Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. Funding Opportunity Description 4
A. Program Objective 4
B. Program Priorities 4
C. Program Authority 6
II. Award Information 6
A. Funding Availability 6
B. Project/Award Period 6
C. Type of Funding Instrument 6
III. Eligibility Information 6
A. Eligible Applicants 6
B. Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement 6
C. Other Criteria that Affect Eligibility 7
IV. Application and Submission Information 7
A. Address to Request Application Package 7
B. Content and Form of Application 7
C. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM) 17
D. Submission Dates and Times 17
E. Intergovernmental Review 18
F. Funding Restrictions 18
G. Other Submission Requirements 19
V. Application Review Information 19
A. Evaluation Criteria 19
B. Review and Selection Process 23
C. Selection Factors 24
D. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates 25
VI. Award Administration Information 25
A. Award Notices 25
B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements 25
C. Reporting 28
VII. Agency Contacts 29
VIII. Other Information 29

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FEDERAL FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Federal Agency Name(s): National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Department of Commerce

Funding Opportunity Title: Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: NOAA-NMFS-WCRO-2017-2005154

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 11.438, Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery - Pacific Salmon Treaty Program

Dates: Pre-applications are not mandatory, but highly encouraged. They must be received no later than March 3, 2017, if the applicant expects to receive any feedback from NMFS regarding completeness of its package and initial determination of compliance with minimum requirements. Final applications should be submitted via Grants.gov and must be received no later than 11:59 pm Eastern Time on April 3, 2017. For applications submitted through Grants.gov, a date and time receipt indication will be the basis of determining timeliness. The proposal must be validated by Grants.gov in order to be considered timely. PLEASE NOTE: It may take Grants.gov up to two (2) business days to validate or reject the application. Please keep this in mind in developing your submission timeline.

For those not having access to the internet, one signed original and two hard copy applications must be postmarked or received by the established due date for the program at the following address: Stephanie Coleman, Grants Program Manager, NMFS West Coast Region, 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232-1274. Use of U.S. Mail or another delivery service must be documented with a receipt. (Note that late-arriving hard copy proposals provided to a delivery service on or before 11:59 pm Eastern Time on the closing date for applications will be accepted for review if the applicant can document that the proposal was provided to the guaranteed delivery service by the specified closing date and time and if the proposal is received by the Grants Program Manager no later than 5:00 pm Eastern Time, two business days following the closing date.)

No facsimile or electronic mail proposals will be accepted. The proposed start date should be no earlier than July 1, 2017 unless a later date is requested by recipient (and approved by the NOAA Grants Officer) or otherwise directed by the NOAA Grants Officer.

Funding Opportunity Description: NOAA announces the availability of Federal funding,

authorized pursuant to Public Law 114-254 (Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017) , for necessary expenses associated with the restoration of Pacific salmon populations. The Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) program makes such funding available to the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, California, and Alaska, and federally recognized tribes of the Columbia River and Pacific Coast (including Alaska) for projects necessary for the conservation of salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened or endangered, or identified by a State as at-risk to be so-listed, for maintaining populations necessary for exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, or for the conservation of Pacific coastal salmon and steelhead habitat. This announcement outlines the priorities and guidelines that will be used to award funding to eligible entities.

FULL ANNOUNCEMENT TEXT

I. Funding Opportunity Description

A. Program Objective

PCSRF was established in Fiscal Year (FY) 2000 to address a coast-wide need to restore and conserve Pacific Chinook, coho, chum, sockeye and pink salmon and steelhead, and their habitat. PCSRF supplements existing state and tribal programs to foster development of federal-state-tribal-local partnerships in salmon recovery and conservation by providing grants for restoration of anadromous salmonids to the eligible states and tribes.

Under this solicitation, NMFS seeks applications for projects from eligible States, Indian tribes, representative Tribal Commissions, and Alaska Native Tribal Consortia (Consortia) so that it can allocate the FY 2017 Federal funds for PCSRF grants based on scientific and merit principles. An applicant may only submit one application to the Federal government for PCSRF program funding. Applications from both the representative Tribal Commission or Consortium and a Tribe represented by that Commission or Consortium will not be accepted. In the event that applications are submitted by both a representative Tribal Commission or Consortium and a Tribe, NMFS will contact both parties for resolution of which entity will submit a single application on behalf of the Tribe.

B. Program Priorities

The objective of the FY 2017 PCSRF is to supplement State and tribal programs for salmon restoration by allocating federal funding to projects and activities that provide demonstrable and measurable benefits to Pacific anadromous salmonids (i.e., Chinook, coho, chum, sockeye, and pink salmon and steelhead) and their habitat. In accordance with the Congressional authorization, these projects and activities are those "necessary for conservation of salmon and steelhead populations that are listed as threatened or endangered, or identified by a State as at-risk to be so-listed, for maintaining populations necessary for exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, or for conservation of Pacific coastal salmon and steelhead habitat. Public Law 114-254 (Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017)

PCSRF Program Priorities for FY 2017 PCSRF applications are described below in ranked order.

Priority One. These projects are those that address factors limiting the productivity of Pacific

anadromous salmonid populations that are either: listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), or necessary for the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing. Typically these are habitat improvement projects (e.g., a levee-setback project that provides access to off-channel habitat and improves survival for overwintering juveniles). The PCSRF Program is focusing particular emphasis on habitat improvement projects that achieve lasting benefits through the restoration of self-sustaining natural ecosystem functions and processes (e.g., re-establishing floodplain connection and function, restoring natural river-channel migration, re-establishing ecologically functional riparian buffers), including the restoration and protection of riparian habitats in identified priority areas.

Priority One projects benefiting ESA-listed populations shall address the limiting factors and priority actions specified in approved, interim, or proposed Recovery Plans. Priority One projects benefiting populations important to the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing may include efforts to restore or maintain such populations while limiting factors are being addressed. Priority One projects may also include the development of project-specific engineering or designs that are a necessary precursor to implementing on-the-ground habitat improvement projects. Planning, coordination, landowner outreach, assessment and monitoring projects are not eligible under Priority One.

