



Columbia River Basin Restoration Act Funding Assistance Program Tribal Funding Opportunity

ColumbiaRiverBasinGrant@epa.gov

<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-restoration-funding-assistance-program>

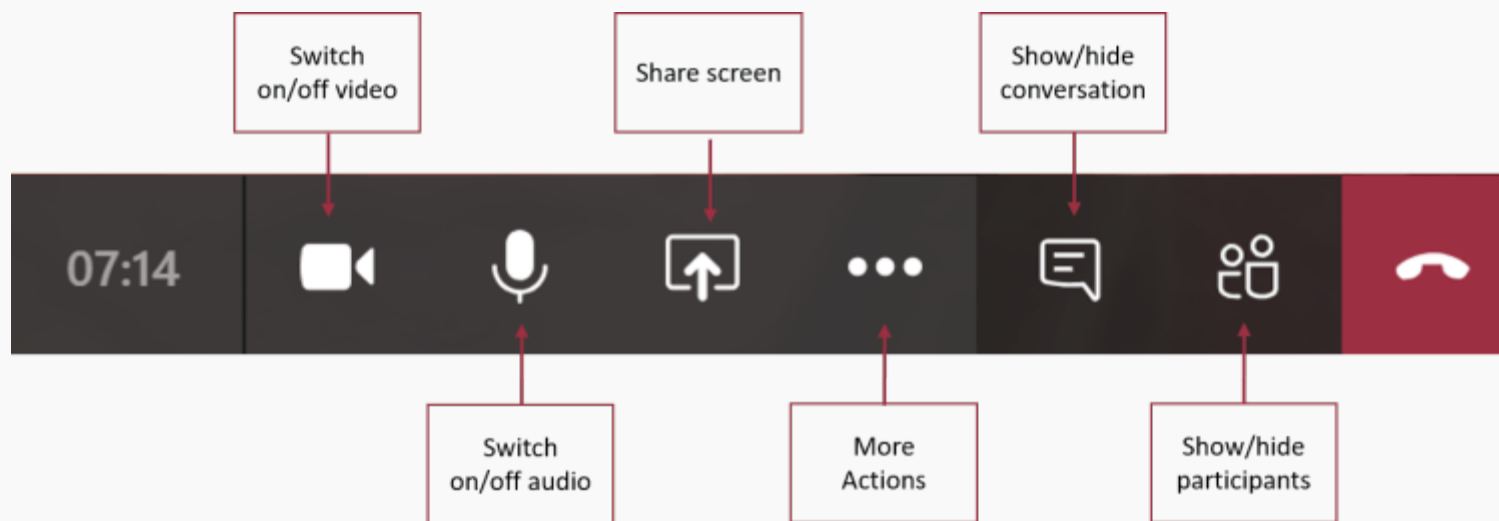
OR internet keyword search: EPA Columbia River Basin Grant



INTRODUCTION TO MICROSOFT TEAMS



Using Microsoft Teams





How to Participate

- Please keep your microphone on mute unless you are speaking.
- After the presentations, we will have time for questions.
 - Submit questions via the chat.
 - We will address questions in the order they are received.

Click to open chat function





Agenda

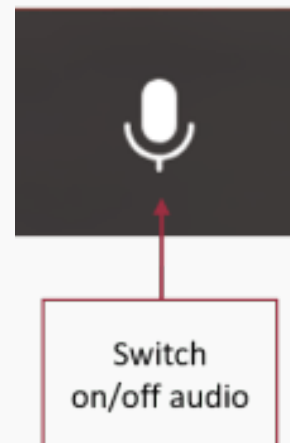
- Welcome and Teams Overview
Facilitator – Greg Frey, The Council Oak
- Background on the Columbia River Basin Restoration Program
Program Manager – Mary Lou Soscia, EPA R10
- Details of the Grant Program
RFA Lead – Lauren McDaid, EPA R10
- How to apply for an EPA Grant
Grant Program Team Lead – Michelle Wilcox, EPA R10
- Q and A
- Closing



Introductions

- Please tell us...
 - **your name** and
 - **who you are representing** on today's webinar

(Remember to un-mute your line)

