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	Nason Creek Floodplain Restoration: PUD Transmission Line Relocation Conceptual Design
Sponsor	CCNRD
Primary Contact	Mike Kane
E-Mail Address	mike.kane@co.chelan.wa.us

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.

The CC-SM project area follows a portion of the Chelan PUD Coles Corner to Summit Line 115kv transmission line corridor as it parallels and crosses Nason Creek, US Highway 2, BPA transmission line, the BNSF rail line, and numerous private and public properties. The primary goals for the project are to conduct a feasibility assessment and conceptual designs for relocation of the Chelan PUD Chelan PUD McKenzie to Beverly 115kV line (CC-SM) in a three-mile reach of Nason Creek to allow for floodplain restoration and connectivity, restoring habitat function in a critical Tier 1 salmon recovery area in the Wenatchee watershed. There are multiple floodplain restoration and reconnection opportunities identified in the project reach as identified by previous studies that could be implemented with the re-location of the transmission lines. The design project will include a review of existing geomorphic, hydraulic, and habitat assessments, limiting factors and updated floodplain restoration opportunities based on on-the-ground evaluations, and coordination with CCNRD, Chelan PUD, and transmission line engineers.
The CC-SM transmission line is located largely within the floodplain of Nason Creek and/or riparian areas in close proximity to Nason Creek and largely within regulatory land use buffer zones, so land use regulations would not allow for development within restored riparian and floodplain areas. Relocation of the transmission lines, even without floodplain restoration actions, would allow for restoration of the riparian areas and eliminate the current active management and vegetation removal in these areas by the PUD. There are multiple transmission poles in the active floodplain that have been fortified with bank

armoring or are at risk from actively eroding banks that will need bank stabilization for protection.

This project seeks to address temperature, habitat quality and quantity, and channel complexity for migrating, holding and spawning for ESA listed salmonids; spring and summer chinook, steelhead, and bull trout by relocating three miles of transmission line out of the floodplain of Nason Creek.

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].

Implementation of the project will include the following objectives: an estimated 1.5 miles of shading, 15-30 acres of restored riparian habitat, reconnection of up to 40 acres of floodplain, and re-meander 0.5 miles of channelized reaches of the creek.
The project goal is to conduct an alternatives analysis and conceptual designs for the relocation of a three-mile section of the Chelan PUD Mckenzie to Beverly 115kV line (Coles Corner to Summit line [CC-SM]) out of the floodplain of Nason Creek and an alternatives analysis for potential stream restoration work after transmission line removal. Conceptual designs will be developed for a portion of the 3 mile stream segment. Metrics will be refined as part of the design process.

This project seeks to address temperature, habitat quality and quantity, and channel complexity for migrating, holding and spawning for ESA listed salmonids; spring and summer chinook, steelhead, and bull trout by relocating three miles of transmission line out of the floodplain of Nason Creek.

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	$276,250
Anticipated Request - Targeted Investment	0
Tributary Committee - Anticipated or Actual	$48,750
Anticipated or Actual Other Funding	0
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	$325,000

Other Funding Source(s), please note if funding is anticipated or actual.

N/A

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	This project is located between RM 9.5 – RM 13.3 (9.2-12.7 UCSRB) of Nason Creek roughly between the Cole's Corner Rest Area and the Ray Rock Knife Store, (US 2, MP 78.4-81.4).
Latitude (decimal degrees)	47 46'08.31" N
Longitude (decimal degrees)	120 48'05.35" W

Project subbasin

Wenatchee

Wenatchee Assessment Unit(s)

Lower Nason Creek

Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?

No

Reach(es) Name

lower Nason 9-12

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 reference the Prioritization Web Map: https://prioritization.ucsrb.org/.

Multiple reaches (provide details below)

Please detail the reach-ranking of the reaches below

Reach: Nason Creek Lower 9 - Rank 1; Nason Creek Lower 10 - Rank 1; Nason Creek Lower 11 - Rank 1; Nason Creek Lower 12 - Rank 1.

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?

Spring Chinook | Steelhead | Bull Trout

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

Design, Monitoring or Assessment

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

Don't Know

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

Yes

Please explain which process(es) and how this proposal differs from the previous submission (e.g., different phase, modified scope, etc.)

Submitted to SRFB in 2023.
This proposal does is essentially the same except for cost increases.
It did exist in PRISM, but likely in wastebasket since it was not selected for funding.

6. What category is the project?

Design

If applicable, what is the secondary project category?

N/A

Design and Restoration Proposals

7. What project phase(s) are proposed for completion?

Conceptual Design

8. Is your project within a completed (or soon-to-be completed) Reach Assessment or other type of assessment (e.g., Rapid Site Assessment, other)?

Yes. Lower & Middle Nason Creek Reach Assessment & Restoration Strategy Update Final Report. YN. 2026

9. Which limiting factors does the project propose to address?

Cover - Boulder | Cover - Wood | Off-Channel - Floodplain | Off-Channel - Side-Channels | Pool Quantity & Quality | Pools - Deep Pools | Riparian | Riparian - Canopy Cover | Riparian - Structure | Temperature - Adult Holding | Temperature - Adult Spawning | Temperature - Rearing

10. Which life stages will the proposed project address?

Adult Migration | Adult Non-Spawning (Bull Trout) | Natal Rearing (Bull Trout) | Subadult Rearing (Bull Trout) | Fry | Holding and Maturation | Spawning and Incubation | Summer Rearing | Winter Rearing

11. Freshwater Benefits - Describe how your project will improve survival, capacity and/or distribution for target species at the reach scale?

Nason Creek is critical to spawning and rearing salmonids and is identified in the Upper Columbia Salmon, Steelhead and Bull Trout Recovery Plan as the highest priority tributary in the Wenatchee basin for habitat restoration of spring Chinook (ESA-listed, Endangered), steelhead (ESA-listed, Threatened), bull trout (ESA-listed, Threatened), summer chinook (SRKW priority species) and resident fish. Overwintering habitat is limited in Nason Creek because of reduced habitat quality from straightening and other significant modifications from the creek's historic alignment by construction and maintenance of the BNSF railroad, US 2, and the CC-SM transmission line. Additionally, the creek is currently listed on the 303(d) list for temperature. Portions of the three-mile reach being addressed under this proposal are subject to rapid heating during spring Chinook spawning in late July-August, due to of a lack of riparian shading and channel modifications (Roumasset 2020). Straightened reaches with a lack of riparian cover in the Wenatchee sub-basin often exhibit this pattern of rapid heating. Implementation of this project would result in increased riparian vegetation within the corridor, channel modifications to improve shading and floodplain connection, providing peripheral and transitional habitat in Nason Creek and improving overall habitat quality and overwintering use, addressing the highest priority ecological concerns within the Nason Creek watershed (UCRTT 2013).

Relocation of the transmission lines, even without floodplain restoration actions, would allow for restoration of the riparian areas and eliminate the current active management and vegetation removal in these areas by the CCPUD. CCNRD staff estimated that over 30 acres of riparian cover could be restored simply by re-planting in the transmission line corridor after relocation, which would greatly enhance the shade cover for this reach of Nason Creek. There are multiple transmission poles in the active floodplain that have been fortified with bank armoring or are at risk from actively eroding banks that will need additional bank stabilization for protection. Moving the alignment of a section of the CC-SM corridor out of the Nason Creek historic flood plain would reduce challenges associated with maintenance (discussed

more in the Economic Benefit question) and would allow for re-meandering of the simplified stream channel and rehabilitation of the stream corridor. This project will be designed to improve access to portions of the historic floodplain wetland, which in turn will provide high flow and winter rearing habitat, thermal and high flow refugia for spring Chinook and steelhead juveniles. Providing rearing habitat during winter and high flow conditions is important so that juvenile fry that emerge from redds are not prematurely flushed downstream. Additionally, the relocation of CC-SM would allow for other habitat improvement restoration activities to begin, further addressing the lack of shade, channel complexity, and floodplain access.

12. Temporal Effect - Briefly describe how and to what extent the project would promote natural stream/watershed process consistent with the geomorphology of the stream?

The section of Nason Creek that will be addressed under this proposal has had the most significant impacts to its channel and floodplain connectivity as a result of construction and maintenance of the BNSF railroad, US-2, and the CC-SM transmission line. As a result, the creek was rerouted and channelized, and both banks of the creek were isolated from its floodplain because of the armoring that protects the railroad and power lines. All of which have contributed to the degradation of this section of Nason Creek. Wood recruitment potential is low because of ongoing transmission line vegetation maintenance, and because of the channelization wood is more likely to be transported downstream rather than retained, decreasing channel complexity. By relocating the CC-SM line out of the floodplain partial restoration of natural stream processes would be possible. The relocation alone would allow for 30 acres of riparian restoration in the former powerline corridor. Partially restoring this section of the creek to its natural geomorphic state.

13. Temporal Effect - How long will it take for the project to achieve its intended response?

1-10 years

14. Temporal Effect - How long will the restoration action and its benefits persist?

50+ years

15. Temporal Effect - What level and/or interval of maintenance is anticipated? What is the plan for any anticipated maintenance?

Since this is an early design phase of the project, there is not yet a plan for anticipated maintenance. Full project implementation could include re-routing sections of the stream corridor and extensive riparian planting, so a detailed monitoring and maintenance plan would be developed at a later design stage and annual maintenance would be expected for 3-5 years post construction to address plantings and possible channel adjustments.

16. Methods - Briefly describe the potential (for design) or proposed restoration methods and how they will achieve project objectives.

CCNRD will work with a consultant and project partners to complete the alternatives assessment and conceptual design process for rerouting the transmission line corridor. Simultaneously, CCNRD will work with a separate consultant to review of the Bureau of Reclamation and Yakama Nation reach assessments and other pertinent data (including a review of limiting factors for this reach), conduct site inventories, identify constraints and restoration opportunities based on rerouting transmission line, develop hydraulic models based on 2022 Bathymetric LiDAR and develop a habitat assessment and restoration strategy, including an outline of design opportunities.

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

Monitoring Proposals

Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership?

Property ownership in this reach is a combination of private and public (CCPUD, WSDOT, USFS, and CDLT).

