

Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program: Hatchery-Associated Production Projects

Recorded Program Information Session
Aug. 31, 2022

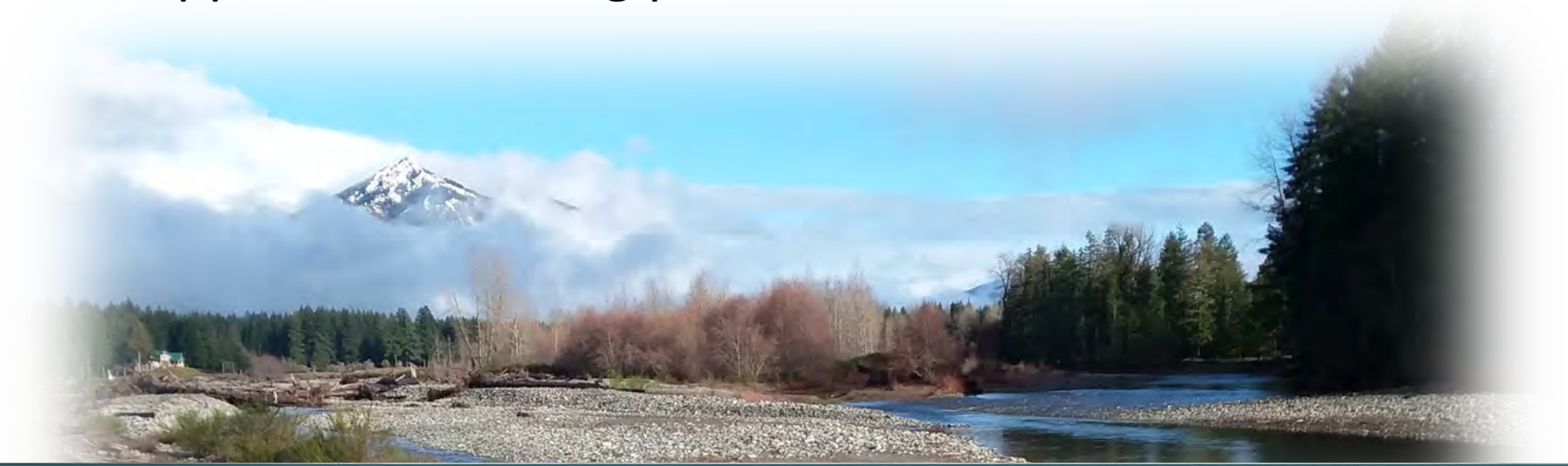
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Purpose of This Information Session

- Provide information on the addition of Hatchery-Associated Production (HAP) Projects to the Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program's 2023 grant round.
- Help get applicants familiar with the grant application/funding process.



Overview

- Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Fund (CRR Fund)
- Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program (CRR Program)
- HAP Project Requirements
- Process and Timelines
- Assistance
- Next Steps



Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Fund

- The CRR Fund was established by Tacoma Power as part of its federal license to operate the Mayfield and Mossyrock dams. The license is granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).
- \$15 million invested in 2008 has grown to >\$18 million, to be used over the term of the license.
- The Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC) determines CRR Fund expenditures.

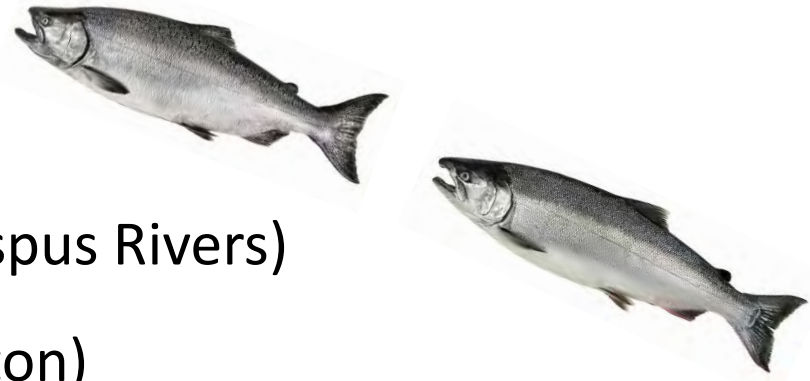


Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program

The purpose of the CRR Program is to use the CRR Fund to protect and promote restoration and recovery of upper Cowlitz River basin salmonid populations listed under the Federal Endangered Species Act.