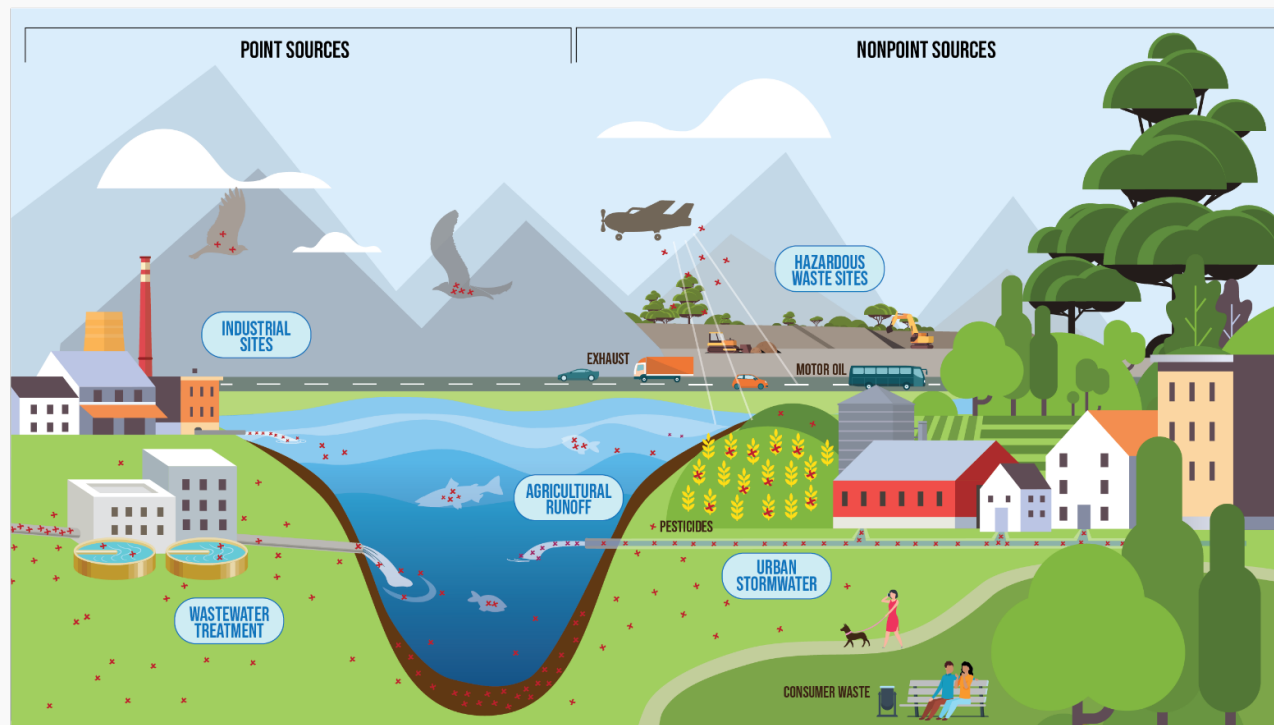




BACKGROUND COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN RESTORATION PROGRAM

TOXIC CONTAMINANTS IN THE BASIN

- Toxics are widely distributed in the Basin
- Past research and monitoring show toxics are present across the Basin
- Toxics harm fish, wildlife, and human health





*Reducing toxics in fish is an
EPA responsibility to
protect Tribal Human
Health*



