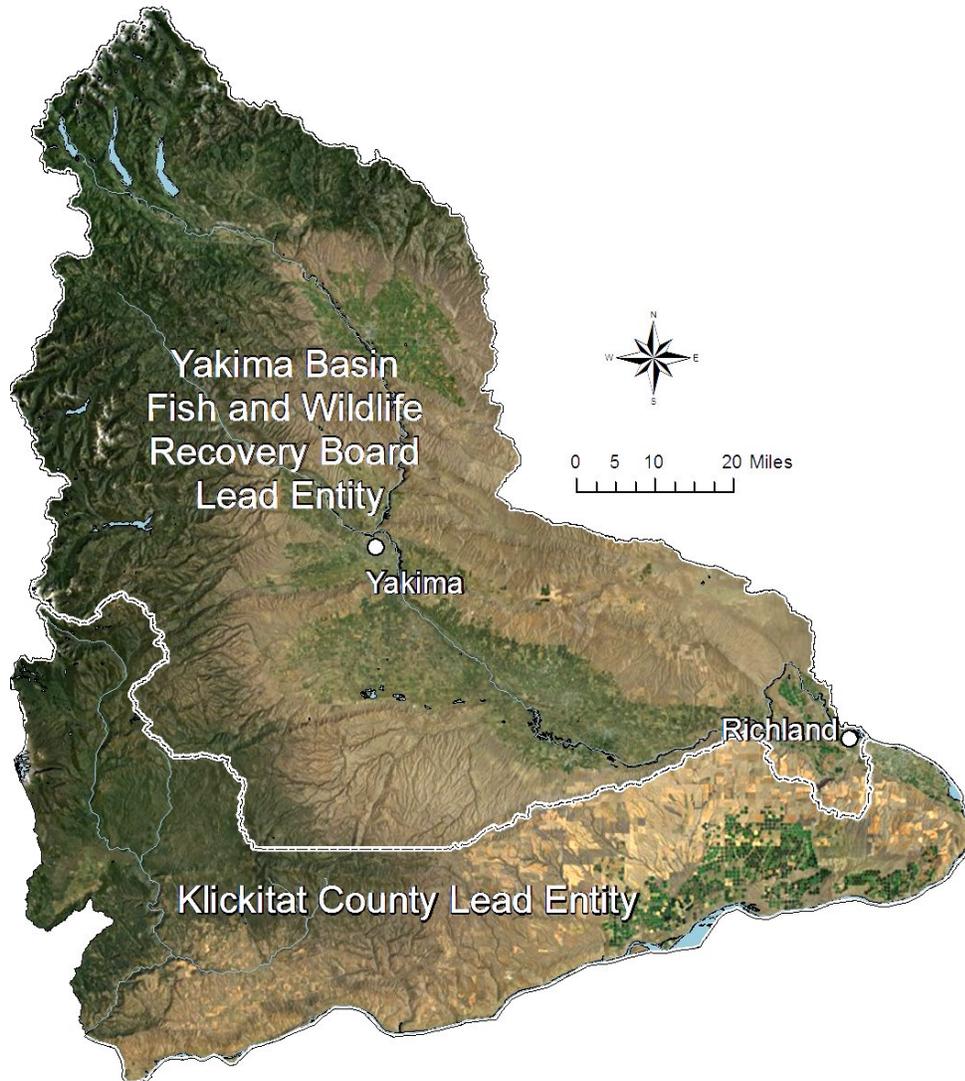


Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region



Yakima Basin Fish and
Wildlife Recovery Board
1200 Chesterly Drive
Yakima, WA 98902
www.ybfwrb.org

Lead Entity Coordinator
Tricia Snyder
(509) 453-4104
tsnyder@ybfwrb.org

Klickitat County Lead Entity
127 West Court Street, Mail Stop CH-27
Goldendale, WA 98620
(509) 773-2410

Region Overview

Geography

The Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region is comprised of salmon bearing streams in Benton, Kittitas, Klickitat, and Yakima Counties.

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA)

Klickitat (30), Rock-Glade (31), Lower Yakima (37), Naches (38), and Upper Yakima (39)

Federally Recognized Tribes

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Endangered Species Act Listings

Table 1: Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region Listed Species

| Species | Listed As | Date Listed |
|------------|------------|----------------|
| Steelhead | Threatened | March 25, 1999 |
| Bull Trout | Threatened | 1998 |

Salmon Recovery Plan

Table 2: Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region Recovery Plan

| Recovery Plan | |
|--|--|
| Regional Organization | Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board (for the Yakima basin; no recovery organization for Columbia Gorge populations in the middle Columbia region). |
| Plan Timeframe | 15 years (Yakima steelhead recovery plan only) |
| Actions Identified to Implement Plan | 94 (Yakima steelhead recovery plan only) |
| Estimated Cost (This does not include estimated cost from the Klickitat and Rock Creek plans prepared by the NOAA.) | \$269 million (Yakima steelhead recovery plan only) |
| Status | NOAA-Fisheries approved the <i>Middle Columbia River Steelhead Recovery Plan</i> in September 2009. This plan incorporates the Yakima board's <i>Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan</i> and NOAA's recovery plans for steelhead populations in the Gorge Management Unit of the middle Columbia River steelhead distinct population segment. |

| Recovery Plan | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| | The Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board released the <i>Yakima Bull Trout Action Plan</i> in September 2012, with an update in 2017, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service released its bull trout recovery plan in 2015. |
| Implementation Schedule Status | For the Yakima basin, basic elements of a 6-year implementation schedule are completed, providing details of planned actions, key partners, link of actions to limiting factors and plan strategies, time to implement and achieve benefits, and estimated costs. Additional information fields and a tracking and reporting system for the implementation schedule are being developed. |
| Web Information | Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Web site Klickitat Lead Entity Web page Habitat Work Schedule |

Region and Lead Entities

There are five WRIAs in the Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region. The Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board is the regional salmon recovery organization and lead entity for three of these WRIAs (37, 38, and 39). The Klickitat County Lead Entity’s geographic area is composed of WRIAs 29b, 30, and 31. The Klickitat County Lead Entity’s geographic area is not within the purview of a regional organization established under Revised Codes of Washington 77.85.090 or 77.85.200, but is contained within the Lower Columbia and Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Regions. Therefore, a portion of the SRFB project funding allocated to the Lower Columbia and Middle Columbia Salmon Recovery Regions is allocated to the Klickitat County Lead Entity’s geographic area based on a combination of historical funding allocations and anadromous stream miles.