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

Yes

Please explain

CCNRD has been meeting with CCPUD discussing this project. We have had recent meetings with CCPUD, WSDOT, USFS, CDLT and some private landowners to discuss the project and have support to move forward with the initial feasibility phase of the project. Landowner acknowledgement forms will be forthcoming for the large landowners. Part of the feasibility project will include outreach to private landowners as well.

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

Landowner requirements will be determined as part of the design process. Since this is a large scale utility corridor project, part of the feasibility will be focused on these issues. This is the initial design phase of the project, and CCNRD and CCPUD are working together to secure landowner access to the private parcels.

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

The project will raise potential concerns for local landowners as it includes moving a transmission line corridor that currently crosses around 40 private parcels. For most of these landowners it will probably be considered an opportunity more than an issue, but there will be other landowners who could have concerns based on changes associated with a preferred new location. Additionally, this project has the potential to contribute to the resilience of the power grid and as such could be seen as a benefit. The section of line being proposed for relocation is difficult to access during floods, storm events, and wildfires. Relocating the CC-SM along SR-2 would improve access for maintaining service for the long term. This is not a heavily used recreational corridor, so at this time, we do not anticipate any recreation issues or concerns.

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

Chelan County Natural Resources will be managing the development of the feasibility and design assessment and will continue to collaborate with partners. Since this phase of the project is a feasibility and conceptual design phase, there will be no required management and maintenance by current landowners. Post-implementation, CCPUD would be managing the transmission line corridor and CCNRD or other project sponsors would have short-term responsibility to maintain restoration sites.

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

Yes

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

There is little to no risk of failure for the first phase of this project, as we have broad support from landowners. The main risk for this project would be securing funding for implementation. It is a large-scale infrastructure project so there are inherent risks, but given warming temperatures for this reach during spring chinook spawning there are also risks in not addressing the issues associated with existing conditions.

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

Yes, CCNRD will host their watershed community outreach meetings during the design process and after implementation. The project does build on community support for salmon recovery efforts. There are multiple forums within which the partners on this project collaborate. There is a monthly Wenatchee Watershed Action Team for salmon recovery and river restoration practitioners to convene and discuss coordination, collaboration and implementation of initiatives and projects, including floodplain restoration, fish barrier removal, riparian restoration, instream flow improvements and education and community engagement. Additionally, across the Wenatchee watershed, project sponsors collaborate extensively on project opportunities. Multiple organizations meet regularly to discuss coordination, including Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group, Cascadia Conservation District, Yakama Nation, Colville Confederated Tribes, Chelan County Natural Resource Department, Trout Unlimited, Washington Water Trust and Chelan-Douglas Land Trust. The current proposal arose from these partnership meetings, recognizing that multiple opportunities exist for floodplain restoration with the relocation of the transmission line. Public outreach will be planned after this initial feasibility and conceptual design phase and may include, but not be limited to: a public scoping letter, an informational postcard mailer sent to nearby residents, and one-two Nason Creek community meetings.
A number of public documents identify and support the project, including the following:
a) Chelan County Multi-Jurisdiction Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan (2012)
The multi-jurisdiction plan adopted by Chelan County and the Cities of Cashmere, Chelan, Entiat, Leavenworth and Wenatchee through an extensive public process identifies Chelan PUD critical infrastructure in the Stevens Pass areas and notes concern about voltage capacity in the future, indicating the need to upgrade and expansion of the system. Relocating the transmission line out of the floodplain prior to an upgrade and/or expansion will assure that the relocation will occur. Additionally, the plan specifically recommends the identification of "feasible mitigation options or possible purchase and relocation opportunities" in flood-prone areas such as Nason Creek and identifies the history of flooding and flood-related damages in the upper Wenatchee basin.
b) Wenatchee Watershed (WRIA 45) Management Plan (2006)
The watershed plan adopted by the County Commission in 2006 identifies Nason Creek as the highest priority habitat restoration subbasin in the Wenatchee watershed and specifically identifies the high priority for restoration and floodplain reconnection in the project area. The plan was unanimously approved by the Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit after two years of public review and extensive community outreach.
c) NOAA Fisheries Upper Columbia Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan (2008)

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

This proposal is a good investment of public funds because it not only supports salmon recovery, but would add climate resiliency to the power grid. The project addresses critical long-term changes such as, increased wildfire risk and storm severity, warming stream temperatures, and increased sediment loading. First, the Nason Creek watershed is a dry-side site and will be subject to increasing wildfire risk and "mega-fires," which will increase the risk of infrastructure damage and total loss. Relocation of the powerlines to another corridor (along SR-2) will include upgrading the CC-SM power poles from wood to a more fire-resistant material, steel. The new location would be easily accessible from USFS White Pine Road and SR-2 compared to the existing location in the floodplain of Nason Creek, where staff have reported having trouble accessing the powerlines because of flooding, storms, and wildfires. Second, modeling by the UW Climate Impacts Group shows that warming water temperatures in this area may reach critical levels. Floodplain restoration can improve groundwater connectivity, increasing hyporheic exchange and thus keeping the water cooler for longer. Maintaining cooler temperatures is critical for salmonid habitat. Third, we expect climate change to increase the severity of flooding and thus erosion and sedimentation will also increase. By reconnecting historic floodplains, the impacts of intense flood events and sedimentation would be reduced, enhancing salmonid habitat and reducing erosion damage to infrastructure. Increased flood storage capacity decreases potential flood damage to the BNSF railroad, SR-2, and SR-207. Reducing hazards to roads and railroads saves costs associated with disruptions to interstate commerce and infrastructure protection, and increases reliability of these systems. In summary, the relocation of the CC-SM transmission line will save future operation and maintenance costs, increases accessibility, and enhance emergency response times for repairs to this section of line.

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

This effort builds on the Upper White Pine Floodplain Restoration Project. The Upper White Pine project successfully relocated an upstream section of the transmission line out of the floodplain and included levee removal, stream sinuosity and significant riparian restoration. Perhaps most importantly, the relationships and trust built during that project between CCNRD, CCPUD, USFS, and WSDOT now allow for this partnership to explore additional transmission line relocation opportunities. Similarly, there were multiple funders of the Upper White Pine Project who would be interested in investing in this project.

This project will work at the reach level and include collaboration between many organizations including: CCNRD, WSDOT, CCPUD, Yakama Nation (YN), USFS, Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (CDLT), Cascade Fisheries, US Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), private landowners, BNSF, BPA and funders, including SRFB, CCPUD, Tributary Committee, Grant PUD Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee, and others. However, the main contributors for this initial design phase are CCNRD, CCPUD, and WSDOT. Specific roles and contributions from key partners will be defined by the final application deadline.

Some of these partners have already implemented projects in this reach and removal of the Transmission line corridor would allow for further improvements to existing investments in salmon habitat.

CCNRD has been at the forefront of the development and implementation of habitat improvement projects for listed salmonids in the Wenatchee since the adoption of the Wenatchee Watershed Management and Implementation Plans in 2008. CCNRD has successfully planned, developed, designed, permitted, coordinated, and constructed over 75 salmon habitat improvement projects, including the Upper White Pine Floodplain Restoration Project described above. Additionally, CCNRD has demonstrated the ability to implement floodplain re-connection projects while working with nearby infrastructure in Nason Creek. This includes two oxbow re-connections under SR 207 and the BNSF bridge that re-connects the Coulter and Roaring drainages. Through these experiences CCNRD has seen how floodplain reconnection projects result in improved streamflow, habitat complexity, and overall improved stream quality. CCNRD staff have extensive experience in project management, landowner coordination, and contractor management.

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

Contact Information

2026 Upper Columbia Regional Project Pre-Application

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

Project Title	Nason Creek and State Route 207 Re-Alignment Fish Habitat Enhancement Project - Phases 1 & Phase 2
Sponsor	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Primary Contact	Chris Butler
E-Mail Address	butlerc@yakamafish-nsn.gov

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.

The Yakama Nation has developed a large scale habitat and fish passage restoration action within its Treaty Ceded Area that offers a rare opportunity to accomplish multiple resource objectives in a manner that truly restores natural processes that create and sustain Pacific Coast anadromous fish runs. Through the development of key partnerships with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) and the United States Forest Service (U. S. Forest Service) Okanogan/Wenatchee Nation Forest (OWNF), this project proposes to remove 0.65 miles of WSDOT managed highway (State Route 207) out of the creek corridor and floodplain so that over 1.4 miles of stream habitat can be protected and restored as productive spawning and rearing habitat for endangered spring Chinook salmon and steelhead. This project will remove floodplain habitat fish passage impediments caused by State Route 207 and restore connectivity of roughly 14 acres of floodplain habitat, including groundwater fed side channels. Multiple WSDOT Chronic Environmental Deficiency sites identified along State Route 207 will be fully removed from the Nason Creek corridor, three non-fish passable culverts will be fully removed, and habitat restoration including the placement of many large habitat wood structures and improvement of 0.5 miles of side channel will occur.

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].

Collaborative agency goals between the Yakama Nation, U.S. Forest Service, and WSDOT for this project include: 1) restoring quality salmon habitat, fish passage, and habitat sustaining natural processes by addressing regionally identified top priority ecological concerns in a cost effective manner; 2) reducing or eliminating stream system impacts to the SR 207 roadway in a manner that preserves roadway integrity and protects the traveling public; 3) addressing WSDOT CED sites along SR 207 so that stream habitat and the roadway are no longer in conflict with each other; and 4) preventing unnatural creek channel avulsions from occurring adjacent to SR 207 so that productive spawning and rearing habitats can be maintained and enhanced in the broader project reach.

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	$750,000
Anticipated Request - Targeted Investment	$3,000,000
Anticipated or Actual Other Funding	$12,155,594
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	$15,905,594

Other Funding Source(s), please note if funding is anticipated or actual.

Actual - The YN has agreements for additional funding with Bonneville Power Admiration, Bureau of Reclamation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, NOAA-Restoration Center, WSDOT - Federal Highway Administration, and United States Forest Service.

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	This project will occur in Chelan County near Coles Corner along Nason Creek between River Mile 3.9 and 4.6 and between mile post 0.20 to 0.85 along State Route 207.
Latitude (decimal degrees)	47.46'08"
Longitude (decimal degrees)	-120.43'27"
Project subbasin	Wenatchee
Wenatchee Assessment Unit(s)	Lower Nason Creek
Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Nason Creek Lower 03

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 reference the Prioritization Web Map: https://prioritization.ucsrb.org/.

