

Project Pre-Application

(Please use the Up, Down, Left & Right Arrows to move from Field to Field)

Project Title: *Assessment of Barriers, Landowner Interest in Conservation Easements and/or Improving Channel and Floodplain Connections in Alpowa Creek.*

Submitting Organization: *WRIA 35 - Asotin PUD*

Project Contact Information

(Complete for each contact)

For additional Contact Info Sheets go to:

<http://www.snakeriverboard.org/leadentity/applicationdocs.html>

Mrs. Ms. First Name: Bradley

Last Name: Johnson

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Project Locations: Provide a brief description of the project location including watershed, stream reach and position in watershed. The portion of project dealing with assessing barriers and private landowner interest in Permanent Conservation Easements will be working with 12 private landowners on Alpowa Creek that are CREP eligible and/or maintaining the benefits of on-going CREP contracts with a permanent conservation easement. For the purpose project locations we will focus on the mid to upper reaches of Alpowa Creek above Pow Wah Kee Gulch. This is approximately three miles from the mouth along Highway 12 and extends over 13 miles into the headwaters. There are numerous private landowner crossing that could be potential barriers and the instream interest component will be completed in Alpowa Creek a large MSA that has a very robust steelhead population. We will focus project areas where spawning and rearing are occurring and have limited floodplain connection with emphasis on the mid to upper reaches of the watershed again that are located three miles from the mouth along Highway 12 and above Pow Wah Kee Gulch to the headwaters which is about 13 stream miles.

Maps: Provide both a map illustrating project vicinity and a site map. Map descriptions can be placed in this section but maps should be attached as a separate page. (Contact SRSRB staff to construct maps and set up project in the HWS prior to pre-application deadline).

Short Description of Project

Describe project, what will be done, and what the anticipated benefits
Will be in 1500 characters or less.

NOTE: Many audiences, including the SRFB, SRFB's Technical Review Panel, media, legislators, and the public who may inquire about your project use this description. Provide as clear, succinct, and descriptive an overview of your project as possible – many will read these 1-2 paragraphs!

- The description should state what is proposed.
- Identify the specific problems that will be addressed by this project, and why it is important to do at this time.
- Describe how, and to what extent, the project will protect, restore, or address salmon habitat.
- Describe the general location, geographic scope, and targeted species/stock.
- This short description should be the summary of the detailed proposal set out under the Evaluation Proposal, with particular emphasis on questions 1-4.

The PRISM database limits project descriptions to 1500 characters (including spaces); any excess text will be deleted. Additional detail should be provided in the project proposal!

Addressing landowner interest in barrier surveys, conservation easements and floodplain connection in priority stream reaches of Alpowa watershed is our goal, which is virtually unknown. In 2010 Alpowa's status was changed from priority protection to restoration and conservation easements in priority reaches were identified in the Snake River Recovery Plan. Engaging landowners in future needs for protecting and restoring critical riparian and instream areas, monthly meetings, tours of previous projects will help gain support for complex issues. We will speak on funding availability, pros and cons, eligible areas, and build on the trust and credibility of previous planning and implementation projects. Alpowa has narrow floodplains with very steep uninhabitable valley walls making riparian and floodplain protection and connection important components to protect ESA listed species. Alpowa is a tributary to the Snake River downstream from the confluence of the Clearwater River below Clarkston. WDFW has been documenting adult steelhead distribution and spawning. Ecology has identified Alpowa, a spring fed system, as an important stream to protect streamflows for ESA steelhead and fall Chinook salmon spawning and rearing. Maintaining current flows, increasing instream habitat quality and balancing agriculture and future growth by gauging interests in these projects to ensure previous and future protection and restoration activities will continue to benefit salmonid habitats.

