

# Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Volunteer Cooperative Grant Program



The ALEA grant provides communities and individuals funding for volunteer-based fish and wildlife projects.



The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) [Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account \(ALEA\) Grant Program](#) provides funding to hundreds of organizations and community members for various projects that engage volunteer support and promote fish and wildlife enhancements. WDFW is currently accepting new ALEA grant applications for projects occurring between July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025.

## What projects are eligible for funding?

The ALEA grant primarily funds five types of projects, though other project types may be considered. Project types include:

- **Habitat restoration or protection** – projects that restore and/or preserve fish and wildlife habitat.
- **Research and community Science** – activities that increase our knowledge of fish and wildlife species.
- **Outreach and education** – outreach efforts to share information or provide hands-on experiences to enhance public knowledge of fish and wildlife habitats.
- **Facility development** – provide or enhance access to fish and wildlife related recreational opportunities.
- **Artificial production** – efforts to rear and release fish or wildlife to restore populations or for public recreation opportunities.

Learn more about the ALEA Grant Program.



<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/habitat-recovery/alea>

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*Application period is open  
Dec. 1, 2022 - Feb. 28, 2023.*

## How to apply:

Use your cellphone to scan the QR below to complete and submit the [Grant Eligibility Questionnaire](#) for review.



If eligible, you will be sent a grant application and application guide.

Grant applications are due no later than **Feb. 28, 2023**, early submission is appreciated.

For further information, please contact WDFW at 360-902-2685 or at [alea@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:alea@dfw.wa.gov).

## Who can apply?

The ALEA grant welcomes all members of the community and organizations to consider this opportunity.

The following are encouraged to apply for consideration:

- Individual residents
- Non-profit organizations
- Schools and universities
- Conservation districts
- Tribal governments

**Please note:** For-profit businesses, state, and federal agencies are not eligible.

## What projects has ALEA funded in the past?

The ALEA grant has funded numerous fish and wildlife projects throughout the state. Previously supported projects included:

- North Audubon Lake Trail Interpretive Signs Project
- Western Gray Squirrel Research
- Canyons as Corridors - Interactive Education in the Yakima Canyon
- Union River Preserve Trail Improvement
- Community-based Salmon Habitat Restoration

## How much funding is available?

Applicants can apply for grants to fund projects that vary in size, cost, and volunteer hours.

Approximately \$897,000 is available for grant projects. Funding will be allocated in two categories: small grants of \$5,000 or less, and grants over \$5,000. The maximum amount for grant requests is \$44,845.

## Grant Guidelines

[The ALEA Policies and Procedures Manual](#) provides in-depth information on grant guidelines, which include:

- Grant funds are available only on a cost reimbursement basis.
- Funds may not be used for staff wages, benefits, or stipends.
- Projects must utilize unpaid volunteer labor.
- Grantees must submit quarterly progress reports and submit volunteer hours.

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