



Contact Information

2026 Upper Columbia Regional Project Pre-Application

* Pre-applications due March 11, 2026 (COB)

*Complete SRFB applications due in PRISM April 17, 2026 (COB)

*Revised SRFB proposals due in PRISM May 27, 2026 (COB)

*Final revised applications due in PRISM June 22, 2026 (noon)

Project Title	2 Channels Acquisition
Sponsor	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Primary Contact	Ben Woodworth
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Project Summary

Please provide a description or summary of the proposed project, including project goals. The goal of the project should be to solve identified problems by addressing the root causes. Then clearly state the desired future condition.

This project will acquire roughly 5 acres of a privately owned property between the towns of Twisp and Winthrop to facilitate riparian habitat conservation and the future development of salmonid habitat restoration projects.

Salmon habitat restoration practitioners frequently encounter challenges with private landowners when exploring suitable areas where habitat restoration can occur, severely inhibiting areas of habitat restoration to state and federally owned land. The 2 Channels area of the Methow River is no exception. However, there is a landowner willing and wanting to sell roughly 90% of their property to the Yakama Nation. This acquisition would allow their parcel to be used for riparian habitat conservation and salmonid habitat restoration to address limiting factors within the Methow River including degraded riparian areas and lack of off-channel alcove habitat.

Future salmonid habitat restoration actions that could potentially occur because of the acquisition of this property include mainstem habitat and complexity uplift, floodplain reconnection, side channel reactivation, and riparian forest establishment and conservation opportunities. A project slated for implementation in 2028 is currently in the conceptual design phase and is planned to supply off-channel alcove habitat, side channel habitat, and mainstem large wood structures for habitat complexity.

What are the project objectives? Objectives support and refine biological goals, breaking them down into small steps. Objectives are specific, quantifiable actions the project will complete to achieve the stated goal. Each objective should be SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-bound). Note: This exact question is included in the PRISM application. Example format: The project seeks to address [specify limiting factor(s)] for [limiting life stage(s)] by [specific actions proposed] to create an estimated [include specific target metrics, as described below] upon implementation in [estimated year].

Specific - acquire roughly 50% of parcel #3422310046 to facilitate riparian and salmonid habitat restoration and conservation

Measurable - pay the appropriate amount of funds to the landowner for ownership of roughly 50% of their parcel

Achievable - the landowner is willing and wanting to sell their parcel to the Yakama Nation, approaching our organization in years past about the opportunity

Relevant - obtaining this parcel opens up opportunities for riparian and salmonid habitat restoration and conservation in the Methow River

Time bound - this acquisition could be completed on a timeline that is favorable for the landowner and the Yakama Nation

This project seeks to address degraded riparian habitat and limited off-channel alcove habitat within the Methow River for juvenile and adult spring Chinook and Steelhead by acquiring the majority of a privately owned property adjacent to WDFW property, allowing for current riparian habitat conservation and future salmonid habitat restoration projects to occur to create an estimated 5 acres of Yakama Nation owned land upon implementation in 2027.

Budget Request

Values MAY be duplicative and do not have to equal TOTAL anticipated budget in pre-application.

Anticipated Request - SRFB 100,000

Anticipated TOTAL Budget 100,000

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project The acquisition is of parcel number 3422310046, located in between the towns of Twisp and Winthrop, at approximately RM 45

Latitude (decimal degrees) 48.405975

Longitude (decimal degrees) -120.137110

Project subbasin Methow

Methow Assessment Unit(s) Methow River-Thompson Creek

Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units? No

Reach(es) Name Methow River Thompson 02

Identify the reach(es) priority/ reach ranking. Note: If the project involves work in multiple reaches, select "Multiple" and include details in the text box that will appear below. Please Rank 3

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?

Spring Chinook

Steelhead

Bull Trout

Summer Chinook

Resident Cutthroat Trout, Resident Rainbow Trout, Whitefish

2. Select the project's objectives and the associated tracking metrics

Acquisition, Easements, Leases

Acquisition, Easements, Leases: Reporting Code

Acres by Acreage Type (easement) and/or Acres by Acreage Type (fee simple)

Floodplain Areas Protected** this reporting metric does not appear in PRISM. Work with the LE to add this metric upon completion of project.

