Private Forest Accord Grant Program

💧 WATER TRANSACTION PROJECTS — QUICK REFERENCE SHEET

FALL 2026 CYCLE

1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW & KEY PARAMETERS

🎯 Core Objective

Restores instream flows to benefit fish and aquatic species covered by the Oregon Private Forest Accord (PFA) Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).

🤝 Partner Structure

ODFW does **not** hold water rights or grant directly to individuals. Landowners partner with eligible entities (e.g., Watershed Councils, SWCDs, Tribes, Non-profits).

⚖️ OWRD Trust Role

When legally transferred instream, the Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD) holds the instream water rights in trust for the State of Oregon.

2. SOLICITATION SCHEDULE (2026–2027)

Nov 12, 2026	Jan 8, 2027	Jan–Mar 2027	April 2027
Solicitation Opens (8:00 AM)	Applications Due (5:00 PM)	Technical & Committee Review	Commission Award & Start

3. TRANSACTION TYPES & ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

OWRD Administered Transactions

- **Full Season Instream Lease:** Lease water right up to 5 years; reverts after term.
- **Split-Season Instream Lease:** Split season between farm use and instream protection.
- **Permanent Instream Transfer:** Permanent conversion of surface water right to instream use.
- **Time-Limited Transfer:** Fixed multi-year change (>5 years) to instream protection.

Other Frameworks & Eligible Applicants

- **Non-OWRD Agreements:** Forbearance contracts, minimum flow agreements, and rotational water sharing.
- **Eligible Applicants:** SWCDs, Watershed Councils, Tribes, Non-profits, Local/State Agencies, Universities, and Irrigation Districts.
- *Note:* Landowners must co-apply with an eligible grantee.

4. FINANCIALS, DUE DILIGENCE & APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Cost & Budget Guidance

- **No Min/Max Funding Caps:** Competitive scoring against all PFA proposals.
- **Indirect Costs:** Capped at 15% for personnel, supplies, equipment, and contracts.
- **Pre-Agreement Costs:** Eligible up to 2 years prior for appraisals, surveys, title reports, CWRE fees, and environmental site assessments.
- **Escrow Options:** Available for closing; requires 30-day notice and closing within 45 days of deposit.

Application Requirements Checklist

- **Water Right Certificates & Maps:** Regional & detailed property boundary maps with POD/POU locations.
- **5-Year Water Use History:** Proof of past beneficial use and water reliability.
- **Cost Justification:** Water valuation report, market comparison, or expert opinion.
- **Landowner Form:** Signed Appendix A Acknowledgement.
- **Monitoring Plan:** Flow measurement methods and reporting framework.

5. PFA HCP COVERED SPECIES LIST

🐟 Native Salmon & Trout

- All Native Salmon & Trout
- Coho Salmon
- Chinook Salmon
- Chum & Pink Salmon
- Steelhead / Rainbow Trout, etc.

💧 Other Native Fish

- Bull Trout
- Mountain Whitefish
- Pacific Eulachon (Smelt)
- Green Sturgeon

🐸 Amphibians

- Coastal & Cope's Giant Salamander
- Columbia & Southern Torrent Salamander
- Coastal Tailed Frog

💡 Additional PFA Grant Program Opportunities

In addition to Water Transactions, the Private Forest Accord Grant Program offers competitive funding across three other distinct project pathways: **Habitat Restoration Grants**, **Conservation Easements** , and **Research & Monitoring** projects.