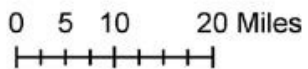
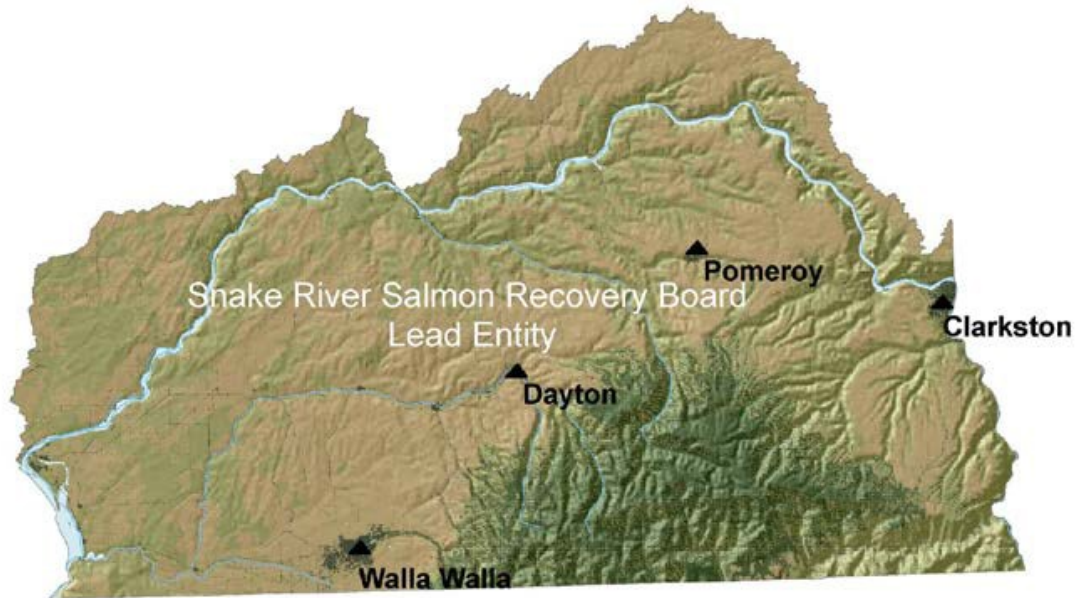


Snake River Salmon Recovery Region



October 2008



Snake River Salmon
Recovery Board
410B E. Main St.
Dayton, WA 99328
www.snakeriverboard.org

John Foltz
Executive Director
(509) 382-4115
john@snakeriverboard.org

Region Overview

Geography

The Snake River Salmon Recovery Region is comprised of salmon-bearing streams in Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin, and parts of Whitman County.

Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA)

Walla Walla (32), Lower Snake (33), and Middle Snake (35)

Federally Recognized Tribes

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation and Nez Perce Tribe.

Table 1: Snake River Salmon Recovery Region Listed Species

Species Listed	Listed As	Date Listed
Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook	Threatened	April 22, 1992
Snake River Fall Chinook	Threatened	April 22, 1992
Snake River Steelhead	Threatened	August 18, 1997
Snake River Bull Trout	Threatened	1998
*Snake River Sockeye are present in the mainstem Snake River within the region, no specific actions or recovery goals are identified in the SRSRP	Endangered	June 28, 2005

Region and Lead Entities

The Snake River Salmon Recovery Board is both the regional organization and lead entity for the Snake River Regional Salmon Recovery area. The lead entity is advised by a committee known as the Lead Entity Committee, which includes landowner representatives and representatives from the tribes, and state and federal agencies across the lead entity and region.

Table 2: Snake River Salmon Recovery Region Recovery Plan

Recovery Plan	
Regional Organization	Snake River Salmon Recovery Board
Plan Timeframe	10 years
Actions Identified to Implement Plan	264
Estimated Cost	\$248 million for the first ten years

Recovery Plan	
Status	<p>NOAA-Fisheries approved an interim recovery plan for listed populations in the Snake River region in Washington in March 2006. The plan was updated in 2011 and now is referred to as <i>Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan for Southeast Washington</i>.</p> <p>Adoption by NOAA-Fisheries of a complete recovery plan for the middle Columbia River steelhead Distinct Population Segment in Washington and Oregon was approved in 2009.</p> <p>NOAA-Fisheries is developing a comprehensive recovery plan for the four Endangered Species Act-listed Snake River species – steelhead, spring/summer Chinook, fall Chinook, and sockeye in southeast Washington, northeast Oregon, and Idaho. The <i>Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan for Southeast Washington</i> will comprise the Washington management unit portion of this comprehensive plan. Notice of the draft comprehensive Snake River recovery plan is scheduled for publication in the Federal Register in 2016. NOAA-Fisheries finalized this plan in November 2017.</p>
Implementation Schedule Status	<p>An implementation schedule with a 3-year timeframe and with more detailed information on recovery plan actions and costs is being used by the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board and its plan implementation partners. This implementation schedule is included as Appendix A in the 2011 Southeast Washington Management Unit Plan and it will be updated annually.</p>
Web Information	<p>Snake River Salmon Recovery Board Web site Salmon Recovery Plan</p>

Regional Area Summary Questions and Responses

The final annual funding report provides region-by-region summaries to the Governor's Salmon Recovery Office and the SRFB each December. These summaries document the local process to bring project lists to the SRFB for funding in each salmon recovery region. This year, as recommended by the Lean study, Questions 1B-1D are added to ask regions if they are funding the highest priority projects with their allocations. Questions 4 and 5 from lead entities will be submitted by lead entities to the regions and included in the summaries.