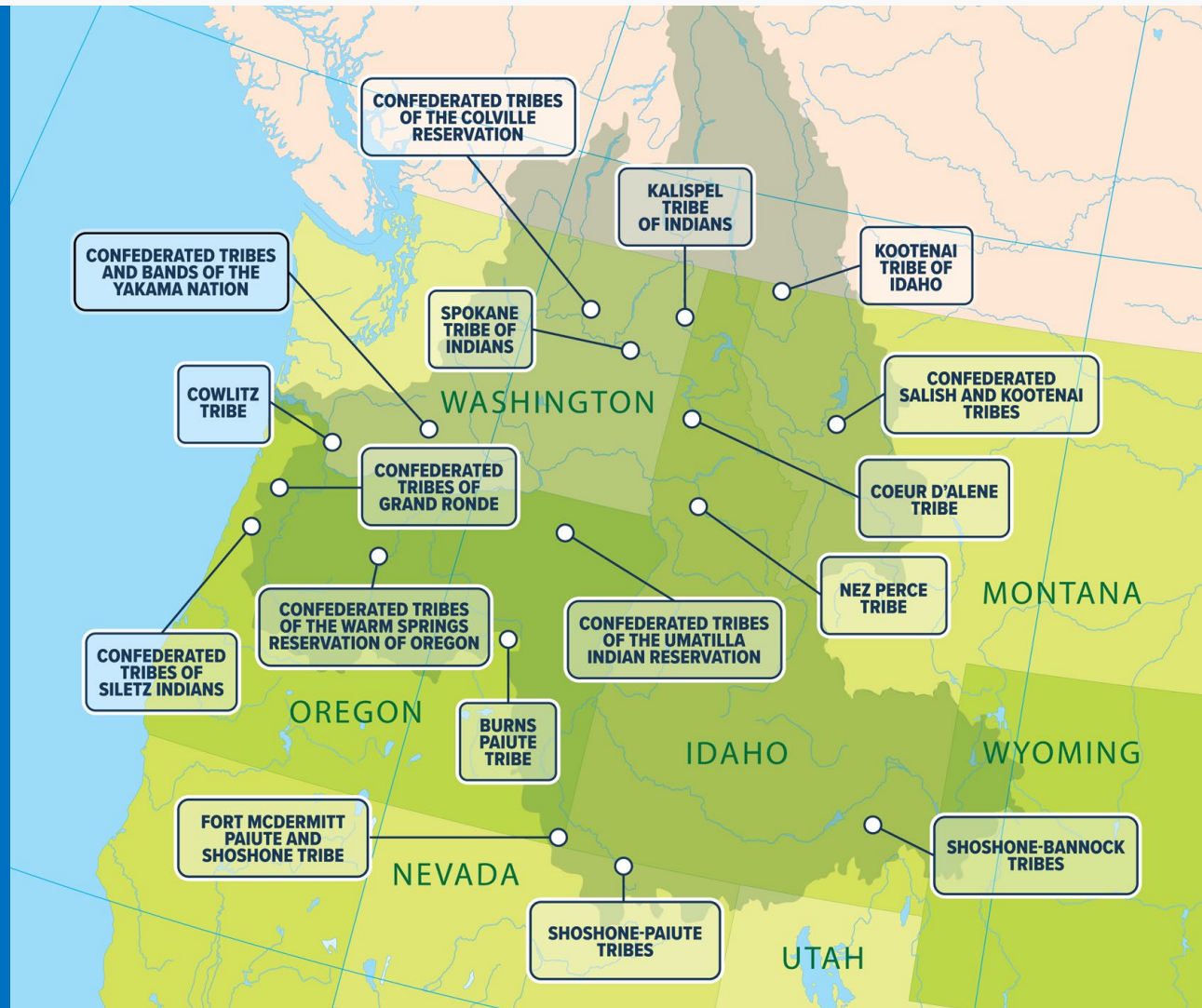
TOXICS REDUCTION IS CRITICAL TO A HEALTHY COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN ECOSYSTEM



- Columbia River Basin Tribal people have lived here for more than 10,000 years
- Tribal people eat far more fish than most other residents
- Toxics in fish pose unacceptable health risks to Tribal people and other high fish consuming populations
- The Columbia River Basin Restoration Program grew from our work with Tribes to reduce their exposure to toxics from high fish consumption



Columbia River Basin Tribes





EPA'S FOUNDATIONAL WORK TO REDUCE TOXICS IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN



- Collaborative Watershed Effort to Reduce Toxics – many diverse partners throughout the Basin
- **2009 State of River Report** – “tell toxics story”
- **2010 Columbia River Basin Action Plan** – 61 actions
- Columbia River Basin legislation introduced in Congress in 2010, 2014 – toxics focus
- Other related work efforts included OR/WA/ID Human Health Criteria

2016 COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN RESTORATION ACT

- Congress passed the **Columbia River Basin Restoration Act** in 2016, which amended the Clean Water Act by creating **Section 123** and directed EPA to:
 1. establish a **Columbia River Basin Restoration Grant Program** to support voluntary actions to reduce and assess toxics throughout the Basin; and
 2. establish a **Working Group** representative of states, tribal governments, and other entities in the Basin.