Priority Two. These projects provide effectiveness monitoring of habitat restoration actions at the watershed or larger scales for ESA-listed anadromous salmonids, status and trend monitoring that directly contribute to population viability assessments for ESA-listed anadromous salmonids, or monitoring necessary for the exercise of tribal-treaty fishing rights or native-subsistence fishing on anadromous salmonids. Project-scale effectiveness monitoring, or status and trend monitoring at a scale less than the population are not eligible under this priority and should be categorized as a Priority Three project.

Priority Three. These projects include all other projects consistent with the Congressional authorization with demonstrated need for PCSRF funding. This includes, for example, capacity projects that support the implementation of activities under the above priorities including planning, coordination, landowner outreach, assessment, research, and monitoring (i.e., monitoring at less than watershed or population scale).

Grant applications may be submitted for one or more of the above PCSRF Program Priorities. However, a separate proposal narrative and budget must be included in the application for each priority. Grant applications will be evaluated separately for each priority. NMFS anticipates a greater proportion of the available FY 2017 PCSRF funding will be distributed to the higher-ranked PCSRF Program Priorities.

States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia must have at least 10% of their application apply to monitoring.

C. Program Authority

Public Law 114-254 (Further Continuing and Security Assistance Appropriations Act, 2017); 16 U.S.C. 3645(d)(2).

II. Award Information

A. Funding Availability

Up to $65,000,000 may be available for FY 2017 projects. Depending on the number of applications and amount of funding requested for each PCSRF Program Priority, NOAA may limit or proportion the distribution of FY 2017 PCSRF funds to each PCSRF Program Priority. There are no restrictions on minimum funding requests, but there is a limit of $25,000,000 as the maximum amount requested by any applicant. Award periods may be extended to a maximum of five years. Start dates on proposals is July 1, 2017 unless a later date is requested by recipient (and approved by the NOAA Grants Officer) or otherwise directed by the NOAA Grants Officer.

B. Project/Award Period

The PCSRF program announcement is for programs and projects to be conducted for a 1-year or up to a 5-year period, with an anticipated start date no earlier than July 1, 2017.

C. Type of Funding Instrument

The funding instrument will be a grant.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are the States of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, California, and Alaska, and federally-recognized tribes of the Columbia River and Pacific Coast (including Alaska).

B. Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement

State applicants are required to match or document in-kind contributions of at least 33% of received Federal funds. Indian tribes, representative tribal commissions and consortia are exempt from any cost share requirement.

Matching funds consist of PCSRF projects funded totally or partially by state appropriated funds; PCSRF projects that are funded totally or partially by sub-recipient or contractor funds; or PCSRF projects funded partially by other pre-approved sources of federal funding. In-kind contributions must be applied directly to a PCSRF project in order to be considered match. State funding for a PCSRF program administration project may be used as matching funds.

C. Other Criteria that Affect Eligibility

1. Eligible States must submit applications through one designated State entity identified by a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NMFS. Applications from multiple State agencies within one state will not be accepted.

2. Indian Tribes must demonstrate eligibility in their application for consideration. They may act on their own behalf when applying for PCSRF funding or may allow their representative Tribal Commission or Consortium to act for them through an MOU agreement with NMFS. Applications requesting funding for a Tribe from both the representative Tribal Commission or Consortium as well as a Tribe represented by that Commission or Consortium will not be accepted. In the event that applications are submitted by both a representative Tribal Commission or Consortium and a Tribe, NMFS will contact both parties for resolution of which entity will submit a single application on behalf of the Tribe.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Address to Request Application Package

All application materials can be found at the grants.gov portal at www.grants.gov. If an applicant does not have internet access, application materials may be requested from Ms. Sheryl Robinson, PCSRF Federal Program Officer, by phone at (503) 230-5421, or by mail at NMFS, West Coast Region, 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232-1274.

NMFS' Internet website at http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov contains additional information on PCSRF, under the ‘What We Do’ header. For further information on PCSRF, please contact Dr. Scott Rumsey, PCSRF Program Manager, NMFS, West Coast Region at (503) 872-2791 or scott.rumsey@noaa.gov. Questions regarding this announcement should be directed to Ms. Robinson at (503) 230-5421 or sheryl.robinson@noaa.gov.

B. Content and Form of Application

1. Application Format: All pages should be numbered, single-spaced and must be

composed in at least a 12-point font with one-inch margins on 8 ½" x 11" paper.

2. Consideration will only be given to material that is physically included in an application. Information provided via an internet link will not be considered nor will it influence the application evaluation.

3. Title Page(s) (3 Page Limit): Include the following:

a. Applicant name and Demonstration of Eligibility (Indian Tribes only for latter requirement)

b. Funding Opportunity Title:

c. Funding Opportunity Number:

d. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:

e. Program/Project Title:

f. Program/Project Duration:

g. Program/Project Contacts:

h. Program/Project Objectives: (short paragraphs describing the planned use of funds under each priority proposed)

i. Program/Project Proposal Total Amount and Sub-Totals for each Priority: (include PCSRF funds requested and state matching funds for each Priority)

j. Program/Project Justification and Need for Funding:

k. Program/Proposed Project Outcomes: (brief description of anticipated benefits to anadromous salmonids)

4. Forms: Each application package must include:

a. Form SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance

b. Form SF-424A, Budget Information - Non-Construction Programs

c. Form SF-424B, Assurances - Non-Construction Programs

d. CD-511, Certification Regarding Lobbying

e. SF-LLL, Disclosure of Lobbying Activities. Additionally, the CD-512 "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions and Lobbying" is required to be submitted with the application package, if applicable. To do this, download the form from: https://connection.commerce.gov/collection/commerce-department-forms?field_id_value=&title=&&page=2. Fill out, sign, scan, and attach the form to the application package.

f. A current copy of the negotiated indirect cost rate with a Federal agency (if applicable).

g. A current copy of a signed MOU with NMFS (if applicable).

