



Conservation Trust Guidelines

2027 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

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What's New for 2027

- The Conservation Trust has updated eligibility criteria. Indigenous governments or representative groups (ex. Band Councils or tribal councils) are now eligible applicants.
- Virtual Fencing is an eligible expense to include in your application as part of grassland and riparian enhancement activities, along with other rotational grazing supports. Applications for this activity will be evaluated on the cost effectiveness and ecological outcomes of your program. Please see additional details in the Applicant Handbook.

As part of our commitment to embed Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility (IDEA) into our organization, MHC is launching the Conservation Trust Pathways Program in 2027. Pathways is a new funding opportunity designed to make conservation funding more accessible and flexible by reducing administrative barriers and prioritizing groups that have not previously received funding through the Conservation Trust.

More information about the Pathways Program can be found at <https://mbhabitat.ca/funding-opportunities/>.

Manitoba Habitat Conservancy

Manitoba Habitat Conservancy's (MHC) work is grounded in conserving, restoring, and enhancing natural habitats across Manitoba. The mission of MHC is to realize enduring conservation benefits through investment in and delivery of initiatives that achieve productive natural landscapes and community well-being. We do this with conservation initiatives, by working in partnership with others, and through the delivery of the Conservation Trust granting programs.



About the Conservation Trust

The Conservation Trust is a fund created by the Government of Manitoba with an initial investment of \$102 million in 2018. Revenues from the fund support projects that care for Manitoba's lands, waters, wildlife, and communities by protecting, restoring, or improving natural areas and the benefits they provide.

The Conservation Trust is held by the Winnipeg Foundation, with the Manitoba Habitat Conservancy (MHC) responsible for the development, delivery, and management of the program. Manitoban non-profit organizations can apply for funding for on-the-ground projects that support watersheds, habitat, wildlife, land stewardship, conservation planning, soil health, and connections between people and nature.

The Conservation Trust primarily supports projects that provide Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S). These include clean water, wildlife habitat, climate regulation through carbon storage, and flood and drought management. In addition to supporting ecological health and resilience, projects can also create opportunities for Manitobans to build meaningful connections with nature and learn from place-based stewardship practices. The Trust encourages collaborative approaches that bring together landowners, communities, non-profit organizations, Indigenous governments and organizations, and other partners.

The Trust recognizes that effective conservation is built on respectful relationships, local leadership, and shared responsibility. It welcomes projects led by, or developed in partnership with, Indigenous Nations, communities, and organizations, and supports conservation and stewardship approaches that reflect community priorities, cultural values, and long-standing relationships with lands and waters. The Trust values diverse ways of knowing and encourages collaborative conservation efforts that contribute to thriving ecosystems, wildlife habitat, and resilient communities.

Projects are prioritized based on their potential to achieve meaningful and lasting conservation outcomes. Priority is given to projects that conserve or enhance significant areas of land or water, demonstrate meaningful partnerships or community leadership, and provide strong or multiple conservation benefits. Funding is primarily directed toward landscape-scale initiatives that support healthy watersheds, resilient habitats, and wildlife.

The Trust uses a thorough review process to select projects that meet or exceed basic eligibility requirements, including projects that:

- Have significant, measurable, and/or multiple EG&S outcomes (conservation benefits)
- Include active partnerships or meaningful engagement with other organizations or communities
- Include matching funds, cash or in-kind, that are at least twice the amount requested from the Conservation Trust, i.e., the Conservation Trust request can cover up to one-third of the total project cost.

Land Donation Support Fund

The Conservation Trust also provides funding for groups wishing to receive financial support for donations of land and conservation agreements via the Land Donation Support Fund (LDSF). The LDSF provides cost-shared funds to cover a portion of closing costs (e.g. legal fees and appraisals tied to securing donations).

Applications for this fund may be made directly to MHC at any time. Funds for the LDSF are available on a first come first serve basis, with new funding being made available at the beginning of each year. For those interested in applying for the LDSF, please contact your Grant Associate.



