



Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program

Femke Freiberg, Alex Mahmoud and Ernie Newborn, NFWF

April 20, 2026

Applicant Webinar

Columbia Basin Program Staff

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NFWF



Agenda

- NFWF Overview
- Program Overview
- Funding Priorities
- Program Guidelines and Eligibility
- Monitoring and Reporting
- How to Apply
- Evaluation Criteria
- Timeline

ABOUT NFWF

WHO WE ARE

- 501 (c)(3) Chartered by Congress in 1984
- 30-member Board appointed by Secretary of the Interior
- \$300-\$500 million in conservation investments per year

WHAT WE DO

- Sustain, restore, enhance the nation's natural heritage
- Bring collaboration among federal agencies & private sector
- Create common ground among diverse interests

HOW WE DO IT

- Leverage public funding with private money— average 3:1
- On-the-ground conservation projects through grant making

NFWF is not an advocacy organization and does not engage in lobbying or litigation

Program Overview: History and Partners

Bonneville
POWER ADMINISTRATION



1980 NORTHWEST POWER ACT

“The Administrator shall use the Bonneville Power Administration Fund to protect, mitigate, and enhance fish and wildlife affected by the FCRPS.”



TRIBAL TRUST & TREATY PROVISIONS

BPA will consult with the Tribal governments prior to BPA taking actions, making decisions, or implementing programs that may affect Tribal resources.



Columbia Basin
Water Transactions
Program



ESA listed salmon
and steelhead



Listed and unlisted
resident fish



Wildlife



ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT, FCRPS BIOLOGICAL OPINIONS

“Each federal agency shall... insure that any action authorized funded, or carried out by such agency is not likely to jeopardize continued existence... of any endangered species.”



Altria



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Program Overview: Conservation Goal

Maximize voluntary restoration in flow-limited streams critical to the survival of native fish species, while improving resilience of communities throughout the Columbia Basin.

Program Overview: Current Funding Priorities



1. Voluntary Water Transactions

2. Conserved Water Projects

3. Community Impact and Landowner
Engagement Projects

Program Overview: Current Funding Opportunities



1. Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program Grants (Bonneville Power Administration)
2. U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Grants

We strongly encourage you to contact NFWF staff to discuss potential projects for NRCS funding.



Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program Grants (BPA)

- Part of the largest instream flow restoration program in the country
- Funded by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) in cooperation with Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC)
- Required under the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) 2020 Biological Opinion (BiOp)
- Supports voluntary, market-based temporary and permanent water rights acquisitions and other incentive-based approaches to improve environmental flows for listed species

Grant Size Range: \$15,000- \$350,000
Match Encouraged



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Types of CBWTP Funding

Programmatic

Transaction Development

- Staff time
- Travel
- Supplies/materials
- Other associated costs of developing a water transaction
- Annual grants

Transactional

Direct Water Costs

- Eligible only if a programmatic grant is awarded
- Separate submission and review process (rolling implementation)

Geographic/Species Priorities: CBWTP Programmatic Funding

- ESA listed species in BPA BiOp identified areas
- ESA listed anadromous species not specified above (National Marine Fisheries Service and 2020 CRS BiOp)
- ESA listed resident U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or state species of concern within ID, MT, OR, or WA
- Other fish or wildlife not listed above where a benefit can be tied to increased flows in a specific location



Figure 1. Columbia Basin with BIOP Identified Geographies



U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Grants (NRCS)

- Technical assistance for landowners to develop future habitat restoration projects on working lands to improve and protect water quality and quantity
- Projects should engage agricultural producers in conservation practices and increase participation in USDA Programs administered by NRCS such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, Conservation Stewardship Program, Conservation Reserve Program, Agricultural Conservation Easement Program, and Working Lands for Wildlife
- Projects must be on working lands within Columbia Basin watersheds located in Washington State

Grant Size Range: \$50,000- \$300,000
Match encouraged



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Geographic/Species Priorities: USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

- All proposed activities must be located within the Columbia River Basin in Washington State
- ESA listed anadromous and resident U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or state species of concern



Figure 3. Columbia Basin in Washington State



Program Guidelines and Eligibility

- Eligible applicants include: local, state, and Tribal governments and agencies (e.g., townships, cities, boroughs), special districts (e.g., conservation districts, planning districts, utility districts), non-profit 501(c) organizations, and educational institutions.
- No political advocacy, fundraising, lobbying, terrorism or litigation.
- Not to implement legal requirements (mitigation, permit conditions, etc.). However, grant funds may be used to support projects that enhance or improve upon existing baseline compliance efforts.
- Applicants are encouraged to rent equipment where possible and cost-effective or use matching funds to make those purchases.
- Cannot use funds for telecommunications equipment or services produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation.