5. Program or Project Narrative (30 Page Limit): Descriptive document on how the applicant intends to carry out the proposed program or project(s).

a. States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia:

Program narratives for States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia. Narratives must describe program administration, and separately describe the projected outcomes for each of the three PCSRF Program Priorities for which PCSRF funding is proposed as follows.

i. Program Administration. The program narrative must include the following details:

• A detailed description of the organization's administrative resources, financial stability, business management systems, and capability to comply with federal grant requirements. The narrative should include a description of past performance in the management of federal funds, and knowledge of and demonstrated performance in implementing federal cost principles compliance and sub-recipient fiscal monitoring (if applicable).

• Description of existing anadromous salmonid restoration programs and how the proposed PCSRF funds will supplement those programs. This includes documentation that the applicant's organization has existing salmonid programs and the appropriate management authority to implement actions identified in the proposal. Include a description of previous experience implementing salmonid restoration programs. Also provide a description of the

applicant’s near –term (e.g., over the next five years) salmonid restoration strategy, including reference to any guiding documents, and how the current application will contribute toward achieving that strategy.

- A description of the anticipated benefits and outcomes of the program or project(s) for anadromous salmonids and how the applicant will administer and manage the program or project(s) to ensure that demonstrable and measurable benefits and outcomes are achieved.

- Description of the applicant's competitive and non-competitive project solicitation processes, timelines, project selection criteria, technical reviews of proposed project merit and feasibility, funding decisions, and how these elements will be managed and administered to ensure that funds are effectively and efficiently applied to the PCSRF priorities.

- Description of the amount of funds proposed for projects to be funded under each process (competitive versus non-competitive), a description of types of projects to be funded through each process, and, if non-competitive processes are to be used, how such a non-competitive process represents the most effective and efficient application of resources to support the PCSRF priorities.
The description of non-competitive processes should also explain how the evaluation, ranking, prioritization, and selection of projects will be conducted. This should include how the processes will be used to ensure at least ten percent (10%) of the proposed funding is for monitoring.

- If any portion of the project will be conducted through consultants, subcontracts and/or sub-awards, you must follow the requirements set out at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.330 through 200.332, as applicable.

- Description of program implementation monitoring and how the applicant will ensure projects and activities deliver the measurable benefits to anadromous salmonids as proposed. This should include a description of the proposed methods for monitoring program implementation and evaluating program effectiveness.

- Description of applicant's project tracking and reporting system and how it will be used to ensure PCSRF reporting requirements are fully met. For prior PCSRF grant recipients, this should include a description of how the applicant has adhered to PCSRF reporting requirements including timeliness, complete entry of project information into the PCSRF database, prompt resolution of database or project reporting issues (if applicable), and updates to past projects to ensure all available Phase II project data is complete.

• Description of major accomplishments in fulfilling PCSRF authorized activities and PCSRF Program Priorities, using past PCSRF funds (if applicable), including history of project funding, types of projects funded, and outcomes. This may include reference to reports that the applicant has completed on their past accomplishments, including how the projects implemented with PCSRF funds adhered to the allocation of funds by PCSRF Program Priority proposed in prior PCSRF awards.

ii. Program Proposal by PCSRF Program Priority. A separate narrative and budget should be provided for each PCSRF Program Priority identified in Section I.B (PCSRF Program Priorities) that the proposed program intends to address. The applicant must describe the following under each priority:

• Proposed amount of funding (including state matching funds) for projects to address a given priority.

• Description of the proposed program's activities and how they address a given priority, including the rationale and justification for how the program/projects will address the priority (i.e., clarify why the activities are appropriate for the given priority).

Priority One proposals should identify the specific salmonid population(s) and explain what population-specific limiting factors will be addressed and describe the anticipated outcomes. Provide the following information, as appropriate.

o For ESA-listed anadromous salmonid populations, include the name of the approved, interim, or proposed Recovery Plan(s) that identifies the factors limiting productivity.

o For anadromous salmonid populations needed for tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, identify the specific tribal or native subsistence fisheries and explain how the proposed program will benefit or sustain the affected populations.

o Describe how the proposed program will encourage and select large-scale strategies that maximize benefits through the implementation of coordinated projects that address multiple priority limiting factors.

o Describe how the proposed program will include the restoration and protection of riparian habitats in priority areas for salmonids.

o Describe how habitat restoration activities under Priority One will be designed to achieve lasting benefits through the restoration of self-sustaining natural ecosystem functions

and processes (e.g., re-establishing floodplain connection and function, restoring natural river-channel migration, re-establishing ecologically functional riparian buffers).

o Describe how program funds invested under Priority One will maximize benefits by leveraging additional coordinated investments from other entities and programs.

Priority Two proposals should specify the geographic extent (watershed/population scale or larger) of the monitoring effort and how the monitoring will contribute to: viability assessments for ESA-listed salmonids; monitoring necessary for tribal or native subsistence fishing; or analyses of the effectiveness of habitat restoration efforts.

Priority Three proposals should provide details on exactly how the proposed activities are consistent with the Congressional authorization and demonstrate the need for PCSRF funding. Documents that demonstrate the need for the proposed work should be cited (and provided upon request).

• Proposals that include non-competitive projects or program components should describe why a non-competitive process is appropriate and how the non-competitive projects are associated with species recovery priorities identified in NMFS recovery plans.

• Description of the expected measurable outcomes and benefits to the anadromous salmonids for each proposed priority. The description should be supported quantitatively when possible (e.g., number/types of limiting factors identified in recovery plan(s) being addressed, estimated miles/acres of habitat proposed for restoration, number/types of treaty/subsistence fisheries, number/names of watersheds/populations to be monitored, etc.).