Builds on existing work in the Basin

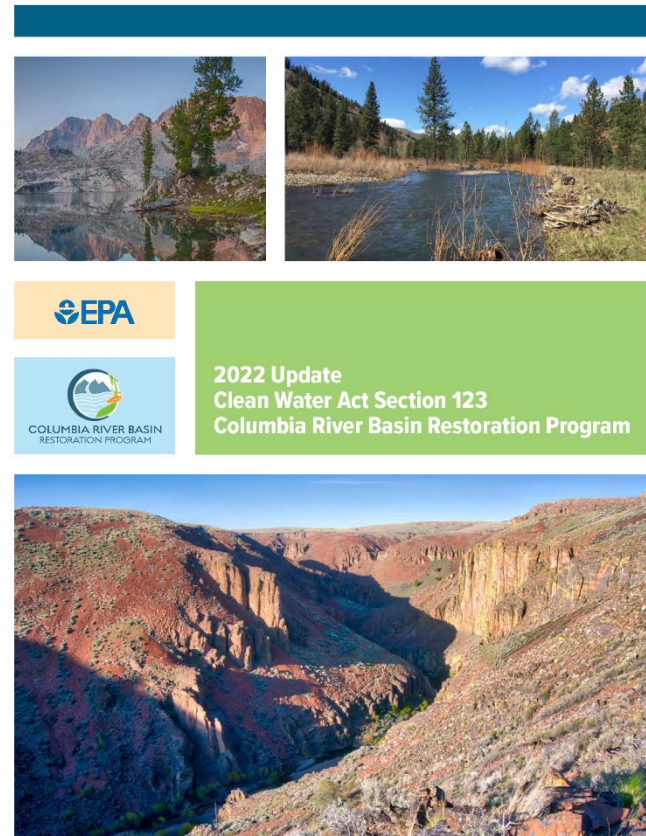
– <https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver>





2022 CWA Section 123 Update

- Background on Columbia River Basin and Toxics Reduction Work Efforts
- 2016 Clean Water Act, Section 123, Columbia River Basin Restoration Act
- Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Accomplishments
- 2022 Request for Applications
- Future work needed:
 - Increase monitoring and information sharing
 - Replicate successful agricultural BMPs, pollution prevention, green infrastructure, and small clean up projects
 - Increase public education and engagement, especially to tribal and environmental justice communities





Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Vision Statement

“The EPA Columbia River Basin Restoration Program – through the implementation of CWA Section 123 –will be a catalyst for basin wide toxics reduction work efforts; enabling communities to access unimpaired watersheds with healthy fish and wildlife and quantifiable toxics reductions in fish, wildlife and water.”





EPA Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Story Map

EPA's Columbia River Basin Restoration Program

Learn about collaborative efforts to reduce toxic pollution and protect people and the environment.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency | Region 10

July 6, 2021



COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN
RESTORATION PROGRAM

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



GRANT PROJECT EXAMPLES

- Implementing agricultural best management practices and providing technical assistance
- Creating or partnering with voluntary certification programs that use industry best practices to protect the environment; such as Salmon-Safe or EcoBiz
- Starting or increasing Pesticide Stewardship Partnerships and collection events
- Developing pollution prevention programs to reduce, for example, herbicide and insecticide use
- Providing incentives for safer chemical alternatives and associated training programs
- Installing green infrastructure or stormwater raingardens to reduce toxics in runoff, i.e. Port of Vancouver Grattix Boxes
- Implementing small-scale cleanups at non-CERCLA sites
- Developing outreach and educational to educate the public about toxics reduction

More information about any of these examples can be found at –

<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-restoration-funding-assistance-program>



AVAILABLE EPA RESOURCES

- Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Funding Assistance:
<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-restoration-funding-assistance-program>
- EPA Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Story Map:
<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/24979f1fd3124cc7bb4c85147d38eedc>
- Columbia River Basin Restoration Program Working Group:
<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-restoration-working-group>
 - ✓ Toxics Monitoring Sub-Group