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Program Guidelines and Eligibility - NEW

- Pursuant to the American Security Drone Act (ASDA), effective December 22, 2025, applicants proposing activities funded in whole or in part with federal funds may not use, operate, or purchase any drone or uncrewed aerial systems (UAS) included on the Covered Foreign Entities (CFE) List. This prohibition applies to both new purchases and continued use of existing UAS, including certain widely used commercial platforms, such as DJI and Autel. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all proposed and existing UAS used in connection with federally funded activities comply with applicable federal law and are not included on the CFE List. Noncompliance may affect eligibility for funding.



Metrics

- Acre feet of water conserved
- # Passage barriers assessed and/or with design plans
- # Participants receiving government agency cost share or financial assistance
- Dollar value of government agency cost share or financial assistance
- Acres covered by government agency cost share or financial assistance
- # Engineering and design plans developed



Monitoring and Reporting

For Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program Grants:

- All water transactions required to be compliant with [Flow Restoration Accounting Framework \(FRAF\)](#)
- Instructions on recording transaction monitoring data can be found in the [CBWTP Workplan](#)

For all grants:

- Semi-annual programmatic reporting
- Final programmatic and financial reporting



New Applicant Full Proposal Process



How to Apply in Easygrants

[? Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Log In

[New User?](#)

Login ID / Email

Password

Remember Me [Forgot Password?](#)

Log In

For the optimal Easygrants experience, please:

- [Use a Supported Browser](#)
- [Enable Pop-ups](#)
- [Allow Cookies](#)
- [Only Use One Tab](#)
- [Get Adobe Reader](#)
- [Log Out and Close Browser for Security](#)

Register

First Name *

Middle Name

Last Name *

Login ID / Email *

Confirm Login ID / Email *

Password *

[Password Requirements](#)

Confirm Password *

Register **Back**

How to Apply in Easygrants

My Tasks

My Grants

Profile

Apply For Funding

[Click here to respond to an RFP or to a solicited request](#)

Listed below are the current funding opportunities accepting applications. To view more details on the Funding Opportunity, click Guidelines next to the opportunity.

- To apply to a Funding Opportunity, select the opportunity and click Continue.
- To return to the Home page, click **Cancel**.

If you have been provided an RFP code please click the link at the top, then enter your code. Please note that the code is case sensitive.



Available Funding Opportunities



Available Funding Opportunities

Grants		
<input type="radio"/>	2026 Five Star Program	www.nfwf.org/programs/five-star-program
<input type="radio"/>	Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program 2026 - 2027	www.nfwf.org/CBWTP
<input type="radio"/>	Impact Directed Environmental Accounts 2026	www.nfwf.org
<input type="radio"/>	Klamath Basin Forests and Watersheds Restoration 2026	www.nfwf.org/programs/klamath-basin-restoration-program
<input type="radio"/>	Long Island Sound Futures Fund 2026	www.nfwf.org/programs/long-island-sound-futures-fund
<input type="radio"/>	Lower Mississippi Alluvial Valley Fund 2026	www.nfwf.org/programs/lower-mississippi-alluvial-valley-restoration-fund
<input type="radio"/>	Mojave Desert Tortoise Recovery Partnership 2026	www.nfwf.org/programs/desert-tortoise-recovery-partnership
<input type="radio"/>	National Species Recovery Grants Category 1 - Delisting or Downlisting	www.nfwf.org
<input type="radio"/>	National Species Recovery Grants Category 2 - Land-Use Activity Overlap	www.nfwf.org
<input type="radio"/>	Southeast Aquatics Fund 2026	www.nfwf.org/programs/southeast-aquatics
<input type="radio"/>	Vessel Strike Avoidance Fund 2026	
<input type="radio"/>	Western Big Game Seasonal Habitat and Migration Corridors Fund 2026 Option A	www.nfwf.org/programs/rocky-mountain-rangelands/western-big-game-seasonal-habitat-and-migration-corridors-fund
<input type="radio"/>	Western Big Game Seasonal Habitat and Migration Corridors Fund 2026: Option B Ecosystem Restoration Projects for States and Federally Recognized Tribes	www.nfwf.org/programs/rocky-mountain-rangelands/western-big-game-seasonal-habitat-and-migration-corridors-fund