Regional Area Summary Questions and Responses

Describe the process and criteria used to develop allocations across lead entities or watersheds within the region?

The mid-Columbia region was allocated \$1,688,400 for the 2018 SRFB grant round. Because there is not a single regional organization that includes both the areas served by the Yakima Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board and that portion of the Klickitat County Lead Entity’s area that is within the mid-Columbia region, the two organizations enter into discussions each year about how to divide the mid-Columbia allocation between them.

Every year from 2015-2018 the Klickitat County Lead Entity has requested the use of mid-Columbia region funds for use on projects in the White Salmon. The Yakima Basin Fish and

Wildlife Recovery Board genuinely is excited to see important fisheries restoration projects occurring in the White Salmon Basin, and believe that they can help all of us meet delisting goals for middle Columbia steelhead. However recovery board also wants to ensure that decisions about the use of the middle Columbia allocation are considered in a transparent manner by the appropriate decision-making body.

In 2016, the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board and the Klickitat County Lead Entity formalized the process for requesting the use of mid-Columbia region funds for use on projects in the White Salmon. The process involves the Klickitat County Lead Entity making a formal request to the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board for any proposed transfer of funding from the mid-Columbia allocation to the lower Columbia allocation. In 2018, the Klickitat lead entity did not propose using mid-Columbia funds in the White Salmon watershed.

The Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board and the Klickitat County Lead Entity submit separate lead entity lists and divide funding between the two lists based on an agreed upon allocation.

Table 3: Funding and Requests

| Funding and Requests | Totals | Percent |
|--|---------------|----------------|
| Total Allocation | \$1,688,400 | 100% |
| Yakima Basin Lead Entity List (without alternates) | \$1,181,880 | 70% |
| Klickitat Lead Entity List (without alternates) | \$506,520 | 30% |
| Remaining Balance | (\$0) | 100% |

Regional Technical Review Process

How was the regional technical review conducted?

The existing Yakima lead entity technical review group was used as the regional technical review team. Given that 1) the area covered by the lead entity and the regional organization is identical, and 2) most potential candidates for serving on a regional technical review team already were serving on the lead entity review team, the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board saw no reason to convene a separate review team. If in the future, there is agreement among all parties that we should develop a regional review that involves multiple lead entities, we would work with other parties to develop a separate regional technical review process.

What criteria were used for the regional technical and citizens' review?

The Yakima Technical Advisory Group evaluated Yakima basin projects using the following three sets of criteria:

1. Salmon Recovery Matrix assesses:

- Species benefited by project.
- Project benefits to in-stream flow and the hydrograph.
- Project benefits to water quality.
- Project benefits to in-channel habitat.
- Improvements to degraded large woody material densities.
- Protection of functional rearing habitat.
- Improvements to degraded rearing habitat.
- Project benefits to habitat access.
- Improvement of access for juvenile or adult to high quality habitat.
- Improvement of access for juvenile or adult to functional habitat.
- Project benefits to diversion screening.
- Project benefits to floodplain connectivity and riparian condition.

Matrix scores are adjusted using weighting factors for the following:

- Quality and quantity.
- Certainty of success.
- Benefit to cost.
- Longevity of benefit.

2. Yakima Basin Technical Advisory Group Evaluation Form. This form is used to provide consistency in evaluating projects. It is used to generate discussion and provide additional guidance to Technical Advisory Group members for how to rank projects. These also are provided to the Citizen Committee so members are aware of how the Technical Advisory Group evaluated the proposals. This form evaluates the strengths and weaknesses in regard to the following:

- Biological benefit
- Landowner commitment

- Organizational capacity
 - Sequencing
 - Budget
 - Design
 - Future stewardship
 - Uncertainties and constraints
3. Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board's Focus Project List: The Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board's Focus Project List is a tool developed by the Technical Advisory Group to help identify high priority SRFB projects and apply those funding resources to projects that represent the most immediate needs of priority species. The list is used to do the following:
- Give the Technical Advisory Group a way to proactively guide Yakima Basin SRFB funding towards high priority actions.
 - Provide guidance to sponsors deciding what types of projects to pursue and propose.
 - Strengthen the link between the SRFB project review criteria and recovery plan priorities.

Projects that clearly implement priority actions identified in the list receive 10 bonus points in the matrix. If a proposal does not address a next step related to a priority action, zero bonus points are awarded. It is important to emphasize that the Technical Advisory Group uses this approach as a way to recognize and reward proposals that implement identified priorities, but not as a way to exclude other SRFB proposals. The matrices and evaluation forms from the 2018 Technical Advisory Group evaluation meeting are included as a separate document with this appendix.

The Yakima Citizen Committee evaluated and ranked projects based on the following [criteria, which were updated in the winter of 2017](#):

- Cultural and Social Considerations:
 - How does the project affect the Yakima Nation and its members?
 - How does the project affect agricultural interests?

