U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Anadromous Fish Restoration Program
Notice of Availability of Federal Assistance
2010 Request for Proposals

Program Overview Information

Federal Agency Name:
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
U.S. Department of the Interior
Anadromous Fish Restoration Program

Funding Opportunity Title: Mill Creek Riparian Assessment

Announcement Type:
Initial Announcement

Funding Opportunity Number:
AFRP-N04-10

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number (CFDA): 15.648

Dates:
Application Deadline: Electronic copy applications must be received by Grants.gov by the close of business (COB) on June 7, 2010 (4:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time). Please ensure you use a compatible version of Adobe Reader in submitting your application. Grants.gov has an Adobe versioning test to determine if your version is compatible. Proposals received after the date and time will not be considered for funding.

I. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

A. LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND BACKGROUND

1. The Central Valley Project Improvement Act (CVPIA; Title 34 of Public Law 102-575, Section 3406(b)(1)), authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Department of the Interior (DOI), in consultation with other State and Federal agencies, Indian tribes, and affected interests, to develop and implement a program which makes all reasonable efforts to at least double natural production of anadromous fish in Central Valley rivers and streams. Further, the *CVPIA* requires that this program give first priority to measures which protect and restore natural channel and riparian habitat values through habitat restoration actions, modifications to Central Valley Project operations, and implementation of the supporting measures mandated by the *CVPIA.* The DOI, is approaching implementation of this directive through development of an *Anadromous Fish Restoration Program (AFRP).* The species and races of anadromous fish addressed by the *AFRP* include fall-run, late-fall-run, winter-run, and spring-run Chinook salmon; steelhead; striped bass; American shad; white sturgeon; and green sturgeon.

2. The Service and Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) are the DOI agencies responsible for implementing the *CVPIA.* They are jointly and cooperatively implementing the *CVPIA,* with the *Service* assuming lead responsibility for the *AFRP.* The *CVPIA* also establishes a Restoration Fund of up to $50 million annually to assist in implementation of the fish and wildlife restoration provisions. Of this sum, DOI allocates $3 to $12 million annually to the AFRP. The AFRP then leverages these funds with other funds provided by partners in restoration projects totaling $12 to $20 million annually.

B. PURPOSES AND FUNDING PRIORITIES

The purpose for the AFRP can be found in the Final Restoration Plan http://www.fws.gov/stockton/afrp/restplan_final.cfm and other program documents for the AFRP (USFWS 2001). These objectives are:

1. Improve habitat for all life stages of anadromous fish through provision of flows of suitable quality, quantity, and timing, and improved physical habitat;
2. Improve survival rates by reducing or eliminating entrainment of juveniles at diversions;
3. Improve the opportunity for adult fish to reach their spawning habitats in a timely manner;
4. Collect fish population, health, and habitat data to facilitate evaluation of restoration actions;
5. Integrate habitat restoration efforts with harvest and hatchery management; and involve partners in the implementation and evaluation of restoration actions.

These objectives are addressed through implementation of projects associated with prioritized actions and evaluations in the Final Restoration Plan for the AFRP. The plan may be viewed at: http://www.fws.gov/stockton/afrp/.

Funding priorities are based upon the magnitude of the contribution of the restoration project to doubling natural production, the status of target species and races, and on Section 3406(b)(1)(A) of the CVPIA, which directs the AFRP to give first priority to: 1) measures which protect and restore natural channel and riparian habitat values through restoration actions; 2) modification to Central Valley Project operations; and 3) implementation of the supporting measures mandated by subsection 3406(b) of the CVPIA.

C. PROJECT

Funding is available through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Anadromous Fish Restoration Program to complete Phase I: Mill Creek Riparian Assessment Project. The funded project will include riparian habitat and condition mapping, vegetation classification, and restoration priorities of the Mill Creek watershed in northern California. Mill Creek is a tributary to the Upper Sacramento River near Los Molinos, CA, in southeastern Tehama County. A map of the project area is attached at the end of this document.

D. SCOPE OF WORK

1. Background:

In response to an identified need for comprehensive riparian habitat and condition mapping of the Mill Creek watershed, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) requests submission of proposals for 1) riparian habitat and condition mapping and vegetation classification of the Mill Creek watershed; 2) identify and prioritize areas that should be restored, enhanced, and/or preserved in addition to existing conservation easements; 3) identify the types of restoration actions that should occur at the prioritized sites (i.e. riparian planting, invasive plant eradication, fencing, etc); and 4) develop a QA/QC plan for your data collection/analysis.

