



BRIAN ABBOTT

**FISH BARRIER
REMOVAL BOARD**

**Request for
Applications**

February 1, 2018

**2019 - 2021
Coordinated
Pathway**

ABOUT THE FISH BARRIER REMOVAL BOARD GRANT PROGRAM

The Legislature established the grant program of the Brian Abbott Fish Passage Barrier Removal Board (FBRB) in 2014 to assist in identifying and removing impediments to anadromous salmonid fish passage. All FBRB-funded grant projects shall match the principles provided in Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 77.95 §§ 160, 170, and 180, and are reviewed and approved by the FBRB. The grant program is administered jointly by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). For more information about the FBRB, please visit: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/fbrb/>.

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

The FBRB is accepting applications for fish passage projects for the FBRB grant program's Coordinated Pathway funding strategy. The Coordinated Pathway approach is intended to leverage fish passage investments that have been made by the Washington Department of Transportation, forest industry, local governments, and other entities by funding barrier corrections near or in coordination with other fish passage investments.

An application may be for either of 2 project types: Planning (i.e., 'design-only') or Restoration (i.e., construction). Planning projects that are approved for funding will be developed to full design. Restoration projects that are approved for funding will be constructed within the grant award period.

The FBRB grant program is a highly competitive process and not all draft applications will advance to final applications. All proposed fish passage projects will be evaluated by the FBRB, and only the highest priority projects will be recommended to the Legislature for funding. For more information about the Coordinated Pathway funding strategy, see Manual 22 (link provided in Resources section).

Note: This Request for Applications is for the FBRB's Coordinated Pathway only, i.e., not the Watershed Pathway. The FBRB expects the Watershed Pathway participants to continue implementing projects from their approved and prioritized lists in future grant rounds. If lead entities or salmon recovery regions want to propose new projects in their priority watersheds that are not included in the FBRB-approved lists, or to change their priority watersheds, they must work with their WDFW fish passage biologists to get FBRB approval.

ELIGIBILITY

All eligibility requirements outlined in this section must be met for a project to be considered.

Per RCW 77.95.160, the duty of the FBRB is to identify and expedite the removal of impediments to anadromous fish that are caused by state and local roads and highways, and barriers owned by private parties.

The project must correct a complete or partial barrier to anadromous salmonids, as defined in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's barrier assessment manual (link provided in Resources section). The project must also be in coordination with (i.e., upstream or downstream of) another barrier correction project that has been completed since 2010 or is currently funded and scheduled for construction by 2021.

Restoration (i.e., construction) projects must have recently completed preliminary-level designs submitted with the final application, unless the total requested amount is less than or equal to \$500,000. Preliminary design deliverables are described in Manual 22, Appendix C-2.

Applications that are incomplete or unclear will be deemed ineligible.

It is not the intent of the FBRB grant program to fund mitigation obligations.

PROJECT SCORING CRITERIA AND EVALUATION PROCESS

The FBRB and the FBRB's Technical Review Team (TRT) review fish passage projects to ensure that the approved projects create actual benefits to anadromous salmonids, have costs that do not outweigh the anticipated benefits, have a high likelihood of being successful, and satisfy the founding principles outlined in RCW 77.95.180.

Proposed fish passage projects will be reviewed for eligibility and potential benefits to anadromous salmonids.

During this initial review, projects will be scored and ranked based on the following criteria:

- Barrier severity
- Absence of downstream barriers
- Linear habitat gain
- Number of anadromous species affected by the barrier
- Habitat quality
- Project readiness, i.e., design level, permits, sponsor capacity, etc.
- Clearly outlined anticipated costs
- Design approach and climate change resilience

Proponents of high priority projects will be invited to submit a final application that will be further evaluated based on:

- Benefits to productivity and life history stages
- Level of coordination with other habitat restoration projects, i.e., estimated total benefits from recent efforts that would be realized as a result of the proposed barrier correction
- Clearly identified and appropriate project scope, goals and objectives, milestones, and schedule
- Cost effectiveness and a clear, detailed budget
- Stock status of anadromous species that would benefit
- Contribution to an approved recovery plan
- Other relevant information presented by project proponent

The final prioritized list of fish passage projects is the culmination of a thorough scientific review and investigation of the merits of each project. The FBRB will submit a funding request for the final prioritized list of fish passage projects to the Legislature.