Focus species/populations:

- **Spring Chinook** (Upper Cowlitz/Cispus Rivers)
- **Coho** (Upper Cowlitz/Cispus or Tilton)
- **Winter steelhead** (Upper Cowlitz/Cispus or Tilton)
- **Fall Chinook** (Upper Cowlitz Basin)



Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program

2019 FERC Order: Abandon volitional passage, continue trap and haul for fish passage, *use CRR Fund to address restoration and recovery*

166 FERC ¶ 62,104

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

City of Tacoma, Washington

Project No. 2016-228

ORDER MODIFYING AND APPROVING PLAN TO ABANDON VOLITIONAL
UPSTREAM PASSAGE AND IMPLEMENT COWLITZ
RESTORATION AND RECOVERY FUND PLAN

(Issued March 7, 2019)



Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program

- **Implemented by Tacoma Power based on core guidance documents:**
 - CRR Implementation Plan (2014)
 - CRR Implementation Strategy (2021 interim update)
 - **Implementation in coordination with stakeholder partners such as WDFW.**
 - **Overseen by the Cowlitz FTC.**
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Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program

- **Project types**
 - Habitat restoration and protection
 - Hatchery-associated production (HAP) projects
 - **Approach adopted by the Cowlitz FTC: competitive grant rounds**
 - **Habitat projects:** aligned or integrated with the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) grant round, run by the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB).
 - **HAP projects:** similar process to the SRFB, run by Tacoma Power.
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Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program

- **2019:** First CRR grant round, both project types.
 - **2020:** No CRR grant round.
 - **2021:** One CRR-eligible habitat project (LCFRB round).
 - **2022:** CRR habitat projects in LCFRB round (decision scheduled in October).
 - **2023:** CRR projects to be included in LCFRB (habitat) and Tacoma Power (HAP) rounds.
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Who is Eligible to Apply?

- Any conservation group registered as a non-profit
- Native American Tribes
- Regional fisheries enhancement groups
- Conservation Districts
- Local and state governmental entities
- Federal agencies



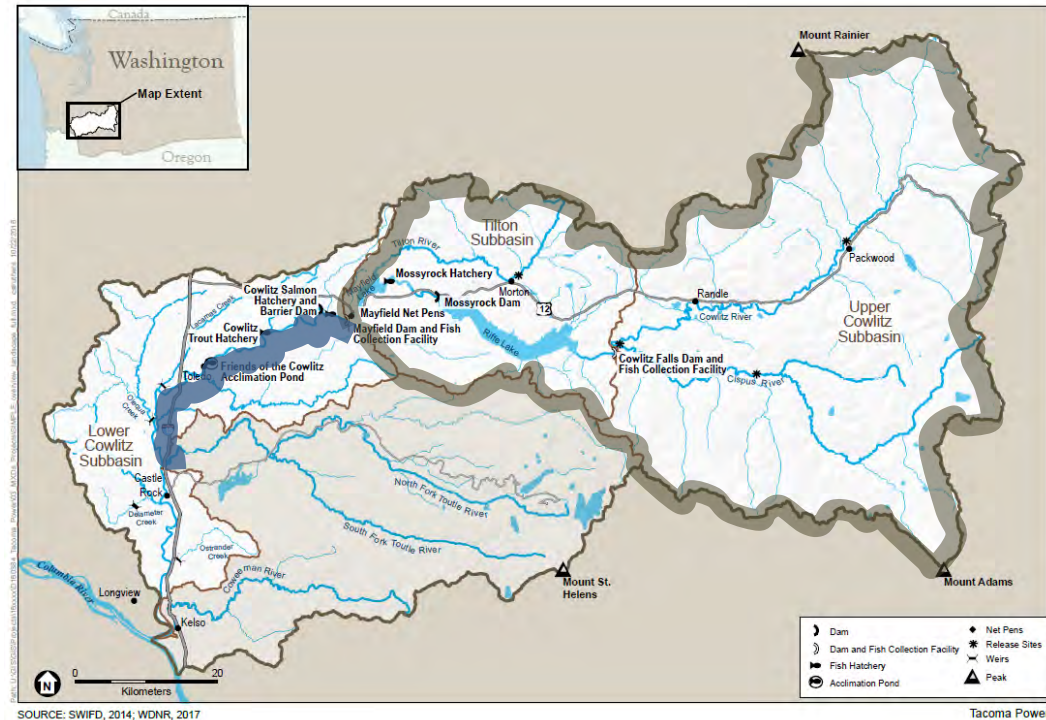
What is a HAP Project?

