Contact Information

2026 Upper Columbia Regional Project Pre-Application

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

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

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

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

Project Title	2 Channels Acquisition
Sponsor	Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
Primary Contact	Ben Woodworth
E-Mail Address	woob@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.

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

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

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

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

Specific - acquire roughly 50% of parcel #3422310046 to facilitate riparian and salmonid habitat restoration and conservation
Measurable - pay the appropriate amount of funds to the landowner for ownership of roughly 50% of their parcel
Achievable - the landowner is willing and wanting to sell their parcel to the Yakama Nation, approaching our organization in years past about the opportunity
Relevant - obtaining this parcel opens up opportunities for riparian and salmonid habitat restoration and conservation in the Methow River
Time bound - this acquisition could be completed on a timeline that is favorable for the landowner and the Yakama Nation

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

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	100,000
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	100,000

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	The acquisition is of parcel number 3422310046, located in between the towns of Twisp and Winthrop, at approximately RM 45
Latitude (decimal degrees)	48.405975
Longitude (decimal degrees)	-120.137110
Project subbasin	Methow
Methow Assessment Unit(s)	Methow River-Thompson Creek
Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Methow River Thompson 02
Identify the reach(es) priority/ reach ranking. Note: If the project involves work in multiple reaches, select "Multiple" and include details in the text box that will appear below. Please	Rank 3

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

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?

Spring Chinook | Steelhead | Bull Trout | Summer Chinook | Resident Cutthroat Trout, Resident Rainbow Trout, Whitefish

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

Acquisition, Easements, Leases

Acquisition, Easements, Leases: Reporting Code

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

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

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

No

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

No

6. What category is the project?

Protection

If applicable, what is the secondary project category?

N/A

Design and Restoration Proposals

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

7. What type of protection are you proposing?

Fee Simple

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

Yes

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

13. Will there be public access? Yes

Monitoring Proposals

Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership? Private

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

Please explain

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Don't know

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

There is little risk of failure associated with this acquisition.

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

There is no public outreach planned for this acquisition.

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

The acquisition represents and opportunity for habitat uplift and conservation.

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

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

Optional Section - Preparation for PRISM (SRFB applications only)

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

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

No

Supporting Documents

Upper Columbia Process Guide 2026

SRFB Manual 18 (2026)

RCO Application Resources

Contact Information

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

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

Project Title	Salmon Creek fish passage barrier design
Sponsor	Cascade Fisheries
Primary Contact	Kristen Kirkby
E-Mail Address	kristen@ccfeg.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 of this project is to complete preliminary designs for three County-owned fish-passage barrier road crossings on Salmon Creek in the Okanogan Basin, as well as initiate outreach to landowners of two other non-crossing barriers in the system.

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 of the project is to complete three preliminary designs for fish-passable crossing structures to replace barrier structures, allowing for a future project to improve connectivity in this important steelhead system in the Okanogan Basin. Locations for design are site IDs 605279 (67% passable culvert), 605278 (33% passable culvert), and 606489 (33% passable culvert). While adult steelhead passage occurs seasonally, these barriers are likely restricting juvenile passage and the lower may become a full barrier

with a change to a downstream beaver dam that creates a backwater. CF would also undertake outreach to initiate work on two additional barriers in the system, 605289 (33% passable dam) and 606499 (67% passable other). There are relatively few remaining barriers in the Salmon Creek system, and work proposed in this project would create designs or begin initial outreach to address all but one remaining barrier, 950124 (0% passable dam), which the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation are currently working with the USBR to address. We anticipate a preliminary design completed for three culverts by 12/31/2027, allowing for CF to pursue funding for remaining design and implementation in future years.

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	100000
Tributary Committee - Anticipated or Actual	100000
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	200000

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	This project includes three sites on Salmon Creek in the Okanogan Basin. The downstream sites are roughly at RM 4.5, and the upstream site is at RM 9.0. Additional outreach work will take place for barriers are RM 1.3 and 4.2.
Latitude (decimal degrees)	48.406942
Longitude (decimal degrees)	-119.625683
Project subbasin	Okanogan
Okanogan Assessment Unit(s)	Salmon Creek-Lower
Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Design: Salmon 16-4, Salmon 16-8. Outreach: Salmon 16-1, Salmon 16-4.
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 Rank 1 - Salmon 16-1, Salmon 16-4
Reach Rank 2 - Salmon 16-8

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?

Spring Chinook | Steelhead

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?

No

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

Don't Know

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?