MATCH REQUIREMENTS

For Restoration (i.e., construction) projects, a minimum of 15 percent match of the grant award is required. For Planning (i.e., 'design-only') projects, match is not required if the funding

request is less than or equal to \$200,000 and final designs are completed within 18 months of funding approval; time extensions are not allowed. If the funding request for a Planning project is greater than \$200,000, then 15 percent match of the grant award is required and final designs must be completed within 2 years; time extension requests may be considered.

Matching resources may include cash, bond funds, grants (unless prohibited by the funding authority), in-kind labor, equipment, and materials. See Manual 8 (link provided in Resources section) for information on match and reimbursements.

SCHEDULE

TASK	DATE	DESCRIPTION
Request for Applications	01 FEB 2018	Publication of FBRB Coordinated Pathway Request for Applications
Draft Applications due	11:59 PM 29 MAR 2018	Submit complete Draft Application materials to FBRB@dfw.wa.gov
FBRB reviews Draft Applications	APR/MAY 2018	Initial review of projects by TRT and FBRB for eligibility and potential benefits to anadromous salmonids
Invitation to submit Final Applications	31 MAY 2018	Proponents of high priority projects are invited to submit a Final Application
Final Applications due	11:59 PM 28 JUN 2018	Complete all sections and submit all attachments in PRISM
FBRB reviews Final Applications	JUL/AUG 2018	Projects reviewed, ranked, and approved by TRT and FBRB
FBRB project request submitted	SEP 2018	Ranked project list and funding recommendations published and submitted to the Legislature
Funding notification	TBD	Funding notification dependent upon final 2019-2021 state budget. Funds expected to be available 01 JUL 2019

SOLICITATION REQUIREMENTS

To submit a project for consideration, applicants will email Draft Application materials as a single, complete package to FBRB@dfw.wa.gov. Links to required forms are available at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/fbrb/> and in Manual 22, with additional instructions for some of the required forms in Manual 18 (link provided in Resources Section).

Minimum requirements for Draft Application:

- Barrier Evaluation Form
- Expanded Barrier Evaluation Form
- Maps, including:
 - 1 map that clearly shows the location of the proposed activity within the state, and

- 1 large scale detailed map showing the site clearly marked and labeled with GPS coordinates, road names, and correctly mapped streams
- Photos, including:
 - 1 photo of the barrier, preferably of outlet (downstream end) if safe to acquire,
 - 1 photo of the upstream habitat, and
 - 1 photo of the top of the road showing utilities, guardrails, etc. if applicable
- Landowner Acknowledgement Form(s)
- FBRB Draft Application Questions - responses to questions about project readiness, anticipated costs, habitat quality, design approach, and coordination.

Proponents of high priority projects will be invited to submit a Final Application into PRISM, RCO's online grant management system (link provided in Resources section).

Minimum requirements for Final Application:

- Complete all sections of the PRISM Online Application
- Attach the following required forms (in PRISM):
 - ALL Draft Application materials
 - Application Authorization Form
 - FBRB Cost Estimate Spreadsheet
 - Design Documents (required for Restoration projects greater than \$500,000)
 - Map: Restoration Worksite (for Restoration Projects)
 - Map: Planning Area (if requesting funding for designs)
 - Map: Area of Potential Effect
 - Correction Analysis Form
 - FBRB Final Application Questions - responses to questions about limiting factors, level of coordination, project scope, and additional supporting information.

CONTACTS

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RESOURCES

WDFW Fish Passage Program: https://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/habitat/fish_passage/. Includes links to WDFW's barrier assessment manual, barrier map, and design guidance.

FBRB webpage: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/fbrb/>. Includes Request for Applications and required forms.

PRISM: https://www.rco.wa.gov/prism_app/about_prism.shtml. Logon and link to create a PRISM account.

RCO grant manuals: https://www.rco.wa.gov/doc_pages/manuals_by_number.shtml. Includes links to Manual 22 (Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board Grant Program), Manual 8 (Reimbursements), Manual 18 (Salmon Recovery Grants), and Manual 7 (Long-Term Obligations).