) 1 Designs (partnered with Columbia County and City of Dayton), Touchet Main Stem (MS) 15 Final Designs and Construction, Touchet Main Stem (MS) 14 Final Designs and Construction, and Touchet Main Stem (MS) 10 Designs and Construction. These projects are all high priority projects as described in the Touchet Geomorphic Assessment and Restoration Plan and in the 2009 Middle Columbia River Steelhead Distinct Population Segment ESA Recovery Plan. These projects are also within priority restoration reaches determined by the Snake River Salmon Recovery board for designation as major spawning areas for ESA listed Steelhead, bull trout and reintroduced spring Chinook.

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation – Kartar Creek Floodplain Study

The site includes Kartar Creek, a highly silted mountain stream west of Omak Lake. The ecology and topography of the site have been significantly altered over time, with portions of the land converted for agricultural use, and several roads constructed, most notably Omak Lake Road, which crosses the creek. The ecosystem functions have been highly affected, with localized decrease in biodiversity, wildfire resiliency, and drought tolerance. These landscape changes have also affected the local infrastructure. Omak Lake Road is no longer passable due to silt buildup from periodic flooding and residents' well water levels have dropped.

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation – Beaver/Watson Floodplain Reconnection

Funding is requested to design and build multi-benefit actions in Reach 2 of the Tucannon River. The project will reconnect floodplains, replace dilapidated infrastructure, and improve recreational opportunities by 1) removing Beaver/Watson Lake from the floodplain, reconnecting 27 acres of floodplain along 1.5 river miles; 2) building a new recreational fishing pond (5 acres) outside the floodplain; and 3) improving safety by flood proofing roads, camping areas, power lines. The floodplain reconnection will allow for natural processes that sustain and improve habitat for Tucannon spring Chinook and other listed species.

Forterra NW – Hamilton Floodplain Phase II Education, Property Acquisition, & Restoration

Together with project partners, Forterra NW will continue to strengthen the community's emergency preparedness and understanding of flood risk, support property owners with voluntary sales, support displaced tenants, remove infrastructure, and begin restoration. The project's goals are to build on the success of Phase I to assist residents with relocating out of the floodway and remove structures for restoration. Restoration plans and plantings will establish native species that will support a healthy riparian corridor for riverfront properties once sufficient adjacency is achieved.

Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group – State Route 300 Estuary Restoration Feasibility

State Route (SR) 300 runs southwest out of Belfair in the historic floodplain of the Union River estuary. During large storm events and king tides, SR 300 is subject to frequent flooding and embankment erosion that require frequent closures and repairs. It includes two fish barrier culverts, an armored section in the Union River channel migration zone, and an undersized bridge that racks large wood on its piers.

King County Water & Land Resources Division – Lower Miller River Floodplain Restoration

The project will remove defunct infrastructure (e.g. levees and roads damaged by previous extreme flood events) that impede riverine processes and constrict flow, and construct modern flood protection facilities to protect adjacent infrastructure, reconnect the river channel with floodplain areas that fish and animals use for survival, construct log jams to increase the complexity of physical conditions, and replant riparian areas. This project provides substantial flood-risk reduction for the unprotected BNSF rail line, identified as the primary evacuation corridor for the Skykomish community.

Lincoln County Conservation District – Edwall Drainage Cleanout

This project will improve drainage, reduce flood hazards, and restore natural ecosystem functions along an unnamed, intermittent stream that flows southwest through the unincorporated Edwall community. Primary stressors include chronic sediment accumulation, channel aggradation, and dense in-channel vegetation caused by decades of intensive agricultural land use. These conditions reduce channel capacity and stormwater conveyance during high flow events, resulting in recurring overbank flooding, accelerated erosion, and loss of productive topsoil from adjacent agricultural lands.

Mason Conservation District – Skokomish River Flood Mitigation & Habitat Restoration

By the mid-1990s approximately 80 percent of the South Fork Skokomish had been logged and approximately 470 miles of road had been built. Land use changes in the lower valley resulted in levee construction, removal of most logjams from the channel, and most of the valley being cleared of riparian and floodplain vegetation, simplifying habitat even further. In the 1920s two dams were built on the North Fork, collecting nearly all flow, resulting in reduced sediment transport capacity and eliminating fish passage to the upper North Fork. The combination of these stressors resulted in a high sediment load, massive aggradation, loss of channel complexity, loss of large woody debris structure and recruitment, unstable sediments and channels, and increased flood frequency. These impacts have resulted in multiple ESA listed and/or extirpated salmonid stocks, and a label of the Skokomish as being the most frequently flooded river in Washington State.