Preliminary 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)?

No

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

Fish Passage Barriers

10. Which life stages will the proposed project address?

Adult Migration | Fry | Smolt Outmigration | 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?

Fish passage barriers reduce spatial structure, abundance, productivity, and diversity of salmonids and other aquatic species. Barriers such as culverts and dams also degrade fish habitat by altering or limiting the downstream movement of sediment, wood, and other organic materials, and may reduce the upstream extent of nutrient inputs by impeding adult salmon passage. The Upper Columbia spring Chinook, Steelhead, and Bull Trout Recovery Plan, developed by the UCSRB (Lead Entity), states that fixing man made barriers will improve spatial structure and diversity of our listed species.

This project will initiate work to address the remaining fish-passage barriers on Salmon Creek (with the exception of a diversion dam currently being worked on by CTCR). Salmon Creek has historically been the most productive steelhead stream in the Okanogan Basin, per OBMEP reports, and juvenile chinook use has also been documented. Barriers in the project range from 33% passable to 67% passable and are thought to primarily impact juvenile passage in their current state. However, it's believed that loss of a backwater from a beaver dam downstream of the lowest crossing structure proposed for design would

lead to limitations on adult passage at these structures, as well.

The lower two culverts are not included in the Upper Columbia barrier prioritization, though we are not certain why at this time considering known use by steelhead and prioritization ranking upstream of these barriers. Per Ryan Klett with the Colville Tribes, it was an oversight that these culverts were not included in the EDT model run, but they will be included in the next run in summer 2026. The upper culvert, 606489, is included in the prioritization. It is a Tier 2 priority for chinook and Tier 3 for steelhead, with both species receiving an overall prioritization score of 71.

The 2025 Okanogan Basin Monitoring and Evaluation Program report states that the majority of annual outmigrant steelhead originate from Salmon Creek, which accounts for roughly half of the combined estimates for fry and parr O. mykiss in the subbasin. This report also described Salmon Creek as colder than the Okanogan River, with a maximum weekly water temperature lower than the majority of other Okanogan tributaries. Water temperatures are projected to continually warm over the coming decades. The NorWest Stream Temperature Model shows 7-day average summer temperatures in the Okanogan approaching 24 degrees Celsius in 2040, a potentially lethal temperature for salmonids. However, in the upper reaches of Salmon Creek near Conconully, water temperatures remain below 16 degrees Celsius. Establishing unrestricted passage through the barriers identified in this proposal will provide essential access cold water refugia, which may be critical to ensuring the persistence of our ESA-listed salmonids in the Okanogan basin in the future. The 2023 OBMEP report explicitly describes Salmon Creek as the highest priority for protection.

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?

This project would enable the eventual removal of three fish-passage barrier stream crossings and replacement with fish-passable crossing structures, ensuring the free flow of water, wood, and sediment for the creation and maintenance of downstream habitat, as well as improving fish passage for steelhead and other native species to improve distribution and ensure connectivity to high-quality spawning and rearing habitat.

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

Less than or equal to 1 year

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?

Replacing fish-passage barriers with fish-passable crossing structures design to accommodate 100-year flow and anticipated hydrologic changes with climate change should ensure that these structures do not require maintenance for decades.

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

CF will work with an accredited engineer to ensure crossing structures meet design requirements. Designs will be guided by specifications described in WDFW's Water Crossing Design Guidelines (2013), with a stream simulation channel design. These methodologies provide the best design approach to ensure long term fish passage for all species and life stages, as well as allowing for natural watershed processes to occur. Partners from CTCR and Okanogan County, as well as funders, will have the opportunity to review and comment on designs.

The project designs will be climate resilient by designing fish passages structure that will pass flood flows, and associated stream bed substrate and wood, that may become more frequent and intense in the future. Predicted future changes to stream hydrology will incorporated into the new structures' design.

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

Monitoring Proposals

Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership?

Okanogan County owns the three crossing structures slated for design. The additional structures slated for outreach are a USGS stream gage and a rock weir on land owned by the City of Okanogan.

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

Yes

Please explain

CF has reached out to Okanogan County and received initial support to seek funding for design for these culverts. We are currently reaching out to the City of Okanogan and USGS about two additional barriers for which we may pursue later design.

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 known.

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

No, this project will benefit both infrastructure and stream health.

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

The crossing structures will be owned by Okanogan County. This project will improve existing infrastructure and reduce existing maintenance burden for the County.

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.

