Prospectus of Proposed Project Opportunity

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Opportunity Title

Lostine River - River Mile 5.7 Floodplain and Side Channel Enhancement Project

Opportunity Lead

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Contacted: Yes
Supportive: Yes
Contribution: All 10 landowners have agreed to allow restoration planning to occur on their properties.

River

Name: Lostine River
Mile: RM 5.7 - RM 6.3
Tributary: Wallowa River

Restoration Atlas

BSR: WLL-3
Tier: Tier 1
Initial Score: Not complete.
Proposed Score: Not certain.

Restoration Activities

1. Protect Land and Water (Easement, Acquisition, Management)
2. Channel Reconstruction
3. Pool Development

7. Levee Modification: Removal, Setback, Breach
8. Remove - Relocate Floodplain Infrastructure
9. Restoration of Floodplain Topography and Vegetation
11. Perennial Side Channel
12. Secondary (non-perennial) Channel
14. Alcove
15. Hyporheic Off-Channel Habitat (Groundwater)
17. Riparian Fencing
18. Riparian Buffer Strip, Planting
20. Remove non-native plants
24. Addition of organic and inorganic nutrients
27. LWD Placement
28. Modification or Removal of Bank Armoring
29. Restore banklines with LWD - Bioengineering
31. Improve Thermal Refugia (spring reconnect, other)

Species Affected

Focal: Snake River Spring Chinook Salmon, Snake River Summer Steelhead, Bull Trout, Lamprey.
Other: Resident trout, Columbia Spotted Frog, and other aquatic species.

Description

The project site is located between Lostine River miles 5.7 and 6.3 in the town of Lostine, Wallowa County, Oregon. Within this reach the stream course and drainage patterns have been simplified and severely altered as a result of agricultural practices, road construction, flood control, and residential development. The channel lacks habitat complexity and, as a result, contains limited spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead and Chinook salmon. There are few pools resulting in a limited amount of slow water holding habitat where migrating salmonids can rest. The sinuosity is low and the river is entrenched significantly limiting connectivity to the historic floodplain.

Goal: Develop a watershed restoration project that will improve fisheries habitat, reconnect the Lostine River to its historic floodplain, enhance riparian conditions, and improve water quality in the Lostine River as currently identified in regional planning documents from both aquatic habitat and water quality perspectives.

Objectives

1. Procure a consulting firm to help the project team design a restoration project that will improve aquatic habitat and water quality conditions in the project area on or before September 2020. Deliverables include: 1. Pre-design report complete with restoration options, 2. Final design, and 3. Construction bid documents.
2. Obtain all environmental compliance documentation on or before

September 2020 including completed ESA consultation, removal/fill permits from both Oregon DSL and Army Corps' of Engineers, completed cultural resources compliance with authorization from Oregon Historic Preservation Office, Nez Perce Tribe, and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.
3. To the extent practical prepare a restoration project that adheres to stakeholder desires including: 1. Funding source objectives, 2. Regulatory requirements, and 3. Landowner constraints and incentive.
4. On or before September 2020 have all technical assistance phase deliverables in hand, preparing the project team to apply for restoration funding in the fall of 2020, with construction planned in 2021.

Major Risks

Our major barrier to implementation is the coordination of 10-landowners in the project area. Our strategy to overcome this barrier is to keep all stakeholders engaged early and often during the project design phase. Stakeholders include landowners, fishery managers, regulatory agencies, and project leadership partners.

Note: At this time Wallowa Atlas does not have a feasibility matrix.

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: 2020

Monitoring: Monitoring will include vegetation success, channel and side channel characteristics, photo points, pool characteristics, bank stability, and floodplain connectivity.

Project Relations

Multi-phase Effort: Yes
Phase Description: Phase 1: Implementation 2019 and is design, EC and coordination. Phase 2: Implementation in 2020 and/or 2021 and will be construction.
Could Phase 1 be a Stand Alone Project: True
Would the project lose value if future phases don't happen: Restoration value is improved by phasing the project. Entering construction will completed design and EC activities including stakeholder coordination improves the likelihood of construction success.

Preliminary Cost Estimate

Total: $100,000
BPA Funding: $25,000
OWEB Funding: $0

Design Funding

Design Funds Requested: Yes
Design Option: Option 1
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
Fisheries biologist
Suveryor
GIS specialist