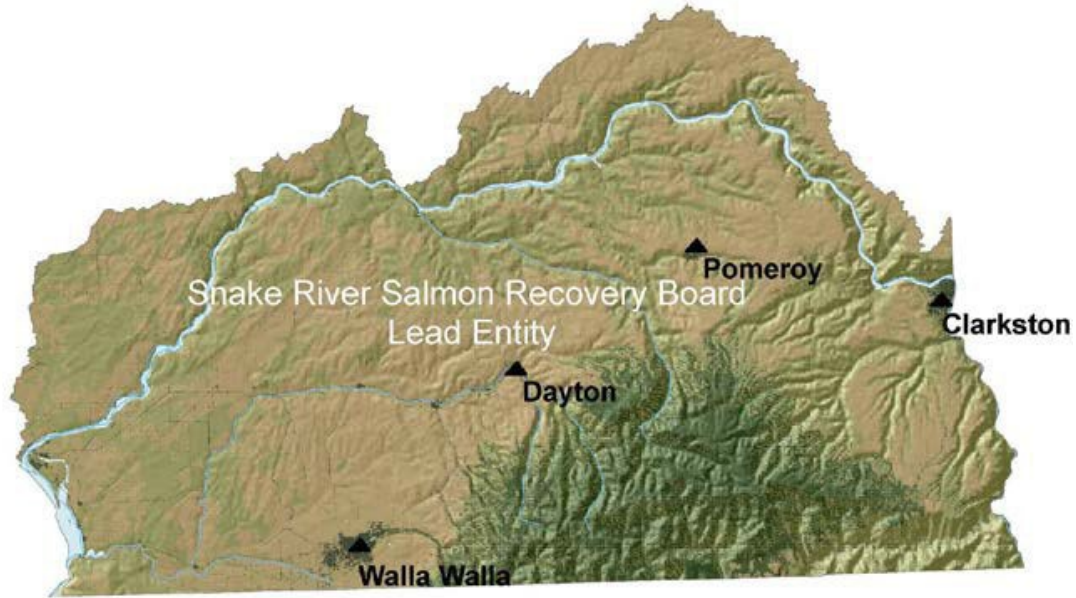


Snake River Salmon Recovery Region



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October 2008



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

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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, 2023.

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. In 2023, we also utilized the remainder of funding from the supplemental legislative session awarded last year. While this funding is extremely helpful and allowed us to fund a large portion of our list, we still lack the needed funding to cover all potential work in the area. This includes a proposed large cap project as well that is not a part of the direct SRFB ranked list.

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. We were able to hold scoring meeting and tours in person this year with remote options for the scoring meetings. Comments were provided to sponsors from all review steps.

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. Floodplain connection.
 5. Upland best management practices.
 6. Likelihood of development.
 7. 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
Vacant	Asotin County
Vacant	Columbia County
Leigh Cranmer	Columbia County
Billy Bowles	Garfield County

Member	Affiliation
Vacant	Garfield County
Mike Denny	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
Jim Mital/Jennifer Gatzke	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Vacant	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Emmit Taylor	Nez Perce Tribe
Brad Trumbo	United States Army Corp of Engineers
Kat Sarensen	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Bill Dowdy	United States Forest Service
Jennie Weathered	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
Jim Mital	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Jennifer Gatzke (alt.)	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Vacant	Natural Resource Conservation Service
Emmit Taylor, Jr.	Nez Perce Tribe
Kathryn Frenyea (alt.)	Nez Perce Tribe
Brad Trumbo	United States Army Corp of Engineers
Kat Sarensen	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
Bill Dowdy	United States Forest Service
Jeremy Trump	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Steve Martin (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

- A. Were there any projects submitted to the SRFB that the regional implementation or Salmon Recovery Portal (formerly 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 2023 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.