The need to restore and maintain riparian habitat in Mill Creek is identified in AFRP and CALFED Ecosystem Restoration Program (ERP) goals, objectives, and targets. Both of these programs prioritize establishment, restoration, and maintenance of anadromous fish habitat on this stream, particularly in the arena of riparian habitat and flow enhancement. Identification of the impacts of land management on these parameters (on a watershed scale) is also necessary to move forward with comprehensive restoration actions. For more information on Mill Creek as per AFRP and ERP, go to the following websites and obtain the planning documents:
http://www.fws.gov/stockton/afrp/
http://www.calwater.ca.gov/calfed/library/Archive_ERP.html

In order to best implement AFRP actions affiliated with riparian habitat conservation, a map of current riparian habitat distribution and quality is needed in order to prioritize where restoration, preservation, and enhancement should take place.

While the project covers a large geographic area, Mill Creek is located within the following EPA HUC designation: Stream Number Sacramento-Mill Big Chico (HUA 18020119). Mill Creek is an especially important watershed because it is one of the few remaining

spawning habitats for the federally listed spring-run Chinook salmon. Mill Creek supports salmon populations that spawn in the highest elevations (over 5,000 ft) of all North American salmon (Reynolds et al.1993).

Mill Creek watershed is located primarily within Tehama County. As a major Sacramento River tributary, Mill Creek flows southwesterly from the southern slopes of Lassen Peak in Lassen Volcanic National Park and enters the Sacramento River at RM230 near the towns of Tehama and Los Molinos. Mill Creek is approximately 60 miles in length and the watershed drains approximately 134 square miles. The watershed's elevations range from over 8,000 ft. at the stream's headwaters to about 200 ft in the Central Valley. Mill Creek is bounded by a steep narrow canyon in the upper and middle watershed, thus enabling its pristine existence. At the lower valley reach, Mill Creek is more accessible and vulnerable to human impacts.

The Mill Creek watershed consists of relatively equal acreage of public and private lands. Most of the public lands consist of Lassen Volcanic National Park, the Lassen National Forest including the Ishi Wilderness Area, and the Tehama Wildlife Management Area. There is a mixture of public and private lands in the upper and middle reaches, but the lower reach is mostly privately owned.

Historically, the riparian habitats within the Sacramento River watershed have been heavily impacted by a variety of factors, including: gravel mining, diversions and de-watering of streams, invasion by noxious plant species, and control of the Sacramento River flow which reduced flood conditions in low-lying areas.

Project Area: A map is attached at the end of this document. The project area consists of an estimate of 61 river miles along the riparian corridor of Mill Creek. The project area is defined by a series of buffers along the stream of interest. The width of the buffer was selected based on the following criteria:

1. A 100 foot buffer on either side of the stream applied to the stream in the middle, canyon sections of the watershed. These stretches of the stream go through steeper terrain and generally only narrow, stringers of habitat are found along the stream banks. Because of the steep terrain, there is little land management and cattle impact. The largest concern for this pronounced terrain area would be fire and landslides.
2. A 600 foot buffer (1/8th mile) on either side of the stream was applied to the lower watershed where the canyon reach ends, but the terrain is still hilly/moderately sloped. This buffer is also applied to a section of the stream prior to entry in the canyon reach. The riparian habitat becomes more prominent in these two areas, so it is important that they are captured in the mapping efforts. It is suspected that the lower area also may contain the uppermost stream locations of nonnative invasive species of interest.
3. A two mile buffer on either side of the stream was applied to the most easterly (higher elevation area) streams in the project because the montane valley floor widens considerably, and there are numerous wetland/riparian/meadow complexes that play a large role in stream health and hydrological conditions. In the lower watershed (westernmost section), the valley floor also widens. In this

area, historic and current land practices have had an effect on the quantity and distribution of riparian habitat in this watershed, as well as natural events such as high flow events. Irrigation has also had an effect on the quality and distribution of riparian habitat. The lower valley floor section also contains nonnative invasive species that are impacting riparian habitat quantity, quality, and distribution. This two mile buffer may exceed the width of the watershed; in those situations, the buffer (i.e. area of analysis) should end at the watershed boundary.

2. Goal of Project:

Riparian habitat provides a variety of critical functions in stream ecosystems for fisheries and terrestrial wildlife. The goal of this mapping study is to inventory and characterize riparian community types and their condition, document species composition and distribution, monitor and document the invasion and location of exotic species, and determine restoration activities and priorities within the Mill Creek watershed. The mapping phase will result in products that provide the basis for protection, enhancement, and restorations that addresses both ecological and third party issues. The result of this project will act as baseline data for identifying current and historical threats. The information will be used to help identify water availability in the area and the amount of potential habitat created by irrigation, other land management activities, and existing streams. This information will be used to investigate the degree and nature of succession caused by stream meander and annual high and low flow events. It will also be used to address questions such as what degree to which the streambed is changing course and how riparian habitat succession if affected by natural or unnatural courses.

