

Project Name	Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery partnership with LCFRB on SRFB proposal for Upper Cowlitz-Cispus Habitat Strategy
Date Proposal Submitted	4/25/2017
Date of Requested Decision	5/2/2017
Completed By	CRR Sub-committee/Florian Leischner

FTC Decision and Justification

The FTC believes this is a good use of CRR funds because it leverages another funding source and provides information that will assist in implementing habitat restoration projects. The FTC will collaborate with the LCFRB during this process to address as many data gaps as possible.

Proposed Decision or Consideration

The Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Subcommittee recommends, and Tacoma Power requests, approval from the FTC to commit to partnering with the Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB) on a funding proposal to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) to complete the Upper Cowlitz-Cispus Habitat Strategy. The SRFB proposal is included as Attachment A. Commitment includes obligation of \$45,150 in CRR program funds to match LCFRB’s request for \$249,450 in SRFB funds. The proposal budget is included as Attachment B. The Upper Cowlitz-Cispus Habitat Strategy would be designed to satisfy, in whole or in part, the CRR program Habitat Assessment prescribed in the CRR Implementation Strategy.

Background

The CRR subcommittee met April 12, 2017 to review the LCFRB proposal to the SRFB to complete the Upper Cowlitz-Cispus Habitat Strategy. The CRR subcommittee recommends the FTC approve expenditure of CRR funds for a habitat assessment to be completed for the Upper Cowlitz Basin, including Tier 1 and Tier 2 reaches in the mainstem Upper Cowlitz River, Cispus River, and major tributaries. The express intent of the habitat assessment is to identify high priority areas for restoration or protection projects, which will guide implementation of the CRR program to benefit recovery of Spring Chinook in the upper basin.

The LCFRB is the lead agency coordinating recovery of listed salmon populations in the Lower Columbia Recovery Region, and is tasked with coordinating state and federal agencies, local governments, non-profit organizations, and others toward design and implementation of scientifically informed restoration projects and strategies across their region. The LCFRB is the author of the Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan, which addresses 18 sub-basins. The LCFRB maintains a habitat restoration strategy that encompasses each of the sub-basins in their region, and is systematically updating strategies in high priority watersheds. The LCFRB has identified

the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus sub-basins as next the highest priority area in need of an updated habitat strategy. An example of a recently adopted habitat strategy completed by the LCFRB is the Wind River Habitat Restoration Strategy (LCFRB 2017) [Wind River Link](#).

LCFRB is currently proposing a habitat restoration strategy and planning project for the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus sub-basins for the 2017 SRFB grant round. If matching funds are approved by the FTC, the resulting strategy will meet the goals and objectives, in part or in full, of the CRR Habitat Assessment. By identifying projects with the greatest recovery potential in Tier 1 and Tier 2 reaches, the LCFRB proposal would also support future CRR fund implementation.

The habitat strategy proposal brief:

The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB) will work with Tacoma Power, their Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC), and stakeholders to develop a habitat restoration strategy for the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins. This work will encompass approximately 85 miles of high priority (Tier 1 and 2) stream reaches, and will identify restoration and preservation opportunities based on evaluation of existing data and field assessment of habitat conditions. Strategy development will result in a long-term plan and prioritized project list to guide future restoration and protection actions to benefit ESA-listed salmon and steelhead populations, which will be incorporated into the LCFRB 6-year Habitat Work Schedule.

Goals:

- Identify population bottlenecks for spring Chinook, fall Chinook, coho, and winter steelhead populations in the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins;
- Identify habitat preservation and process-based restoration opportunities that address identified population bottlenecks; and
- Prioritize project opportunities based on expected benefits to fish, certainty of success, cost and feasibility of implementation.

Coordination Need

Participation from the CRR subcommittee and FTC members will be essential to the development of the LCFRB's habitat strategy and interested members will be asked to serve on the strategy work group.