Rank 2

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?

Spring Chinook | Steelhead | Bull Trout | Summer Chinook | Sockeye

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

Instream Habitat (Includes Floodplain & Off-Channel Reconnection) | Water Quality | Wetlands

Instream Habitat: Reporting Code

Total miles of instream habitat treated | Miles of off-channel stream created or connected | Acres of channel/off-channel connected or added | Number of structures placed in channel | Pools created through channel structure placement | Miles of streambank stabilized

Water Quality: Reporting Code

Total acres feet of water treated for water quality

Wetlands: Reporting Code

Acres of wetland improvement/enhancement

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

Yes

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

Yes

Please explain which process(es) and how this proposal differs from the previous submission (e.g., different phase, modified scope, etc.)

The previous project submittals were in the 2023 and 2024 SRFB Grant Rounds. In this 2026 grant round, the YN intends to submit for grant funding for both the SRFB funding and Targeted funding. The following identifies the differing of the past submission of 2023 & 2024 to that of what is being submitted for 2026: 1. Two funding opportunities exist for this project in the 2024 grant round which include the normal SRFB Grant funding and Targeted Grant funding, 2. For the SRFB funding, the YN received funds to secure 100% roadway final designs, and some additional funding for Mobilization and Clearing and Grubbing of the new

roadway alignment outside the floodplain, Phase 1 construction, 3. The Targeted funding is identified for constructing the new roadway alignment in the uplands outside the floodplain, and the removal of the current old highway alignment and utilities out of the floodplain. 4. To aid in our descriptions of work, we will refer to each funding opportunity as either (SRFB) or (Target) prior to the response of our discussion when and where it is appropriate and needed for this application process. 5. The YNF-UCHRP will submit a budget for each grant opportunity that is labeled either, (SFRB budget) or (Target budget).

(SRFB) - This portion of the application is different as we will be requesting funding toward funds for Phase 1 Construction which includes additional funding towards clearing and grubbing, preloading, and storm water collection that ultimately benefits the local Ecosystem.

(Target) - The differing of this proposal than that of 2023 and 2024 request is the phase 1 portion of this project has additional completed test boring exploration and 60% designs and will have 100% Phase 1 completed design by the end of May 2026. Additionally, the YNF-UCHRP has received 3 million dollars from the NFWF - America the Beautiful for construction, 500 thousand dollars from BOR - WaterSMART for design of Phase 1, 6 million from the NOAA-Restoration Center for Phase 1 and Phase 2 for design and construction, 5 million from BPA for Phase 1 and Phase 2 design and construction funding, 1.2 million from the FHWA for Phase 1 for construction, and 500 thousand from USFS for Phase 1 construction. This project will be transitioning to 100% designs for the road relocation out of the floodplain by April 2026. Phase 1 of this project is the relocation of the SR 207out of the floodplain to an upland area in 2026 and 2027. Phase 2 of this project is the removal of the old highway alignment and utilities out of the floodplain and is planned for construction 2028.

6. What category is the project?

Restoration

If applicable, what is the secondary project category?

N/A

Design and Restoration Proposals

7. What project phase(s) are proposed for completion?

Construction

8. Is your project within a completed (or soon-to-be completed) Reach Assessment or other type of assessment (e.g., Rapid Site Assessment, other)?

Multiple assessments have been completed for the project area, including: • Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan, 2007 • A Biological Strategy to Protect and Restore Salmonid Habitat in the Upper Columbia Region, September 2021• Lower & Middle Nason Creek Reach Assessment & Restoration Strategy Update, January 2026 • Nason Creek Tributary Assessment, Bureau of Reclamation 2008 • Lower Nason Assessment of Geomorphic and Ecologic Indicators Nason Creek, Wenatchee Subbasin, Bureau of Reclamation 2011 • Nason Creek, RM 3.4- 4.6 Floodplain Enhancement, Interfluve Inc. 2019 • Feasibility Analysis SR 207 Realignment, Perteet 2021 • Nason Creek RM 3.3 to 4.6 Supplemental Alternatives Analysis, Interfluve Inc. 2022 • Nason Creek Watershed Analysis, USFS 1996, • Salmon and Steelhead Biological Assessment for the Nason Creek N1 Floodplain Reconnection Project, ICF International 2012 • Nason Creek N1/KDIZ3 Alternatives Analysis Report, CCNRD 2011 • Nason Creek River Mile 3.3-4.6 Feasibility Study, CCNRD 2012

9. Which limiting factors does the project propose to address?

Cover - Wood

Off-Channel - Floodplain

Off-Channel - Side-Channels

Pool Quantity & Quality

Temperature - Adult Holding

Temperature - Adult Spawning | Temperature - Rearing

10. Which life stages will the proposed project address?

Adult Migration | Subadult Rearing (Bull Trout)

Holding and Maturation | Summer Rearing

Winter Rearing

11. Freshwater Benefits - Describe how your project will improve survival, capacity and/or distribution for target species at the reach scale?

The project is being designed to remove a portion of State Route 207 from the floodplain and river corridor, which will eliminate hardened infrastructure from the aquatic environment and restore more natural physical habitat conditions that better support fish survival and production. In addition, extensive instream and floodplain restoration will occur meant to increase the quantity and quality of holding, spawning, and rearing habitats in the project reach, including increasing the amount of cover habitat, floodplain side channels and wetlands. Currently the existing highway and road protection infrastructure and on-going roadway management decreases vegetation cover, decreases stream bank roughness and complexity, introduces roadway contaminants from rainfall runoff and snow removal, and prohibits fish access to floodplain habitats such as side channels and wetlands where productive off-channel rearing habitats exist. The project will increase the active floodplain size and level of connectivity, increase ground water storage, create channel length and allow for the development of new meanders. Flood water attenuation and sediment storage capacity will increase; as will riparian vegetation cover over and adjacent to fish bearing waters. The amount of diverse and complex stream habitat will be significantly increased. All of these benefits should significantly increase the capacity of Nason Creek to support more rearing juvenile salmonids and more holding and spawning adults due to the increase in habitat availability and habitat quality.

In addition, the project will help prevent the likelihood of an unnatural channel avulsion occurring near the middle CED site, which is currently an elevated risk with on-going road and powerline maintenance at this location. If Nason Creek were to avulse into the current river right side channel downstream of the BPA power lines, significant productive spawning and rearing habitat would be lost, and the large oxbow side channel connected by the 2007 Chelan County NRD culverts would likely be disconnected. It is imperative from a habitat protection standpoint that this avulsion risk be addressed as soon as possible in coordination with removing the highway out of the floodplain so that maximum freshwater benefits can be obtained.

Lastly, this project will improve water quality over time for Nason Creek. Implementation of SR 207 in 1943 was prior to any stormwater, tire dust, or road grime toxics collection or treatment. Currently, SR 207 is not required to deal with stormwater, snow, or road grime issues. These identified toxins within the floodplain currently flow directly into Nason Creek or into the riparian zone where buildup of elements is filtered out by way of ground water filtration. The removal of a portion of SR 207 from the floodplain corridor must meet current guidelines for stormwater removal from the WSDOT's Design Approval, Manual M-22-01.23 and the America Association of State Highway and Transportation Office. This will ultimately improve water conditions for aquatic residents of Nason Creek over time due to 100% stormwater collection and treatment.

12. Temporal Effect - Briefly describe how and to what extent the project would promote natural stream/watershed process consistent with the geomorphology of the stream?

The geomorphology of Nason Creek in the project area has become artificially constrained and the river has been artificially straitened due to the placement of State Route 207 into the Nason Creek corridor and floodplain in 1943. The roadway is forcing Nason Creek's energy and velocity into a direction that is not stable at these two locations. This has had a direct result of chronic highway and floodway interactions, which has resulted in extensive road damage and continuous road maintenance, as well as continuous negative impacts on fish habitat. This project seeks to remove the artificial geomorphic constraints imposed by SR 207 along Nason Creek so that natural stream/watershed processes that create and

sustain quality salmon and steelhead habitat can be restored.

13. Temporal Effect - How long will it take for the project to achieve its intended response?

Less than or equal to 1 year | 1-10 years

14. Temporal Effect - How long will the restoration action and its benefits persist?

50+ years

15. Temporal Effect - What level and/or interval of maintenance is anticipated? What is the plan for any anticipated maintenance?

Once the overall construction is completed in 2027, the Phase 1 work, (realignment of State Route 207 and stormwater collection) will be maintained by the Washington State Department of Transportation. The new highway alignment will occur outside of the Nason Creek floodplain, so roadway surface and embankment maintenance requirements should be substantially reduced compared to existing conditions at the current alignment of SR 207.
Phase 2 work, (stream restoration) will incorporate restoration efforts that are self-maintaining or similar to what you would expect to see naturally occurring in this type of landscape under a more natural unaltered setting. We expect annual maintenance needs to be low. Most of this work will occur on lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service, where the Yakama Nation and U.S. Forest Service will work cooperatively to ensure restored features are functioning as designed and accomplishing habitat restoration targets. The Yakama Nation will conduct monitoring at the site for up to five years to determine if any maintenance or construction interventions are needed to achieve project performance and objectives.

16. Methods - Briefly describe the potential (for design) or proposed restoration methods and how they will achieve project objectives.

The design for Phase 1 work, (realignment of State Route 207) will include mobilizing a qualified construction contractor to construct a new highway segment for SR 207 that circumvents the Nason Creek floodplain from highway mile 0.20 to roughly 0.85. The new roadway will be constructed to meet WSDOT's Design Approval and the AASHTO criteria and traffic will be rerouted once the new roadway alignment and utilities of Phase 1 construction are complete. These actions should be completed by December 31, 2027. Completion of this phase in 2027 will allow Phase 2 restoration work to take place in 2028, utilizing the old highway alignment as access into the floodplain and instream restoration zone to not disrupt the flow of traffic for SR 207, prior to the removal of the old highway alignment.
Phase 2 work, (Instream and floodplain restoration) will include mobilizing a qualified construction contractor to construct the restoration plans as designed by Professional Engineers, and adherence to BMPs and standard Conservation Measures described in the U.S. Forest Service Aquatic Restoration Biological Opinion (ARBO) and WDFW's Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines. All of these actions should be completed by July 31, 2028. Phase 2 construction will include the removal of the existing alignment of SR 207 out of the floodplain, excavation and construction of new side channels and wetland areas, placement of engineered log structures and wood habitat cover features, excavation of new pool habitat, and planting of native riparian vegetation in all disturbed areas and will be completed by December 31, 2028. This work will ensure the project's intended habitat benefits are achieved and that the intended hydraulics created that will restore natural habitat forming processes and reduce unnatural channel avulsions risks downstream of the Phase 2 project area.

