

Heritage Barn Preservation Initiative

Background

In 2007, the Washington State Legislature passed SHB 2115, establishing the Heritage Barn Preservation Program within the State Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation (DAHP). The program actively acknowledges Heritage Barns across the state and the Heritage Barn Advisory Committee works to address the many challenges historic barns face by awarding matching grants for barn stabilization and rehabilitation.

Heritage Barn Register

Since November 2007, the Heritage Barn Register has worked to:

- Designate 676 official Heritage Barns, with listings in all 39 counties in Washington;
- Highlight historic barns through media outlets and local programming, promoting sustainable economic development through tourism.
- Provide data on construction types, forms, uses and needs of agricultural-related structures across the state
- Distribute commemorative plaques to owners of designated Heritage Barns

Heritage Barn Grant Program

Matching grants have been available to heritage barn owners across the state to assist with emergency stabilization and rehabilitation projects. Priority for funding goes to barns that remain in active agricultural use and are visible from the public right of way. Five grant rounds have resulted in the following:

- DAHP has received 392 applications requesting \$8.35 million in grant funds;
- The Barn Advisory Committee has awarded 85 grants totaling over \$1.8M in funds;
- Grant awards average just over \$21,500;
- 40 grants totaling \$862,015 have been awarded to barns in eastern Washington; 45 grants totaling \$952,669 have been awarded to barns in western Washington
- Grants for barn rehabilitation have supported over 300 construction jobs;
- Barns receiving grants are located on farms with nearly 43,000 acres under active agricultural use;
- Barn rehabilitation projects are labor intensive, requiring local contractors and suppliers;
- Being truly 'local' projects, project expenditures in the form of wages, etc., remain in the local economy.

2017-2019 Biennium

The Governor's proposed Capital Budget includes \$515,000 in funding to continue the Heritage Barn Grant program in the 2017-19 biennium. The Washington Trust strongly supports this proposal.



Photos, top to bottom: Rehabilitated Heritage Barns in King, Benton, Whitman and Douglas Counties

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Before & After Images
 Calf Creek Cattle Company
 Benge, Adams County
 Constructed 1923



Summary of Barn Rehabilitation Grants awarded to date:

County	Total # of Grant Awards	Total Grant Amount Utilized
Adams	3	\$72,485
Benton	1	\$18,660
Chelan	1	\$23,385
Clallam	2	\$31,428
Clark	5	\$123,025
Columbia	2	\$49,221
Douglas	1	\$18,750
Ferry	1	\$25,000
Garfield	1	\$5,000
Island	5	\$96,514
King	3	\$80,719
Kittitas	4	\$46,471
Klickitat	3	\$69,329
Lewis	3	\$66,696
Lincoln	1	\$21,442
Okanogan	2	\$50,912
Pacific	1	\$46,701
Pend Oreille	1	\$15,644
Pierce	2	\$9,069
San Juan	5	\$92,352
Skagit	9	\$164,539
Snohomish	5	\$77,690
Spokane	4	\$81,580
Stevens	1	\$10,938
Thurston	2	\$74,650
Wahkiakum	1	\$20,000
Walla Walla	4	\$116,873
Whatcom	3	\$50,321
Whitman	4	\$98,975
Yakima	5	\$108,516
Totals:	85	\$1,766,885