Ninemile Creek Riparian Restoration Project

Trout Unlimited-Washington Water Project

13th Round Funding Cycle
June 29, 2012

Anticipated Request from Tributary Committee:	**$ 0.00**
Anticipated Request from SRFB:	**$ 161,131.00**
Anticipated Total Request:	**$ 161,131.00**
Anticipated Other Contributions/Match :	$ 29,170.00
Anticipated TOTAL Project Budget:	$ **190,301.00**

From the Regional Technical Team:

Ninemile Creek Riparian Restoration Project

Presenter: Aaron Penvose, Trout Unlimited

Questions/comments:

1. In the pre-proposal, there was no match identified in the budget.

Answer:

1. **A match is identified in the revised budget.**

From the Salmon Recovery Funding Board Comment Form:

Draft comments based on pre-application materials and site visit:
Relatively low gradient stream habitat is rare in this stretch of the Okanogan and this project offers a unique opportunity to restore steelhead habitat from RM 1.5 to approximately 7.0 that was secured with other funds. The sponsor is to be commended for securing such a valuable habitat area from a long time farming family. While the project is excellent in concept, the final application would be greatly strengthened by addressing the following questions:

- Please clarify the proposal text describing the specific work to be done. How many stream crossings will be removed vs. replaced? The proposal states three replacements but on the site visit some crossing removals were mentioned.
    - **The proposal is to completely replace to old dilapidate road crossings on the property to improve passage and decrease sedimentation in Ninemile Creek. The third stream crossing on the property will be improved with a lower cost technique: a hardened crossing. We believe because this crossing is used less frequently, a hard crossing is a better design that will meets the projects objectives of decreased sediment and stream disturbance and provides a suitable location for stock watering with significantly less impact on the resource.**

- Please describe in more detail the "soft restoration"… revetments are not considered soft. Are "biologs" the same as habitat logs or in-stream wood? A few carefully placed logs that are channel spanning would go a long way to capture fine sediment and allow for shoreline areas to re-vegetate native woody vegetation through natural recruitment or strategically placed cuttings. Please provide a map or plan view schematic showing where, how many and how large an area or stream length is proposed for treatment, and what actions are proposed.
    - **This component of the proposal has been removed. TU believes at this time the best approach is to fence the impacted area, preventing further damage and allowing the creek to rehabilitate itself.**
    - **"Biologs" are coconut fiber logs sometimes used in restoration, probably the same as habitat logs. If the stream doesn't respond quickly we may revisit this approach, but not at this time.**

- What is known about the likelihood of success of the shallow wells proposed?

- **This component has also been removed from the proposal. Instead we are going to rehabilitate one existing water trough, served by a spring on the north side of the creek and we are going to gate the hard crossing on both sides to provided water access to stock on both sides of the creek. This approach will keep project cost down, provide certainty of water and confine impact to the creek to a very small area.**

- Explain the next step if the initial effort to develop 2 wells does not succeed.
  - **–See above**

- How will the project proceed to exclude the cows from the creek?
  - **The entire riparian area is going to be fenced off and excluded from cattle, except at the hard crossing. This will keep impact from the stock to bare minimum.**

- Adjust the budget to ensure the proposed restoration project provides at least a 15% cost match.
  - **The match has been identified and the budget has been reworked to reflect actual cost estimates, including match.**

SRFB/TRIB Proposal Checklist

Project Title: Ninemile Creek Riparian Restoration Project

Proposal Contents	Page of Application
A) Title Page: includes sponsor, project title, and funding request	1
B) Summary of project changes since pre-proposal	2
C) Checklist – yes, this checklist or a similar one specific to your proposal	3
D) Scope of Work (1) Project Overview (2) Salmon Recovery Context (3) Citations (please don't include entire reports as attachments; rather summarize and reference) (4) Project Design (5) Project Development (6) Tasks and Schedule (7) Constraints and Uncertainties (8) Cost Estimate	4-9
E) Supplemental Questions (see SRFB guidance)	N/A
F) Maps (general vicinity and work site)	10
G) Project Photos	11
H) Reports (if possible, please summarize and reference in scope of work rather than attaching entire reports)	N/A
I) Long-Term Stewardship Plan	N/A
J) Landowner Acknowledgement Form(s)	12
K) Permits	N/A
L) Fish Barrier Form	N/A
M) Other Materials (please list additional materials specific to your project) Designs, graphs, parcel maps, tables, letters of support, etc.	N/A

