



Prospectus of Proposed Project Opportunity

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Opportunity Title

Wilson-Haun Wallowa River Project: Restoring Natural Processes for Salmon and Steelhead Habitat (RM 31.1-31.7)

Opportunity Lead

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Technical Contact

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Landowners

Contacted: Yes
Supportive: Yes, the Wilson's are supportive and contributing to the effort.
Contribution: In-kind time: - Technical Input, Technical Review, and Technical Team Participation - Developing other ongoing conservation efforts with other natural resource entities on their project which will overlap with this effort. - Decision-making at all stages of development where the landowner is interested in providing feedback.

River

Name: Wallowa River
Mile: RM 31.1-31.77
Tributary: Grande Ronde

Restoration Atlas

BSR: WMS-1

Tier: Tier 1

Initial Score: 78

Proposed Score: N/A

Restoration Activities

1. Protect Land and Water (Easement, Acquisition, Management)
3. Pool Development
5. Meander (Oxbow) Re-connect - Reconstruction
6. Spawning Gravel Cleaning and Placement
9. Restoration of Floodplain Topography and Vegetation
12. Secondary (non-perennial) Channel
14. Alcove
15. Hyporheic Off-Channel Habitat (Groundwater)
16. Beaver Restoration Management
17. Riparian Fencing
18. Riparian Buffer Strip, Planting
19. Thinning or removal of understory
20. Remove non-native plants
26. Boulder Placement
27. LWD Placement
28. Modification or Removal of Bank Armoring
30. Acquire Instream Flow (Lease- Purchase)
31. Improve Thermal Refugia (spring reconnect, other)
34. Upland Vegetation Treatment - Management

Species Affected

Focal: Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook(ESA-Listed), Snake River Summer Steelhead (ESA-listed), Bull Trout (ESA-listed)

Other: Lamprey(inferred), Columbia Spotted Frog (assumed but not verified), Potential future of Sockeye - historically important for tribes and early settlers, Assemblage of native freshwater species. (e.g., sculpin, Mountain Whitefish, dace, pikeminnow, suckers, etc.)

Description

The Wilson-Haun property's floodplain habitats are not in proper functioning ecological condition (hydrologic, geomorphic, and vegetative composition), due to historic anthropogenic influences including beaver trapping, overgrazing, logging, and road/ditch/levee/structure building. The overall project goal is to achieve proper ecological form and function of this reach and its floodplain and meadow habitats, thereby improving spawning and rearing habitat for several listed fish populations, and ecosystem function for other focal aquatic and terrestrial species. Specifically, for this Technical Assistance Request, the project team would like to secure funding

to support the technical and engineering components needed for project planning and design.

Objectives

High-Level Objective: Secure a design/engineering firm and work with the firm, project core team and project technical team to develop and select a design alternative for floodplain and in-stream habitat restoration. Develop the chosen alternative to implementation-ready design level - 100%. This objective will be broken into a set of goals, objectives and tasks in the full proposal for TA funding. The full proposal for funding will include overall project objectives related to intended hydrological uplift, geomorphic uplift, and biological uplift.

Major Risks

The downstream neighbor runs a feedlot that is in the river's floodplain. An important aspect to any habitat work in the Wilson-Haun reach will be to mitigate the risk of flooding the feedlot.

There should be plenty of expertise on the project teams to effectively mitigate this risk.

Permits and Consultation

ESA Section 7 USFWS: Applicable
ESA Section 7 NMFS: Applicable
COE or DSL Permit: Applicable
Cultural Resources Section 106: Applicable
DEQ 401 Water Quality Permit: Applicable

Project Schedule

Year: 2022

Monitoring: The project team (and landowner) is already engaged in drone and ground based photo monitoring. The project will develop a monitoring and adaptive management plan that meets the scope and scale of the restoration techniques applied.

Project Relations

Multi-phase Effort: Yes
Phase Description: Design Phase Phase 1: Implementation Phase 2: Implementation - Driven by Adaptive Management - The project team will develop an adaptive management plan that specifically details the possibility of certain techniques and approaches applied through a phase 2 of implementation. The choice as to whether or not to enter for a second

phase of treatment will be driven by the study of successes and outcomes from Phase 1.

Could Phase 1 be a Stand Alone Project: True

Would the project lose value if future phases don't happen: Phase 1 will provide in-stream and floodplain ecological benefit. If the project team decides to pursue a future phase, and for some reason cannot (funding, etc.), the benefits from the first phase will continue to improve the ecological trajectory of the system.

Preliminary Cost Estimate

Total: 90,000

BPA Funding: 90,000

OWEB Funding:

Design Funding

Design Funds Requested: Yes

Design Option: Option 2

Type of Work:

- Technical project management

- River and stream data acquisition (hydrology, sediment, surveying, assessment, fisheries)

- Hydrology, geomorphology, or river hydraulic modeling

- Stream and fisheries habitat design

- Stream and fisheries habitat restoration contract - construction plan and specification development

- Stream and fisheries habitat restoration construction quality assurance, management, and inspection

Specialties:

- Stream restoration engineer

- Fluvial geomorphologist

- Riparian ecologist

- Supervisor

- Project manager