

San Juan County Lead Entity – Salmon Recovery

Barbara Rosenkotter, Lead Entity Coordinator

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Request for Proposals

San Juan County is seeking a qualified contractor to assist the Lead Entity in synthesizing, analyzing, and displaying key data layers that will lead to identifying and prioritizing protection and restoration actions that benefit salmon recovery.

Background

The goal of salmon recovery in the San Juan Islands is to sustain the environmental conditions that ensure the continued existence of wild salmon. This goal is to be achieved by protecting existing freshwater and saltwater habitats and processes and restoring habitats to meet the needs of fish. WRIA2 has adopted an ecological process-based approach as the best way to ensure the ultimate recovery of salmon populations in the Puget Sound.

The San Juan Islands' Salmon Recovery Plan therefore links upland, shoreline and marine areas. The plan recommends protection and restoration strategies based upon hypotheses about potential fish use. Habitats and habitat forming processes important to protect include: shoreline sediment transport processes and features (banks and bluffs), freshwater inputs, eelgrass meadows, tidal marshes and sand spits, beaches and backshore areas, water quality, forage fish spawning beaches, and kelp beds. The main habitat strategy is to improve protection of habitat functions and processes through better mapping and monitoring of key habitat elements including shoreline morphology, streams and wetlands, water quality, eelgrass meadows, tidal marshes, riparian areas and kelp beds.

Project Description

Over the last few years, WRIA2 has concentrated on performing assessments necessary to fill critical data gaps to document the important habitats in the San Juans and to have a better understanding of how, when and where salmon are utilizing San Juan County's shorelines, fresh and marine waters. WRIA2 has now reached the point where these important assessments have been completed. An assessment and mapping of modifications to the shoreline have also been completed. The next step is to bring these various assessments and data sets together and to analyze and use the assessment information to create a tool for prioritizing protection and restoration actions for San Juan County. The results of the analysis will then be incorporated to update the local work plan.

The objective of this project is to apply the science now available to identify and prioritize the best opportunities for protection and restoration of WRIA2's freshwater and nearshore areas. The development of a restoration and protection plan will create a common understanding of priorities and direct efforts toward local projects that are critical to the recovery of salmon. Projects will be prioritized and sequenced in a manner consistent with local and regional recovery planning.

Scope of Work

Develop methodology to identify and prioritize restoration and protection actions.

Document why methodology was chosen and why the approach supports salmon recovery, i.e. benefits salmon.

Identify geographic locations that should be considered for protection or restoration. This will include spatial areas and may also include point or parcel locations.

Use key data layers to develop a modeling tool to evaluate and prioritize protection and restoration actions:

- SJC Shoreline Modification Inventory (Source: Friends of the San Juans)
- PSNERP Change Analysis Tiers 1-4 (Source: PSNERP team)
- SJC Juvenile salmon utilization (Source: Skagit River System Cooperative and NOAA)
Note: Data available end of 2010.
- SJC Feeder bluffs (Source: Friends of the San Juans and Coastal Geologic Services)
- SJC Forage fish beaches - documented and potential (Source: Friends of the San Juans and WDFW)
- SJC Kelp (Source: Friends of the San Juans and WDNR)
- SJC Eelgrass (Source: Friends of the San Juans and WDNR)
- SJC Herring (Source: Friends of the San Juans and WDFW)
- SJC Coastal Wetlands (Source: Digitized 1973 Bauer shoreform and 1982 Kunze wetlands associated with shorelines inventories)
- SJC Wetlands (Source: National Wetlands Inventory)
- SJC Stream Typing - for Orcas and San Juan *Note: Lopez, Shaw and Waldron in progress* (Source: Wild Fish Conservancy and WDNR)

Questions / Queries of data:

1) For Broader Scale Analysis

Apply methodology to identify Very High, High, Medium and Low priority freshwater and nearshore geographic locations.

a) Protection areas:

- i) What are the ranked locations in San Juan County for salmon habitat?
- ii) What are the ranked locations in San Juan County that support salmon prey / food web?
- iii) What are the ranked locations in San Juan County that support key functions and processes?

b) Restoration areas:

- i) What are the ranked locations in San Juan County for salmon habitat that are impacted by modifications?
- ii) What are the ranked locations in San Juan County that support salmon prey / food web that are impacted by modifications?
- iii) What are the ranked locations in San Juan County that support key functions and processes that are impacted by modifications?

2) For Finer Scale Analysis:

After completing Broader Scale Analysis, from the Very High and High freshwater and nearshore locations compile a list of potential protection and restoration sites.

- a) What important sites in San Juan County are identified for protection based on results of Broader Scale analysis?
- b) What important sites in San Juan County are identified for restoration based on results of Broader Scale analysis?

Provide a certainty analysis and stress test the model, i.e. adjust parameters to determine how results change to test reliability of model.

Deliverables

- Participate in meetings with local project Implementation Team such as the Lead Entity Coordinator, Salmon Technical Advisory Group (TAG), and MRC Salmon Subcommittee members. The purpose of these meetings is to provide feedback on draft model and products, to clarify and resolve questions, and ensure results and deliverables are meeting project need. Estimate a minimum of 3 meetings will be needed.
- Provide draft products for Implementation Team review.