- How does the project affect other community members and partners in the basin?
- How will the project change Endangered Species Act liabilities for community members?
- Does the project include substantive and compelling education and outreach components?
- Economic Considerations:
 - Are there economic effects associated with this project?
 - Is the project budget clearly defined and reasonable for the current stage of the proposed project?
 - At the current stage of the proposed project, how much benefit does the project create for the dollars invested?
- Project Context and Organization Considerations:
 - Is the project timely?
 - How is the project coordinated with other past, present and future salmon recovery actions?
 - Are we confident that all the pieces of the project can come together as anticipated or are there significant uncertainties?
- Partnerships and Community Support Considerations:
 - Are the right partners involved to make the project succeed?
 - Are the landowners who are directly affected by the proposed project in strong support of this proposal?
 - At the current stage of the proposed project, is the project sponsor using SRFB funding to leverage other funding sources?

The matrices and evaluation forms from the 2018 citizen committee evaluation meeting are included as a separate document with this appendix.

Who completed the regional review (name, affiliation, and expertise) and are they part of the regional organization or independent?

Participants in the 2018 Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Technical Advisory Group are listed below. Participants were chosen to assure 1) a broad range of knowledge about fisheries and habitat restoration in the Yakima basin, 2) inclusion of participants from all parts of the basin (upper, middle, and lower), and 3) representation of the full range of organizations active in fisheries and watershed management in the basin. The Technical Advisory Group is a long-standing committee that the lead entity has used in past SRFB project reviews and other processes. All voting members are independent of the regional organization in that they work with the lead entity as representatives of their individual organizations and are not otherwise directly affiliated with the regional organization.

Table 4: Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Technical Advisory Group

| Name | Affiliation | Expertise |
|------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Dale Bambrick | NOAA-Fisheries | Supervisory fish biologist |
| Joel Freudenthal | Yakima County | Fish and wildlife biologist |
| Sean Gross | NOAA-Fisheries | Fisheries biologist |
| Anna Lael | Kittitas County Conservation District | District manager |
| John Marvin | Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation | Habitat biologist |
| Scott Nicolai | Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation | Habitat biologist |
| Tom Ring | Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation | Hydrogeologist |
| Jennifer Nelson | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Habitat Program |
| Arden Thomas | Bureau of Reclamation | Fish biologist |
| Richard Visser | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Restoration biologist |
| Rebecca Wassell | Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group | Restoration biologist |
| Robert Parrish | US Fish and Wildlife Service | Fish biologist |
| Scott Nagel | US Forest Service | Hydrologist |

Were there any projects submitted to the SRFB for funding that were not specifically identified in the regional implementation plan or habitat work schedule? (If so please provide justification for including these projects to the list of projects recommended to the SRFB for funding. If the projects were identified in the regional implementation plan but considered a low priority or is a low priority area, please provide justification.)

All of the projects submitted for this grant round are identified in the *Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan*. The actions database included in the plan is recognized as our implementation schedule of actions as per correspondence dated October 20, 2008 from the Governor's Salmon Recovery

Office. We are working to incorporate both bull trout and steelhead actions into a joint implementation schedule.

Criteria the SRFB Considers in Funding Regional Project Lists

How did your regional review consider whether a project provides benefit to high priority stocks for the purpose of salmon recovery or sustainability? In addition to limiting factors analysis, SaSI, and SSHIAP¹, what stock assessment work has been done to date to further characterize the status of salmonid species in the region?

Steelhead and bull trout are the Endangered Species Act listed species in the Yakima basin, and all stocks are high priority for recovery actions. The [Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan](#) (2009) contains the most current data and local knowledge of the status of steelhead populations. The plan incorporates the Internal Columbia Technical Review Team population designations and stock status reports, assesses limiting factors, sets specific recovery goals, and identifies the actions needed to meet them. The draft [Yakima Bull Trout Action Plan](#) was completed in 2012 in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an update to the board's *2005 Salmon Recovery Plan*. An update was started in 2016 and finalized in 2017. The Technical Advisory Group assesses the fit of proposed projects to the priority actions identified in these plans, and uses a matrix that is designed to prioritize projects based on their specific contributions to recovery goals. The matrix also gives projects credit for parallel benefits to non-listed focal species.

How did your regional review consider whether a project addresses cost effectiveness?

Both the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Technical Advisory Group and Citizen Committee evaluated project budgets as a part of the ranking process. The Technical Advisory Group assigned each project a high, medium, or low certainty of success score based on the following:

- The completeness and accuracy of project budgets.
- How reasonable the costs are relative to similar projects.
- The proposed return for the dollars invested.

The Technical Advisory Group also considers a benefit-to-cost weighting factor. This weighting factor asks advisory group members to consider if the proposed cost of the project is reasonable with respect to the expected biological outcomes? This weighting factor is a

¹SaSI = Salmon and Steelhead Stock Inventory; SSHIAP=Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Inventory and Assessment Program

qualitative evaluation of the biological benefit of the project compared to the cost to SRFB and is not intended to require quantification of biological benefits.

The Citizen Committee also scores a project based on its assessment of whether a budget is reasonable relative to other similar projects and the proposals expected benefits.

As both committees have evaluated projects over the past few years, they have been concerned about the increasing cost of implementing projects. As in previous years, the focus was proactive—asking sponsors to adjust their budgets and remove cost elements from projects that they felt weren't the best use of limited salmon recovery funds.

How did your regional review consider whether a project provides benefit to listed and non-listed fish species? Identify projects on the regional list that primarily benefit listed fish. Identify projects on the regional list that primarily benefit non-listed species.

All projects on our 2018 list provide primary benefit to listed fish species? Please see the [project list](#) on page 23 of this report for full details.

How did your regional review consider whether a project preserves high quality habitat? Identify the projects on your list that will preserve high quality habitat.

The Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Lead Entity did not receive a protection proposal in 2018. Since 2000, our lead entity has received 23 acquisition proposals and funded 19, or 86 percent of those requests. However, SRFB funding represents a relatively small portion of overall acquisition spending in the Yakima basin.