Pierce County – Floodplains for the Future (FFtF)

Pierce County Planning and Public Works initiated the FFtF partnership in 2013, as an integrated floodplain management approach modeled by Floodplains by Design. FFtF's proposal for the 2027-2029 funding round brings forth a well-formed partnership and portfolio of projects aimed at providing a wide range of benefits to build safer communities in Pierce and King County's most vulnerable and at-risk populations, recover both White River Spring Chinook and Puyallup River Fall Chinook populations, preserve Treaty-protected

resources for the Puyallup and Muckleshoot Tribes, and support agricultural viability for our region's continued access to farm-fresh food.

Port Angeles, City of – Floodplain Function for Fish & Water Supply on the Elwha River

The municipal water supply for the City comes from the Elwha River, drawn from the Ranney Well, a 60+ year old hardened in-river infrastructure. Near the well are numerous in-river and floodplain facilities which were installed to protect the water supply during dam removal that are no longer serving any use. The decommissioned facilities are detrimental to the natural hydrological regime of the river and redirecting the river to the west causing the river to move away from the drinking water well. This proposed project seeks funding for model/design, water quality resiliency, river restoration, and construction to provide multiple benefits to 1) restore floodplain and river habitat and 2) provide green-infrastructure protection for the water supply.

Renton, City of – Madsen Creek Restoration & Floodplain Reconnection

Flooding along lower Madsen Creek has been an issue for decades as rapid urban development within the watershed has led to increased stormwater runoff and peak flow volumes. Currently, flooding is commonplace during events exceeding the two-year storm. Madsen Creek's connection to the Cedar River currently consists of sheet flows from a wetland north of Ron Regis Park and lacks, likely due to excess sedimentation, a well-defined connection point adequate for fish passage. The most preferred and viable design concept consists of relocating and restoring Madsen Creek to a single channel in an optimized flow path with a direct connection to the Cedar River that provides the necessary gradient to maintain flow velocities and allows sediment to get naturally transported.

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) – Royal Arch Reach

SPU commenced the Cedar River Downstream Habitat Program in 2000 and has acquired approximately 90 acres of riverside property, 50 acres of which is in the Royal Arch Reach. The Cedar provides critical habitat for multiple species of salmon and trout, two of which--Chinook and Bull trout--are ESA-listed threatened species. This work has also removed dozens of floodplain residents from harm during flood events. SPU is in the beginning stages of planning for a large-scale floodplain reconnection project in the lower half of the Royal Arch Reach and hopes to acquire an additional parcel to complete the contiguous ownership of all the needed parcels of floodplain property on the right-bank of the Cedar River in the reach.

Skagit Conservation District – Lower Colony Creek Subbasin Restoration Phase 4: Implementation

Phase 4 implementation restores natural sediment and hydrologic processes to improve flow conveyance, floodplain function, habitat, and agricultural compatibility while creating inset

floodplains, setback berms, and riparian plantings throughout the subbasin. Work includes improved stream crossings; restoration of braided channels, side channel connections, large woody debris, and expanded riparian buffers; improved flood drainage and storage; increased channel sinuosity; and pond enlargement.

Skagit County/Skagit River System Cooperative/Upper Skagit Indian Tribe – North Fork Skagit Property Acquisition

Skagit County has negotiated an option agreement to purchase 584 acres of privately-owned farmland and upland along the North Fork Skagit River. This purchase would allow for protection, restoration, and continued farming. The uplands are prime locations for development. The purchase would allow the culturally significant area on the upland areas to be returned to the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community. A portion of the farmland would allow for estuary restoration of a high priority project identified in 1) the Skagit Chinook Recovery Plan and 2) a subsequent analysis that prioritized projects based on farm, fish and flood benefits and impacts.

Snohomish County – Community Floodplain Solutions (CFS) Phase 5 Implementation

The CFS program is a cooperative effort between many watershed partners, aimed at working collaboratively to achieve shared goals: increase ecological function to support ESA-listed Chinook salmon and steelhead, as well as coho, chum and pink salmon, reduce impact to local infrastructure from flooding and sediment transport, protect and enhance farmland productivity and local food security, and improve water quality and passive recreational opportunities. This package is the continuation of work that was funded for CFS Phases 1-4 and will provide critical construction funding, while further developing a pipeline of reach scale actions throughout the Snohomish Basin.

Snohomish County – Community Floodplain Solutions (CFS) Stillaguamish Mainstem & Forks Phase 1

CFS in the Stillaguamish Mainstem and Forks proposal is a cooperative effort between watershed partners and Tribes to plan and implement multi-benefit projects aimed at achieving the following goals: increase ecological function and climate resilience, reduce flood impacts, protect farmland and improve local food security, maintain open space, and improve water quality. The Stillaguamish Watershed Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan identifies protection and restoration strategies supporting salmon recovery that includes the North Fork Stillaguamish River. Recommended strategies aim to restore natural river processes that create and maintain complex salmon habitat through the removal of infrastructure, wherever possible, to reconnect the river to its floodplain and off-channel habitat. Proposed actions are focused on reconnecting at least 95 acres of floodplain which will improve salmon access to streams in the floodplain and provide flood water storage during high flow events.