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

Monitoring Proposals

Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership?

United States Forest Service and Washington State Department of Transportation

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

Yes

Please explain

The Yakama Nation has two project partners, the United States Forest Service, and the Washington Department of Transportation. Both project partners are supportive of this restoration action due to the environmental benefits contained in the project and the ability of the project to assist each agency in achieving regional environmental policy goals. Additionally, project partners have contributed land and funding for to this project.

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 project has been proposed on federal lands managed by the United States Forest Service and within an easement managed by the Washington State Department of Transportation. Both entities are supportive of the project and are willing to engage in agreements and proceedings that may be needed to support the project action legally moving forward. Additionally, there are also powerline and utility franchises within the WSDOT ROW (CCPUD) and for Utility (Ziply Fiber and T-Mobile) that will require access permission and realignment once the new road alignment location is resolved. One other additional ROW easement within the jurisdiction of this project area is BPA power lines. All entities are working with one another to accomplish the goals of this project.

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

The Yakama Nation is engaging in a public outreach campaign to raise awareness about this project, and to solicit feedback from interested parties regarding the proposed highway realignment. We expect both positive and negative responses from interested parties because of the magnitude of the project action, and the visible effect on the popular highway that accesses the Lake Wenatchee area. The Yakama Nation is using a documented supplemental alternatives analysis requested by the Chelan County Commissioners to demonstrate to the public the need for the project action, and why this particular highway realignment is the best alternative for resolving multiple existing conflicts including poor habitat conditions and an unstable transportation corridor caused by incessant flood/roadway interactions.

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

The SR 207 realignment roadway will be built to WSDOTS Manual and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, (AASHTO) standards and this will become the management and responsibility of Washington State Department of Transportation. The United States Forest Service will manage the reconnected floodplain areas in conjunction with similar floodplain and upland lands that are currently managed by the Wenatchee River Ranger District in this project area.

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

Yes

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

Risk of failure for SR 207 realignment is low due to the support provided by USFS and WSDOT. The new highway segment will be engineered, designed, and constructed out of the floodplain to meet WSDOT and AASHTO standards to ensure public safety and longevity of the project. Funding is the largest hurdle for Phase 1 due to the high project cost. However, funding from the 2026 SRFB Grant round along with YN, WSDOT, NFWF, NOAA-RC, BOR, BPA, RCO, and USFS funding makes this project feasible.
A negative reaction from the public for this project could prevent the land management agencies from going forward, however the public will be informed that a “no action” alternative at these CED sites is a very high risk to causing further damage to the river and the highway. Through our public meetings and

comment periods, the YN has received the public support for this project. This is due to the balanced approach as we have provided all the project history and a list of all of the options that have been considered for this area.

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

The Yakama Nation and project partners had a public meeting on March 21, 2023 and July 1, 2025 to inform the public of the project area, project history, feasibility analysis, and supplemental alternatives analysis. We have presented the project concept at Wenatchee Watershed coordination meetings and to the Chelan County Commissioners. Chelan County, at that time, requested we create the supplemental alternatives analysis for the project that could be used to further demonstrate the project need and the appropriateness of the proposed action. The NOAA-RC has taken the federal lead for National Environmental Policy Act, which will additionally satisfy ESA Section 7 Consultation, and NHPA Section 106 Consultation for this project. The Yakama Nation and project partners will be engaging with the broader public about the outcomes of our NEPA process, the completed 60% designs for the roadway alignment and the restoration designs and the opportunity of another comment period.
This additional public meeting is planned for April or May of 2026 with our project partners to inform the public on project development and funds that are secured.

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

Current conditions in the project area routinely degrade fish habitat and cause damage to the Highway 207 road prism and embankment, necessitating constant maintenance spending by WSDOT. The proposed road realignment will reduce the maintenance cost burden of Highway 207 to WSDOT, which will benefit the WSDOT program budget and state taxpayers. In addition, local contractors will be hired to complete both the road construction and restoration construction work associated with this project, which will generate at least temporary economic benefits to Chelan County and the local community.

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

The Yakama Nation has 2 partnerships for this project, Washington State Department of Transportation and the United States Forest. The WSDOT has contributed both money and expertise to this project. The USFS has contributed the land, agreements, management, and funding towards Phase 1 of this project. Additionally, the Yakama Nation Fisheries has received 3 million dollars toward Phase 1 design and construction from NFWF, 500 thousand dollars from BOR-WaterSMart for phase 1 design, 5 million dollars toward Phase 1 and Phase 2 design and construction from BPA, 6 million dollars toward Phase 1 and Phase 2 for design and construction from NOAA-RC, and 1.2 million from the Federal Highway Administration for Phase 1 and Phase 2 Construction.

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? Yes

1. Problem Statement: What are the problems your project seeks to address? Include the source and scale of each problem. Describe the site, reach, and watershed conditions. Describe how those conditions impact salmon populations. Include current and historical factors important to understand the problems.

Nason Creek has historically been a critically productive spring Chinook salmon and steelhead spawning and rearing tributary in the Wenatchee Subbasin. The reduction of salmonid abundance in the Wenatchee Subbasin correlates closely with increased habitat impairments induced in Nason Creek during railway, powerline, highway, logging, and residential development over the past century. Given its historic

importance and high geomorphic intrinsic potential to be productive salmonid habitat, the Lower Nason Creek Assessment Unit has consistently been identified as a logical top priority stream system to focus salmon habitat restoration efforts within the Upper Columbia Basin salmon recovery framework. The current Biological Strategy to Protect and Restore Salmonid Habitat in the Upper Columbia Region (UCRTT, 2021) identifies channel complexity restoration, floodplain reconnection, and side channel and off-channel habitat restoration as top priority restoration action categories needed in Nason Creek to contribute to improved status of the viable salmonid population parameters for spring Chinook salmon and steelhead.
In the proposed project area, Nason Creek has become significantly artificially constrained and cutoff from historically productive side channel and floodplain habitats by the placement of State Route 207 in the floodway in 1943. In total, the 1943 roadway project cutoff some 70 acres of floodplain and side channel habitats, although some previous restoration work has partially restored stream connectivity to around forty acres of habitat north of the BPA powerline crossing. The location and down valley alignment of State Route 207 in the floodway has become increasingly problematic in recent decades as the creek has attempted to naturally meander in the historic floodplain corridor. Repeated flood events starting in 1950's caused the natural channel migration trends to increasingly encounter the roadway prism which has now actively destroyed two different segments of the two-lane highway, causing the Department of Transportation to create new rock fortified streambanks along hundreds of feet of the creek body which diminish instream habitat quality and impede riparian vegetation growth. On average there are 2 to 3 emergency responses per-decade which results in more fortified rock and less aquatic habitat. Without some level of continued intervention that can decrease floodwater interactions with the roadway prism, it is expected and predicted that unnatural creek channel avulsions will occur along and adjacent to the roadway surface that will further degrade aquatic habitats and cause additional roadway damage.
This project seeks to provide practical long-term solutions to these problems by removing a substantially constricting component of State Route 207 infrastructure from the Nason Creek floodway so that 14.74 acres of cutoff floodplain and side channel habitat can be restored as viable fish and riparian habitat and the risks of future artificially induced creek avulsions can be prevented.

2. Describe the limiting factors, and/or ecological concerns, and limiting life stages (by fish species) that your project expects to address.

Limiting Life Stages and Limiting Factors from a Biological Strategy to Protect and Restore Salmonid Habitat in the Upper Columbia Region - Habitat Action Prioritization Within the Upper Columbia River Basin, 2021:
Nason Creek Lower 03 Reach Priority Life Stages:
spawning and incubation,
winter rearing,
summer rearing,
holding and maturation
Assessment Unit Life Stage Priorities:
Spring Chinook:
holding: high priority
spawning: high priority
summer rearing: high priority
winter rearing: high priority
Steelhead:
spawning: medium priority
winter rearing: high priority
Nason Creek Lower 03 Reach Limiting Factors Addressed:
temperature (rearing), temperature (adult spawning), temperature (adult holding), bank stability, floodplain connectivity, riparian (canopy cover), channel substrate (percent fines and embeddedness) Nason Creek Lower 03 Reach Priority Action Categories:
bank restoration, channel complexity restoration, channel modification, fine sediment management, floodplain reconnection, riparian restoration and management, side channel and off-channel habitat restoration, upland management, water quality improvement
Limiting Factors from a Biological Strategy to Protect and Restore Salmonid Habitat in the Upper Columbia Region, 2017:
1. Peripheral and Transitional Habitat (Side Channel and Wetland Connections)
2. Channel structure and form (Bed and Channel Form)
3. Riparian Condition (Riparian Condition)
4. Channel structure and form (Instream Structural Complexity)

5. Food (Altered Primary Productivity)
6. Sediment Conditions (Increased Sediment Quantity)

3. What are the project goals? The goal of the project should be to solve identified problems by addressing the root causes. Then clearly state the desired and future condition. Include which species and life stages will benefit from the outcome, and the time of year the benefits will be realized.

1. Restore quality salmon habitat & habitat sustaining natural processes by addressing the ecological concerns in a cost effective manner by;
- Restoring winter & summer low flow connectivity to available peripheral and transitional habitats necessary for rearing juvenile ESA listed species.
- Increase mainstem habitat complexity & channel roughness to increase surface water connectivity with adjacent floodplain for year round habitat availability.
- Increase surface water contributions to the disconnected floodplain to improve riparian & wetland vegetation conditions, & to enhance groundwater storage & hyporheic discharge.
- Decrease energy & velocities which will increase sediment fallout & improve spawning areas for returning adults.
2. Reduce or eliminate stream system impacts to the SR 207 roadway in a manner that preserves roadway integrity and protects the traveling public.
- Realign a 0.65 mile length of SR 207 infrastructure from out the floodplain.
- Collect and treat roadway stormwater runoff.
- Realign powerline & utilities infrastructure from the floodplain.
3. Address WSDOT CED sites along SR 207 Deficiency
- Remove 2 of WSDOT CED sites along Nason Creek with the proposed alignment.
4. Prevent unnatural creek channel avulsions from occurring adjacent to SR 207 so that productive spawning & rearing habitats can be maintained & enhanced in the broader project reach.
-Use habitat complexity treatments and new channel meander paths to stabilize hydraulic function.