How did your regional review consider whether a project implements a high priority project or action in a region- or watershed-based salmon recovery plan? Identify where and how the project is identified as a high priority in the referenced plan.

All projects implement priority recovery actions identified in the *Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan* and/or the *Yakima Bull Trout Action Plan*. The Technical Advisory Group identified one of our projects as "High Priority Fund." Six projects were identified as "Priority Fund." One project, the only alternate project for 2018, was listed as "Fund." In addition to the Technical Advisory Group Fund Category, three of the projects aligned with the Technical Advisory Group [Focus Project List](#) (as described in response to [Question 2B](#)). Please see the following summary table of funded projects for additional detail:

Table 5: Technical Advisory Group Designations

| Rank | Project | Technical Advisory Group Fund Category | Alignment with Plans and Priorities |
|------|--|--|---|
| 1 | Teaway Community Forest Floodplain Restoration | High Priority Fund | <p>TAG Focus Action #16: Teaway, Swauk, and Tributaries In-Stream Flow.</p> <p>Steelhead Recovery Plan Upper Yakima Action #14: Restore instream and floodplain habitat complexity in Swauk and Taneum Creeks and Teaway and lower Cle Elum Rivers.</p> <p>Upper Yakima Action #15: Restore tributary riparian areas.</p> |
| 2 | Wood Replenishment in Four Tributaries | Priority Fund | <p>TAG Focus Action #21: Upper Yakima Floodplain and Side Channel Restoration.</p> <p>Steelhead Recovery Plan Upper Yakima Action #13: Protect and restore floodplain, riparian, and in-channel habitats in Upper Yakima, Kittitas, and Easton/Cle Elum reaches.</p> <p>Upper Yakima #15: Restore tributary riparian areas.</p> |
| 3 | Cooke Creek Screening and Passage | Priority Fund | <p>No TAG Focus Action Alignment.</p> <p>Steelhead Recovery Plan</p> <p>Basin Wide Action #2: Adequately screen all water diversions.</p> <p>Upper Yakima Action #11: Restore passage, separate irrigation conveyance, and screen diversion in Ellensburg-area tributaries.</p> |
| 4 | Ensign Ranch–Big Creek Flow Enhancement Planning | Priority Fund | <p>No TAG Focus Action Alignment.</p> <p>Steelhead Recovery Plan</p> <p>Basin Wide Action #5: Utilize Trust Water Rights Program to improve in-stream flow.</p> |
| 5 | Taneum Fish Passage at River Mile 1.8 | Priority Fund | <p>TAG Focus Action #16: Teaway, Swauk, and Tributaries In-Stream Flow.</p> <p>Steelhead Recovery Plan</p> |

| Rank | Project | Technical Advisory Group Fund Category | Alignment with Plans and Priorities |
|------|--|--|--|
| | | | <p>Upper Yakima Action #6: Provide unimpeded fish passage in Taneum Creek.</p> <p>Upper Yakima Action #14: Restore in-stream and floodplain habitat complexity in Swauk and Taneum Creeks and Teanaway and lower Cle Elum Rivers.</p> |
| 6 | Ahtanum Restoration of Recreation Impacts | Priority Fund | <p>No TAG Focus Action Alignment.</p> <p>Steelhead Recovery Plan</p> <p>Basin Wide Action #10: Promote land and resource decisions that fisheries resource values.</p> <p>Naches Action #27: Ahtanum creek floodplain and side channel restoration.</p> <p>2017 Bull Trout Action Plan Ahtanum #1 and Ahtanum #3.</p> |
| 7 | Mainstem Teanaway Restoration Design at River Mile 8 | Defer | <p>No TAG Focus Action Alignment</p> <p>Steelhead Recovery Plan</p> <p>Upper Yakima Action #14: Restore in-stream and floodplain habitat complexity in Swauk and Taneum Creeks and Teanaway and lower Cle Elum Rivers.</p> <p>Upper Yakima Action #15: Restore tributary restoration areas.</p> |
| 8 | Greenhead Ranch Wetland/Creek Enhancements, Phase 1 | Fund | <p>No TAG Focus Action Alignment</p> <p>Steelhead Recovery Plan</p> <p>Toppenish Action #1: Rehabilitate alluvial fan and downstream floodplain of Toppenish Creek.</p> <p>Toppenish Action #5: Further reduce diversions by improved water management.</p> <p>Toppenish Action #7: Continue leases, purchase, and management of riparian areas.</p> |

How did your regional review consider whether a project provides for match above the minimum requirement percentage? Identify the project's match percentage and the regional match total.

The majority of projects submitted for funding (seven out of eight) include the required match at or just above 15 percent. Due to the administrative tasks that are involved with reporting on additional match, most of our sponsors prefer to keep their official SRFB match at 15 percent, but demonstrate additional project support, separate from the SRFB total, on the project budget forms attached in PRISM. The one project that included its total match amounts, above the required 15 percent, within its official SRFB match is highlighted below.

Table 6: Projects and Match

| Project Name (in rank order) | SRFB Request | Match | % Match | Project Total |
|---|--------------|-----------|---------|---------------|
| Teaway Community Forest Floodplain Restoration | \$200,000 | \$46,400 | 19% | \$246,400 |
| Wood Replenishment in Four Tributaries | \$238,600 | \$54,888 | 19% | \$293,488 |
| Cooke Creek Screening and Passage | \$396,812 | \$421,747 | 52% | \$818,559 |
| Ensign Ranch–Big Creek Flow Enhancement Planning | \$47,758 | \$8,436 | 15% | \$56,194 |
| Taneum Fish Passage at River Mile 1.8 | \$91,000 | \$20,000 | 18% | \$111,000 |
| Ahtanum Creek Restoration of Recreation Impacts | \$131,908 | \$23,451 | 15% | \$155,359 |
| Mainstem Teaway Restoration Design at River Mile 8 | \$75,802 | \$13,500 | 15% | \$89,302 |
| Greenhead Ranch Wetland/Creek Enhancements, Phase 1 | \$294,522 | \$56,000 | 15% | \$350,522 |

How did your regional review consider whether a project is sponsored by an organization that has a successful record of project implementation? For example, identify the number of previous SRFB projects funded and completed.