Over the next 9 months, the CRR subcommittee will work to make recommendations to the FTC regarding specific additional work tasks not covered in the LCFRB proposal that the sub-committee feels are integral to the CRR Habitat Assessment. This may be completed in concert, or prior to commencement of the LCFRB habitat strategy development effort, most likely beginning in summer/fall 2017. Additional work tasks may also depend on data gaps identified through the CRR process.

The CRR Habitat Assessment scope of work does not include fish population monitoring and data collection; however fish monitoring data serves as an important piece of the technical foundation for habitat restoration and will be critical to the successful

implementation of the CRR program. The CRR program will include data input from the Monitoring and Evaluation subcommittee group's efforts to help build this information base for Upper Watershed restoration projects.

Summary of Potential Impacts

The LCFRB proposal can only provide positive benefits for salmon recovery in the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus sub-basins and it closely aligns with CRR program goals and objectives. It will provide significant leveraging of CRR funds to complete a habitat restoration strategy. It will also provide broad support for regional salmon recovery, including a prioritized project list and a preliminary design for the highest priority project with the greatest readiness to proceed. The LCFRB's habitat strategy will be used to guide potential CRR project applicants to projects with the highest benefit to salmon recovery in the Upper Cowlitz Basin.

DRAFT

Attachment A

Planning Project Proposal



Project Number	17-1044
Project Name	U. Cowlitz-Cispus Habitat Strategy
Sponsor	Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board
Planning Type	Assessment

List all related projects previously funded or reviewed by RCO:

Project # or Name	Status	Status of Prior Phase Deliverables and Relationship to Current Proposal?
	Choose a status	
	Choose a status	
	Choose a status	

1. Project brief. *In one or two sentences, what do you propose to do?*

The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB) will work with Tacoma Power, their Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC), and stakeholders to develop a habitat restoration strategy for the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins. This work will encompass approximately 85 miles of high priority stream reaches (Tier 1 and 2), and will result in a long-term plan and prioritized project list to guide restoration and protection actions to benefit ESA-listed salmon and steelhead populations, as well as a preliminary design for the highest ranked project.

2. Project location.

This assessment will encompass the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins (Upper Cowlitz basin), upstream of the Cowlitz Falls Dam. The downstream extent for each subbasin is the EDT reach Upper Cowlitz-1A, and EDT reach Cispus-1A. Only Tier 1 and Tier 2 mainstem and tributary reaches will be assessed. The focal area primarily includes lower mainstem Upper Cowlitz and Cispus reaches, as well as Yellowjacket Creek in the Cispus subbasin, and Schooley Creek, Hall Creek, Skate Creek, Silver Creek, Johnson Creek, and Butter Creek in the Upper Cowlitz subbasin. Habitat assessment work will encompass main channel, tributary, off-channel/side-channel, floodplain, and riparian habitats.

3. Problem statement.

The Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins (Upper Cowlitz basin) historically supported thousands of fall Chinook, spring Chinook, coho, and winter steelhead. Today, numbers of naturally spawning salmon and steelhead are limited to the adult returns associated with a program to reintroduce natural spawning salmon and steelhead above the hydrosystem. Chinook, coho and steelhead have been listed as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act. Population declines have occurred over decades and the reasons are many. In particular, hydropower

development and operation have altered flows, habitat, and blocked passage of salmon and steelhead to their historical habitats.

In addition to dam construction, historical timber harvest, road construction, residential development, diking, bank armoring, and conversion of floodplain and riparian areas to agriculture have degraded sediment delivery and habitat forming processes in the upper basin. These activities have also impaired riparian functions and disconnected off-channel/side-channel and floodplain areas. Although the human population is relatively low, it is projected to grow by at least twenty percent in the next twenty years. Future growth will likely result in further conversion of forest and agricultural lands to residential uses. These changes will provide a variety of risks and opportunities for preserving the watershed and the local economic base, and protecting and restoring fish populations and habitats.

The Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan (LCFRB 2010) indicates that a fifty percent habitat threat reduction is needed to meet recovery goals for Upper Cowlitz basin primary populations. The recovery plan uses Ecosystem Diagnosis and Treatment (EDT) modeling at the reach-scale, and Integrated Watershed Assessment (IWA) at the subwatershed-scale, to identify key limiting factors that need to be addressed to meet threat reduction and population goals. Habitat threat reduction should primarily focus on reaches identified as high priorities for restoration and protection based on their modeled habitat capacity and fish production in EDT modeling. Reaches that are identified as high priority for primary populations are even more important, as substantially increasing viability for these populations is necessary for species recovery. These reaches are designated as Tier 1 and Tier 2, and are the focus of this assessment.

Tier 1 reaches are primarily located in the mainstem of the Upper Cowlitz, along the agriculturally dominated reaches south of Highway 12 between Lake Scanewa and Packwood, in National Forest lands south of Forest Service Road 23 in the Cispus, and in lower Yellowjacket Creek west of Forest Service Road 23. Because of their importance to Chinook salmon spawning and rearing and risk of long-term conversion, many mainstem reaches have been identified as having high protection potential. Floodplain and habitat diversity restoration could further increase production potential of these mainstem areas for all populations. Other high priority areas include tributary and mainstem headwater reaches where floodplain, off-channel/side-channel, and instream habitat complexity restoration are important to coho and steelhead life histories, as well as downstream sediment, flow, and large wood delivery processes. Enhancing riparian corridors throughout the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins will promote local stream shading, nutrient cycling, and formation of habitat complexity through large and small woody material recruitment. These benefits will support freshwater rearing, a multi-season life history stage for spring Chinook, coho, and steelhead, as well as mainstem and tributary spawning habitats for all species.

Tacoma Power and its Fisheries Technical Committee are currently planning to implement the Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Fund strategy. This fund was established in 2008 to support recovery of upper basin ESA-listed salmon and steelhead upstream of the Barrier Dam, in lieu of volitional passage (Cowlitz River Hydroelectric Project Settlement Agreement, August 2000 and CRR Implementation Strategy, February 28, 2017 draft). The CRR Fund can be used to implement on-the-ground protection and restoration actions, with priority to projects that support Upper Cowlitz and Cispus spring Chinook population recovery and are identified in a habitat assessment. While the existing LCFRB Habitat Strategy provides a sound technical foundation for initiating habitat work, enhancing it with a more comprehensive and refined habitat strategy that identifies prioritized restoration and protection opportunities on a watershed basis will ensure CRR fund investments maximize efficiency and recovery benefits.

Landowner participation is critical to improving habitat conditions for ESA-listed species in the Upper Cowlitz basin. There are many privately-owned parcels in lower mainstem valleys, which are high priority areas for both protection and restoration. Headwater habitats are primarily owned by the U.S. National Forest Service, and their support and collaboration on this assessment is also essential. We will make every effort to communicate early and frequently with landowners and stakeholders via email, phone, and in-person meetings and workshops to inform and engage interested and willing landowners through strategy development. No project opportunities will be considered without landowner support and consent.

Reference: Washington Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan (LCFRB 2010).

4. List the fish resources present at the site and targeted by the project.

Species	Life History Present (egg, juvenile, adult)	Current Population Trend (decline, stable, rising)	Endangered Species Act Coverage (Y/N)
Spring Chinook	All	Decline	Yes
Fall Chinook	All	Decline	Yes
Winter Steelhead	All	Decline	Yes
Coho	All	Decline	Yes

5. Describe the limiting factors, and limiting life stages (by fish species) that the project expects to address.

The Upper Cowlitz basin historically supported abundant fall Chinook, spring Chinook, coho, and steelhead populations. Upper Cowlitz and Cispus spring Chinook, winter steelhead, and coho salmon are all considered Primary populations, meaning they must be restored to high (coho salmon and steelhead) or very high (spring Chinook) viability to meet recovery goals. Upper Cowlitz fall Chinook are a Stabilizing population, meaning they should be maintained at their current low viability, without decline, to achieve recovery goals.