1. Project Overview

A. Describe the primary goal and objectives of this project. When answering this question please refer to chapter 4 of the *Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines* for a definition of restoration goals and objectives. Link to *Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines* wdfw.wa.gov/publications/pub.php?id=00043

The primary objective of this project is to eliminate historic riparian disturbances on Ninemile Creek. The goal of this project is to let the riparian area heal, ensure passage and road crossings and decrease sediment load in the creek.

B. Describe the location of the project in the watershed, including the name of the water body(ies), upper and lower extent of the project (if only a portion of the watershed is targeted), and whether the project occurs in the near-shore, estuary, main stem, tributary, off channel, or other location.

This project is located in Okanogan County, Washington. Ninemile Creek is the northern most tributary to Lake Osyoos and the Okanogan River in the United States. The legal description for the property is: Section 11; Section 12; Section 13 and Section 14, Township 40 N, Range 28 E., within WRIA 49.

C. Is the project located on state owned aquatic lands? Please refer to page 20 of this manual for information on state owned aquatic lands and who to contact at the Washington Department of Natural Resources for assistance.

N/A

D. Provide an overview of current project site conditions and the nature, source, and extent of salmon recovery problem(s) that the project will address. Include current and historic factors important to understanding the need for this project. Be specific – avoid general statements. (acquisition, fish passage, diversions, and screening projects should refer to the supplemental questions later in this worksheet for information to include in the problem statement.) When possible, list your sources of information by citing specific studies, reports, and other documents.

The nature of the problem on the property where work will be conducted is longstanding agricultural operations. These operations included management of over 1,500 head of cattle and over 340 acres of irrigated land to support these operations. Over the last several years the landowner has changed the land management objectives for the property from heavy agriculture to conservation. Since 2009, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has been working with the landowner to purchase portions of the over 3,600 acre ranch and in late 2010 closed on the final piece of the land protection, which includes a 750 acre life estate of the main homestead ground and the agricultural area. Upon completion of the land work with WDFW, Trout Unlimited (TU) began working with the landowner on water management of the property, beginning with an annual lease in 2011.

In early 2012, TU closed a deal with the landowner and WDFW that permanently restricts surface diversion from Ninemile Creek, decreases irrigable acres from 340 to 203 and improvesirrigation efficiency on approximately 90 acres.

These actions by the landowner, WDFW and TU have set the stage for complete reconnection and restoration of the Ninemile Sub-Basin from stream-mile 1.5 to ~ 7.0, where a natural fall restricts further passage of anandromous species. Further restoration efforts maybe needed, but this proposals aims to get at the root causes for historic degradation, improve those areas and the conditions and provide passage to quality habitat upstream of the degraded agriculture lands.

The focal species of Ninemile Creek restoration efforts are identified in the Okanogan Sub-basin Plan as: summer steelhead, secondarily Sockeye salmon, and summer/fall Chinook salmon. Summer Steelhead are observed annually in Ninemile creek and addressing limiting factors represents an opportunity to restore important spawning and rearing habitat. Among the limiting factors are: sediment, temperature, loss of habitat diversity and lost floodplain connectivity. The Sub-basin Plan identifies following, "the highest priority for this watershed is…to locate and protect spawning and rearing areas, maintain or improve flows, and reduce fine sediments." This proposal supplements the land and water protection priorities that have been completed by WDFW and TU, and by addressing anthropogenic related passage issues on the agricultural lands this proposal will further improve spawning and rearing in the Creek.

