



United States Department of Agriculture



FY23 NRCS-WA Riparian Buffer Program

Roylene Comes At Night, *NRCS-WA State Conservationist*

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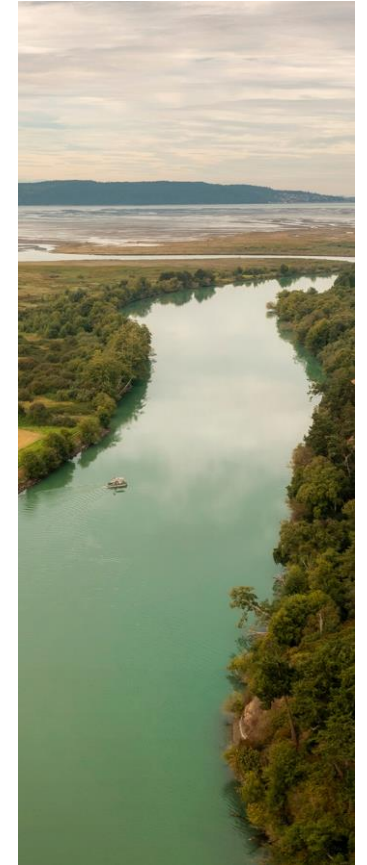
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FY23 Riparian Buffer Program

- | Riparian Buffers have been a hot topic for years.
- | NRCS-WA's goal is to move the needle and help ...
 - | Improve salmon habitat (lower temps & shade)
 - | Improve water quality
 - | Reduce sediment
- | Buffers start at **35 feet wide & completely voluntary**



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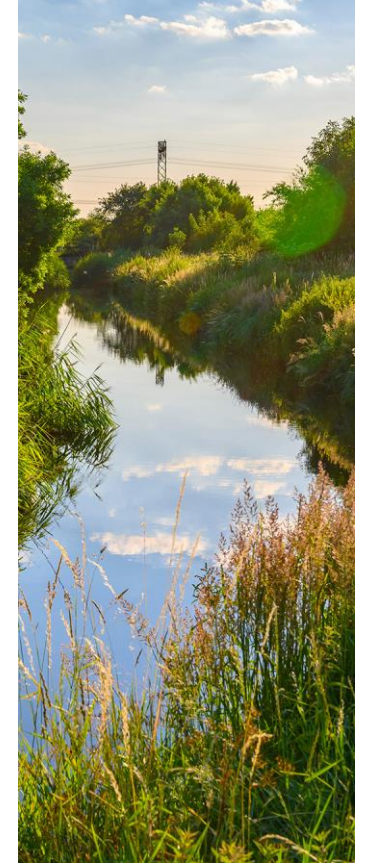


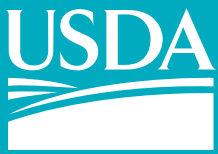


The specifics

- | Four “tier” program
- | Producers compensated for their **time**, and **materials** required to install the buffers
- | Each tier included option to compensate landowners for the **forgone income lost** when they install a buffer

All scenarios and associated payment rates are estimates





Tier 1. Nonnative perennial herbaceous cover

Option 1: Working Land Buffer

Description: Plant perennial vegetation to filter pollutants from adjacent agriculture from entering streams. Allows for forage harvest (working buffer). Treats one or more water quality resource concerns.

Buffer Functions: Filter pollutants and slows bank erosion.

Activity	Code	Scenario	Notes	Incentive <i>(per year/acre)</i>	5-Year Contract Total <i>(per acre)</i>
Herbaceous Weed Treatment <i>(1 year only)</i>	315	8	Two treatments	\$116.79	\$116.79
Conservation Cover <i>(1 year only)</i>	327	1	Introduced species	\$168.33	\$168.33
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	645	3	High intensity & complexity	\$114.92	\$574.60

Five-year contract total per acre: **\$859.72**



Tier 1. Nonnative perennial herbaceous cover

Option 2: With Forgone Income

Description: Plant perennial vegetation to filter pollutants from adjacent agriculture from entering streams. Treats one or more water quality resource concerns.

Buffer Functions: Filter pollutants and slows bank erosion.

Activity	Code	Scenario	Notes	Incentive <i>(per year/acre)</i>	5-Year Contract Total <i>(per acre)</i>
Herbaceous Weed Treatment <i>(1 year only)</i>	315	8	Two treatments	\$116.79	\$116.79
Conservation Cover <i>(1 year only)</i>	327	1	Introduced species	\$168.33	\$168.33
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management w/ FI *	645	4	High intensity & complexity	\$312.99	\$1,564.95

Five-year contract total per acre: **\$1,850.07**



Tier 2. Native perennial herbaceous cover

Description: Plant perennial native perennial vegetation to improve water quality, plus adds wildlife and/or pollinator habitat with optional harvest.

Buffer Functions: Filter pollutants, slow bank erosion, and terrestrial habitat for wildlife and pollinators.

Activity	Code	Scenario	Notes	Incentive <i>(per year/acre)</i>	5-Year Contract Total <i>(per acre)</i>
Herbaceous Weed Treatment <i>(1 year only)</i>	315	8	Two treatments	\$116.79	\$116.79
Wildlife Habitat Planting w/ FI <i>(1 year only)</i>	420	262	Low species diversity	\$651.41	\$651.41
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management w/ FI *	645	4	High intensity & complexity	\$312.99	\$1,564.95

Five-year contract total per acre: **\$2,333.15**



Tier 3. Native woody vegetation

Wildlife and pollinators

Description: Install narrow riparian buffer of woody shrubs and trees (35 ft wide) to provide terrestrial wildlife and pollinator habitat as in Tier 2 + treats elevated water temperature on small modified streams (<20 ft BFW) & manmade ditches.

Buffer Functions: Filter pollutants, slow bank erosion, terrestrial habitat for wildlife and pollinators, shade on small modified channels.

Activity	Code	Scenario	Notes	Incentive <i>(per year/acre)</i>	5-Year Contract Total <i>(per acre)</i>
Tree/Shrub Site Preparation <i>(1 year only)</i>	490	7	Hand, individual spot spray, light vegetation	\$246.21	\$246.21
Hedgerow Planting w/ FI <i>(1 year only)</i> <i>Example:</i> <i>35 ft wide x 800 ft long (one side) = 0.6 acre</i> <i>Typical unit = 800 ft long hedgerow</i>	422	27	2 woody rows	\$9.71 <i>(per foot)</i>	\$7,768.00
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management w/ FI *	645	4	High intensity & complexity	\$312.99	\$1,564.95

Five-year contract total per acre: **\$9,579.16**



Tier 4. Native woody vegetation

Riparian forest buffer

Description: Install riparian forest buffer using 391 standard (35 ft minimum width for herbaceous cover and 50 ft minimum width for riparian forest buffer), and man-made ditches.

Buffer Functions: Filter pollutants, slow bank erosion, terrestrial habitat for wildlife and pollinators, shade, overhanging cover, allow channel meander.

Activity	Code	Scenario	Notes	Incentive <i>(per year/acre)</i>	5-Year Contract Total <i>(per acre)</i>
Tree/Shrub Site Preparation <i>(1 year only)</i>	490	7	Hand, individual spot spray, light vegetation	\$246.21	\$246.21
Riparian Forest Buffer w/ FI <i>(1 year only)</i>	391	52	Bare-root & hand planted **	\$3,302.98	\$3,302.98
Upland Wildlife Habitat Management w/ FI *	645	4	High intensity & complexity	\$312.99	\$1,564.95

Five-year contract total per acre: **\$5,114.14**



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Questions?



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