Regional Area Summary

ry Region

Project #	Project Name	Project Sponsor	Sponsor Record of SRFB Project
23-1028	Tucannon PA 34.1-34.2 Restoration	Columbia Conservation	Projects: Awarded – 39 Active – 5 Completed – 34
23-1032	Cummings Creek Low Tech Restoration	Nez Perce Tribe	Projects: Awarded – 5 Active – 2 Completed – 3
23-1027	Tuusi Wana Restoration Phase 1	Umatilla Confederated	Projects: Awarded – 15 Active – 4 Completed – 11
23-1036	Asotin IMW Low Tech Design and Resto	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Projects: Awarded – 21 Active – 10 Completed – 11
23-1022	Coppei Creek Project Area 07 Restorati	Walla Walla Co Cons Dis	Projects: Awarded – 35 Active – 5 Completed – 30
23-1029	Walla Walla River B2B Phase 3A Restor	Tri-State Steelheaders Ir	Projects: Awarded – 23 Active – 3 Completed – 19
23-1023	Asotin Creek PA 3.2 Restoration	Asotin Co Conservation	Projects: Awarded – 48 Active – 9 Completed – 39
23-1030	Walla Walla River B2B Phase 4 Design	Tri-State Steelheaders Ir	Projects: Awarded – 23 Active – 3 Completed – 19
23-1035	Dry Creek-Hwy 12 Fish Passage Design	Tri-State Steelheaders Ir	Projects: Awarded – 23 Active – 3 Completed – 19
23-1020	Alpowa Instream PALS – Phase IV	Pomeroy Conservation I	Projects: Awarded – 22 Active – 3 Completed – 18
23-1034	Rattlesnake West Branch Restoration (:	Asotin Co Conservation	Projects: Awarded – 48 Active – 9 Completed – 39
23-1026	Steptoe Creek Instream PALS III	Palouse Conservation D	Projects: Awarded – 6 Active – 2 Completed – 4

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 Species
23-1028	Tucannon PA 34.1-34.2 Restoration	Chinook-Snake River Fall, Snake River Lower Mainstem, Threatened, Chinook-Snake River Spring/Summer, Tucannon River, Threatened, Steelhead-Snake River, Tucannon River, Threatened	Bull Trout
23-1032	Cummings Creek Low Tech Restoration (Phase 2, 3)	Steelhead-Snake River, Tucannon River, Threatened	Bull Trout, Rainbow
23-1027	Tuusi Wana Restoration Phase 1	Chinook-unidentified, Steelhead-Middle Columbia River, Touchet River, Threatened	Lamprey
23-1036	Asotin IMW Low Tech Design and Restoration	Chinook-Snake River Spring/Summer, Asotin Creek, Threatened, Steelhead-Snake River, Asotin Creek, Threatened	Bull Trout, Lamprey, None
23-1022	Coppei Creek Project Area 07 Restoration	Steelhead-Middle Columbia River, Touchet River, Threatened	Bull Trout, Rainbow
23-1029	Walla Walla River B2B Phase 3A Restoration	Chinook-Middle Columbia River Spring, Not Warranted , Steelhead-Middle Columbia River, Walla Walla River, Threatened	Bull Trout, Lamprey, Rainbow
23-1023	Asotin Creek PA 3.2 Restoration	Chinook-Snake River Spring/Summer, Asotin Creek, Threatened, Chinook-unidentified, Steelhead-Snake River, Asotin Creek, Threatened	None
23-1030	Walla Walla River B2B Phase 4 Design	Chinook-Middle Columbia River Spring, Not Warranted , Steelhead-Middle Columbia River, Walla Walla River, Threatened	Bull Trout, Lamprey, Rainbow
23-1035	Dry Creek-Hwy 12 Fish Passage Design	Steelhead-Middle Columbia River, Walla Walla River, Threatened	None
23-1020	Alpowa Instream PALS – Phase IV	Steelhead-Snake River, Asotin Creek, Threatened	Rainbow
23-1034	Rattlesnake West Branch Restoration (1-2)	Steelhead-Snake River, Grande Ronde River Lower Mainstem, Threatened	None
23-1026	Steptoe Creek Instream PALS III	Steelhead-Snake River, Asotin Creek, Threatened	Rainbow

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 2023 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.