4. Does this project already exist in Salmon Recovery Portal or PRISM?

No

5. Has this project been submitted previously for funding through the SRFB and/or other process(es)?

No

6. What category is the project?

Protection

If applicable, what is the secondary project category?

N/A

Design and Restoration Proposals

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

7. What type of protection are you proposing?

Fee Simple

8. Is this protection project associated with a current or future restoration project?

Yes

9. Placement - Does the project protect important high quality habitat and/or watershed processes and to what degree

Yes, acquisition of this parcel will protect important high quality habitat and watershed processes. On the parcel being proposed for acquisition, there is a seasonally inundated side channel and a large riparian Cottonwood forest. The majority of parcel occupies highly valuable floodplain and off-channel habitat.

10. Freshwater Benefit - What would be the anticipated loss in survival, capacity or distribution for target species at the reach scale if the proposed area is not protected?

Capacity and distribution for target species would decline if this parcel is not acquired and utilized for habitat restoration. Currently, the seasonally inundated side channel only waters up during large volume flow events. The proposed acquisition will optimize the portion of the side channel on this parcel, which connects to the mainstem river, to enhance alcove habitat and increase the likelihood of seasonal inundations.

11. Threat - How imminent is the threat of habitat degradation to the proposed land if the project is not implemented?

The threat of habitat degradation to the riparian Cottonwood forest and associated floodplain is currently in the 'at risk' stage due to lack of seasonal inundations of the side channel during low water years. The proposed acquisition will enhance and optimize the portion of the side channel on the parcel in order to increase the likelihood of seasonal inundations, enhancing the riparian forest and floodplain habitat conditions.

12. Conditions - Briefly describe if there are any conditions regarding the protection of the property that could limit the protection benefits

There are no conditions regarding the acquisition that would limit the protection benefits of the habitat on this parcel.

13. Will there be public access?

Yes

Monitoring Proposals

Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership?

Private

2. Have you secured landowner participation in or acceptance for this project?

Yes

Please explain

The landowner approached the Yakama Nation in past years initiating the opportunity to purchase a portion of their parcel. They have signed a landowner acknowledgement form stating that they are aware of this grant application moving forward. They are willing and wanting to sell a percentage of their property to the Yakama Nation.

3. Describe any land owner requirements (e.g., design elements, right-of-ways, access agreements, liability waivers, etc.) and if/how they could affect the project

The landowner would require a lot adjustment to sell an agreed upon percentage of their property. There is a residential house on the parcel which the landowner does not wish to sell. However, roughly 50% of the land is the high quality floodplain and riparian habitat that they would want the Yakama Nation to own.

4. Will the project raise potential concerns for interest groups (e.g., recreational users) or the community at large (including upstream/ downstream/ adjacent landowners)?

There are no potential concerns from other interest groups in the sale of this property, to my knowledge.

5. Who will have the responsibility to manage and maintain the project? What is the responsibility of current or future landowners?

The Yakama Nation will be responsible for management and maintenance of the property.

6. Are other projects being proposed immediately upstream or downstream of worksite?

Don't know

7. Please describe the risk of failure associated with this project.

There is little risk of failure associated with this acquisition.

8. Is there any public outreach planned during and/or after implementation? Does the project build community support for salmon recovery efforts?

There is no public outreach planned for this acquisition.

9. Does the project represent an opportunity for economic benefit? How much benefit does the project create for the dollars invested?

The acquisition represents an opportunity for habitat uplift and conservation.

10. Describe any partnerships, their experience, and types of contributions supporting the project.

There are no partnerships associated with this acquisition. However, WDFW owns many adjacent parcels to this land and is supportive of Yakama Nation doing projects in this area and would likely support this acquisition.

Optional Section - Preparation for PRISM (SRFB applications only)

The following questions are identical to the questions RCO requires in the PRISM application for SRFB projects. If desired, sponsors can complete associated questions early and copy responses into PRISM during the "Complete Application" phase due on April x, 2026

Do you want to review and/or pre-populate PRISM questions?

No

Supporting Documents

[Upper Columbia Process Guide 2026](#)

[SRFB Manual 18 \(2026\)](#)

[RCO Application Resources](#)