E. Provide a detailed description of the proposed project, including project size, scope, design, and how it will address the problem(s) described above. Describe specific restoration methods and design elements you plan to employ. (Acquisition-only projects need not respond to this question.)

We will improve passage by removing dilapidated crossings with velocity barrier and erosion issues and replace them with bottomless box culverts. We will restore approximately 1.5 miles of riparian area by fencing the stock exposed riparian area. This will allow the creek to heal itself and significantly improve the riparian area. This project is located on private property and WDFW property in Okanogan County, near Oroville. Ninemile Creek is the northernmost tributary to Lake Osyoos and the Okanogan River in the United States. This proposal affect Ninemile Creek from RM 1.5 to 4.0 up to ~ 7.0, work will be conducted from RM 2.0 to 3.0 within the agricultural area of the property. Please see attached map. The legal description for the property is: Section 11; Section 12; Section 13 and Section 14, Township 40 N, Range 28 E., within WRIA 49.

F. If restoration or acquisition will occur in phases or is part of a larger recovery strategy, describe the goal of the overall strategy, explain individual sequencing steps, and which of these steps is included in this application.

N/A -This is the final phase of restoration and follows land protection by WDFW and instream flow protection/restoration by Trout Unlimited.

G. Describe the long-term stewardship and maintenance obligations for the project or acquired land. For acquisition and combination projects, identify any planned use of the property, including upland areas.

WDFW, Trout Unlimited and the Landowner are all committed to the stewardship of this property and the work that has been done and will be doing.

H. Has any part of this project previously been reviewed or funded by the SRFB? If yes, please provide the project name and SRFB project number

(or year of application if a project number is not available). If the project was withdrawn from funding consideration or not awarded SRFB funding, please describe how the current proposal differs from the original.

N/A

2. Salmon Recovery Context

A. Describe the fish resources present at the site and targeted by this project.

The focal species of Ninemile Creek restoration efforts are identified in the Okanogan Sub-basin Plan as: summer steelhead, secondarily Sockeye salmon, and summer/fall Chinook salmon. Summer Steelhead are observed annually in Ninemile creek and addressing limiting factors represents an opportunity to restore important spawning and rearing habitat. Among the limiting factors are: sediment, temperature, loss of habitat diversity and lost floodplain connectivity. The Sub-basin Plan identifies following, "the highest priority for this watershed is…to locate and protect spawning and rearing areas, maintain or improve flows, and reduce fine sediments." This proposal supplements the land and water protection priorities that have been completed by WDFW and TU, and by addressing anthropogenic related passage issues on the agricultural lands this proposal will further improve spawning and rearing in the Creek.

Species	Life History Present (egg, juvenile, adult)	Current Population Trend (decline, stable, rising)	ESA Coverage (Y/N)	Life History Target (egg, juvenile, adult)
Steelhead	Yes	Rising	Y	ALL

B. Discuss how this project fits within your regional recovery plan or local lead entity strategy to restore or protect salmonid habitat in the watershed (i.e., does the project address a priority action, occur in a priority area, or target priority fish species?).

Okanogan Sub-basin Plan as: summer steelhead, secondarily Sockeye salmon, and summer/fall Chinook salmon. Summer Steelhead are observed annually in Ninemile creek and addressing limiting factors represents an opportunity to restore important spawning and rearing habitat. Among the limiting factors are: sediment, temperature, loss of habitat diversity and lost floodplain connectivity. The Subbasin Plan identifies following, "the highest priority for this watershed is…to locate and protect spawning and rearing areas, maintain or improve flows, and reduce fine sediments."

C. Explain why it is important to do this project now instead of at a later date. Consider its sequence relative to other needs in the watershed and the current level and imminence of risk to habitat in your discussion.

This is an opportunistic project; TU has spent the last two years building a relationship with landowner and has garnered the trust. This project needs to be completed as soon as funding is available. There is not a sequencing issue related to this project and the benefit of completing the work is important while the opportunity exists.