We don't currently anticipate a risk of failure for this project, considering support from Okanogan County and our own extensive experience implementing design and construction for fish-passage projects. A lack of funding for construction is likely the greatest risk for the project; however, CF feels that there are several potential avenues for construction funding in future and the relatively high priority of these reaches suggest that funding would be achievable.

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

Not at this point. If there are public use areas associated with these crossing structures, CF would encourage landowners to allow for the placement of an informational outreach sign to educate users on native fish, stream health, and restoration.

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

The design phase of this project will support work for a contracted engineer and eventual construction would provide several projects for local contractors.

Replacement of the barriers identified in this project represent and upgrade to Okanogan County infrastructure. These roads provide access to a popular recreation area, which is an important driver of the County's economy. Implementation of this project helps improve climate resilience of these crossings and long-term access to the recreation area.

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

CF has been communicating with CTCR and Okanogan County about moving this project forward and has initial support from both. While these structures were initially (and unintentionally) left out of the EDT model for fish passage, CTCR intends to update and include them in summer 2026, as well as provide any information or support in the meantime.

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.

Fish passage barriers reduce spatial structure, abundance, productivity, and diversity of salmonids and other aquatic species. Barriers such as culverts and dams also degrade fish habitat by altering or limiting the downstream movement of sediment, wood, and other organic materials, and may reduce the upstream extent of nutrient inputs by impeding adult salmon passage. The Upper Columbia spring Chinook, Steelhead, and Bull Trout Recovery Plan, developed by the UCSRB (Lead Entity), states that fixing man made barriers will improve spatial structure and diversity of our listed species.

This project will initiate work to address the remaining fish-passage barriers on Salmon Creek (with the exception of a diversion dam currently being worked on by CTCR). Salmon Creek has historically been the most productive steelhead stream in the Okanogan Basin, per OBMEP reports, and juvenile chinook use has also been documented. Barriers in the project range from 33% passable to 67% passable and are thought to primarily impact juvenile passage in their current state. However, it's believed that loss of a backwater from a beaver dam downstream of the lowest crossing structure proposed for design would lead to limitations on adult passage at these structures, as well.

The lower two culverts are not included in the Upper Columbia barrier prioritization, though we are not certain why at this time considering known use by steelhead and prioritization ranking upstream of these barriers. Per Ryan Klett with the Colville Tribes, it was an oversight that these culverts were not included in the EDT model run, but they will be included in the next run in summer 2026. The upper culvert, 606489, is included in the prioritization. It is a Tier 2 priority for chinook and Tier 3 for steelhead, with both species receiving an overall prioritization score of 71.

The 2025 Okanogan Basin Monitoring and Evaluation Program report states that the majority of annual outmigrant steelhead originate from Salmon Creek, which accounts for roughly half of the combined estimates for fry and parr O. mykiss in the subbasin. This report also described Salmon Creek as colder than the Okanogan River, with a maximum weekly water temperature lower than the majority of other

Okanogan tributaries. Water temperatures are projected to continually warm over the coming decades. The NorWest Stream Temperature Model shows 7-day average summer temperatures in the Okanogan approaching 24 degrees Celsius in 2040, a potentially lethal temperature for salmonids. However, in the upper reaches of Salmon Creek near Conconully, water temperatures remain below 16 degrees Celsius. Establishing unrestricted passage through the barriers identified in this proposal will provide essential access cold water refugia, which may be critical to ensuring the persistence of our ESA-listed salmonids in the Okanogan basin in the future. The 2023 OBMEP report explicitly describes Salmon Creek as the highest priority for protection.

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.

The goal of this project is to complete preliminary designs for three County-owned fish-passage barrier road crossings on Salmon Creek in the Okanogan Basin, as well as initiate outreach to landowners of two other non-crossing barriers in the system. This project would enable the eventual removal of three fish-passage barrier stream crossings and replacement with fish-passable crossing structures, ensuring the free flow of water, wood, and sediment for the creation and maintenance of downstream habitat, as well as improving fish passage for steelhead
and other native species to improve distribution and ensure connectivity to high-quality spawning and rearing habitat.

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).