Information from the assessment will also be used to address non-native invasive species. For example, arundo (*Arundo donax*) is known to aggressively displace native riparian vegetation and is so disruptive that it affects water quality and quantity, exacerbates flooding, and alters the geomorphology of the waterway it invades. Other plants that threaten riparian or wetland systems include blue gum eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus globulus*), salt cedar (*Tamarix chinensis*), Russian olive *(Eleagnus angustifolia*), Himalayaberry (*Rubus discolor*), Cape ivy (*Delairea odorata;* formerly known as German ivy, *Senecio mikanioides*), hoary cress (*Cardaria draba*), tree of heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), non-native thistles (e.g. *Cirsium arvense and C. vufgare*), Pampas grass (*Cortaderia selloana*) and periwinkle (*Vinca major*).

Identification of potential restoration actions and defining priority areas will assist in efficiently addressing riparian restoration/preservation with subsequent funding.

3. General Methods:

Mapping of Vegetation: The mapping effort should use recent remotely sensed imagery or orthorectified and digitized aerial photography as source data. It should apply automated classifications, manual editing and ground verification methods to determine the different vegetation locations and types through out the project. The map should describe vegetation communities based on the Manual of California Vegetation (Keeler-Wolf, Sawyer 1993), classifications at the association level (Keeler-Wolf 1993), and offer a

quantitative measurement of the different plant communities present in the project area and their distributions. The map should also identify and map general areas of noxious weed communities within the vicinity of the riparian corridor.

The first classification should result in a very basic representation of vegetation called cover type. This should include general classes such as conifer, hardwood, grass, water, barren, etc. Because this layer is so general, it will have a high accuracy, so it acts as a base layer to the more specific vegetation type layer that follows.

The second iteration of classifications should refine the cover type labels to the (Keeler-Wolf, Sawyer 1993) of California Vegetation Association level. Where vegetation types don't exist in the current manual, new ones should be added to the map. For example, to capture noxious weeds, types such as tamarisk or arundo may be added as necessary. Vegetation types will be determined by working with qualified botanists and field observations. The vegetation mapping team should also work with federal, state, and local qualified botanists to refine the vegetation types to be used in the map.

Field Verification: Vegetation mapping will also require field verification of either a statistically valid portion of the total riparian habitat acreage or a subset of the vegetation types identified during photo interpretation. Field work will require maximum access to the project area, including as much private lands as possible. It is understood that the ability to be statistically valid may be contingent on obtaining access to private land, which can either affect the number of sample sites or affect the sampling design—this issue must be negotiated with FWS, should it arise. Meadow complexes in the upper watershed should be mapped utilizing accepted field methods.

Non-native Invasive Plant mapping: To the extent possible, map known locations of non-native invasive plant species (NIS) with an emphasis on arundo, tamarisk, tree of heaven, Himalayaberry, and pampas grass. While this part of the project is secondary in priority to comprehensive mapping of riparian vegetation in the watershed, it is still considered an important parameter to address. Non-native species should be identified during aerial photo/imaging interpretation to the extent possible (e.g. patches of arundo can sometimes be seen via aerial photos), and during all field verification efforts. To aid in implementing field verification of habitat, the following tools are highly recommended by USFWS and the CALFED NIS program and should be easily implemented with little additional effort on the part of the applicant:

> There are noxious weed mapping standards available from the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA). NAWMA is endorsed by the Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds (USFWS is one of five federal agencies on the Committee). These standards provide direction on comprehensive mapping of non-native invasive weed infestations, as well as forms that can be utilized during an inventory. For more information, visit the following websites:
> http://www.nawma.org/
> or http://www.nawma.org/MappingComm.asp

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has also developed non-native invasive plant inventory tools which have incorporated NAWMA standards. TNC's Weed Information Management System (WIMS) is a Microsoft Access-based relational database application that is designed to assist natural resource managers in managing their weed data. WIMS keeps track of three types of data records: weed occurrences (GPS point locations), assessments (size and status of the weed infestation to facilitate monitoring over time), and management treatments applied to those weed infestations. For more information, visit the following website: http://tncinvasives.ucdavis.edu/

Specific locations of mapping efforts should be clearly delineated in order to identify gaps of coverage/assessment—this will make future, comprehensive NIS mapping efforts easier to implement and can also serve as a baseline to assess potential, future invasion of NIS species and prioritize eradication efforts.

Access to the project area and permission for inventory/verification must be obtained in writing, although this is not necessarily required prior to submitting a proposal. The majority of the area in the project area is privately owned by a large number of private landowners.

4. Study Objectives:

A. To acquire high resolution, color infrared, recent remotely sensed imagery or digitized, orthorectified, aerial photography as base data for this and future projects.

