

# Cowlitz Fish Technical Committee Decision Document

2023-05

*Note: This decision document was updated following the 8/5/2025 Cowlitz FTC meeting to append a memorandum from the LCFRB addressing a discrepancy in the stated funding amount for CRR-2023-01. The correct request, grant amount, and contract amount was \$168,098; 2023 total \$229,146. See the memorandum for details. The original text of the decision document was not changed.*

<b>Project Name</b>	SA Article 3: Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) 2023 CRR Ranked List Approval
<b>Date Proposal Submitted</b>	8/1/2023
<b>Date of Requested Decision</b>	9/5/2023
<b>Requested By</b>	Denise Smee, LCFRB
<b>Date of Decision<sup>1</sup></b>	9/12/2023

<sup>1</sup> Decision will become final if committee members who were not present at this meeting do not oppose this proposed decision within 7 days

## FTC Decision and Justification

FTC members present considered the 2023 funding request and decided to support the request to fund the two projects recommended for CRR funding for 2023.

FTC Members present: Tacoma Power (Travis Nelson), Ecology (Anne Baxter), WDFW (Bryce Glaser).

## Proposed Decision or Consideration

The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB) recommends the Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC) approve the LCFRB Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Board recommended habitat project list for the 2023 Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Program grant round. The list includes two habitat restoration projects for a total of \$218,696 in requested funds (Table 1).

Table 1 shows the total project cost, the CRR request, and matching funding provided by the applicant for each of the project proposals.

**Table 1**

Proposal	Total Project Cost	CRR Funding Request	Match Funding
CRR-2023-01- Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks with Low-tech Structures	\$ 202,921.00	\$ 157,648.00	\$ 45,274.00
CRR-2023-02- Riparian and Channel Enhancements of Hall Creek to Benefit Salmonids	\$ 85,549.00	\$ 61,048.00	\$ 24,502.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 288,470.00</b>	<b>\$ 218,696.00</b>	<b>\$ 69,776.00</b>

For project-specific TAC comments, rationales, scoring metrics, and evaluation questions please refer to the following attachments:

Attachment A – SRFB Grant Evaluation Questions

Attachment B – CRR Grant Evaluation Questions

Attachment C – CRR Project Scoring, Ranked List, and Comments

## **Background**

The CRR fund supports activities that protect and promote recovery of listed species in lieu of construction and operation of volitional upstream passage facilities on the Upper Cowlitz River. The CRR program assists in the protection and recovery of listed populations consistent with the recommendations in the Upper Cowlitz River Subbasin Plan of the Washington Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Plan (LCFRB 2010, Vol. II.F).

The FTC has partnered with the LCFRB to assist in implementing the CRR program for habitat projects beginning in 2023 (DD 2021-03). Per agreement with Tacoma Public Utilities, the LCFRB reviews, evaluates and ranks habitat proposals for CRR funding for consideration by the FTC. The LCFRB TAC provides an initial review of projects in conjunction with the SRFB grant round using their standard scoring, ranking, and review process. The TAC also reviews and evaluates the CRR proposals to ensure alignment with CRR priorities by scoring CRR evaluation questions. The TAC provides a recommended ranked list of SRFB and CRR proposals for the LCFR Board to approve. The LCFRB then provides their final recommended ranked list of CRR proposals for the FTC to approve.

The LCFRB TAC reviewed CRR projects based on the FTC's evaluation questions, as well as benefits to fish, certainty of success and cost questions that describe the relationship of proposals to watershed and region scale recovery priorities and needs. Both the LCFR Board and TAC decided by consensus that all projects should be funded. On July 28, 2023, the LCFRB met and adopted the TAC recommended ranked list for 2023 as submitted (Table 2). Approval of this list means all proposals would be funded as requested.

The LCFRB presented each project proposal to the FTC at the August meeting, and shared the following links for additional information and applications, including budgets, for each one:

[CRR-2023-001 Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks with Low-tech Structures](#); sponsored by Cascade Forest Conservancy

[CRR-2023-002 Riparian and Channel Enhancements of Hall Creek to Benefit Salmonids](#); sponsored by Cascade Forest Conservancy

Items to note:

**Table 2**

Project Number	Project Name	Project Rank		Recommended Allocation	
		SRFB	CRR	CRR	SRFB
CRR-2023-001	Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks with Low-tech Structures	1	2	\$157,648	No Match Requested
CRR-2023-002	Riparian and Channel Enhancements of Hall Creek to Benefit Salmonids	2	1	\$61,048	No Match Requested
		Total		\$218,696	\$0

### **Coordination Need**

There is a high need for coordination and discussion between the LCFRB, Tacoma Power, and the FTC through all stages of the project review process. At this stage, once the final list is approved, the LCFRB enters into contract with the sponsors to implement the projects. The LCFRB will continue to work with Tacoma Power on schedules and fund payments and will update the FTC during regular FTC meetings regarding project status. All partners will coordinate to ensure future grant rounds are successful and build upon progress to date.

The LCFRB and Tacoma Power, with input from the FTC, will include information on the 2023 CRR grant round for the report to FERC, and any future annual reports. Annual reports are distributed to the FTC for 30-day review prior to FERC filing.

### **Summary of Potential Impacts**

If the recommended ranked list is not approved, some or all of the projects on the list will not be funded, and/or implemented as proposed. Projects not approved may be able to apply again in a future CRR grant round, however, most of the projects on the list are time sensitive and are scheduled to be implemented with other projects, so may not be able to apply at any other time.

Table 13. TAC scoring questions for Benefits to Fish. Minimum thresholds for each scoring levels (High, Medium, and Low) are included for each question. Information that can support scores within each level are included in italics. Resources to support these questions and score levels are described in the Policy Manual Guiding Principles table and Appendix C Evaluation Criteria, with potential data sources found in Table 9. Low scores indicate a fatal flaw, which may mean a project does not qualify for funding.

Benefits to Fish Scoring Questions and Guidelines			Points
High Priority Populations	<b>1. Does the proposal target high priority populations for species-scale recovery?</b>		<b>0 – 50</b>
	High Score:	Proposal should target at least one Primary population. <i>More points may be awarded to proposals that target: multiple Primary populations and/or historical core and/or genetic legacy populations; Contributing and Stabilizing populations in addition to one or more Primary populations; populations in steelhead genes bank or wild salmonid management zone areas; and/or, WDFW chum priority populations (Guiding Principles 1, 10).</i>	34 - 50
	Medium Score:	Proposal should target at least one Contributing population. <i>More points may be awarded to proposals that target: multiple Contributing populations and/or historical core and/or genetic legacy populations; Stabilizing populations in addition to one or more Contributing populations; populations in steelhead gene banks or wild salmonid management zone areas; and/or, WDFW chum priority populations (Guiding Principles 1, 10).</i>	17 - 33
	Low Score:	Proposal does not target any Primary or Contributing populations. <i>More points may be awarded to proposals that target: multiple Stabilizing populations in need of maintenance support: populations in wild salmonid management zone areas: and/or, WDFW chum priority populations (Guiding Principles 1, 10).</i>	0 - 16
	<b>2. Does the proposal target populations that likely require project-based habitat improvements (habitat restoration, connection, and/or protection) to achieve species-scale recovery?</b>		<b>0 - 50</b>
	High Score:	Proposal targets one or more populations that likely require project-based habitat improvements to achieve recovery targets.	34 - 50
	Medium Score:	Proposal only targets populations that likely require project-based habitat maintenance to achieve recovery targets.	17 - 33
	Low Score:	Proposal only targets populations that likely do not require project-based habitat improvements or maintenance to achieve recovery targets.	0 - 16
	<b>High Priority Population Points: 100</b>		
	<b>3. Does the proposal target high priority habitat areas and limited life stages to maximize restoration/ protection benefits to the targeted populations?</b>		<b>0 - 50</b>
High Priority Habitat	High Score:	Proposal addresses habitat limiting factors for life stage bottlenecks of targeted populations.	34 - 50
	Medium Score:	Proposal addresses habitat limiting factors, but not for life stage bottlenecks of targeted populations.	17 - 33
	Low Score:	Proposal does not address habitat limiting factors for any life stages of targeted populations.	0 - 16
	<b>4. Does the proposed approach support the highest priority salmon habitat needs for both short and long-term recovery by working with watershed processes and considering climate change impacts?</b>		<b>0 – 50</b>
	High Score:	Proposal targets the root stressors of high priority salmon habitat needs and watershed processes, and considers long-term impacts of climate change.	34 - 50
	Medium Score:	Proposal targets symptoms that limit high priority salmon habitat and are compatible with watershed processes, and/or does not consider long-term impacts of climate change.	17 - 33
	Low Score:	Proposal targets symptoms in a way that is incompatible with watershed processes and does not consider long-term impacts of climate change.	0 - 16
<b>High Priority Habitat Points: 100</b>			
<b>Total Benefits to Fish Points Available: 200</b>			

Table 14. TAC scoring questions for Certainty of Success. Minimum thresholds for each scoring levels (High, Medium, and Low) are included for each question. Low scores indicate a fatal flaw, which may mean a project does not qualify for funding.

Certainty of Success Scoring Questions and Guidelines			Points
Scope and Approach	<b>5. Does the proposal have a well-defined scope and scale consistent with and appropriate for the stated goals and objectives?</b>		<b>0 – 50</b>
	High Score:	proposal is highly likely to achieve the stated goals and objectives	34 - 50
	Medium Score:	proposal is somewhat likely to achieve the stated goals and objectives	17 - 33
	Low Score:	proposal is unlikely to achieve the stated goals and objectives	0 - 16
	<b>6. Does the proposal apply appropriate and proven methods and technologies, including the use of acquisition, or addressing recovery information gaps?</b>		<b>0 - 50</b>
	High Score:	Proposal uses appropriate and proven methods and technologies to achieve the desired outcomes	34 - 50
	Medium Score:	Proposal uses moderately appropriate and/or proven methods and technologies to achieve the desired outcomes	17 - 33
	Low Score:	proposal uses inappropriate and/or unproven methods and technologies to achieve the desired outcomes	0 - 16
<b>Scope and Approach: 100</b>			
Coordination, Sequence, Constraints, and Uncertainties	<b>7. Is the proposal logically sequenced with other salmon recovery efforts in the watershed, including past habitat projects and actions across the H's?</b>		<b>0 – 25</b>
	High Score:	Proposal is well sequenced with other recovery efforts in the watershed.	17 – 25
	Medium Score:	Proposal is moderately well sequenced with other recovery efforts in the watershed.	8 – 16
	Low Score:	Proposal is not sequenced well with other recovery efforts in the watershed.	0 – 7
	<b>8. What is the potential for funding, scientific/technical, permitting, legal, and/or physical constraints or uncertainties to affect successful project implementation?</b>		<b>0 – 25</b>
	High Score:	There is low potential for the described constraints or uncertainties that would affect project implementation success	17 – 25
	Medium Score:	There is moderate potential for the described constraints or uncertainties that would affect project implementation success	8 - 16
	Low Score:	There is high potential for the described constraints or uncertainties that would affect project implementation success	0 – 7
<b>Coordination, Sequence, Constraints, and Uncertainties: 50</b>			
Qualifications, Community Support, and Stewardship	<b>9. How qualified and experienced is the project team in successfully completing projects of similar scope, nature, and magnitude on time and within budget?</b>		<b>0 – 25</b>
	High Score:	The project team is well qualified in completing projects of similar scope, nature, and magnitude on time and within budget	17 – 25
	Medium Score:	The project team is moderately qualified in completing projects of similar scope, nature, and magnitude on time and within budget	8 – 16
	Low Score:	The project team is not well qualified in completing projects of similar scope, nature, and magnitude on time and within budget	0 – 7
	<b>10. What is the demonstrated extent of community support for and involvement in the proposal? For instance, will local volunteers participate, will the project enhance public knowledge and support, and will the project build capacity and interest for future work?</b>		<b>0 – 25</b>
	High Score:	There is extensive community support and involvement in the project	17 – 25
	Medium Score:	There is moderate community support and involvement in the project	8 – 16
	Low Score:	There is broad community opposition to the project	0 – 7
<b>Qualifications, Community Support, and Stewardship: 50</b>			
<b>Total Certainty of Success Points Available: 200</b>			

Table 15. TAC scoring questions for Cost. Minimum thresholds for each scoring levels (High, Medium, and Low) are included for each question. Low scores indicate a fatal flaw, which may mean a project does not qualify for funding.