• Description of project solicitation and selection criteria and processes that will be used to ensure that projects selected for funding under the proposed program will effectively address the intended PCSRF priority.

b. Individual Tribes:

Project-specific application narratives for individual tribes must describe project administration and separately describe proposed projects under the applicable PCSRF Program Priority.

i. Tribal Project Administration. The narrative must include the following details:

• A detailed description of the Tribe's administrative resources, financial stability,

business management systems, and capability to comply with federal grant requirements. The narrative should include a description of past performance in the management of federal funds, and demonstrated performance in implementing federal cost principles compliance and sub-recipient fiscal monitoring (if applicable).

- Description of the Tribe's existing anadromous salmonid restoration program(s) and how the proposed PCSRF funds will supplement those programs. This includes documentation that the tribe has existing salmonid programs and the appropriate management authority to implement actions identified in the proposal. Also include a description of previous experience implementing salmonid restoration programs.

- A description of the anticipated benefits and outcomes of the Tribe's proposed project(s) for anadromous salmonids and how the Tribe will administer and manage the project(s) to ensure that demonstrable and measurable benefits and outcomes are achieved.

- If any portion of the project will be conducted through consultants, subcontracts and/or sub-awards, you must follow the requirements set out at 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.330 through 200.332, as applicable.

- Description of project implementation monitoring and how the Tribe will ensure projects deliver the measurable benefits to anadromous salmonids as proposed. This should include a description of the proposed methods for monitoring project implementation and evaluating project effectiveness.

- Description of Tribe’s project tracking and reporting system and how it will be used to ensure PCSRF reporting requirements are fully met. For prior PCSRF grant recipients, this should include a description of how the applicant has adhered to PCSRF reporting requirements including timely and complete entry of project information into the PCSRF database, and how they resolved database reporting issues, inconsistencies or missing metrics (if applicable).

- Description of major accomplishments in fulfilling PCSRF authorized activities and program priorities, using past PCSRF funds (if applicable), including a history of project funding, types of projects funded, and outcomes. This may include reference to reports that the Tribe has completed on their past accomplishments.

ii. Tribal Project Proposal(s). A separate narrative for each proposed project must include the following details:

- Project description, including the following:

o Title of the project,

o Proposed funding requested,

o Proposed start/end dates,

o Location(s),

o Name and status of anadromous salmonids that will benefit from the project, and

o Description of the proposed work including objectives and approaches.

- Description of the proposed activities and how they address a given PCSRF Program Priority (Section I.B), including the rationale and justification for how the projects(s) will address the priority (i.e., clarify why the activities are appropriate for the given priority).

Priority One proposals should identify the specific salmonid population(s) and explain what population-specific limiting factors will be addressed. Provide the following information, as appropriate.

o For ESA-listed anadromous salmonid populations, include the name of the approved, interim, or proposed Recovery Plan that identifies the factors limiting productivity.

o For anadromous salmonid populations needed for tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, identify the specific tribal or native subsistence fisheries and explain how the proposed program will benefit or sustain the affected populations.

o Describe how the proposal will include the restoration and protection of riparian habitats in priority areas for salmonids.

o Describe how habitat restoration activities under Priority One will be designed to achieve lasting benefits through the restoration of self-sustaining natural ecosystem functions and processes (e.g., re-establishing floodplain connection and function, restoring natural river-channel migration, re-establishing ecologically functional riparian buffers).

Priority Two proposals should specify the geographic extent of the monitoring effort and how the monitoring will contribute to viability assessments for ESA-listed salmonids;

monitoring necessary for tribal or native subsistence fishing; or analyses of the effectiveness of habitat restoration efforts.

Priority Three proposals should provide details on exactly how the proposed activities are consistent with the Congressional authorization and demonstrate the need for PCSRF funding. Documents that demonstrate the need for the proposed work should be cited (and provided upon request).

• Description of the expected measurable outcomes and benefits to the anadromous salmonids for each proposed priority. The description should be supported quantitatively when possible (e.g., number/types of limiting factors identified in recovery plan(s) being addressed, estimated miles/acres of habitat proposed for restoration, number/types of treaty/subsistence fisheries, number/names of watersheds/populations to be monitored, etc.).

6. Budget Narrative: Detailed proposed budget for program administration costs and budget breakdown (i.e., by the Object Class Categories in form 424A, Section B) for each PCSRF Program Priority with an accompanying explanation for the estimated costs. Include an approved current negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (if applicable) and a detailed explanation of the matching share to be contributed by the applicant (States only). Each application should include a summary table that lists each of the components of the proposal and corresponding costs (include all projects/tasks under each of the three priorities), including matching costs, and demonstration (States and Tribal Commissions/Consortia) that the 10% monitoring requirement will be met. The budget narrative shall be separate from the program or project narrative. Please refer to the budget narrative guidance for developing a proper budget justification which is located at www.ago.noaa.gov/grants/training.html.

7. Resumes/Qualifications of Key Staff: Should not exceed two (2) pages per individual, with an additional two (2) pages allowed for single summary description of all organizations or consultants named in the application.