B. To create a GIS map that identifies riparian vegetation communities along Mill Creek and its immediately adjacent upland areas, and their condition.

C. To create a list of prioritized list of areas that could potentially be restored, enhanced, or otherwise protected to improve riparian habitat in the Mill Creek watershed.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

The AFRP anticipates approximately $100,000 may be available for funding this project in Fiscal Year 2010 (fiscal year 2010 began October 1, 2009). If the total project cost exceeds $100,000, the project may be implemented in phases over several years, or the proponent must seek the remaining funds from other sources. A cooperative agreement or a grant may be entered into between the successful applicant and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service-Anadromous Fish Restoration Program, Red Bluff, California.

Anticipated project start date should be initiated as early as possible (late in the fiscal year 2010), given the timeline to prepare for collecting aerial photography (if aerials are needed) at the right time of year (typically April/May for potential aerial photos and field work for riparian habitat assessments of this nature). Project must be completed within three years upon signing the cooperative agreement.

III. Eligibility Information

A. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligible applicants should possess experience and qualifications in the ability to map and assess riparian habitat, as well as have the capacity to contact and work with private landowners. Applications from federal agencies or employees of federal agencies cannot be considered.

B. COST SHARING OR MATCHING

There is no cost-sharing or matching requirement for this award.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. *This Announcement Contains All the Information Required to Submit an Application*

1. **Electronic Applications Materials**

The required Standard Form (SF) 424 form set may be accessed at http://www.grants.gov or by contacting Brenda Olson at Brenda_Olson@fws.gov for any other of the required forms as listed in 2. Supplemental Requirements as listed below.

Grants.gov now supports Adobe Reader (8.1.5 and 9.1.1). Grants.gov does have an Adobe versioning test application package to determine if your version is compatible. The link can be found on the Applicants Page under "What's New at Grants.gov".

2, **Hard Copy Application Materials**

If you do not have access to the web page or have trouble downloading material, and you would like a hard copy you may mail the request to Brenda Olson at RBFWO 10950 Tyler Rd, Red Bluff, CA 96080 or call (530) 527-3043 x227. When calling the RBFWO, please indicate that you are requesting the RFP and associated application forms for AFRP-N04-10, Mill Creek Riparian Assessment Phase I.

Materials may also be requested via Internet by sending an e-mail to Brenda_Olson@fws.gov. For all technical questions, call Brenda Olson at (530) 527-3043 x227.

B. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

1. Application Requirements:

This announcement contains all the information needed to submit a proposal. The project proposal is a narrative description and the budgetary information of the project. Only information that is pertinent to the project should be included. The project proposal should also indicate whether partial funding of the project is practicable, and, if so, what specific portion(s) of the project could be implemented with what level of funding. A project proposal that is part of a longer term initiative will be considered, however, the proposed project's objectives, benefits, and tasks must stand on their own, as there are no assurances that additional funding would be awarded in subsequent years for associated or complementary projects. An incomplete proposal will not be considered for funding.

Applications must be no smaller than 12 point font, preferably in Times New Roman or Arial type, with 1-inch margins, double-spaced, no longer than 25 pages and submitted in single-sided, electronic or hard copy.

Complete applications must include:

- Applicant name, mailing address, phone and fax number, and email address
- Budgetary information (including necessary Federal Forms, i.e. SF-424 Application for Assistance)
- Background and need for proposed work
- Justification for proposed work
- Approach including study design, hypotheses, goals, methods, equipment and facilities, data collection, any statistical analysis and quality assurance procedures, tasks
- Feasibility of the described approach, any contingencies or requirements (e.g., dependence on outcome of other projects, environmental compliance or permitting)
- Performance measures related to project goals and objectives
- Data handling and storage
- Expected products and outcomes
- Deliverables for each task
- Work schedule, including estimated start and completion dates of each task
- Applicant qualifications and experience

2. Supplemental Requirements:

The following table provides a summary of the supplemental forms and requirements that **must be included** in the application. The Dun & Bradstreet (DUNS number), Central Contractor Registration (CCR) and electronic funds transfer actions are a requirement. Potential applicants must complete these requirements before the award can be made.