Table 7: History of Projects

| Rank | Project | Sponsor | Number of projects previously funded | Number of projects previously completed | Number of active projects |
|------|--|---------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1 | Teaway Community Forest Floodplain Restoration | Yakama Nation | 20 | 19 | 0 |
| 2 | Wood Replenishment in Four Tributaries | Yakama Nation | 20 | 19 | 0 |

| Rank | Project | Sponsor | Number of projects previously funded | Number of projects previously completed | Number of active projects |
|------|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 3 | Cooke Creek Screening and Passage | Kittitas County Conservation District | 16 | 15 | 1 |
| 4 | Ensign Ranch–Big Creek Flow Enhancement Planning | Washington Water Trust | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 5 | Taneum Fish Passage at River Mile 1.8 | Yakama Nation | 20 | 19 | 0 |
| 6 | Ahtanum Restoration of Recreation Impacts | Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group | 33 | 20 | 13 |
| 7 | Mainstem Teanaway Restoration Design at River Mile 8 | Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group | 33 | 20 | 13 |
| 8 | Greenhead Ranch Wetland/Creek Enhancements, Phase 1 | Ducks Unlimited | 3 | 3 | 0 |

How did your regional review consider whether a project involves members of the veterans conservation corps established in Revised Code of Washington 43.60A.150?

To our knowledge, none of our recommended projects involve members of the veteran's conservation corps.

Local Review Processes

Provide project evaluation criteria and documentation of your local Citizen's Advisory Group and Technical Advisory Group ratings for each project, including explanations for differences between the two groups' ratings.

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board

The Technical Advisory Group and the Citizen Committee have distinctive roles in the evaluation of projects. The Technical Advisory Group determines the technical validity of a project and how valuable the project is to salmonid populations. The Citizen Committee evaluates how the project might affect the community and how much community support the project garnered. The final rank is determined by the Citizen Committee and approved by the board. The Technical Advisory Group develops a recommended ranking by considering the Technical Advisory Group matrix score and ten different certainty of success criteria, which include items

such as project sequencing, uncertainties and constraints, organizational capacity, and reasonable budget. The Technical Advisory Group then submits its recommended ranking to the Citizen Committee for review. The Citizen Committee evaluates the project based on its set of criteria, and adjusts the Technical Advisory Group's proposed ranking based on its evaluation. The Citizen Committee's proposed project ranking then is submitted to the board for review. The board can either approve the list as submitted or remand the list to the Citizen Committee for reconsideration but the board cannot re-rank projects. This process is set up to meet the requirements of the state statute creating the SRFB and the Lead Entity Program and is designed to ensure that projects proposed for SRFB funding are technically solid, address priority issues, and are broadly supported by diverse community interests.

For the regional and local technical review, we used two sets of criteria to rank projects. The Citizen Committee used its own established set of criteria. The Technical Advisory Group met to review and rank projects on July 18. The group's proposed ranking and the notes of its meeting then were provided to the Citizen Committee, which met July 24 to rank the projects based on the Citizen Committee's criteria.

The Citizen Committee's final ranked list was presented to and approved by the board on August 2.

Technical Advisory Group Biological Matrix

The Technical Advisory Group used this tool to award projects a score based on its possible and intended biological benefit. The score is listed at the bottom of the form—projects can receive partial points. This score is adjusted based on four weighting factors; habitat quantity and quality, biological certainty of success, benefit to cost, and longevity of benefit.

Technical Advisory Group Evaluation Form

This worksheet lists several "certainty of success" categories, and Technical Advisory Group members use it as a guide to discuss factors not addressed in the matrix. The main intent of these forms is to maintain consistency in the project evaluations, and to help lead entity staff document the discussion.

The Citizen Committee used its community evaluation and scoring criteria, which focuses on cultural, social, economic, efficient and effective resource use, educational value, and community support.

A full description of the Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Lead Entity process can be found in our [Lead Entity Manual](#).

Please see Question 5B and attached ranking forms for project specific details.

Klickitat County Lead Entity

In the Klickitat County Lead Entity's portions of the Lower and Middle Columbia Salmon Recovery Regions, the Klickitat County Lead Entity process was followed, including reviews by the lead entity's Technical Committee. A regional recovery plan has not been developed under Revised Codes of Washington 77.85.090 and 77.85.150 for any portion of the Klickitat County Lead Entity's area. Projects were evaluated for fit to the *Klickitat Lead Entity Region Salmon Recovery Strategy* (August, 2018), which is the adaptive management strategy developed pursuant to Revised Code of Washington 77.85.060(2)(e). The strategy references known stock assessment information and assessment work performed in the region, including the *Middle Columbia River Steelhead Distinct Population Segment Endangered Species Act Recovery Plan* that was developed by NOAA-Fisheries. This recovery plan specifically addressed WRIA 30 in Appendix B: Recovery Plan for the Klickitat River Population of the Middle Columbia River Steelhead Distinct Population Segment, and addresses WRIA 31 in Appendix C: Recovery Plan for the Rock Creek Population of the Middle Columbia River Steelhead Distinct Population Segment. The *Klickitat Lead Entity Region Salmon Recovery Strategy* also cites stock assessment information in the salmon and steelhead recovery plan developed by NOAA-Fisheries for the White Salmon River (WRIA 29b) populations of Endangered Species Act-listed steelhead and salmon. These recovery plans include stock assessments by the NOAA-Fisheries' lower and middle Columbia regional technical teams. The technical review consisted of the following:

- A preliminary project review in which project sponsors met with the technical committee to discuss and refine project concepts and designs.
- A project site tour during which project sponsors presented their projects to the SRFB Review Panel representatives and to members of the Klickitat County Lead Entity's Technical Committee and Citizen's Review Committee.
- Project sponsors responded to comments received from the SRFB Review Panel throughout the grant round.
- A final technical committee evaluation in which project sponsors presented their updated proposals and the Technical Committee ranked projects and provided input and feedback to both project sponsors and the Citizen's Review Committee. The Technical Committee commented on and ranked each project and forwarded consensus comments to the Citizen's Review Committee.
- The Citizen's Review Committee meeting in which project sponsors presented their projects to the committee and the committee evaluated and ranked projects for the project list with technical input from the technical committee. The Klickitat Technical and Citizen's Review Committees evaluated ranking based on the following criteria:

- Habitat features and process
- Areas and actions
- Scientific
- Species
- Life history
- Costs
- Scope and approach
- Sequence
- Stewardship
- Landowner willingness
- Meets SRFB eligibility criteria
- Implementation readiness
- Community issues and support (Citizen's Review Committee only)

Community Support

The project priority rankings for the mid-Columbia allocation were consistent between the two local committees. Comments from the local Technical Committee were provided to the Citizen's Review Committee.

During the grant round review process, both the lead entity Technical and Citizen's Review Committees evaluated cost effectiveness when evaluating and ranking potential habitat project applications. This item also was addressed by the SRFB Review Panel during the project tours.

In addition to discussing proposed project budgets, there is a specific line item on each project evaluation that relates to cost benefit and effectiveness. Specifically, the question asks the reviewer to score the project between 0 and 10 regarding costs, considering if the project has the following:

- Low cost relative to the predicted benefits for the project type and location.
- A reasonable cost relative to the predicted benefits for the project type and location.
- High cost relative to the predicted benefits for the project type and location.

During the review process, this specific topic is one of the most highly discussed issues when evaluating project proposals due to the limited funding allocation available and given the sentiment and responsibility that public funding should be spent in most beneficial and responsible fashion possible.

Identify your local technical review team.

Table 8: Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board

| Name | Affiliation | Expertise |
|------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Dale Bambrick | NOAA-Fisheries | Supervisory fish biologist |
| Joel Freudenthal | Yakima County | Fish and wildlife biologist |
| Sean Gross | NOAA-Fisheries | Fisheries biologist |
| Anna Lael | Kittitas County Conservation District | District manager |
| John Marvin | Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation | Habitat biologist |
| Scott Nicolai | Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation | Habitat biologist |
| Tom Ring | Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation | Hydrogeologist |
| Jennifer Nelson | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Habitat Program |
| Arden Thomas | Bureau of Reclamation | Fish biologist |
| Richard Visser | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Restoration biologist |
| Rebecca Wassell | Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group | Restoration biologist |
| Robert Parrish | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service | Fish biologist |
| Scott Nagel | U.S. Forest Service | Hydrologist |

Table 9: Klickitat County Lead Entity

| Name | Affiliation | Expertise |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Brady Allen | Bonneville Power Authority | Fisheries biologist |
| Diane Driscoll | NOAA-Fisheries | Fishery resource specialist |
| Jill Hardiman | U.S. Geological Survey | Fisheries biologist |
| Diane Hopster | U.S. Forest Service | Hydrologist |
| Amber Johnson | Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife | Habitat biologist |
| Gardner Johnston | Inter-Fluve | Hydrologist |
| David Lindley | Yakama Nation Fisheries Program | Habitat restoration specialist |
| Jay McLaughlin | Mount Adams Resource Stewards | Timber |
| Loren Meagher | Central and Eastern Klickitat Conservation Districts | Engineer |
| Margaret Neuman | Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement | Executive director |
| Dan Richardson (Alt.) | Underwood Conservation District | Field technician |
| Tova Tillinghast | Underwood Conservation District | District manager |
| Joe Zendt, Chairman | Yakama Nation Fisheries Program | Fisheries biologist |

All voting members are independent of a regional organization as they work with the lead entity as representatives of their field of expertise.

Explain how and when the SRFB Review Panel participated in your regional/lead entity process, if applicable.

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board

SRFB Review Panel members Steve Toth and Jennifer O’Neal toured eight proposed project sites spanning May 29-30, 2018. Cooke Creek Screening and Passage was not toured because it was approved as an alternate project by the review panel in 2017 and the project has not changed. It therefore did not need review panel evaluation. Ensign Ranch–Big Creek Flow Enhancement Planning was presented with visuals due to timing constraints and the majority of tour participants had seen the project site at least once before. Lead entity staff provided a tour packet including project details, photographs, cost estimates, and maps along with the Yakima Basin Technical Advisory Group Focus Project List and the limiting factors for each reach or stream. Review panel members provided feedback to staff and applicants on site, and followed up with their written comments.

Board staff invited all review committee members to attend the site visits. Representatives of the Technical Advisory Group (including Joel Freudenthal, Sean Gross, John Marvin, Scott Nagel, Jennifer Nelson, Scott Nicolai, Robert Parrish, Arden Thomas, and Rebecca Wassell) and of the Citizen Committee (including Don Chaplin, Rachel Little, and Doug Mayo). The panel members asked questions and addressed their concerns with project applicants and board staff. A summary of on-site discussion and potential concerns was sent to project sponsors immediately following the site visits. The board received review panel comments on June 18. These comments were shared with applicants, the Technical Advisory Group and Citizen Committee members, and applicants were asked to address these issues to strengthen their proposals as they entered them into PRISM.