RCO staff requests that regional organizations review their information and update their responses to the questions below in a template of the funding report that **RCO will send out to regions in June**. Regions may request the template sooner, as needed.

RCO and Governor's Salmon Recovery Office staff will review the regional submissions and post them on the RCO Web site as part of the funding report. These regional area summaries are due to RCO August 21, 2020.

Questions

Regional organizations answer Questions 1-3.

1. Internal funding allocations:

A. Describe the process and criteria used to develop allocations across lead entities or watersheds within the region. (Only regions answer this question)

Funding allocation is based on the biological benefit of individual projects on an annual basis. Project scorecards were developed to award more points to projects that immediately address an imminent threat followed by those that are in priority areas, the primary factors limiting productivity, certainty of project success, project size, and project benefit relative to cost. The approach and criteria focuses internal funding towards the areas with the highest biological priorities as established in the regional recovery plan without consideration for political or watershed boundaries.

B. Explain if the projects list(s) submitted in your region funds the highest priority projects.

Yes, I think that generally the project list represents the highest priority projects in the region. We have some larger, complex projects that require phasing as the funding request would exceed our yearly regional allocation.

C. If the highest priority projects were not funded, explain the barriers to implementing the highest priority projects in your region.

In order to fund these large, complex projects, sponsors have had to reduce funding requests and phase projects to keep yearly requests within our allocation budget. This is inherently more expensive but often is one of the only options to pursue large, expensive projects. Locally, our Lead Entity has defined "large projects" as anything over \$400,000 in SRFB request and has recently placed a funding cap of that amount on project proposals.

D. Do suballocations to lead entities limit your region from getting to the highest priority projects?

Regarding tributary restoration projects at a rate consistent with the funding that we have, yes. However this is a tentative yes, as the pace of implementation of priority projects is slow due to landowner willingness and funding which in turn has resulted in relatively few project sponsors whom have full plates already. The Snake is one region/one lead entity so funding is not split out within the region.

- 2. Regional technical review process:** *The SRFB envisions regional technical review processes that address, at a minimum, the fit of lead entity projects to regional recovery plans, if available. (Only regions answer this question)*

A. Explain how the regional technical review was conducted.

The lead entity relies on a committee (Lead Entity Committee) comprised of citizen representatives and technical representatives. This committee jointly reviews draft applications, participates in field tours, and collaboratively scores and ranks the projects each grant round. To provide a more independent technical review, the regional technical team also participates in project field trips, reviews applications, and provides comments on pre-applications. Additionally, the regional technical team reviewed the project evaluation criteria to be certain that the criteria and point allocations for the various categories were consistent with the regional recovery plan. Based on the regional technical team's evaluation criteria and comments, the Lead Entity Committee then ranked projects for consideration by the lead entity and Snake River Salmon Recovery Board. The regional technical team does not score or rank projects but rather provides the technical basis for project evaluation and then provides the lead entity and the lead entity committee any input on particular projects when requested. 2020 did have some changes due to COVID and restrictions on meetings/tours. Sponsors recorded presentations for Lead Entity Committee and Regional Technical Team review and feedback. Site tours were held remotely for SRFB review panel members. Comments were provided to sponsors from all review steps. While this change in format is not ideal, this grant round process still provided multiple opportunities for review, feedback, and project revisions similar to previous years.

B. What criteria were used for the regional technical review?

The Lead Entity Committee used the project evaluation criteria supported by the regional technical team to evaluate projects. Those criteria are:

- Is the project in the right area? (priority stream reaches)
- How well is the project addressing limiting factors? (priority action)
- Will the project work?
- Is it based on proven scientific methods and will it meet the intended objectives?
- Is the project large enough to make a significant difference? Consider:
 1. Riparian acres impacted.
 2. In-stream flow.
 3. In-stream habitat or useable habitat opened.
 4. Upland best management practices.
 5. Likelihood of development.
 6. Does an assessment project lead to a project or fill an identified data gap?
- Cost benefit. Consider:
 1. Cost-benefit relationship based on community values.
 2. Past experience with project costs.
 3. Cost-share.
 4. Perceived project value relative to other proposed projects.
 5. Number of Endangered Species Act listed species.

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

The lead entity committee completed the review, including scoring and ranking. Members of the lead entity committee are:

Member	Affiliation
Jerry Hendrickson	Asotin County
Steve Purcell	Asotin County
Don Howard	Columbia County
Leigh Cranmer	Columbia County
Billy Bowles	Garfield County

Member	Affiliation
Vacant	Garfield County
David Crabtree	Walla Walla County
Larry Hooker	Walla Walla County
Bryan Jones	Whitman County
Jon Jones	Whitman County
Kris Fischer	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Diane Driscoll/Bob Reis/Jennifer Gatzke	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Sean Taylor	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Emmit Taylor	Nez Perce Tribe
Brad Trumbo	United States Army Corp of Engineers
Erin Kuttel	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Bill Dowdy	United States Forest Service
Stephen Ranson	Washington Department of Ecology
Tom Schirm	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Regional technical team members are not members of the Lead Entity Committee but did provide independent technical comments to staff, project sponsors, and the Lead Entity Committee. Note that nine of the regional technical team members are also members of the Lead Entity Committee.