The objective of the project is to complete three preliminary designs for fish-passable crossing structures to replace barrier structures, allowing for a future project to improve connectivity in this important steelhead system in the Okanogan Basin. Locations for design are site IDs 605279 (67% passable culvert), 605278 (33% passable culvert), and 606489 (33% passable culvert). While adult steelhead passage occurs seasonally, these barriers are likely restricting juvenile passage and the lower may become a full barrier with a change to a downstream beaver dam that creates a backwater. CF would also undertake outreach to initiate work on two additional barriers in the system, 605289 (33% passable dam) and 606499 (67% passable other). There are relatively few remaining barriers in the Salmon Creek system, and work proposed in this project would create designs or begin initial outreach to address all but one remaining barrier, 950124 (0% passable dam), which the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation are currently working with the USBR to address. We anticipate a preliminary design completed for three culverts by 12/31/2027, allowing for CF to pursue funding for remaining design and implementation in future years.

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.

Design - CF will contract with an accredited engineer to develop conceptual and then preliminary designs for three crossing structures. Designs will be guided by specifications described in WDFW's Water Crossing Design Guidelines (2013), with a stream simulation channel design. These methodologies provide the best design approach to ensure long term fish passage for all species and life stages, as well as allowing for natural watershed processes to occur. Partners from CTCR and Okanogan County, as well as funders, will have the opportunity to review and comment on designs.

Survey - CF will contract with a firm to complete geotech survey to inform design.

Project management - CF will manage all aspects of the project, contracting with an engineer, leading outreach with landowners and partners, and communicating and presenting to funders for review.

Administration - CF will be responsible for billing and grant management.

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?

Designs for these sites will be informed by site survey, geotech survey, system hydrology, and a thorough understanding of the site. Close coordination with Okanogan County and project partners in the form of a design team will also ensure thorough review of proposed designs.

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

CF has extensive experience leading design and implementation of fish passage barrier projects across our region. We also have a history of strong communication with partners to ensure collaboration and partner/regional support for projects. CF has been communicating with CTCR and Okanogan County about moving this project forward and has initial support from both.

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

Alternative crossing structures/styles/locations will be considered in the conceptual design phase of this project. Review by CF, the design team, and funders will ensure that an appropriate alternative is selected to take to a preliminary design.

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

CF has held initial discussions with Okanogan County and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, as well as reached out to the City of Okanogan (landowner on the lowest barrier, which is not included in design). Outreach to and engagement with landowners, project partners, and funders will continue throughout the design process to ensure thorough review of and support for design as we move through the process toward implementation.

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?

The project designs will be climate resilient by designing fish passages structure that will pass flood flows, and associated stream bed substrate and wood, that may become more frequent and intense in the future. Predicted future changes to stream hydrology will incorporated into the new structures' design.

The 2025 Okanogan Basin Monitoring and Evaluation Program report states that the majority of annual outmigrant steelhead originate from Salmon Creek, which accounts for roughly half of the combined estimates for fry and parr O. mykiss in the subbasin. This report also described Salmon Creek as colder than the Okanogan River, with a maximum weekly water temperature lower than the majority of other Okanogan tributaries. Water temperatures are projected to continually warm over the coming decades. The NorWest Stream Temperature Model shows 7-day average summer temperatures in the Okanogan approaching 24 degrees Celsius in 2040, a potentially lethal temperature for salmonids. However, in the upper reaches of Salmon Creek near Conconully, water temperatures remain below 16 degrees Celsius. Establishing unrestricted passage through the barriers identified in this proposal will provide essential access cold water refugia, which may be critical to ensuring the persistence of our ESA-listed salmonids in the Okanogan basin in the future. The 2023 OBMEP report explicitly describes Salmon Creek as the highest priority for protection.

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

CF has extensive experience leading design and implementation of fish passage barrier projects across our region. We also have a history of strong communication with partners to ensure collaboration and partner/regional support for projects. CF has managed many fish-passage barrier projects in the Wenatchee, Methow, and Okanogan basins, working with a range of landowners (private, local, federal) and funders.

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

No.

Supporting Documents

Upper Columbia Process Guide 2026

SRFB Manual 18 (2026)

RCO Application Resources

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*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	Little Siberia Floodplain Connectivity Preliminary Design
Sponsor	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation
Primary Contact	Grace Watson
E-Mail Address	grace@methowsalmon.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 Project will produce a conceptual and preliminary design for the development of a floodplain reconnection project that increases biological benefit at low to moderate flows on property acquired in 2025 by Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation (MSRF) on the lower Twisp River. The project site is located in Reach 2 of the lower Twisp River Assessment Unit and within Reach T2a identified in the Lower Twisp River Reach Assessment (Yakama Nation Fisheries Program 2010, pp.29-45) between river miles 1.0-1.5. The site is located at MSRF's Twisp Ponds restoration site, an off-channel system consisting of five ponds and channels, which provides high quality spawning and rearing habitat for UCR Spring Chinook, UCR Steelhead, and other species.