Conservation Trust Call for Proposals

Spring 2027 Timeline

LETTER OF INTEREST INTAKE OPENS ————— SEPT. 8/26

LETTER OF INTEREST INTAKE CLOSES ————— OCT. 2/26

LETTER OF INTEREST NOTIFICATIONS ————— OCT. 23/26

PROPOSAL INTAKE OPENS ————— NOV. 2/26

PROPOSAL INTAKE CLOSES ————— DEC. 4/26

GRANTING NOTIFICATIONS ————— APRIL 2027

Conservation Trust Categories

Organizations may apply to the Conservation Trust for up to \$600,000 in total funding across the six categories listed below. Applicants may submit more than one application, as long as the total amount requested stays within this limit.

Applications may be approved for partial or full funding. Applicants may partner on additional proposals over and above their funding cap.

Choose the category that best matches the work your project will complete during the project period.



HABITAT AND WILDLIFE UP TO \$600,000

Projects that conserve, restore, or improve wildlife habitat and support healthy wildlife populations.

Eligible projects may:

- Improve the quality or amount of habitat for wildlife
- Support species at risk or important wildlife populations
- Help achieve goals identified in regional, provincial, or national conservation plans

Examples:

- Restoring or enhancing wildlife habitat
- Establishing grasslands or forage cover on previously cultivated soils
- Creating pollinator habitat
- Planting trees and shrubs for forests or wildlife corridors
- Riverbank and shoreline work that benefits fish habitat
- Habitat restoration or enhancement on Crown land within agricultural landscapes



WATERSHEDS UP TO \$600,000

Projects that improve water quality, increase water storage, reduce flooding and drought impacts, and provide additional environmental benefits.

Eligible projects may:

- Improve water quality or water storage
- Support watershed health
- Have co-benefits such as improving biodiversity, soil conservation, or carbon storage
- Align with watershed or basin management plans

Examples:

- Wetland restoration and enhancement
- Water retention projects with habitat benefits*
- Riparian area restoration and enhancement
- Buffer strips, grassed waterways, and forage plantings that benefit watersheds

Water retention projects that provide multiple environmental benefits (such as habitat, pollinator habitat, tree planting, or biodiversity improvements) will be prioritized over projects focused only on water storage.



SOIL HEALTH

UP TO \$600,000

Projects that improve soil health on agricultural lands through practices that keep living roots in the soil longer and increase perennial cover.

Eligible projects may:

- Build soil organic matter
- Reduce soil erosion
- Increase carbon sequestration
- Improve soil function and resilience

Examples:

- Perennial forage or multi-species cover crop systems
- Grazing and cropping practices that support soil health

Priority will be given to projects that emphasize perennial cover or multi-species cover crops.



INNOVATION

UP TO \$100,000

On-the-ground pilot projects that test new approaches to conserving land, water, or wildlife.

Eligible projects must:

- Include the completion of on-the-ground activities during the grant period
- Demonstrate a new approach, technique, or conservation solution



CONSERVATION PLANNING

UP TO \$25,000

Planning projects that help guide future conservation action and lead to implementation of on-the-ground conservation work in the near-term.

Eligible projects must:

- Support conservation planning across large landscapes
- Focus on eco-regions, watersheds, river basins, or multiple species



CONNECTING PEOPLE TO NATURE*

UP TO \$75,000

Projects that help people engage with nature through one or more of the following: landscape improvements, visitor infrastructure enhancements, and outdoor programming.

Eligible projects may:

- Complete natural landscape restorations or enhancements in urban or high-use natural areas
- Enhance visitor experiences through improved access to natural areas or educational signage
- Provide opportunities for people to engage with nature through land-based education, citizen science or interpretation

Examples:

- Enhancing or restoring natural greenways, riverbanks, or cultural gardens.
- Trails and nature access projects
- Interpretive signs and educational infrastructure
- Land-based education/outdoor learning programs or citizen science initiatives, ex. bioblitzes

Projects that combine landscape improvements, visitor infrastructure, and in-person outdoor programming will be prioritized.



Application Requirements

ELIGIBLE AREAS

- Project sites located on public and private lands within Manitoba's working landscapes
- Projects in urban and suburban settings are usually supported through the Connecting People to Nature category. Projects in these settings may be considered in other categories if they affect larger areas of habitat.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Community-based not-for-profit groups
- Provincially-based not-for-profit groups
- National not-for-profit groups that have established operations within Manitoba
- Indigenous governments or representative groups (ex. Band councils or tribal councils)

Applicants are encouraged to connect with technical experts, local community leaders, and other organizations when developing their projects. Organizations may partner more than once in the same funding cycle.

INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- Organizations without established operations in Manitoba
- Governments (with the exception of Indigenous governments)
- Individuals
- For-profit organizations

Organizations that are not eligible to apply directly may still participate as project partners with eligible applicants. Grant recipients with existing funded projects may be restricted from re-applying if those projects are substantially behind in their activities or reporting.

ELIGIBLE EXPENSES

Direct Project Costs

- Materials and Supplies associated with the construction or establishment of the project
- Construction Services
- Consulting/professional services: includes consultants and legal fees
- Equipment Rental
- Communications (e.g., advertising, signage, outreach materials, etc)
- Landowner Establishment Costs include all other payments to landowners working on their own land, with the exception of incentive payments
- Incentive payments are direct payments to landowners to encourage them to take part in projects that are expected to result in a loss of future income-generating potential from the land affected

Delivery Costs

- Salaries and Benefits
- Travel & Field Costs: If traveling outside of Manitoba, please consult with your Grants Associate
- Administration and Overhead associated with project delivery: (board expenses, management costs, rent, phones, computer infrastructure)

Applicants could choose to capture all delivery cost expenses in a day rate

INELIGIBLE EXPENSES

The Trusts are project funders, and it is not the intent of the funds to provide on-going operating, maintenance, or core operating support. The following expenses are ineligible for Trust funding, however, these may be used as match. **For Ineligible Match, see page 11 .**

Ineligible expenses include, but are not limited to:

- Activities primarily focused on festivals and general public events
- Contributions to endowment funds
- Cover crop insurance
- Fence removal
- General repairs or rebuilding of existing projects (may be eligible under specific circumstances)
- Land purchases and easements
- Major capital assets such as buildings
- Major equipment purchases (> \$5000 per item)
- Mapping-only projects that are not integral to the development of a larger Trust funded project
- Organizational fundraising
- Research costs*
- Routine brush control of fence lines
- Tenancy agreements/rentals
- Water quality monitoring

**Field assessments, such as rangeland health assessments, and biodiversity surveys, may be eligible where they are undertaken to inform or support the implementation of habitat enhancement activities.*

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The following activities are ineligible for Trust funding, however, these may be used as match. For Ineligible Match, see page 11 .

Ineligible activities include, but are not limited to:

- Conferences, lecture series, or conventions
- Corral system projects*
- Feeding or control of wildlife species
- Fish or wildlife rearing, farming, stocking, or hatcheries projects
- Law enforcement activities
- Policy promotion and advocacy activities
- Prevention and ongoing control of alien invasive species or wildlife species
- Landscaping projects on yard sites, e.g. shelterbelts or hedgerows around a house*
- Primary and applied research (see definitions, page 17 and 18)
- Projects with a primary purpose of providing irrigation services to landowners are generally not eligible for funding from the Trusts. If there are significant EG&S benefits to the project, beyond water storage, a small portion of project costs may be eligible.
- Rearing or rehabilitating wildlife in captivity
- Reduction of point-sources of nutrients and other contaminants: from sewage lagoons, similar waste-water treatment facilities, and water retention ponds. The Trusts focus on supporting landscape-based activities where the primary water quality issue is non-point sources of nutrients and other contaminants affecting surface waters
- Sod seeding non-native species in native grasslands
- Well sealing*

**Activities that are ineligible for Trust funding as they provide higher benefits to a private landowner than the general public, or are deemed the responsibility of the landowner.*

The following activities are ineligible for Trust funding and are also ineligible match:

- Any activities that result in habitat, wildlife and/or water degradation or loss
- Any activities that must be undertaken because of a government order or regulatory requirement (e.g. wetland restoration activities mandated by regulation)
- Construction and maintenance of drainage and other significant infrastructure (drains, machinery crossings, etc.)
- Land operating costs such as property taxes, debt servicing, etc.
- Using multiple funders (unknown to them) to fund activities at a combined cost that exceeds accepted market rates and/or established landowner cost-shares (this activity is known as stacking. See page 17)