What's required	Available at:	When to submit
Application for Federal Assistance, Standard Form SF424 Cover sheet, 424 A & B for Non-Construction; C & D for Construction awards	http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/grants_forms.html http://www.gsa.gov/forms http://www.fedforms.gov	By June 7, 2010
Dun & Bradstreet Number (DUNS)	www.dnb.com www.dnb.com/US/customer_service/index.html 1-800-234-3867. http://www.dnb.com/us/	Will need before registering with CCR
Registration in the Central Contractor's Registration (CCR)	http://www.CCR.GOV	In time to allow for processing if not already in the system.
Electronic funds transfer Form - ACH 3881	Form is available at the Red Bluff Office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 530/527-3043 Note: must be completed for funds transfer to occur. If your organization has a history of having received government funds/payments, you do not need to complete this form again.	Only if awarded
Registration Grants.gov *Before applying for a grant opportunity on Grants.gov, an applicant must complete the registration process	http://www.Grants.gov or support@Grants.gov, or you may call the Contact Center at: 1.800.518.4726 Registration is a 3-step process: 1. Register your organization, then; 2. Register yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) then; 3. Become authorized by your organization to submit applications Please note: It may take up to two (2) weeks to complete the registration process due to unexpected delays. It is highly recommended that you begin the registration process as soon as possible	In time to allow for processing if not already in the system.

	SEE THE GRANTS.GOV WEBSITE FOR COMPLETE DETAILS	

3. Data Universal Numbering System Number:
On June 27, 2003, The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) published a Federal Register notice (68 FR 38402) that announced final policy issuance on the use of a universal identifier by grant applicants. The policy requires applicants applying for Federal grants or cooperative agreements on or after October 1, 2003 to acquire a Data Universal Number System (DUNS) number. It is the responsibility of the organization seeking Federal funds to obtain a DUNS, as necessary. Grant and cooperative agreement applicants (excluding individuals) need to ensure they have a DUNS number. Organizations can receive a DUNS number at no cost by calling the dedicated toll-free DUNS number request line at 1-866-705-5711 or on the web at http://smallbusiness.dnb.com/manage.

C. SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

Electronic applications must be received by Grants.gov by the close of business on **June 7, 2010** (4:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time). Proposals received after the date and time will not be considered for funding.

D. INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

This program is not covered by Executive Order 12372. Review process is not required.

E. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

Awards will not allow reimbursement of pre-award costs. *Funding is contingent upon the RBFWO Anadromous Fish Restoration Program's receipt of an adequate implementation project budget for FY 2010.*

V. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. CRITERIA

Applications will be reviewed using the following criteria:

1) Applicants that utilize accepted techniques for riparian habitat assessment of this nature
2) Applicants with experience on this type of assessment
3) Applicants with proven abilities to work with the public/private landowners on projects of this type
4) Applications that utilize a valid and technically sound sampling approach and design to accomplish the project objectives
5) Applicants that possess experience and qualifications in their ability to work with a wide variety of stakeholders and interests, including landowners, agencies, and local interests.

The reviews will be based on the following general criteria:

- Approach, utilizing the best available hardware/software technologies and field techniques to collect and process the data,
- Clearly stated goals and objectives,
- Primary investigators and/or sub-recipients record of performance and expertise,
- Approach utilizing a technically sound sampling approach and design to accomplish project objectives
- Economic efficiency- budget is reasonable and provides good value for funds requested
- Local watershed knowledge
- Cost share or in-kind contributions considered
- Ability to work with public/private landowners in the watershed

A factor in awarding this grant will be verifying applicant's responsibility based on timely delivery of all reports and an evaluation of applicant's past performance on other Federal grants and cooperative agreements.

B. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

The purpose of our proposal review process is to acquire a range of opinions about incoming proposals while reducing paperwork and minimizing the amount of time between when project proposals reach us and when selected proposals are funded. Our goal is to ensure efficient, effective, and responsible project management and to promote fair, inclusive, and open participation. All proposals will be reviewed internally by two Anadromous Fish Restoration Program (AFRP) Habitat Restoration Coordinators (HRCs). This will comprise the entire review process for proposals seeking funding less than $50,000, as the smaller dollar amount is indicative of simple, short duration projects that can be fairly easily evaluated.

The core of the review process for proposals seeking funding greater than $50,000 is our external reviewers who play a role similar to that of an editorial board at scientific journals. External reviewers advise us on the quality of proposals we receive and help us solicit additional reviews if necessary. To benefit from diverse expertise and achieve broad exposure, we have purposely recruited highly competent experts from applicable fields to act as advisors for proposals in their areas of expertise.

Upon receipt of proposals seeking funding greater than $50,000, AFRP will contact two external reviewers and provide them with criteria for review and response forms. The external review process is blind; the external referees will review proposals without knowledge of the identity of potential user. Internal reviewers will know the identities of applicants so that they can use that information to make sure all proposals receive fair consideration. They will weigh the information provided on the response forms to make the final selection for funding.

Potential external reviewers for the Phase I: Mill Creek Riparian Assessment project could include experts from the U.S. Forest Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, California Department of Fish and Game, and/or Natural Resource Conservation Service.