Spring Chinook, coho, and steelhead all have stream-type life histories, meaning they rely on freshwater rearing habitat for one to two years prior to smolt outmigration. Spring Chinook typically spawn and rear in large, mainstem riverine habitats while steelhead and coho more heavily utilize off-channel, floodplain, and tributary areas. This diversity of habitat types essential to Upper Cowlitz basin populations requires protection and restoration of mainstem, floodplain, and tributary reaches that provide stable and clean spawning gravels for egg incubation and survival, high flow refuge for overwintering juveniles, and complex pool and riffle habitat for rearing and foraging.

This assessment will address the following limiting factors and life stages:

- Spring Chinook: all life stages will be addressed by improving main channel complexity and floodplain and off-channel/side-channel complexity and connectivity.
- Fall Chinook: spawning, egg, and fry life stages will be addressed by improving main channel complexity and floodplain and off-channel/side-channel complexity and connectivity.
- Winter Steelhead: all life stages will be addressed by improving main channel complexity and floodplain and off-channel/side-channel complexity and connectivity.

- Coho: all life stages will be addressed by improving main channel complexity and floodplain and off-channel/side-channel complexity and connectivity.

Reference: Washington Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery and Fish & Wildlife Subbasin Plan (LCFRB 2010).

6. Project goals and objectives.

A. What are the project's goals?

There are three main goals of this watershed-scale assessment:

- Identify population bottlenecks for spring and fall Chinook, coho, and winter steelhead populations in the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins;
- Identify habitat protection and process-based restoration opportunities that address the identified population bottlenecks; and
- Prioritize project opportunities based on expected benefits to fish, certainty of success, cost, and feasibility of implementation, including property owner willingness.

B. What are the project's objectives?

The objectives of this assessment are to:

- Convene a work group of technical and community representatives with knowledge about and expertise related to the upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins and fish population needs;
- Compile existing data on fish and habitat and identify critical data gaps;
- Develop a strategy vision and ecologically-based goals and objectives for habitat protection and restoration;
- Develop methods to identify and prioritize project opportunities;
- Conduct field assessments to groundtruth existing information, fill knowledge gaps, and to identify project opportunities;
- Develop a project list, including conceptual drawing and description for project opportunities;
- Prioritize the project list based on process-based approaches, potential to address population bottlenecks, certainty of success, and feasibility of implementation
- Select one high ranking restoration project concept and develop a preliminary design that meets SRFB Manual 18, Appendix D-2 standards;
- Publish a final strategy report and design materials to support future restoration and protection project implementation, by incorporating materials into the LCFRB 6-year Habitat Work Schedule (SalmonPORT, LCFRB 2010).

7. What are the assumptions and constraints that could impact whether the sponsor achieves the objectives?

These objectives could be impacted by level of stakeholder support, level of available information to develop conceptual project opportunities, and field conditions that may delay surveys necessary to develop project opportunities and preliminary design materials.

Potential outreach constraints will be addressed by vetting proposed objectives and task completion guidelines with stakeholders prior to project funding, and leading two community workshops during the assessment to discuss strategy development and conceptual project opportunities. Potential field survey constraints will be addressed by planning for field time to support task completion despite any weather or landowner access delays. We expect that these constraints may delay some task timelines, but not completion of the overall project.

8. Project details.

A. Provide a narrative description of the proposed project.

In the past, the LCFRB has conducted similar community-based restoration strategies that are used to guide implementation of key habitat restoration and protection efforts. This work builds on the guidance of the recovery plan and its habitat strategy (LCFRB, 2010). These strategies include development of a prioritized list of habitat project opportunities for which sponsors can apply for design, construction, and acquisition funding. Projects can be potentially funded through the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funds administered through the LCFRB, the Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Fund administered by Tacoma Power, and other funding sources.