8. References and Appendices (2 Page Limit).

9. Data Sharing Plan (2 Page Limit): A Data/Information Sharing Plan shall be submitted as a separate appendix (not counted as part of References and Appendices 2 page limit).

a. Environmental data and information collected or created under NOAA grants or cooperative agreements must be made discoverable by and accessible to the general public, in a timely fashion (typically within two years), free of charge or at no more than the cost of reproduction, unless an exemption is granted by the NOAA Program. Data should be

available in at least one machine-readable format, preferably a widely-used or open-standard format, and should also be accompanied by machine-readable documentation (metadata), preferably based on widely used or international standards.

b. Proposals submitted in response to this Announcement must include a Data Management Plan of up to two pages describing how these requirements will be satisfied. The Data Management Plan should be aligned with the Data Management Guidance provided by NOAA in the Announcement. The contents of the Data Management Plan (or absence thereof), and past performance regarding such plans, will be considered as part of proposal review. A typical plan should include descriptions of the types of environmental data and information expected to be created during the course of the project; the tentative date by which data will be shared; the standards to be used for data/metadata format and content; methods for providing data access; approximate total volume of data to be collected; and prior experience in making such data accessible. The costs of data preparation, accessibility, or archiving may be included in the proposal budget unless otherwise stated in the Guidance. Accepted submission of data to the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) is one way to satisfy data sharing requirements; however, NCEI is not obligated to accept all submissions and may charge a fee, particularly for large or unusual datasets.

c. NOAA may, at its own discretion, make publicly visible the Data Management Plan from funded proposals, or use information from the Data Management Plan to produce a formal metadata record and include that metadata in a Catalog to indicate the pending availability of new data.

d. Proposal submitters are hereby advised that the final pre-publication manuscripts of scholarly articles produced entirely or primarily with NOAA funding will be required to be submitted to NOAA Institutional Repository after acceptance, and no later than upon publication. Such manuscripts shall be made publicly available by NOAA one year after publication by the journal.

10. Tax Tax Liability Form

a. In accordance with Section 523 of Division B and Sections 744 and 745 of Division E of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235) or a future public law, an authorized representative of the selected applicant(s) will be required to provide certain pre-award representations regarding federal felony and federal criminal tax convictions, unpaid federal tax assessments, and delinquent federal tax returns.

b. The form must be completed and submitted with grant applications for: (a) all for-profit and non-profit organization applicants (Part I, and if required, Part II); and (b) all non-Federal entity applicants anticipating receipt of $5 million or more in the current Federal Fiscal Year appropriated funding (Part II only). The form can be found at www.ago.noaa.gov/grants/forms.html.

C. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or Federal awarding agency that is exempt from those requirements under 2 CFR §25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the Federal awarding agency under 2 CFR §25.110(d)) is required to:

1. Be registered in SAM before submitting its application;

2. Provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application; and

3. Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency.

PLEASE NOTE: NOAA may not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time NOAA is ready to make a Federal award, NOAA may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant.

D. Submission Dates and Times

Pre-applications are not mandatory, but are highly encouraged. They must be received no later than March 3, 2017, if the applicant expects to receive any feedback from NMFS regarding completeness of its package and initial determination of compliance with minimum requirements. Final applications should be submitted via Grants.gov and must be received no later than 11:59 pm Eastern Time on April 3, 2017. For applications submitted through Grants.gov, a date and time receipt indication will be the basis of determining timeliness.
The proposal must be validated by Grants.gov in order to be considered timely. PLEASE NOTE: It may take Grants.gov up to two (2) business days to validate or reject the application. Please keep this in mind in developing your submission timeline.

For applicants that do not have access to the internet, one signed original and two hard copy applications must be postmarked or received by the established due date for the program at the following address: Stephanie Coleman, Grants Program Manager, NMFS West Coast Region 1201 NE Lloyd Blvd., Suite 1100, Portland, OR 97232-1274. Use of U.S. mail or another delivery service must be documented with a receipt. (Note that late- arriving hard copy proposals provided to a delivery service on or before 11:59 pm Eastern Time on the closing date for applications will be accepted for review if the applicant can document that the proposal was provided to the guaranteed delivery service by the specified closing date and time and if the proposal is received by the West Coast Region Grants Program Manager no later than 5:00 pm Eastern Time, two business days following the closing date.)

No facsimile or electronic mail proposals will be accepted.

E. Intergovernmental Review

Applications under this program from state or local governments are subject to the provisions of Executive Order (EO) 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs." Any applicant submitting an application for funding is required to complete item 16 on the SF-424 regarding clearance by the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) established as a result of EO 12372. To find out about and comply with a State's process under EO 12372, the names, addresses and phone numbers of participating SPOC's are listed in the Office Management and Budget's home page at https://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants_spoc.

F. Funding Restrictions

As program entities, the States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia will expend not more than three percent (3%) of the direct federal funds for administrative expenses. Administrative expenses are defined as all costs, including direct and associated indirect costs, incurred by the State, Commission, or Consortium in administering the PCSRF grant and managing the distribution of the PCSRF grant funds to sub-recipients, contractors, programs, or projects that undertake PCSRF activities. Administrative expenses include activities such as sub-agreement and contracts management and monitoring, accounting, program oversight, site visits, program support and overhead costs, and competitive funding allocation processes including the processing and administrative review of project applications and proposals.

Data management activities related to PCSRF reporting requirements, including the PCSRF web-based project tracking database system (found at https://www.webapps.nwfsc.noaa.gov/pcsrf), do not fall within the administrative expenses. This includes the costs for implementing new project reporting requirements under Phase II

of the PCSRF database.

The 3% limitation on administrative expenses is not applicable to individual Tribes applying directly on their own behalf for projects.

G. Other Submission Requirements

The full funding opportunity announcement for this program can be accessed via the Grants.gov web site at http://www.grants.gov. Applications for the PCSRF program are also available at the web site and may be electronically submitted for consideration using the following FFO number: NOAA-NMFS-WCRO-2017-2005154.

Pre-applications should be submitted electronically by e-mail to: sheryl.robinson@noaa.gov.

Additional information on PCSRF is available on the West Coast Region website at: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov, under the 'What We Do' header.

V. Application Review Information

A. Evaluation Criteria

NOAA standardized the evaluation and selection process for its competitive assistance programs. All complete proposals submitted in response to this notice shall be evaluated and selected in accordance with the process set out below. In considering the funding allocation for projects and program applications, all proposals will be evaluated on the following criteria.