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Submitting Your Full Proposal

My Tasks - Ernest Newborn III - Home


[My Tasks](#) [My Grants](#) [Profile](#) [Apply For Funding](#)

To access a task below, [click the task name link in the Task column](#). Please note that a task will not be considered submitted until you open the task, go to the Review and Submit page, and click the Submit button. After submitting the task will no longer display on this page but you may view a PDF copy (if applicable) by clicking the View All My Tasks button.

Peer Reviewers: To view the proposal you are reviewing please click the "Third Party Review" link. Please do not click View PDF, as it will open a copy of the review you are submitting and not the proposal.

[Apply for Funding](#)

[View All My Tasks](#)

 My Tasks

Easygrants ID	Primary Contact/PI	Task	Program Name	Funding Cycle Name	Status	Outcome	Due Date	
88804	Newborn III, Ernest	Full Proposal	Grants	Monarch Butterfly and Pollinators Conservation Fund 2025	Incomplete	Not Submitted	7/8/2025	View PDF
88731	Newborn III, Ernest	Full Proposal	Grants	Conservation Partners Program 2025	Incomplete	Not Submitted	7/15/2025	View PDF
92286	Newborn III, Ernest	Full Proposal	Grants	Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program 2026 - 2027	Incomplete	Not Submitted	5/7/2026	
90139	Newborn III, Ernest	Full Proposal	Grants	Klamath Basin Forests and Watersheds Restoration 2026	Incomplete	Not Submitted	5/18/2026	View PDF



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Main

Home

Main

Contact Information

Organization Information

Project Information

Project Location

Map

Uploads

Metrics

Budget

Matching Contributions

Permits and Approvals

Review and Submit

Project Information

Due: 5/7/2026 11:59 PM ET

Easygrants ID: 92286

Newborn III, Ernest |

Grants | Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program | Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program 2026 - 2027

Instructions

Click the page links on the left navigation bar, or in the summary below to view the pages where you will enter the information required for this submission. **Click Help for examples and instructions.** needed until you submit. Once you submit, you will no longer be able to make changes. [Click here to view Foundation Guidelines for this Funding Opportunity.](#) Other useful links that will appear in the navigation bar at left include:

- **Home** brings you back to your Home page and out of this submission task.
- **FAQ** provides answers to common questions about the Foundation's proposal elements.
- **Help** provides guidance on both content and technical aspects related to completing many of the pages in the system.
- **Log Out** logs you out of the system.

Validation Summary

Page Name	Status
Contact Information	✓ Complete
Organization Information	✗ Incomplete
Project Information	✗ Incomplete
Project Location	✗ Incomplete
Map	✗ Incomplete
Uploads	✗ Incomplete
Metrics	✗ Incomplete
Budget	✗ Incomplete
Matching Contributions	✓ Complete
Permits and Approvals	✓ Complete

Project Information

- Home
- Main
- Contact Information
- Organization Information
- Project Information
- Project Location
- Map
- Uploads
- Metrics
- Budget
- Matching Contributions
- Permits and Approvals
- Review and Submit
- FAQ
- Help
- Log Out

Project Information

Due: 5/7/2026 11:59 PM ET

Easygrants ID: 92286

Newborn III, Ernest | Grants | Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program | Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program 2026 - 2027

Instructions

Enter the details requested below regarding the project. Click **Help** for examples and instructions. Click **Save** regularly to save your work. The system will timeout and you will lose unsaved work if you do not save at least once every hour. with a red asterisk (*) are required for final submission for most programs.

Please do not exceed the character limits below to ensure that your entry is not lost or cut off when saving.