The project builds on the Priest Rapids Tributary Committee sponsored Bartsch property Acquisition completed in 2025, a 7.86 acre parcel which includes the upper pond, channel, and headgate that feeds the Twisp Ponds complex, as well as a house that lies within the floodplain and a levee set back from the river. The recently purchased property is the final parcel that MSRF has been seeking since beginning acquisition and the subsequent restoration of the Twisp Ponds complex beginning in the early 2000s.

Preliminary 2D hydraulic modeling results suggest that partial or full levee removal does not have significant direct effects below the five year flood. However, the preliminary modeling suggests that a more complete levee removal project could be meaningful throughout the entire site if paired with

additional instream actions and riparian restoration to engage the floodplain during low to moderate flows.

The Project will produce conceptual and preliminary design for habitat restoration actions to benefit ESA-listed Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon, UCR Steelhead, and other species including the removal of the house and levee and reconnection of the floodplain with the Twisp Ponds Complex. Habitat actions will show biological benefit at the annual flow without increasing flood risk to downstream or upstream private properties.

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].

Within two years the Project will produce a conceptual and preliminary design for a floodplain reconnection project which will include a suite of project actions to support meaningful habitat uplift for ESA spring Chinook and UCR steelhead at flows that support juvenile salmonids in the T2A reach of the lower Twisp River at Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation's (MSRF) Twisp Ponds restoration site.

The floodplain reconnection project will be designed to increase floodplain inundation and biological benefit to ESA listed fish species on MSRF owned parcels below the two year flow, without increasing flood risk to upstream or downstream private properties.

The project will evaluate opportunities to floodplain reconnection design that include:
- Instream actions to bring the river up onto the floodplain
- Removal of an earthen berm levee at the upstream end of the property
- Removal of a 2500 square foot house and associated infrastructure from the floodplain
- Riparian Restoration

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	$180,000
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	$180,000

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	This project is located in the Twisp River Lower 02 reach and within Reach T2A of the 2010 Twisp River Reach Assessment between approximately RM 1.0-1.5.
Latitude (decimal degrees)	48.3689
Longitude (decimal degrees)	-120.14204
Project subbasin	Methow
Methow Assessment Unit(s)	Lower Twisp River

Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Twisp River Lower 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/.	Rank 2

Project Information

1. What species will the project benefit?	Spring Chinook, Steelhead, Bull Trout, Coho, Pacific Lamprey
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?	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?	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, Preliminary 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 Twisp River Reach Assessment, June 2010. Prepared by Interfluve for Yakama Nation Fisheries Program
9. Which limiting factors does the project propose to address?	Cover - Wood, Off-Channel - Floodplain, Off-Channel - Side-Channels, Riparian
10. Which life stages will the proposed project address?	Subadult Rearing (Bull Trout), Fry

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 will provide conceptual and preliminary design for a series of developed project actions designed to improve floodplain and side channel connectivity by removing a levee and house from the floodplain, and reconnecting natural flow paths between the Twisp River and channels and ponds within the Twisp Ponds complex. By increasing off-channel connectivity during annual flow levels, this project will increase the quantity and quality of available habitat in the Lower Twisp River reach, allowing more fish to access floodplain habitat and benefiting ESA listed species. We anticipate the project will increase the capacity and distribution of the project reach to support rearing juvenile fish.

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?

This project will be designed to be consistent with natural processes and site and reach scale geomorphology. The project elements may include the removal of a house and levee from the floodplain and establishing instream and riparian restoration to reconnect former floodplain flow paths that were disconnected and filled in during flood-fight and development efforts over the last half century. MSRF owns property on the river bank opposite the project location, allowing opportunity for instream elements to be constructed that will initiate floodplain process.

Two current RCO and tributary funded projects are taking place in the Twisp Ponds complex, both designed to promote natural stream process and to support increases in future floodplain connection.
- The Habitat Connectivity project includes culvert removal from the primary channel, ensuring resiliency in flow through the ponds system.
- The Riparian Restoration project will improve water quality to the ponds through bench construction designed to capture runoff from Twisp River Road, increase habitat complexity through wood placement, and decrease pond temperatures through riparian plantings. Both of these projects will benefit from additional actions of a future floodplain connection project.

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?