Between June 18 and June 25, applicants had the opportunity to submit any changes or adjustments to their applications so a packet containing amended applications could be prepared 2 weeks before the Technical Advisory Group review. The board is pleased with how well review panel involvement enhances their review process.

Klickitat County Lead Entity

The SRFB Review Panel members Jeanette Smith and Michelle Cramer attended the Klickitat County Lead Entity project tour on June 12, 2018. They received the pre-application packet for each proposed project 3 weeks before the site visits. The SRFB Review Panel provided feedback and questions to each of the project sponsors on June 26th, at which point project sponsors

submitted responses to their questions and concerns and updated their projects in PRISM. After the sponsors addressed questions and comments provided by the SRFB Review Panel and those from local committee members the committees convened to evaluate and rank the projects. The Klickitat County Lead Entity coordinator routinely communicated with the RCO grants manager regarding general process questions and questions specific to each of the projects.

Local Evaluation Process and Project Lists

Explain how multi-year implementation plans or habitat work schedules were used to develop project lists.

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board

The August 2009 *Yakima Steelhead Recovery Plan* outlines a list of recommended recovery actions that will contribute to restoring steelhead to viable levels in the Yakima basin; the *Yakima Bull Trout Action Plan* identified specific priority actions that will contribute to recovering bull trout populations in the Yakima basin. Project applicants were asked to identify the actions that pertained to their projects in their applications, and during the Technical Advisory Group evaluation process, we determined if a project had a high, medium, or low fit to the recovery plan.

The Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Focus Project List was added to our lead entity process in 2013. In response to committee members request to improve the fit between SRFB proposals and the biological priorities that Technical Advisory Group participants feel need to be addressed, a Technical Advisory Group working group convened to develop a process to identify and describe focus actions. The result of this process was the board's [Focus Project List](#). It helps identify the most timely/urgent of the high priority SRFB projects and apply those funding resources to projects that represent the most immediate needs of priority species. In 2017, the list was updated and a process put in place for Technical Advisory Group members to propose changes to the list annually.

The list is used for the following:

- Give the Technical Advisory Group a way to proactively guide Yakima Basin SRFB funding towards high priority actions.
- Provide guidance to sponsors deciding what types of projects to pursue and propose.
- Strengthen the link between the SRFB project review criteria and recovery plan priorities.

Klickitat County Lead Entity

The *Klickitat Lead Entity Region Salmon Recovery Strategy* is the basis for project prioritization and work schedule development; project evaluation criteria incorporate strategy priorities. This

strategy has a priority matrix containing priority sub-basins and reaches with associated rational, impacted species, life history significance, limiting habitat features, action priority ranking, specific habitat actions and rational, habitat forming processes, community interests, and the source of the information if applicable. This strategy and matrix are updated annually, or as needed, to reflect project completion and new information and data. All projects submitted for the 2018 SRFB grant round are specifically identified or address habitat issues identified in the *Klickitat Lead Entity Region Salmon Recovery Strategy*. The strategy was updated in 2015 to include monitoring projects.

Explain how comments of technical, citizen, and policy reviews were addressed in finalizing the project list. Were there any issues about projects on the list and how were those resolved?

Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board

We provided each sponsor with a summary of comments and suggestions after site visits. In order to provide clear feedback to project sponsors, the Technical Advisory Group iteratively edited feedback after the site visits to identify disagreements and red flag issues. This allowed consensus to develop and the Technical Advisory Group was able to provide sponsors with written feedback. Each project sponsor is then provided a comment matrix form, which includes one section with comments from the local Technical Advisory Group and Citizen Committee members captured during site visits and sponsor presentation, and a second section that lists comments and questions from the state review panel members. Sponsors are asked to respond to concerns on the comment matrix and upload the document in PRISM with "Comment Matrix" as part of the tile. The goal of using the matrix is to let reviewers know how the sponsor addressed the issue and direct them to where they can find the details. Sponsors also are reminded that completing this matrix does not replace the need to respond to review panel comments in their applications. As we moved through each evaluation feedback loop, sponsors considered the feedback received and modified their proposals as appropriate. All issues identified were to be addressed 2 weeks before the Technical Advisory Group review.

Upon completion of the Technical Advisory Group's review and scoring, the lead entity's Citizen Committee reviews and ranks the projects. Citizen Committee members may include individual citizens; local, state, federal, and tribal government representatives; community groups; environmental and fisheries groups; conservation districts; and industry. The Citizen Committee is critical to ensure that biological priorities and projects identified by the Technical Advisory Group have the necessary community support for success. Citizen Committee members are often the best judges of the community's social, cultural, and economic values as they apply to salmon recovery, and they can assess how to increase community support over time through the implementation of habitat projects. The Citizen Committee reviews the Technical Advisory

Group's proposed project ranking and adjusts it based on the results of its evaluation of community values. Community values considered include: cultural, social, economic, efficient and effective resource use, community support, and partner support. The Citizen Committee develops the final recommended ranked project list. The committee takes the recommendations of the Technical Advisory Group into consideration, but they are not obligated to maintain the same ranking given to projects by the Technical Advisory Group if they feel a project's ranking needs to be adjusted based the Citizen Committee's evaluation.

The Citizen Committee chose to maintain the Technical Advisory Group's ranking for the majority of the projects, based on the fact that in general the Technical Advisory Group's highest ranked projects also received the highest scores based on the Citizen Committee's criteria. The three changes that the Citizen Committee made to the to the Technical Advisory Group rank were as follows:

1. The Citizen Committee confirmed the Technical Advisory Group's recommendation for placing a condition on the Yakama Nation's Wood Replenishment in Four Tributaries project.
2. The Citizen Committee moved Cooke Creek Screening and Passage up two slots because of its direct change of Endangered Species Act liabilities, support of landowners, and agricultural interests.
3. Greenhead Ranch was originally ranked seventh but the sponsor did not feel partial funding was enough to complete north channel Toppenish Creek work components of project. The Citizen Committee moved this project to eighth to remain as an alternate but allowed partial funding of Mainstem Teanaway Restoration Design at River Mile 8.