PROJECT: 23-1020 REST, ALPOWA INSTREAM PALS – PHASE IV

The Pomeroy Conservation District will be working with a Alpowa Creek landowner to increase instream habitat complexity. We will be increasing instream woody debris and pool habitat and this complements previously completed Alpowa PALS Phase III RCO 20-1045, Alpowa Creek Instream PALS Phase II RCO 17-1299, Alpowa Creek Instream PALS RCO 13-1399 and Alpowa Creek Habitat Assessment - RCO 11-1576. The same partners will be working on this proposed project as in the past. This Alpowa Creek Phase IV Pals project will benefit the Asotin Creek population of A-run summer steelhead will benefit from increased woody structures and pool available habitat. This project will expand on RCO 20-1045, increasing woody debris habitat and instream pool habitat with 100 PALS installed.

This project is identified as a top priority and located in a major spawning area for Steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan

PROJECT: 23-1022 REST, COPPEI CREEK PROJECT AREA 07 RESTORATION

Walla Walla County Conservation District will use this grant to advance the preliminary design to a final design and then implement (construct)the restoration design. The project reach is located in Walla Walla County, south of Waitsburg adjacent to Coppei Rd. The project will conserve important salmonid habitat and biological diversity in Coppei Creek by protecting and restoring ecological functions on private parcels. The primary habitat to be protected is riparian and instream habitat. Large woody debris, levee setback, pilot channel excavation, and grade control structures will restore about 8,500 Linear Feet of instream habitat. We will also restore about 4.55 acres of riparian area. Primary species supported by these habitats are ESA listed anadromous fish, especially Mid-Columbia Summer Steelhead. Habitat restoration more generally will likely benefit salmonids using the Touchet River, including Spring Chinook and Bull Trout. The project reach is designated a Major Spawning Area (98, SRSRB 2011) for Mid-Columbia Summer Steelhead and Priority Restoration Reach (15, SRSRB 2018). The Touchet River Geomorphic Assessment defines this reach as a Tier 1 Project Area for stream restoration to benefit salmonids in the county (Figure 9-2, CCD 2020).This restoration, once complete, will improve instream, off-channel, and riparian habitat for all life stages of Mid-Columbia Summer Steelhead, benefiting spawning, rearing, and holding salmonids.

This project is identified as a top priority and located in a major spawning area for Steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 yr workplan.

PROJECT: 23-1023 REST, ASOTIN CREEK PA 3.2 RESTORATION

The Asotin County Conservation District is sponsoring the Asotin Creek PA 3.2 Stream Restoration Project. This grant will target 1.2 miles of Asotin Creek. The design for PA 3.2 includes installing a crossing, controlling invasive vegetation encroachment, and enhancing riparian conditions. This project will build upon the current stream conditions by adding more habitat features for Snake River Steelhead. There will be large woody debris and boulder structures installed to increase stream complexity and promote side channel connection.

The project is identified as a top priority and located in a major spawning area for steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 year workplan

PROJECT: 23-1026 REST, STEPTOE CREEK INSTREAM PALS III

The Palouse Conservation District will be working with a Steptoe Creek landowner to increase instream habitat complexity with 40 PALS. We will be increasing instream wood and pool habitat and this complements previously completed Steptoe Creek Perched Culvert Replacement RCO 15-1309, Steptoe Creek Instream Habitat RCO 18-2020, Steptoe Creek Culvert 2 Replacement RCO 22-1003 and Steptoe Creek PALS II RCO 22-1004 the same partners will be working on the proposed project.

This Steptoe Creek Phase III Pals project will benefit the Asotin Creek population of A-run summer steelhead will benefit from increased woody structures and pool habitat. The project location is Lat 46.469835 Longitude -117.175926 and is located about 1 mile above the previous culvert replacement project that was completed in 2017 and the 135 PALS that were installed in 2020/21. This project will begin to connect 18-2020 and 22-1004, increasing woody debris habitat and pool habitat. Steptoe Creek historically has low summer baseflows, but recent flow and temperature monitoring show that summer stream temperatures since 2020 have been around 63 F and summer base flows are .34 CFS.

