



HABITAT STEWARDSHIP PROJECTS

Waterton Biosphere Region (WBR) provides financial and technical assistance to landowners undertaking projects within WBR that steward wetland, riparian, and grassland habitats, ensure water quantity and quality, provide habitat corridors, or maintain particular habitat features required by species at risk. Examples of projects include:



livestock watering improvements and/or water crossings (e.g., off-site watering system, hardened access points)



grazing management (e.g., electric fencing for rotational grazing)



streambank improvements (e.g., permanent fencing to restrict livestock access, revegetation of natural buffer)



wetland restoration (e.g., ditch plug, beaver pond leveller)



tame/native grassland projects (e.g., seeding to native pasture, planting pollinator habitat, biocontrol)



man-made habitat structures (e.g., hawk nesting platform, bat roost/box, swallow structure)



>>> HOW MUCH WILL WBR FUND?

Available project funding for a particular year is determined by the grants we receive. Projects are typically funded on a 50-50 cost-share basis with landowners. There is no maximum limit for a single project, though we may fund projects at less than the requested amount to ensure we can support more landowners in the region. Accordingly, you should not start your project until you have confirmation of WBR funding support.





>>> WHAT COSTS ARE ELIGIBLE?

- Site preparation
- Materials and supplies (e.g., pond leveller, fencing supplies, native plants)
- Capital purchase (e.g., waterer, portable electric fence, charger; subject to limits or grant restrictions)
- Equipment rental
- Contractor costs
- Labour costs (as matching in-kind contribution)
- Professional services related to project planning (e.g., wetland practitioner, agrologist)

>>> WHAT COSTS AREN'T COVERED?

- Costs incurred before project approval
- Purchase of land
- Ongoing maintenance costs
- Opportunity costs for land taken out of production



>>> WHAT IS THE WBR APPLICATION PROCESS?



>>> HOW ARE PROJECTS SELECTED?

Applications are reviewed for their **ecological benefits** (e.g., improves natural processes and ecosystem function, connects habitats, occurs in a priority area), for **implementation considerations** (e.g., likely to succeed in meeting project objectives, landowner committed to required maintenance, value for local community as showcase), and for **cost considerations** (e.g., budget is reasonable and aligned with similar projects, funding/partners currently available).

Current habitats and priorities of interest to WBR include wetland and riparian habitats, species at risk, and supporting biodiversity.

Contact Elizabeth Anderson to discuss or to request an application:

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