Cost Scoring Questions and Guidelines			Points
Cost	<b>11. Are the requested amount and total project cost reasonable relative to the likely salmon recovery benefits?</b>		<b>0 – 25</b>
	High Score:	The requested amount and total project cost are highly reasonable relative to the likely salmon recovery benefits	17 – 25
	Medium Score:	The requested amount and total project cost are moderately reasonable relative to the likely salmon recovery benefits	8 – 16
	Low Score:	The requested amount and total project cost are not reasonable relative to the likely salmon recovery benefits	0 – 7
	<b>12. Is the total project cost (grant request and match) reasonable relative to the amount and type of work proposed?</b>		<b>0 – 25</b>
	High Score:	The total project cost is highly reasonable relative to the amount and type of work proposed	17 – 25
	Medium Score:	The total project cost is moderately reasonable relative to the amount and type of work proposed	8 – 16
	Low Score:	The total project cost is not reasonable relative to the amount and type of work proposed	0 – 7
	<b>13. Are costs well described and justified?</b>		<b>0 – 25</b>
	High Score:	Costs are well described and justified.	17 – 25
	Medium Score:	Costs are moderately well described and justified.	8 – 16
	Low Score:	Costs are not well described and/or justified.	0 – 7
	<b>14. Are there more appropriate funding sources available for the proposed work?</b>		<b>0 – 25</b>
	High Score:	This grant program is the most appropriate funding source for the proposed work	17 – 25
	Medium Score:	This grant program is an appropriate funding source for the proposed work, but other programs may also support the work	8 – 16
	Low Score:	This grant program is not an appropriate funding source for the proposed work	0 – 7
<b>Total Cost Points Available: 100</b>			

Table 17. CRR proposals are reviewed and scored according to the eligibility and evaluation criteria in the CRR Habitat Program of this appendix as well as the processes described in the Policy Manual and SRFB Evaluation Criteria section of Appendix C. CRR proposals are initially assessed using the three eligibility criteria using a pass/fail decision with supporting rationale. For applications that are eligible, there are five additional CRR evaluation questions specific to the CRR Habitat Program. Options for each scoring question are shown below, with available total points that can be awarded for each question sub category. Reviewers will provide supporting rationale for each submitted evaluation question score.

Eligibility Category	Eligibility Criteria	Pass/Fail
<b>Population Targeted</b>	Project is directed towards ESA-listed salmon and steelhead populations originating upstream of the Barrier Dam. (Note: these include Upper Cowlitz spring Chinook, coho, or winter steelhead; Cispus spring Chinook, coho or winter steelhead; Tilton fall Chinook, coho or winter steelhead; other salmon or steelhead populations within the geographic focus with matching funds)	Pass/Fail
<b>Geographic Extent</b>	Project is located within the following geographic extent: the Cowlitz River mainstem upstream from the confluence of the Toutle River, river mouths of tributaries upstream of the confluence of Toutle River and below the Barrier Dam, and the entire basin upstream of the Barrier Dam.	Pass/Fail
<b>Project Type</b>	Habitat project supports on-the-ground activities or leads to on-the-ground activities aimed at protection/restoration of habitat for priority species within the geographic focus area.	Pass/Fail
Scoring Category	Scoring Question	Total Points Available
<b>CRR Program Priorities</b>	<b>1. Geography: Location in the basin (select one only)</b>	
	Resource Project is located upstream of the Barrier Dam.	30
	Resource Project is located downstream of the Barrier Dam, but provides matching funds that support cost sharing.	20
	Resource project is located downstream of the Barrier Dam but will not provide cost sharing.	10
	<b>2. Population: Project primarily benefits (select one only)</b>	
	Resource Project primarily benefits spring Chinook populations originating from the upper Cowlitz and/or Cispus rivers.	40
	Resource Project primarily benefits steelhead and coho populations originating from the upper Cowlitz and/or Cispus rivers.	30
	Resource Project primarily benefits listed salmon originating from the Tilton River, and/or fall Chinook originating from the upper Cowlitz.	20
	Resource Project primarily benefits listed salmon originating from the lower Cowlitz River basin, but provides matching funds that support cost sharing.	10
<b>Benefits to Fish</b>	<b>3. Direct Support for Reintroduction (yes/no)</b>	
	Project is paired or integrated with current or planned reintroduction efforts within the basin (e.g., improves habitat for adult holding near an existing or planned release site). Yes = 10, No = 0	10
<b>Certainty of Success</b>	<b>4. Relevant and Supportive Information Provided (select only 1)</b>	
	Resource project is exceptionally consistent with / responsive to CRR-specific habitat resources, including UCC habitat strategy and habitat assessment tools (if applicable) and other relevant/supportive information.	30
	Resource project is highly consistent with / responsive to CRR-specific habitat resources, including UCC habitat strategy and habitat assessment tools (if applicable) and other relevant/supportive information.	20

	Resource project is somewhat consistent with / responsive to CRR-specific habitat resources, including UCC habitat strategy and habitat assessment tools (if applicable) and other relevant/supportive information.	10
	Resource project is not consistent with / responsive to CRR-specific habitat resources, including UCC habitat strategy and habitat assessment tools (if applicable) and other relevant/supportive information.	0
Cost	<b>5. Match (select only 1)</b>	
	Resource project leverages CRR funding with substantial match.	20
	Resource project leverages CRR funding with some match.	10
	Resource project leverages CRR funding with no match, but there are limited match opportunities.	10
	Resource project leverages CRR funding with no match.	0



2023 CRR Recommended Rank Lists and Funding Allocations

Project Number	Project Name	Pass/Fail Eligibility Questions			CRR - Scoring Questions					Total Project	
		Population Targeted	Geographic Extent	Project Type	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5		
		Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Rank
CRR-2023-02	Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek	Pass	Pass	Pass	29.8	37.1	8.8	22.8	17.9	116.3	1
CRR-2023-01	Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures	Pass	Pass	Pass	29.9	36.8	8.8	21.8	18.0	115.1	2

Project Number	Project Name	Benefits to Fish				Certainty of Success						Cost				Total Project	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14		
CRR-2023-01	Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	377.5	1
CRR-2023-02	Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	M	H	H	H	H	372.6	2

Project Number	Project Name	CRR Grant Requests	Funding Recommendation
CRR-2023-01	Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures	\$ 168,098.00	Fund
CRR-2023-02	Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek	\$ 61,048.00	Fund
Total CRR Request:		\$ 229,146.00	

## Scoring summary

All eight TAC members submitted scores this grant round for the two CRR grant applications. All TAC members indicated the two CRR proposals passed the three eligibility questions.

TAC members evaluated CRR proposals using two scoring matrices: the five CRR habitat program supplemental evaluation questions and the fourteen LCFRB TAC scoring questions for regional habitat grant applications. Score summaries are provided for both scoring matrices. **Crystal and Woods Creek (CRR-2023-01) was ranked first using the regional criteria and Hall Creek (CRR-2023-01) was ranked first using the supplemental evaluation criteria.**

### Regional Habitat Evaluation Criteria

A ranked list was developed by summing average TAC scores for each scoring question. This list is shown in Table 2. Scoring and ranking summaries are included in Figures 1 – 4 based on submitted scores for the SRFB evaluation questions. TAC members may recommend different proposal rankings for funding awards with supporting rationale.

Project Number	Project Name	Benefits to Fish								Certainty of Success										Cost								Total Project			
		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		Q5		Q6		Q7		Q8		Q9		Q10		Q11		Q12		Q13				Q14	
		Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Level	Score	Rank
CRR-2023-01	Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures	39.6	H	36.5	H	35.8	H	35.9	H	35.1	H	37.5	H	19.9	H	20.6	H	20.0	H	18.1	H	20.4	H	20.1	H	19.3	H	18.8	H	377.5	1
CRR-2023-02	Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek	41.3	H	37.8	H	35.5	H	36.0	H	34.1	H	35.4	H	19.8	H	19.4	H	19.4	H	16.8	M	20.1	H	19.6	H	18.6	H	19.0	H	372.6	2

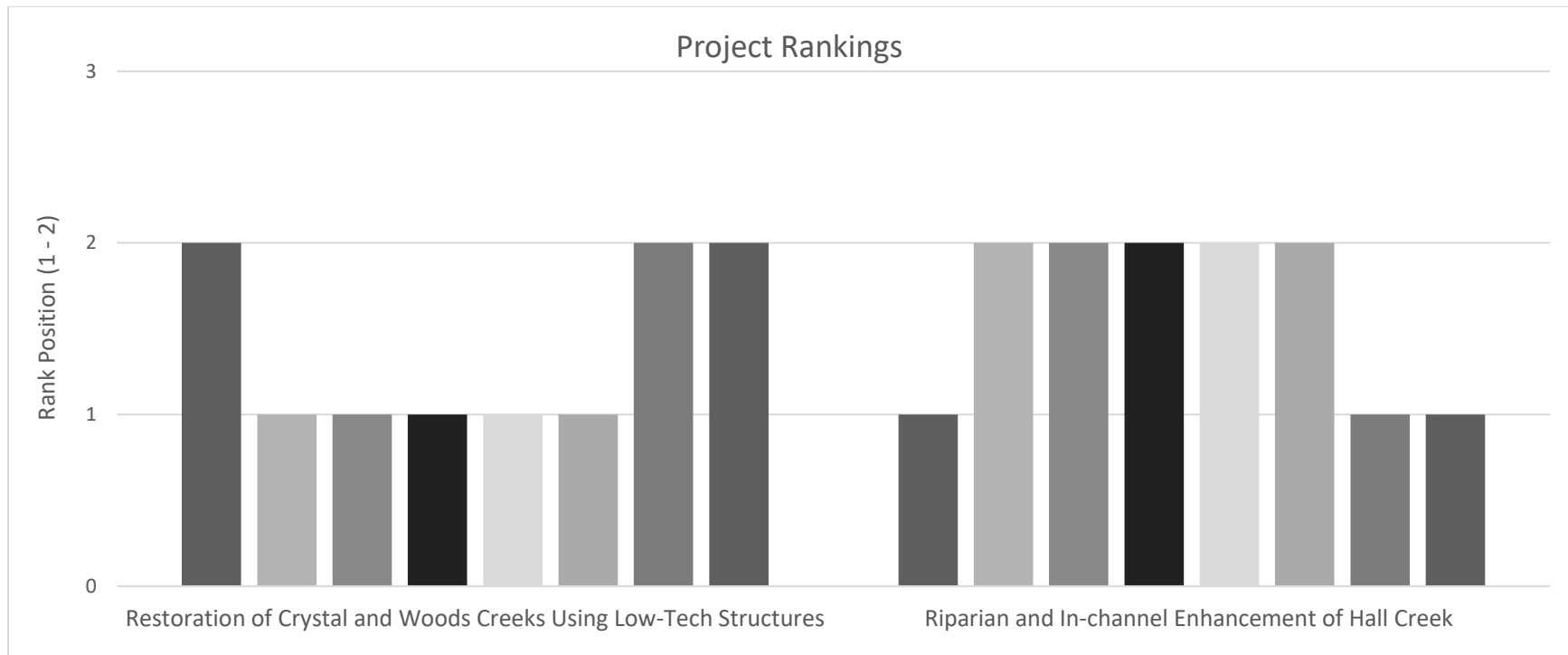
The below list includes regional scores and grant requests for the 18 final applications scored by the LCFRB TAC as part of the 2023 SRFB and CRR grant rounds. The two CRR proposals are highlighted in green and displayed based on their total scores.