- Identification of prioritized locations, i.e. freshwater reaches and nearshore areas (for example PSNERP's or Shore Zone's Assessment Units) for protection actions.
 - Very high priority locations for freshwater and nearshore
 - High priority locations for freshwater and nearshore
 - Medium priority locations for freshwater and nearshore
 - Low priority locations for freshwater and nearshore
- Identification of prioritized locations, i.e. freshwater reaches and nearshore areas (for example PSNERP's or Shore Zone's Assessment Units) for restoration actions.
 - Very high priority locations for freshwater and nearshore
 - High priority locations for freshwater and nearshore
 - Medium priority locations for freshwater and nearshore
 - Low priority locations for freshwater and nearshore
- Provide Modeling Tool using the key data layers. The tool can then be used locally for future analysis so that additional queries can be run as needed to update the local restoration and protection priorities and actions when new data becomes available.
- List of site-based potential protection and restoration actions and projects.
- Certainty analysis, usually expressed as a percentage confidence in the analytical result.
- Documented results of stress testing.
- Host workshops in the San Juans to report on results of project.

Proposed Project Steps	
Review data layers	
Identify criteria for rating scale, i.e. very high, high, medium, low	Report and review point with local Implementation Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review meeting with local Implementation Team 	
Perform Broader Scale Analysis - Develop maps rating (prioritizing) freshwater and shoreline locations into V High, High, Med, Low for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protection actions and - Restoration actions 	
Draft Report of Broader Scale Analysis	Report and review point with local Implementation Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review meeting with local Implementation Team 	
Final Report of Broader Scale Analysis	
Local workshop presenting results of Broader Scale Analysis	
Perform Finer Scale Analysis of V. High and High rated Protection and Restoration locations	
Draft Report of Finer Scale Analysis	Report and review point with local Implementation Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Review meeting with local Implementation Team 	
Final Report of Finer Scale Analysis	
Modeling Tool delivered	
Local workshop providing overview of Broader Scale and Finer Scale Analyses	

Deliverables Due Date

It is necessary that the results of at least the Broader Scale Analysis be available by December 2011, or earlier. If needed, the Finer Scale Analysis and Modeling Tool can be delivered in 2012.

Budget

Per the Salmon Recovery Funding Board's policies, 15% match is required on the total amount of the project. The cost of the project that is available to be funded via this funding source is not to exceed \$160,000. For example, if the total project costs are \$160,000 then the match amount must be at least \$24,000 and the amount requested would be \$136,000. The match can be in-kind or donated and must be documented as such. The contractor match must be included in the proposed budget total.

Qualifications

Describe your experience managing this type of project. List the names, qualifications, roles and responsibilities for staff and consultants who will be implementing the project.

Proposals Must Include

- Proposed methodology or approach to analyze data layers and development of prioritization criteria.
- Proposed tasks and timeline for project.
- Names, experience and qualifications of principal staff.
- Budget with rates of pay and allocation of staff to tasks.
- Budget must also include documented match.
- Statement of ability to meet project timelines.
- Completion of Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Manual 18 Assessment Proposal documents along with responses to this RFP submitted in PRISM (see process and schedule below.)

Proposals must be submitted in Word format no later than 5:00pm, Monday, May 24, 2010 by email to Barbara Rosenkotter.

Application Process and Schedule

The project will be funded via the 2010 Salmon Recovery Funding Board grant round for WRIA2. The process and timeline for the grant round and the RFP process are outlined below.

May 24 Applications Due – Proposals must be submitted to Barbara Rosenkotter in Word format and an application must also be entered in the Recreation and Conservation Office's (RCO) PRISM system. Responses to the RFP, i.e. the proposal document, should also be submitted as an attachment in the PRISM application. Please see Application information requirements from Manual 18. The SRFB Policy Manual 18 which includes application information and forms is available at: http://www.rco.wa.gov/doc_pages/index.shtml

Additional clarification for entering project in PRISM: The project is started in PRISM via the new application wizard including the project name, project type (in this case = Planning) and sponsor contact information, i.e. your organization. Then attach the RFP response document in place of completing any additional application information in PRISM.

June 18 – Each proponent will provide a presentation based on their response to the RFP. The audience is the SRFB Review Panel, TAG, and MRC / Salmon Citizens Advisory Group (CAG) members.

June 25 - Joint TAG and MRC Salmon Subcommittee meeting to evaluate applications and select consultant.

July 2 Final Proposals Due – If needed, any updates to final proposals by the selected consultant and the Lead Entity are due in PRISM by end of day.

July 7 – 8:30-10:30am - Joint TAG and MRC (CAG) meeting where the TAG and MRC Salmon Subcommittee present to the MRC their final scoring and recommendations for the 2010 SRFB grant applications. The MRC as the CAG finalizes scoring on the proposals and adopts a final ranked list of projects.

Contracting can proceed with RCO once the SRFB Review Panel has also approved the project which could occur as early as November 2010 up through early 2011.

Further Information

For more information contact Barbara Rosenkotter, barbarar@sanjuanco.com, 360-370-7593