Steptoe Creek is identified as a priority protection area in a minor spawning area for steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 year workplan

PROJECT: 23-1027 REST, TUUSI WANA RESTORATION PHASE 1

The Tuusi Wana Design Project area is located along the Touchet River in Walla Walla County Washington at approximately River Mile (RM) 14 to 17. The project is entirely on privately owned land. Habitat conditions for juvenile and adult salmonids have been impaired within the project area by riparian clearing, regional agriculture, and sediment deposition. This project is intended to improve conditions, so they more closely resemble target conditions outlined in the Umatilla Tribes' River Vision. In line with this River Vision, the project elements include improving degraded hydrology, reclaiming geomorphic function, providing habitat connectivity, supporting a diverse riverine biotic community, and restoring riparian vegetation diversity and density. The general goals include improving holding, overwintering, and migration refugia throughout the reach to support upstream migrating adult salmonids, improving high-flow refugia and rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids utilizing lower reaches of Touchet River for rearing or during outmigration, recovery of more natural river valley geomorphic processes

through the installation of a large number of large wood structures (LWS) intended to initiate and maintain in the mid-term increased hydraulic variability leading to a more complex channel planform (e.g., split flows) and depth variations (e.g., pools and bars), and the recovery of more natural riparian processes through the installation of a large quantity of live cuttings.

This reach is a priority for restoration in the SE WA Recovery Plan and is in a migration priority reach.

PROJECT: 23-1028 REST, TUCANNON PA 34.1-34.2 RESTORATION

Columbia Conservation District will be sponsoring Project Area PA-34.1/2 for restoration. This project proposal will cover between ~RM 11.49 to ~RM 12.7 of PA-34.1/2 and is located at 46.506214, -118.010553. In progression of the PA-34.1/2 design project, the primary goal of this project is to address the Primary Limiting Factors identified in the Salmon Recovery Plan for SE Washington (SRSRB 2011) and the Tucannon Sub basin Plan (CCD 2004) and prioritized in the GARP (Anchor 2020) by restoring to the nearest possible extent, a healthy naturally functioning river channel and floodplain. Anticipated goals are; Short Term (3 yrs)- Install ~58 LWD structures within the bank full channel (2.4 km) to increase channel complexity. Specifically, they will create pool habitat, instream cover habitat, increase channel roughness, encourage substrate sorting and increase floodplain connectivity. Increase pool frequency and volume > 50% within 3 years Increase inundation frequency and duration on acres of available floodplain from the >5yr interval to 2 key pieces beyond 10 years. Anticipated a 50% increase side channels within the first 10 yrs. Connect disconnected low floodplain (<2 yr flow) ~23 acres. Planting to restore floodplain and upland terrace forest roughly 1500 trees interstitially.

This project is identified as a top priority and located in a major spawning area for Steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 yr workplan.

PROJECT: 23-1029 REST, WALLA WALLA RIVER B2B PHASE 3A RESTORATION

The Bridge-to-Bridge Restoration Design completed in 2010 (RCO project #08-2028) developed preliminary plans for nearly two miles of the Walla Walla River near Lowden, WA. Implementation began in 2013, when Phase 1 (#11-1588) removed about a half-mile of levee and added large wood to the reach. Phase 2 (#17-1267) added large wood to a section of the river that was lacking any in 2021. Phase 3 plans are complete, and will be implemented as Phases 3A and 3B due to project costs. Phase 3A will address limiting factors by placing logs and log structures along 1,000 ft of the Walla Walla River to improve channel complexity, maintain pools, create off-channel areas, and encourage side channels. Riparian plantings will address limiting factors by increasing shade and improving riparian function. This section of the Walla Walla River is identified by The Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan as a priority restoration reach in the Walla Walla mainstem major spawning area. Adult and juvenile summer steelhead and spring Chinook use the project reach during their migrations and Bull Trout occur there seasonally. Other species of cultural value and state concern that utilize the project reach are Margined Sculpin, Leopard Dace, and River Lamprey.

This project is identified as a top priority and located in a major spawning area for Steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 yr workplan.

PROJECT: 23-1030 PLAN, WALLA WALLA RIVER B2B PHASE 4 DESIGN

The Bridge to Bridge Restoration Design completed in 2010 (RCO project #08-2028) developed preliminary plans for nearly two miles of the Walla Walla River near Lowden, WA. Final designs were completed for the upper third of the 2 mile design reach, and implementation of those plans was completed in 2013 (Phase 1). Final designs were completed for the remaining part of the design reach (developed through RCO project #14-1902). Significant changes within the project reach from high spring flows have resulted in-stream conditions which require significant re-design before restoration. The design will complete the 4th and final phase of the project. This section of the Walla Walla River is identified by The Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan as a priority restoration reach in the Walla Walla mainstem major spawning area. Adult and juvenile summer steelhead and spring Chinook use the project reach during their migrations and Bull Trout occur there seasonally. Other species of cultural value and state concern that utilize the project reach are Margined Sculpin, Leopard Dace, and River Lamprey.