2023 CRR Proposal Score Summary  
7/20/2023

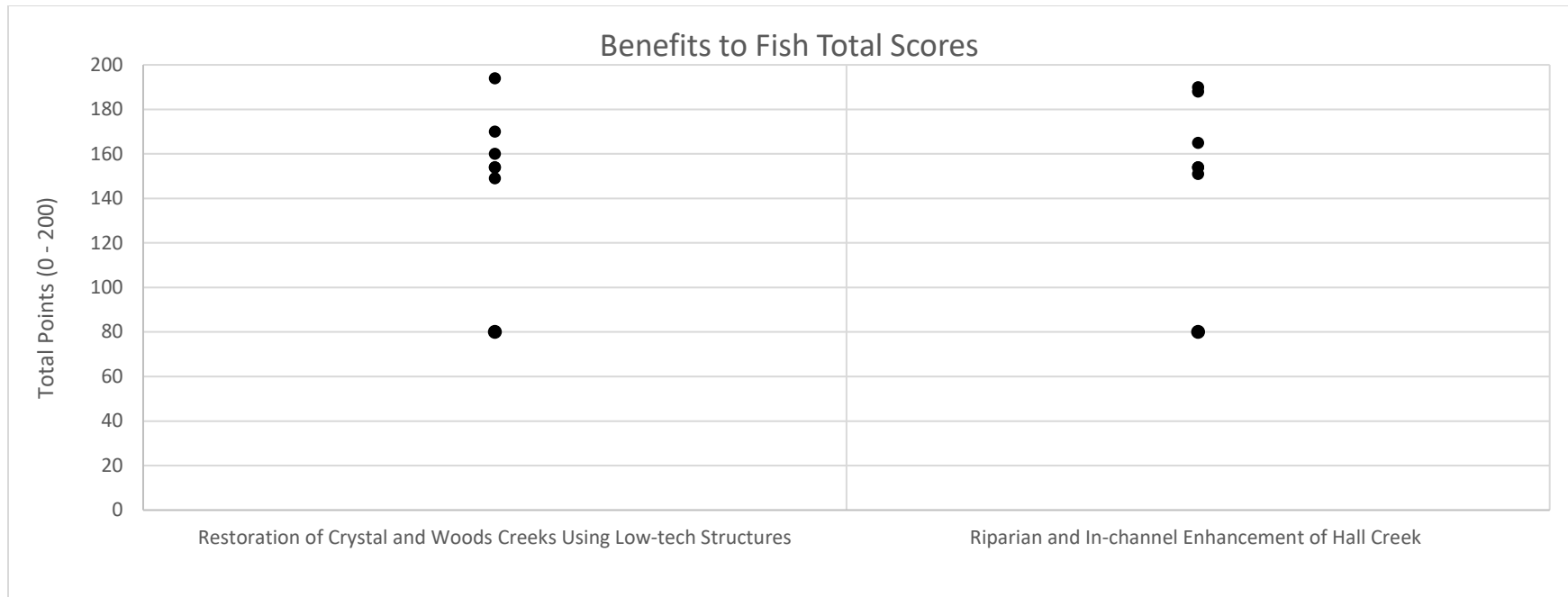
Project Number	Project Name	Benefits to Fish				Certainty of Success								Cost				Total		SRFB Grant Requests	CRR Grant Requests												
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8	Q9	Q10	Q11	Q12	Q13	Q14	Score	Rank																
23-1194	Lower EF Grays Amendment	43	H	40	H	41	H	40	H	40	H	41	H	22	H	22	H	23	H	20	H	21	H	21	H	21	H	414	1	\$ 547,358			
23-1153	Green River Dsgn	43	H	41	H	40	H	40	H	41	H	40	H	20	H	19	H	22	H	20	H	20	H	21	H	21	H	408	2	\$ 276,745			
23-1151	Salmon Creek Reconnect. Dsgn	31	M	41	H	38	H	39	H	37	H	42	H	21	H	20	H	22	H	19	H	20	H	19	H	21	H	20	H	389	3	\$ 298,100	
23-1154	Schoolhouse Ck Barrier and	40	H	35	H	35	H	36	H	39	H	40	H	18	H	19	H	21	H	20	H	19	H	21	H	21	H	20	H	384	4	\$ 349,600	
23-1129	Thadbar Ck Rest.	42	H	38	H	40	H	38	H	34	H	36	H	17	M	19	H	22	H	18	H	20	H	20	H	19	H	21	H	383	5	\$ 169,500	
23-1206	Eagle Island Chum Channel	39	H	38	H	38	H	37	H	38	H	39	H	18	H	19	H	21	H	20	H	19	H	20	H	20	H	18	H	382	6	\$ 340,000	
23-1145	EF Lewis River Thermal Prelim.	42	H	38	H	38	H	39	H	36	H	37	H	19	H	19	H	20	H	19	H	18	H	19	H	18	H	20	H	382	7	\$ 282,097	
CRR-2023-01	Rest. of Crystal and Woods Cks	40	H	37	H	36	H	36	H	35	H	38	H	20	H	21	H	20	H	18	H	20	H	20	H	19	H	19	H	378			\$168,098
23-1193	Hardy Creek Reach 5 Dsgn	41	H	38	H	37	H	35	H	35	H	34	M	19	H	18	H	22	H	19	H	19	H	19	H	19	H	19	H	374	8	\$ 178,324	
CRR-2023-02	Rip. & In-Ch., Hall Ck.	41	H	38	H	36	H	36	H	34	H	35	H	20	H	19	H	19	H	17	M	20	H	20	H	19	H	19	H	373			\$ 61,048
23-1156	Camp Singing Wind Dsgn	36	H	38	H	38	H	37	H	37	H	37	H	17	H	19	H	20	H	18	H	19	H	19	H	19	H	19	H	372	9	\$ 206,527	
23-1130	Cowlitz RB Trib 2 A Fish Pass.	36	H	39	H	34	H	35	H	36	H	41	H	18	H	19	H	22	H	17	H	18	H	19	H	18	H	19	H	370	10	\$ 316,370	
23-1155	Upper Mason Ck.	39	H	38	H	36	H	37	H	35	H	37	H	18	H	17	H	20	H	18	H	19	H	19	H	19	H	20	H	370	10	\$ 228,161	
23-1157	WRIA 26, 27, 28 Nutrient and Rip.	43	H	39	H	33	M	34	M	36	H	35	H	17	H	19	H	20	H	20	H	17	H	18	H	18	H	19	H	366	11	\$ 96,020	
23-1207	Cowlitz Chum Assessment	34	H	37	H	35	H	34	H	34	H	34	H	18	H	18	H	20	H	18	H	19	H	19	H	19	H	18	H	356	12	\$ 170,000	
23-1146	Lower Woodard Ck. Rest.	41	H	36	H	34	H	37	H	31	M	29	M	18	H	17	H	21	H	20	H	14	M	17	M	16	M	20	H	351	13	N/A	
23-1131	Belfield Rock Ck.	35	H	33	M	30	M	29	M	30	M	31	M	15	M	17	M	21	H	17	H	20	H	19	H	17	M	19	H	332	14	\$ 68,763	
23-1138	Blue Ck. at Spencer Dsgn	35	H	34	M	33	M	30	M	30	M	32	M	16	M	16	M	19	H	17	H	15	M	15	M	17	M	16	M	323	15	\$ 495,750	
Total Grant Requests:																		\$4,023,315		\$229,146													



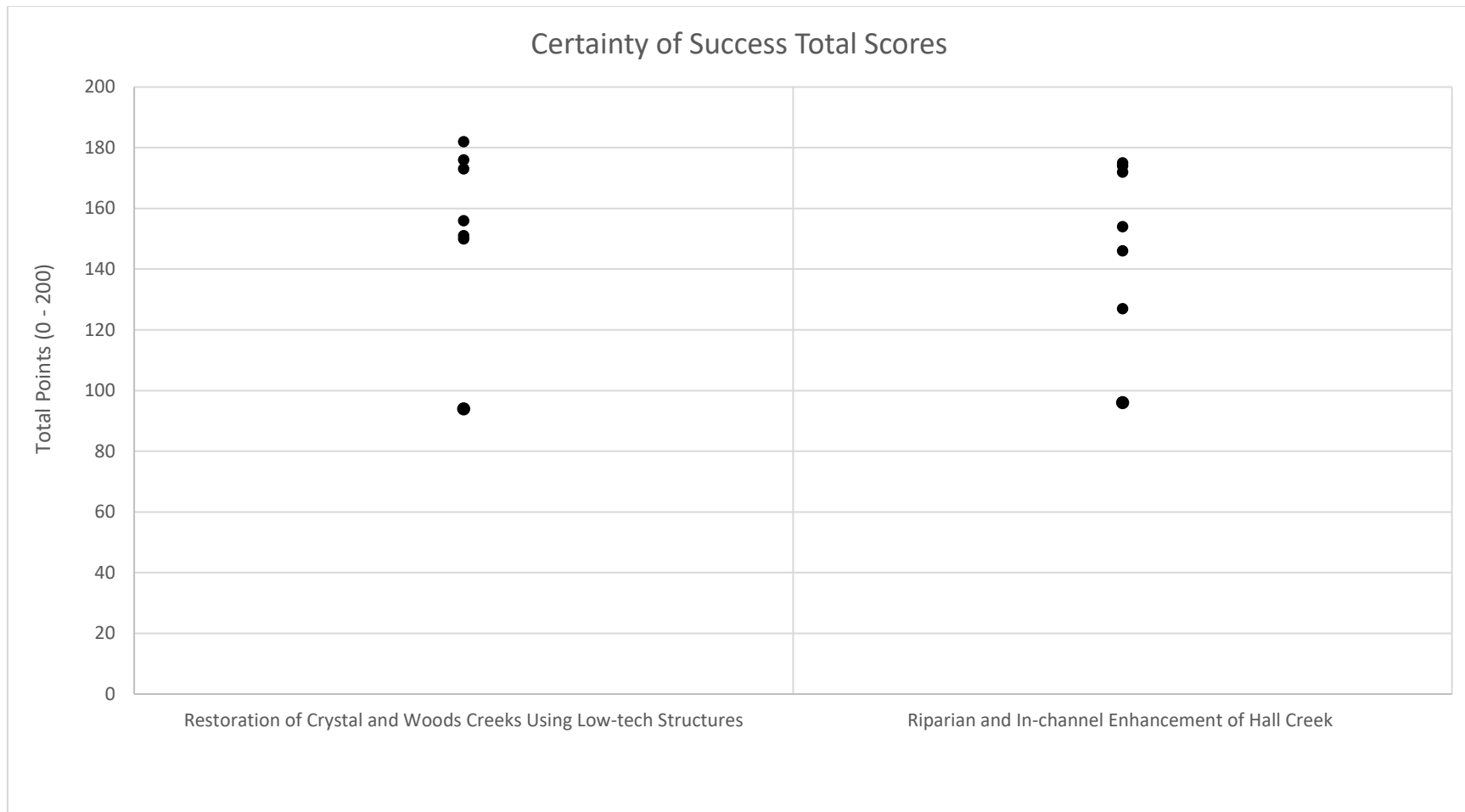
**Figure 1. The range of total project scores for the two CRR final application across TAC members. Although total available points range from 0 – 500, the figure range is limited to 200 – 500 to better visualize score distribution.**



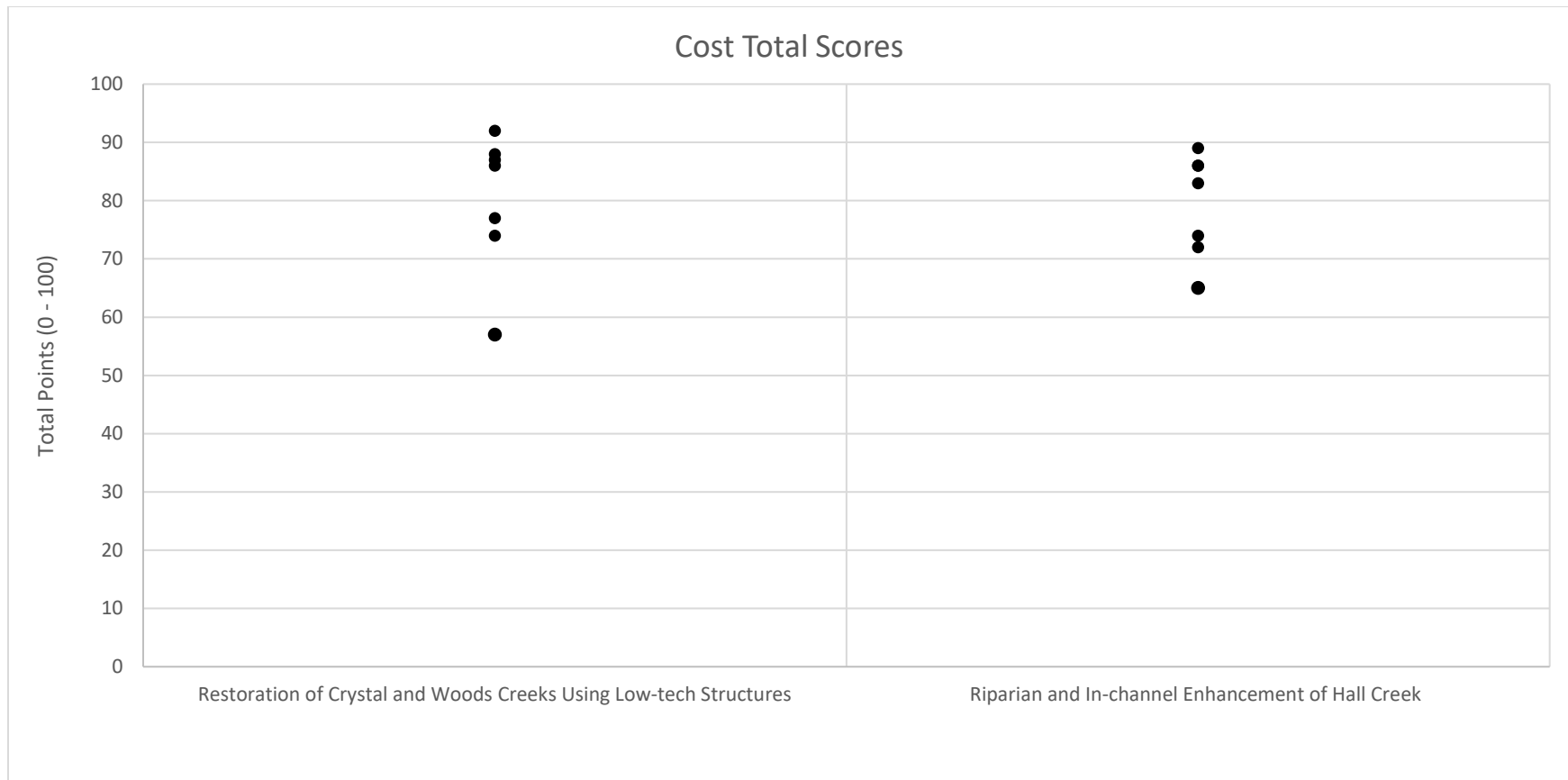
**Figure 2. The range of total project rank positions (1 or 2) for the two CRR final application across TAC members.**