The selection recommendations of the Federal staff will be provided to the RBFWO Project Leader, who is the Selection Official. The Selection Official will make the final award decision. All applicants will be notified of the results of the selection process by the Grants/Agreements Assistant.

C. APPLICANT AND THE USFWS RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Applicant's Responsibilities and Deliverables:

a) Cooperator will provide a proposal and cost breakdown (per detailed instructions in Section VIII).
b) Responsibilities will include data collection, data transfer, maintenance and analysis, conducting data tabulation and analysis, interpretation, and reporting.
c) Applicant will supply all major field and office supplies (computer, office, and sampling gear) to conduct the assessment.
d) Cooperator will complete and provide written permission for access onto private land (post award).
e) Cooperator will provide the following deliverables:

1) Quarterly status updates in electronic PDF format that track contract progress and expenditures by task,

2) A final report in hardcopy, Rich Text Format and PDF Format. The final report will include a) a discussion on the methods and results of the assessment; b) final, detailed maps of the vegetation layers, sites of noxious weed/plants, and a description of areas that could be enhanced/restored/protected, on a prioritized list (restoration priorities) in hard copy and electronic (e.g. GIS layer) form; c) as

applicable, results of meetings with stakeholders and landowners involved with the project; d) final report will include the raw data submitted in an appendix; and e) a draft report will be provided to USFWS within 60 days of the completion of data collection and a final report provided 30 days after receiving final comments from the USFWS. (See VI (C) for more information on reporting requirements).

3) Copies of all planning documents and permits in PDF format.

f) As applicable, cooperator will provide and environmental permits necessary to complete the project. Assume that both NEPA and CEQA compliance will be required. NEPA documentation should be coordinated with USFWS.

Successful applicants shall ensure that the project complies with all applicable Federal, State and local laws and regulations. A successful applicant is ultimately responsible for obtaining all applicable Federal, State and local permits for work to be performed under the award.

The successful applicant will submit requests for reimbursement using Standard Form 270, Request for Reimbursement, no more frequently than monthly. A breakdown of funds spent, by task, must accompany each invoice. Requests for reimbursement will be made on the basis of submission by recipient of acceptable documentation and deliverables as defined by the Service. Ten percent of the total amount of the agreement may be withheld until all requirements of the agreement are accomplished. If 10% is withheld, a final invoice may be submitted for the 10% withheld once all the requirements are approved.

2. USFWS Responsibilities

a) USFWS will provide a science-based technical review of submitted proposal.
b) USFWS will assist the cooperator with technical oversight and review in the role of a technical advisor on the project, during project implementation.
c) USFWS-AFRP will provide funding for the project as proposed in the schedule and budget attached.
d) USFWS-AFRP may provide NEPA/CEQA preparation support, depending on agency staff workload.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. AWARD NOTICE

Successful applicant will be notified after selection and confirmation of available funding, by **June 21, 2010**. An applicant should not initiate a project in expectation of USFWS funding, nor should they purchase materials or begin work until such time as they receive the final award document signed by an authorized Service official.

B. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS:
Federal awards are subject to Federal financial administrative requirements. Please see the following for a particular application.

Type of Recipient	Applicable Guidance
Institutions of Higher Education	OMB Circular 2 CFR Part 215 OMB Circular A-21, Cost Principles 43 CFR Part 12, Subpart D – Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) And Governmentwide Requirements for a Drug Free Workplace 43 CFR Part 12, Subpart E – Buy American Requirements for Assistance Programs 43 CFR Part 18 – New Restrictions on Lobbying 48 CFR Part 31.2 – Contracts with Commercial Organizations (if work will be subcontracted out) 48 CFR Part 52.215.2 – Audit and Records Negotiation
Non-Profit Organizations	OMB Circular 2 CFR Part 215 OMB Circular A-122 Cost Principles OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations 43 CFR Part 12, Subpart D – Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) And Governmentwide Requirements for a Drug Free Workplace 43 CFR Part 12, Subpart E – Buy American Requirements for Assistance Programs 43 CFR Part 18 – New Restrictions on Lobbying 48 CFR Part 31.2 – Contracts with Commercial Organizations (if work will be subcontracted out) 48 CFR Part 52.215.2 – Audit and Records Negotiation

For profit, individuals and others excluded from coverage with OMB Circular A-122	Federal Acquisition Regulations, full text of appropriate clause may be found at http://www.arnet.gov/far 43 CFR Part 18 – New Restrictions on Lobbying 48 CFR Part 31.2 – Contracts with Commercial Organizations 43 CFR Part 12, Subpart E – Buy American Requirements for Assistance Programs
Governments – State, Local, and Federally Recognized Indian tribal governments	OMB Circular A-102 OMB Circular A-87, Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments OMB Circular A-133, Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations 43 CFR Part 12, Subpart E – Buy American Requirements for Assistance Programs 43 CFR Part 18 – New Restrictions on Lobbying 43 CFR Part 12, Subpart D – Governmentwide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) And Governmentwide Requirements for a Drug Free Workplace 48 CFR Part 52.215.2 – Audit and Records Negotiation

C. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

1. Progress Reports:

The cooperator shall submit a written report to the project contact listed in VII. on a quarterly basis in electronic PDF format presenting the activities that occurred and provide a description of the project accomplishments during each quarter of the calendar year beginning with the quarter covering October through December. The reports shall be submitted within 30 days following the end of each quarter.