Project Details

Project Title *

Project Start Date * 

Project End Date * 

Description *

Limit: 1000 characters Remaining: 1000

Abstract *

Limit: 1500 characters Remaining: 1500

Project Budget

Requested Amount *

Project Information

Title: Short, descriptive name indicating project purpose. (~100 characters)

Description: Two sentences about primary project activities, location, outcome/metrics and relevance to conservation priorities/resource concern(s). (~500 characters)

- Clearly state the main activity and the method being used
- Address a specific habitat, location or species benefitted

Abstract: More detailed description including location, major activities, outcome/metrics, and partners. (~1,500 characters)

- State what your organization will do
- Provide context and background information
- Explain how the project outcomes will specifically address a conservation issue



Map



Map your project at the finest scale by any of the three options:

Upload Shapefile

- Select a Zip file(.zip) containing a shapefile(.shp,.dbf,.prj) from your local file system.
- The shapefile must be of POLYGON geometry type.
- The shapefile must not exceed 1 MB.

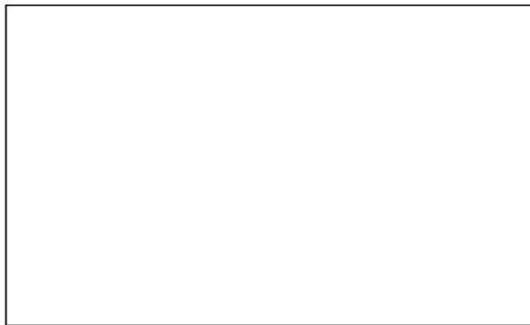
No file chosen





Select By Geography

Draw a Custom Area

My project area:



-  Submitted Project Locations
-  Pending Project Locations



I confirm that this project has been mapped as accurately as possible

Uploads

Upload Checklist

Upload Type	Required	Template
CBWTP Full Proposal Narrative 2026-27	Yes	CBWTP Full Proposal Narrative Template 2026-27
Project Map	Yes	
CBWTP Workplan Upload 2026-27	No	CBWTP Workplan Upload Template 2026-27
Letters of Support	No	
CBWTP Work Elements 2026-27	Yes	CBWTP Work Elements Template 2026-27
CBWTP 5 Year Transaction Projection 2026-27	Yes	CBWTP 5Y Transaction Projection Template 2026-27
Statement of Litigation	Yes	Statement of Litigation
Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent	Yes	
Applicant Controls Questionnaire	Yes	Applicant Controls Questionnaire (Rev 4.11.25)
GAAP audited financial statements	Yes	
IRS Form 990	Yes	
Single Audit (Formerly A-133 Audit)	Yes	
Indirect Rate Agreement	No	
Other Documents	Yes	



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Proposal Narrative

1. **Activities:** Elaborate on the primary activities that will be employed through the grant. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcome(s). Describe how these activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location.

2. **For Qualified Local Entity (QLE) applicants, for each of your priority subbasins please address the following:**
 - [Subbasin #1] (% of Budget)
Activities/Outcomes:
 - Prioritization
 - Adaptive ManagementMonitoring:

 - [Subbasin #2] (% of Budget)
Activities/Outcomes:
 - Prioritization
 - Adaptive ManagementMonitoring:

3. **For returning Qualified Local Entity (QLE) applicants, please address the following questions about your most recent three-year qualification period:**
 - I. How many water transactions did you complete and how much water (volume in acre-feet and flow rate in cubic feet-per-second) was transacted? What percentage of completed transactions were permanent?
 - II. How would you estimate your level of effort spent (percentage of funded staff time) on the following activities:
 - a) Maintaining existing active transactions and pursuing renewals
 - b) Contacting new landowners and developing new transactions
 - c) Monitoring and reporting



Proposal Narrative

4. **Outcome(s):** Elaborate on the outcome(s) summarized previously in the application; discuss what makes this outcome(s) achievable and important.
5. **Tracking Metrics:** Indicate how the project will monitor/assess progress on the metrics selected previously in the application. Please note any challenges or limitations anticipated with tracking the metrics.
6. **Project Team:** List key individuals and describe their qualifications relevant for project implementation.
7. **Other (Optional):** Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal. Include additional documentation via the uploads section's "other documents" type.