10-50 years | 50+ years

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

The project will produce conceptual and preliminary designs for restoration actions that would increase floodplain connectivity by removing a levee and a house from the floodplain, and reconnecting former channel flow paths. Because the entirety of the project is on property owned by Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation, access for maintenance is assured.

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

The project team will identify opportunities to design multiple features to increase floodplain connectivity and process development, including levee and house removal, engineered mainstem and side channel complexity features, riparian restoration, and/or channel cuts designed to increase floodplain connectivity at the annual flood level. Risks to upstream and downstream properties as well as sediment transport dynamics will be assessed through modeling.

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

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

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation owns all of the parcels on the right bank where the restoration actions will take place as well as all parcels on the left (opposite) bank, up to the boundary of the any owned SOAL land.

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

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation owns all of the parcels where the restoration actions will take place, including all parcels landward of the established ordinary high water mark on both sides of the Twisp River. Actions proposed within the active river channel will be developed in consultation with DNR as the SOAL owner. A comprehensive risk assessment to upstream and downstream landowners will take place as a part of the design process. Actions will be designed to decrease risk to the existing infrastructure within the site. Planting benches in ponds 2-4 done as part of the RCO sponsored Riparian Restoration project will increase the buffer between the county road and the ponds.

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

Actions will be designed to decrease risk to upstream and downstream landowners. WDFW currently uses an access road through the property to maintain a rotary screw trap and PIT antenna system on the adjacent mainstem Twisp River. Site access for WDFW employees and infrastructure will be maintained in project design. MSRF maintains a trail system open to the public on the downstream end of the property, which will not be impacted by project design. The project will be designed in compliance with adopted recreational risk guidelines (Reclamation) to not increase recreational risk over existing conditions or alter public access to existing recreational opportunities.

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

The project will be designed to minimize long-term maintenance requirements. The project is designed to function within the range of anticipated flows to mimic natural process development - i.e. channel and bank development and evolution - and is not expected to require active project maintenance. MSRF will maintain the project elements where evolution raises potential risks to the public.

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

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

The project carries a low risk of failure. Preliminary modeling suggests there is potential to design a project that engages additional floodplain throughout the site without increasing risk to existing infrastructure or downstream landowners. MSRF has successfully maintained the ponds site for more than 20 years. By owning all of the underlying property, much of the risk associated with changing landowner requirements in mitigated.

Ensuring that project elements are designed to lower risks to upstream and downstream landowners will be a primary objective during the design process.

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

Yes, this project will require outreach to neighboring landowners. Project activities will include posting signage explaining the purpose of the project and the construction phases. The Twisp Ponds site is viewed as a valuable community asset and is used by a large number of individuals and groups as a destination for walking, bird watching, and gatherings. Signage and art installations currently engage visitors and highlight salmon recovery projects throughout the Methow Valley and serve to increase community support for salmon recovery efforts. MSRF plans to present project findings to the Town of Twisp at a public meeting to address any potential public concerns over the project.
Yakama Nation is planning to update their 2010 Reach Assessment and may propose projects upstream or downstream of the reach. MSRF is coordinating directly with the Yakama Nation.

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

Yes, this project will directly employ local and regional contractors to complete most aspects of the project assessment, design, and future management. MSRF has built an approved roster of qualified local and regional contractors and prioritizes local contractor preference when possible. MSRF has implemented restoration actions in the Methow Valley for more than 20 years, and the majority of our awarded contracts have been directed to local and regional contractors with consistently high-quality results. Our findings are supported by an economic analysis completed by UCSRB that showed that funds spent on restoration projects cycle through the local community 4 to 7 times, significantly multiplying the local economic benefit.

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

This project will be led by MSRF staff who bring a breadth and depth of strengths to the project, including expertise in restoration ecology, community outreach and engagement, permitting, and project management. MSRF will hire a design engineer with expertise in restoration design and hydraulic engineering. MSRF has been actively engaged in habitat restoration in the Methow Valley since 2001 and has successfully served as a project sponsor for many restoration projects in the watershed.

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

Tuesday, March 3, 2026

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	MacPherson Flats Acquisition
Sponsor	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation
Primary Contact	Camden Shaw
E-Mail Address	camden@methowsalmon.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 proposed acquisition of the MacPherson Flats property would allow for a substantially developed floodplain to be restored to its natural condition allowing for side channel and floodplain restoration, including removal of an existing flood levee, buildings and roads, adjacent protected public land.