The technical evaluation totals 100 points and consists of two elements:

¿ A program-level evaluation that will be scored with a maximum of 40 points; and,

¿ An evaluation of proposals under the three PCSRF Program Priorities with a maximum aggregate score of 60 points. The components of a proposal addressing each priority will be evaluated separately and the respective points under each priority will then be weighted based on the relative ranking of the PCSRF Program Priorities and the distribution of the requested funds among the PCSRF Program Priorities. NMFS anticipates a greater proportion of the available FY 2017 PCSRF funding will be distributed to higher scoring proposals addressing the higher priorities.

1. Program-level evaluation [40 Points]

a. Overall qualifications of the applicant [20 Points]: This ascertains whether the applicant possesses sufficient expertise and resources to accomplish the proposed program or projects. The organization and its management will be evaluated. The principal investigator and other personnel, including subcontractors and consultants participating in the project or program will be evaluated in terms of related experience and resources.

i. The applicant possesses the necessary education, experience, and training to implement and successfully complete the proposed program/projects.

ii. The applicant demonstrates that the necessary administrative programs, best practices, and associated resources are in place to successfully administer and manage the proposed program/projects.

iii. The applicant possesses the required facilities and infrastructure necessary to implement and successfully complete the proposed program/projects.

iv. The applicant demonstrates that the necessary methods and infrastructure are in place for successfully monitoring and reporting project results and evaluating program effectiveness. This may include reference to reports that the applicant has completed on their past accomplishments, including how the projects implemented with PCSRF funds adhered to the allocation of funds by PCSRF Program Priority proposed in prior PCSRF awards.

b. Project costs [20 Points]: Applications will be evaluated on the details of their proposed budget to determine if the costs are realistic and commensurate with the program or project needs and time-frame. Successful applications will include the following:

i. A justification and rationale for the amount of funding proposed by geographical area to meet the PCSRF program priorities. The justification and need for funding should be supported by evidence and described quantitatively when possible (e.g., miles/acres of habitat needing restoration; number or extent of ESA-listed Pacific salmon or Pacific salmon at risk; stocks important for tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing, etc.). The description should also address the recipients other sources of funding for salmonid programs and projects.

ii. Detailed budgets by program or project(s) that itemize the proposal costs including administrative and overhead costs within prescribed limits.

iii. A description (for States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia) of their monitoring effort that will account for at least ten percent (10%) of the funding proposed.

iv. A description (for State applications) of the sources and amounts of matching funds (including details on sources and determinations on estimated value of any in-kind contributions) that will be applied to achieve the minimum matching requirements of 33% of the federal funds requested.

v. A description (for States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia) of how the proposed program will maximize benefits by leveraging additional coordinated investments from other entities and programs.

c. Outreach and education [0 Points]: Outreach and education, as defined by NOAA under the standardized evaluation and selection process, is not being evaluated under this competition. Outreach and education efforts remain valid PCSRF activities under Priority Three; however, such activities do not contribute to an applicant's program-level evaluation score.

2. Evaluation of Proposals under each PCSRF Priority [60 points]

a. Importance and/or relevance and applicability of proposed project to the program goals [30 Points]: This ascertains whether there is intrinsic value in the proposed work and its relevance to the applicable PCSRF Program Priority. Proposals will be evaluated based on how relevant and effective the proposals are in providing demonstrable and measurable benefits to the highest priority needs of anadromous salmonids in respective geographic areas. Successful applications will include a Data/Information Sharing Plan and the following information in their project narratives:

i. Narrative descriptions (for Priority One proposals) that clearly articulate how program/projects will:

- Address identified limiting factors for Pacific anadromous salmonid populations that are (either one or both):

o ESA-listed anadromous salmonids.

¿ Identify how the proposal advances the priority recovery actions as detailed in approved, interim, or proposed Recovery Plans.

¿ For applicants in areas supporting salmonid species included in NMFS' "Species in the Spotlight: Survive to Thrive" initiative (http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/stories/2015/05/05_14_15species_in_the_spotlight.html), applications will also be evaluated based on how relevant the proposed activities are to

stabilizing these species and preventing their extinction.
o Necessary for the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing.
¿ Identify the fishery(ies) with the greatest need for projects to restore or maintain the target salmonid population(s).
• Include the restoration and protection of riparian habitats in priority areas for salmonids.
• Achieve lasting benefits through the restoration of self-sustaining natural ecosystem functions and processes (e.g., re-establishing floodplain connection and function, restoring natural river-channel migration, re-establishing ecologically functional riparian buffers).
• Describe (for States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia) how the proposed program will encourage and select large-scale strategies that maximize benefits through the implementation of coordinated projects that address multiple priority limiting factors.

ii. Narrative descriptions (for Priority Two proposals) that clearly justify the type and location of monitoring proposals and identify how the results of proposed monitoring will inform population-level status and trends assessments and/or watershed-scale restoration effectiveness evaluations.

iii. Narrative descriptions (for Priority Three proposals) that demonstrate and justify an urgent need for funding to achieve a measurable benefit for the conservation and restoration of anadromous salmonids.

b. Technical/scientific merit [30 Points]: This assesses whether the approach is technically sound and/or innovative, if the methods are appropriate, and whether there are clear project goals and objectives. Proposals will be evaluated on whether there is a technically sound approach to manage and implement proposed projects; whether there is sufficient information to evaluate the project or program technically; and, if so, the strengths and/or weaknesses of the project or program approach to securing productive results. Successful applications will include the following information in their project narratives:

i. Narrative descriptions (for Priority One proposals) that clearly articulate the selection and design of viable projects that will effectively address limiting factors for ESA-listed anadromous salmonids and/or restore or maintain salmonid populations necessary for the exercise of tribal treaty fishing rights or native subsistence fishing.
• Describe how habitat restoration activities under Priority One will be designed to achieve lasting benefits through the restoration of self-sustaining natural ecosystem functions and processes (e.g., re-establishing floodplain connection and function, restoring natural river-channel migration, re-establishing ecologically functional riparian buffers).

ii. Narrative descriptions (for Priority Two proposals) that clearly articulate the proposed monitoring methodology and design for producing scientifically valid results at the watershed or population scales.

iii. Narrative descriptions (for Priority Three proposals) that clearly articulate proposed methodologies designed to achieve measurable benefits to anadromous salmonids, and substantiate the urgency and need of the proposed activities.

