

NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of the Bureau of Reclamation's intention to fund the following project activities without full and open competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	10SS17FW061
Project Title	Upper Columbia Habitat Improvements – Methow, Wenatchee, Entiat Subbasins
Recipient	Trout Unlimited, Incorporated 1300 North 17th Street, Suite 500 Arlington, VA 22209-3801
Principle Investigator / Program Manager	Lisa Pelly Washington Water Project of Trout Unlimited
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$1,500,000
Cost Share	Not Required
New Award or Continuation?	New Awards
Anticipated Length of Agreement	5 years
Anticipated Period of Performance	June 1, 2010 to December 31, 2014
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
Statutory Authority	Reclamation is conducting the Tributary Habitat Program under Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and Fish and Wildlife Act as delegated from the Secretary of the Interior in Secretarial Order No. 3274 dated September 11, 2007.
CFDA # and Title	15.517 – Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
Single Source Justification Criteria Cited	(4) - Unique Qualifier
Reclamation Point of Contact	By mail: Bureau of Reclamation Pacific Northwest Regional Office Attn: Mr. Bryant Lyndaker 1150 N. Curtis Road Boise, ID 83706 By Phone: 208-378-5138 By E-mail: blyndaker@usbr.gov

OVERVIEW

Background:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is committed to providing assistance to entities that can attend to issues involving fish screening, fish passage, water flow, and channel complexity in specific tributary subbasins of the Columbia River in order to benefit anadromous fish habitat. The Upper Salmon Subbasin is one such subbasin. Reclamation expects to provide assistance to meet specific metric goals that include: (1) fish screens that meet current criteria; (2) spawning and rearing access restored by removal of fish passage barriers; (3) meeting instream flow targets; and (4) increased miles of channel complexity in the Upper Columbia Subbasin.

The kind of habitat improvement activity anticipated includes: reconnecting flood plains, side channel improvements, backwater channel improvements, woody structure and large rock cluster development, deeper pool development, and reconstruction of spawning gravel.

Reclamation seeks the assistance of Trout Unlimited, Inc. (Western Washington Project) (TU-WWP) in bringing about fish habitat improvement projects in the western Washington. The project sponsor will assist Reclamation by identifying potential habitat improvement projects in the subbasin; coordinating fish habitat projects with local constituents; defining the projects for further consideration by Reclamation and other interested parties; participating during project design and construction in an advisory role; and examining the influence of the project on fish habitat after completion of construction.

TU-WWP is a national non-profit organization with project location in Wenatchee, Washington. These activities include enhancement of anadromous habitat in the region. TU-WWP is a significant party for this activity within this region. TU-WWP identifies potential habitat improvement projects; coordinating fish habitat projects with local constituents; defining the projects for further consideration by Reclamation and other interested parties; participating during project design and construction in an advisory role, or construction management as requested; and examining the influence of the project on fish habitat after completion of construction. Funding made available under this Agreement is available for the construction, alteration, or repair of real property as required.

There are up to 7 identified projects anticipated in Fiscal Years 2010-2011 for the Methow, Wenatchee and Entiat subbasins. Separate agreements are contemplated for the Methow Subbasin and the Wenatchee-Entiat subbasins. TU-WWP will develop projects to a point where they can become objectives under this agreement. This will include but not be limited to looking for opportunities to increase stream flows, improve fish screens, remove fish passage barriers, increase irrigation efficiency, and opportunities to improve water and channel complexity conditions. Other projects will be recommended and coordinated with Reclamation during the period of the agreement. On specific projects, TU-WWP is to manage the scope of work, develop contracts, negotiate, and track project-specific objectives. Contract closure, new project development, and on-going adaptive management activities are also included. Initiate preliminary meetings and coordination with various funders preparatory to specific grants. Manage, administer and review work of subcontractors.

Projects currently identified include:

- Chewuch Canal Piping
- Methow Small Tributaries Enhancement - Improvements to diversions and ditch enhancements, with possible alternative water source development
- Methow Fulton Ditch Improvements - piping or a hybrid pipe/lined ditch options
- Methow MVID West Improvements - barrier removals or replacements and piping/lining.
- Lower Wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement – moving location of diversion

- Beaver Creek Point Elimination of Diversion

Total funding anticipated through FY2011 is approximately \$386,000.

Any activity meeting the appropriate criteria and that has been coordinated with the local land owners; and others, within a project area will be presented to Reclamation for potential funding.