Proposal Narrative – Question #1

- 1. Activities:** Elaborate on the primary activities that will be employed through the grant. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcome(s). Describe how these activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location.
 - The more detail on where your project will be and what conservation activities will be implemented, the better
 - Describe the anticipated contributions of project partners, and how partnership has brought you to this point in applying for funding
 - You should include details about the plan for monitoring
 - Explain how the conservation activities you will implement have been prioritized in local or regional conservation plans
 - Have clear, measurable goals about what will be achieved



Proposal Narrative – Question #2

2. For Qualified Local Entity (QLE) applicants, for each of your priority subbasins please address the following:

- i. Budget: Identify the percentage of the total budget intended for work in this subbasin.
- ii. Activities and Outcomes: Describe the primary activities that will be employed through the grant. Explain how these activities are expected to lead to the outcome(s). Describe how these activities relate to established plans (management, conservation, recovery, etc.) and priority conservation needs in the specific project location. Narrative should include: why you are focusing on the particular subbasin; the flow restoration goal and how you plan to meet that goal; how does flow restoration relate to other habitat restoration in the subbasin; and how you're collaborating with other partners.
- iii. Prioritization: Clearly articulate the prioritization efforts for each subbasin both historic and future. Prioritization efforts should show the hierarchical planning that has gone into the selection of subbasins, streams, and water rights/properties/landowners. Show this logic path from the subbasin down to the transaction level to emphasize priorities and levels of importance for species. If a named existing prioritization plan is available online, please provide a link.
- iv. Adaptive Management: Demonstrate how your efforts are moving beyond preliminary practices and proof of concept methods. Transactions should strive towards permanent instream flow and work to build on previous efforts.
 - i. Monitoring: For each subbasin, describe water transaction monitoring plans in accordance with the Flow Restoration Accounting Framework regarding project compliance and implementation monitoring requirements. Address how monitoring project stewardship, streamflow, habitat and/or fish populations informs and guides adaptive management strategies on streams and transactions.



Proposal Narrative – Question #3 (Returning QLEs Only)

3. For returning Qualified Local Entity (QLE) applicants, please address the following questions about your most recent three-year qualification period:
 - i. How many water transactions did you complete and how much water (volume in acre-feet and flow rate in cubic feet-per-second) was transacted? What percentage of completed transactions were permanent?
 - ii. How would you estimate your level of effort spent (percentage of funded staff time) on the following activities:
 - a. Maintaining existing active transactions and pursuing renewals
 - b. Contacting new landowners and developing new transactions
 - c. Monitoring and reporting

Proposal Narrative – Question #4

4. Tracking Metrics: Indicate how the project will monitor/assess progress on any metrics selected previously in the application. Please note any challenges or limitations anticipated with tracking the metrics.

Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program Grants (Bonneville Power Administration) will **NOT** need to report metrics in Easygrants. Instead, adhere to the FRAF and Workplan documents linked on the NFWF website. Please use this question to provide information about intended monitoring across your grant's geography.

U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Grants **MUST** report metrics in Easygrants.



Uploads – Abbreviated Workplan for Returning QLEs

1. **Provide an overall summary of major accomplishments and collaborative efforts from the most recent previous grant period.**
2. **For each of your priority subbasins please address the following:**
 - Budget: Identify the percentage of the total budget intended for work in this subbasin.
 - Scope of Work Changes: If there are any changes or updates to your previously approved scope of work for any of the following deliverables, please provide an update below:
 - *Activities and Outcomes* – Explain any new activities, outcomes, or goals expected to be accomplished during the new grant period.
 - *Prioritization* – Describe any completed plans for the area or if any new plans will be developed during the new grant period. If a named existing prioritization plan is available online, please provide a link.
 - *Adaptive Management* – Articulate any new accomplishments and how they have influenced your transaction planning, completion, or monitoring.
 - *Monitoring* – Describe any new monitoring efforts and how those efforts will guide strategic transaction planning.
3. **Project Team:** List all key individuals and their relevant responsibilities and/or geographies.
4. **Other (Optional):** Provide any further information important for the review of this proposal.



Uploads – CBWTP 5 Year Projections

Instructions:

Insert your projections for the next five years (2027-2031) in the “Transaction Projections” tab. Please sort the spreadsheet by the start year.