Members of the Regional Technical Team are:

Members	Affiliation
Gary James	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Kris Fischer (alt.)	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Mike Lambert (alt.)	Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
Bob Reis	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Diane Driscoll (alt.)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Jennifer Gatzke (alt.)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Sean Taylor	Natural Resource Conservation Service
Emmit Taylor, Jr.	Nez Perce Tribe
Kathryn Frenyea (alt.)	Nez Perce Tribe
Chuck Chamberlain	United States Army Corp of Engineers
Erin Kuttel	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Bill Dowdy	United States Forest Service
Jeremy Trump	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mark Grandstaff (alt.)	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Ethan Crawford (alt.)	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Joe Bumgarner (alt.)	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

D. implementation or Habitat Work Schedule did not specifically identify? If so, please provide justification for including these projects in the list of projects recommended to the SRFB for funding. If the projects were identified in the regional implementation plan or strategy but considered a low priority or in a low priority area please provide justification.

All the project submitted in the 2020 grant round are listed in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan Provisional 3-5 year work plan or in the Snake River salmon recovery plan for SE Washington (2011 version).

3. Criteria the SRFB considers in funding regional project lists: *Revised Code of Washington 77.85.130 identifies criteria that the SRFB must consider and give preference in awarding funds to projects. Please provide a short description of how the region considered each of the criteria (when applicable) when presenting the project list to the SRFB. Questions A-C may be answered in narrative form. To save time, RCO added questions D-I into PRISM and will supply this information to each region. Please include the matrix and the region's responses as part of the narrative for Question 3.*

How did the regional review consider whether a project met the following criteria:

A. Provides benefit to high priority stocks for the purpose of salmon recovery or sustainability. In addition to limiting factors analysis, Salmonid Stock Inventory, and Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Inventory and Assessment Program, provide stock assessment work completed to date to characterize the status of salmonid species in the region. Briefly describe.

All Endangered Species Act listed stocks are a high priority for salmon recovery. SaSI, SSHIAP, and the Ecosystem Diagnosis and Treatment model were used to characterize the status of stocks and habitats. Benefit to salmon is based on two primary criteria: (1) location and (2) limiting factors addressed, followed by sub-criteria, including (1) size, and (2) cost-benefit. A project that provides benefit to salmon is: in a priority reach within a major spawning area, addressing multiple prioritized limiting factors, is large, and demonstrates high cost-benefit.

B. Addresses cost-effectiveness. Provide a description of cost-effectiveness considered.

This is primarily conducted in the preliminary and draft application phases. Project budgets are evaluated based on experience with similar projects completed in previous rounds and reviewers are asked to comment whether they think the project is cost-effective, or that a more cost-effective approach exists. Applicants revise or withdraw their projects based on this early input. The final review occurs during the project ranking when the lead entity committee can recommend that a project be "moved up or down the list" based on cost-benefit. The committee can also request that a project sponsor provide additional match or seek to leverage

other potential funding. The lead entity/board then evaluates this recommendation and with input from the regional technical team and staff can accept the recommendation.

C. Preserves high quality habitat. Describe projects on the list that will preserve high quality habitat.

The Lead Entity considers the preservation of high quality habitat (or habitat when restored could be high quality) and the location of the potential project (as it relates to habitat) as part of the scoring and ranking criteria.

D. Sponsored by an organization with a successful record of project implementation. For example, identify the number of previous SRFB projects funded and completed.

The Lead Entity does consider a project sponsors history of project implementation and the likelihood of success during the evaluation, project scoring, and ranking. The following table lists the projects proposed for funding in the Snake River region. This year, all of the project sponsors who successfully submitted applications have completed SRFB projects in the past. The table lists the number of projects each has been awarded, the number of projects currently active, and the number completed.

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Sponsor Record of SRFB Project Implementation
20-1050	North Touchet Phase 3	Umatilla Confederated Tribes	Projects: Awarded – 10 Active – 3 Completed – 7
20-1055	Cougar Creek Fish Passage Design	Asotin Co Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 37 Active – 3 Completed – 34
20-1093	Touchet River Smolt Trap Monitoring	Fish & Wildlife Dept of	Projects: Awarded – 212 Active – 23 Completed – 184
20-1053	Tumalum Creek Culvert Restoration	Nez Perce Tribe	Projects: Awarded – 3 Active – 0 Completed – 3
20-1045	Alpowa PALS Phase III Restoration	Pomeroy Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 17 Active – 2 Completed – 15
20-1052	Tucannon PA 34.1-34.2 Design	Columbia Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 35

