

Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program: Hatchery-Associated Production Projects

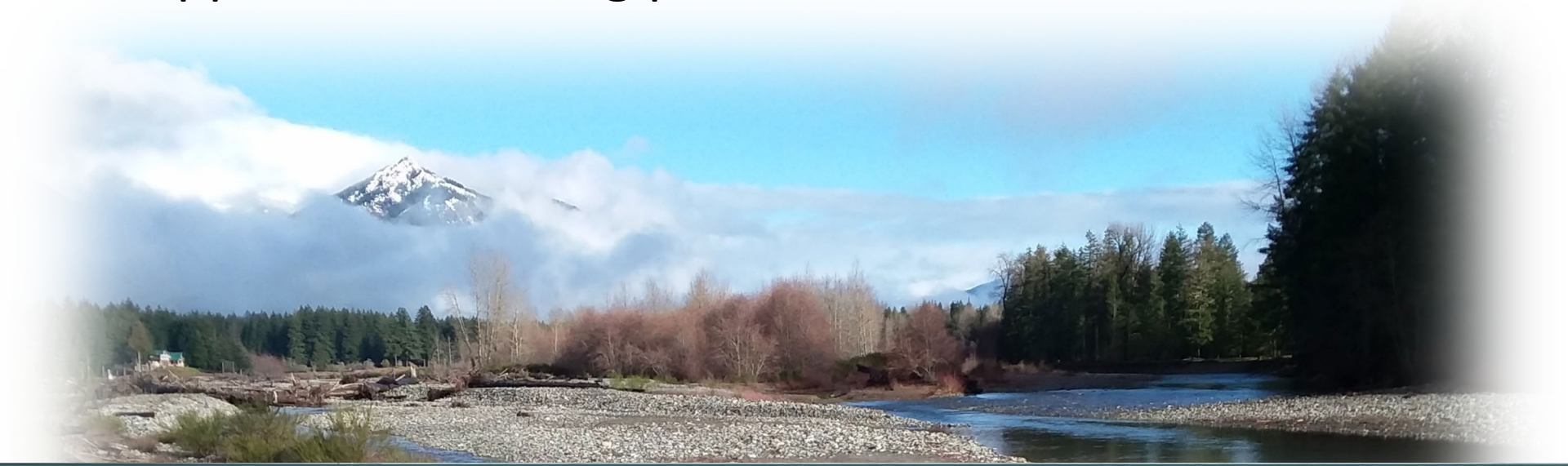
2024 Program Information
September 2023

Melora Shelton
CRR Program Manager
mshelton@cityoftacoma.org

253.441.4994

Purpose of This Information Slide Set

- Provide information on the addition of Hatchery-Associated Production (HAP) Projects to the Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Program's 2024 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

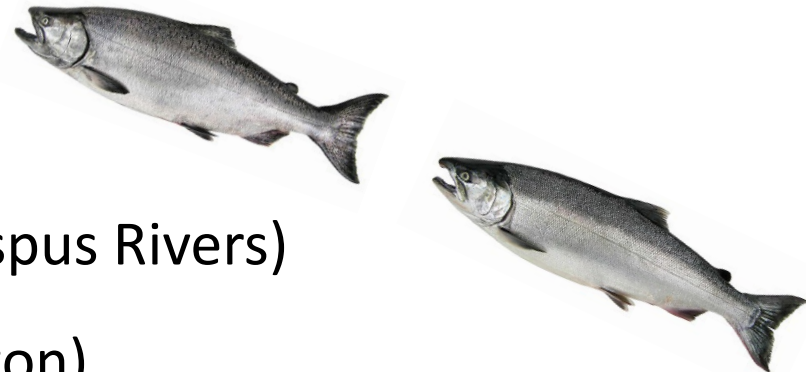
- The CRR Fund was established by Tacoma Power as part of its federal license to operate the Mayfield and Mossyrock dams. The license is granted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).
- \$15 million invested in 2008 has grown to >\$18 million, to be used over the term of the license.
- The 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 (2023, updates pending for 2024)
 - **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
 - **2023 forward:** CRR projects 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



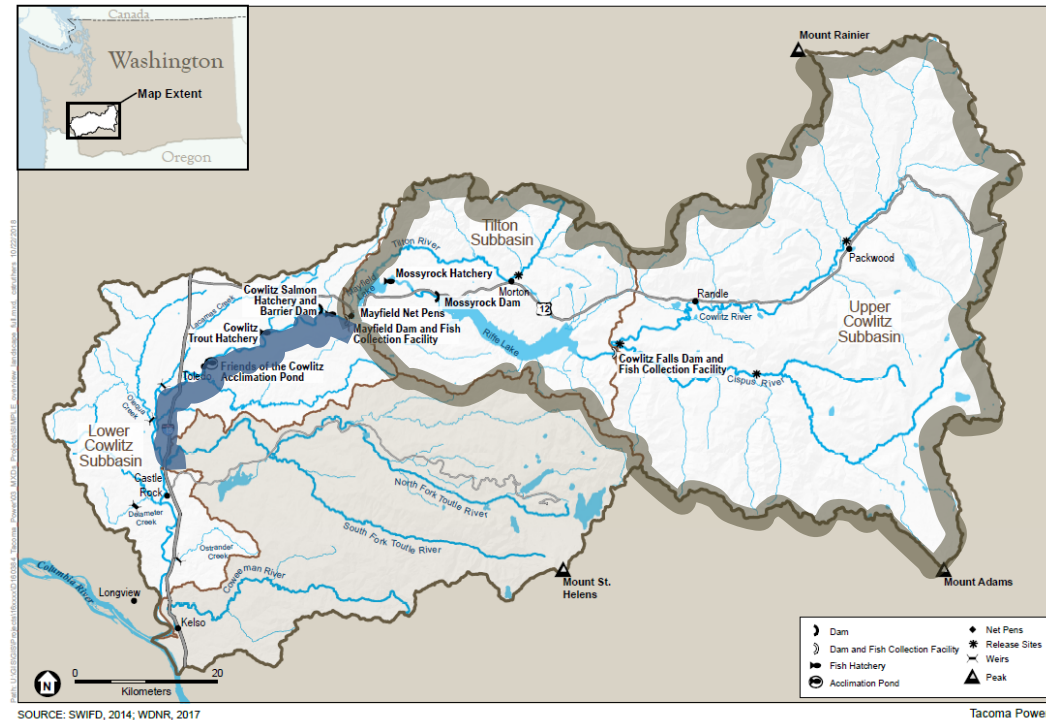
What is a HAP Project?