AVAILABLE EPA RESOURCES

- [Columbia River Basin Contaminants of Concern Framework](#)
- [Toxic-Impaired Waterbodies on 303d Lists in the Columbia River Basin](#)
- [Columbia River Basin Toxic Contaminants Reference List](#)
- [2019 Columbia River Basin Toxics Reduction Status Update](#)
- [Story Map: Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons - Locations in the Columbia River Basin Where the Toxics Could Be Affecting Fish and Wildlife - exit EPA WEBSITE](#)
- [Chemicals of Emerging Concern in the Columbia River](#)
- [Columbia River Toxics Reduction Action Plan](#)
- [State of the River Report for Toxics](#)



<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-tribal-government-request-applications> OR internet keyword search: EPA Columbia River Basin Tribal Government Request for Applications

DETAILS ON THE TRIBAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Key Facts



Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) # **66.962**
Tribal RFA # **EPA-I-R10-OW-CRBRP-2023-01**

Dates:

Tuesday, January 31, 2023

March 2023

June 2023

Project Period

RFA closes, applications due 11:59 p.m.(ET)

Anticipated Notification of Selection

Anticipated Award

4-6 Years

Award Amounts per RFA:

Minimum Application Amount: \$750,000

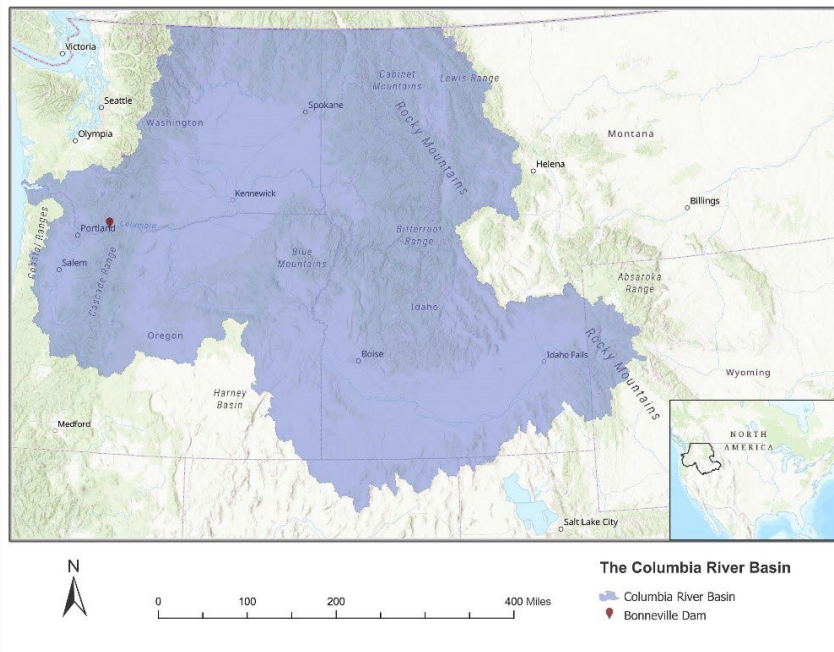
Maximum Application Amount: \$2,000,000

Total Available Funds: \$20,000,000

Tribal Governments Requests for Applications (RFA)



U.S. Portion of the Columbia River Basin



The Columbia River Basin is defined as the Columbia River from the Pacific Ocean, including tidally influenced portions of tributaries of the Columbia River, mainstem of the Columbia River from the Bonneville Dam up to the Canadian Border including tributaries of the Columbia River in that region.

1. Two applications allowed by a single entity per RFA
2. Applications for this RFA must support activities in the US portion of the Columbia River Basin.



Required: Address at least one of the RFA categories

Project Categories

- Eliminating or reducing pollution
- Cleaning up contaminated sites
- Improving water quality
- Reducing runoff
- Protecting habitat
- Promoting citizen engagement or knowledge

2023 EPA Priorities



With a **focus on toxics** and **their impact on human health and fish and wildlife...**

While **building on existing efforts...**

And addressing **one or more of the following priorities:**

- Agricultural best practices to reduce toxics
- Green infrastructure to reduce stormwater and improve water quality
- Pollution prevention to prevent toxics from entering the environment
- Small-scale clean-up actions to remove toxics at non-Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (also known as Superfund) sites
- Community education and outreach to help the public take actions to reduce toxics in the Basin

(Note: Evaluation scores will not depend on the number of priorities addressed but rather on the quality with which the priorities are addressed.)



