# ASRP OPPORTUNISTIC FUNDING GUIDANCE (2023–2025 BIENNIUM)

*Updated October 2023*

## Introduction

The Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP) Steering Committee has developed an opportunistic funding pathway as part of the biennial projects budget. This funding pathway is intended to increase the program’s ability to be dynamic and support priority project opportunities as they arise. For the 2023–2025 biennium, approximately $1,000,000 is targeted for opportunistic projects allocation.

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

## Supplemental Funding

Projects that meet the listed priorities below are eligible for up to 50% of project costs through supplemental funding if funding is available. These priorities are in order as follows:

1. Project is within a mid- or late-term ASRP priority geospatial unit (GSU) and addresses one or more ASRP-identified limiting factors
2. 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 (Table 1)

## Full Project Funding

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:

1. Protection opportunity:
	1. Must benefit one or more ASRP indicator species
2. Habitat restoration opportunity:
	1. Must benefit one or more ASRP indicator species and address an immediate-priority area and action type as identified in the ASRP Phase 1 document (Table 2)

## Proposal Review

All opportunistic funding requests must submit a [Site Assessment and Project Proposal form](https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/ASRP_Site-Assessment-Template_10132023.docx) 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 will recommend project opportunities to the Washington State Department of Ecology’s Office of Chehalis Basin to receive or not receive funding based on the priorities listed herein, results of the project’s technical review, and fit with ASRP goals.

## Table 1 ASRP Indicator Species

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **STANDARD ENGLISH NAME (COMMON NAME)** | **SCIENTIFIC NAME** | **STATUS1** | **HABITAT INTEGRATOR2** |
| Winter-run steelhead | *Oncorhynchus mykiss* | None | AOT |
| Coho salmon | *Oncorhynchus kisutch* | None | AOT |
| Fall-run Chinook salmon | *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* | None | AOT |
| Spring-run Chinook salmon | *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* | None | AOT |
| Chum salmon | *Oncorhynchus keta* | None | AOT |
| Mountain whitefish | *Prosopium williamsoni* | None | AT |
| Eulachon | *Thaleichthys pacificus* | SGCN, FT, SC | AOT |
| Pacific lamprey | *Entosphenus tridentatus* | SGCN, FCO | AOT |
| Olympic mudminnow | *Novumbra hubbsi* | SS | AT |
| Speckled dace | *Rhinichthys osculus* | None | AT |
| Largescale sucker | *Catostomus macrocheilus* | None | AT |
| Riffle sculpin | *Cottus gulosus* | None | AT |
| Reticulate sculpin | *Cottus perplexus* | None | AT |
| Coastal tailed frog | *Ascaphus truei* | FFR | AT |
| Western toad | *Anaxyrus boreas* | SC, FCO | AT |
| Northern red-legged frog | *Rana aurora* | None | AT |
| Oregon spotted frog | *Rana pretiosa* | SE, FE | AT |
| Van Dyke’s salamander | *Plethodon vandykei* | FFR |  |
| Great blue heron | *Ardea herodias* | SGCN | AOT |
| Barrow’s goldeneye | *Bucephala islandica* | SGCN | AOT |
| Wood duck | *Aix sponsa* | SGCN | AT |
| North American beaver3 | *Castor canadensis* | None | AT |
| Western pond turtle | *Actinemys marmorata* | SE, FCO | AT |
| Western ridged mussel | *Gonidea angulata* | None | AT |

Notes:

1. Species Status Key:
	1. SS: State Sensitive
	2. SC: State Candidate
	3. SE: State Endangered
	4. SGCN: Species of Greatest Conservation Need
	5. FCO: Federal Species of Concern
	6. FT: Federal Threatened
	7. FE: Federal Endangered
	8. FFR: Forest and Fish Target Species
2. Habitat Integrator Key:
	1. AOT: Aquatic-Ocean-Terrestrial
	2. AT: Aquatic-Terrestrial
3. North American beaver is also a habitat engineer.

## Table 2 ASRP Immediate-Priority Areas and Actions

| **IMMEDIATE-PRIORITY AREAS** | **IMMEDIATE-PRIORITY ACTIONS** | **PURPOSE** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| * Newaukum River forks
* South Fork Chehalis River
 | Installation of beaver dam analogs | Improve floodplain connectivity and potential performance of spring-run Chinook salmon |
| * Areas with limited riparian buffers on south and/or west banks of the following:

‒ South Fork Newaukum River‒ North Fork Newaukum River‒ Skookumchuck River | Implement riparian plantings with rapidly growing species (particularly cottonwood and willows) | Improve the performance of spring-run Chinook salmon by maintaining cooler temperatures in the rivers for a longer distance downstream |
| * Elk Creek
* Chehalis River tidal surge plain
* Humptulips River tidal areas
* Cold-water locations in the East Fork Satsop and South Fork Newaukum rivers
* Cold-water tributary confluences

to the mainstem Chehalis River | Protection/acquisition of the following:‒ Highly functional habitats‒ Cold-water holding pools‒ Cold-water springs or other inflows‒ Groundwater recharge areas | Initiate protection strategy of ASRP by protecting the following:‒ Cold-water holding areas and inputs‒ High-functioning intact habitats |
| Managed forest locations with a single timber landowner | In-channel wood installation over several miles of stream | Quickly design and implement projects to provide instream habitat and complexity |
| Mainstem lower Chehalis River below Skookumchuck River | Design large-scale floodplain reconnection node projects | Provide refuge habitat |
| * Skookumchuck River
* South Fork Newaukum River
* North Fork Newaukum River (in lieu of South Fork Chehalis River)
* Satsop River
* Wynoochee River
* Humptulips River
* Black River
 | Cold-water holding pool enhancement (such as large wood to maintain and expand holding pools or riparian plantings) | Provide immediate instream holding habitat |
| Design-ready reach-scale projects that will build on or expand benefits of previous restoration efforts | Further implement large, reach-scale projects and scale up the implementation of the ASRP, starting in highest-priority sub‑basins |
| Riparian plantings | Maintain cooler temperatures in the rivers for a longer distance downstream |
| Removal of invasive species | Provide opportunity for riparian planting of native species |
| Remove fish passage barriers | Remove highest-priority barriers in priority sub-basins to provide immediate upstream habitat access |
| Project development | Perform landowner outreach and assessment to identify additional reach-scale project opportunities |