For this project, the LCFRB proposes to work closely with stakeholders in the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins (Upper Cowlitz basin) to achieve the following outcomes:

- Develop a long-term strategy that will include a prioritized list of “off the shelf” projects to achieve meaningful habitat restoration and protection actions for ESA-listed salmon and steelhead in a timely and efficient manner; and
- Develop a preliminary-level design for a high priority restoration project from the prioritized list. The design will meet SRFB Manual 18, Appendix D-2 standards.

Methodology:

A workgroup will be formed to select a consultant and guide the strategy development. The workgroup will meet regularly on a mutually agreed time and place to review and discuss draft strategy and design products.

Membership will be based on agency and expertise, and include federal, state, local, and tribe representatives as well as other key community stakeholders.

Early work group meetings will focus on developing strategy objectives, summarizing existing data and information on habitat conditions and population bottlenecks, and establishing field data collection needs and methods. The recovery plan and associated data, fish and habitat reports, other technical analyses and reports, and prior restoration and protection projects will be reviewed to determine where data gaps exist. Field surveys will be based on filling any data gap needs as well as siting project opportunities. Results will be summarized and conceptual project opportunities will be drafted.

The work group will also be involved in developing prioritization methods for ranking the project list and reviewing preliminary design materials. For consistency, methods will need to align with the existing LCFRB scoring methodology, and also incorporate CRR program criteria. Project opportunities will be prioritized based on expected benefits to fish, certainty of success, cost, and implementation feasibility. One high ranking restoration project will be selected for preliminary-level design development.

The LCFRB will also hold two community outreach workshops. Both will be announced through mailers to residents, local newspapers, and the LCFRB email distribution list and website. The first community workshop will be used to describe the project, demonstrate what kind of work could be done, seek landowner participation, and potentially ease anxiety that may be prevent otherwise willing landowners from participating. The second workshop will be used to present and seek feedback on preliminary results, including conceptual project opportunities.

Feedback from work group meetings and the community workshop will be considered, and incorporated where applicable, into the three project deliverables: the strategy report, the prioritized restoration and protection project opportunities list, and the preliminary design.

B. Provide a scope of work and detailed list of project deliverables.

The following scope of work is for an assessment funded from January 2018 – June 2019:

Task #	Task Description	Entity Responsible	Deliverable(s)	Proposed Schedule
1	Solicit work group Participation and hire consultant	LCFRB-led	Work Group guidelines and partner list	January – April 2018
2	Hold two community workshops	LCFRB-led	Feedback on strategy goals and objectives; conceptual project opportunities	April 2018, October 2018
3	Compile existing data and identify critical data gaps	LCFRB-led; consultant, work group	Technical Memo 1	February – May 2018
4	Develop strategy vision, ecologically-based goals and objectives for habitat protection and restoration	LCFRB-led; consultant, work group	Technical Memo 2	February – May 2018
5	Develop project siting and prioritization methodology	LCFRB-led; consultant, work group	Technical Memo 3	March – May 2018
6	Conduct and report on field surveys and project siting	LCFRB-led; consultant, work group	Technical Memo 4	June – September 2018
7	Draft project list, including conceptual drawings and descriptions	LCFRB-led; consultant, work group	Technical Memo 5	September – October 2018
8	Prioritize project list	LCFRB-led; consultant, work group	Technical Memo 6	October – December 2018
9	Develop one preliminary design for a high priority restoration project	LCFRB-led; consultant, work group	One preliminary design meeting SRFB Manual 18, Appendix D-2 standards	January – May 2019
10	Complete final strategy report	LCFRB-led; consultant, work group	Final strategy document (TM 1 – 6 and design materials)	June 2019

Explain how the sponsor determined cost estimates.