**Figure 3. The range of total Benefits to Fish scores for the two CRR final application across TAC members.**



**Figure 4. The range of total Certainty of Success scores for the two CRR final application across TAC members.**



**Figure 5. The range of total Cost scores for the two CRR final application across TAC members.**



### CRR Supplemental Evaluation Criteria

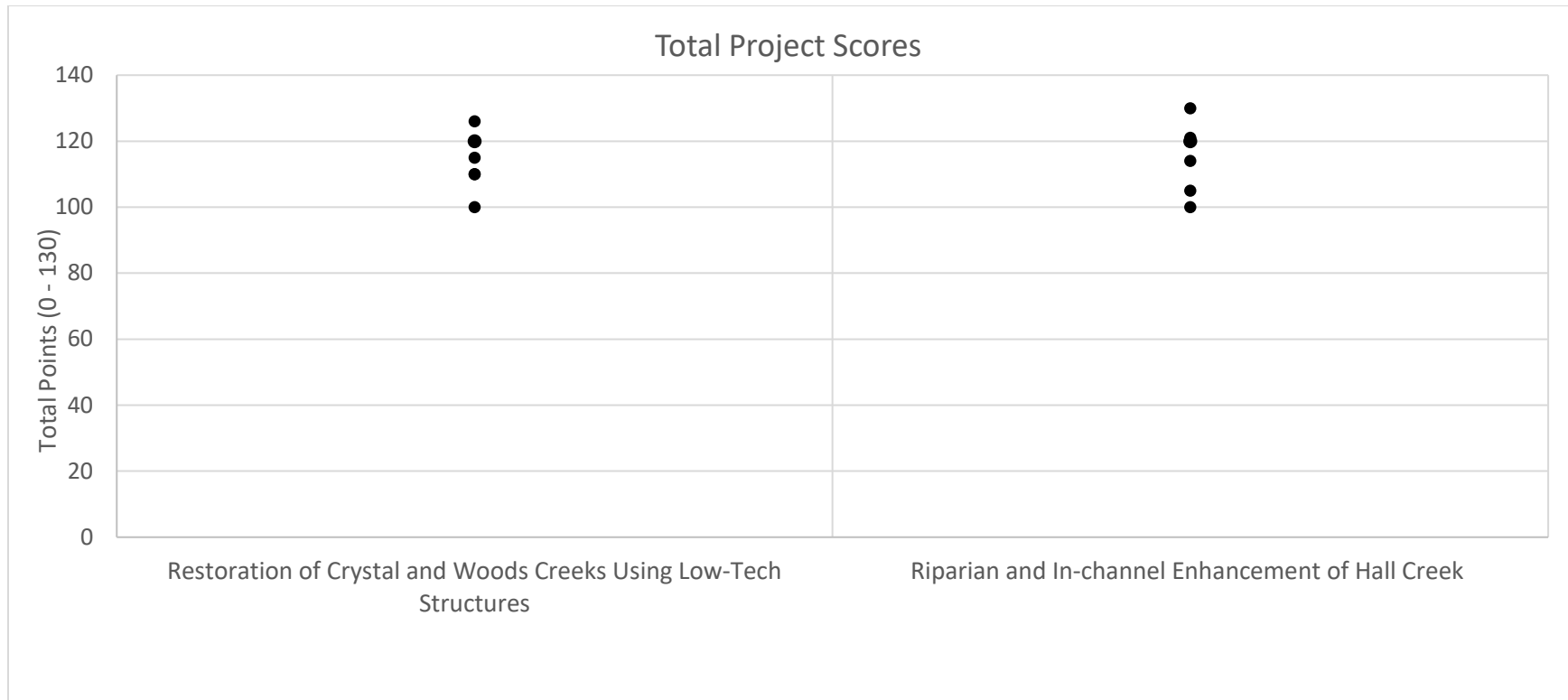
A ranked list based on average TAC scores for each scoring question is shown in Table 1. Scoring and ranking summaries are included below based on submitted scores for the five CRR evaluation questions. TAC scoring rationales are included for each grant proposal at the end of this summary.

**Table 1. Ranked CRR proposal project list based on averaged scores for each scoring question from participating TAC members. Proposals are shown in ranked order based on total project score.**

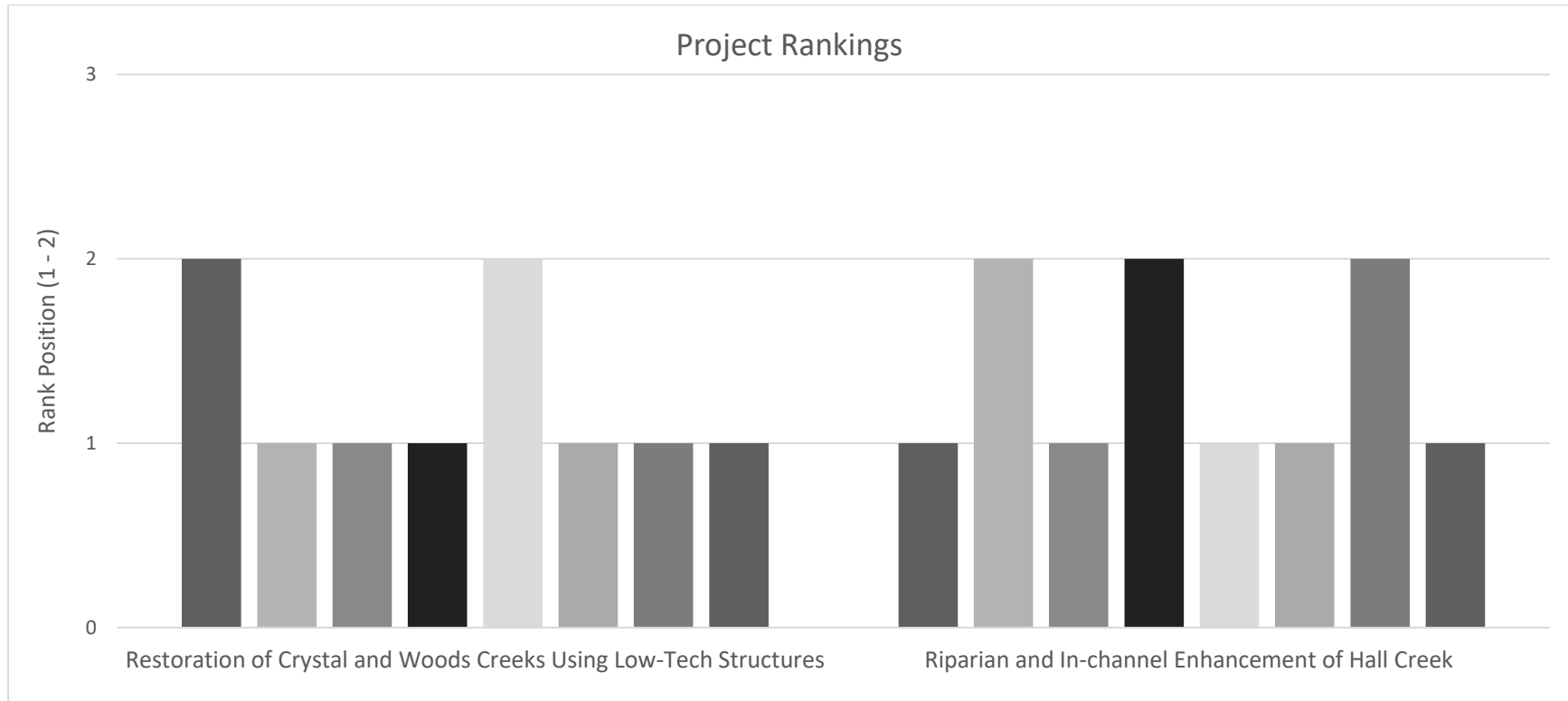
Project Number	Project Name	Pass/Fail Eligibility Questions			CRR - Scoring Questions					Total Project	
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5		
		Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Score	Rank
CRR-2023-02	Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek	Pass	Pass	Pass	29.8	37.1	8.8	22.8	17.9	116.3	1
CRR-2023-01	Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures	Pass	Pass	Pass	29.9	36.8	8.8	21.8	18.0	115.1	2

**Table 2. Score summary for the two submitted CRR proposals for the 2023 grant round. Proposals are shown in ranked order, and the range of submitted TAC scores for the five evaluation question (minimum and maximum) and rank positions. Average rank position is included. Averages for the other questions are included the ranked list summary above (Table 1).**

Project Number	Project Name	Question 1		Question 2		Question 3		Question 4		Question 5		Average Rank Position
		Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	Min	Max	
CRR-2023-02	Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek	28	30	30	40	0	10	20	30	10	20	1.4
CRR-2023-01	Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures	29	30	30	40	0	10	20	29	10	20	1.3



**Figure 6. The range of total project scores for the two CRR final applications across TAC members.**



**Figure 7. The range of total project rank positions (1 or 2) for the two CRR final application across TAC members. Three TAC members assigned equal scores to the two proposals, so both were ranked as one in these cases.**

## Scoring Rationales

Scoring rationales were provided by TAC members and are grouped by proposal below.

### CRR-2023-01- Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures

Benefits to Fish	Certainty of Success	Cost	CRR Supplemental
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance habitat for ESA listed species with climate considerations</li> <li>Med. Benefit vs. goals</li> <li>3 primary pops; lower restoration priorities</li> <li>Scores indicate a strong focus on high priority populations and habitat areas, effective methods to address habitat limiting factors, and consideration of long-term recovery needs and climate change impacts.</li> <li>Project addresses habitat problems, connects floodplains and other off-channel habitats, creates in-channel habitat structure and complexity, benefits salmonids.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willing landowner; community support and involvement; enough source material? RCG control success in question?</li> <li>Medium certainty vs goals</li> <li>Very clear proposal and site visit presentation</li> <li>Scores indicate a well-defined scope and scale, appropriate and proven methods and technologies, logical sequencing with past recovery efforts, moderate potential constraints, and moderate community support and involvement.</li> <li>Q10 - this project has more community support where Hall Creek is a single private landowner project.</li> <li>Proposed planning project is outlined for success, partnerships have not been identified, it would be nice to see Letters of Support?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer labor; highly reasonable, well justified costs and benefits</li> <li>No match; CRR only; med. Risk</li> <li>Good hybrid mix of design, implementation and assessment project elements</li> <li>Scores indicate reasonable funding requests relative to the likely salmon recovery benefits, appropriate project cost considering the amount and type of work proposed, well-described and justified costs, and alignment with the chosen grant program as an appropriate funding source.</li> <li>The outlined funding request is reasonable compared with similar projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High value low cost recovery goals above barrier dam for primary Cispus pops Spring Chinook, coho and winter steelhead</li> <li>Project addresses habitat problems, connects floodplains and other off-channel habitats, creates in-channel habitat structure and complexity, benefits salmonids.</li> </ul>