3. Design and Implementation Questions for Restoration Projects (Acquisition-only projects need not respond to these questions.)

A. Will the project design be (or has it been) developed by a licensed professional engineer? If your project will not be designed by a professional engineer, please describe the qualifications and experience of your project design team.

Yes, the work with bottomless boxes will be completed by the Colville Confederated Tribes engineer.

B. Describe your experience managing this type of project. Please describe other projects where you have successfully used a similar approach.

I have been doing habitat restoration work for over a decade and currently manage dozensof projects, which includes managing consultants and engineers. The design work needed for the box culverts will be conducted by an engineer.

C Please describe who will provide construction management for the project.

Trout Unlimited and the Colville Confederate Tribe.

D. The design process for restoration projects is expected to follow that described in Appendix D1-4.

N/A- It does not differ.

E. As-built drawings must be prepared if changes are made to the final design during construction and if the sponsor is using a design-build construction approach. Describe how you anticipate documenting as-built conditions.
We will be on site during instillation and will record activities, specs and dimensions.

F. Describe other approaches, opportunities, and design alternatives that were considered to achieve the project's objectives and why the preferred alternative was selected.

N/A

G. Have members of the community, recreational user groups, adjacent landowners, or others been contacted about this project? Describe any public safety or other concerns about the project raised from these contacts and how those concerns were or will be addressed.

N/A- There are no "safety" concerns.

4. Project Development

A. Explain how the project's cost estimates were determined. Please include a detailed project cost estimate and attach in PRISM. Clearly label the attachment in PRISM "Cost Estimate."

The cost estimate is based on real costs from contractors.

B. Include a Partner Contribution Form (Appendix J), when required, from each partner outlining the partner's role and contribution to the project. Refer to Section 3 of this manual for information on when a Partner Contribution Form is required.

N/A-TU is sole manager of project.

C. List all landowner names. If the proposed project occurs on land not owned by the grant applicant, attach a signed Landowner Acknowledgement Form (Appendix K) in PRISM, when applicable, from each landowner acknowledging that his or her property is proposed

for SRFB funding consideration. Refer to Section 3 of this manual for information on when a Landowner Acknowledgement Form is required.

Acknowledgement form is attached at bottom.

5. Tasks and Schedule

A. List and describe the major tasks and time schedule you will use to complete the project.

Item	Cost P/Unit	Funding Request	Landowner donated/other	Schedule
Riparian Fencing	$2.25 p/foot installed	$30,888.00	N/A	May 1st, 2013
2 Box Culverts Delivered and installed	$57,559 p/bridge installed	$115,118.00	$5,500 site prep	August 15th 2013
1 Hard Crossing with gates	$5,125 p/site installed	$5,125.00	$1,500 site prep	August 15th 2013
Watering facility rehabilitation w/ trough	$2,500 p/site	$2,500.00	$750 deconstruction/prep	May 1st, 2013
Physical Diversion Removal	$1,950 p/removal		$1,950 removal	May 1st , 2013
Colville TA	$75 p/hour		$3,750.00	
Management, Permitting, In kind	$50 p/hour	$7,500.00	$15,720.00	
Total		**$161,131.00**	**$29,170.00**	

