



Alaska Community Forestry Program 2026 Grant Opportunities Streambank Restoration/Stability Grants Round III



Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry & Fire Protection
550 W. Seventh Ave., Suite 1450, Anchorage, AK 99501 / 907-269-8466 / <http://forestry.alaska.gov/community/>

1. Introduction

The USDA Forest Service (USFS) and the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Fire Protection, Community Forestry Program (CFP), have Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) grant monies available to local governments, state agencies, tribal organizations, non-profits, public universities, and other non-federal entities for projects in Alaska communities.

Monies are available for streambank restoration/stability projects to help reduce erosion and protect fish and wildlife habitat. These are 100% reimbursable grants and will be awarded on a competitive basis. Grants will be awarded for up to 2 years. No match funding is required. Applications must be received by May 29, 2026.

1.1 Background

Healthy river systems are important for salmon and resident fish populations, which are a major food source for many Alaskans. Diminishing permafrost and more frequent extreme weather events, both consequences of a changing climate, have exacerbated streambank erosion and threaten to negatively impact Alaskan waterways. Protecting and enhancing vegetation along streambanks helps keep stream water clean by filtering out sediment and pollutants from surface runoff, reduces erosion, helps moderate water temperatures, and provides protection and food for juvenile fish.

These projects will utilize native vegetation and natural materials to reduce erosion and protect fish and wildlife habitat. The goal of these projects is to restore natural streambank processes and function while continuing to provide access for angling and other recreational activities.

Successful applicants will demonstrate the expertise and ability to build and maintain streambank restoration/stability projects in their communities. Project goals include erosion reduction and habitat protection and enhancement.

2. Eligibility Requirements

- Eligible groups include all non-federal organizations, state agencies, local governments, cooperative weed management areas, soil and water conservation districts, registered non-profits, local communities, public and state-controlled institutions of higher education, Alaska Native organizations, federally recognized Tribes, Alaska Native Corporations and villages, and Tribal organizations as defined in 25 USC 5304 (I).
- Eligible applicants may apply for funding for projects conducted on non-federal public lands, including state lands, university lands, borough lands, local government and municipal lands, Tribal/Alaska Native Corporation lands, and land held in trust for Native American Tribes and individuals (includes Trust lands).
- Projects or activities on private property are permitted upon meeting specific requirements. If you are considering a project on private property, please contact CFP for details.
- Awardees will be responsible for submitting quarterly progress reports and a final report following project completion.

- Awardees will be required to report accomplishments for the periods ending June 30 and December 31 to the public facing Trees at Work reporting dashboard.
- Awardees will be required to provide a Universal Entity Identifier (UEI) system number. Instructions on how to find your organization’s UEI, or register for a new UEI can be found at sam.gov/content/duns-uei

3. How can the grant be used?

Grant funds must be used to implement streambanks stability/restoration projects in Alaska.

- Minimum Grant Request: \$10,000
For grants under \$10,000, contact CFP
- Maximum Grant Request: \$100,000

3.1 Eligible Cost Examples

The following outlines eligible activities and costs for both grant expenditures and cost share contributions.

- Vegetative mats
- Live staking
- Cabled spruce trees
- Planting native trees and shrubs
- Trenched willows
- Willow bundles
- Spruce tree rootwads
- Brush layers
- Brush mats

3.2 Ineligible Costs

- Activities not identified in the application and approved grant agreement (exceptions can be granted during the field season with approval from the CFP).
- Construction and capital improvements. Examples of ineligible construction costs include facilities, roads, new buildings, culverts, and boardwalks.
- Educational and research organizations proposing projects that do not show tangible, on-the ground benefit.
- Organizations seeking funding for litigation or advocacy.
- Organizations seeking general operating or programmatic support.
- Activities federal agencies are required to perform.
- Other items as determined by the grant review committee.
- Equipment purchase.

4. Grant Selection Criteria

Applications will be scored and evaluated by a grant review committee. Selection criteria will include project feasibility, demonstration of a well-organized plan and budget, anticipated benefits to ecosystem health, and location within an area of priority interest according to the 2020 Alaska State Forest Action Plan.

Grant applications that include partnerships between local governments and local or regional non-profits are encouraged.

Grants that take place in communities or areas considered “disadvantaged” or “distressed” as shown in the AK Disadvantaged Communities webmap or Denali Commission 2025 Distressed Communities Report will receive priority consideration.

[AK Disadvantaged Communities \(arcgis.com\)](https://arcgis.com)

[Denali Commission 2025 Distressed Communities Report](#)

Virtually all Alaska communities off the road system are classified as disadvantaged. All federally recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native villages, are designated as disadvantaged although they may not be within census tracts that are designated as such.

If you are unsure if a project in your community falls within a disadvantaged or distressed area, please contact our office.

5. Application Process

Complete the 4-page application. Proposals are **due no later than 11:59 p.m., on Friday, May 29, 2026**. Management of the grants will be conducted by the CFP. All completed proposals will be reviewed by a grant committee. The state and grantee will sign a grant agreement and funds will be paid to the grantee upon receipt of the final report.

5.1 Project Details and Activities

Please submit the following information as an attachment along with your application:

Details regarding impacts on nearby waterbodies, design, and outreach plans. Be sure to include:

- Project location.
- Area of impact. Include description of affected watershed and stream(s).
- Required permitting from government agencies (i.e. ADFG Fish Habitat Permit).
- Project description and design plans.
- Impact on fish and wildlife populations.
- Maintenance and monitoring plan.

6. Target Dates

The following dates are targets for each step in the selection process. After the proposal submittal, these dates may require adjustment.

Proposals due:	May 29, 2026
Grant review committee reviews proposals:	June 1 – June 19
Projects selected:	June 22 – June 26
Project timelines and grant agreement finalized:	June 29 – July 20

7. Resources

- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADFG) Streambank and Shoreline Rehabilitation website. Information on workshops and the current streambank revegetation book.
<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=habitatrestoration.stream>
- ADFG Habitat Permits website.
<https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.streambank>
- Alaska Community Forestry Program
<http://forestry.alaska.gov/community/index>

8. Contact

Mail or deliver proposal to: Alaska Community Forestry Program
550 W. 7th Ave. Ste 1450
Anchorage, AK 99501

Email proposal to: CommunityForestry@alaska.gov

For additional information contact:
Josh Hightower, Community Forestry Program Coordinator
Josh.hightower@alaska.gov
907-269-8466

Mission of the Alaska Community Forestry Program:

Help communities build effective, self-sustaining community forestry programs with strong local support.

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