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group – Fish, Forest, Flood Coordination & Implementation in the Mashel Subbasin

This project brings together local, state, and tribal partners to establish an integrated, coordinated whole-watershed approach to fish habitat restoration, forest management, and flood risk reduction in the Mashel and Little Mashel subbasins. Project activities will address flood risk both in the immediate vicinity for the over 2,800 residents of Eatonville and nearby rural properties, as well as benefiting downstream residents in the broader Nisqually watershed through application of innovative measures to improve flood storage capacity on working forestlands.

Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians – Community Floodplain Solutions (CFS) in the Stillaguamish Delta

The actions in this proposal are focused on reducing current and preventing future flood risk, improving ecological function, and maintaining agricultural viability and open space in the Stillaguamish delta. The proposed actions are expected to restore estuary habitat in support of endangered Chinook salmon, invest in flood protection infrastructure to protect vulnerable farmland and rural communities from flooding, preserve agricultural viability, maintain open space, and keep additional people and infrastructure out of this flood prone area.

Trout Unlimited – Grouse Creek Ranch Restoration on Hangman Creek

This project will provide water quality and public health benefits by planning and implementing a portfolio of process-based restoration techniques to reconnect Hangman Creek with its floodplain. Restoration actions will improve Hangman Creek habitat conditions, supporting improved spawning, rearing, and migration habitat for Redband trout and for reintroduction of anadromous salmonids. The project will contribute to important efforts to restore critical cultural, spiritual, and first food resources for local Tribes, improve recreational opportunities for the public, and enhance the local recreation economy (e.g., fishing, boating, etc.). This large-scale restoration project will also infuse the local rural economy with restoration-related construction funding and employ local workers during construction.

Tumwater, City of – Deschutes River Watershed Recovery

This project addresses four key integrated floodplain management challenges at a watershed scale: (1) winter/spring floods, (2) insufficient water during increasingly dry summers, (3) declining water quality, and (4) associated impacts on declining salmon fisheries, a critical economic and cultural right of the Squaxin Island Tribe. The Deschutes River has received 21 federal flood disaster declarations. During winter rains, rapidly rising peak flows cause frequent flooding that threatens public safety, public health, and the economy in Tumwater and downstream in Olympia. When high river flows coincide with tidal influence, downtown Olympia experiences severe flooding that disrupts critical transportation routes and threatens

essential infrastructure. In contrast, during the summer months the rain-fed Deschutes River experiences prolonged low-flow conditions, resulting in water scarcity that is insufficient to sustain native fisheries and local agriculture.

Walla Walla County Conservation District – Yellowhawk Geomorphic Assessment & Prioritization Plan

Yellowhawk Creek is a highly modified tributary within the Walla Walla River basin. The goal of this project is to develop a geomorphic assessment and prioritization plan that incorporates a watershed level understanding of the factors at play and can be used to direct future funding. This will be accomplished by compiling existing information, filling data gaps, and reaching out to landowners to better understand conditions within the system and identify areas where restoration will provide the most benefit.

Whatcom County – The Nooksack River: Floodplains that Work, Phase 5

Flood impacts in 2021 and 2025 were felt throughout the watershed, including the communities of Acme and Deming and the cities of Glacier, Nooksack, Everson, Sumas, Ferndale and Lynden. Floodplains that Work addresses these challenges holistically, from the headwaters to the bay and works to reduce flood risk, recover salmon populations, preserve cultural resources and improve the resiliency of floodplain agriculture and communities. Collectively, the proposed actions will reduce stream power, improve redd survival and provision of cold water refugia, protect treaty resources, reduce maintenance on and failure rates of levee infrastructure, buy out high flood risk properties and key properties needed for projects, increase protections for rural city residences, businesses and public infrastructure and enhance flood resilience for agricultural operations.

Yakama Nation – Taneum River Mile 5 Floodplain Restoration

Restoration actions include removal of artificial berms and cutting new channels to reopen 4450 feet of relict side channel habitat and increase primary channel length by 750 feet. The cut material will be placed in the existing channel for immediate aggradation and connectivity with the floodplain, raising the channel bed elevation by 2.5 feet. Additionally, 13.1 acres of new riparian area will be planted. A driveway accessing private property to the south of Taneum Creek will be realigned to reduce the level of floodplain confinement, and an additional 100-foot bridge will be added on the existing 40-foot crossing to expand the river-floodplain corridor. An existing flood berm at the lower end of the project will be set back to limit overbank flows toward downstream private property and redirect flood flows into the restoration corridor, as the existing berm does not protect critical infrastructure.