On August 2, the board met and reviewed the ranked lead entity list submitted by the Citizen Committee, and approved the list unanimously.

Klickitat County Lead Entity

The Klickitat County Lead Entity receives SRFB funding out of both the lower Columbia region allocation and the middle Columbia region allocation, 2.7 percent this year and 30 percent respectively. 2015 was the first year in which middle Columbia region allocation dollars were used in the White Salmon basin. In 2018, there were no projects in the White Salmon asking for middle Columbia funds.

Project List Summary Table

Following is a project list summary table for the region. For the Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region, there are seven projects totaling \$1,181,880 submitted by the Yakima Basin

Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board. The middle Columbia region also has one alternate project totaling \$1,497,138. The remaining \$506,520 of the mid-Columbia allocation will be used by the Klickitat County Lead Entity. If any Klickitat project does not move forward due to Projects of Concern, landowner issues, or other reasons, we would like to transfer those funds back to the Yakima basin lead entity to help fund our alternate projects.

Table 10: Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board Proposed Projects

| Rank | Project Number | Project Name | Sponsor | Primary Fish Stock Benefited | Priority in Recovery Plan or Strategy |
|------|----------------|--|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 1 | 18-1711 | Teanaway Community Forest Floodplain Restoration | Yakama Nation | Spring Chinook, Steelhead | TAG Focus Action #16: Teanaway, Swauk, and Tributaries In-Stream Flow. Steelhead Recovery Plan Upper Yakima Action #14: Restore in-stream and floodplain habitat complexity in Swauk and Taneum Creeks and Teanaway and lower Cle Elum Rivers. Upper Yakima Action #15: Restore tributary riparian areas. |
| 2 | 18-1709 | Wood Replenishment in Four Tributaries | Yakama Nation | Spring Chinook, Steelhead | TAG Focus Action #21: Upper Yakima Floodplain and Side Channel Restoration. Steelhead Recovery Plan Upper Yakima Action #13: Protect and restore floodplain, riparian, and in-channel habitats in upper Yakima, Kittitas, and Easton/Cle Elum reaches. Upper Yakima #15: Restore tributary riparian areas. |
| 3 | 18-1648 | Cooke Creek Screening and Passage | Kittitas County Conservation District | Spring Chinook, Steelhead | No TAG Focus Action Alignment. Steelhead Recovery Plan Basin Wide Action #2: Adequately screen all water diversions. Upper Yakima Action #11: Restore passage, separate irrigation conveyance, and screen diversion in Ellensburg-area tributaries. |
| 4 | 18-1624 | Ensign Ranch–Big Creek Flow Enhancement Planning | Washington Water Trust | Spring Chinook, Steelhead | No TAG Focus Action Alignment. Steelhead Recovery Plan Basin Wide Action #5: Utilize Trust Water Rights Program to improve in-stream flow. |

| Rank | Project Number | Name | Sponsor | Primary Fish Stock Benefited | Priority in Recovery Plan or Strategy |
|----------|----------------|--|---|------------------------------|---|
| 5 | 18-1710 | Taneum Fish Passage at River Mile 1.8 | Yakama Nation | Spring Chinook, Steelhead | TAG Focus Action #16: Teanaway, Swauk, and Tributaries In-Stream Flow. Steelhead Recovery Plan Upper Yakima Action #6: Provide unimpeded fish passage in Taneum Creek. Upper Yakima Action #14: Restore in-stream and floodplain habitat complexity in Swauk and Taneum Creeks and Teanaway and lower Cle Elum Rivers. |
| 6 | 18-1650 | Ahtanum Restoration of Recreation Impacts | Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group | Steelhead, Bull Trout | No TAG Focus Action Alignment. Steelhead Recovery Plan Basin Wide Action #10: Promote land and resource decisions that fisheries resource values. Naches Action #27: Ahtanum creek floodplain and side channel restoration. 2017 Bull Trout Action Plan Ahtanum #1 and Ahtanum #3. |
| 7 | 18-1651 | Mainstem Teanaway Restoration Design at River Mile 8 | Kittitas County Conservation District | Spring Chinook, Steelhead | No TAG Focus Action Alignment Steelhead Recovery Plan Upper Yakima Action #14: Restore in-stream and floodplain habitat complexity in Swauk and Taneum Creeks and Teanaway and lower Cle Elum Rivers. Upper Yakima Action #15: Restore tributary restoration areas. |
| 8 ALT | 18-1623 | Greenhead Ranch Wetland/Creek Enhancements, Phase 1 | Ducks Unlimited | Steelhead | No TAG Focus Action Alignment Steelhead Recovery Plan Toppenish Action #1: Rehabilitate alluvial fan and downstream floodplain of Toppenish Creek. Toppenish Action #5: Further reduce diversions by improved water management. |

| Rank | Project Number | Project Name | Sponsor | Primary Fish Stock Benefited | Priority in Recovery Plan or Strategy |
|--|----------------|--|---|------------------------------|---|
| | | | | | Toppenish Action #7: Continue leases, purchase, and management of riparian areas. |
| Klickitat County Lead Entity Projects in the Middle Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region | | | | | |
| 1 | 18-2098 | White Creek 191 Meadow Enhancement | Yakama Nation | Steelhead, | Tier A, Priority A. Pages: 3, 74 |
| 2 | 18-2099 | Swale Creek Habitat Enhancement | Central Conservation District | Steelhead | Tier B, Priority A. Pages: 3, 88 |
| 3 | 18-2101 | Lower Rock Creek In-stream Habitat Enhancement | Eastern Klickitat Conservation District | Steelhead | Tier A, Priority A. Pages: 4, 99-100 |