



Caribou Habitat Restoration Fund (CHR F): Frequently Asked Questions

FAQs ([click for link](#))

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Who can apply for funding from the CHR F?

Any individual or organization capable of restoring habitat for caribou in British Columbia. To maximize the benefits for caribou using the funds available, the Province of BC has identified priority herds and developed guidelines for selecting restoration areas and activities that will benefit these herds.

What is the maximum request for funding?

There is no upper limit to the amount of money an application can request, however, keep in mind that HCTF's goal is to allocate this money to habitat restoration projects that, in aggregate, will provide the maximum benefit to caribou. Priority will be given to projects that secure significant partner contributions (cash and in-kind). We encourage applicants to target a 0.5 to 1 funding match.

What activities are eligible for funding?

Please ensure you have reviewed the Eligible and Ineligible Activities List and understand the activities that are eligible for funding under this program.

[CHR F Eligible & Ineligible Activities List](#)

Who can I contact to discuss my proposal ideas?

You can contact the Caribou and Special Projects Coordinator lisa.wielinga@hctf.ca to discuss your ideas and seek guidance on your application. You are also asked to contact the BC Provincial Ministry biologist in your projects region to discuss the specifics of your project (for more information visit the CHR F [Resources tab](#)).

Phone: 250 940 9780
Toll free: 1 800 387 9853
info@chr f.ca www.hctf.ca

PO Box 9354
Unit 102 – 2957 Jutland Rd
Victoria, BC V8T 5J9



Which herd ranges will be prioritized for funding?

The Province of BC requires a coordinated and strategic approach to restoring caribou habitat and has identified high and medium-priority herd ranges for caribou habitat restoration projects. Please see the CHRF [Resources tab](#) for an updated list of priority herds.

How many years of funding can I apply for?

This grant allows requests up to 3-years in duration and will replace our 5-year continuing project grant model. For New projects, you can now request up to 3 years of funding under a single contract (or 1 or 2 years). Funds will be released in installments and a Progress Update report will be required each year to HCTF staff and the technical review committee to assess that the project is on track.

Is there a list of previously funded CHRF projects so I can see what types of projects are typically supported?

Each year the CHRF program publishes a brochure describing the projects funded and the program achievements. There is also a google map of project locations and descriptions. Both resources can be found on the CHRF [Overview tab](#) of our webpage.

How do Seed projects differ from a full project?

Applicants can request up to a maximum of \$10,000 for the development of a full, technically sound proposal for a new caribou habitat restoration project. The goal of a Seed project is to help groups that have identified and want to restore anthropogenic disturbances in high-value caribou habitat but require some assistance with preparing a full proposal that meets the technical requirements. For more information on eligible and ineligible activities and to download the seed application worksheet please refer to the [Seed tab](#) on the website.



Can I apply for multiple projects?

Yes, there is no limit to the number of projects you can apply for as long as the capacity to undertake the projects and complete them successfully is clearly demonstrated in the application.

How do I submit my CHRF proposal?

All applications are submitted online using Survey Apply. HCTF cannot accept applications by email. Worksheets are provided for New, Continuing and Seed proposal applications. You aren't required to submit copies of the worksheets with your proposal and can compose your answers directly in the online form if you prefer. However, we do recommend review of the worksheet and ask that you read all of the instructions in the Word documents as they provide additional detail to those provided in the online form.

If my previous CHRF proposal wasn't approved, can I apply again?

Yes, you can apply again for your project as a "New" application. The application form will ask if you have previously applied for funding before, and what the outcome was. You will need to state what concerns and comments were made in the previous year(s) from your notification email and demonstrate that those concerns have since been addressed.

If I have a continuing project, can I apply instead for a multi-year contract?

No. If you were approved in a previous year for a project under the former continuing project grant model you will need to reapply as a continuing project under that existing stream until your project is complete. You can apply under the new multi-year model for a different project however (different location, road segment, etc.).



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Can I submit my draft CHRF proposal to HCTF for a preliminary review?

Given the volume of proposals and inquiries we receive, and our arms-length technical review process, HCTF staff or technical committee members cannot provide a preliminary review of proposals. Proposal application worksheets are available on our website to keep a working version of an application, and HCTF staff are happy to assist where they can on specific questions or inquiries.

What guidance is available for monitoring requirements?

HCTF has created abbreviated [CHRF Monitoring Guidelines](#) which highlights recommendations on monitoring for functional and ecological caribou habitat restoration projects. For more detailed information please refer to the [CHRF Detailed Project Monitoring Guidance](#) document provides proponents with more detailed information on planning the monitoring component of a project.

What guidance is available for project planning?

HCTF has created [CHRF Treatment Prescription Guidelines](#) highlighting recommendations for drafting effective habitat restoration treatment prescriptions.

The Province has developed an [Operational Framework for Woodland Caribou Habitat Restoration in British Columbia](#) to provide guidance for the planning, implementation, and monitoring of caribou habitat restoration initiatives in BC. Please review this document prior to beginning an application.

Can my project include the use of cameras?

If you choose to include the use of cameras in your proposal, it is important to clearly establish their relevance to your project's objectives. Consider how these devices can contribute to assessing your project's success metrics, keeping in mind that the specific indicators will vary based on your specific goals. By connecting the camera usage to what you hope to achieve, you'll make it clear why they will support the success of your

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project. For more detailed guideline please refer to the [Wildlife Camera Metadata Protocol](#).

How are CHRF proposals assessed and scored?

Each proposal goes through a multi-level, objective, technical review process prior to final Board decisions. These three main stages of review include an assessment by a primary reviewer, and a review by a technical committee, prior to being sent to the Board for a final funding decision. For more information please see the [Overview tab](#) of our website where a list of evaluation criteria are provided.

When will I hear if my project was approved?

Projects recommended for funding receive final approval from the Board of Directors in March of each year. Proponents will receive a formal notification email following approval and can begin work on approved projects on April 1st of the year they were approved. If a proposal is approved subject to a funding condition(s), that funding condition must be met prior to commencing any work.

What if I need an extension on my project?

Under the new grant model, where funds can be requested for up to 3 years in duration under a single contract, the need for contract extensions will likely be reduced. If you have a continuing project and require a contract extension, you can request these until February 15th of your project contract year. The Contract Extension Request form can be found on the CHRF [Manage tab](#) webpage.