
2021 Salmon Recovery Grant Opportunity in West Sound

West Sound Partners for Ecosystem Recovery (WSPER) is announcing a call for salmon habitat projects. WSPER coordinates the solicitation and ranking of salmon habitat projects as the lead entity for east Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA) 15. Interested project sponsors must submit a Letter of Intent to the lead entity by **January 8, 2021**. (See Attachment A: Letter of Intent Form)

Funding Information

Funding is available for habitat protection or restoration projects aligned with the recovery strategies for local salmon and steelhead populations. WSPER is soliciting projects for review by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB). Funding for approved projects will be available after the SRFB meeting in September 2021.

Eligible Applicants

- Cities
- Counties
- Native American Tribes
- Conservation districts
- Non-profit organizations
- Regional fisheries enhancement groups
- Special purpose districts
- Private landowners
- State agencies (with local partner)

Eligible Projects

- Acquisition
- Restoration
- Planning (Designs, Assessments and Inventories)
- Combination projects (Acquisition and Restoration, Acquisition and Planning)

Submission Information

Interested project applicants must email a Letter of Intent to the Coordinator at kyobech@co.kitsap.wa.us by **January 8, 2021**. The WSPER technical advisory group will screen all Letters of Intent to determine consistency with local salmon recovery strategies and priorities. Project sponsors will be notified by January 20, 2021 if their project is consistent with local salmon recovery strategies and should move forward in the 2021 grant cycle. Virtual project site visit is required and will be scheduled between February 1 and March 19, 2021.

Interested applicants with projects not identified on the [Planned Projects Forecast List 2021 and 2022](#) are encouraged to contact Kirvie Mesebeluu-Yobech, Coordinator, to get more information about salmon recovery strategies, watershed recovery plans, and the application process. Call 360-509-9941 or email kyobech@co.kitsap.wa.us.

For information about West Sound salmon recovery, see [WSPER Recovery Plans and Strategies](#). For information about Salmon Recovery Grants see **Manual 18**.

Criteria for Scoring *(Criteria are meant to be a guide for scoring, not finite)*

Project implements a recovery strategy and/or on the Planned Project Forecast List 2021/2022

- If yes, then rank
- If no, then not eligible

Scope and cost/budget of project (10 points)

- Is scope of project appropriate? Could the project be phased?
- Is the budget consistent with expected benefits and with projects of similar scale?

Benefits to fish (20 points)

- Restoration project addresses high priority habitat, watershed processes, or nearshore processes that will have a demonstrable effect on salmon productivity
- Restoration and/or acquisition project targets high priority watershed (refugia with source populations and relatively high abundance and productivity)
- Acquisition project targets high habitat function, low site disturbance, and intact processes
- Acquisition project is necessary to carryout high priority restoration project
- Tier 1 projects per Nearshore integration and synthesis tool

Certainty of success (15 points)

- Experience of sponsor in implementing similar projects
- Restoration approach is well established with predictable outcomes
- Restoration project restores ecosystem processes versus simply making structural modifications
- Stewardship/maintenance for restoration and/or acquisition projects
 - Stewardship plan? Actions self-sustaining or low maintenance? Funds for monitoring/stewardship?
- Benefits realized immediately versus long term and are independent of other restoration/acquisition projects
- Benefits of acquisition not dependent on future restoration actions

DRAFT SCHEDULE (v.11.23.2020)

Date	Action	Description
November 10	TAG meeting	Discuss approach, set call for projects
End-of-November	Release call for projects	Call for projects, scoring criteria, and letter of intent template released
December 8	Working Group meeting	
January 8	Letters of Intent Due	
January 19	TAG meeting	Review and screen Letters of Intent
January 20	Inform sponsors	Sponsors informed about TAG determination; Project numbers created in PRSIM
Jan 20 – March 1	Project development	Sponsors develop project applications in PRISM
Mid-March	Virtual Site Visits	Site visit with SRFB review panel and TAG
March 16	TAG meeting	Review projects and provide comments to sponsors
March 20	<i>SRFB review panel meeting (March 24)</i>	<i>Target date for answering all comments/questions from review panel and TAG</i>
April 2	Comment form released	SRFB review panel release comment forms identifying projects as “Clear,” “Conditioned,” “Needs more information,” or “Project of Concern.”
April 12	1-hour conference call (optional)	Conference call opportunity with SRFB review panel to discuss “Need More Information,” “Project of Concern,” or “Conditioned” projects
April-May	TAG scores projects	TAG members evaluate and score projects
May 11	TAG meeting	Develop ranked salmon habitat project list
June 8	Working Group meeting	Review ranked list
June 28	<i>Final revised application due</i>	<i>Final revised project application due in PRISM</i>
July 22	<i>Final comment form received</i>	<i>Final SRFB comment received identifying projects as “Clear,” “Conditioned,” or “Project of Concern”</i>
August	Executive Committee meeting	Approve ranked list
August 9	Final SRFB list due	Final ranked list due in PRSIM