The anticipated length of the agreement is 5 years. Subsequent renewal or continuation modifications related to additional funds for any awards as of a result of this Notice of Intent may be entered into without future competition; however, are conditioned upon successful project performance and availability of appropriated funds.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

TU-WWP is responsible for developing fish habitat projects through planning, coordination, landowner outreach, permitting, contract award, construction oversight, or construction management as necessary for project implementation and the evaluation and monitoring of project performance.

RECLAMATION INVOLVEMENT

Reclamation will assist project implementation by providing technical assistance in planning, coordination, design, construction inspection and effectiveness monitoring of habitat implementation work. Reclamation will also approve which projects are to proceed.

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
Department of the Interior Policy (505 DM 2) requires a written justification which explains why competition is not practicable for each single-source award. The justification must address one or more of the following criteria as well as discussion of the program legislative history, unique capabilities of the proposed recipient, and cost-sharing contribution offered by the proposed recipient, as applicable.
In order for an assistance award to be made without competition, the award must satisfy one or more of the following criteria: (1) Unsolicited Proposal – The proposed award is the result of an unsolicited assistance application which represents a unique or innovative idea, method, or approach which is not the subject of a current or planned contract or assistance award, but which is deemed advantageous to the program objectives; (2) Continuation – The activity to be funded is necessary to the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of an activity presently being funded, and for which competition would have a significant adverse effect on the continuity or completion of the activity; (3) Legislative intent – The language in the applicable authorizing legislation or legislative history clearly indicates Congress’ intent to restrict the award to a particular recipient of purpose; (4) Unique Qualifications – The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based upon a variety of demonstrable factors such as location, property ownership, voluntary support capacity, cost-sharing ability if applicable, technical expertise, or other such unique

qualifications;

- (5) Emergencies – Program/award where there is insufficient time available (due to a compelling and unusual urgency, or substantial danger to health or safety) for adequate competitive procedures to be followed.

Reclamation did not solicit full and open competition for this award based the following criteria:

(4) UNIQUE QUALIFICATIONS

TU-WWP, as a national non-profit, works with many partners to sponsor fish habitat protection and passage activities, and works to secure cost-sharing from Federal and non-Federal sources for project construction in this area. TU-WWP has local expertise in the area of the projects. This expertise, knowledge, and experience with local organizations and familiarity with local habitat is important to potential success of proposed projects.

TU-WWP has the technical capacity for this type of work, and currently provides these same services for other Federal and non-Federal entities. Additionally TU-WWP works regularly with Reclamation and the Bonneville Power Administration for this type of work within the project area.

Reclamation does not plan on making these funds available for competition because the TU-WWP is one of a very few non-Federal partners currently providing planning, permitting, construction, construction management and oversight for Federally-funded fish habitat projects within the project area.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 661—666c). Additionally, the Commissioner of Reclamation’s letter, dated October 30, 2007, delegating “Off-site Habitat Improvements” authority to the Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region, Bureau of Reclamation.

The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, 16 U.S.C. § 661, states in part:

[T]o provide that wildlife conservation shall receive equal consideration and be coordinated with other features of water-resource development programs through the effectual and harmonious planning, development, maintenance, and coordination of wildlife conservation and rehabilitation ... the Secretary of the Interior is authorized (1) to provide assistance to, and cooperate with, Federal, State, and public or private agencies and organizations in the development, protection, rearing, and stocking of all species of wildlife, resources thereof, and their habitat, in controlling losses of the same from disease or other causes,

Secretary of the Interior in Secretarial Order No. 3274 dated September 11, 2007, and amendment number 2, dated January 27, 2010 made permanent.

Sec. 4 Delegation. The Assistant Secretary - Water and Science is delegated the authority under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 U.S.C. §§ 661 - 666c); section 5 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1534); and section 7(a) of the Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956 (16 U.S.C. § 742f(a)) that is required to take the actions specified in Sec. 5 below, either directly or by providing financial assistance to non-Federal parties, when the Assistant Secretary determines that such actions are required in order to meet obligations

under subsection 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. § 1536(a)(2)) regarding the construction and/or continued operation and maintenance of any Federal reclamation project located in Reclamation's Pacific Northwest Region. This authority may be further delegated to the Commissioner, Reclamation. It may not be delegated below the Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Region.

Sec. 5 Actions under the Authority Delegated. a. Planning, designing, and constructing, including acquiring lands or interest therein as needed for: (1) fish passage and screening facilities at any non-Federal water diversion or storage project within the Pacific Northwest Region; or (2) projects to create or improve stream habitat; b. Acquiring or leasing water or water rights from willing sellers or lessors; or c. Monitoring or evaluating the effect of Reclamation actions on ESA-listed species.