**CRR-2023-02- Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek**

Benefits to Fish	Certainty of Success	Cost	CRR Supplemental
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance habitat for ESA listed species with climate considerations</li> <li>Low grad., RCG issues; BDA's ?</li> <li>4 primary pops; moderate restoration priorities</li> <li>Scores indicate a strong focus on high priority populations, targeted habitat improvements, and addressing habitat limiting factors, maximizing restoration and protection benefits for the targeted salmon populations.</li> <li>For Q3, the BTF info shows that egg incubation is most critical for 2 of the 3 most limiting factors, which is limited by channel stability. The BDAs may catch and hold sediments, but it doesn't keep those sediments from becoming buried. The construction of side channels will provide good refugia but not necessarily great spawning habitat, depending on how long it will remain</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Willing landowner; community support and involvement; RCG control success in question?</li> <li>Medium certainty vs goals</li> <li>appropriate scope and scale</li> <li>Scores indicate a well-defined scope and scale, appropriate methods and technologies, logical sequencing with other recovery efforts, low potential for constraints or uncertainties affecting implementation success, a qualified and experienced project team, and moderate community support and involvement.</li> <li>Proposed planning project is outlined for success, partnerships have not been identified, it would be nice to see Letters of Support?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer labor; highly reasonable, well justified costs and benefits</li> <li>No match; CRR only; med. Risk</li> <li>Reasonable ask for 3/4 mile of design and low tech implementation work</li> <li>Scores indicate that the requested amount and total project cost are reasonable relative to the likely salmon recovery benefits, with well-described and justified costs, providing a solid foundation for efficient resource allocation and financial planning.</li> <li>The outlined funding request is reasonable compared with similar projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High value low cost recovery goals above barrier dam for primary Cispus pops Spring Chinook, coho and winter steelhead</li> <li>Project connects floodplains, creates in-channel habitat structure and complexity, benefits salmonids and beaver.</li> </ul>

<p>engaged. Credit for Juvenile rearing in side channels. Q4. This project does address climate resilience and promotes the restoration of riparian processes which are key, but the project is on a small scale, and isn't addressing root causes of the problems. The channel stability issue that impacts egg incubation has been listed as the most limiting here and while improving riparian conditions contributes to stabilizing sediment inputs, the scale of the project won't impact a very large reach downstream and this section of stream is likely being mostly affected by processes occurring upstream and offsite.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Project connects floodplains, creates in-channel habitat structure and complexity, benefits salmonids and beaver.</li></ul>			
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August 5, 2025

**MEMORANDUM TO THE FILE**

**To:** Tacoma Power

**From:** LCFRB Staff

**Subject:** Grant award error in the FTC Decision Document DD-2023-05 for project CRR-2023-01, Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks with Low-tech Structures

This memo to the file is to note a discrepancy in the 2023 funding determination Decision Document (DD) titled [DD-2023-05](#) for CRR project 2023-01 titled Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks with Low-tech Structures, sponsored by the Cascade Forest Conservancy. Tables 1 and 2 in the August 1, 2023 DD shows \$157,648 as the funding request for the project, when it should show the request was for \$168,098.

This discrepancy is most likely due to the Cascade Forest Conservancy updating their budget between their initial and final proposal for the project. The LCFRB shared the correct final individual and total CRR funding requests at the August 1, 2023 FTC meeting (Attachment A) in a Powerpoint presentation (Attachment B). The approved minutes for the August 1, 2023 meeting also reflect the correct amount in the project summary table. The correct amount was also shared via applicant material links provided to the FTC via Google Drive (Attachment C), and in the attachments to the subsequent September 12, 2023 DD. However, the August 1, 2023 draft DD itself included the initial funding request of \$157,648, which was incorrect as the sponsor increased the funding request between draft and final applications. There were no changes to DD Tables before the September 5, 2023 meeting. The FTC therefore approved the decision document with the incorrect amount.

To correct the record, this memo identifies the accurate funding amount for the Cascade Forest Conservancy project as \$168,098, and the total funding amount for both 2023 projects as \$229,146, as reflected in all materials presented to the FTC except the draft and final DDs.

**Attachments:**

- A. August 1 and September 5, 2023 Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee Meeting Summaries
- B. LCFRB 2023 CRR Powerpoint presentation to the FTC
- C. LCFRB 2023 CRR Application links and information document

Attachment A

August 2 and September 5, 2023 Fisheries Technical Committee  
Meeting Summaries



**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC No. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
August 1, 2023 from 9:30 – 3:30

**FTC Representative Attendees:**

Travis Nelson	TPU
Anne Baxter	Ecology
Peggy Miller (for Bryce Glaser)	WDFW

**Additional Attendees:**

John Serl	WDFW
Matt Peter	TPU
Scott Gibson	TPU
Melora Shelton	TPU
Tim Hoffnagle	TPU
Laura Wolfe	LCPUD
Russell Page	LCPUD
Steve Manlow	LCFRB
Denise Smee	LCFRB
Stephen Lewis	BIA
Michael Boyles	BPA
Ann Weckback	Lewis County
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting / Facilitator

**Public Attendees:** None today.

**2023 FTC Meeting Dates:** September 5 (in person – location TBA), October 3, November 7, December 5 (in person)

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**Approval of June Meeting Summary**

The revised version of the June FTC Meeting Summary was reviewed and approved with clarifying edits and will be posted for public review.

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**Announcements**

- Sam Williams has joined Tacoma as the Cowlitz Falls Fish Facility Biologist working under Gabe. Sam hails from NE Oregon and has worked many years with the Nez Perce Tribe.
- This is Tim Hoffnagle's last meeting with us as he retires from Tacoma in two weeks. We all thanked him for his excellent work over the past few years. We wish him well.

**Updates**

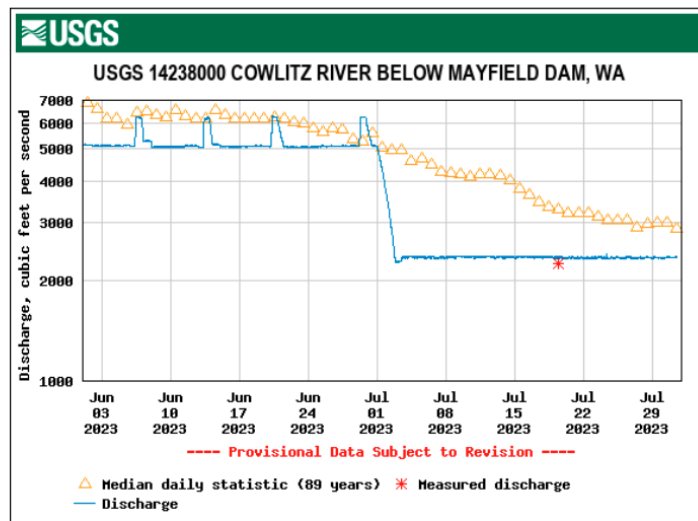
Hydro Operations – Melora (presentation emailed on July 31)

- Hydro status update covered two months (as there was no July meeting).
- Inflows: After the May runoff, inflows returned to well below the historical average (47% in June and 42% in July) with minimal precipitation. Daily average flows for July were 1,700 cfs.
- Storage: The 740' elevation at Riffe reported at our June meeting has been the highest so far this summer. The current elevation is 727' which is 15' lower than the average for the last five years. Tacoma is confident about being able to meet minimum flow obligations through the

rest of the summer. There could be discussion in the fall regarding minimum flow resets (Article 13).

- Snowpack: White Pass melted out the end of May and Paradise did the same in early July.
- Outflows: On July 1 they transitioned from 5K cfs plus (Fish Transport Flows) FTF to 2,360 cfs. This the above the 2,000 cfs minimum flow, but slightly below the typical 2,400 cfs summer operating basement. All ramping is within limits.
- 10-Day Forecast: Typical - warm and dry. The freezing level is above 13K'. Outflows are expected to be 2,360 cfs unless there is a load demand due to extreme heat. Inflows should be ~1.3K cfs.
  - Boat ramps: Due to continued drafting some boat ramps may not have access through Labor Day. Tacoma will continue to coordinate in advance with WDFW on this.
- Melora explained that load is the total amount of energy demand. During times of increased demand (usually August and September) Tacoma may need to respond to an emergency or if market prices are exceedingly high. Tacoma plans ahead to have enough buffer in the system to cover increased demand while, to the extent possible, maintaining recreation levels. This year has been challenging.

### Outflow



From May 10, 5,000 cfs + FTF. Transition to 2,360 cfs starting July 1.  
All ramping within limits (1 inch/hr day and night starting June 16).

Link to the USGS real-time Cowlitz River hydrograph:

[https://waterdata.usgs.gov/wa/nwis/uv/?site\\_no=14238000&PARAMeter\\_cd=00060,00065](https://waterdata.usgs.gov/wa/nwis/uv/?site_no=14238000&PARAMeter_cd=00060,00065)  
<https://www.mytpu.org/community-environment/parks-recreation/river-flows-lake-levels/>

### Water Quality/Monitoring

Milfoil in Lake Scanewa: Stephen observed this and asked if Tacoma was taking measures to minimize its spread. John noted LCPUD has worked to address Milfoil and other noxious weed species in Lake Scanewa but in any event, there are limited location with suitable habitat for milfoil in Lake Scanewa so it is self-limiting. Swofford Pond is really full of Milfoil. This is beyond the purview of the FTC

Temperature Monitoring: Matt shared some charts on hourly data gathered from June 13 to July 25 for the Cispus at the Copper Canyon Creek Whitewater Takeout site (kayak takeout) and Scanewa Day Use Park Boat Launch.

- Copper Canyon takeout: Max = 20.5 °C; Min = 8.5 °C (daily mean temp 9.6 °C -17.3 °C)

- Lake Scanewa: Max = 24 °C; Min = 11.6 °C (daily mean temp 9.6 °C - 22 °C)  
John reported that after doing some temperature monitoring with a regular thermometer at the kayak takeout, he observed that the water at the release point was 2 °F lower than at the TPU temperature logger site and this likely explains the 4 °F daily water temperature variance observed on the temperature logger. He is confident that the site gives fish access to cooler water even in the summer. This is great news! He will share the data when they are ready for posting.

Temperature profile data collected in Cowlitz Falls Dam forebay from March 8 to July 6:

- Boat Barrier Temperature Profile: Max = 20.7 °C; Min = 4.5 °C
  - Debris Deflector South Temperature Profile: Max = 20.7 °C; Min = 4.5 °C
- Matt explained the temperature loggers hang off the debris barrier – but are not touching it. Temperatures on the north deflector loggers are warmer at depth, as predicted by Tacoma. They haven't observed temperature influencing fish behavior.

North Taidnapam Boat Launch: The work on the dock will be completed in the fall when the reservoir elevations are sufficiently low. The boat launch will be closed when they do the construction (would be closed anyway due to low elevation).

North Shore fishing trail adjacent to the Mossyrock Dam: Matt reported they will start the SEPA process. They will be getting permits to do some stabilization work there.

Large Woody Debris: LWD placement at the Blue Creek Boat launch has begun.

Dredging projects: Permitting has been obtained and notifications will be sent out when ready to begin these projects at the Blue Creek weir and Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery intake.

Regarding temperature data from the Mayfield Juvenile Collection Facility, Anne asked if these are surface temperatures. Scott answered in the affirmative. Stephen asked if Tacoma can get more of a vertical temp profile vs. only surface temps. He noted that not all migrating fish are treated equally. It was agreed to save this for further discussion.

**Action Item:** Matt P to ensure temperature data reports from the Mayfield Juvenile Collection Facility are clearly labeled (surface temperatures, etc.).

Cleanup at Kosmos: Anne reported that Cam Penner-Ash is Ecology's Cleanup Project Manager who has been working with Tacoma on this site. He has agreed to attend FTC meetings quarterly, starting in September, to give members updates on the status of the process and be available to answer questions people might have. Since Tacoma still has more samples to collect, he has agreed to give an update/background on the clean-up process itself as a start.

#### **Action Items:**

- Anne: Send Cam's email address to Lyn and Travis to add to the FTC distribution list.
- Travis and Lyn: Update the distribution list accordingly.

Gravel Augmentation: The remaining 813 cubic yards of gravel will be placed this year. Stay tuned.

#### Fishing Boundary

John announced WDFW has moved the fishing boundary below Barrier Dam back to the 400' mark as of today to prepare for the expected low fall Chinook return.

#### Fish Facilities

Scott reported on Eric's behalf that the Cowlitz Facilities Team is currently in the process of hiring three seasonal PSMFC Fisheries Technician positions to assist at the adult separator and Mayfield counting house. They hire these positions annually.

Separator:

- There was a small drop for both Spring Chinook and summer steelhead returns over the last week. They are 90% of the way through the spring Chinook return and expect to see 200-300 more through October. There was a slight increase in cutthroat trout collection. They are also seeing a good increase in the cutthroat return which should also extend into the fall
- Tacoma is hauling around three loads of fish to the LCPUD Copper Canyon Creek Whitewater Takeout site each week. They took 17 loads to the release site in July, starting on July 5. 450 spring Chinook have been transported to that site so far.
- 1,391 summer steelhead have been recycled to the I-5 boat ramp so far this year. Total first-time arrivals are ~2K. We are about 55% of the way through the run.