Preliminary Design Description:

Describe the preliminary project design that will be used to address the need described above. This section may be used to provide a more detailed description than provided above. Not required for pre-application (Max one page)

There is a data gap in WRIA 35 with regards to private landowner barriers, landowners interest in Conservation Easements. Historically landowners have been proactive and participated in federal and state cost-share programs to protect and restore critical habitat in watersheds with ESA listed salmonids. Conservation Easements have not been pursued due the interest in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, but due to future funding constraints and the possibility of funding being eliminated there is an opportunity to discuss long-term easements to help maintain the current benefits.

Additionally there is also a need for instream projects with floodplain connection. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has been monitoring some of the most robust populations of wild steelhead throughout the state in WRIA 35. Landowners have been protecting and improving riparian and upland areas and now is the time to install instream habitat projects for resting and rearing juvenile and adult salmonids in Alpowa Creek. Increasing stream length on large reaches with instream habitat structures made of wood or rock weirs or vanes for complex resting and rearing areas.

Gauging landowner interests in barrier assessments, permanent conservation easements and improving channel and floodplain conditions and connections will protect existing high priority projects; which will provide over-winter habitat for juveniles. Additionally floodplain connection and instream habitat will also provide gravel sorting and spawning areas in the tailouts of pools that are created using wood or rock structures. Maintaining a properly functioning channel will allow for better recruitment of native trees and shrubs and will provide habitat connection in these small streams that have natural low summer streamflows. Maintaining flow and connection will increase the habitat available to juveniles and allow for upstream migration in the summertime.

Working in concert with the current Conservation Reserve Enhancement Project will allow for continued protection of riparian areas that have been enrolled for the past 10 years ensuring that long-term riparian benefits are realized and stream flows and temperatures will continue to improve with a properly functioning riparian area.

This project will result in the following Tasks being completed;

Task 1. Develop maps and lists of landowners in watershed and potential interest in projects

Task 2. Develop outreach materials. Conduct outreach with individual landowners and at least 3 project tours of previous and on-going project types described above and future potential projects.

Task 3. Monthly public meetings on pros and cons of conservation easements, eligible projects and discuss potential barrier and instream restoration and protection projects that help with floodplain connection.

Task 4. Create project list that could potentially be included in the 3 Year Work Plan with support from the Regional Technical Team.

Task 5. Prioritize potential private crossing or any barrier projects, conservation easements and instream restoration projects that increase stream length and provide floodplain connection that have support from private landowners for future funding cycles.

Estimated Budget:

List SRFB request match and total project costs

Budget Items	Cost/Unit	Unit	Matching Funds	SRFB Request	Project Cost
Total Matching			\$12,260.00		
Total SRFB Request				\$69,500.00	
Total Project Cost					\$81,760.00

Evidence that this project is part of the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan:

List the HWS project number and title of project as stated in the 3 Year Plan. If project is not directly stated in the 3 Year Plan list the general project category your project pertains to and describe the correlation.

The Assessment of Landowner Interest in Barrier Inventories, Conservation Easements and/or Improving Channel and Floodplain Conditions and Connections in Alpowa Creek is listed in two different projects in the Snake River Habitat Work Schedule.

A00-00006 Assessment of River Confinement in Priority areas

A-35-00248 Habitat Assessment - Alpowa Creek

SRFB Draft Application Information	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Draft	Date Submitted to SRSRB 5/16/2011
Project Type: (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition/Restoration
<input type="checkbox"/> Passage, Diversion, Barrier Inventory/Design	<input type="checkbox"/> Upland
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-Capital	<input type="checkbox"/> In-Stream <input type="checkbox"/> Riparian
Applicant / Organization Information	
Organization Name: WRIA 35 - Asotin PUD	
Organization Type (check one)	
<input type="checkbox"/> City/Town	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation District
<input type="checkbox"/> Native American Tribe	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit Organization <input type="checkbox"/> RFEG
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Special Purpose District	<input type="checkbox"/> State Agency
Updated Vicinity / Site Maps & Photos	
Please submit photos as JPEG or other non PDF picture format. Maps and designs maybe submitted in photo or PDF format.	
Vicinity Map Attached:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site Map Attached:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aerial or Site Specific Photos Attached:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preliminary Designs or Field Sketches:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Update Short Description in Pre-Application Above	
Describe project, what will be done, and what the anticipated benefits Will be in 1500 characters or less.	

