



## Contact Information

# 2025 Upper Columbia Regional Project Pre-Application

\* Pre-applications (SRFB & Monitoring) due March 12, 2025 (COB)

\*Complete SRFB applications due in PRISM April 18, 2025 (COB)

\*Complete Monitoring applications due in PRISM May 1, 2025 (COB)

\*Revised SRFB proposals due in PRISM May 27, 2025 (COB)

\*Final revised SRFB & Monitoring applications due in PRISM June 23, 2025 (noon)

<b>Project Title</b>	Upper Methow - Salmon Cassel Final Design and Implementation
<b>Sponsor</b>	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation
<b>Primary Contact</b>	Brian Fisher
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## Project Summary

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

This project would complete final designs and implementation for the Upper Methow-Salmon Cassel project. The project will to create thermally and geomorphically stable pools and backwater habitats to provide refugia and cover in the Upper Methow-Fawn reach on two MSRF-owned parcels and adjacent private properties with willing landowners. This project builds on preliminary design developed under RCO 23-1276. The project will build 4-7 low-profile habitat structures to scour pools and provide complex cover adjacent to hyporheic cold groundwater, and create 2 perennial alcoves along seasonally connected floodplain channels. The project will produce final designs and implement habitat restoration actions that provide cover and complexity for ESA-listed Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon, UCR Steelhead, and Bull Trout in and around these sources of cold- water.

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 seeks to provide high quality rearing habitat adjacent to identified thermal refugia by constructing 4-7 instream habitat structures and 2 perennial alcoves at the lower end of seasonally connected side channels. The project will increase fish access to at least 2000 square feet of thermal refuge and provide at least 4000 square feet of complex cover upon implementation.

## Budget Request

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

Anticipated Request - SRFB (standard round) \$600,000

Tributary Committee - Anticipated or Actual \$200,000

Anticipated TOTAL Budget \$800,000

## Project Location

Briefly describe the location of the project The project will occur in the Methow River between RM 61.75 and 62.7.

Latitude (decimal degrees) 48.5513

Longitude (decimal degrees) -120.333

Project subbasin Methow

Methow Assessment Unit(s) Methow River-Fawn Creek

Does the proposed project span multiple assessment units? No

Reach(es) Name Methow River Fawn 6 & 7

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

Methow River Fawn 6 is Reach 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

Instream Habitat (Includes Floodplain & Off-Channel Reconnection)

Water Quality

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

Water Quality: Reporting Code

Water quality limitation treated

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.)

This project seeks to finalize and implement designs developed under design project 23-1276 (Upper Methow Preliminary Design).

6. What category is the project?

Restoration

If applicable, what is the secondary project category?

Design

Is the project eligible for Riparian Funding?

No

## Design and Restoration Proposals

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

Final Design

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)?**

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

Cover - Wood

Off-Channel - Side-Channels

Temperature - Rearing

**10. Which life stages will the proposed project address?**

Subadult Rearing (Bull Trout)

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?**

This project seeks to increase rearing capacity within the project reach by increasing the quantity of deep pools with complex cover and access to emerging groundwater. In this reach of the Methow River, background density of juvenile spring Chinook and steelhead is very low in areas without complex structure and scour pool habitat. Instream wood structures are designed to scour pools that support higher rearing densities of these 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?**

Project features are designed to fit within the geomorphic context of the reach by mimicking natural structures. Channel complexity and instream wood levels in this reach are limited by more than a century of logging, vegetation clearing, road building and channelization. This project will mimic aspects of natural wood jams that would be expected under more natural stream and watershed processes.

**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

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

This project is designed to be self-maintaining. Wood structures are low-profile and pile secured so they are stable and maintain scour pools. Side channel cuts are designed to limit the potential for both siltation and capture.

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

Build 4-6 instream wood structures to promote pool scour and provide complex hiding cover. Construct 2 perennial backwater alcoves at the lower end of seasonally active side channels that connect with cold groundwater. Add cover wood in alcove habitats to increase habitat capacity within these side-channels.

## Assessment Proposals

## Protection Proposals

# Monitoring Proposals

## Project Risk and Economic Benefits

1. What is the landownership? Private, DNR State Owned Aquatic Lands

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

### Please explain

Primary activities are on land owned by Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation

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 identified

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

This project is designed to meet FEMA No-Rise requirements and not increase chances of channel avulsions. Wood structures are consistent with existing recreational hazards in the project area.

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

This project is designed to be self-maintaining with out having extensive maintenance and management requirements. Structures are designed to break apart if they fail to minimize risk and concerns to downstream landowners.

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

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

Project structures are designed to be relatively low risk. Wood structures are designed to be consistent with existing recreational hazards in the project area, and to break apart if they are undermined. Low profile structures are designed to not increase flood risks.

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

No specific public outreach is planned as part of this project. The project will seek to employ local and regional contractors where possible to help build support for salmon recovery efforts within our community.

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

The project will favor local and regional contractors where practical. Projects that employ local contractors support local economic communities, because local contractors represent local jobs and tend to spend more money within the local and regional economy.

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

This project was designed under a SRFB grant with an experienced engineering team from Anchor QEA.

## 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 18, 2025.

\*please note, this section is not applicable for Monitoring proposals

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

No

## Supporting Documents

[Upper Columbia Process Guide 2025](#)

[SRFB Manual 18 \(2025\)](#)

[RCO Application Resources \(2025\)](#)