Hatchery-associated production projects include the artificial production or rearing of salmonids.



HAP Project Requirements - “Musts”

- **Focus populations:**
 - Spring Chinook (Upper Cowlitz/Cispus Rivers)
 - Coho (Upper Cowlitz/Cispus or Tilton)
 - Winter steelhead (Upper Cowlitz/Cispus or Tilton)
 - Fall Chinook (Upper Cowlitz Basin)
- **Within the CRR geographic extent**



Tacoma Power
Figure 1
Cowlitz River Subbasins



HAP Project Requirements - “Musts”

- Support progress towards productivity and abundance, as well as spatial distribution targets for focus populations.
- Intent of protecting and promoting recovery of ESA-listed stocks.
- Not confound ongoing fish passage and reintroduction activities managed by Tacoma Power, WDFW, and Lewis County Public Utility District.
- Be consistent with the goals of the Cowlitz Fisheries and Hatchery Management Plan and the Lower Columbia Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries Plan.



HAP Project Requirements - “Shoulds”

- Produce an interim action towards the long-term goal of creating locally adapted, native target populations in the upper basin.
- Consider habitat restoration goals and limiting factors identified in the LCFRB Recovery Plan, such that projects promote recovery of ESA-listed populations originating from upstream of Barrier Dam.
- Be supportive of, and minimize impacts to, natural river processes, including flow, sediment, and large woody material.
- Support, and be of low genetic risk to, the recovery of naturally spawning populations.



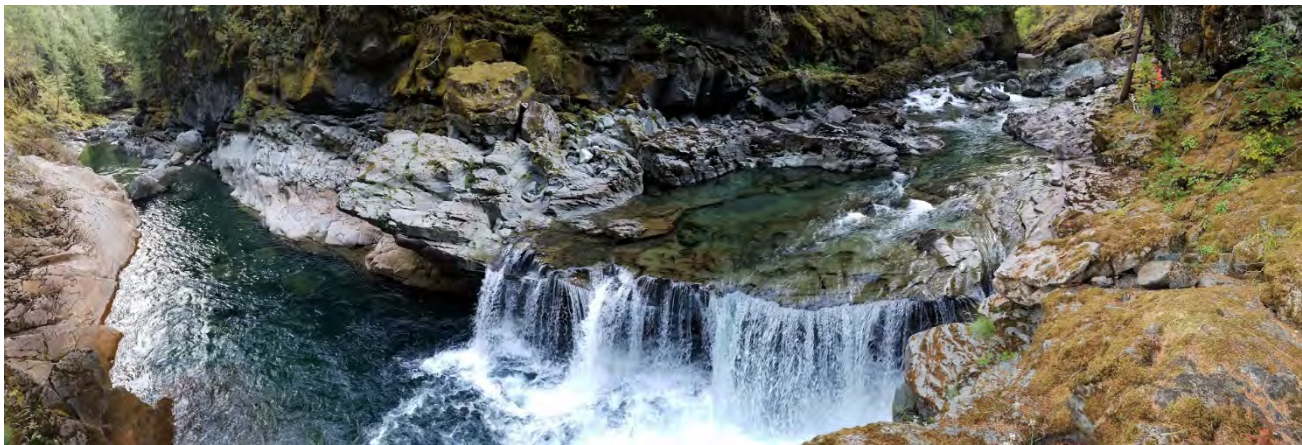
HAP Project Requirements - “Shoulds”

- Be short-term (3-5 year increments) and temporary in nature, and operated with minimal maintenance or can be easily removed when project efforts are complete.
- Have a prudent investment of resources such as a high benefit-to-cost ratio and cost-saving technologies.
- Be technically feasible, utilize proven methods, and have a high certainty of success.
- Matching funds are encouraged; may include other funding sources, volunteer labor, equipment, or supplies.