Brood Collection:

- Spring Chinook broodstock collection is complete for the year.
- They are currently collecting summer steelhead broodstock. Going well.
- Fall Chinook and cutthroat broodstock collection should start around the beginning of August. Coho will start in Sept. All HOR fall Chinook and a proportion of NOR fall Chinook will be retained for broodstock. NOR fall Chinook that are not retained for broodstock will be transported and released into the Tilton River.

Mayfield Counting House:

- All Chinook and coho are getting snout tagged and all steelhead and cutthroat are getting a dorsal sinus tag.
- Total numbers have dropped a little over the last couple of weeks. This is normal for this time of year. We will start to see those numbers climb again in September.
- We are currently seeing about twice as many Chinook as coho. There have only been a few steelhead each week for the last couple of weeks.

Dredging: Tacoma will dredge the Cowlitz Salmon Hatchery intake to disturb/remove *C. shasta* (parasite) habitat on August 8. They will dredge below the Blue Creek weir for flood control on August 10. Both Anne (Ecology) and Elliot (WDFW) have been notified of the project dates.

CF Fish Facility (as of July 25):

- Approximately 210K smolts have been collected to date
  - 30K Chinook
  - 170K Coho
  - 9.4K Steelhead
- Approximate FCE
  - Steelhead 66%
  - Coho 75%
  - Chinook 55% (PIT tagging is ongoing)
- Discharge at CFD: John noted that the minimum generation for the Cowlitz Falls Dam turbines used to be 1,800 cfs which only allowed the turbines to be operated part of the day during the low inflow periods (pooling). This caused the flow in the reservoir to stop and flow back upstream once per day and likely had a negative effect on Chinook smolt collection. It was thought that operating the turbines below 1,800 cfs caused damaging cavitation and

vibration. LCPUD subsequently discovered that the turbines will begin operate smoothly again as flow decreased to around 1,000 cfs, which is much better for fish collection because Lake Scanewa can flow continuously 24 hours/ day now.

- Spillway Flumes 3 and 4 have been removed for LCPUD's unit maintenance and are expected to be back online the week of August 7.

#### Copper Canyon Creek Takeout Release Site

Tacoma has been able to make several hauls to release fish into the Cispus at the Copper Canyon Creek Takeout site as temperatures have remained sufficiently low.

Spring Chinook																		
Run Timing: March 2023-October 2023				Upstream Transportation								Lower Cowlitz		Broodstock		Surplus	Mortality	
Week	Total			Tilton River		Lake Scanewa		Cowlitz @ Packwood		Copper Canyon								
Ending	Returns	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Natural	Hatchery	Hatchery	Natural
<b>Season to date</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,097</b>	<b>403</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,147</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,268</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>
28-Jul	111	86	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	79	25	0	0	0	0	7	0	0
Weekly 5-Year Average	121	96	25															
Season 5-Yr. Average to Date	2,269	1,916	353															

#### Cispus Release Site (Tom Music Bridge)

Laura reported LCPUD is still working through the JARPA with state and federal agencies. There was a mistake on the initial document that led to it not being reviewed by WDFW, so that is being dealt with. They are also considering the potential involvement of the Army Corps of Engineers. She understands the delays are frustrating, but that's the current status.

#### Monitoring & Evaluation Subgroup

This group has met to discuss how to develop the M&E Plan. Tacoma has hired Four Peaks to help with this effort.

#### 2023 APR Process

The same contractor will be assisting with this effort. Matt P announced the Science Meeting has been scheduled for August 22 at the Veteran's Memorial in Chehalis. Stay tuned for more details. Travis noted Tacoma is in the process of hiring some additional staff to assist with this.

**Action Item:** Matt P to ensure proper notification of the August 22 meeting are shared.

#### Downstream Adaptive Management Technical Work Group (TWG)

John reported there was a meeting that mostly focused on operations at the CF Fish Facility, how fish are being collected, etc. The spring report from the group will be out to the FTC internal review. Collection at CFFF is going well. He also noted Mayfield collection is proceeding with nothing unusual to report.

### **LCPUD Dam Operations**

#### **Presenter: Russell Page**

Generator hatch cover seal replacement project: LCPUD completed the repairs on Unit 1, along with Tacoma's #1 and #2 fish flumes. They now are doing the same with Unit 2 and Tacoma is doing repairs on #3 and #4 fish flumes. The reinstall is scheduled for August 22.

Sluice gate redesign / retrofit: This is currently at 90% review and will go to bid in the spring of 2024 so it can be combined with the stability and crane projects which are scheduled to start in September of 2024 in order to minimize impact to river system.

Peggy asked if the sluice gate work will go down to riverine conditions or the same elevation as debris barrier work? Russell replied this is still under consideration. They may install a bulkhead in front of the gates, so they don't have to go down to riverine conditions. He will follow up with Peggy on this in the next couple of weeks.

Debris barrier restoration project: With permits in hand, LCPUD is planning on doing the first drawdown in Q1 of 2024. They anticipate it requiring 3-4 weeks to repair the moorage site. The second drawdown will occur in Q3 of 2024 after the fish collection season, with a forebay elevation of 842-825'.

Outage: The Unit 1 outage will occur August 1 through October 2. It no longer appears that any divers will be needed, and they won't have to spill during fish collection season.

Trash rack repair: This work will likely occur in October of this year.

Anne noted Ecology wants to ensure sludge discharge from sediment are minimized. They want to be sure LCPUD has proper monitoring protocols, etc. in place. Russell assured her he will discuss with Joe First and coordinate with Ecology to ensure there won't be any water quality issues during the drawdowns.

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## **Gravel Augmentation DD**

### **Presenter: Melora Shelton**

Melora reviewed the background on SA-10 (gravel) implementation since placement was put on hold in 2017. This information is included in the DD, the 2023 Gravel Augmentation Plan Supplement, and associated attachments. A two-path approach to resuming gravel placement was finalized in early 2021 (DD 2021-01): initially in conjunction with the Barrier Dam construction project and then moving toward a long-term plan, leaving flexibility for future discussions. Tacoma has worked over the last two years with the FTC and WDFW to formalize long-term activities into the 2023 Supplement. The proposed final DD and 2023 Plan Supplement were distributed to the FTC for final review, and no comments were received. Melora walked through the final DD on screen. It will be attached to the 2023 Supplement to document this FTC consultation. There were no additional questions or suggested edits.

There was a consensus approval of the document by FTC voting members at the meeting.

**Action Item:** Travis to send out the DD and 2023 Supplement approved by consensus at this meeting to other FTC members not at the meeting for electronic approval.

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## **Satellite Rearing Decision Document**

### **Presenter: Travis Nelson (for Eric Shoblom)**

Travis reported Tacoma is continuing to research potential configurations for satellite rearing facilities at the Energy Northwest (EN) site. While it is unclear if the EN site will work out due to some complicating factors, it remains on the list. They are also analyzing the option of Tower Rock and the feasibility of Mayfield net pens. In addition to locations, they are also reviewing several

facility options (earthen ponds, etc.). Tacoma is committed to getting something constructed in the time window prescribed. It has not been determined that an additional DD is needed. Stay tuned.

## **Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Fund / Habitat and Production (HAP) Subgroup**

### **Presenters: Denise Smee and Melora Shelton**

2023 CRR Habitat Grant Round:

Denise Smee (LCFRB) reviewed the two proposals being recommended for CRR funding. Both proposals are sponsored by Cascade Forest Conservancy. No SRFB funding was requested, but there were other matching funds for both projects. The LCRFB Board met on July 28 and accepted the TAC's recommendation that the FTC fund both projects.

Project Number	Project Name	CRR Requests
CRR-2023-01	Restoration of Crystal & Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures	\$168,098
CRR-2023-02	Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek	\$61,048
TOTAL CRR REQUEST:		\$229,146

Denise introduced a draft DD for CRR funding recommendations (2023-05). The document includes active links to LCRFB's Google Drive folders for both project applications along with a description of any changes since the virtual site visits. This includes links to the recorded virtual site visits. These links were also emailed to the FTC last week.

CRR projects landed in the middle of the scoring results using the SFRB's scoring. The projects scored similarly using both scoring approaches, but Hall Creek was slightly higher under CRR (CRR priorities related to upper basin) and Crystal and Woods were slightly higher under SFRB (more regional perspective). The projects were recommended equally without ranking among them. We may want to discuss the distinctions between scoring and ranking further going forward. More info on TAC member CRR scores will be shared with the FTC when the DD is sent out. The SRFB and CRR evaluation questions will also be shared.

Travis expressed thanks to the LCRFB for all their support and coordination with us. Peggy agreed. She found the presentation to be very informative and easy to follow.

### **Action Items:**

- Melora: Send out this DD for all to review in anticipation of review and approval at the September FTC meeting.
- All: Send any comments to Melora by August 22.

### **HAP Subcommittee:**

As discussed at the June FTC Meeting, this group has reengaged to look toward 2024. They met on June 26 and July 18. Discussions included ideas for improving applicant guidance. They worked together to make minor updates to program materials to support the 2024 process and will share them with the FTC. Melora walked through the draft DD 2023-03 to guide the HAP element of the program and subcommittee work for the coming year. The subcommittee will continue to work under the existing charter and SOW. They look forward to discussing with the FTC how to improve project guidance. They will formalize a meeting schedule starting the week of August 14.

### **CRR Program, General:**

There have been many conversations about approving projects for funding. Melora reminded all that the Cispus Yellow Jacket Phase III Project is underway with in-water construction scheduled for this summer and work for other projects is starting up. CRR funds are going out the door to reimburse project sponsors now. It is very exciting that this is finally happening!

Melora noted that the LCFRB and Tacoma are exploring a CRR-focused field trip in the September/October timeframe. Stay tuned for details.

The LCFRB will conduct a lessons learned session with the SRFB and also with CRR. There may be some wording in the Implementation Strategy related to assessments that should be changed to add clarity. They will be looking for feedback from the grant sponsors and the FTC. Any updates to the Implementation Strategy will go through the decision document process.

Peggy suggested that in September FTC meeting Melora share how much funding remains in the CRR Account.

**Action Items:**

- Melora: Send out CRR DD and materials for all to review.
  - All: Send any comments to Melora by August 22.
- 

**Public Comment Period #1 - Agenda related**

Randy LeDuc contacted Travis to let him know he had a conversation with fishing guides last Saturday. They reported 7 of the 26 fish caught were operco-punched (recycled) fish. That's good news on the recycling program! Travis extended congratulations to Scott and the team on making this happen. These are good successes and opportunities for our angling communities. Randy also reported that a chum salmon was caught recently in the lower river. Scott noted we have both summer and fall chum arriving in the Cowlitz.

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**Topics for September 5, 2023 FTC Meeting**

- Updates incl. Hydro Ops, Water Quality, Fish Facilities
  - Gravel Augmentation Plan DD
  - LCPUD Cowlitz Falls Dam Operations
  - Update on Cispus Release Site
  - Satellite Rearing
  - Downstream Adaptive Management TWG
  - Significance of Performance Metric
  - CRR Fund / HAP Subcommittee Recommendations
  - M&E Subgroup
  - 2023 APR Process Debrief
  - WDFW Topic: Fish Passage Survival (tentative)
  - Preview October FTC Meeting topics
- 

**Meeting Evaluation**

- Got out early
  - Good Participation
  - Need more time for updates
  - For in-person meeting, make the breaks longer
- 

**Inspirational Quotes**



- Steve M offered this quote from Einstein: “We can’t solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used to create time.”
  - Anne shared another Einstein quote: “I have never looked upon ease and happiness as ends in themselves -- this critical basis I call the ideal of a pigsty. The ideals that have lighted my way, and time after time have given me new courage to face life cheerfully, have been Kindness, Beauty, and Truth.
  - Tim offered this farewell quote from Bertrand Russell: “In all affairs it's a healthy thing now and then to hang a question mark on the things you have long taken for granted.”
- 

### **Public Comment Period #2 – Any Topic**

No comments.

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### **Closing Remarks**

Travis remarked on the recent loss of some young people (in their 20s) in an ATV accident. This is very difficult for the families and for the community. Stay safe. Be mindful. Don't be in a hurry. Be cognizant of your surroundings. Life is precious.