B. Review and Selection Process

Administrative Review: Upon receipt of an application, an initial administrative review will be conducted to determine compliance with requirements and completeness of the application. The application must meet the following minimum requirements to be considered for funding.

1. Applicant is eligible to apply

2. Application received by deadline

3. Application is complete and includes all mandatory forms

4. Monitoring requirement (10%) is met (States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia)

5. Matching requirement (33%) is met (State Only)

6. Administrative programmatic costs (3%) are not exceeded (States and Tribal Commissions or Consortia only)

Technical Review: Applications that satisfy the administrative review will advanced for a technical review. Individual evaluations comprised of at least three (3) or more private and public experts will independently evaluate the applications and score them using the evaluation criteria set forth above. No consensus advice will be given. The reviewer' ratings will be averaged to produce a rank order of the proposals. Technical reviewers will be required to certify that they do not have a conflict of interest and that they will maintain confidentiality of the applications.

Panel Review: After the projects have been evaluated and ranked, NMFS will solicit

comments and input on funding recommendations from a panel of at least three (3) federal full-time employees comprised of the NMFS Alaska and West Coast regions. NMFS will provide the panelists with a summary of the technical review evaluations and the rank order of the proposals.

C. Selection Factors

The Assistant Administrator for NMFS will be the Selecting Official. The Selecting Official will review the rank order, funding recommendations and comments from the Panel Review and determine the recipients to be funded and how much funding shall be awarded to each selected recipient. In making the final selections, the Selecting Official will award in rank order unless the proposal is justified to be selected out of rank order based upon one of the selection factors below.

1. Availability of funding

2. PCSRF Priority: All three priorities will be funded at some level, but more funds will be assigned to proposals in the higher priorities.

3. Balance/distribution of funds

a. Geographically

b. By type of institutions

c. By type of partners

d. By research areas

e. By project types

4. Whether this project duplicates other projects funded or considered for funding by NMFS or other federal agencies.

5. Program priorities and policy factors as set forth in the Full Funding Opportunity Sections I.A. and B.

6. Applicant’s prior award performance (Accomplishments related to PCSRF goals).

7. Partnerships and/or participation of targeted groups.

D. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

Unsuccessful applicants will be notified through Grants Online. The NOAA Grants Officer will issue the grant award, Form CD-450, which is the authorizing financial assistance award document. Funding is expected to begin during July 2017 for most approved awards, subject to the availability of funds. July 1, 2017 will be used as the start date on awards, unless a later date is requested by recipient (and approved by the NOAA Grants Officer) or otherwise directed by the NOAA Grants Officer.

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Award Notices

The notice of award is signed by the NOAA Grants Officer and is sent to the appropriate business office of the recipient organization. This notification is not an authorization to begin project operations, and is not a guarantee of funding. Official notification of selection, signed by the NOAA Grants Officer, is the authorizing document that allows a project to begin. Notifications will be issued to the Authorizing Official of the project electronically.

Applicants may be asked to modify proposal components, objectives, work plans, or budgets prior to final approval of an award to address technical review and/or panel review comments, and to conform to the PCSRF Program Priorities and available award funds. The exact amount of funds to be awarded, the final scope of activities, the project duration, and specific NOAA cooperative involvement with the activities of each project will be determined in pre-award negotiations among the applicant, the NOAA Grants Office, and NOAA/NMFS program staff. Projects should not be initiated in expectation of federal funding until an official notice of award document is received from the NOAA Grants Officer.

Award documents provided by the Grants Officer may contain special award conditions for activities outlined within the proposal. These special award conditions may also include other compliance requirements for the award as applicable and will be applied on a case-by-case basis. Applicants are strongly encouraged to review award documents carefully before accepting a Federal award so they are fully aware of the relevant Standard Terms and Conditions as well as any Special Award Conditions that have been placed on the award.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

The recipient and any sub-recipients must, in addition to the assurances made as part of the application, comply and require each of its contractors and subcontractors employed in the completion of the project to comply with all applicable statutes, regulations, Eos, OMB circulars, terms and conditions, and approved applications. Department of Commerce (DOC) Financial Assistance Standard Terms and Conditions (http://www.osec.doc.gov/oam/grants_management/policy/documents/DOC_Standard_Terms_12_26_2014.pdf) and PCSRF Program Special Terms and Conditions will apply to all PCSRF award recipients. The PCSRF Program will also add special award conditions in addition to the DOC Standard Terms and Conditions.

The recipients must comply with EO 12906 regarding any and all geospatial data collected or produced under grants or cooperative agreements. This includes documenting all geospatial data in accordance with the Federal Geographic Data Committee Content Standard for digital geospatial data.

1. Pre-award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements

The Department of Commerce Pre-Award Notification Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements contained in the Federal Register notice of December 30, 2014 (79 FR 78390) are applicable to this solicitation and may be accessed online at http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-12-30/pdf/2014-30297.pdf.

2. Limitation of Liability

Funding for programs listed in this notice is limited to Fiscal Year 2017 appropriation.

In no event will NOAA or the Department of Commerce be responsible for proposal preparation costs if this program fails to receive funding or is cancelled because of other agency priorities. Publication of this announcement does not oblige NOAA to award any specific project or to obligate any available funds. Recipients and sub-recipients are subject to all Federal laws and agency policies, regulations and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

3. Universal Identifier

To enable the use of a universal identifier and to enhance the quality of information available to the public as required by the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006, to the extent applicable, any proposal awarded in response to this announcement will be required to use the System For Award Management (SAM; available online at:

https://www.sam.gov/portal/SAM) and Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System and be subject to reporting requirements, as identified in Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidance published at 2 CFR Parts 25 and 170 (available online at https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys).