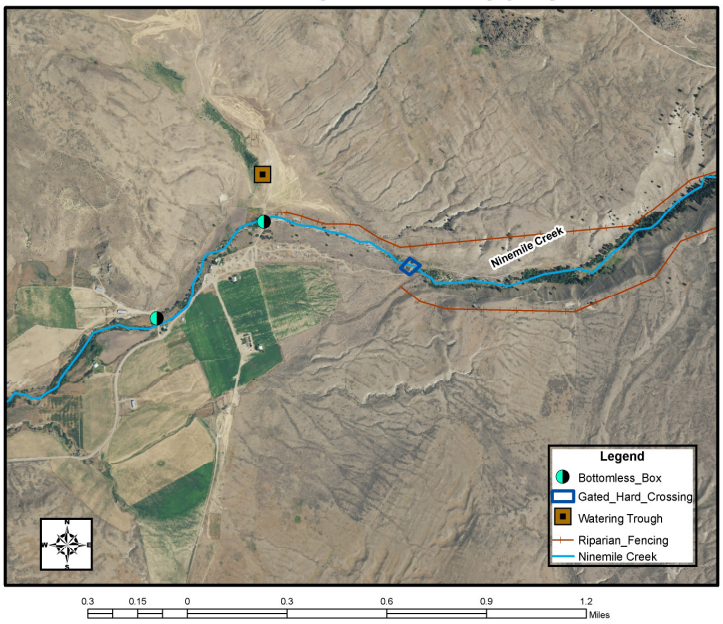
Constraints and Uncertainties

A. Each project should include an adaptive management approach that provides for contingency planning. State any constraints, uncertainties, possible problems, delays, or unanticipated expenses that may hinder completion of the project. Explain how you will address these issues as they arise and their likely impact on the project.

There are no constraints or uncertainties that can be identified at this time.

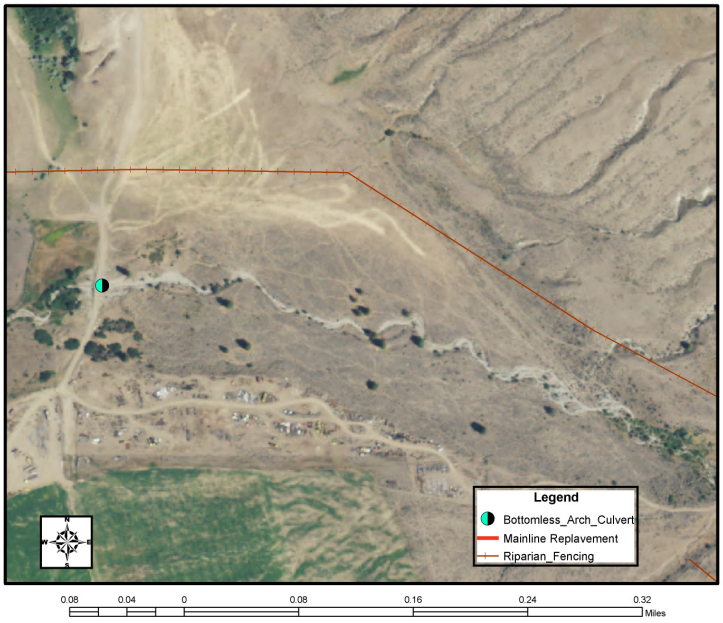
Aerial photo with proposed actions

NINEMILE CREEK PROJECT



Overview Aerial

NINEMILE CREEK PROJECT



Upstream Habitat

Crossing number 2, big culvert chute

Landowner Information

Name of Landowner: Charles Eder Jr.
Landowner Contact Information:
☒ Mr. ☐ Ms. Title:
First Name: Charles Last Name: Eder, Jr
Contact Mailing Address:227 D Eder Road
Oroville, WA 98844
Contact E-Mail Address: N/A
Property Address or Location: 227 D Eder Road
Oroville, WA 98844

1. (Landowner or Organization) is the legal owner of property described in this grant application.
2. I am aware that the project is being proposed on my property.
3. If the grant is successfully awarded, I will be contacted and asked to engage in negotiations.
4. My signature does not represent authorization of project implementation.

Charles Eder Jr 6/23/12

Landowner Signature Date

Project Sponsor Information

Project Name:Trout Unlimited - Washington Water Project
Project Applicant Contact Information:
☒ Mr. ☐ Ms. Title Project Manager
First Name: Aaron Last Name: Penvose
Mailing Address:103 Palouse Suite 14
Wenatchee, WA 98801
E-Mail Address: apenvose@tu.org