Eligible Entities

Under this funding opportunity, federally recognized Tribal Governments are eligible to apply, in accordance with 33 U.S.C. § 1275 and Assistance Listing 66.962.

We encourage partnerships and collaboration by applicants.



Match Waiver

Mandatory Cost Share Requirement: Projects under this RFA will not require a cost share match per the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) language, which provides the Administrator the discretion to waive or reduce statutorily required non-federal cost shares on these funds.

- On September 27, 2022 the Region 10 Water Division Director Dan Opalski waived the match requirement for the awards under this RFA.



Evaluation

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Points</u>
Total Possible Points	100
1. Project Summary and Approach	40
2. Project Longevity	10
3. Environmental Results – Results, Outputs and Outcomes	15
4. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance	20
5. Budget	15


We will use the evaluation criteria in the RFA to evaluate applications.




Project Summary and Approach - Example

- Under this criterion, applications will be evaluated based on the extent and quality of the applicant's project summary and overall approach. **Specifically, EPA will evaluate:**
 - **(10 points)** Whether the application includes a detailed project description, roles and responsibilities, and timeline and milestones as described in Appendix A of the RFA.
 - **(5 points)** Whether the application includes a well-conceived strategy for achieving the anticipated results associated with the project.
 - **(5 points)** Whether the application demonstrates multiple and diverse partnerships and builds on existing efforts in the Columbia River Basin.
 - **(5 points)** The extent to which the project addresses one or more of the program categories as stated in Section I.C of this RFA.
 - **(10 points)** The extent to which the application addresses one or more of EPA's FY 2023 grant funding priorities as stated in Section I.C of this RFA.
 - **(5 points)** The extent to which the project demonstrates how and why their project will help protect human health and the environment, and help communities and ecosystems become more sustainable and resilient to the effects of climate change, as described in "Other EPA Interests" in Section I.C.

Examples of Currently Funded Projects



Columbia River Basin Restoration Funding Assistance Program 2022 Grant Award Summaries




COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN RESTORATION PROGRAM

ABOUT THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN RESTORATION FUNDING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Congress amended the Clean Water Act in 2016, which required EPA to establish a Columbia River Basin Restoration Program. EPA was directed to develop a voluntary, competitive grant program for eligible entities to fund environmental protection and restoration programs throughout the Basin. Eligible entities include state, Tribal, and local governments, regional water pollution control organizations, nongovernmental organizations, and soil and water conservation districts. Funded work must be for the purpose of environmental protection and restoration activities within the Columbia River Basin and may include programs, projects, and studies. EPA funded 14 projects in the 2020, inaugural round of grants that address the following four priorities:

1. Increase monitoring and access to data from monitoring.
2. Reduce stormwater and agricultural runoff.
3. Reduce toxics through small scale cleanup of non-CERCLA (also known as Superfund) contaminated sites.
4. Promote citizen engagement, education, and involvement to increase pollution prevention actions.

CATEGORY #1: AGRICULTURAL BEST PRACTICES



1 | Salmon-Safe Columbia Basin Pledge: Accelerating Water Quality Protection in the Interior Columbia Basin—Salmon-Safe (OR, WA, ID, MT, WY)

- EPA Grant Amount: \$342,000 (funded with Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funds)
- Mandatory Cost Share: \$114,250
- Total Project Cost: \$456,250
- Location: Middle and Upper Columbia River Basin

Salmon-Safe will build on the successful roll out of Salmon-Safe Initiatives in Interior Columbia Basin tributaries that were implemented with the first phase of EPA funding. Salmon-Safe Columbia Basin Pledge will scale up activities in these tributaries, particularly in Idaho, while introducing their new Trout-Safe Initiative in Columbia River tributaries across western Montana and the Wyoming portion of the Teton River Valley and upper Snake River. Salmon-Safe will roll out the Columbia Basin Pledge, engaging 250 farmers across multiple crop sectors and other large-scale land managers in actions to protect downstream water quality. Earning Salmon-Safe certification will require that these mostly large-scale, diversified farms reduce or eliminate the use of pesticides that are harmful to fish and wildlife and reduce runoff and wind erosion, while also improving soil health, riparian habitat, irrigation efficiency, and protecting wildlife habitat and enhancing native biodiversity. The project is a long-term strategy to reduce toxics and enhance climate resiliency in the watershed, while demonstrating market support to maintain viable farming operations.