Regional Area Summary

Snake River Salmon Recovery Region

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Sponsor Record of SRFB Project Implementation
			Active – 3 Completed – 32
20-1037	Couse Cr Instream Habitat PA 79	Asotin Co Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 37 Active – 3 Completed – 34
20-1036	Tenmile Creek PA 65, 66, 67 LWD Instream Habitat	Asotin Co Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 37 Active – 3 Completed – 34
20-1047	Upper Pataha Creek PALS Restoration	Pomeroy Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 17 Active – 2 Completed – 15
20-1048	Tumalum Creek PALS	Pomeroy Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 17 Active – 2 Completed – 15
120-1035	Touchet River Mile 42 Design	Walla Walla Co Cons Dist	Projects: Awarded – 29 Active – 5 Completed – 24
20-1054	Couse Creek PA 78 Design	Asotin Co Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 37 Active – 3 Completed – 34
20-1051	Tucannon PA 38 Design	Columbia Conservation Dist	Projects: Awarded – 35 Active – 3 Completed – 32

E. 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.

Project #	Project Name	Targeted Listed Species	Non-target Listed Species/ Non-listed Benefactors
20-1050	North Touchet Phase 3	Mid-Columbia Steelhead, Columbia River Bull Trout	Spring Chinook, Pacific Lamprey, Rainbow Trout, Mt. Whitefish
20-1055	Cougar Creek Fish Passage Design	Snake River Steelhead	Rainbow Trout
20-1093	Touchet River Smolt Trap Monitoring	Mid-Columbia Steelhead	Columbia River Bull Trout,
20-1053	Tumalum Creek Culvert Restoration	Snake River Steelhead	
20-1045	Alpowa PALS Phase III Restoration	Snake River Steelhead	
20-1052	Tucannon PA 34.1-34.2 Design	Snake River Steelhead, Snake River Fall Chinook, Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook, Columbia River Bull Trout	Pacific Lamprey, Rainbow Trout, Mt. Whitefish
20-1037	Couse Cr Instream Habitat PA 79	Snake River Steelhead	Rainbow Trout
20-1036	Tenmile Creek PA 65, 66, 67 LWD Instream Habitat	Snake River Steelhead	Rainbow Trout
20-1047	Upper Pataha Creek PALS Restoration	Snake River Steelhead	
20-1048	Tumalum Creek PALS	Snake River Steelhead	
120-1035	Touchet River Mile 42 Design	Mid-Columbia Steelhead, Columbia River Bull Trout	Spring Chinook, Pacific Lamprey, Rainbow Trout, Mt. Whitefish
20-1054	Couse Creek PA 78 Design	Snake River Steelhead	Rainbow Trout
20-1051	Tucannon PA 38 Design	Snake River Steelhead, Snake River Fall Chinook, Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook, Columbia River Bull Trout	Pacific Lamprey, Rainbow Trout, Mt. Whitefish

F. Implements a high priority project or action in a region or watershed salmon recovery plan. Identify where and how the project is identified as a high priority in the referenced plan.

The Lead Entity considered if each project is identified as a high priority project or action identified in the recovery plan and the Snake River Salmon Recovery Regional 3-5 year work plan or in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011). Each of the proposed projects for 2020 is listed in the 3-5 year work plan as a specific high priority project or as a general action (such as addressing an imminent threat) or was identified directly in the Recovery Plan.

#20-1052 Tucannon PA 34.1-34.2 Design

The Columbia Conservation District (CCD) is sponsoring the Tucannon PA 34.1 & 34.2 Restoration Design project to develop final designs, ready to construct engineering plans and complete environmental compliance including permit and cultural resource requirements. Project is located in Columbia County, in the Tucannon River mSA Priority Restoration Reach between river mile 11.4 and 12.9. Project area has recently been enrolled in USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. Project reach supports ESA listed Spring Chinook- juvenile overwintering/migration, Steelhead-spawning/rearing/overwintering and migration, Fall Chinook-spawning/rearing and Bull Trout overwintering/migration and designated as critical habitat for Bull Trout by US Fish & Wildlife. WDFW completed the Tucannon Juvenile Salmonid Survival and Habitat Utilization study, project #15-1322 (2019), identifying stream reaches where overwinter juvenile mortality is high. This project is located in a priority reach to address juvenile salmonid overwintering habitats.

Goals are to develop designs that address habitat limiting factors identified in the Draft Tucannon River Habitat Restoration Prioritization and Conceptual Restoration Plans (Anchor 2020). Enhance instream complexity/diversity, floodplain connectivity, sediment sorting and storage and pool development supporting various salmonid life cycle needs. Designs will include landowner property management objectives and limitations. This project is located in a priority restoration reach in the Tucannon MSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1051 Tucannon PA 38 Design

The Columbia Conservation District (CCD) is sponsoring the Tucannon PA 38 Restoration Design project to develop final designs, ready to construct engineering plans and complete environmental compliance including permit and cultural resource requirements. Project is located in Columbia County, in the Tucannon River mSA Priority Restoration Reach between river mile 6.5 and 8.0. Project area has recently been enrolled in USDA Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program. Project reach supports ESA listed Spring Chinook- juvenile overwintering/migration, Steelhead-spawning/rearing/overwintering and migration, Fall Chinook-spawning/rearing and Bull Trout overwintering/migration and designated as critical habitat for

