

FY26 MASSWILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

RFP ID # DFW-2026-004

Questions and Answers

(Updated 10/10/25)

Q:

Is there a minimum acreage for projects.

A:

No. There is no minimum acreage.

Q:

The timeline for the spending of funds (June 30) does not work with many restoration projects we are interested in doing. Is there a way to apply the funds to a recently finished project, or to pay for work that will be completed after June 30, 2026.

A:

No, these funds may not be used until the date of the executed contract and Notice to Proceed is issued, and no work may be conducted or funds expended after June 30, 2026.

Q:

We work with Google Earth. Can we submit .KMZ files instead of ShapeFiles?

A:

Yes.

Q:

We have about .33 acres where we live, and we have spent the time since we bought our home in 2018 gradually removing invasive species (Japanese knotweed and bittersweet especially). Are we eligible for this program?

A:

If your property meets the eligibility requirements listed in the RFP, it would be eligible.

Q: Can we apply for one grant to manage the habitat on multiple properties (either because they are adjacent or because the projects are similar-probably contract invasive plant removal)?

A: If they are adjacent (a stone wall / fence / hedgerow / maybe windbreak row of trees, or across the street), that is fine.

The similar projects in different areas is trickier. The scores will almost always be different, due to potential differences in the landscapes, the vegetation types, landscape context, hunting setbacks, and other factors. This often results in an entire project not being awarded due to the impact of the lower ranking parcel weighing down the score of the higher ranking parcel (we have to score them separately then weigh the scores).

Q: Can we apply for contract work on a specific property and also apply for funds for some more general equipment to maintain the habitat ourselves on the specific property but also others?

A: Equipment purchases is spelled out in the RFP:

"Equipment purchases must not exceed 10% of the total approved project budget and any single equipment purchase must be less than \$1,000 AND be for the sole purpose of achieving the project objectives."