Summary of Funding Request and Match Contribution	
Remember to update this section whenever changes are made to your cost estimates.	
TOTAL PROJECT COST (A + B) (Sponsor Match & SRFB Contribution)	\$81,760.00
A. Sponsor Match Contribution (15% minimum is required for match)	
Appropriation/Cash	
Bonds – Council	
Bonds – Voter	
Cash Donations	
Conservation Futures	
Donations	
Donated Equipment	
Donated Labor	\$9,000.00
Donated Land	
Donated Materials	
Donated Property Interest	
Force Account	
Force Acct – Equipment	
Force Acct – Labor	\$3,060.00
Force Acct – Material	
Grants	
Grant – Federal	
Grant – Local	
Grant – Private	
Grant – State	
Grant – IAC	
Grant – Other	
Total Sponsor Match Contribution (15% Minimum Match Required of a total Project Cost)	\$12,260.00
B. SRFB Contribution (grant request) \$5,000 Minimum Request	\$69,500.00
Note: *Be sure to identify the name and type of any matching grant in the Application Questionnaire Section. *The Total Project Cost must equal the totals from the following Cost Estimate Sections.	

Project Proposal Guides	
<p>To complete this section download the Project Proposal template that fits your proposed project and attach as a separate document. Check appropriate box below.</p> <p>NOTE: This project proposal will be used primarily to evaluate your project. Please include appropriate metrics within the body of the text.</p> <p>The below documents can be found at http://www.snakeriverboard.org/leadentity/applicationdocs.html</p>	
	Attached
1) Restoration, Acquisition and Combination (Restoration & Acquisition) Project	<input type="checkbox"/>
2) Planning Projects (Assessment, design, and Study) and Combination (Planning & acquisition) Projects	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3) Barrier Inventory Projects	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Landowner Information	
<p>Landowner Acknowledgment Forms (Remember to complete the Landowner Acknowledgement form for each Landowner.)</p>	
<p>To complete this section download the landowner acknowledgment form and have the landowner complete the form and submit a copy with the final application. Final applications without signed agreement forms may not be considered by the SRSRB for final scoring and ranking.</p> <p>These forms can be found on the SRSRB web site at: http://www.snakeriverboard.org/leadentity/applicationdocs.html</p>	
<p>Current Landowner(s) of the site (name and address). Remember to complete the Landowner Acknowledgement Form.</p> <p>Name: Address: City/Town: State: Zip:</p>	
<p>Driving Directions (provide directions that will enable staff to locate the project): Alpowa Creek watershed is located five miles west of the City of Clarkston on Highway 12. The highway parallels the lower six miles and we will be working with the landowners in the mid to upper reaches of the Alpowa watershed. Most of the CREP and potential instream protection and restoration projects are above the section where the highway and creek split (or above Stember Creek confluence). We will focus our assessment from Pow Wha kee Gulch to the headwaters of Alpowa Creek.</p>	

SRFB Final Application Information	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Final	Date Submitted to SRSRB 7/28/2011
Barrier Removal and Barrier Assessment / Design Projects	
Barrier Information Form: http://www.snakeriverboard.org/leadentity/applicationdocs.html	
Project Proposal Cost Estimate Template	
To complete this section complete the budget template that pertains to your project type Found on the SRSRB website at: http://www.snakeriverboard.org/leadentity/applicationdocs.html and <i>check the appropriate attachments box below.</i> OR you may submit a detailed budget in your own format.	
	Attached
1) Personal Format Budget	<input type="checkbox"/>
2) Assessments	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3) Property Acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/>
4) In-stream Restoration	<input type="checkbox"/>
5) Diversion and Screen	<input type="checkbox"/>
6) Barrier Inventory or Fish Passage Design	<input type="checkbox"/>
7) Riparian	<input type="checkbox"/>

Supporting Technical Documentation

List studies, reports, or other technical documentation that details current biological and habitat conditions and supports your biological and/or habitat objectives and the approach or methods to be applied.