Bull Trout by US Fish & Wildlife. WDFW completed the Tucannon Juvenile Salmonid Survival and Habitat Utilization study, project #15-1322 (2019), identifying stream reaches where overwinter juvenile mortality is high. This project is located in a priority reach to address juvenile salmonid overwintering habitats. This project is located in a priority restoration reach in the Tucannon MSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1050 North Touchet Restoration Phase 3

The CTUIR proposes to increase channel complexity and floodplain connectivity while improving fish habitat on the North Touchet River as part of an ongoing phased project. The overall project occurs in three phases (2019, 2020, and 2021) over three miles (RM 1.3-4.3). This grant application seeks 2020 funding to implement the third phase in the summer of 2021. The project will benefit ESA listed mid-Columbia Steelhead, bull trout, redband trout, and now Chinook salmon that were re-introduced (out planted) in 2015 -2018. The project is also located in a designated priority restoration reach in the Touchet River major spawning area as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington and regional the three year work plan.

The project will occur on both the right and left banks with the majority of the work scheduled to occur on the left bank. Two private landowners will participate in this phase. The primary element in this phase includes the setting back of 4,600 feet of a levee. The levee setback on the left bank will require the current landowner to give up at least 8 acres of land that is currently in apple production. The total area that would then be incorporated in the active floodplain on the left bank is 15 acres. Tearing down the existing levee and building the setback levee will require moving some 50,000 cubic yards of material. Habitat structures, largely in the form of large wood, will be installed along the entire project reach. We also intend to replace an 80 foot channel constricting rail car bridge with a 150 foot span bridge to allow the channel room to migrate laterally. Along the right bank, there are two riparian forested areas that will have alcoves constructed in them to act as refugia for juvenile salmonids. This project is located in a priority restoration reach in Upper Touchet River MSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1093 Touchet River Smolt Trap Monitoring

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is proposing a monitoring project on the Touchet River, Wa. WDFW has been monitoring Touchet River summer steelhead (Mid-Columbia River DPS) smolt production as one of the Fish In/Fish Out smolt trapping projects across the State. The smolt trap is located immediately below where the Harvey-Shaw road crosses the Touchet River. Monitoring objectives have been to estimate smolt yield and life history diversity, in addition to PIT tagging all juvenile migrants to monitor their outmigration, estimate smolt-to-adult survival (SAR) and adult abundance, many of which are critical Viable Salmonid Population (VSP) parameters. The smolt trap is operated continuously from October thru June each year. Delisting of Mid-C summer steelhead has been discussed for years, but the lack high quality VSP information has limited the ability of the Federal Agencies to change the

current status of the Umatilla/Walla Walla MPG. Population monitoring (juvenile and adult) is a foundational component of science-based recovery actions and tracking progress towards recovery. Therefore, operation of the Touchet River smolt trap and the resulting estimates (juvenile and adult abundance, productivity) play a critical role in this evaluation. This proposed monitoring project addresses a funding gap to normal trap operations due to cuts from other funding sources which had supported the project but are no longer able to.

This project addresses a high priority information need or data gap within our recovery plan and/or associated RM&E strategy, is listed in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan, and is supported by the SRSRB.

#20-1053 Tualum Creek Culvert Restoration

The Nez Perce Tribe is seeking restoration funding to implement a culvert replacement on Tualum Creek. Tualum Creek is a tributary to the Tucannon River in Southeast Washington located within the Tucannon Major Spawning Area as identified in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan (2011). The overall project goal is to produce final designs and implement a project to resolve a partial fish passage barrier for the Tualum Creek culvert that will pass all life stages of ESA-listed Snake River summer steelhead and allow access to spawning and rearing habitat to approximately 6.5 miles upstream of the existing culvert. The barrier was identified in the 2008 Walla Walla Community College Road Crossing Barrier Assessment and included in the WDFW Inventory Assessment. This project is located within the Tucannon River MSA and is identified as imminent threat in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1045 Alpowa PALS Phase 3 Restoration

The Pomeroy CD in cooperation with the Palouse CD and Bradley Johnson will be submitting a restoration project on Alpowa Creek where highway 12 and Alpowa Creek Road meet. We are proposing to install Post Assisted Log Structures (PALS) on a high priority section of Alpowa Creek that was identified during the instream survey that was completed with SRFB funding. The overall goals of the PALS project is to increase instream wood and pool habitat for ESA listed Snake River summer steelhead in Alpowa Creek. This project will identify PALS locations for at least 80 structures in 2021 and an additional 80 structures in 2022 in a 2-mile section of Alpowa Creek ~ 9,887 feet. This project is located in a priority restoration reach within the Alpowa Creek MSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1048 Tualum Creek PALS

The Pomeroy Conservation District will use funds to implement a habitat improvement project on Tualum Creek in Garfield County to restore in-stream habitat, floodplain connectivity, and riparian function. Tualum Creek is located within the Tucannon River watershed, a major spawning area (MSA) for ESA-listed Snake River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). The proposed

project area extends from river miles 3-5 and would take place along 0.5 miles of stream within the project area.