4. What are the project objectives? Objectives support and refine biological goals, breaking them down into smaller 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).

1. (SRFB) - Complete final construction designs for Phases 1 based upon agreements between the project partners. (Addresses all Goals)
2. (SRFB) - Begin mobilization and clearing and grubbing of the roadway alignment out of the floodplain in late 2025. (Addresses all Goals)
3. (Target) - Begin and complete construction of the roadway alignment out of the floodplain between mile posts 0.20 and 0.85 while the original roadway remains in place for traffic access. This action includes realignment of utilities sited along the roadway once the new roadway construction is mostly completed. (Addresses Goals 2 & 3)
4. (Target) - Commission the new SR 207 segment for public use. (Addresses Goals 2 & 3)
5. (Target) - Removal of old highway bank protection and roadway fill from the floodplain (0.65 miles of fill removal) (Addresses Goals 2 & 3).
6. Begin all instream and floodplain habitat restoration actions in the Phase 2 project area, which includes, 10 habitat log structures, 10 pools, side channel and alcove construction (0.5 miles of reconnected and enhanced channels), 14.74 acres of floodplain reconnected to natural flood processes, elimination of two registered WSDOT CED sites, riparian vegetation and wetland plantings (5.5 acres of new native plantings), 0.5 miles of spawning habitat protected by preventing unnatural channel avulsions, and another 1 mile of side channel rearing habitat protected by preventing further unnatural channel avulsions. (Addresses all Goals).

5. Scope of work and deliverables. Provide a detailed description of each project task/element. With each task/element, identify who will be responsible for each, what the deliverables will be, and the schedule for completion.

(All items with “**” are tasks that include SRFB funding. All items with "***" are tasks for Target funding. All other tasks are funded by match funding)
- Engineer’s Design of the New Roadway, Phase 1 - 60% Preliminary design through 100% final Design - This work is being complete YN – spring 2026

- Engineer's Design of Instream Habitat Restoration, Phase 2 – 60% Preliminary design through 100% final Design – This work is already contracted by the YN – Spring 2026
- Public Outreach Process – Public meetings and outreach products – YN will be the lead along with WSDOT, and USFS – 2023 through 2028
- Review, and Acceptance of Phase 1, 30% Designs – The YN, BPA, WSDOT, and USFS – March 2024
- Utility realignment planning – The YN will lead the discussions and coordinate the work with WSDOT, and USFS - 2023- 2027
- WSDOT Easement Realignment on USFS Lands, (this includes franchise ROW) - USFS, WSDOT, and Utilities 2024-2027
- NEPA, ESA Section 7 Consultation, and NHPA Section 106 Consultation - The YN, BPA, and USFS – Spring or Summer 2026
- Review, Comment, and Acceptance of Phase 1, 60% Designs – The YN, BPA, WSDOT, and USFS – March 2026
- Review, Comment, and Acceptance of Phase 2, 60% Designs – The YN, BPA, and USFS – March 2026
- Environmental Permitting through WDFW, USCOE, WDOE, and Chelan County - The YN and WSDOT, USFS – 2025 through 2027
- Phase 1, Construction Contracting - The YN will create a competitive bid and hire a roadway construction contractor by August 2026.
- Begin Phase 1 by Mobilizing, Clearing and Grubbing - Construction Contractor with YN as Owner, Fall of 2026

** Begin Phase 1 construction Activities for building the new road segment – Construction contractor with YN as the Owner, Fall of 2026-2027.
*** Relocate utilities along the right of way – CCPUD, Ziply Fiber and T-Mobile - spring and fall 2026 - 2028.
** &*** Complete roadway construction and commission new roadway alignment for public use - YN and WSDOT – fall 2027.

- Phase 2, Construction Contracting - The YN will create competitive bid and hire a habitat restoration construction contractor by March 2028.

** &*** Phase 2, Begin Construction Activities for Instream Habitat Restoration – Construction contractor with YN as the Owner summer 2028.
*** Phase 2, Remove obsolete SR 207 original roadway alignment and Utilities from the Nason Creek Floodplain – summer and fall 2028.

- Site stabilization and plantings - The contractor hired by the YN will plant, seed and restore all staging areas, access routes and riparian areas – October/April 2027-2029.

6. What are the assumptions and physical constraints that could impact whether you achieve your objectives? Assumptions and constraints are external conditions that are not under the direct control of the project, but directly impact the outcome of the project. These may include ecological and geomorphic factors, land use constraints, public acceptance of the project, delays, or other factors. How will you address these issues if they arise?

1st constraint is funding. The current projected cost for planning/design and implementation of Phases 1 and 2 total to $15,905,594.00, hence a large contribution of SRFB Targeted funding to the project is necessary to ensure project feasibility. Yakama Nation Fisheries is also securing funding from WSDOT (CED funding), USFS (CWI, CFLRP, and BIL funding), BPA Fish Accords funding, NFWF-America the Beautiful, BOR-WaterSMART, NOAA-RC funding, USFS funding, and other potential funding sources. Current funding towards the project totals $12,155,594.00, but SRFB funding remains a critical piece of the funding puzzle for this project that will ensure full project feasibility.

2nd constraint is public support. The Yakama Nation is currently engaging in direct public outreach to raise awareness and solicit feedback from interested parties and the public about the full restoration proposal. Currently the project is being evaluated through NEPA and soon the SEPA processes where the project funders and land management agencies will have to make decisions on how to proceed based on public feedback. This project proposal has been developed in close coordination with the likely NEPA and SEPA leads, and we believe the purpose, needs, and cost/benefits of the proposal are clear and will be supported by the public. We are using a documented alternatives analysis requested by the Chelan County Commissioners to demonstrate the purpose, needs, and cost/benefits of the proposal, which should be very helpful in communicating this proposal to the public through the NEPA and SEPA processes.

3rd constraint is unforeseen environmental permitting requirements. The current road realignment

proposal has taken into account likely impacts to sensitive areas like wetlands which could influence project construction techniques, project footprint standards, or require compensatory mitigation.

7. How have lessons learned from completed projects or monitoring studies informed this projects?

Regional and local project effectiveness monitoring consistently shows that properly placed floodplain and side channel reconnection work benefits ESA listed salmonids in the Upper Columbia Basin: Beechie et al. 2010; Beechie et al. 2013; Bellmore et al. 2013; Paillex et al. 2015; Roni et al. 2008; Hillman et al. 2016; Castella et al. 2015; Kaushal et al.2008; and Helfield et al. 2012. Yakama Nation Fisheries has been implementing salmon restoration projects in the Columbia Basin for more than a decade, and we utilize information gained from our project histories in all new projects. This Phase 1 project is being proposed based on our experience that the best biological outcomes from restoration will require that artificial infrastructure be removed from the floodplain so that natural hydraulic dynamics, flood water attenuation, and sediment transport can operate in an unimpeded manner which creates better habitat resiliency. In addition, our experience indicates that this segment of Nason Creek is at high-risk avulsion which could further capture the thread of Nason Creek directly along a longer portion of the highway 207 embankment. Yakama Nation Fisheries is proposing this project in part to prevent this channel avulsion scenario from happening so that more habitats can be restored and additional further habitat degradation can be avoided.

8. Describe the alternatives considered and why the preferred was chosen.

The Yakama Nation recently completed an updated Alternatives Analysis for this project area documenting many of the considerations that have been taken into account to support why this project is the preferred restoration alternative. Many other restoration alternatives have been conceptualized and evaluated by Yakama Nation Fisheries, Chelan County, WSDOT, USFS, WDFW, and others over the past decade. In short summary, this specific highway realignment alternative is being selected for implementation because it is the project that best addresses the biological impairments in a high impact manner while also avoiding previously identified constraints such as roadway safety, private land impacts, wetland/waterbody impacts, extremely high implementation and/or infrastructure maintenance costs, and other similar project feasibility factors. Please review the attached Nason Creek RM 3.3 to 4.6 Supplemental Alternatives Analysis report for more in-depth detail regarding our alternative selection process.

The project will completely remove 2 WSDOT CED sites from the Nason Creek floodway and will reconnect 14.74 acres of floodplain and side channel habitat. In addition, the project will help Yakama Nation Fisheries to prevent a negative channel avulsion event and will set the stage for possibly removing other segments of Highway 207 from the Nason Creek flood way if future conditions for upland roadway development and adequate funding allow.

Finally, when implementing projects such as this one that includes new roadway segments near waterbodies, the standard WSDOT's Manual and of the America Association of State Highway and Transportation Office (AASHTO) must be implemented and followed. This results in a new alignment segment being built to address stormwater and road grime/toxics. Ultimately this will improve water quality and water runoff to Nason Creek and or the floodplain.

9. How were stakeholders consulted in the development of this project? Identify the stakeholders, their concerns or feedback, and how the concerns were addressed.

WSDOT and USFS have been directly involved in all project design decisions undertaken since YN began developing restoration actions at this site in 2018. All of these entities are supportive of the proposed highway realignment alternative and are planning to engage in any NEPA/SEPA processes to inform their final decisions about the project as the project development moves forward.

Utilities in the project area have been informed and are working towards meeting the objectives of this project by spring of 2028.

Over the last several years YN has been coordinating with Chelan County regarding the highway realignment and habitat restoration proposals. The 2022 Nason Creek RM 3.3 to 4.6 Supplemental Alternatives Analysis report was created in direct response to feedback from the Chelan County

Commissioners for this project. YN is now working directly with Chelan County Natural Resources Department to develop restoration actions proposed to take place on the Nason Ridge Community Forest lands adjacent to the project area.

The Yakama Nation is currently engaged in a public outreach campaign to inform the public about this project action. We have had two public meetings, and we have an upcoming public meeting scheduled and we have previously presented the project concept at Wenatchee Watershed coordination meetings and to the Chelan County Commissioners.