Document Title	Author(s)	Date
Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan	Snake River Salmon Board	January 2007
Middle Snake Watershed Plan	HDR	August 2007
Snake Detailed Implementation Plan	WRIA 35 Planning Unit	September 2008
2010 Assess Salmonids in Asotin Cr	Crawford, E., M. Schuck, Herr	January 2011

For Barrier Projects Only:

Has a Priority Index (PI) evaluation been completed?

No Yes (If so, please attach documentation)

Application Questionnaire

All applicants must answer the following questions

Cost Efficiencies

For any grants listed in the Summary of Funding Request and Match Contribution Section, are there any restrictions on the use of these grant funds? No Yes

When and how long will the grant funds be available to this project? We would appreciate state funding for our project since we might have the ability to team with CREP projects and they are ineligible for other federal funding. Even though this is an assessment we don't want to risk them compromising any of their federal cost-share funds by working with other federal funding.

Describe the type of donated labor (skilled and unskilled), donated equipment, and donated materials that will be used for this project, identified in the Summary of Funding Request and Match Contribution Section. We will be utilizing match from RTT members from 4 meetings where we will be discussing the proposed areas for both long-term easements and floodplain/instream projects, local landowners time meeting on proposed projects and PUD's General Managers time invoicing and over seeing grant and they are providing office space, phone, internet and copier as match also.

Land Ownership

What type of landowner currently owns the property?

 Federal Local Private State Tribal

What is the current land use of the site, and its history? Describe past human uses and salmon habitat functions. Are there any structures on site? This is an assessment of barriers, interest in permanent conservation easements and/or floodplain and instream projects. We will be working from Pow Wah Kee Gulch upstream on the Alpowa and most of the area is enrolled in the CREP program and outside the buffer is used for hay and/or cattle grazing. Native wild steelhead and fall Chinook utilize the watershed for spawning, rearing and migration.

Non-profit organizations must answer the following questions

Is your organization registered as a non-profit with the Washington Secretary of State?

If so, what is your Unified Business Identifier (UBI) number?

 No Yes, UBI #: 601017328

What date was your organization created? 11/1/84

How long has your organization been involved in salmon and habitat conservation? Seven Years

Species/Habitat Factors Information Sources

For Species Information provide the source and indicate if the species listed are directly on-site at some point in their life stage (i.e. SaSI, WDFW Stream Catalog, Stream Survey/Field Observation, Limiting Factors Distribution Maps).

For Habitat Factors Information list the study/report and date identifying the habitat factors for your project (i.e. SaSI, limiting factors analysis, watershed analysis, other assessments, or studies).

Study Name	Author	Date
2010 Assess Salmonids in Asotin Cr	Crawford, E., M. Schuck, Herr	January 2011

Permits

Check the appropriate boxes to indicate required and/or anticipated permits.
 General permit information can be obtained at the Dept. of Ecology Permit Assistance Center 1-800-917-0043 or on their Internet site <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/pac/index.html>.

Permits	Comments Regarding Permit Status
<input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic Lands Use Authorization <i>(Dept of Natural Resources)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Permit <i>(City/County)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Clear & Grade Permit <i>(City/County)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Assessment [Section 106] <i>(CTED-OAHP)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Dredge/Fill Permit [Section 10/404 or 404] <i>(US Army Corps of Engineers)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Endangered Species Act Compliance [ESA] <i>(US Fish & Wildlife/NMFS)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest Practices Application [Forest & Fish] <i>(Dept of Natural Resources)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Health Permit <i>(Dept of Health/County)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hydraulics Project Approval [HPA] <i>(Dept of Fish & Wildlife)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEPA <i>(Federal Agencies)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> SEPA <i>(Local or State Agencies)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline Permit <i>(City/County)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Certification [Section 401] <i>(County/Dept of Ecology)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Water Rights/Well Drilling Permit <i>(Dept of Ecology)</i>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other Required Permits (identify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> None – No permits Required	

SRFB Project History Information

Has any part of this project been previously reviewed or funded by the SRFB?