Tumalum Creek supports a small population of steelhead but habitat is limited due to a lack of pools, poorly sorted sediments, channel incision, reduction in complexity, and high stream temperatures. In some locations the stream is disconnected from the floodplain and goes dry or has very low flows for most of the year. These conditions are a result of landscape-level impacts including logging, grazing, and past removal of beaver colonies. This project is located within the Tucannon MSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1047 Upper Pataha Creek PALs Restoration

The Pomeroy Conservation District will use funds to implement an in-stream and riparian enhancement project on Upper Pataha Creek in Garfield County. Pataha Creek is the largest tributary to the Tucannon River and considered a major spawning area (MSA) for ESA-listed Snake River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*). The proposed project is located approximately eight miles east of Pomeroy and would take place along 1.5 miles of private land in upper Pataha Creek which is designated as a priority protection reach.

Pataha Creek is an incised stream that has been disconnected from its floodplain as a result of past land management actions including logging, grazing, and the removal of large wood and beaver. These actions have led to degraded habitat conditions with few pools, poorly sorted sediment, a lack of riparian cover, and high stream temperatures. The goals of this project are to restore ecologically based stream processes to improve habitat for steelhead by increasing in-stream habitat complexity, floodplain connectivity, and riparian function by installing a series of at least Post Assisted Log Structures (PALS) and Beaver Dam Analogs (BDA). This proposal will be augmented by funding from CREP and Blue Mountain Foundation to conduct riparian plantings and fencing to exclude livestock. This project is located in a priority protection reach within the Pataha Creek MSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1055 Cougar Creek Fish Passage Design

The Asotin County Conservation District is sponsoring a grant proposal to seek SRFB funds develop a design for the replacement of the existing Cougar Creek culvert, which is a partial to fish passage barrier where Cougar Creek flows under the Grande Ronde River Road. The barrier poses an imminent threat to anadromous fish (Steelhead) and limits their access approximately 2.25 miles of rearing and spawning habitat upstream of the culvert. As stated in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan, Steelhead are especially effective at accessing and utilizing stream reaches with suitable habitat, however, their distribution is limited environmental issues such as migration barriers. Cougar Creek flows directly into by the Grande Ronde River approximately 140 feet below the barrier. The current culvert was identified in 2010 by the Walla Walla Community College Road Crossing Barrier Assessment as a barrier.

Cougar Creek is a tributary to the Grande Ronde River in southeast Washington. A fish passage barrier exists approximately 140 feet above the mouth of the Cougar Creek where it passes under the Grande Ronde River Road. The barrier poses an imminent threat to anadromous fish, including steelhead, limiting their access to approximately 2.25 miles of spawning and rearing habitat. As stated in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan, steelhead are especially effective at accessing and utilizing stream reaches with suitable habitat, however, their distribution is limited by environmental issues such as migration barriers. Cougar Creek has been identified as a priority protection reach for steelhead. Fish passage is identified in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan as a primary limiting factor for steelhead in several lower tributaries to the Grande Ronde River. This project is located in a priority protection reach within the Grande Ronde MSA and is identified as imminent threat in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1054 Couse Creek PA 78 Design

Description: The Asotin County Conservation District is sponsoring the Couse Creek PA 78 Stream Restoration Design Project to develop a full design report, ready to construct engineering plans and complete environmental compliance including permit and cultural resource requirements. PA 78 was identified as a Tier 1 project in the Asotin County Conceptual Restoration Plan. There is an existing stream buffer in place through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). The conceptual plan for PA 78 includes improving access to flood channels, controlling invasive vegetation encroachment and organizing boulder clusters and add large woody debris to increase complexity. This project is located in a priority restoration reach within the Couse Creek Creek mSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1036 Tenmile Creek PA 65, 66 & 67 LWD Instream Habitat

Description: Approved by SRFB Review Panel in 2019 The Asotin County Conservation District is sponsoring the Tenmile Creek PA 65, 66 & 67 LWD Instream Habitat Project to install approximately 150 large woody debris structures including Post Assisted Log Structures (PALS), Beaver Dam Analog Structures (BDAS) and engineered wood structures. This project is project is located south of the City of Asotin, WA along Tenmile Creek Road. The project begins at RM 1.6 and ends a RM 3.1. Tenmile Creek is listed as an mSA and Priority Restoration Reach that flows directly into the Snake River. PA 65 was identified as a Tier 2 and PA 66 & 67 as Tier 3 project areas. The total reach length for the proposed project is 1.5-miles. There is one landowner for this project area and the property is enrolled in CREP. The conceptual plan recommendations for all three project areas include adding LWD throughout the reach to increase geomorphic complexity and promote overbank flows. Additional recommendations for PA 66 including the need for LWD to increase sediment and water retention since this reach does not support perennial stream flows. The LWD structures will be placed strategically to maximize the goals of the project. The project area upstream is a Tier 1 reach. This project will include a first phase implemented in 2020 with BPA funds and this application will complete the remaining project

scope for the reach to improve stream function and habitat for Snake River Steelhead. Additional phases will be planned based on conditions after construction of this project to continue improving the stream and riparian conditions. This project is located in a priority restoration reach within the Tenmile Creek mSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1037 Couse Creek LWD Instream Habitat Project – PA 79