4. National Environmental Policy Act

NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) implementing regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508) require that an environmental analysis be completed for all major Federal actions significantly affecting the environment. NEPA applies to the actions of Federal agencies and may include a Federal agency's decision to fund non-Federal projects under grants and cooperative agreements. NMFS must analyze the potential environmental impacts, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), for each project which seeks NMFS funding. Detailed information on NEPA can be found at the following NOAA NEPA website: www.nepa.noaa.gov, including our NOAA Administrative Order 216-6 for NEPA, www.nepa.noaa.gov/NAO216_6.pdf, and the Council on Environmental Quality implementation regulations (40 CFR parts 1500 through 1508, available online at: www.gpo.gov/fdsys).

Consequently, as part of all project application packages, applicants are required to provide detailed information on the activities to be conducted, locations, sites, species, and habitat to be affected, possible construction activities, and any environmental concerns that may exist (e.g., the use and disposal of hazardous or toxic chemicals, introduction of non-indigenous species, impacts to endangered and threatened species, aquaculture projects, and impacts to coral reef systems). Program applications should, to the best extent, provide what they know about their projects at the time of submitting their grant applications. In addition to providing specific information that will serve as the basis for any required impact analyses, applicants may also be requested to draft or assist NMFS in drafting an environmental assessment, if NMFS determines an assessment is required. Applicants will also be required to cooperate with NMFS in identifying feasible measures to reduce or avoid any identified adverse environmental impacts of their proposal. The failure to do so shall be grounds for not selecting an application. In some cases if additional information is required after an application is selected, funds can be withheld by the Grants Officer under a special award condition requiring the recipient to submit additional environmental compliance information sufficient to enable NMFS to make an assessment on any impacts that a project may have on the environment.

5. Paperwork Reduction Act

This collection of information contains requirements subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The use of Standard Forms CD-346, 424, 424A, 424B and SF-LLL has been approved by the OMB under control numbers 0605-0001, 0348-0043 (4040-0004), 0348-0044 (4040-0006), 0348-0040, 0348-0046 and 0605-0001. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the PRA unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number.

6. Indirect Costs

If an applicant has not previously established an indirect cost rate with a Federal agency they may choose to negotiate a rate with the Department of Commerce or use the de minimis indirect cost rate of 10% of MTDC (as allowable under 2 C.F.R. §200.414). The negotiation and approval of a rate is subject to the procedures required by NOAA and the Department of Commerce Standard Terms and Conditions Section B.06. The NOAA contact for indirect or facilities and administrative costs is:

Lamar Revis, Grants Officer
NOAA Grants Management Division
1325 East West Highway
9th Floor
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
lamar.revis@noaa.gov

7. Review of Risk

After applications are proposed for funding by the selecting official, the Grants Office will perform administration reviews. These may include assessments of the financial stability of an applicant and the quality of the applicant's management systems, history of performance, and the applicant's ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements imposed on non-Federal entities. Special conditions that address any risks determined to exist may be applied. Applicants may submit comments to the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS) about any information included in the system about their organization for consideration by the awarding agency.

C. Reporting

Award recipients will be required to submit financial and performance (technical) reports. Performance reports will be created from the PCSRF tracking database found at

https://www.webapps.nwfsc.noaa.gov/PCSRFPhaseII. Financial and performance reports are to be submitted electronically through the NOAA Grants Online system on a semi-annual basis unless the applicant does not have internet access, in which case hard copy submissions will be accepted. All financial reports are routed directly to the NOAA Grants Officer.

Performance reports are to be downloaded from the PCSRF database and routed to the assigned NMFS Federal Program Officer through NOAA Grants Online. Final progress reporting through the PCSRF database and NOAA Grants Online is due 90 days after the award expiration. The final report shall serve as an overall evaluation of the recipient's success in achieving the goals and objectives of the approved project(s) and programs, specifically describing the work that was performed and its resulting benefit to Pacific coastal salmon as described in its proposal and grant application. The level of detail should allow for NMFS's assessment of the overall success of the project.

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 includes a requirement for awardees of applicable Federal grants to report information about first-tier sub-awards and executive compensation under Federal assistance awards issued in FY 2011 or later. All awardees of applicable grants and cooperative agreements are required to report to the Federal Subaward Reporting System (FSRS) available at www.FSRS.gov on all sub- awards over $25,000.

VII. Agency Contacts

For further information on PCSRF, please contact Scott Rumsey, PCSRF Program Manager, NMFS West Coast Region at (503) 872-2791, or scott.rumsey@noaa.gov.

Questions regarding this announcement should be directed to Sheryl Robinson, PCSRF Federal Program Officer, NMFS West Coast Region at (503) 230-5421 or sheryl.robinson@noaa.gov, or to Stephanie Coleman, Grants Program Manager, NMFS West Coast Region at (503) 231-2337 or Stephanie.Coleman@noaa.gov.

VIII. Other Information

A. Permits and Approvals

A grant award under this funding announcement does not imply any authorization of incidental take of listed species under the ESA. Section 7 consultations will be undertaken by NMFS on projects and activities that may adversely affect ESA listed species. The recipient will obtain necessary permits on any projects and will provide all necessary

information to NMFS for ESA consultation, including stipulations in each sub-agreement that the activity should not commence unless and until an ESA consultation has been completed and all necessary permits have been granted.

B. Freedom of Information Act

U.S. Department of Commerce regulations implementing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) are found at 15 C.F.R. Part 4, "Public Information." These regulations set forth rules for the Department regarding making requested materials, information, and records publicly available under the FOIA. Applications submitted in response to this Federal Funding Opportunity may be subject to requests for release under the Act. In the event that an application contains information or data that the applicant deems to be confidential commercial information which is exempt from disclosure under FOIA, that information should be identified, bracketed, and marked as "Privileged, Confidential, Commercial or Financial Information." Based on these markings, the confidentiality of the contents of those pages will be protected to the extent permitted by law.