YES NO X

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

Assessment of Barriers, Interest in Conservation Easements and/or Improving Channel and Floodplain Connections in Alpowa Creek.

- A. Project Overview. Provide a brief summary of the project.
- i. **Alpowa Creek watershed is composed of 107 square miles located mostly in Garfield Counties. Originating in the foothills of the Blue Mountains a first order tributary to the Snake River entering four miles downstream from confluence of the Clearwater River, draining an area of 68,598 acres of upland rangeland, dryland farming and less than 115 acres of irrigated ag in the lower six miles. Our work will be in the mid to upper reaches above Pow Wah Kee Gulch with 12 private landowners. Stream flows range from 20 to 50 cubic feet per second (cfc) January through May and 6 to 11 cfs from June through December. Average rainfall ranges from 9 inches lower to 12 to 16 inches in the headwaters, which are not forested. Stream flow and temperatures have been recorded daily and there has been 1 day (July 23, 2006) the daily avg temperatures exceeded 72 degree (72.4) over the last 7 years <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/wrx/wrx/flows/station.asp?sta=35K050#block4> .**
 - ii. **Alpowa Creek's riparian is enrolled in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, 302 acres or 8.5 miles of stream in the middle to upper reaches which represents over 65 percent of eligible acres in watershed (conversation D. Bartels 2011). Grazing distribution with off-stream water developments and direct animal access has been improved and eliminated during the late fall, winter and early spring. The low elevation and arid environment experienced in Alpowa requires cattle to be moved to summer pastures in other watersheds. Native steelhead utilize the watershed for spawning, rearing and migration. Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife have documented 527 wild adults entering Alpowa Creek over the last three years (an average of 176 per year). Assessing private landowner barrier inventories, interest in permanent conservation easements and floodplain connection projects to improve stream length and resting and rearing pools will continue to provide benefits for all life stages for steelhead and salmon. Documented fall Chinook salmon redds in the lower Alpowa with over 31 redds in 2010 (Jay Hesse, Nez Perce Tribe Research Division Director, personal conversation 2011), but summer steelhead are our focus species.**

iii. **Alpowa Creek is an important tributary contributing to the Asotin Creek summer steelhead population and a large Major Spawning Area (MSA) according to National Marine Fisheries Service. This project will assess private landowner barriers, interests in permanent conservation easements and potential for instream and floodplain connection projects with 12 landowners. There has not been any inventory of private barriers or conservation easements completed in WRIA 35. The main focus has been voluntary commitments to the CREP programs with the Pomeroy Conservation District and protecting and restoring these areas while maintaining private ownership. With the federal and state funding uncertainties, now is the best time to work with willing landowners to maintain CREP investments with permanent conservation easements. Primary objectives of this project are to assess interest in barriers, riparian, stream and floodplain habitat projects in a fish critical basin identified in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and WRIA 35 Middle Snake Watershed Plan. Outcomes will be project maps, list of interested landowners, project types and habitat restoration projects (barrier removal, conservation easements and instream and floodplain restoration) that are acceptable and prioritized for future funding cycles.**

B. **No part of this proposed project has been previously funded by SRFB.**

1. Salmon Recovery Context

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

Species	Life History Present (egg, juvenile, adult)	Current Population Trend (decline, stable, rising)	ESA Coverage (Y/N)	Life History Target (egg, juvenile, adult)
Summer Steelhead	egg, juvenile & adult	Stable (G. Mendel WDFW personal conversation 2011)	Y	egg, juvenile & adult
Snake River fall Chinook Salmon (presence in lower ¼ during high run years)	egg, juvenile & adult	Rising (B. Johnson NPT – Hydro BiOP)	Y	egg, juvenile & adult
Native Rainbow Trout	egg, juvenile & adult	Unknown, but important	N	egg, juvenile & adult