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### **Parking Lot**

- Presentation by Tacoma's Power Management Group and/or from Grant PUD re improving SAR
- Review Steelhead Kelt Recycling Program

**Cowlitz Hydroelectric Project**  
**FERC No. 2016**  
**Cowlitz Fisheries Technical Committee**  
**Final Meeting Summary**  
September 5, 2023 from 9:30 – 3:30

**FTC Representative Attendees:**

Travis Nelson	TPU
Anne Baxter	Ecology
Bryce Glaser	WDFW

**Additional Attendees:**

Josua Holowatz	WDFW
Peggy Miller	WDFW
John Serl	WDFW
Brian Gale	WDFW
Kristopher Warner	WDFW
Cam Penner-Ash	Ecology
Matt Peter	TPU
Eric Shoblom	TPU
Scott Gibson	TPU
Melora Shelton	TPU
Steve Manlow	LCFRB
Denise Smee	LCFRB
Steve West	LCFRB
Michael Boyles	BPA
Ann Weckback	Lewis County
Lyn Wiltse	PDSA Consulting / Facilitator

**Public Attendees:** Jack Tipping and Randy LeDuc

**Remaining 2023 FTC Meeting Dates:** October 3, November 7, December 5 (in person)

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**Approval of August Meeting Summary**

The revised version of the August FTC Meeting Summary was reviewed and approved with clarifying edits and will be posted for public review.

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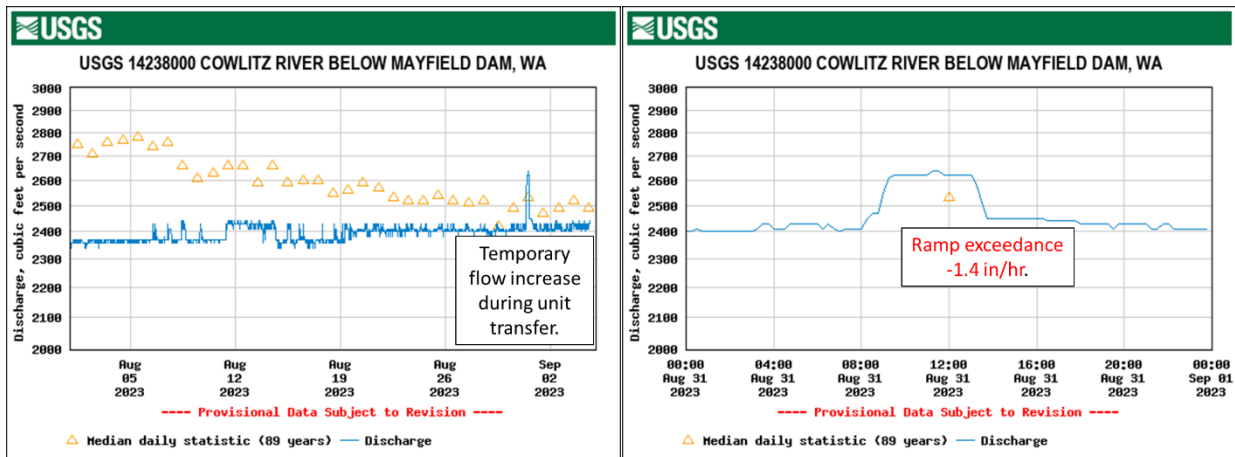
**Announcements**

- We were pleased to welcome Cam Penner-Ash to the group. Cam is the Cleanup Project Manager for the Ecology's Southwest Regional Office. He is the new coordinator on the Kosmos Riffe Lake Cleanup and will be providing quarterly updates on this to the FTC.
- Tacoma was excited to share that Sam Gibbons has joined Tacoma as the new Natural Resource Owners Representative. He will be representing various Natural Resources sections or personnel on complex projects like the Trout Hatchery Remodel and Mayfield Juvenile Bypass System upgrades. While we wish him well in this new role, this organizational shift is not limerick worthy.
- Tacoma is currently advertising for these 3 positions: Senior Fisheries Scientist, Senior Fish Passage Specialist, and a Science and Research Biologist. Please visit TPU Jobs for details.

**Updates**

## Hydro Operations – Melora (presentation emailed on September 4)

- Inflows: Daily average flows for August was 1,175 cfs and are currently at 1,178 cfs (September 3). September average inflows are about 1,700 cfs. With very little precipitation in July and August, we continue being well below the average for the water year.
- Storage: Riffe's current elevation is 717' (~12' lower than the last 5-year average). Both Mossyrock short lane and North Taidnapam ramps are closed.
- Outflows: On August 31, a planned unit transfer resulted in a ramp exceedance of -1.4 inch/hr. Tacoma is taking measures to prevent this from happening in the future. This incident will be included in the Annual 402 report to FERC.
- 10-day Forecast: Typical - warm and dry and remaining so for the next 3 months. Without precipitation, the Mossyrock long lane may close before the end of September (~708'). Melora will let WDFW know if this occurs. The freezing level is above 11K'. Outflows are expected to be 2,360 cfs unless there is a load demand. Inflows should be ~1.2K cfs.



Link to the USGS real-time Cowlitz River hydrograph:

[https://waterdata.usgs.gov/wa/nwis/uv/?site\\_no=14238000&PARAMeter\\_cd=00060.00065](https://waterdata.usgs.gov/wa/nwis/uv/?site_no=14238000&PARAMeter_cd=00060.00065)  
<https://www.mytpu.org/community-environment/parks-recreation/river-flows-lake-levels/>

## Water Quality/Monitoring

Copper Canyon Creek Whitewater Takeout site: Potential fire concerns resulted in road closures that made the site inaccessible. No temperature issues have been reported there.

Temperature Data: Annual hatchery reports include temperature data that WDFW records at the hatchery. Eric would be the contact for Anne to receive temperature data. Matt noted the temperature loggers are utilized for the passage study and are not installed year-round. The loggers associated with the debris deflector will come out following the annual passage assessment.

- Action Item: Matt P to send out temp data charts illustrating additional isotherms for the boat barrier vertical array as well as the North and South Debris Deflector vertical arrays.

Kosmos Site: Tacoma has completed 8/15 sampling of deep wells and believes they can move forward with the Remedial Investigation (RI) report. Once data are validated the RI report is due to Ecology within 90 days. Following filing of the RI report and satisfaction of the existing Agreed Order (AO), Ecology will issue a new AO which will lead to the creation of a draft clean-up action plan.

North Shore fishing trail adjacent to the Mossyrock Dam: This trail was closed due to rock fall safety issues. After investigation, Tacoma decided to do some rock scaling to get the trail to a condition where it is safe for people to return. The work will all be done in the dry. They are securing the necessary permits.

Dredging at the Blue Creek Weir: Anne asked if there were photos of this. Matt is still waiting for the report from the PM on site. Jamie will share this when he is back in the office. Anne expressed concern that the Water Quality Protection Plan (WQPP) had not been approved. She and Matt discussed this over the lunch break. Tacoma will work with Ecology to address potential changes / BMPs that could be made to adaptively manage water quality related concerns. They will also work to revise the WQPP.

### Gravel Augmentation

Matt reported ~800 cubic yards of gravel were delivered the week of August 28. There were issues with the gravel slinger which ended up dropping and piling gravel into riparian zone. That machine broke down and was replaced by a slinger with a new belt which resulted in much more accurate placement. Anne showed photos of the gravel fell into the riparian zone. Peggy asked what they planned to do about the gravel in the riparian zones. Matt will arrange a trip out to the site before the end of October with WDFW, DNR, the County, and other stakeholders to discuss mitigation options and how best to move forward. Flexibility has been written into the plan. Matt reminded all there will be no more augmentation this year. Next year, Tacoma will continue per the new plan that was approved at the last FTC meeting.

### Fish Facilities

Eric reported the Cowlitz Facilities Team is still in the process of hiring three seasonal PSMFC Fisheries Technician positions to help out at the separator and Mayfield counting house.

#### Separator:

- Return numbers are currently low at the separator. The spring Chinook are starting to drop eggs on the table and the summer steelhead are starting to turn dark. They are getting more cutthroat and fall Chinook and the coho are slowly trickling in.
- Tacoma's last haul of fish to the LCPUD Copper Canyon Creek Whitewater Takeout site was on August 14 as Port Blakley shut the 300 Road down for fire danger on August 31. To date, a total of 685 fish have been released at the site.
- August 28 was the last week for steelhead recycling. A total of 1,759 summer steelhead were recycled to the I-5 boat ramp this year.

#### Brood Collection:

- Tacoma is currently collecting fall Chinook, summer steelhead, coho, and cutthroat broodstock.
- After the first spawn of spring Chinook, they are also collecting 30 additional females due to smaller females with lower-than-average fecundity. It is pretty easy telling the falls and springers apart for collection.
- At the end of August, Eric noted they were 241 adult fall Chinook behind for collection,

#### Mayfield Counting House:

- All Chinook and coho are getting snout tagged and all steelhead and cutthroat receive a dorsal sinus tag.
- Total numbers have dropped a little over the last couple of weeks (typical for this time of year). Those numbers are expected to climb again this month.
- We are currently seeing about twice as many Chinook as coho. There have only been a few steelhead each week for the last couple of weeks.

### Satellite Rearing

Eric reported Tacoma is still looking for an approach to using the Energy Northwest (EN) site as a Satellite Rearing facility although there are complications associated with the two FERC projects intersecting. They are working through these challenges. This is why they are now focusing more closely on setting up the Mayfield Net Pen Pilot project in hope that, if successful, it could be a potential Satellite Rearing facility or other type of program.

He reminded all that the Mayfield Net Pen Pilot project is a product from the public's request during last year's APR (Annual Program Review) meeting where we gave the option of shifting some of the coho production from the hatchery into net pens in order to make more space in the hatchery to produce either more or larger spring Chinook. Success of this program will be measured by comparing coho survival in the hatchery vs. survival in the net pens. If similar, or better survival is achieved in the net pens, the program will be considered a success and they will look to move even more of the coho production into the net pens and raise more spring Chinook in the hatchery.

Stay tuned to hear more as Tacoma evaluates the viability of this program which carries with it the potential to break ground for either a Satellite Rearing facility, a CRR/HAP program, or other opportunity for outside engagement.

#### Cispus Release Site (Tom Music Bridge)

Laura emailed Lyn that she is waiting for some documents from the USFS to send to the USACE. She will be at the next meeting and hopes to have more news at that time.

#### Monitoring & Evaluation Subgroup

This group's meetings have been focused on M&E Plan development, including the transport plan for the two release sites on the Tilton. Bryce offered to review the plan and send it out to the group. Scott noted the plan may be impacted by the new marking plan which has resulted in seeing the return of some Chinook jacks. Bryce noted some issues such as spring Chinook transport have been discussed through email.

- Action Item: Bryce to review the M&E plan and send it out to the group in advance of the next meeting/email discussion.

#### HGMP Submitted

Bryce noted the Cowlitz Hatchery Genetic Management Plan was submitted to NOAA Fisheries at the end of August. In so doing, they worked hard to incorporate the Transition Plans. They are currently waiting for the services to respond.

#### Downstream Adaptive Management Technical Work Group (TWG)

No report this month due to the Annual Program Review.

- Action Item: John to send out marked up draft of Charter for this Subgroup.

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### **Model Toxics Control Act and Riffe Lake**

#### **Presenter: Cam Penner-Ash**

Cam Penner-Ash is the new formal site manager for Riffe Lake cleanup. He began by providing a summary of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) followed by an overview of the associated stages of cleanup. He then reviewed the history of the Kosmos site at Riffe Lake. The first seep of black oily liquid was discovered at the site in April, 2019 and Ecology was notified. In November 2019 Tacoma declared an emergency to implement Independent Remedial Action (IRA). The Remedial Investigation Work Plan was issued at the end of 2021 in order to propose which investigation work would be required to complete the Remedial Investigation document. The upcoming Remedial Investigation document (anticipated end of 2023) will sum up where things are located and how they

got there. Cam welcomes any Riffe Lake cleanup related questions ([cam.penner-ash@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:cam.penner-ash@ecy.wa.gov)). All of the upcoming documents will eventually undergo public comment. He will try to remind people of these during his quarterly updates. The comment periods are a good opportunity to have any concerns or questions addressed about the cleanup process. Cam anticipates that the next FTC meeting that he will attend will be in December 2023.

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## **2023 APR (Annual Program Review) Process**

### **Presenter: Eric Shoblom**

The Cowlitz Annual Program Review and Science Conference took place on August 22. This provided an opportunity to meet with the public and present a population and hatchery program management strategy for the coming season. The deadline for APR public input was September 1. Feedback received is being shared with the FTC for consideration at today's meeting. Eric reviewed the process:

- FHMP – Transition plans
  - Bio programming
  - Annual Program review process - essentially the fish production plan for each species
  - Implementation

Eric reminded all that 2022 was the first year to follow the new FHMP Transition Plans. The second public APR meeting will be part of the October 3 FTC meeting. He reviewed the results of the proposed production plan for each species:

- Spring Chinook
  - Option 1 is proposed (poundage neutral, etc.) and small, net pen pilot program to ensure and make sure survivals are good in the net pens. If all goes well, then switch to Option 2 (increases pounds, etc.) for one year. After the initial year, additional funding or a new strategy will be needed to continue Option 2.
- Coho
  - Recommending size and release strategy remain the same. Coho are more resilient so would be good fit for net pen program. Shift 96K to net pens to experiment.
- Fall Chinook
  - Retain existing program, improved monitoring and hatchery rearing conditions. Marking at Mayfield.
- Winter Steelhead:
  - Collected 100% of early arrivals. Two transitions are well underway, creating an earlier lower Cowlitz winter run and reallocating production to the Tilton and UCR:
    - LC Winters: Reduce by 170K; Tilton Winters: Increase by 52K; UCR Winters: Increase by 118K.
- Summer Steelhead and Cutthroat
  - No Transition Plans – keep both programs the same as last year.