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 objective is to remove the existing private development that prevents the MacPherson side channel from functioning as a perennial floodplain and side channel. This project seeks to acquire and protect an 8.7 acre parcel adjacent public land along the Chewuch River. The parcel includes an existing home site and commercial excavation and trucking yard and shop adjacent to WDFW land and Okanogan National Forest. The property includes approximately 680 feet of the 3,500' long MacPherson side channel

that is fed by the Skyline diversion intake from the Chewuch River as a year-round side channel. The acquisition would remove all buildings and provide permanent protection necessary to restore and maintain this section of the MacPherson side channel and connected floodplain for anadromous fish use.

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	597,000
Anticipated or Actual Other Funding	199,000
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	796,000

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

MSRF is planning to request the other funding from PRCC

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	This proposed acquisition is located at Chewuch RM 7.7 within Chewuch River Pearrygin 08
Latitude (decimal degrees)	48.56811
Longitude (decimal degrees)	120.17680
Project subbasin	Methow
Methow Assessment Unit(s)	Chewuch River-Pearrygin Creek
Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Chewuch River Pearrygin 08
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 3

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)?

No

6. What category is the project?

Protection

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)?

Lower Chewuch Reach Assessment

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

7. What type of protection are you proposing?

Fee Simple

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

Yes

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

Yes, this project would permanently protect approximately 680 feet of perennial side channel along the Chewuch River. The project protects floodplain reconnection, riparian restoration and side channel and off-channel habitat, which are all actions identified in the 2025 Lower Chewuch Reach Assessment to address unacceptable and at-risk conditions.

The project is located downstream of an upgraded irrigation delivery project (Skyline) that was completed in 2025. That project eliminated the risk of fish stranding in past irrigation infrastructure ensuring safe passage to and from the Chewuch River year round in the MacPherson side channel that crosses the MacPherson Flats property. Removing the home and infrastructure along the side channel will allow for significant riparian planting and encourage natural regeneration of cottonwood, pine and riparian shrub species on 20% of the side channel length and on the 8.7 acre floodplain.

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?

This project would result in permanent protection of approximately 680 feet of a Chewuch River perennial side channel controlled by a flood levee that also burned in the Cub Creek fire (2021). By not protecting this area and removing the infrastructure, natural riparian regeneration and future restoration opportunities along the side channel and floodplain would be restricted. Reduced survival of target species on the MacPherson Flats property could be high due to reduced side channel health for summer and winter rearing specifically. Spring Chinook, Summer Steelhead and Bull Trout all use the Lower Chewuch river year round. Spring Chinook summer and winter rearing rank high in the life stage ranking in the 2025 Lower Chewuch Reach Assessment. The reach also supports a diverse aquatic food web that supports ESA listed species.

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

The floodplain property, including the side channel, is managed by the landowners for access and human use including a commercial shop, equipment yard and landscaping. The site use has resulted in on-going degradation based on the required flood levee and the heavy commercial use. After the Cub Creek fire in 2021, many of the mature pine and cottonwood trees along the side channel and throughout the floodplain were burned and are subsequently falling over. Without removing the home and commercial business infrastructure, the riparian trees and shrubs will not be able to fully revegetate the property and maintain a functioning riparian along the side channel and on the floodplain.

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

The only condition that would limit the protection of the property would be the cost to remove the home and infrastructure necessary to revegetate and allow for natural regeneration of the floodplain. The property is surrounded by state and federal land, ensuring its long term protection. Restoration is limited to site clean up, home removal and targeted planting where natural regeneration is compromised from years of human impacts.

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

Chris Johnson was contacted by the landowner to ask if the Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation would be interested in acquiring the property for protection.

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

There are no landowner requirements to the acquisition.

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

No, this project is unlikely to raise potential concerns with any interest group of the community at large. This project compliments two decades of work accomplished by the Skyline ditch company, Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation, WDFW, USFWS and BOR to protect side channel habitat for endangered

species on the Chewuch River.

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

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation will be responsible for land management.

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 no risk of failure associated with this project.

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

There is no public outreach planned during acquisition. After the property is acquired the restoration efforts and clean up of the property would be a significant opportunity to show the public the ecological and community benefits to floodplain restoration and protection.

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

It is anticipated that future restoration will be developed following acquisition to take advantage of the opportunities identified in the reach assessment. All future restoration actions, including removal of the infrastructure, will use local sub contractors to increase economic benefits from state and federal restoration dollars circulation within the local and regional economy. The project also allows for public access to the Chewuch River from the county road giving recreational users access to the riparian forest.