- B. Describe the nature, source, and extent of the problem or gap in knowledge that the project will address. **In the Alpowa watershed landowners have never participated in any barrier inventories, permanent conservation easements, floodplain connection or instream restoration projects. This project will assess private landowner crossings, interests in long-term conservation easements, floodplain connection and instream habitat restoration projects with at least 12 private landowners. In addition, this project will identify, map, prioritize and list high priority projects where landowners are interested. Improving knowledge of the potential instream barriers and interest in voluntary permanent easements as well as instream projects will help protect and restore the Alpowa watershed.**

This project will work with at least 12 landowners to assess interest in floodplain connection and instream habitat projects in the mid to upper section of Alpowa Creek and provide valuable information on the likely hood of protection and restoration projects for future funding cycles. Potential projects with barrier removal, conservation easements, in floodplain connection and/or instream restoration will be identified, mapped, prioritized and forwarded to the Snake River Regional Technical Team. Initial conversations have shown a strong interest from private landowners to at least understand what type of projects and funding sources are available to help protect and restore critical habitat for salmonids. Balancing the habitat forming processes that are needed and current management objectives of landowners will ensure commitments by the landowners are realized with future funding from proposed projects.

- C. Describe how this project fits within your regional recovery plan or local lead entity strategy to restore or protect salmonid habitat in the watershed **Projects A00-00006 and A35-00248 supports our application in the 3 Year Work Plan. A00 Assessment of River Confinement in Priority Areas and A35 Habitat Assessment – Alpowa Creek are consistent with this application in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and 3 Year Work Plan. Endangered summer steelhead that are targeted with this proposal are a priority fish species, as well as the documented Snake River fall Chinook spawning that has occurred the past two years in lower Alpowa. Alpowa Creek steelhead are an important part of the Asotin Creek steelhead population and current monitoring shows a strong run of steelhead that needs to be protected from future management activities. The fall Chinook that are spawning at the mouth highlight the constant flows and the cooler water temperatures from Alpowa Creek that need to maintained and protected.**

- D. Describe the consequences of not conducting this project at this time.
- Working with 12 private landowners within Alpowa Creek on potential barriers and permanent conservation easements has never been more important. If state funding continues for the CREP program, interested landowners would continue to see the benefits of this program and still be eligible to enroll in a permanent conservation easement. In addition, having conversations about barriers, instream and floodplain connection projects and landowner interests in voluntary projects that are beneficial for ESA listed salmonids cannot be overstated. Maintaining or improving the steelhead and salmon survival from egg to adults is very important and the risk continues even when current indications have stable or rising salmonid population trends. We need to continue educating and assisting private landowners on the importance of voluntary protection and restoration projects in high priority areas such as Alpowa Creek. 176 wild adults entering Alpowa Creek per year on average is exciting and securing landowner participation and commitments would benefit habitat and have lasting impacts on both the resource and ESA listed species which rely on the complex habitat needs in tributary watersheds. Balancing farming and ranching within Alpowa Creek and ensuring habitat forming process are allowed to continue to work or be enhanced in certain areas will result in more habitat available for a lifestages of steelhead.**
2. When possible, list your sources of information by citing specific studies and reports.
3. Project Design
- A. Provide a detailed description of the project and how it will address the problems. Clearly list and describe all products that will be produced. **This project will conduct an assessment of private landowner crossings, willingness for future implementation of permanent conservation easements, floodplain connection and instream restoration projects. Engaging 12 private landowners in Alpowa Creek watershed and determining their willingness to participate in barrier assessments, permanent easements and floodplain connections projects future interest is our main goal. We envision meeting with each landowner individually, having monthly meetings with landowners, providing informational material and speakers who are familiar with barrier requirements, conservation easements and floodplain connection projects and three project tours that highlight previously implemented barriers removal projects, permanent conservation easements, instream and floodplain protection and restoration projects. Project deliverables that will be produced by this project include:**

List and maps of landowners in the watershed with contact information and voluntary interests in barrier removal, easements and/or floodplain and instream projects.

