

Forestry Riparian Easement Program (FREP)

Agency	Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Year Established	2001
Relevant Statute	RCW 76.13.120 Forestry Riparian Easement Program
Program Goal	To compensate landowners for the loss of the value of timber caused by expansion of Forest Practices rules.
Agency Summary	<p>FREP allows DNR to acquire 50-year conservation easements along riparian areas from small forest landowners. The program reimburses eligible landowners for 50%-89% of the value of the trees they are required to leave to protect fish habitat.</p> <p>DNR estimates the value of the easement based on the value of the trees left in the riparian buffer and landowners are compensated as funding becomes available.</p>
Existing Outcome Measures	DNR tracks the acres acquired, number of easements, and costs.
Other benefits identified by agencies	<p>Community: prevents regulatory takings</p> <p>Economy: economic benefit to landowner, maintains small forest lands</p> <p>Environment: Puget Sound restoration, clean water</p>