Eric hasn't received any public feedback via email. He noted that Larry Pryor wanted to see a sub-yearling Spring Chinook program and Tacoma is investigating a program very similar to that for the satellite rearing program. Randy LeDuc is supportive of the pilot program for Spring Chinook. Jack Tipping also supported Option 2. Bryce noted WDFW also supported the pilot program to make sure it is a viable option before moving forward with Option 2. They had hoped to do a more formal SAR analysis of the Mayfield fall Chinook net pen program with increased hatchery M&E availability at WDFW. Eric will introduce a draft DD to memorialize the APR decisions at the October FTC meeting.

## COWLITZ ANNUAL PRODUCTION REVIEW DECISIONS

Species	Before 2011 FHMP Update	2019 APR Goal	2020 APR Goal	2021 APR Goal	2022 APR Goal	2023 APR Goal
Fall Chinook	4,800,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000
Spring Chinook	959,800	1,738,529	1,738,529	1,738,529	1,678,000	1,678,000
Coho	2,835,000	2,178,000	2,178,000	2,178,000	2,178,000	2,178,000
Winter Steelhead	690,000	647,000	647,000	647,000	647,000	647,000
Summer Steelhead	550,000	625,000	650,000	650,000	650,000	650,000
Cutthroat	160,000	100,599	100,599	100,599	100,599	100,599

- **Action Item:** Eric to send out draft DD by September 26.

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### LCPUD Dam Operations

#### Presenter: Lyn for Russell Page

Lyn provided the following update from Russell as he was unable to attend the meeting:

- Hatch cover work is complete, and the hatch cover has been re-installed. They are closing out that project this week.
- Unit 1 is currently in outage and will be in outage through September and into October.
- They are working on a strategy to repair broken cross members on their trash rack and may be pulling them in early fall to complete the repairs.
- A riverine drawdown and monitoring procedure is being developed for the drawdown scheduled for Q1 of 2024, to ensure water quality and license obligations are followed during the entire process. This will be presented to the FTC this fall.

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### Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Fund / Habitat and Production (HAP) Subgroup

#### Presenters: Denise Smee and Melora Shelton

##### CRR Funding:

Having received no comment or questions since the last meeting, Denise walked through again the draft DD for CRR funding recommendations (2023-05). The document includes active links to LCFRB's Google Drive folders with project information. Melora updated the total funding for the two projects to \$218,696. With that edit, the DD was approved by consensus of voting members present.

##### Other Updates:

- The LCFRB will host a Lessons Learned TAC meeting for the 2024 CRR and SFRB grant rounds on September 13. Denise will send out the agenda. Voting members of the FTC are invited to participate in this meeting. Other members are welcome to attend as public.
- CRR Field Tour on September 26. Let Denise know if you can/can't attend by September 8.
- The Cispus Yellow Jacket Phase IV Project is not yet under contract. There is an agreement with the RCO as match for CRR grant. There has been no change to the SOW.
- Quarterly reports are starting to come in. Folks have been busy with project implementation.

##### Balance on CRR fund grants awarded to date:

- 8/28 CRR Balance: \$17,568,913.61 (or ~\$17.6 M)
- Awards: 2019-2022: \$3,588,307 (or ~\$3.6 M, supporting total project values of ~\$6.5 M)

##### HAP Subcommittee:

Hatchery Associated Projects DD 2023-03. Melora reminded all this was reviewed at the last FTC meeting and no further comments were received. The DD calls for moving forward with including HAP projects in the CRR Grant round in 2024 along with associated documents based on the 2023 grant round. WDFW requested a wording edit, after which the DD was approved with that edit by voting members present.

On August 21 the HAP Subcommittee met and began to list different types of projects that might be implemented. These discussions will continue at future meetings on September 20, with M&E members invited to attend at the next meeting (either Oct 3 or Oct 18, pending APR wrap up schedule). They will keep the FTC in the loop and reach out for feedback/suggestions.

Next steps: A draft DD with an updated implementation strategy will be presented at the November FTC meeting and the decision will be requested at the December meeting.

In closing, Melora showed Google map of Yellow Jacket Creek project to illustrate restoration efforts over the years, including 2023 construction. It was quite impressive! John noted in the chat that he thinks "LCPUD and the USFS installed and buried some engineered log jams upstream of the FR28 road bridge on Yellowjacket Creek in the early 2000s. The whole lower Yellowjacket Creek should have great habitat in the future!"

#### **Action Items:**

- All: By September 8 let Denise know ASAP if you plan to attend (or not) the Lessons Learned Meeting and/or the field tour.
- Travis: Send out the DDs approved by consensus at this meeting to other FTC members not at the meeting for electronic approval.

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#### **Public Comment Period #1 - Agenda related**

Randy:

- Regarding summer steelhead recycling: Can this be extended a couple of weeks in Sept if we are selective? Can it also be possible to recycle fish more than once?

Bryce: If the duration is extended, the quality of fish starts to decline, so there is less incentive for anglers to keep them. Also, autumn rainfall tends to cause the fish to move into the tributaries. Bryce will bring this up with the M&E Group for consideration. Recycling more than once. Less concern about stray and more concern with return to creel and trucking costs. Creel sampling showed 30% of the fish people caught were recycled.

- Will the net pens we move the silvers into stay at the end of the lake or will they be moved up to the trout hatchery?

Eric: For this pilot project, the coho would be in the net pens over the winter months. There is still the potential to have a program with net pens further up the reservoir, but the current proposal is to keep them near the dam.

Jack:

- Thanked Bryce for agreeing to look into recycling fish more than once as well as extending the period. In the Chat, he noted summer steelhead recycling numbers were far below the 6,600 cap. He suggested the M&E team 1) Please determine if there are detrimental effects of recycling fish more than once. 2) Please determine if there are detrimental effects of recycling fish into mid-September.
- Regarding CRR fund allocations, he thinks future upstream habitat projects should be on hold until FCEs at Cowlitz Falls reach at least 80%, unless there is a metric of success as



measured in fish numbers. Spending money without a metric of success may not be prudent.

Maybe keep the money in escrow until FCE improves at the dam?

John: John asked why 80%? FCEs for steelhead, coho, may already be close to that. Even before the Northshore collector went in, steelhead and coho FCEs were 60-80%.

Peggy: If unspent funds were put into escrow, would they carry over beyond this license period?

Travis: It is Tacoma's obligation and in Tacoma's interest to spend that money before the current license expires. FERC wouldn't allow it to be carried over.

Steve M: Committed to follow up with Jack on how the efficacy of habitat work is being evaluated in terms of fish population responses. This is difficult to do on a project-by-project scale. We are learning as we go.

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### **Topics for October 3, 2023 FTC Meeting**

- Updates incl. Hydro Ops, Water Quality, Fish Facilities, Cispus Release Site
- LCPUD Cowlitz Falls Dam Operations
- Downstream Adaptive Management TWG
- Follow-up on Spring Flow Reduction and Summer Ops
- CRR Fund / HAP Subcommittee
- 2023 APR Process Debrief – Introduction of Draft DD
- Preview November FTC Meeting topics

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### **Meeting Evaluation**

- Well attended and appreciated Randy and Jack joining us
- Approved two DDs
- Reconciled the misunderstanding on the WQPP
- Appreciated information on fires downstream of the Packwood Project

### **Josua's Inspirational Quote**

Josua introduced the quote by acknowledging many of us have been struggling with sufficient personnel given the workload and how we are in the midst of change, including change of season: "I think my favorite thing about seasons changing is the opportunity to look different." - Taylor Swift

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### **Public Comment Period #2 – Any Topic**

Randy:

- Asked Bryce on the condition of the chum project discussed earlier.

Bryce: The final decision on the Regional Chum assessment grant proposal will be made by the SRFB which meets September 13 and 14.

Steve: Sees this being funded. WDFW would go into contract with the RCO and move forward.

Jack:

- Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

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### **Closing Remarks**

Travis thanked everyone for working together so well. He also called out the great opportunities to get out there and catch some salmon. It's a pink salmon year!

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### **Parking Lot**

- Presentation by Tacoma's Power Management Group and/or from Grant PUD re improving SAR
- Review Steelhead Kelt Recycling Program

## Attachment B

LCFRB 2023 CRR Powerpoint Presentation to the FTC

# 2023 CRR Fund Habitat Grant Round

Project Number	Project Name	CRR Requests
CRR-2023-01	Restoration of Crystal & Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures	\$168,098
CRR-2023-02	Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek	\$61,048
TOTAL CRR REQUEST:		\$229,146

# CRR-2023-01 Restoration of Crystal and Woods Creeks Using Low-tech Structures

*Cascade Forest Conservancy*

*Design and Restoration*

*Request: \$168,098*

*Match: \$45,274 (21.2%)*

*Total Project: \$213,372*

Low-tech channel restoration on Crystal and Woods Creeks, tributaries to the Cispus River, including enhancement of riparian areas with invasive species control and native planting. Proposal also includes a concept design for lower Woods Creek.

## Final Application Materials:

- Required documents
- CFC responses to Lead Entity Feedback
- Construction-ready design and memo
- Low-Tech Plans
- Conditioned to include concept design for lower Woods Creek
- Updated proposal with an added concept design deliverable and a rewording of the habitat evaluation.
- Updated budget allowing for a concept design for lower Woods Creek. The total CRR ask was increased from \$157,648 to \$168,098.

# CRR-2023-02 Riparian and In-channel Enhancement of Hall Creek

*Cascade Forest Conservancy*

*Design and Restoration*

*Request: \$61,048*

*Match: \$24,502 (28.6%)*

*Total Project: \$85,550*

Completes initial phase of design and restoration actions to enhance 0.7 miles of Hall Creek, including actions identified in the Upper Cowlitz-Cispus Habitat Strategy.

## Final Application Materials:

- Required documents
- CFC responses to Lead Entity Feedback
- No changes to preliminary application materials

# 2023 CRR Fund Habitat Grant Round

## LCFRB Technical Advisory Committee Review and Board Recommendation

- TAC reviewed and scored the proposals with the recommendation that both projects be funded
- The Board unanimously agreed and recommend both CRR projects be funded by the FTC
- Draft Decision Document for September
  - Reflects the recommendation
  - Attachment A & B – project evaluation questions
  - Attachment C – Scoring summary

# Questions or More Information

Denise Smee

LCFRB Program Manager

[dsmee@lcfrib.gen.wa.us](mailto:dsmee@lcfrib.gen.wa.us)

360.425.1554

## Attachment C

### LCFRB 2023 CRR Application Links and Information Document



## 2023 CRR Application Materials and Virtual Site Tours

[Link to the recording of the virtual site tours for both projects](#)

Links to the Application folders on Google Drive:

### [CRR-2023-01 Crystal and Woods Creeks – Cascade Forest Conservancy](#)

1. CRR Applicant Authorization Form
2. Preliminary Application
3. Photos
4. Map with locations and actions
5. Landowner Acknowledgement Form
6. Cost Estimate
7. Preliminary design information
8. Benefits to Fish Summary
9. Lead Entity Feedback
10. Project Presentation for the virtual site tour

#### Revised Application Materials folder:

- CFC responses to Lead Entity Feedback
- Construction-ready design and memo
- Design Memo
- Low-Tech Plans
- An updated proposal narrative. The changes are highlighted in blue- an added concept design deliverable and a rewording of the habitat evaluation.
- A new budget sheet that has been altered to allow for a line item/deliverable for the requested concept design for lower Woods Creek. The total CRR ask was increased from \$157,648 to \$168,098.

### [CRR- 2023-02 Hall Creek Enhancements – Cascade Forest Conservancy](#)

1. CRR Applicant Authorization Form
2. Preliminary Application
3. Zip folder of photos
4. Map with locations and actions
5. Landowner Acknowledgement Form
6. Cost Estimate
7. Additional photos
8. Benefits to Fish Summary
9. Lead Entity Feedback
10. Project Presentation for the virtual site tour

#### Revised Materials and Responses folder:

- Lead Entity Questions and Comments with Sponsor response