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**



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.
- Be consistent with the goals of the Cowlitz Fisheries and Hatchery Management Plan and the Lower Columbia Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries Plan.
- Not confound ongoing fish passage and reintroduction activities managed by Tacoma Power, WDFW, and Lewis County Public Utility District.

HAP Project Requirements - “Shoulds”

- Produce an interim action towards the long-term goal of creating locally adapted, native target populations in the upper basin.
- Be consistent with HSRG principles and standard
- 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”

- No hatchery programs whose sole purpose is to maintain or increase harvest will not be considered for funding through the CRR Fund.
- No 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



**Year round,
formally September
2023– February 2024**

Applicant Support,
Workshops on request
(by end of September)

Direct Technical Support

CRR Grant Round Process and Timelines

HAP Projects: Tacoma Power



February – June 2024

Letter of Intent

Pre-application Meeting

Draft Application

Submit Draft Application

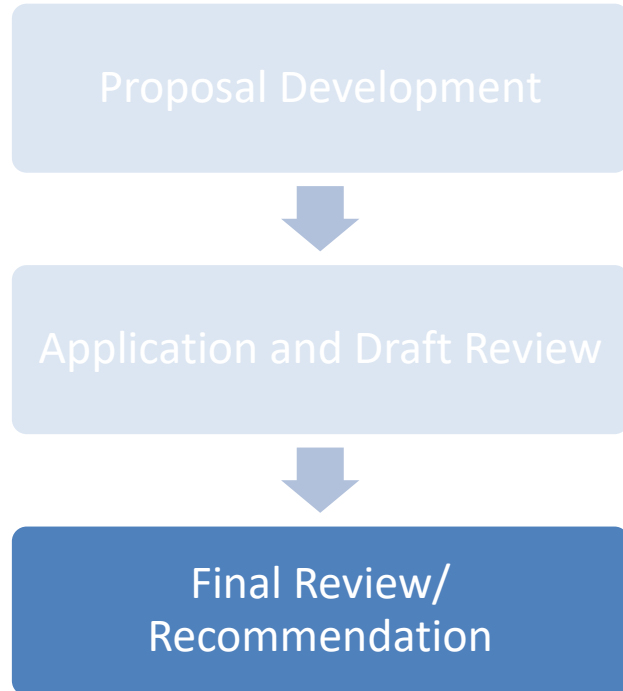
Present Project

Receive Initial Review/Feedback

Prepare Final Application

CRR Grant Round Process and Timelines

HAP Projects: Tacoma Power



June – September 2024

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 2024

Cowlitz Fisheries
Technical Committee
Funding Decision

FTC Decision Process
and Determination

Assistance



**Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Program
Hatchery Associated Production (HAP) Projects
Project Information Form**

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Proponent Name, Organization, and Contact Information	
Proponent Organization Type (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation group registered as a non-profit	<input type="checkbox"/> Native American Tribe
<input type="checkbox"/> Regional fisheries enhancement group	<input type="checkbox"/> Conservation District
<input type="checkbox"/> Local and state governmental entity	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal agency
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe)	
Partner Organization(s) and Type (if any)	
Focus Species/Populations	
<input type="checkbox"/> Spring Chinook (upper Cowlitz/Cispus)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Coho (upper Cowlitz/Cispus or Tilton)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Winter Steelhead (upper Cowlitz/Cispus or Tilton)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fall Chinook (Upper Cowlitz Basin)	
Project Purpose	
Project Overview (general description of concept, including approach, rough location, timeline/duration, and any known infrastructure or site requirements)	

Project Information Form

Tool to communicate ideas

Not used for evaluation

Encouraged year round

Required with Letter of Intent

Assistance

Applicant engagement supports successful proposals and projects

- Real-time fall workshops upon request and to discuss and develop ideas
- Year-round program help from Tacoma Power's CRR staff for 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.
- Request technical advice through CRR staff, get answers from technical advisors.



Next Steps

Visit MyTPU.org/CRR to:

- Get general updates and information.
- See the schedule for our fall workshops.
- Download the project information form.
- Explore 2024 guidance manual, application materials, and other documents

Additional Resources

CRR Program Website: MyTPU.org/CRR

CRR Program Manager

Melora Shelton

mshelton@cityoftacoma.org

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Interested in applying for a habitat grant in 2024?
Contact the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board
at [https://www.lcfrb.gen.wa.us/crr-grants-
program](https://www.lcfrb.gen.wa.us/crr-grants-program)