The Asotin County Conservation District is sponsoring the Couse Creek PA 79 LWD Instream Habitat Project to install approximately 250 large woody debris structures including Post Assisted Log Structures (PALS), Beaver Dam Analog Structures (BDAS) and engineered wood structures. The project is located south of the City of Asotin, WA along Couse Creek Road. The project begins at RM 1.4 and ends are RM 3.5. Couse Creek is listed as an mSA and Priority Restoration Reach that flows directly into the Snake River. PA 79 was identified as a Tier 3 project area and is a 2.1-mile stream reach. There are two landowners for this project area and have enrolled in CREP and a “CREP Like” riparian easement. The conceptual plan recommendations for PA 79 include adding LWD throughout the reach to increase geomorphic complexity, promote overbank flows, increase sediment and increase water retention. Most of this reach of Couse Creek currently does not support perennial stream flows. The LWD structures will be placed strategically to maximize the goals of the project, especially water retention. The project area downstream of this reach was listed as a Tier 1 and the project area upstream is a Tier 4 conservation reach. This project will include a first phase implemented in 2020 with BPA funds and this application will complete the remaining project scope for the PA 79 reach to improve stream function and habitat for Snake River Steelhead. Additional phases will be planned based on conditions after construction of this project to continue improving the stream and riparian conditions. This project is located in a priority restoration reach within the Couse Creek Creek mSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

#20-1035 Touchet River Mile 42 Restoration Project Design

Walla Walla County Conservation District proposes to create final engineering designs for a fish habitat restoration project. This project is located in Walla Walla County, on the Touchet River at river mile 41.5-42.5, approximately ½ mile below the confluence of the Touchet River and Coppei Creek, 1 mile west of the city limits of Waitsburg. The proposed project reach is located within the Touchet River MSA, Priority Restoration Reach and a Major Spawning Area for ESA listed Mid-Columbia River DPS Steelhead as identified in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan (2011). This is also designated a critical habitat for Bull Trout by the US Fish & Wildlife in 2010. The overall goals are to develop an engineered design that will ultimately restore natural riverine processes including increased channel roughness elements, promote sediment sorting and storage and create a dynamic floodplain and instream environment with complex side channels and large wood features. The project, when constructed, will provide Mid-Columbia steelhead adult holding and juvenile rearing habitat, bull trout overwintering habitat, and non-

ESA listed spring Chinook passage and holding habitat. This design would augment three other major restoration projects already completed in this reach. Those projects include; Touchet River Mile 42.5 Habitat Enhancement, Prism # 07-1527, and is adjacent and upriver of the Touchet River McCaw Reach Projects Phases A (11-1580) & B (16-2099). McCaw Phase C (19-1461) was funded in 2019. This project is located in a priority restoration reach in Middle Touchet River MSA as identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011) and regional 3-5 year work plan.

G. Provides for match above the minimum requirement percentage. Identify the project’s match percentage and the regional match total.

When considering project costs and cost benefit, the Lead Entity also considers if a project is providing more than the minimum 15% required match for a typical SRFB project. This is a topic of discussion when evaluating and ranking projects and is also incorporated in the score card. A few projects leverage multiple funding sources to implement large scale projects, although the total project cost isn’t always claimed as match due to SRFB grant reimbursement requirements.

This year the region had more projects leveraging other funding sources. Twelve of the thirteen proposed projects contributed more than the minimum required match for their project types and five projects contributed at least 30% match (see table below). The overall match shown in Appendix M and PRISM is 30.9%, or \$545,986. If the match percentage included funding to implement each of the project’s full scope of work, the figure would rise to 61%, or \$1,935,938 – again this match is not reported due to SRFB grant reimbursement restrictions. These figures don’t include funding used for the design phases of implementation projects, which were previously funded.

Matching Contributions above the minimum 15% requirement for SRFB projects in the Snake River Region

Project Rank	PRISM #	Project Name	Values in PRISM			Additional costs not reported in PRISM			Match % of total project cost
			SRFB Request	Match Reported in PRISM	Total cost as reported for SRFB grant purposes	Total cost to implement complete scope of work	Additional project match (not included for SRFB)*		
1	20-1050	North Touchet RM Phase 3 Restoration	\$395,417	\$ 304,833	\$ 700,250	\$1,844,000	\$1,143,750	79%	
2	20-1055	Cougar Creek Fish Passage Design	\$80,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 100,000	\$100,000	\$0	20%	
3	20-1093	Touchet River Smolt Trap Monitoring	\$78,109	\$ 13,790	\$ 91,899	\$178,615	\$86,716	56%	
4	20-1053	Tumalum Creek Culvert Restoration	\$316,110	\$ 67,861	\$ 383,971	\$514,657	\$130,686	39%	
5	20-1045	Alpowa PALs Phase 3 Restoration	\$83,300	\$ 14,700	\$ 98,000	\$98,000	\$0	15%	
6	20-1052	Tucannon PA 34.1-34.2 Design	\$81,066	\$ 20,500	\$ 101,566	\$101,566	\$0	20%	
7	20-1037	Couse Creek PA 79 Restoration	\$56,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 68,000	\$80,000	\$12,000	30%	
8	20-1036	Tenmile Creek PA 65, 66, 67 Restoration	\$50,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 60,000	\$71,500	\$11,500	30%	
9	20-1047	Upper Pataha Creek PALs Restoration	\$130,050	\$ 35,750	\$ 165,800	\$165,800	\$0	22%	
10	20-1048	Tumalum Creek Pals	\$69,500	\$ 13,900	\$ 83,400	\$88,700	\$5,300	22%	
11	20-1035	Touchet River Mile 42 Restoration Project Design	\$95,648	\$ 5,000	\$ 100,648	\$100,648	\$0	5%	
12	20-1054	Couse Creek PA 78 Design	\$84,000	\$ 21,000	\$ 105,000	\$105,000	\$0	20%	
First Alternate	20-1051	Tucannon PA 38 Design**	\$86,798	\$ 6,652	\$ 93,450	\$93,450	\$0	7%	
			\$1,605,998	\$ 545,986	\$ 1,769,486	\$ 3,154,138	\$1,389,952	61%	

*These values are shown in the cost estimate attachments in PRISM.