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

Chris Johnson, the executive director of MSRF, has had a personal relationship with the MacPherson Flats property owners for two decades. The Skyline ditch company, which diverts irrigation water just upstream, is working with MSRF to secure funding for more upgrades to their irrigation delivery infrastructure and is currently completing an upgrade of 6,000 feet of new pipe and replacing a wooden trestle with a new bridge across Cub Creek with funding from USFWS and PRCC. In 2025, WDFW, BPA, and PRCC funded a project that successfully improved the fish screen and 600' of irrigation delivery, eliminating the risk of stranding salmonids after ditch shutdown.

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	Beaver Creek Confluence Acquisitions
Sponsor	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation
Primary Contact	Brian Fisher
E-Mail Address	brian@methowsalmon.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.

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation proposes to acquire two parcels near RM 36 of the Methow River to protect and allow restoration of the Beaver Creek confluence reach of the Methow River.

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 would acquire two parcels (3322270015 and the floodplain portion of 3322270017) along the Methow River near the confluence with Beaver Creek. Parcels would be acquired within one year, and would set the stage for a restoration project in this reach (Methow Alder 4 &5), which includes low floodplain, active bars and backchannel areas.

Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB	$175,000
Tributary Committee - Anticipated or Actual	$50,000
Anticipated TOTAL Budget	$225,000

Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project	This project will occur on the Methow River between RM 35.9 to RM 36.5
Latitude (decimal degrees)	48.3267
Longitude (decimal degrees)	-120.0667
Project subbasin	Methow
Methow Assessment Unit(s)	Methow River-Alder Creek
Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units?	No
Reach(es) Name	Methow River Alder 04 & Methow River Alder 05
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 Rank 2 Multiple reaches (provide details below)

Please detail the reach-ranking of the reaches below

Methow River Alder 05 is reach rank 1; Methow River Alder 04 is reach rank 2.

Project Information

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

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

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

No

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

No

6. What category is the project?

Protection

If applicable, what is the secondary project category?

N/A

Design and Restoration Proposals

Assessment Proposals

Protection Proposals

7. What type of protection are you proposing?

Fee Simple

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

Yes

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

This project would protect some high quality rearing habitat in the form of deep pools with cover near the confluence with Beaver Creek, as well as low Methow River floodplain in the Twisp to Carlton reach. The project would also protect and allow active restoration of parafluvial bars in this active reach.

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?

This reach of the Methow River is used extensively for rearing spring Chinook, spawning and rearing Steelhead, and has high quality holding habitat used by bull trout and steelhead.

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

The owners of both properties are actively marketing them for sale, and if purchased could be cleared and developed for recreational purposes. Development of either one of these parcels would limit restoration options in this reach of river.

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

There are no conditions preventing fee simple acquisition and protection of these parcels.

13. Will there be public access? Yes

Monitoring Proposals

Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership? Private, Cemetary District

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

Please explain

The owners of the two properties are actively marketing them for sale, and they have agreed to a conservation sale at appraised value.

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

No requirements, intervening property is private common area with supportive landowners.

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

No known concerns.

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

We are proposing acquiring the property on fee simple basis. Once acquired, these parcels would facilitate active restoration of bars, islands and floodplains. In their current conditions, these parcels do not carry significant unique maintenance requirements.

6. Are other projects being proposed immediately upstream or downstream of worksite? No

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

Failure to acquire the parcels could limit future restoration opportunities at the confluence of this important tributary. The project is low risk, with both landowners supportive of selling at appraised value. The largest risk to this project is that one or both of the parcels appraise significantly higher than expected. Costs for acquisition are estimated based on current assessed value and professional opinion, but one of the parcels includes both an upland parcel and disjunct floodplain area, and the assessed value is not segregable.

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

As part of this project MSRF would work with adjacent landowners to develop opportunities for additional opportunities for both restoration or protection.

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

It is anticipated that future restoration will be developed following acquisition to take advantage of the opportunities identified in the reach assessment. All future restoration actions, including removal of the infrastructure, will use local sub contractors to increase economic benefits from state and federal restoration dollars circulation within the local and regional economy. The project also allows for public access to the Chewuch River from the county road giving recreational users access to the riparian forest.

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

Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation has over twenty years of managing and completing both acquisition and restoration projects. MSRF staff will coordinate with the appointed appraiser. Chris Johnson would work with the Cemetary district to complete a public purposes segregation to allow independent sale of the riparian and floodplain portion of that parcel.

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