This project is identified as a top priority and located in a major spawning area for Steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 yr workplan.

PROJECT: 23-1032 REST, CUMMINGS CREEK LOW TECH RESTORATION (PHASE 2, 3)

The Nez Perce Tribe requests funds for a low-tech process based design and restoration project to improve in-stream habitat, floodplain connectivity and riparian function for approximately two miles. Cummings Creek is a direct tributary to the Tucannon River in Southeast Washington located within the Tucannon River watershed, a major spawning area for ESA listed Snake River steelhead and listed as a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery 3-5 Year Provisional Work Plan. There will be one worksite location, on Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife property, from the mouth of Cummings Creek to approximately 2.0 miles upstream. The goal of this project is to promote self-sustaining, natural stream processes that improve and maintain spawning and rearing habitat for Snake River steelhead. Funding will be used for a field-based low-tech process-based restoration design and implementation for installation of up to 140 structures: beaver dam analogs (BDAs) and post assisted log structures (PALS). one mile of new structures and two miles of adaptive structure repair and installation. We will also look for opportunities to direct fell and grip-hoist larger trees into the channel where available. The structures will start to restore natural processes and sediment sorting, overbank flow, floodplain access, and in-stream complexity, with approximately 25 pools created.

Cummings Creek is located within the Tucannon River watershed, a major spawning area (MaSA) for ESA-listed Snake River steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and is listed as a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery 3-5 Year Provisional

PROJECT: 23-1034 REST, RATTLESNAKE WEST BRANCH RESTORATION (1-2)

The Asotin County Conservation District is sponsoring the Rattlesnake West Branch (1-2) Restoration Project to enhance fish habitat and riparian function. West Branch project areas 1 and 2 were identified in the Grande Ronde Conceptual Restoration Plan. This grant will target 0.7 miles of stream. The conceptual plan for WFRC 1 and WFRC 2 includes controlling invasive

and upland vegetation encroachment, enhancing riparian habitat and add large woody debris to increase complexity, habitat structure, and promote floodplain inundation. This project will also eliminate the use of a ford crossing. Rattlesnake West Branch is listed as an MSA and Priority Protection Reach that flows into main stem Rattlesnake, which flows directly into the Grande Ronde River. The priority species that will benefit from the project is Snake River, Lower Grande Ronde steelhead.

The project is identified as a top priority and located in a major spawning area for steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 year workplan

PROJECT: 23-1035 PLAN, DRY CREEK-HWY 12 FISH PASSAGE DESIGN

The Highway 12 bridge over Dry Creek in Dixie, WA presents an obstacle for the migration of mid-Columbia Summer Steelhead adults and juveniles. The bridge's concrete slab foundation spans the channel width creating a drop of 0.3m to 0.4m at the downstream end. This hinders fish passage at lower flows due to a lack of pool downstream and sheet flow over the concrete slab. This project will result in access to 20 miles of river, which includes the headwaters of the North Fork and South Fork of Dry Creek, providing increased access to spawning and rearing habitat for ESA-listed mid-Columbia Summer Steelhead. Collins Bridge Fish Barrier Removal (#15-1307, 2017) removed the last known fish barrier downstream of Highway 12 on Dry Creek. This project will correct the last known passage barrier on Dry Creek.

This project is identified as a top priority and located in a major spawning area for Steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 yr workplan.