10. Does your project address or accommodate the anticipated effects of climate change? How will your project be climate resilient given future conditions? How will your project increase species and habitat adaptability?

a. The project will remove a portion of SR 207 from the floodplain and river corridor, which will eliminate hardened infrastructure from the aquatic environment and restore a more natural physical habitat condition that better support fish survival, production, and water storerage through floodplain connection. Currently, the existing highway and road protection infrastructure and management decreases floodplain connection, decreases vegetation cover, decreases stream bank roughness and complexity, introduces roadway contaminants, and prohibits fish access to floodplain habitats. All of these benefits will combat climate change.

b. The project will restore more natural geomorphic conditions in a mile-long segment of Nason Creek in a manner that will remove infrastructure impediments from the creek channel and recover connectivity with the historic floodplain. 14.74 acres of floodplain and side channel habitat will be reconnected to the creek, resulting in 0.29 miles of side channel habitat becoming connected and available for rearing salmon. The project will increase 5.5 acres of wetland and off-channel habitat availability and will boost trophic productivity throughout the reach. Vegetation responses to the road removal will benefit riparian conditions which in turn will benefit aquatic habitats at the site through increased shading, wood recruitment, and increased allochthonous inputs. Flood water attenuation and sediment storage capacity will increase, improving localized and downstream habitat resiliency.

11. Describe the sponsor's experience managing this type of project. Describe other projects where the sponsors has successfully used a similar approach.

The Yakama Nation Fisheries completed the Skinney Creek channel reconstruction project in the Wenatchee Subbasin under a similar partnership framework with USFS and WSDOT. That project reconstructed 0.5 miles of highly sinuous Skinney Creek channel with inset vegetated floodplains in an old Highway 2 roadway alignment, and the project included replacing failed grade control weirs in a WSDOT wetland mitigation area with new constructed riffles that improved fish passage. In addition, in 2018 the YNF worked in the WSDOT right-of-way and road embankment on State Highway 20 along Beaver Creek to restore a WSDOT CED site and replace an undersized private bridge. Yakama Nation Fisheries has also conducted multiple levee removal projects in the Upper Columbia Basin including the Twisp Ponds Floodplain Restoration Project in 2017 and Horseshoe Side Channel Project in 2018.

12. Will veterans (including the veterans conservation corps) be involved in the project? If yes, please describe.

No, unless they are employed by one of the many subcontractors that is needed for this entire project scope of work.

Supporting Documents

Upper Columbia Process Guide 2026

SRFB Manual 18 (2026)

RCO Application Resources

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	Lower Chiwawa Area D, Implementation
Sponsor	Chelan County Natural Resource Department
Primary Contact	Scott Bailey
E-Mail Address	scott.bailey@co.chelan.wa.us

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 addresses identified habitat limiting factors for high- and medium-priority spring Chinook and steelhead life stages (i.e., holding, summer and winter rearing, and fry colonization) in Reach 4 of the Lower Chiwawa River AU including Floodplain Connectivity, Off-channel Side-channels, Riparian Canopy Cover, Instream Cover (wood), Deep Pools, and Temperature (rearing). This phase of the project will execute contracts for project construction, vegetation planting, and construction oversite; complete all tasks needed to implement the restoration project as designed; and complete post-implementation tasks needed to close out the project including preparation of as-built drawings, and reporting as required to comply with permits and funding agreements. The completed project will improve conditions along ~0.6 miles of mainstem channel; create ~0.2 miles of side-channel habitat; enhance a cold water tributary confluence; and consolidate/reduce dispersed camping, decommission up to 1,000 lf of unauthorized roads, and reduce potential for future impacts and enhance vegetation within ~15 streamside acres.

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].

Objectives of the proposed project are:

Within 24 months of funding

1. Execute all contracts needed to implement the project and provide engineering oversite.

2. Construct a restoration project as identified in construction-ready design documents that will:
(a) add large wood structures and other habitat features along ~0.6 miles of mainstem channel (and at the mouth of a cold water tributary) that will increase wood loading to greater than 70 pieces of wood per mile, improve cover and increase pool quantity and quality, redirect flows and increase inundation of the river left floodplain, and improve habitat quality and access at the tributary confluence.
(b) add up to 0.2 miles of side-channel habitat to increase side channel area in project reach to greater than 5% of total channel area.
(c) decommission approximately 1,000 lf of forest roads, consolidate camp sites/control access, and plant native trees, shrubs, grasses and forbs to improve conditions within ~15 streamside acres.

3.Complete post-implementation tasks including as-built drawings, reporting required by funders and permitting agencies, and close out of all contracts and agreements.

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	$500,000
Tributary Committee - Anticipated or Actual	$500,000
Anticipated or Actual Other Funding	$1,000,000
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	$2,000,000

Other Funding Source(s), please note if funding is anticipated or actual.

We intend to request additional funds for this implementation effort from Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee, Colville Tribes Fish & Wildlife Department, and/or one or more other sources. No other applications have been submitted yet. Funding is anticipated, not secured.

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	The project site is located along the lower Chiwawa River from ~0.6 miles downstream of the Chiwawa River Road bridge upstream to the Alder Creek confluence, approximately RM 6.6-7.25
Latitude (decimal degrees)	47.8396
Longitude (decimal degrees)	-120.6638

Project subbasin	Wenatchee
Wenatchee Assessment Unit(s)	Lower Chiwawa River
Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Reach 04
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 reference the Prioritization Web Map: https://prioritization.ucsrb.org/.	Rank 2

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?	Spring Chinook Steelhead Bull Trout
2. Select the project's objectives and the associated tracking metrics	Instream Habitat (Includes Floodplain & Off-Channel Reconnection) Riparian Habitat Upland Habitat
Instream Habitat: Reporting Code	Total miles of instream habitat treated Miles of off-channel stream created or connected Acres of channel/off-channel connected or added Number of structures placed in channel Pools created through channel structure placement
Riparian Habitat: Reporting Code	Total riparian miles streambank treated Total riparian acres treated
Upland Habitat: Reporting Code	Acres of upland habitat treated Number of erosion/ Sediment control installations Miles of road abandoned

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

Yes

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

Yes

Please explain which process(es) and how this proposal differs from the previous submission (e.g., different phase, modified scope, etc.)

Two design phases for this Area D project have been funded by SRFB: the Preliminary Design phase was funded through the 2022 grant round, and the Final Design phase was funded through the 2025 SRFB grant round. The Final Design agreement is still active, and work under this 2025 SRFB agreement is expected to continue through fall 2026. Previous design documents (Conceptual and Preliminary designs) and other work products have been uploaded to PRISM during these previous phases, and newly produced work products also will be uploaded to PRISM for the 2025 agreement.

The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) also has provided financial support during both design phases. During the Preliminary Design phase, BOR contracted directly with the design firm that is designing the in-stream restoration treatments. The Final Design phase is being funded, in part, through a BOR WaterSMART Aquatic Ecosystems Restoration Projects (WaterSMART AERP) agreement that CCNRD received in 2025.

Unlike these previous agreements, this proposal is requesting funding for project implementation (not project design).

6. What category is the project?

Restoration

If applicable, what is the secondary project category?

N/A

Design and Restoration Proposals

7. What project phase(s) are proposed for completion?

Construction

8. Is your project within a completed (or soon-to-be completed) Reach Assessment or other type of assessment (e.g., Rapid Site Assessment, other)?

Lower Chiwawa River Assessment (InterFluve, 2023) and Upper Wenatchee Pilot Project: Aquatic Habitat Assessment and Restoration Strategy Report (Cramer Fish Sciences, 2019)

9. Which limiting factors does the project propose to address?

Cover - Wood
Off-Channel - Floodplain
Off-Channel - Side-Channels
Pool Quantity & Quality
Pools - Deep Pools
Riparian - Canopy Cover
Riparian - Disturbance
Temperature - Adult Holding
Temperature - Rearing

10. Which life stages will the proposed project address?

Fry
Holding and Maturation
Summer Rearing

Winter Rearing

11. Freshwater Benefits - Describe how your project will improve survival, capacity and/or distribution for target species at the reach scale?

Currently, floodplain connectivity, side-channels, cover wood, riparian canopy cover, and temperature are classified as Unacceptable, and deep pools are classified as At-risk, for Reach 4 of the lower Chiwawa River (UCRTT 2020). Based on the Upper Wenatchee Pilot Project: Aquatic Habitat Assessment and Restoration Strategy Report (Cramer Fish Sciences, 2019), streambed substrate is dominated by cobbles and boulder and LWD is rare along this reach. Overall pool frequency was rated Adequate, but the reach was rated At-risk for pools due to a limited number of deep pools. Riparian road densities were rated Moderately High and this resulted in a riparian condition rating of At-risk. Channel dynamics were rated Poor in this reach due to a high bankfull width to depth ratios, low entrenchment ratio, and low side channel percentages compared to predicted meandering and braided channel forms.

This project is intended to improve habitat quality for target species life stages including holding, fry, summer rearing, and winter rearing. The proposed project will improve habitat quality at the Alder Creek confluence(by adding a pool and large wood structure); increase the length of side channel habitats (by excavating an ~1,000 lf river-left side-channel that will include habitat wood), the number of deep pools and amount of LWD present along ~0.6 miles of mainstem channel (through construction of eight mainstem ELJs); and treat historical and ongoing recreational impacts to riparian and upland vegetation and water quality (and minimize potential for future impacts) along the project reach (by treating impacts, creating structures and planting native plants in three dispersed camping areas adjacent to the river).

Through the aforementioned work, this project will enhance the quantity and quality of habitats along the project reach. We expect that this will increase capacity for holding, incubation, fry and summer and winter rearing life stages, which we expect to improve survival, reproduction and fitness for target species.

12. Temporal Effect - Briefly describe how and to what extent the project would promote natural stream/watershed process consistent with the geomorphology of the stream?

The lower Chiwawa River has been impacted by historical land use practices, particularly timber harvest practices that used the stream corridor to transport logs. This has resulted in a simplified, plane bed channel that is wide and shallow and disconnected from its historical floodplain. As a result, the streambed is well-armored and large cobbles and small boulders dominate the bed substrate. Pools and persistent LWD structures are rare. In addition, dispersed camping in the area has adversely affected riparian and upland vegetation, resulted in a web of social roads and trails and a proliferation of garbage and unauthorized latrines. These impact water quality and stream and forest health (and create management issues for USFS).