Cost estimates were determined based on LCFRB’s previously completed watershed-scale assessments and design projects. Please see the Budget Attachment in PRISM.

C. How have lessons learned from completed projects or monitoring studies informed the project?

Goals and objectives for this proposed assessment are informed by past LCFRB-led watershed-scale assessment efforts.

9. If the project includes an assessment or inventory

A. Describe any previous or ongoing assessment or inventory work in your project's geographic area and how this project will build upon, rather than duplicate, the completed work.

A concerted effort will be made to identify all pertinent information on fish and habitat conditions, watershed processes, and biological bottlenecks within the study area. Existing information includes, but is not limited to, the following: EDT and IWA analyses that have been completed to support development and implementation of the salmon recovery plan; technical reports prepared as part of the WRIA 26 planning process; studies and analyses completed by Tacoma Power and its Fisheries Technical Committee; biological survey data and information from WDFW; technical reports and analyses conducted by the U.S. Forest Service; and any other pertinent sources. This information will be compiled into an annotated bibliography that will help guide field assessment work, as well as identify key biological bottlenecks that will be the focus of habitat restoration and protection work.

B. If a design is NOT a deliverable of this grant, please describe how this project meets all of the required criteria for filling a data gap that are list in Section 2 of Manual 18. N/A

10. If the project includes developing a design or a feasibility study:

A. Will a licensed professional engineer design the project?

Yes

B. If the project includes a fish passage or screening design, has the project received a Priority Index (PI) or Screening Priority Index (SPI) number? *To be determined.*

C. Will you apply for permits as part of this project's scope?

No

One preliminary design will be developed as part of this assessment, which does not require permitting under SRFB Manual 18 design standards. Instead, the future project sponsor will be required to bring the preliminary design to the final design, permitting, and construction stages under separate project scopes of work.

D. For fish passage design projects: N/A

- i. If you are proposing a culvert or arch, will you use stream simulation, no slope, hydrologic, or other design method? Please describe.**
- ii. Describe the amount and quality of habitat made accessible if the barrier is corrected.**
- iii. List additional upstream or downstream fish passage barriers, if any.**

11. Explain why it is important to do this project now instead of later.

As noted above, Tacoma Power and its Fisheries Technical Committee are currently planning to implement the Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Fund strategy. This fund was established in 2008 to support recovery of upper basin ESA-listed salmon and steelhead upstream of the Barrier Dam, in lieu of volitional passage (Cowlitz River Hydroelectric Project Settlement Agreement, August 2000 and CRR Implementation Strategy, February 28, 2017 draft). Accomplishing this project now will provide a firm technical foundation for implementing CRR projects in a strategic manner, and will accelerate efforts to recover ESA-listed fish. These efforts will benefit

upper Cowlitz and Cispus spring Chinook salmon in particular, which are critical populations in the context of ESU-wide recovery goals.

This assessment project will address key knowledge and information gaps impeding recovery efforts by working with Tacoma Power and other stakeholders to centralize and synthesize existing data and knowledge, conducting additional assessment work, and identifying and prioritizing protection and restoration actions. Actions will be defined by conceptual project opportunities, which will be incorporated into a prioritized project list that ranks projects based on their benefits to fish, certainty of success, cost, and feasibility of implementation.

Without a strategic plan, restoration and protection actions may be implemented based on chance opportunities with individual landowners. Implementing projects based on landowner interest alone, rather in combination with prioritized fish population needs, decreases the effectiveness and efficiency of funds spent on recovery actions. Developing a prioritized project list prior to CRR Fund administration will help reduce the “opportunistic” implementation of recovery actions. Instead, this approach will provide a framework for long-term, strategic, and community-supported implementation that targets key actions needed to address primary limiting factors and biological bottlenecks.

12. If the project is a part of a larger overall project or strategy, describe the goal of the overall strategy, explain individual sequencing steps, and which of these steps is included in this application for funding.