OCTOBER 2022 | 1

1. Works with the agricultural community, developers, and other landowners to reduce pollution from runoff, restore habitat, and protect salmon.
2. Promotes citizen engagement and knowledge by providing field and online-based toxic pollution education to students in diverse communities.
3. Aims to improve lower Columbia River water quality by reducing zinc and copper discharges using Grattix boxes.
4. Eliminating ongoing erosion of a legacy tailing impoundment by removing tailings material adjacent to the stream, stabilizing the streambank, and restoring native riparian vegetation.

You can find these examples and more on our website: <https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-restoration-funding-assistance-program>



Application requirements: before you apply

Application components

Application tips

HOW TO APPLY



Application requirements: before you apply Grants.gov

- Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) #
 - 66.962
- Columbia River Basin Tribal Funding Opportunity #
 - EPA-I-R10-OW-CRBRP-2023-01
- You will apply through [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)
- A DUNS or Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) Number and SAM registration are required to complete a grant application in grants.gov.
- For 24/7 assistance, excluding federal holidays, with grants.gov: 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov



DUNS to UEI Transition

Planned UEI Updates in Grant Application Forms

Starting on April 4, 2022, the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number will be replaced by a "new, non-proprietary identifier" requested in, and assigned by, the System for Award Management (SAM.gov). This new identifier is being called the Unique Entity Identifier (UEI).

Grants.gov's Timeline for Organization DUNS and UEI





General Tips in Applying for Grants

Application Components

Mandatory Documents:

1. SF 424: Application for Federal Assistance

Application cover sheet, grant project/budget period, federal (and match) funds, appropriate signatures.

2. SF 424A: Budget Information

3. Project Narrative: Cover Page, Workplan, Budget detail

4. EPA Form 4700-4: Preaward Compliance Review Report

Collects information that enables EPA to determine whether applicants are developing projects, programs, and activities on a non-discriminatory basis.

5. EPA Form 5700-54: Key Contacts Form

Collects contact information for individuals responsible for various aspects of the proposed work, including authorized representative, payee, administrative contact, and investigators.



Application Components – continued

Other Documents, as applicable:

- Cost Share Commitment Letters
- Partnership Letters
- Resumes - optional
- Current Negotiated Indirect Cost Agreement
- EPA Form 6600-06: Certification Regarding Lobbying

(Contains certifications about the use of Federal appropriated funds in connection with lobbying. For applications EPA receives that request more than \$100,000 in federal funds.)



Application components: SF 424A

View Burden Statement **BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs** OMB Number: 4040-0006
Expiration Date: 02/28/2022

SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Program Function or Activity (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN PROJECT		\$	\$	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 85,000.00
2.						
3.						
4.						
5. Totals		\$	\$	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 85,000.00

Standard Form 424A (Rev. 7-97)
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Application components: SF 424A

SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES					
6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1) Columbia River Basin Project - federal	(2) Columbia River Basin Project - non- federal	(3)	(4)	
a. Personnel	\$ 38,022.00	\$	\$	\$	\$ 38,022.00
b. Fringe Benefits	11,787.00				11,787.00
c. Travel	100.00	316.00			416.00
d. Equipment					
e. Supplies		476.00			476.00
f. Contractual	7,100.00	2,900.00			10,000.00
g. Construction					
h. Other	683.00	4,000.00			4,683.00
i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)	57,692.00	7,692.00			\$ 65,384.00
j. Indirect Charges	17,308.00	2,308.00			\$ 19,616.00
k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$	\$	\$ 85,000.00
7. Program Income	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

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Application Components: Budget Detail

- Follow **federal cost principles** of 2 CFR 200 Subpart F. Matching funds must also follow federal cost principles.
- The Budget Detail must **exactly** match the SF 424A across all cost categories (Personnel, Travel, etc.).
- Show your math in the Budget Detail.
 - e.g., Personnel cost = 1 Biologist * \$35.25/hour * 0.3 FTE (626.4 hours/year) = \$22,081.
- All elements of Budget Detail should be reflected in Workplan.
 - e.g., Going to Boise is line item in Travel; this must be in the Workplan.