+Anticipated Regional Allocation \$1,519,200

Total match reported in PRISM	\$ 545,986
Total Mach % as reported in PRISM for all projects	30.9%
Total match to implement projects	\$ 1,935,938
Total match % relative to the SRFB request given project costs	61%

H. Involves members of the Veterans Conservation corps established in Revised Code of Washington 43.60A.150.

No members of the Veterans Conservation Corps are involved.

4. Local review processes. (Lead entity provides response.)**A. Provide project evaluation criteria and documentation (local technical reviewer and citizen committee score sheet or comment forms) of the local citizens advisory group and technical advisory group ratings for each project, including explanations for differences between the two groups' ratings.**

The project evaluation criteria (scorecard) used to score and rank projects in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board focus on the biological benefits of projects based on quantifiable criteria developed to reflect the recommendations of the analysis in the recovery plan. The scorecard is standardized to allow comparison of a project in one category against a project in another category based on the intended outcome of each project.

The Lead Entity Committee is comprised of both technical and citizen members that review and rank the projects as a single committee. This approach allows for discussion among the technical and citizen members during the scoring and ranking process allowing for a more informed scoring process. Scoring the projects is done individually and then an average score is provided; there are no differences in the two groups' ratings because there is only one score developed.

In part due to meeting restrictions in response to covid-19, the Lead Entity Committee only met two times during the grant round to produce the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board final project list in 2020. The Lead Entity Committee held a grant round kickoff meeting in October 2020, followed by a draft review and scoring meeting scheduled for March 26th, 2020 that was cancelled in response to COVID-19 restrictions. Committee members were provided pre-recorded project tour presentations as part of a remote project tour on May 5-6th. The Lead Entity Committee then met on June 24th, 2020 for a virtual final ranking meeting to make final comment and prioritize the project list. From the start of the grant round until the production of the final project list, the Regional Technical Team was updated on projects at monthly meetings and provided requested input back to the Lead Entity Committee. In 2020, the Lead Entity Committee reviewed and commented on 14 project proposals for funding. By the final review and scoring, 13 project proposals were submitted, evaluated, and ranked. The Lead Entity Committee, after final review, recommended funding all 13 projects to the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board. Note that funding requests exceeded the regional allocation and the projects were funded in the order ranked with the exception of one project being voluntarily moved to first alternate post-scoring meeting.

The Lead Entity/Snake River Salmon Recovery Board then reviewed the recommended list provided by the Lead Entity Committee with the one voluntary alternate and approved the revised list.

B. Identify the local technical review team (include expertise, names, and affiliations of members).

Local technical review is completed by the lead entity technical reviewers identified above; additional input is provided when requested by the Snake River Regional Technical Team (membership identified in previous table).

C. Explain how and when the SRFB Review Panel participated in the local process, if applicable.

The SRFB review panel plays an important role in reviewing our prospective final project list. The review panel attended a virtual project tour in May 2020 when it joined lead entity staff to meet with the project sponsors discuss the projects. Written review of those projects was provided by the review panel. Sponsors and staff worked to incorporate recommendations provided by the review panel into the final applications. The review panel first reviews our projects at the draft stage during the early review in our process.

The Lead Entity Coordinator communicated with our designated RCO grant manager during the application process. We appreciate the review and valuable input provided by the SRFB Review Panel and grant managers which complements the local review process. This review step provides an extra level of credibility and backing; a special thanks to Jeannette Smith and Steve Toth of the State Review Panel and RCO Grant Manager Alice Rubin for their time and effort here during the 2020 Snake River Lead Entity SRFB grant round process and helping to ensure a smooth grant round despite restrictions due to covid-19.

5. Local evaluation process and project lists. (Lead entity provides response.)

A. Explain how multi-year implementation plans or Habitat Work Schedules helped to develop project lists.

The Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan Provisional 3-5 year work plan and Habitat Work Schedule was distributed to potential project sponsors months in advance of the grant round for them to use in identifying high priority projects. All of the projects on the 2020 grant round list were identified in the plan or within the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (2011).

B. Explain how finalized project lists address the comments of technical, citizen, and policy reviews. Were there any issues about projects on the list and how were those resolved?

Lead entity staff compiled technical comments from the regional technical team, Lead Entity Committee, and SRFB review panel and provided them to sponsors. Staff then worked with sponsors to address the comments in their final applications. Sponsors in this grant round took comments from all reviewers into consideration and either accepted recommendations or provided justification for the positions taken.