MATCHING FUNDS

See Appendix A, Tips for Calculating Match

- Matching funds can be cash and/or in-kind goods and services
- Projects with less than a 2:1 match ratio may be considered and ranked accordingly
- No more than 50% of matching funds can be from provincial government sources
- Matching funds for activities that directly relate to the project may have been expended up to one fiscal year prior to the proposed start date, e.g. April 1st – March 31st
- Match funding that has already been applied to a Trust project cannot be applied to another Trust project
- Funds received from the GROW Trust cannot be used as match for the Conservation Trust

Examples of Cash Matching (costs with a financial transaction paid for by applicant)

- Project staff time paid for by the applicant
- Goods and services paid for by the applicant
- Donations with a tax receipt

Examples of In-Kind Matching (non-financial transactions valued at generally accepted market rates and/or financial transactions that are not paid for by the applicant)

- Landowner and community time in project planning and establishment
- Community volunteer time
- Goods and services provided for free (e.g. land use where no incentive payment is provided)
- Project staff time and goods and services paid for by project partners, including landowners

Contact a Grants Associate for more information about matching funds or resources such as in-kind tracking forms.

If you are unsure if your project is eligible or have questions about match, please contact the Trusts Grants Associates at granting@mbhabitat.ca. If you are a returning applicant, please contact your designated Grants Associate.

PROJECT TIMELINES

Groups may submit applications for up to two years for project activities.

PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

Trust criteria are designed to encourage broad, effective partnerships that increase capacity between partners. Partners may be involved in the planning and/or project establishment. Project applicants are responsible for project deliverables and should retain all relevant project information. Trusts Grants Associates will communicate with the Project applicant. Projects demonstrating interactive partnerships will be ranked higher in the partnership engagement evaluation category. For approved projects, a signed letter from the partner(s) that clearly outlines the partner roles and responsibilities may be required as part of the contribution agreement.

PROJECT ESTABLISHMENT AND MONITORING

Project Establishment

Most grants from the Trusts will involve significant activities and expenses at the front end to establish projects on the ground. MHC considers this phase to be the *Project Establishment Period*.

Examples of project establishment activities include:

- Design and construction of a water retention project
- Design and construction of drain plugs for wetland restoration
- Installation of fences and watering systems for grazing projects
- Purchase of seed, shrubs or trees, whether purchased by the grantee or cooperating landowners
- Establishment of grass, forage, or tree plantings, whether completed by the grantee or cooperating landowners
- For most grants, the establishment would occur within a two-year period.
 - + As part of landowner establishment costs we are accepting Forage Establishment Insurance at MASC approved rates for projects that sign 10-year landowner agreements

Incentive Payments

Additional payments to landowners, often termed 'incentive payments' may also be made, especially when the income generating potential of the land is restricted by the project. This is especially true when projects alter existing land use, e.g. restoration of a drained wetland. Amounts and timing of these additional payments need to be specified in a written agreement with the landowner.

- If the conservation project includes incentive payments for existing natural areas, those lands should be of high environmental value and at high risk of loss.
- Incentive payments should be made to landowners following the verification of successful project establishment.

Restoration of temporary wetlands where the resulting wetland will be classified as a Class III (or higher) wetland as per the Steward and Kantrud Wetland classification system may receive an incentive payment for the agreement term length in order to ensure the efficacy of the restoration project. Once the restoration project term length has ended, no future incentive payments would be eligible.

Landowner Agreements

All activities occurring on properties not owned or controlled by the grantee will be supported by written agreements between the grantee and the landowner.

Those agreements should include responsibilities of the landowner and the grantee as well as the duration of the agreement and the project area.

Longer term lengths will be prioritized by the Trusts and are encouraged to ensure that the intended environmental goods and services are achieved.

Landowners may elect to have incentive payments made to renters of their lands. If so, the agreement must reflect the landowner's decision to direct payments to the renter and the renter's acceptance of the conservation project provisions.

As a demonstration of due diligence, grantees are encouraged to include a question on their landowner application form that requests the landowner disclose current or future partner funders on the same project, and if the project is occurring on areas with existing Conservation Easements.

Project Monitoring

Once established, Grantees are responsible to ensure all projects are monitored regularly over the life of the agreement to ensure that they continue to function effectively.