C. Final reports:

Draft final reports are due no later than 60 days after completion of the project. Final reports will be due 30 days after receipt of Service comments on the draft report. The successful applicant shall submit, within 90 calendar days of completion of the project, a final invoice. The successful applicant shall account for any real and personal property acquired with Federal funds or received from the Federal Government according to requirements of regulations referenced in the award. The final report will be provided in hardcopy and electronic copy, using Adobe PDF or Microsoft Word format, and sent to: (Habitat Restoration Coordinator's mailing and e-mail address. See Section VII.).

VII. AGENCY CONTACT(S)

For questions associated with this project, contact:
Brenda Olson, (federal) Habitat Restoration Coordinator and Fisheries Biologist; Anadromous Fish Restoration Program; Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office, 10950 Tyler Road, Red Bluff, CA 96080; telephone 530-527-3043; fax 530-529-0292; email Brenda_Olson@fws.gov

Another point of contact for the RFP : Tricia Bratcher, Habitat Restoration Coordinator and Staff Environmental Scientist, California Department of Fish and Game; 601 Locust Street, Redding, CA 96001; telephone 530-225-3845; fax 530-225-2381; email pbratcher@dfg.ca.gov.

For questions of an administrative content such as forms completion, and for sending hard copies such as the signature page and written permissions from property owners for access during studies, OR to send a hard copy of the proposal if needed, contact Brenda Olson.

Information on the AFRP is also available electronically at http://www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/afrp. For Grants.gov issues regarding registering or submitting an application, consult the Grants.gov Customer Support on http://www.grants.gov.

VIII. OTHER INFORMATION

Please note that the Federal Government is not obliged to make any awards as result of this announcement, and only official Service grant officers can bind the Government to the expenditure of funds. If you are selected as a Federal grant recipient, the funds you receive may be subject to Federal and other taxes.

A. PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMAT

In addition to the required forms identified in Section IV, a narrative proposal is also required. The following is the format of the proposal, as well as instructions on how to complete the proposal.

1. Project information page:
This proposal is for the 2010 Anadromous Fish Restoration Program
as prepared by: 1) name; 2) proposal title; 3) project duration; 4) lead organization name; 5) enter the name of the agency or institution to whom funds would be awarded; 6) organization contact (please provide information for the primary person responsible for oversight of grant operation, management, and reporting requirements at the lead institution, social title, first name, last name, street address, city, state or province, ZIP Code or mailing code, telephone (include area code and e-mail); 7) lead investigator (is the lead investigator the same as the main contact person? If not please provide information for the primary person responsible for oversight of grant operation, management, and reporting requirements at the lead institution, social title, first name, last name, street address, city, state or province, ZIP Code or mailing code, telephone number and e-mail); and, 8) provide information about additional investigators (last name, first name, organization).

2. Summary or abstract page:
Provide a summary of your project including the following: a brief description of your proposed project, including location objective the restoration action(s) it will monitor, and the approach to implement the proposal expected outcomes relationship to CBDA ERP or CVPIA goals.

3. Proposal description text (please label each page with a page number and proposal name):
a. Problem- describe the problem that the project is designed to address including a brief narrative of the project location. Provide a review of relevant past studies of and solutions (if any) to the problem, here and elsewhere, with appropriate citations of relevant reports. Clearly state the goals, objectives and hypotheses of your proposed study.

b. Approach (scope of work)- provide study design. Describe (where applicable) all sampling, analytical, planning, and construction procedures for each objective as appropriate. Include details on methods and techniques, equipment and facilities, data collection, statistical analysis and quality assurance procedures, and describe the criteria

to be used in hypothesis testing. Clearly identify how your approach maximizes the information richness and value to decision-makers.

c. Feasibility- demonstrate that the described approach is both feasible and appropriate to the proposed work, and that the project can be completed in the time allotted, allowing for weather and other exigencies. Any contingencies or requirements (e.g., dependence on outcome or timing of other projects, dependence on natural or operational conditions, environmental compliance and permitting) must be thoroughly addressed.

