



Portland General Electric Habitat Support Fund 2026

Request for Proposals

Administered by The Freshwater Trust

The Freshwater Trust, on behalf of Portland General Electric, is requesting proposals to award funding for projects that restore and preserve habitats for Oregon native fish.

Proposal due date: **June 15, 2026**

Award notification: No later than **July 24, 2026**

Funding available: Total annual funds dispensed will fluctuate based on the amount of PGE Green Future Habitat Support customer contributions; however, approximately \$125,000 in grant funds will likely be available. Grant awards in recent years have ranged from \$10,000 to \$50,000. A sample of previous awards can be viewed [here](#). Funding can be applied to project design, engineering, permitting, supplies and materials, implementation, monitoring, education, research, and outreach.

Project requirements:

- Must be of high-quality conservation, restoration, or enhancement that clearly and directly benefits native anadromous fish or their habitat;
- May not include political advocacy, litigation, or acquisition of water rights;
- May not be linked to any existing or future mandatory mitigation or offset program or requirement;
- Organization leading the proposed project must be a not-for-profit organization or Oregon Soil and Water Conservation District;
- Awarded projects must include a plan to utilize the full amount of the award and complete the project by **November 30, 2027**.

Preference for grant selection will be towards projects that:

- Are implemented within the three priority watersheds of the Sandy, Willamette, and Deschutes basins as outlined in the [Portland General Electric Priority Area of Interest](#);
- Demonstrate the greatest benefit to the highest number of anadromous fish species and life stages;
- Include requests between \$10,000 and \$50,000 to complete proposed deliverables;
- Use at least 80% of Habitat Support funds for on-the-ground restoration and preservation work, and project elements essential for on-the-ground work.

Application process:

1. Complete the following:
 - a) [Application](#) (Word document)
Download and complete the application. The completed document must be no longer than 4 pages. Reference the Selection Criteria listed below when completing this document. Please do not include links to websites or references in the application.

- b) [Budget \(Excel spreadsheet\)](#)
Download and complete the budget.
 - c) [Species Benefited \(Excel spreadsheet\)](#)
Download and fill out the table with the list of species and life stages that will benefit from the project.
 - d) [Portland General Electric Priority Areas of Interest](#)
View the web map and determine the location of your project relative to the Portland General Electric Priority Areas of Interest. Projects within the priority watersheds will be prioritized, however, up to 33% of annual funding may be allocated to projects in other parts of the state.
 - e) Supplemental materials (pdf, jpg, etc.) (Optional)
Applicants may include one page of supplemental materials that are likely to strengthen the application.
2. Prepare the following information for the intake form:
 - Lead organization name, physical mailing address, website, and EIN#
 - Project lead name, job title, email address, and phone number
 - Project name
 - Project latitude and longitude (decimal degrees), Oregon county, HUC-8 code and name
 - Name of Oregon community located nearest to the project
 - Non-funding project partners (optional)
 - River miles or acres benefited
 - Total project cost, amount of funds requested, funds leveraged
 - Anticipated completion date
 - Description of mitigation that is linked to project, if applicable
 3. Complete the [intake form](#). Upload completed application documents as described in the intake form and listed above. Application materials must be submitted no later than the end of business **June 15, 2026**.

Selection criteria:

Projects will be scored on the following criteria.

Criteria	Weight
Restoration must benefit anadromous fish; however, projects will be prioritized based on the total number of native species and life stages benefited, including those species that are not yet listed as threatened or endangered, and those that are not anadromous.	18%
Project occurs in one of the three priority watersheds, including the Sandy, Willamette, and Deschutes basins.	14%
Project must clearly articulate goals, objectives, and the limiting factors addressed by the project. The project must demonstrate or advance strong technical and scientific design that addresses limiting habitat factors and provides quantifiable, measurable habitat benefits.	14%
Projects must demonstrate benefits to the local community, through outreach, education, or engagement with the project or benefitted species.	14%
Project must be recommended as a priority action in a watershed assessment, conservation plan or recovery plan and/or endorsed by an independent, locally knowledgeable fisheries biologist.	10%

Projects must demonstrate a qualified restoration team that has successfully completed projects with quantifiable outcomes. If restoration team history is limited, successfully demonstrates why project will be successful despite lack of track record.	8%
Project describes how long-term success and project objectives will be evaluated beyond initial completion, and how adaptive management opportunities will be pursued. Ideally, a long-term plan will document quantifiable, measurable habitat benefits that will inform project trajectory towards project goals and desired conditions.	8%
The application includes a compelling project story that is concise and fit for public distribution.	6%
The funding request is between \$10,000 and \$50,000 to complete proposed deliverables.	4%
At least 80% of Habitat Support funds are used for on-the-ground restoration and preservation work, and project elements essential for on-the-ground work.	4%