Projections are used to evaluate active and ongoing project development and ensure transactions are building upon current and previous efforts. This spreadsheet should be used to track all upcoming transactions, whether they are continuous of previously implemented projects, projects that are new and have strong certainty, or those that are in the very beginning stages.

Please be sure to note the % Likelihood implemented by the start year based on the level of confidence you have that the project will be implemented and/or paid for in that start year.

If your transaction has already been started in the CBWTP database, please ensure the transaction name and number in the spreadsheet match the database.

Transaction Name	Transaction Type	Stream Name	Subbasin	Term	Start Year	% Likelihood Implemented by Start Year	Renewal? (Y/N)	Listed in Previous Workplan? (Y/N)	Total Cost	CBWTP Cost	CFS	Annual AF	Acres
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NFWF

Uploads – CBWTP Work Element Template

CBWTP FY'27 Work Element Template

Qualified Local Entity: **Org name**

Work Element - 114

Work Element Title:	QLE - Identify and Select Water Transactions for Development
Work Category:	Planning and Coordination
Work Element Name (ID):	Identify and Select Projects (114)

Work Element Description:

Covers work for QLEs to identify, prioritize, assess, and ultimately select water transactions for potential development through the CBWTP process. Water transactions will be identified, selected, and prioritized based on the most current fish and habitat data. Coordination work that helps identify, select and develop transactions or sites is covered under this work element.

Milestone	Start Date	End Date	Description
Determine priority areas and actions (projects) based on the most current empirical data	10/1/2026	9/30/2027	Prioritize areas and actions (projects) at the site, reach, or watershed level based on the most current biological and physical data (e.g., habitat and fish data).
Review proposed near-term project work	10/1/2026	9/30/2027	Communicate with NFWF, and BPA as needed, to discuss the near-term list of prioritized projects.
Develop transaction projection list	10/1/2026	9/30/2027	Each QLE will provide a list of prioritized water transactions they are likely to implement in the next 5 years. Water transactions will be identified, selected, and prioritized based on the most current fish and habitat data.
Prioritized water transaction list		9/30/2027	A prioritized list of water transactions for 5-years will be completed or updated based on the most current biological and physical habitat data.

Budget Estimate:








Budget

- Budget represents only the grant amount requested from NFWF
- Must comply with [OMB's Uniform Guidance](#)
- Itemize all costs in appropriate budget categories. Costs must relate to project activities.
- No lumping costs i.e., 'All Salaries: \$10,000' Add narrative details to explain costs in budget line items.
- Budget Narrative must accompany every section of the budget
- Refer to the [Detailed Budget and Narrative Guide](#)

Apply to Year(s)								
Budget	Annual Salary	Project Hours	Hourly Rate	LOE (%)	Project Salary	Fringe (%)	Fringe Amount	Total Personnel
	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

▼ Materials and Supplies	\$0.00
Materials and Supplies + 📄	\$0.00
▼ Contractual Services	\$0.00
Subcontract/Contract - Per Agreement + 📄	\$0.00
Subgrant - Per Agreement + 📄	\$0.00
▼ Other Direct Costs	\$0.00
Other Direct Costs + 📄	\$0.00
▼ Indirect Costs	\$0.00
Indirect Costs + 📄	\$0.00
Total Direct Costs	\$0.00
Total Indirect Costs	\$0.00
Total Costs	\$0.00

Budget Narrative

▼ Travel		\$4,271.00
▼ Domestic Airfare - Per Flight		\$2,645.00
To Seattle from Boston Round Trip	 	\$1,750.00
To Anchorage from St. Petersburg Round trip	 	\$895.00



Notes

Line Item: Domestic Airfare - Per Flight

Budget: Travel for one biotech and one volunteer to Seattle from Boston for Killer Whale Conference.
Travel for principal investigator to Anchorage from St. Petersburg for site visits.

Save **Save and Close** **Cancel**



Pencil icon: Click this icon to update charges for a line. Expenses should be reported cumulatively. Due to calculation rounding formulas in Easygrants, personnel charges may add up to less than the amount in your own budget. If this is the case, add a new line labelled “salary rounding errors” equal to the difference



Plus icon: Click this icon to add a line item that is not already in the budget. If you add a new line item that has not been approved, please make sure to add a budget narrative for this line: why was the expense made? What is the line item for? How will it contribute to the project?