d. Project performance evaluation plan (monitoring plan) - For restoration projects the performance evaluation plan is often called a monitoring plan. For most types of projects, project success is determined by measuring activities, outputs, or outcomes. Proposals (if applicable) must describe a monitoring plan that will document changes in the restored habitat over time and the response of salmonids and/or riparian vegetation to the restoration in a scientifically rigorous manner.

e. Permits and agreements- if applicable, explain what permits or agreements are necessary to proceed with the tasks described. Explain the current status of each permit or agreement. Explain any other constraints that could impact the schedule and implementability of the project such as zoning regulations or county planning ordinances. Identify the nature and approach to resolving other outstanding implementation issues.

f. Please see I.D.3. above. Private property access and landowner permission and participation- if applicable, proposals that involve physical actions (e.g., planting vegetation, grading, installing monitoring wells) on private or public lands must provide satisfactory evidence that the landowner is a willing participant in the action. Projects proposed on private property or that require access of private property owned by someone other than the applicant must provide written permission from the property owner. Projects conducted in the field for which specific locations have not been identified in the proposal will be required to provide access needs and permission for access shortly after notification of approval. Failure to include written permission from the property owner may result in disqualification of the proposal. This is another hard copy item that should be sent, along with other hard copy items (such as the signature page), to the AFRP contact person (See Section VII, Agency contacts).

g. Data handling and storage - describe how the data and other information will be handled, stored, and made accessible.

h. Expected products/outcomes - Provide a list of planned reports, presentations, advances in technology, and information transfers via workshops, seminars, education programs, etc.

i. Qualifications. Provide brief biographical sketches of the principal participants, identifying education and relevant experience as well as contributions (e.g., completed projects, published reports on the same topic) consistent with their roles and responsibilities in the proposed project. Explain how these participants provide the range

of expertise in physical and environmental sciences or other disciplines needed to achieve the project's objectives. Specify individual roles and responsibilities regarding technical, administrative, and project management. When subcontractors are identified, explain briefly how they were selected and why. Disclose or discuss any potential problems regarding the principal participants' availability to complete their work within the projected timeline.

4. Work Schedule page:
Identify the start and completion dates of each of the tasks discussed above as well as other key milestones (decisions, testing, etc.). Clearly identify which tasks are considered to be inseparable if only a portion of the project were to be funded. Identify the potential to incrementally fund and implement the proposed scope of work. Identify how payments would relate to milestones, as applicable. Please identify project management as an independent task. Provide an annual time line with expected start and stop dates, and accomplishment of major milestones. Tasks identified in the work schedule should match those shown in the budget.

5. Budget:
Provide a detailed budget showing how requested funds will be used to carry out the project's scope of work. Costs for each major task described in the "Approach (scope of work)" section of your proposal must be presented. A task for project management should include the specific costs associated with insuring accomplishment of a specific project, such as inspection of work in progress, validation of costs, report preparation, response to project specific questions and necessary costs directly associated with specific project oversight. Applicants should also include costs associated with managing project funds, including preparation of quarterly and final reports to the funding agency. Tasks for environmental compliance, monitoring, project design, data handling, storage, and dissemination, and public outreach should also be included as appropriate for your project.

Identify other funding sources for your proposal, the status of these commitments, sources, and any cost-sharing requirements. Successful proposals identifying cost-sharing funds must have commitments of those funds within 30 days after being notified that their proposal has been approved. If you fail to secure the cost-share funds identified in your proposal, your award may be amended or terminated.

Describe funding plans for long-term projects, if appropriate. Suggested format:

Year 1 (Months 1 to 12)

task	labor	benefits	travel	supplies and expendables	services and consultants	equipment	lands and rights of way	other direct costs	direct total	indirect costs	total
totals	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

year 2 (Months 13 to 24)

task	labor	benefits	travel	supplies and expendables	services and consultants	equipment	lands and rights of way	other direct costs	direct total	indirect costs	total
totals	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

Year 3 (Months 25 to 36)

task	labor	benefits	travel	supplies and expendables	services and consultants	equipment	lands and rights of way	other direct costs	direct total	indirect costs	total
totals	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

Project Totals

task	labor	benefits	travel	supplies and expendables	services and consultants	equipment	lands and rights of way	other direct costs	direct total	indirect costs	total
totals	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0

6. Signature page:

The applicant must provide the following declaration with this proposal. Failure to sign and submit this information will result in the application not being considered for funding. The individual must create a one-page sheet with an original signature. This form must be submitted to the Federal HRC identified in Section VII by June 4, 2010. This signature page should declare that all representations in this proposal are truthful, and the individual signing the form is authorized to submit the application on behalf of the applicant (if applicant is an entity or organization). Include proposal title and submitter.

Mill Creek Riparian Habitat Assessment, Phase 1