PROJECT REPORTING TIMELINES

PROJECT LENGTH	INTERIM REPORT DUE DATE	FINAL REPORT DUE DATE
One-Year Projects	N/A	April 30th, 2028
Two-Year Projects	April 30th, 2028	April 30th, 2029

PROJECT AMENDMENT REQUESTS

Grantees can apply to modify their project activities, duration, deliverables, budget, or terms of the agreement, the acceptance of which will be subject to MHC review and approval. A project amendment form can be requested from your Grants Associate who will assign the form to you in an Online Grant Portal.

Possible modifications which may require an amendment include, but are not limited to:

- Project extensions; or
- Changes to project deliverables and/or activities (as described in the Application, including Output Table, and Workplan); or
- Any budget re-allocations that exceed 10% or \$35,000, whichever is lower, in or out a budget category.

If you are considering any changes, please contact your Grants Associate to determine whether a Project Amendment Request is necessary.

Project Amendment Requests can be received at any time, but no later than 60 days prior to the expiration of the project term (i.e., received by the end of January for a project term ending March 31st).

Application Process

The Trust Funds use a two-stage application process. All applications and reporting will be completed entirely through the online Grant Management System.

- **Stage 1: Letter of Interest**
- **Stage 2: Project Application**

STAGE 1: Open call for Letters of Interest (LOI), using the online form. LOIs will be screened to ensure proposed projects meet the Trusts criteria.

In the event that a Trust category is significantly oversubscribed, the number of LOIs that may proceed to a full application may be restricted.

STAGE 2: If the LOI is accepted, applicants will be invited to apply for project funding. The LOI invitation to submit a full application does not imply a guarantee of funding.

Review Process

Applications will undergo a multi-tier review process:

1. Applications will be screened to determine eligibility and suitability
2. Applications will be forwarded to a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for technical review, evaluation and ranking. Reviewers have diversified expertise in wildlife, biodiversity, soil and water conservation, and are not employed by organizations eligible for Trust funding

Application review criteria include:

- Potential conservation benefit
- How well the project addresses the priorities of its Conservation Trust category
- Technical feasibility
- Deliverables and delivery cost efficiency (cost/benefit)
- Extent of co-benefits
- Partnership engagement and matching funds
- Project sustainability
- Organizational capacity and delivery history
- Evidence to support project activities

3. Recommendations from the TAC will be forwarded to MHC
4. MHC makes a final determination of successful applications and funding levels, based on TAC rankings, funds available and Trust priorities. MHC's decision is final
5. All applicants will be notified of decisions, with successful applicants proceeding to signing of a Contribution Agreement

APPLICATION PROCESS FEEDBACK

MHC seeks your input to help develop the best possible process for the Trusts. A brief anonymous online survey regarding the grant application process will be distributed to applicants as part of the grant application process.

For any questions regarding the Trusts please contact a Grants Associate at granting@mbhabitat.ca.

If you are a returning applicant, please contact your designated Grants Associate.

Appendix A – Tips for Calculating Match

- Applicants can go back one fiscal year (April 1st – March 31st) from project start date for match (meeting and planning, feasibility, etc.)
- Utilize other non-MHC Trust funded grants associated with your project
- Include time from partners towards the project, including attending meetings, completing project work, etc.
- Include time from community volunteers or landowners completing project work on their land
- Calculate the time at the cost it would take to replace it (e.g. What would it cost if you had to hire a contractor to do the work?)
- Advisory Committee or Board member time is eligible. In the absence of any other calculated rate \$250/day may be used to estimate expenditures.

Note that for Audit purposes, the Trusts require you keep a record for both cash and in-kind match in as careful a manner as you would for Trust expenditures.



Appendix B – Calculating the Value of In-Kind Land

If land of a third party is being impacted by a project and incentive payments are not being offered, the value may be used as an in-kind contribution.

- Match should be equivalent to the opportunity cost, in this case the loss of agricultural income that occurs because of the project
 - + E.g. If land that is currently cultivated is going to be dedicated to a wetland restoration/ water retention project, then the loss of agricultural use is essentially 100%
 - + If that same property has perennial cover established, but the landowner can hay or graze, then the loss of agricultural opportunity is partial, and the in-kind calculation should reflect this (e.g. 30–60% of the agricultural value of the land)
 - + If non-arable land is impacted by a conservation project, then the impact on agricultural production is expected to be very small (10% or less)
- The area of land that is counted as match should be the footprint of the project plus a reasonable buffer zone. Tree-planting projects may include a buffer zone up to three times the planting area. Wetland and water retention projects may define a footprint up to 1.5 times the water area. For grassland projects, the footprint is the area of impact
- Land operating costs such as property taxes, debt servicing, etc. are not eligible
- Lands owned by conservation organizations and managed for conservation purposes may not be used in this manner to develop in-kind contributions to grant proposals

Match being claimed for forgone incentive payments on eligible activities must be done at rates disclosed and approved at the application stage.