The project will treat ~0.6 miles of in-stream habitats and ~15 acres of adjacent riparian and upland habitats and will restore habitat values, promote natural processes, minimize future recreational impacts, and facilitate USFS management of the area. The design process has been supported by extensive data collection and modeling, anticipates the projected effects of global climate change and is consistent with reach-scale geomorphology and USFS planning and management efforts. The project also is consistent with guidance provided by the UCRTT in its recent restoration prioritization update which promulgates the following recommendations for the project reach: Improve cover wood, Improve off-channel side channels, Improve off-channel floodplain, and Improve temperatures.

Treatments associated with the proposed project will promote natural stream/watershed processes. Selective grading and the addition of wood structures in the mainstem channel and lower Alder Creek (a cold water tributary) and on adjacent floodplain surfaces will:
(1) more regularly connect the stream channel to its floodplain,
(2) enhance hydraulic and habitat diversity,
(3) initiate horizontal and vertical scour that will mobilize sediments and organic materials,
(4) create off-channel habitats, and
(4) facilitate deposition of naturally occurring LWD and streambed materials along the project reach.

In addition to reducing potential for future recreational impacts to the area, treatments for past

anthropogenic impacts in recreation areas adjacent to the river will:
(1) improve streamside vegetation (which will facilitate recruitment of organic matter and other allochthonous inputs and increase shade);
(2) enhance infiltration in upland and riparian areas; and
(3) reduce runoff and delivery of fine sediments, garbage, fecal coliform bacteria, and other contaminants to the stream.

13. Temporal Effect - How long will it take for the project to achieve its intended response?

Less than or equal to 1 year | 1-10 years

14. Temporal Effect - How long will the restoration action and its benefits persist?

10-50 years

15. Temporal Effect - What level and/or interval of maintenance is anticipated? What is the plan for any anticipated maintenance?

It is our intent that the project will be self-maintaining and require little or no further human intervention once construction is completed. That said, we will work with USFS to monitor the project post-construction and will complete maintenance as needed to ensure the project continues to function as designed.

This request funds project construction, but this grant program does not provide funds for post-construction monitoring and maintenance. As a result, should maintenance needs be identified it is likely that a new fundraising effort will be required to secure funds in support of that work.

16. Methods - Briefly describe the potential (for design) or proposed restoration methods and how they will achieve project objectives.

This project is designed to improve in-stream and floodplain habitat quality, quantity and diversity; improve flow connectivity and juvenile fish access to off-channel habitats; and promote stream processes including scour, sediment deposition and sorting, organic matter recruitment, and others. Restoration treatments associated with the project include mainstem and tributary ELJs (apex, bank-attached, and side-channel confluence structures), habitat tree placement, selective grading, and recreation area treatments including selective grading, wood/rock structures, and vegetation planting. The current 60% plan set depicting these restoration treatments will be uploaded to PRISM in support of this application (and has been uploaded under previous RCO agreements that have funded design work for this project), and the final design iteration is expected by September 2026 (it also will be uploaded to PRISM).

The project includes a total of nine ELJs, all of which will be machine-built. There are two apex ELJs, six bank-buried ELJs, and one side-channel confluence ELJ. All of these structures will include excavated pools, and the excavated streambed materials will be used to backfill the structures (supplemented with excavated materials from the side-channel, if needed). The fill material will be planted with live stakes and a native seed mix to facilitate establishment of vegetation on the structures.

The Apex ELJs will be constructed at a mid-channel location and a flow split location (side-channel inlet) in the mainstem channel. These structures are designed to enhance hydraulic complexity, initiate lateral channel processes, and provide pool habitat and cover at all flows. They will be stabilized via mechanical connections to vertical piles either driven or dug into the channel bed (17-20 piles - 16"dbh and 25' length), and will include 30-37 rootwad logs (18" dbh and 40' length), 6-8 whole trees and ~15-30 CY of salvaged slash (as racking materials).

The bank-buried ELJs will be constructed at several locations along river-left and are designed to add pools/enhance pool quality and provide cover and refuge areas at all flows. They will each include approximately 20 rootwad logs (18" dbh and 40' length), eight piles (16" dbh and 25' length), two whole trees and ~10-15 CY of slash (as racking materials). These structures will be stabilized by burying a large portion of the rootwad logs under at least two feet of backfill, with additional support provided by mechanical connections to driven or dug piles.

The side-channel confluence structure will be constructed at the downstream end of the constructed side-channel. It is intended to maintain a pool at the channel outlet and provide cover and refuge habitat at all flows. It will include 25 rootwad logs (18" dbh and 40' length), 12 piles (16" dbh and 25' length), five whole trees and ~15-25 CY of slash (as racking material). This structure will be stabilized by burying a large portion of the rootwad logs under at least three feet of backfill, with additional support provided by mechanical connections to driven or dug piles.

The project also will construct an approximately 1000 lf, river-left, side-channel. The channel will have a bottom width of ~15 ft and typical excavation depths will be 4-6 ft. It will have an average longitudinal gradient of 0.7 percent. It will be excavated with heavy equipment and will generate approximately 4,300 CY of excavated materials, which will be used as supplemental backfill for ELJs and in the recreation area treatments above ordinary high water. The side-channel is designed to convey flow perennially and will include ~100 pieces of large wood to provide cover and in-stream complexity. Large wood will be stabilized by burial or by bracing the logs with partially buried upright logs or standing trees. No ferrous connections are anticipated for this woody material. The channel alignment was identified using LiDAR and surveyed tree locations, and the path it follows was designed to minimize impacts to large standing trees. Additional field fitting and variable side slopes may be employed during construction to further limit impacts to large trees.

Finally, the project includes a suite of treatments in three separate streamside areas used primarily for dispersed camping. This work is intended to treat impacts from historical and ongoing recreational use in these areas and limit potential future impacts associated with this use. Ground-based equipment including excavators and dump trucks will be used for this work. Soils will be de-compacted; large wood and boulders will be placed as roughness features throughout these areas to improve habitat quality, create barriers impassable to vehicle travel, and delineate camping areas. We will also enhance native vegetation throughout these three areas. A crew with hand tools will plant a variety of native trees and shrubs (~2,100 plants), and we will contract with a hydroseeding company to seed/mulch (with a native grass/forb mix) a total of approximately 7 acres throughout these three areas .

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

Monitoring Proposals

Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership? US Forest Service

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

Please explain

We currently have a signed Landowner Acknowledgement Form from the USFS for the current project design phase, and will secure an acknowledgement for this proposal prior to submitting the final application. The project is on USFS's work plan and we also will obtain a signed Landowner Agreement from them prior to project implementation.

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

Project must avoid impacting nearby long-term lease cabins, Goose Creek Campground, and the Chiwawa River Road bridge that crosses the river just downstream of the Alder Creek confluence. The design process has considered these constraints and we do not anticipate any adverse impacts to these features.

Dispersed camping consolidation/reduction and road decommissioning follows USFS guidelines and

standards, and in-stream restoration is consistent with design criteria and conservation measures promulgated under ARBO II (Programmatic Conference and Biological Opinion and Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act Essential Fish Habitat Consultation for Aquatic Restoration Activities in the States of Oregon and Washington) and the Upper Wenatchee Pilot Project Environmental Assessment.

None of these constraints, requirements, or permit conservation measures are expected to adversely affect the project because the project was designed with these considerations in mind, and because safety considerations and following established guidelines and standards is commonplace in stream restoration design.

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

We have not received any specific feedback from interested parties expressing concern for the project or the proposed treatments. However, campers who use the dispersed camping areas to be treated at this project site may raise concerns about the reduction in camping sites that will result from this project. In addition, in-stream projects often raise concerns for recreational boaters, adjacent property owners, and other interested parties.

Our recreation area treatments are designed to improve habitat conditions in the dispersed camping areas and reduce potential for future user-created impacts to the stream and adjacent habitats. The treatments (which have been approved by USFS) will bring the areas into better agreement with USFS standards and guidelines for dispersed camping areas. In addition, they are expected to enhance user experience by reducing the total number of campers at any given time and increasing the distance between campsites (enhancing privacy).

Our in-stream treatment designs take public safety and project risk to into account through the use of the Bureau of Reclamation's Large Woody Material - Risk Based Design Guidelines (which assesses risks to property and public safety). In addition, we have commissioned a recreational safety assessment that identified risks to non-motorized boaters in the Lower Chiwawa River and provided recommendations for minimizing risks associated with stream restoration efforts. This work also has informed the design of this project.

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

This proposal supports project construction within a National Forest unit. CCNRD will work with USFS to monitor the site post-construction. As a public land manager USFS is ultimately responsible for maintenance and management of the lands and waterways it administers. However, CCNRD will work with USFS to determine if maintenance is needed and seek additional funding should we determine that adaptive management actions are necessary.

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

No

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

There is always risk associated with stream restoration projects, but with good data collection, careful design and modeling, and implementation that follows the designs and utilizes construction best management practices, potential for failure is low.

For this project, we have worked with licensed engineers, landscape architects and other technical staff employed by reputable companies with extensive experience in river restoration and recreation area treatments. The design effort considered applicable design criteria and conservation measures, and has included extensive technical review and revision. Finally, we will contract for implementation in a manner that assures that the project is constructed by a firm with demonstrated experience in river restoration and work in and around sensitive environments. Collectively, these steps assure a high factor of safety and minimize potential for failure.

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

We will work with USFS to continue and expand outreach that began during the design phase of this project to assure that local residents and forest users are aware of the project and its potential effects and benefits. Outreach will be structured such that it meets USFS standards and needs and informs the public about the type of restoration actions being implemented, emphasizes the need for and benefits of stream restoration, and builds support for salmon recovery efforts.

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

Yes, this project represents an opportunity for economic benefit. The proposal supports project construction. As a result, it will employ design consultants, agency staff, construction contractors and material providers. Kellon and Hesselgrave (2014) have reported that restoration efforts support 19-24 jobs for every $1-million invested (depending on labor intensity), money spent on restoration projects generates substantial additional spending and economic output (roughly double the amount of the original investment), and 80% of funds spent on restoration efforts stay in the county where the project is located (with 90% staying in state). While their study focused on restoration projects in Oregon, economic benefits of restoration are almost certainly similar for Washington state.