Outreach materials and mailers for distribution on project benefits.

Watershed tours on previous and on-going barrier replacement, permanent conservation easements and floodplain connection project. 3 project tours with landowners from the Alpowa.

Monthly public meetings to educate and share information with landowners on project benefits and potential funding. Public information and education.

Prioritized map and list of interested landowners and proposed projects that could be included in the 3 year work plan and submit to the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board.

Final list of projects for barrier removal, permanent conservation easements, instream restoration increases stream length and provides improved floodplain connection in high priority stream reaches that would be ready to apply for future funding.

4. If the project will occur in phases, explain individual steps and which steps are included in this application. **This project will not have phases.**
5. If your proposal includes a fish passage or screening design or feasibility study: **N/A**
6. If your proposal includes an assessment or inventory
 - i. Describe the assessment or inventory design and methodology. **See Project Design Section A above. We are doing an assessment of landowner interest and not a full blown watershed assessment.**
 - ii. Describe any previous or ongoing assessment or inventory work in your project's geographic area. **There are no previous or ongoing assessment or inventory work specific to the Alpowa watershed. EDT was run in the adjacent Asotin watershed and results were then applied to the similar Alpowa Watershed. EDT results were that instream habitat complexity, water temperature, sediment and floodplain connectivity were the most significant factors limiting salmonid production. The goal of this assessment is to identify areas where there is landowner support to restore/protect conditions and prioritize yet-to-be identified projects.**

- iii. Describe how the assessment or inventory addresses the stages and elements in *Guidance on Watershed Assessment for Salmon* (Joint Natural Resources Cabinet, May 2001,. **N/A, we already have completed numerous planning efforts that identify factors limiting salmonid production in Alpowa, what the causes are, and what habitat actions would most appropriately address the problems and their causes. This is an assessment of voluntary landowner cooperation with high priority projects that have come out of these complex and time consuming grass-roots planning and technical prioritization of habitat actions recommended in priority areas. We are gauging the interest in completing barrier assessments, permanent conservation easements and floodplain and instream habitat projects that have never been completed within this watershed, but voluntary interest is high based on initial conversations prior to applying for this grant. We believe we will have a strong list of potential projects that are mapped and prioritized for at least three or four of the twelve landowners who we will be working with during this project.**

7. Project Development

- A. Explain how the project's cost estimates were determined. **Project cost estimates are based on individual meetings with landowners in the Alpowa watershed, getting contact information and gauging interest in proposed barriers, permanent easements and floodplain and instream habitat projects, developing outreach material for mailing info to interested landowners, public outreach to describe benefits and potential funding sources and requirements, 3 project tours, 12 monthly public meetings to disseminate information and gain local landowners support, create final lists of interested landowners in priority reaches and propose projects that could be included in the 3 Year Work Plan, and finally work with the Regional Technical Team and local landowners to prioritize projects for future funding rounds. This request supports about .55 fte, travel, mailings and advertisement in local papers to assess landowner interests in three project types that have never been completed in a high priority watershed that supports a very robust population of wild steelhead. An alternative approach to funding FTE's with local knowledge and history with landowners is to hire contractors to do this work. This would be more expensive and require additional time from staff to work with contractors and introduce them to landowners. Having local staff who is familiar with landowners, sensitive issues and working within 15 minutes of the project site will enable information and education exchange in a positive manner.**