Budget



	Requested from EPA	Total
PERSONNEL		
Salaries and Wages		
Project Manager @ \$47/hr x 323 hours	\$15,181	\$15,181
Community Relations Coordinator @ \$23/hr x 150 hours	\$3,450	\$3,450
Total	\$18,631	\$18,631
FRINGE		
Rate/Base/Composition		
31% of Personnel costs (FICA, retirement, health, vacation, sick leave)	\$5,776	\$5,776
TRAVEL		
2 National Conferences including lodging, air, per-diem and registration fees for 2 employees. <i>(See Narrative Note 2.)</i>	\$4,492	\$4,492
Local travel for sampling and meetings. (P.O.V. @ \$0.58 per mile and actual cost for public transit)	\$150	\$150
Travel to one-week training course on innovative sampling techniques including lodging, train and per-diem for 1 employee. <i>(See Narrative Note 3.)</i>	\$2,500	\$2,500
Total	\$7,142	\$7,142

Budget Best Practices

- Match is waived
- Follow the instructions – be detailed on personnel, travel and other costs
- Use General Services Administration (GSA) or Department of Defense (DoD) rates for Travel (lodging, incidentals)
- Make sure the costs are allowable
- Double check your numbers
- Make sure your budget numbers match on the 424a



Application Components: Budget Detail Guidance Documents

- Procuring services: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-09/documents/best-practice-guide-for-procuring-services-supplies-equipment.pdf>
- Subawards: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-subaward-policy-additional-resources>
- Indirect costs: Organizations must submit federally-negotiated indirect cost rate to include rate in budget. Guidance: <https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2018-08/documents/indirect-cost-policy-guidance-for-recipients-of-epa-assistance-agreements.pdf>
- Object Class Categories: Details on constructing a budget. <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-05/documents/applicant-budget-development-guidance.pdf>



Key Points

- SF 424, SF 424A, and Budget Detail all must match
- Do not use cents. Round up or down to nearest dollar so all columns and rows total correctly and match
- Use current indirect cost rate agreement, or, if you do not have one you can use a default 10% de minimis
- Match the work to the appropriate object class categories --
<https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-05/documents/applicant-budget-development-guidance.pdf>
 - Consultant vs Contractor



Cooperative Agreement: Terms and Conditions

Take a look, and see if you will be able to comply with these terms and conditions before applying:

- General Administrative Terms and Conditions --
<https://www.epa.gov/grants/epa-general-terms-and-conditions-effective-october-1-2021-or-later>
- Substantial Involvement Term and Condition for cooperative agreements – this will be a Programmatic Condition
- Programmatic Terms and Conditions – to be determined



General Tips

- Allow sufficient time to register, input and review application materials, and submit before the deadline
- Ensure the Authorized Organization Representative signs the application
- Review the Uniform Grant Guidance that applies to all federal grants: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/uniform-requirements-managing-grants-apply-all-federal-executive-agencies>



Training

- For detailed guidance on how to apply for EPA grants check out: <https://www.epa.gov/grants>
- For training opportunities: <https://www.epa.gov/grants/recipient-training-opportunities>
- For more resources: <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/home.html>



QUESTIONS?

January 31, 2023 - RFA closes - applications due

Future Webinar Date:

Tuesday, December 29th, 1:00-2:30 pm (Pacific)

Search for RFA information -

<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver/columbia-river-basin-tribal-government-request-applications> or www.grants.gov

Search for technical resources or other information about EPA's work in the Basin –

<https://www.epa.gov/columbiariver>

Ask us a question - ColumbiaRiverBasinGrant@epa.gov