Rates should be calculated using the same approach as if it was a Trust funded activity.

Glossary of Terms

AUDIT: all approved projects may be subject to an audit, while it is in progress or after it is completed. The primary objective of a project audit is to verify reporting and ensure adherence to Contribution Agreement conditions. All recipients must keep a Books of Account for a period of 7 years after completion of the project, and permit MHC or its agent access to such Books of Account to verify the recipient's compliance with the Contribution Agreement

CARBON SEQUESTRATION: a process that removes carbon from the atmosphere and stores it in the natural environment.

CONSERVED: where existing natural infrastructure is protected/ unchanged through an agreement.

ECOLOGICAL GOODS AND SERVICES: ecological goods and services are the benefits people receive from healthy lands and waters, such as clean air and water, food, medicine, biodiversity, flood protection, carbon storage, and opportunities for recreation, harvesting and cultural connection.

ENHANCED: an activity that improves existing natural infrastructure in terms of of ecological function. i.e., a landowner implementing a new grazing system on an existing grassland.

FISH HABITAT "ABOVE THE WATERLINE": riverbank and lake shoreline enhancements that significantly contribute to fish habitat restoration. An example would be establishing bank vegetation to promote bank stability, decrease silt accumulation, reduce the degree to which rocks, boulders, gravel, etc. are embedded in silt and sand (embeddedness) and provide shade, and nutrients and insects for food.

NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE: Natural infrastructure refers to naturally occurring or restored ecosystems—such as forests, wetlands, grasslands, and rivers—that are intentionally managed to provide a range of benefits for both the environment and human well-being. These living systems contribute to clean water, carbon storage, flood mitigation, biodiversity, and other ecosystem services. By actively managing and nurturing these areas, we ensure they continue to support and enhance the resilience of our communities and the natural world.

OBJECTIVES: describe the specific, measurable ways a project will address the conservation issue identified. Objectives should be S.M.A.R.T. – specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-bound.

OUTPUTS: result from activities that you carry out and are an indication of project effort. Outputs are measurable and can be activities that you do, people you are trying to reach, products or services you provide, e.g. in a wetland restoration the outputs are the number of acres of restored wetland, the water storage capacity (volume), wildlife benefits, etc.

OUTCOMES: are the estimated Ecological Goods & Service benefits you wish to achieve or changes or benefits that result from project activities. Outcomes measure how people and the environment are impacted by your project, e.g. in the above example of a wetland restoration the outcomes are the volume of water actually held back in a runoff event, the quantity of nutrients sequestered (phosphorus, etc.), and the amount of carbon sequestered.

PRIMARY AND APPLIED RESEARCH: research projects, including feasibility studies of new land and water conservation concepts, are not eligible for Trust funding, though these activities may be used for matching fund purposes if the research activity relates to the project proposal.

RESTORED: an activity that restores natural infrastructure that no longer exists to a semblance of its original condition. i.e., taking a drained wetland and plugging the drain.

RIPARIAN ZONES: the transition zones that are found along streams, rivers, lake shores and wetlands. These areas support unique wildlife and plant communities. Healthy riparian areas have many important functions in our watersheds (Manitoba Climate and Green Plan).

STACKING: multiple funders (typically unbeknownst to them) fund activities at a combined cost that exceeds accepted market rates and/or the established landowner cost-shares

Examples:

- A Trust funded project is approved for incentive payments at a specific rate and later funding from an additional funder is added to increase the incentive payment above the specific rate.
- A Trust funded project is approved with a landowner cost-share, and later funding from an additional funder is added to substitute landowner cost-share.

WORKING LANDSCAPES: Working landscapes are places where people live, work, and rely on the land for farming, raising livestock, forestry, hunting, gathering, or other land-based activities. These areas have been significantly altered by development, but they also offer opportunities to build and maintain natural infrastructure in areas where it is most needed.