Notepad icon: Click this icon to add a budget narrative. You can add narratives by budget category: personnel, travel, equipment, materials and supplies, contractual services, and other direct costs.



Delete icon: Click this icon to delete an added line item. Do not delete lines that have already been reimbursed.



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Matching Contributions

Matching Contribution Editor

Instructions

Enter the required matching contribution details below. Click **Save** regularly to save your work. **The system will timeout and you will lose unsaved work if you do not save at least once every hour.** Click **Save and Close** to save and return to the Matching Contributions list page. Fields marked with a red asterisk (*) are required for final submission for most programs. Click **Help** for examples and instructions.

Status *

Source *
Enter the name of the person or Organization providing the Matching Contribution

Source Type *

Type *

Description *
Limit: 250 characters Remaining: 250

Amount *

Save and Close **Close**



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Review and Submit

Project Location

Map **View PDF**

Uploads

Metrics

Budget

Matching Contributions

Permits and Approvals

Review and Submit

FAQ

Help

Log Out

View Full Submission

Submission

Validation Status

Page Name	Status
Contact Information	✓ Complete
Organization Information	✗ Incomplete
✗ Primary Organization is required	
Project Information	✗ Incomplete
✗ Project Title is required.	
✗ Project Start Date is required.	
✗ Project End Date is required.	
✗ Description is required	
✗ Abstract is required.	
✗ Requested Amount is required.	
Project Location	✗ Incomplete
✗ Project Location Description is required.	
✗ Project Location Country(s) is required.	
Map	✗ Incomplete
✗ Please confirm your project has been accurately mapped.	
Uploads	✗ Incomplete
✗ Other Documents is required and has not been uploaded.	
Statement of Litigation is required and has not been uploaded.	
Board of Trustees, Directors, or equivalent is required and has not been uploaded.	
GAAP audited financial statements is required and has not been uploaded.	
IRS Form 990 is required and has not been uploaded.	
Single Audit (Formerly A-133 Audit) is required and has not been uploaded.	
Project Map is required and has not been uploaded.	
Applicant Controls Questionnaire is required and has not been uploaded.	
CBWTP Full Proposal Narrative 2026-27 is required and has not been uploaded.	
CBWTP Work Elements 2026-27 is required and has not been uploaded.	
CBWTP 5 Year Transaction Projection 2026-27 is required and has not been uploaded.	
Metrics	✗ Incomplete
✗ At least one metric is required.	
Budget	✗ Incomplete
✗ Budget Grand Total must match the Total Grant Amount Requested on the Project Information page.	
Matching Contributions	✓ Complete
Permits and Approvals	✓ Complete



Evaluation Criteria

- Program Goals and Priorities
- Technical Merit
- Partnership and Community Impact
- Budget
- Matching Contributions
- Cost-Effectiveness
- Spatial Data
- Long-term Sustainability
- Past Success and Adaptive Management

Timeline

An aerial photograph of a river winding through a dense, green forest. The river is white with rapids and flows from the top right towards the bottom left. The forest is thick with evergreen trees, and there are some rocky outcrops visible along the riverbanks.

Full Proposal Due Date: May 7, 2026 by 8:59 PM PST
Review Period: May-August 2026

Awards Announced: Early September 2026

Additional Resources

- [Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program RFP](#)
 - [Tip sheet](#)
 - Webinar recording (to be uploaded to RFP website today)

- [NFWF Applicant Information](#)

- [Budget Instructions](#)
- [Budget and Narrative Guide](#)
- [Financial Documents](#)
- [Mapping tool](#)
- [Indirect Cost Policy](#)
- [Federal Funding Management Help](#)



Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program 2026-2027 Full Proposal Tip Sheet