Cathy P. Kellon and Taylor Hesselgrave, “Oregon’s Restoration Economy: How investing in natural assets benefits communities and the regional economy”, S.A.P.I.EN.S [Online], 7.2 | 2014, URL: http://journals.openedition.org/sapiens/1599 (link confirmed March 3, 2025)

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

Chelan County NRD has extensive experience implementing construction efforts such as the one proposed, and is well situated to complete the proposed implementation effort on-time and on budget and achieve the expected results

We have worked with USFS on several stream restoration projects, and have partnered with them over the course of this project effort. USFS has reviewed and commented on the designs, and the project has been designed accordingly. In addition, we have worked extensively with the Bureau of Reclamation, RCO, and the Tributary Committees. These entities have provided funding throughout the design phase of this project.

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

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	Entiat Roaring Creek Fee Acquisition
Sponsor	Chelan-Douglas Land Trust
Primary Contact	Mickey Fleming
E-Mail Address	mickey@cdlandtrust.org

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.

The goal is to permanently protect 796.25 acres of habitat, including one mile of Roaring Creek on both sides, 2 miles of streambank total. Roaring Creek is a tributary of the Entiat River, and is an important spawning and rearing stream for steelhead. This property is located in Roaring Creek Reaches 1 and 2, both Tier 2 for protection and restoration for steelhead, and Tier 3 for protection and restoration of bull trout. It is immediately downstream of Cascadia Conservation District's current application for a "Stage 0" restoration project on USFS lands (SRFB #25-1232). The property would be permanently held and managed for conservation and restoration purposes.

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].

The objective is to protect 796.25 acres of habitat, including one mile of Roaring Creek on both sides, 2

miles of streambank in total, by the end of 2027.Reaches 1 and 2 of Roaring Creek have documented spawning activity in WDFW redd surveys and is categorized as a high priority assessment unit for adult migration, spawning, fry colonization, and summer rearing. Low summer base flows are listed as an unacceptable limiting factor. Channel modification, instream enhancement, and upland management are identified as actions.
Permanent protection of this property will prevent degradation from; fragmentation into private parcels, wells and septic systems, and removing riparian vegetation. It will facilitate future restoration of Roaring Creek by Upper Columbia restoration partners on projects to improve floodplain reconnection and side channel habitat.

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	350,000
Anticipated or Actual Other Funding	450,000
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	800,000

Other Funding Source(s), please note if funding is anticipated or actual.

Anticipated funding from Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee is approved.

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	The project is located between RM .5 and 1.5 of Roaring Creek above the confluence at RM 6 of the Entiat River
Latitude (decimal degrees)	47.675
Longitude (decimal degrees)	-120.353
Project subbasin	Entiat
Entiat Assessment Unit(s)	Roaring Creek
Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Roaring Creek Entiat 01 and 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 reference the Prioritization Web Map: https://prioritization.ucsrb.org/.	Multiple reaches (provide details below)

Please detail the reach-ranking of the reaches below

Roaring Creek Entiat 01 has Reach Rank 1
Roaring Creek Entiat 02 has Reach Rank 2

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?

Steelhead | Bull Trout

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

Acquisition, Easements, Leases

Acquisition, Easements, Leases: Reporting Code

Miles of streambank and/or Shoreline Protected by Land or Easement Acquisition

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

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

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?

Maybe

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

The project would permanently protect the largest private parcel on Roaring Creek with an exceptional amount of streambank. The upstream sections are entirely within forest service ownership. Restoration projects upstream, and on this section of Roaring Creek could have a significant impact in watershed restoration. Projects could include channel modification, instream enhancement, and upland management. Roaring Creek is an important cold water tributary for the Entiat River.

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?

If Roaring Creek is not protected, there could be residential development all along this section of Roaring Creek. Failure to protect and restore Roaring Creek could lead to further stream degradation and incision, reduced riparian vegetation, and an increase in water temperature.

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

Eighty acres of the parcel along Roaring Creek are zoned RR10 and could be developed for attractive streamside recreation parcels with direct impacts to Roaring Creek (wells and septic, removing riparian vegetation, diversion of water, etc...). The remaining acres are zoned RR20 and could also be developed.

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

CDLT acknowledges that there is significant upland acreage in these parcels. The landowners have inquired with public agencies regarding acquisition, without success. CDLT recently inquired about whether WA DNR would be interested in taking a portion of these parcels, but the DNR declined. These parcels are adjoined to the west by USFS, WA DNR to the north and south, and BLM to the east. CDLT would be interested in transferring the upland portions to one of these public agencies prior to acquisition if any of them were willing. The landowner wants to sell the parcels all together and is not interested in retaining any portion of the property.

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 is willing to sell CDLT these parcels, pending a favorable appraisal, and has signed the Landowner Acknowledgement. Landowner is currently in the process of divesting from their various landholdings.

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

None.

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

None known.

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

CDLT will own and manage the property in perpetuity. There is currently a stream gauge located on the property.

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

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

There is always the risk that the landowner will not be satisfied with the appraisal results. CDLT believes that would be the only stumbling block for this project.

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

This project would make future salmon recovery projects possible and we will work with our Upper Columbia restoration partners for restoration of Roaring Creek.

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

Our communities, watersheds, and environments benefit significantly from healthy salmon populations. The funds necessary for acquisition will make further investments and recovery projects possible.

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

We are already discussing extending Cascadia Conservation District's restoration work in upper Roaring Creek downstream to this project area. CCD has done extensive salmon recovery work throughout the region. Mark Ingman of CCD has offered to support this acquisition project however he can.

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

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	Lower Icicle Conservation Easements
Sponsor	Chelan-Douglas Land Trust
Primary Contact	Mickey Fleming
E-Mail Address	mickey@cdlandtrust.org

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.

The goal is to permanently protect approximately 75 acres of floodplain along the lower Icicle River near Leavenworth, WA. There will be two conservation easements over two adjacent parcels owned by related but distinct landowners. Acquiring these conservation easements will ensure these sensitive riparian zones will not be filled and developed, and facilitate future restoration activities.

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].

The project will accomplish protection of valuable riparian habitat in the Lower Icicle Assessment Unit by placing two conservation easements over 75 acres of floodplain, including .92 river miles by the end of 2028. The Lower Icicle is Rank 1 for protection of Steelhead, and Rank 3 for protection of Spring Chinook and Bull Trout. The Lower Icicle is Rank 1 for restoration of Steelhead and Bull Trout, and Rank 2 for

restoration of Spring Chinook.

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	600,000
Tributary Committee - Anticipated or Actual	600,000
Anticipated or Actual Other Funding	1,400,000
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	2,600,000

Other Funding Source(s), please note if funding is anticipated or actual.

Anticipated Other Funding would be from the RCO WWRP Riparian Protection grant program.

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	The properties are located between RM 0 and RM 1.5 of Icicle Creek.
Latitude (decimal degrees)	47.573815
Longitude (decimal degrees)	-120.661968
Project subbasin	Wenatchee
Wenatchee Assessment Unit(s)	Lower Icicle Creek
Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Icicle Creek Lower 01
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 reference the Prioritization Web Map: https://prioritization.ucsrb.org/.	Rank 1

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?	Spring Chinook, Steelhead, Bull Trout
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)

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)?

Yes

6. What category is the project?

Protection

Design and Restoration Proposals

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

7. What type of protection are you proposing?

Conservation Easement

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

No

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

Yes, the project protects two of the few remaining large undeveloped sections of Lower Icicle Creek, including nearly a mile of stream frontage. The conservation easements will ensure that landowners can only use the conserved properties in accordance with the conservation values of the easement and will forbid residential development, harmful agricultural practices (runoff), and will explicitly provide for restoration of the riparian zones.

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?

If the property is developed, farmed, or grazed, there could be significant harm to the target species, including loss of riparian vegetation, contaminated runoff, destruction of streambanks and shaded pools, and increased recreation impacts to the river and riverbanks.

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

The largest parcel of land is currently owned in an LLC controlled by 5 older family members. If the property is not protected, the land will pass to the next generation with dozens of members, many of whom have less interest in conservation. The current owners believe that if the land is not protected, the next generation will either chop up the parcel into lots for individual ownership or sell the property for development. The property is zoned for 10-acre parcels and Chelan County has a fill ordinance that would allow a developer to fill and raise the floodplain for dvelopment..

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

CDLT will need to thoroughly negotiate the terms of the conservation easement to ensure that retained rights (allowed uses) are limited as much as possible, and that any retained rights are not in conflict the conservation values of the property.

13. Will there be public access? No

Monitoring Proposals

Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership? Private (one lot by a married couple, one lot by a family LLC)

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

Please explain

Landowners have agreed to sign landowner acknowledgement forms.

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

Landowners have from time-to-time leased a portion of the property during wildfires for a helicopter base of the large firefighting helicopters, a service that benefits the community. If the landowners want to retain the ability to lease the property for such a purpose, that will need to be addressed in the conservation easement, and limited to areas outside of the riparian corridors.

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

None known.

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

CDLT will be responsible for monitoring the property and enforcing the terms of the conservation easements. The landowners will be bound by the terms of the conservation and will be responsible for managing and maintaining 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.

The LLC Members will need to vote to accept the appraisal value as the purchase price for the conservation easement. If the vote does not pass, the project cannot move forward.

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

Acquisition generally projects must stay confidential until closing, but CDLT regularly participates in regular watershed meetings regarding protection of Icicle Creek. Placing a conservation easement over these properties will make future salmon recovery projects more likely.

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

This property has been farmed and grazed in the past, at a cost to Icicle Creek. Those costs include loss of instream flow, channelization of the creek, loss of riparian vegetation, channel migration, agricultural runoff, and habitat degradation from cattle in the creek and on the banks. There is a benefit in the removal of all these negative influences. This project demonstrates how landowners with former agricultural lands near salmon streams can permanently protect that land and facilitate restoration. Without conservation, the only economic alternative is to sell the land for riverfront development.

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

CDLT will work with the landowners and our salmon restoration partners to carry out future stream and riparian restoration projects.

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