$3,800,000 Operating Request (GF-S)

Adaptive Management Program

DNR and our community partners need the legislature to fully-fund AMP commitments for our 2025-2027 projects. This funding ensures broad participation by all AMP stakeholders, to meet the goals of the FP HCP and CWA assurances.

Current revenue forecast projections for carry forward funding- General Funds State proviso (GF-S) and Forest and Fish Support Account - AMP (Business and Occupation Tax surcharge) - is $16,090,874. Expenditures exceed projected revenue into the account by $2.1 million fiscal year 2026, and $1.7 million fiscal year 2027 for a total budget shortfall of $3.8M for the 25-27 biennium. The additional $3.8M GF-S will supplement the AMP full funding proposal of $19,664,532 to execute the priorities consistent with the 2025-2027 CMER Work Plan.

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Adaptive Management Program Funding

The Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program (AMP), which represents small and large landowners, public agencies, the forest industry, environmental community and tribal governments, is a required component of the Forest Practices (FP) Act (RCW 76.09) and its implementing rules and required by the Forest Practices Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). The HCP includes approximately 9.3 million acres of non-federal, non-tribal forest land in WA of which 6.1 million acres are located west of the crest of the Cascade Range, and the remaining 3.2 million acres are located in eastern WA. The FP HCP embodies a 50-year regulatory commitment to implement the 1999 Forests & Fish law (State Salmon Recovery Act) and provides the state of Washington's framework in the forested environment to achieve salmonid habitat protection through compliance with the Endangered Species Act and achieve state water quality standards under the Clean Water Act. The AMP provides science-based recommendations and technical information to help the FP Board determine if and when it is necessary or advisable to adjust the FP rules and guidance for aquatic resources to achieve the goals and objectives of the Forests and Fish Report. Through the FP HCP, the state of Washington seeks to provide long-term conservation of covered species, support an economically viable timber industry and create regulatory stability for landowners.

Two key Adaptive Management Program committees established by the Forest Practices Board (Board) are the:

➢ Timber, Fish and Wildlife Policy Committee, which develops solutions to issues arising in the Forest Practices Program that implements the rules, and the
➢ Cooperative Monitoring, Evaluation, and Research Committee, a multi-disciplinary body dedicated to advancing the science for adaptive management.

AMP HIGHLIGHTS

The AMP is a collaborative science-based program. The program commenced with a monumental collaborative effort in the form of the Forest and Fish Report (FFR). This aspect is recognized by the Washington State Legislature stating that federal and state agencies, Tribes, county representatives, and private timberland owners have spent considerable effort and time to develop the FFR (RCW 76.09.055). The AMP is the continuation of the FFR process and spirit. With over two decades of history, the program has consistently carried out scientific research and has informed the Forest Practices Board on the effectiveness of forest practices rules.

Since inception in 2001, the program has completed 59 projects. It currently has 18 ongoing projects. Additional 43 projects are yet to be started.

The AMP program current research and monitoring projects details can be found here:

AMP Dashboard (https://dnr.wa.chariotcreative.com/).

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Full funding for AMP allows DNR to continue 18 active priority AMP projects:

➢ Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project will evaluate if the prescriptions found in the Type N Riparian Prescriptions Rule Group are effective in protecting water quality and some riparian functions in eastern Washington.

➢ Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project is designed to develop framework(s) for applying riparian harvest rules along Type S and Type F streams in eastern Washington.

➢ Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring (Riparian Vegetation and Stream Temperature) Program will provide data needed to evaluate landscape-scale effects and changes over time.

➢ Wetland Management Zone Effectiveness Monitoring Project will evaluate wetland functions to determine if the target of no-net-loss of hydrologic function, water quality targets, and hydrologic continuity are being achieved.

➢ Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness Monitoring Project examines high-traffic, near-stream forest logging roads as sources of sediment and evaluate best management practices.

➢ Deep-Seated Landslide Strategy evaluates forest harvest effects on glacial and bedrock deep-seated landslides to address questions regarding the potential effects of forest practices on deep-seated landslides. Current project: Landslide Mapping and Classification.

➢ Unstable Slope Criteria Projects will evaluate the degree to which the landforms described in the unstable slopes rules identify potentially unstable areas with a high probability of impacting public resources and public safety. Current projects: Object-Based Landform Mapping with High-Resolution Topography Study, and Empirical Evaluation of Shallow Landslide Susceptibility, Frequency, and Runout by Landform.

➢ Water Temperature and Amphibian Use in Type Np Waters with Discontinuous Surface Flow Project evaluates the influence of intermittent stream reaches on water temperature and FP-designated amphibian use.

➢ Forested Wetland Effectiveness Project will evaluate the effectiveness of forest practices prescriptions to protect, maintain, and restore aquatic resources, namely water quality and wetland hydrologic and ecological functions.

➢ Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Effectiveness Monitoring Project evaluates the effectiveness of westside riparian prescriptions for F and S streams in achieving resource objectives and performance targets.

➢ Water Typing Strategy is to inform a permanent water typing system that meets FFR objectives. One goal of the DNR water typing system is to accurately identify the upstream extent of fish habitat. Current projects: Evaluation of Potential Habitat Breaks (PHBs), Default Physical Criteria (DPC), and Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF).

➢ Eastside Forest Health Strategy is a research and monitoring strategy investigating active RMZ management approaches that build on current RMZ prescriptions designed to balance disturbance resiliency and resource protection objectives.

➢ Riparian Characteristics and Shade Response Study is a field research project intended to evaluate the combined effect of stream-adjacent no-harvest zone width and adjacent-stand harvest intensity (i.e., thinning density) on stream shade.

➢ Riparian Function Literature Synthesis is a stand-alone literature synthesis that will address questions regarding the effects of timber harvest on riparian functions.

➢ Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment in Hard Rock Lithologies – Amphibian Demographics project is data collection for stream-associated amphibian demographics and relevant covariates (e.g., stream temperature) for post-harvest years 14 and 15.