

Climate Commitment Act Funding

The <u>Climate Commitment Act</u> created a program requiring the state's largest polluters to reduce greenhouse gas pollution. Some of the money raised from the program may fund projects in the following grant programs:

- Brian Abbott Fish Barrier Removal Board
- Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program
- Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration
- Salmon Recovery Funding Board's Salmon Recovery, Riparian, and Targeted Investment Programs
- Washington Coast Restoration and Resiliency Initiative

Climate Commitment Act funding comes with additional reporting, assessment, Tribal notification and other requirements.

Notification Requirements

Tribal Notification

An applicant to a program that could be funded with Climate Commitment Act funding must notify all affected federally recognized Tribes in the project area about the proposed project before submitting an application. The notification aims to identify Tribal resources or rights potentially affected by the funding decisions and programs, assess their effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on Tribal resources or rights. This notification is separate from, and in addition to, the cultural resource consultation requirements of Executive Order 21-02 and federal requirements.

In addition to notification by applicants, the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) will offer government-to-government consultation with Tribes on proposed projects.

¹Revised Code of Washington 70A.65.305



Agency Notification

The applicant also must email a copy of the notification letter to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at CCAnotification@dfw.wa.gov and to the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation at CCA@dahp.wa.gov.

Letter Requirements

RCO has a letter template that may be customized for a specific project. The applicant must determine which Tribes may be affected and should be notified. The Governor's Office of Indian Affairs provides <u>maps</u> and <u>contact information</u> for federally recognized Indian Tribes in Washington State. The Washington Department of Ecology has a <u>map of Tribal lands</u> and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission has <u>contact information for its member Tribes</u>.

The applicant should include <u>all projects</u> in one letter and reference each grant program. Please use the subject line "Climate Commitment Act Funded Salmon Recovery Grant Project Application Notice—Recreation and Conservation Office; [insert grant program name(s) here]" in all email and letter correspondence with Tribes. Attach the letter to RCO's PRISM application and identify it as a "CCA Tribal Notification" attachment type.

The notification must include an opportunity to discuss the project and provide key information about the project, including the following:

- Project name
- Project number in the RCO database (provide a link)
- Applicant name
- Project type (e.g., restoration, planning, acquisition, etc.)
- Water Resource Inventory Area
- County
- Project description, which can be what is included in the project application



Reporting After Funding

RCO must report every year to the Department of Ecology on funded projects. The report must include information on the direct and meaningful benefit to vulnerable human populations within the boundaries of overburdened communities, projects that are formally supported by a Tribal resolution, reductions to greenhouse gas emissions, and other long-term benefits of the project. RCO may ask the grant recipient to help supply this information.

Signs and Communication

To strengthen public awareness of how Climate Commitment Act funding is used, the grant recipients must follow guidelines for signs and branding of all communications. <u>Logos and branding information</u> are available on the <u>Washington Climate Action</u> website.