HAP Project Requirements - “Cannots”

- Hatchery programs whose sole purpose is to maintain or increase harvest will not be considered for funding through the CRR Fund.
- Hatchery activities specifically required by the Cowlitz License Articles or Settlement Agreement will not be eligible for funding through the CRR Fund.



CRR Grant Round Process

HAP Projects: Tacoma Power



Habitat Projects: LCFRB (SRFB process)



Cowlitz Fisheries
Technical Committee
Funding Decision



CRR Grant Round Process and Timelines

HAP Projects: Tacoma Power

Proposal Development



Application and Draft Review



Final Review/
Recommendation

**September 2022 –
February 2023**

Information Sessions
and Workshops

Direct Technical
Support



CRR Grant Round Process and Timelines

HAP Projects: Tacoma Power



February – June 2023

Pre-application Meeting

Draft Application

Submit Draft Application

Present Project

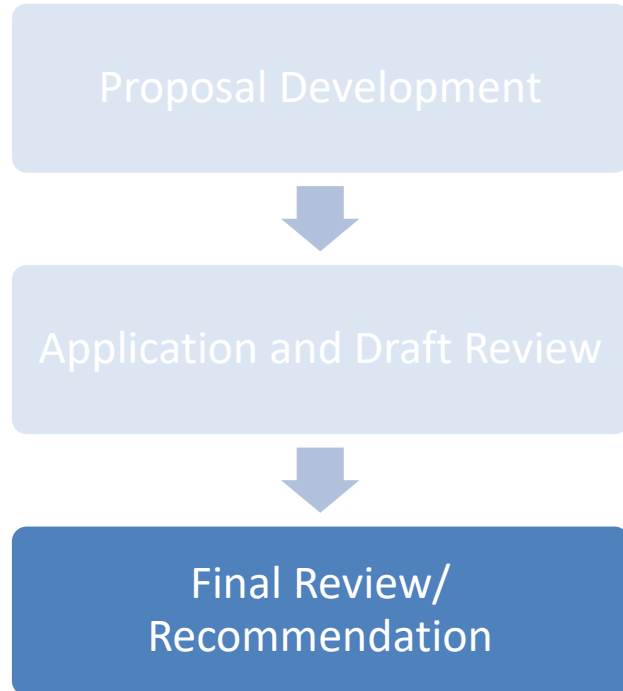
Receive Initial Review/Feedback

Prepare Final Application



CRR Grant Round Process and Timelines

HAP Projects: Tacoma Power



June – September 2023

Submit Final Application

Final Review

Scoring and Ranking

Benefits to Fish

Certainty of Success

Cost

Program Criteria and Priorities

Funding Recommendation



CRR Grant Round Process and Timelines

All Projects

Late Fall 2023

Cowlitz Fisheries
Technical Committee
Funding Decision

FTC Decision Process
and Determination



Assistance

Applicant engagement supports successful proposals and projects

- Real-time workshops and information sessions this fall to discuss and develop ideas, and network with potential partners.
- Contact Tacoma Power's CRR staff directly for program help, like process questions, application support, and program details.



Assistance

Technical advisors are available:

- FTC's HAP Subgroup will be technical advisors during development and application phases.
- Subject matter experts from WDFW and Tacoma Power.
- Direct support from technical advisors at workshops and information sessions.
- Request technical advice through CRR staff, get answers from technical advisors.



Recap

- CRR Fund
- CRR Program
- HAP Project Requirements
- Process and Timelines
- Assistance



Next Steps

Visit MyTPU.org/CRR to:

- Get general updates and information.
- See the schedule for our fall workshops.
- Download the project information form.

Application materials, guidance manual, and other information for 2023 will be available this December.



Additional Resources

CRR Program Website: MyTPU.org/CRR

CRR Program Staff Contact:

Melora Shelton

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253.441.4994

Questions and answers from this session will be posted at MyTPU.org/CRR and addressed at future workshops and information sessions.

Interested in applying for a habitat grant in 2023?
Contact the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board at
<https://www.lcfrb.gen.wa.us/crr-grants-program>