This project is part of a long-term recovery effort of Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins (Upper Cowlitz basin) ESA-listed salmon and steelhead. The Lower Columbia Salmon Recovery 6-year Habitat Work Schedule and Lead Entity Habitat Strategy suggests that a variety of restoration and protection actions would provide multi-species benefits for the seven populations present in the Upper Cowlitz basin, but these do not identify or assess the feasibility of site-specific projects for implementation.

The first habitat action recommended in the recovery plan targeting upper Cowlitz, Cispus, and Tilton River populations is to restore access above dams (LCFRB 2010). Subsequent actions though are to restore and preserve high priority upper basin habitat. Salmon and steelhead reintroduction efforts are underway in the Upper Cowlitz basin, led by Tacoma Power and its Fisheries Technical Committee (FTC), and their implementing partners. Tacoma Power and the FTC are also expected to implement the Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Fund in the near term to support reintroduction efforts by protecting and restoring important fish habitat. However, there are no current recommendations on priority restoration and protection actions to target with this fund, except for the LCFRB’s Habitat Strategy. Instead, the CRR Fund implementation strategy identifies completion of a habitat assessment to identify high priority restoration and protection opportunities (Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery Fund Implementation Strategy Draft, February 28, 2017).

This proposed assessment will provide a framework for implementing the CRR Fund by providing a stakeholder-supported strategy, a prioritized list of conceptual restoration and protection projects, and one preliminary-level design. Population recovery is a long-term process, and the final strategy report and established work group from this assessment will help guide future recovery actions in the Upper Cowlitz basin.

13. Describe the sponsors experience managing this type of project.

The Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board (LCFRB) has successfully sponsored seven watershed-scale assessments. The LCFRB has learned through these processes the importance of communicating with local stakeholders, aligning restoration and protection actions with recovery plan goals and fish and habitat knowledge, and how to clearly organize assessment goals into long-term strategy development plans for salmon and steelhead population recovery and watershed health. Most recently, the Wind River Community-Based Strategy Development project was completed in February 2017. This project was led by the LCFRB in coordination with a stakeholder group, and resulted in identification of over 40 restoration opportunities with preliminary designs for the two highest priority projects. Construction of the highest priority project and development of one preliminary design are already being proposed for funding in 2017.

14. List all landowner names.

This project covers a large area, and includes many landowners. Since no restoration or protection project can be implemented without the approval of affected landowners, landowner participation is key to developing a viable restoration and protection strategy. The U.S. Forest Service is the primary landowner in the upper reaches of the study area and will be invited to participate in efforts to identify and assess the feasibility of project opportunities. Private landowners in the study area will be invited to participate in efforts to identify and assess the feasibility of restoration and protection opportunities on their properties.

15. List project partners and their roles and contributions to the project.

Technical staff from federal, state, and local agencies, tribes, and key local stakeholders will be asked to participate as volunteers on the work group, including Tacoma Power and its Fisheries Technical Committee. Tacoma Power is also provide direct match for this project.

16. Stakeholder outreach.

Landowner support is a critical element in ensuring successful project implementation. It is therefore important to identify potential constraints during an assessment process, rather than later during a design or restoration project proposal stage. With this in mind, stakeholder outreach is a key component of this proposed assessment. If funded, the LCFRB would contact all streambank landowners within the project area early in the process to inform them about the project objectives and goals, request field survey access, and provide contact information for any questions or concerns. Similarly to other LCFRB-sponsored watershed-scale assessments, landowners would be invited to two public workshops, where the assessment and individual project opportunities would be discussed in more detail. A section of the LCFRB website will be maintained throughout the assessment process, with current documents and general information. Final assessment deliverables will also be published online, as part of LCFRB 6-year Habitat Work Schedule (SalmonPORT, LCFRB 2010).

