

2009 Columbia River Water Management Grants

The Office of Columbia River's (OCR) is launching its next Columbia River Basin Water Management Grant (grants) application cycle on August 27, 2009. This year, the grants will fund storage and "shovel ready" construction projects.

Storage Projects

OCR will provide funding for design and construction, for new storage projects. Funding is also available for modifying existing storage sites. In addition to design and construction, modification projects can apply for funding for a broad range of activities, including feasibility studies and environmental reviews. Examples of storage projects that may receive funding include building or increasing capacity at a re-regulation or on-farm small storage reservoirs.

"Shovel Ready" Projects

"Shovel ready" projects are water development projects that can be ready to construct within one year of grant award. This includes conservation or storage projects. Projects that provide both instream and out-of-stream benefits will have the best chance at receiving funding.

OCR Will Manage Water Savings

RCW 90.90.010 requires the state to manage water savings or storage from projects funded under these grants in proportion to the percentage of grant monies used to complete them. That means if the grant funds 50% of the total cost, OCR will manage 50% of the water. For storage projects, one third of the water will be used to enhance stream flows and two thirds will be allocated to out-of-stream uses.

What is in it for you?

The grants provide you with an opportunity to make improvements to your water system that will allow you to operate it more efficiently.

For More Information

More information about Columbia River Water Management Grants is available at OCR's web site: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/crwmp.html>. Specific questions should be directed to Al Josephy, (360) 407-6456, ajos461@ecy.wa.gov.

Applications available on August 27, 2009

You may download an application at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/crwmp.html>

Return applications by Sept. 28, 2009

Mail your completed application to:
Al Josephy
Washington Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

Contact information:

Al Josephy
360-407-6456
ajos461@ecy.wa.gov

Special accommodations:

To ask about the availability of this document in a version for the visually impaired call the Office of Columbia River at 509-575-2490. Persons with hearing loss, call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability, call 877-833-6341.

Grant Application Assistance

Al Josephy is available by phone (360-407-6456) to help you fill out your application. Additionally, staff will be available to provide in-person application assistance on September 10, 2009 at the following locations:

Richland	Ecology Nuclear Waste Program Office, Conference Room 2B 3100 Port of Benton Blvd	Wenatchee	Ecology Wenatchee Field Office 303 S. Mission Street, Suite 200 Tell receptionist you are there for Columbia River Grant application help.
Spokane	Ecology Eastern Regional Office N. 4601 Monroe Tell receptionist you are there for Columbia River Grant application help.	Yakima	Ecology Central Regional Office 15 West Yakima Ave -- Suite 200 Tell receptionist you are there for Columbia River Grant application help.

How to apply

Grant applications will be available online beginning August 27, 2009. Complete the application and return it to Al Josephy at Washington Department of Ecology, 300 Desmond Drive, Olympia, WA 98504-7600, by September 28, 2009.

Grant Funding Timeline

Aug. 27	Applications available on Ecology's website.
Sept. 10	Grant Application Assistance Day at locations around the region.
Sept. 28	Applications due.
Oct. 2009	Technical Advisory Group (TAG) and Columbia River Implementation Team (CRIT) Review - The TAG is composed of technical experts from government, the tribes, and local water service and environmental organizations. The CRIT includes Ecology, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and Washington Conservation Commission staff.
Nov. 2009	Policy Advisory Group (PAG) Review - The PAG is made up of representatives from federal, state, and local governments, the tribes, irrigation districts, public utility districts, and business and environmental organizations.
Dec. 2009	Director of Ecology provides input.
Jan. 2010	Final PAG review.
Early 2010	Grant awards announced and contract negotiations begin.