PROJECT: 23-1036 REST, ASOTIN IMW LOW TECH DESIGN AND RESTORATION

Trout Unlimited is sponsoring a design and restoration project utilizing lessons learned from the Asotin Creek IMW to implement further restoration actions to restore stream processes and improve spawning and rearing habitat for Snake River steelhead and Chinook. These actions will increase in-stream habitat complexity, floodplain connectivity, and riparian function within the Asotin Creek MSA targeting priority restoration reaches on Charley Creek, North Fork, and South Fork Asotin creeks. All work will be done within WDFW property in the Asotin Wildlife Management Area. In phase 1, we will use existing LiDAR to identify key confining features (e.g., old berms) for design and removal. Confining features will be prioritized by extent of unconfined habitat potential and removal will be done using a mini excavator with minimal intervention to keep within the "let the system do the work approach" of the IMW. Phase 2 includes maintenance on existing restoration sections, and the design and installation of low-tech process-based structures (e.g., PALS and BDAs) within the upper 2.5 miles of unrestored sections in Charley Creek and the North Fork and the lower 1.25 miles in the South Fork. Total anticipated restoration footprint would be 6-8 miles over 3 years.

The project is located in a major spawning area for steelhead and a priority restoration reach in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 year workplan

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.

The overall match shown in Appendix M and PRISM is 37%, If the match percentage included funding to implement each of the project’s full scope of work, the figure would rise to 88% – 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.

PRISM #	Project Name	Anticipated SRFB Request	Match Reported in PRISM	Total cost- PRISM	Total Cost to Implement	Additional unreported Project Match	Match as % of Project Cost
23-1028	Tucannon PA 34.1-2 Restoration	\$484,500	\$571,568	\$1,056,068	\$1,056,068	\$0	27%
23-1022	Cummings Creek Low Tech Restoration (Phase 2, 3)	\$195,314	\$101,786	\$297,100	\$312,110	\$15,010	19%
23-1040	Tuusi Wana Restoration Phase 1	\$550,000	\$100,000	\$650,000	\$13,298,738	\$12,648,738	48%
23-1025	Asotin IMW Low Tech Design and Restoration	\$454,472	\$49,500	\$503,972	\$503,972	\$0	5%
23-1038	Coppei Creek C-7 Restoration	\$540,942	\$200,941	\$741,883	\$741,883	\$0	14%
23-1027	Walla Walla Bridge to Bridge Phase 3 Restoration	\$367,003	\$67,259	\$434,262	\$434,262	\$0	8%
23-1035	Asotin PA 3.2 Restoration*(Partial Funding)	\$249,000	\$120,000	\$369,000	\$454,000	\$85,000	23%
23-1023	Walla Walla Bridge to Bridge Phase 4 Design	\$84,000	\$0	\$84,000	\$84,000	\$0	0%
23-1030	Dry Creek Hwy 12 Passage Design	\$139,800	\$0	\$139,800	\$139,800	\$0	0%
23-1034	Alpowa Creek PALS Phase IV	\$88,300	\$15,584	\$103,884	\$103,884	\$0	8%
23-1020	Rattlesnake West Branch Enhancement (1-2)	\$245,000	\$55,000	\$300,000	\$300,000	\$0	9%
23-1026	Steptoe Creek PALS Phase III	\$45,000	\$8,000	\$53,000	\$53,000	\$0	8%
		\$3,443,331					
		Total Match Reported in PRISM					\$1,289,638
		Total Match % as reported in PRISM					37%
		Total Match to Implement Projects					\$14,038,388
		Total Match% Relative to SRFB Request					88%

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

The Palouse Conservation District plan to utilize veteran conservation corps members in their projects.

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.

The Lead Entity Committee met four times during the grant round to produce the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board final project list in 2022. The Lead Entity Committee held a grant round kickoff meeting in November 2022, followed by a draft review and scoring meeting scheduled for March 23, 2023, a project tour on May 1-5th, and a final scoring meeting on July 12, 2023. 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 2023, the Lead Entity Committee reviewed and commented on 15 project proposals for funding. Multiple projects were pulled during the application process, having received funding from other sources. The final funding list included 12 projects and the Lead Entity Committee, after final review, recommended funding all 12 projects to the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board.

The Lead Entity/Snake River Salmon Recovery Board then reviewed the recommended list provided by the Lead Entity Committee.

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 project tours in May 2023 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 Tom Slocum of the State Review Panel and RCO Grant Manager Alice Rubin and Kendall Barrameda for their time and effort here during the 2023 Snake River Lead Entity SRFB grant round process and helping to ensure a smooth grant round.

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 2023 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.