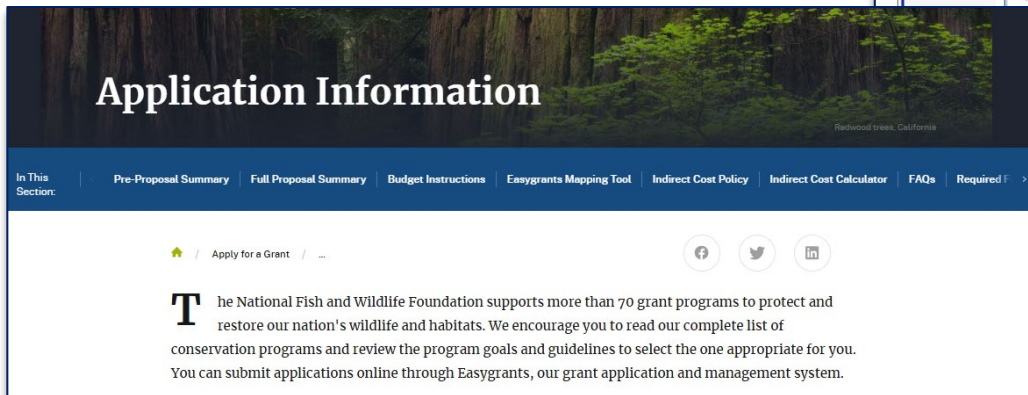
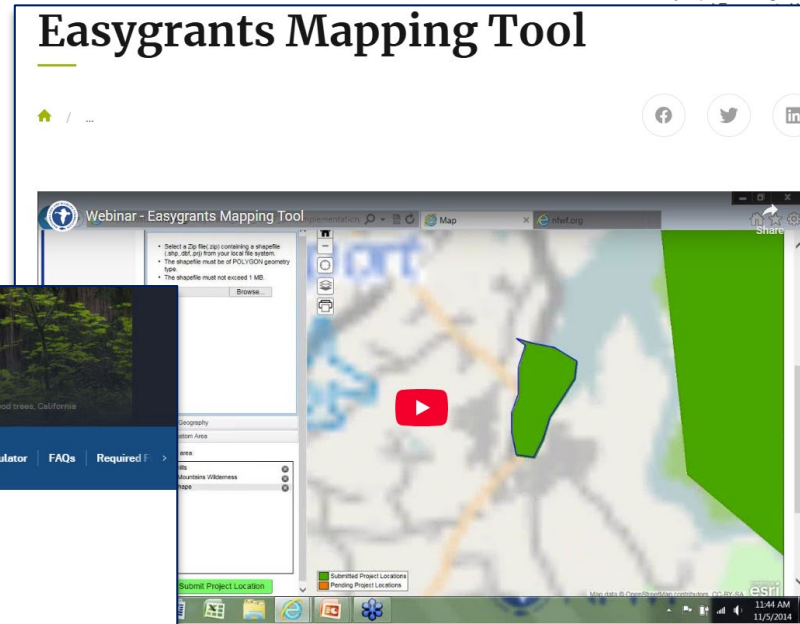
STARTING AN APPLICATION

When you are ready to begin the application process, go to easygrants.nfwf.org.

- New users to the system will be prompted to register before starting their application.
- Existing users should log in using their e-mail address and password. If you have forgotten your password, please click the "Forgot your password?" link on the Easygrants login page and a reset link will be sent to you. The link expires within 24 hours of being sent.
- Once you are logged in, click the **Apply for Funding** button, and select Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program 2026-2027 from the list of "Available Funding Opportunities".
- Complete the Eligibility Quiz and Save and Submit your response.
- If you pass the Eligibility Quiz, Easygrants will return you to your Home Page. From there, click on the Full-Basin Water Transactions Program 2026-2027 to get started! If you do not pass the quiz, contact the NFWF Program Contact identified in the tip sheet.

Take Note!

- **Pop-ups:** Easygrants uses pop-up windows to display some files. Please make sure your web browser allows for pop-ups. The internet browser pop-up blocker must be disabled prior to beginning the application process. You can also try holding the Shift or Control (CTRL) key when clicking the link.
- **Cookies:** Easygrants uses cookies to maintain the session information. Please make sure that your browser and computer can accept cookies.
- **PDF:** Easygrants uses PDFs extensively. Make sure you are able to use Adobe Reader.
- **SAVING AND SUBMITTING:** Once an application has been initiated, it may be saved and then modified and submitted at a later time, up to the application deadline of **May 7th, 2026 8:59 PM Pacific Daylight Time**. Please note DO NOT hit the "Submit" button until you are actually ready to submit. Once you hit submit the application is formally submitted and you may no longer make changes.



Contacts

Programmatic Questions

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Questions?

