

ASRP OPPORTUNISTIC FUNDING GUIDANCE

2021–2023

The Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP) Steering Committee has developed an opportunistic funding reserve as part of the biennial projects budget. This funding reserve is intended to increase the program’s ability to be dynamic and support priority project opportunities as they arise. If any of these funds remain unallocated 6 months prior to the end of the biennium, they may be made available to the general projects budget. For the 2021–2023 biennium, approximately \$1,000,000 is reserved for opportunistic projects allocation.

The following guidance is set to aid sponsors in determining eligibility for opportunistic ASRP project funds.

Match Funding

General priorities for match funding allocation are in order as follows:

1. If the project is within a near-term ASRP priority geospatial unit (GSU) and addresses the ASRP-identified limiting factors
2. If the project is within a mid- or late-term ASRP priority GSU and addresses the ASRP-identified limiting factors
3. If the project is not within any ASRP priority GSU and/or addresses the ASRP-identified limiting factors but provides substantial benefits to one or more ASRP indicator species

Projects that meet the listed priorities are eligible for up to 50% of project costs through match funding if funding is available. The ASRP Steering Committee will recommend projects for match funding that are within ASRP priority GSUs and address identified limiting factors above projects that are outside priority areas and/or address on-site conditions other than those prioritized in the ASRP.

Full Project Funding

Sponsors, through coordination with their Regional Implementation Team, may request full project funding through this funding reserve, though they are more likely to receive funding if requesting match funds. If the project is within any ASRP priority GSU and addresses the identified limiting factors, and the project is not on the ASRP Project Portfolio, then the project could be eligible for funding if it fits one or more of the following circumstances:

- Protection opportunity
 - Must benefit one or more ASRP indicator species

- Habitat restoration opportunity
 - Must benefit one or more ASRP indicator species and address an immediate priority area and action type

Proposal Review

All opportunistic funding requests must submit a Site Assessment and Project Proposal form for initial review by the Project Technical Review Team. The ASRP Steering Committee will then review proposals that fit the funding criteria and surpass technical review criteria.

The ASRP Steering Committee aims to review batches of proposals for match and/or full project funding every quarter, though it acknowledges the potential need for review more frequently. The ASRP Steering Committee may review proposals every other month if warranted.

The ASRP Steering Committee will recommend project opportunities to the Washington Department of Ecology's Office of Chehalis Basin to receive or not receive funding based on the priorities listed herein and fit with ASRP goals.