



**HILARY S. FRANZ**  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

**\$3.8M GF-S**

## **Adaptive Management Program**

DNR and our community partners need the legislature to fully-fund this commitment so we can continue to make progress on completing high priority research and monitoring projects to support 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 dedicated to 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](#).

### **CONTACT**

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# **Adaptive Management Program**

The Forest Practices Adaptive Management Program (AMP), which represents 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 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 protection and recovery 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 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 of adaptive management.

### **AMP HIGHLIGHTS**

Since the AMP began in 2001, 59 projects have been completed, 20 are active, and 43 have yet to be initiated. The AMP program current research and monitoring projects details can be found on the [AMP Dashboard \(https://dnr.chariotcr.com\)](https://dnr.chariotcr.com).





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With full funding, DNR can continue making progress on the 20 active AMP projects:

- Eastside Type N Riparian Effectiveness Project
- Eastside Timber Habitat Evaluation Project
- Extensive Riparian Status and Trends Monitoring Program – Riparian Vegetation and Stream Temperature
- Wetland Management Zone Effectiveness Monitoring Project
- Road Prescription-Scale Effectiveness Monitoring Project
- Deep-Seated Landslide Mapping and Classification Project
- Unstable Slope Criteria Projects:
  - Object-Based Landform Mapping with High-Resolution Topography Study,
  - 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
- Forested Wetland Effectiveness Project
- Westside Type F Riparian Prescription Effectiveness Monitoring Project (Phase 3)
- Water Typing Projects:
  - Evaluation of Potential Habitat Breaks (PHBs),
  - Default Physical Criteria (DPC), and
  - Anadromous Fish Floor (AFF).
- Eastside Forest Health Strategy
- Riparian Characteristics and Shade Response Study
- Riparian Function Literature Synthesis
- Type N Experimental Buffer Treatment in Hard Rock Lithologies – Amphibian Demographics
- Water Temperature and Amphibian Use in Type Np Waters with Discontinuous Surface Flow Project

Failure to receive the additional \$3.8 million would result in jeopardizing the ability to meet research and monitoring project commitments established in the 2012 settlement agreement between the state, timberland owners, and environmental caucuses and in the Forest Practices Board priorities which support the FP HCP and CWA assurances. Current priority research and monitoring projects would fall off schedule delaying evaluation of the Forest Practices Rules.

### **Office of the WA State Auditor Office (SAO) Recommendations Response**

In January 2021, the SAO completed a [performance audit](#) of the AMP. The audit provided 13 recommendations for improving AMP performance. The TFW Policy Committee and CMER have advanced initiatives to address improvements to decision making, accountability, and transparency and are making significant progress to advance the SAO recommendations. All SAO recommendations action items are scheduled to be completed by 2025.

One key initiative, Structured Decision Making (SDM), will improve AMP decision-making. Participants are working on establishing a SDM framework to apply multi-criteria decision making for future AMP recommendations to the Board. TFW Policy is working with a consultant to develop an approach to applying a SDM framework to an upcoming decision as a pilot. TFW Policy will make recommendations to the Forest Practices Board on elements of the SDM framework that may be incorporated into the AMP decision making process and included in Board Manual, Section 22.