The LCFRB has strong working relationships with many agencies and individuals in the Upper Cowlitz and Cispus subbasins through our work during the WRIA 26 planning process, recovery planning efforts, as well as our involvement with Tacoma Power's Fisheries Technical Committee and Cowlitz Restoration and Recovery (CRR) Fund committee. The LCFRB will reach out to these stakeholders to vet drafts of the assessment scope of work, and to gain interest in participating on an assessment work group. Stakeholders have expressed support for this proposal, and recognize its importance to successfully implementing the CRR Fund.

Supplemental Questions

For acquisition and planning combination projects, applicants will need to answer the acquisition supplemental questions found in the “Restoration, Acquisition, and Combination Proposal.”

Comments

Use this section to respond to the comments received after the initial site visits and after submitting the final application.

Response to Site Visit Comments

Please describe how the sponsor responded to the review panel’s initial site visit comments. *RCO recommends that the sponsor list each of the review panel’s comments and questions and identify the response. The sponsor may use this space to respond directly to the comments.*

Response to Post-Application Comments

Please describe how the sponsor responded to the review panel’s post-application comments. *RCO recommends that the sponsor list each of the review panel’s comments and questions and identify the response. The sponsor may use this space to respond directly to the comments.*

Attachment B Proposal Budget

Project Name	Upper Cowlitz-Cispus Habitat Strategy
SRFB #	17-1044
Sponsor	Lower Columbia Fish Recovery Board

DESIGN PROJECTS

The costs on this page are for design projects, not for the design phase of a restoration grant.
See Manual 18, Appendix D for additional information regarding allowable costs.

DRAFT - 3/20/2017	OVERALL PROJECT	GRANT REQUEST	MATCH			
	<i>Budget must account for all costs to complete the project</i>	<i>Enter only the amount of the grant request</i>	<i>The Grant Request and Match should equal the total project cost and Budget. Check cell should be 0. Sponsors must account for all sources and types of match need to complete the project.</i>			
	Amount	Amount	Match	Funding not reported in PRISM	Source (Grant, Cash, Materials, Labor, Volunteers, etc)	Match Type (federal, state, local)

Design Costs									
Category	Task Description	Qty	Rate						
Project Management	LCFRB project oversight, technical support and administration	1.00	45,000.00	45,000.00	\$ 45,000	\$ -	\$ -		
Public Outreach	Community outreach, workshops, monthly work group meetings	1.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ -		
Project coordinator	Tacoma Power FTC and CRR committee work	1.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	\$ -	\$ 7,000	\$ -	Tacoma Power (In Kind)	Local
Tech Memo 1	Compile existing data, synthesize, and identify critical data gaps	1.00	7,500.00	7,500.00	\$ -	\$ 7,500	\$ -	Tacoma Power	Local
Tech Memo 2 and 3	Develop strategy goals, objectives and methodology	1.00	4,000.00	4,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ -	Tacoma Power	Local
Tech Memo 4	Data collection, project siting, data review	1.00	50,000.00	50,000.00	\$ 45,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	Tacoma Power	Local
Tech Memo 5	Develop conceptual project opportunities and list	1.00	40,000.00	40,000.00	\$ 40,000	\$ -	\$ -		
Tech Memo 6	Prioritize project opportunities	1.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -		
Habitat Strategy	Draft and final review and publication of the strategy	1.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	\$ 9,000	\$ 21,000	\$ -	Tacoma Power	Local
Design Costs	Prepare Preliminary Design and provide technical review	1.00	104,600.00	104,600.00	\$ 103,950	\$ 650	\$ -	LCFRB (In Kind)	Local
STotal				\$ 294,600	\$ 249,450	\$ 45,150	\$ -		

Indirect Costs									
	Description	Approved Rate	Total Project Base						
	Indirect	0.000%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
	Indirect	0.000%	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
STotal			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		

GTOTAL	\$ 294,600	\$ 249,450	\$ 45,150	\$ -
		PRISM Project	\$ 294,600	
		RCO Percentage	Match Percentage	
		85%	15%	