- B. Describe other approaches and design alternatives that were considered to achieve the project's objectives. **There has not been any private landowner barrier assessments, permanent conservation easements or instream habitat restoration project applications in the previous 12 SRFB Grant Rounds for the Alpowa. Previously the Alpowa was identified as a Protection Reach and securing funding for instream restoration projects would have been almost impossible. Due to WDFW's adult wiper and wild adult steelhead numbers of an average of 176 per year over the past three years it has reclassified from protection to restoration reach, elevating its importance for salmonid recovery. Due to the funding constraints listed in other sections, landowner interest and the designation being changed we believe this is the right time to secure funding to gauge landowner interest in long-term conservation easements and floodplain connection and instream habitat restoration projects that are listed in the Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan and the 3 Year Work Plan.**

Working in concert with the Pomeroy Conservation District, previous and on-going CREP contracts, local technical agencies and landowners we believe this application will lead to projects in priority areas with regards to long-term easements and floodplain and instream restoration projects in future funding cycles. No other approaches or design alternatives were considered based on the above information, we cannot afford to wait for landowners to come to us, we need to inform and educate on the available programs and get feedback from landowners to see what funding fits into their current management of the riparian and instream habitat on private property in Alpowa Creek watershed, which is almost exclusively private ownership.

- C. Include a Partner Contribution Form when required. **Not required. We will be hosting tours and meetings where we will invite landowners and agencies/group who have installed proposed projects and informing and educating the landowners on the complex processes involved with getting funding, permits and implementing future prioritized projects.**
- D. If an assessment covers a large area and encompasses numerous properties, Landowner Acknowledgement. **Landowner forms are not required.**
- E. Describe your experience managing this type of project. **Previously worked with the Asotin County Conservation District and implemented numerous SRFB projects within Asotin County. All projects were completed within budget and on time. Currently I am the Watershed Planning Director for Water Resource Inventory Area 35 and most recently we have been working on collaborative solutions for instream**

flow. Working with private landowners on voluntary protection and restoration projects is my passion. Having funding to implement agreed upon priority actions is the carrot that maintains and builds upon trust and credibility that is gained during grass roots planning efforts. I believe I possess the skills necessary to work with private landowners on barrier inventories, long-term conservation easements and potential instream and floodplain connection projects. With SRFB and Bonneville Power Funding I helped implement a 5,115 foot meander reconstruction project on George Creek, while working for the Asotin County Conservation District. It is my belief that there is interest in WRIA 35 for barrier, long-term conservation easements and instream projects with floodplain connection components. How we can best balance current and future funding uncertainties while maintaining the momentum for on-the-ground restoration projects without regulatory action is the key to continued positive relationships with private landowners.

Currently I have limited knowledge working with barriers and permanent conservation easements, but would have the benefit of learning the process right along with the private landowners who would be accepting these project types. Being new to the process I would have no preconceived notions and believe that I possess the skills necessary to work with landowners and no-profits who have implemented these projects in other areas to represent the interests of the private landowners and inform them on the programs that best fit their current and future management objectives. It is our intent to either start a non-profit or maintain current status and apply for future barrier projects, permanent conservation easements and instream projects that restore the streams and reconnect the abandon floodplains within WRIA 35.

8. List and describe tasks and schedule. .

- Task 1. Develop maps and list of landowners in the watershed with contact information and voluntary interests in private barrier assessments, permanent conservation easements and/or floodplain and instream projects. Time Frame: January 2012 – February 2012**
- Task 2. Develop outreach materials and mailers for distribution. Conduct public outreach with individual landowners to describe project benefits and potential funding sources and coordinate at least 3 project tours. Time Frame: February 2012 – July 2012**
- Task 3. Conduct monthly public meetings to connect habitat restoration needs and the ability for local landowner support and commitments for salmonid protection and restoration projects. 3 project tours of**

previous and on-going restoration activities for Alpowa landowners to see examples of recommended actions. Time Frame: On-going January 2012 – April 2013

Task 4. Create list of proposed projects that could be included in the 3 year work plan and submit to the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board. Time Frame: December 2012 – February 2013

Task 5. Prioritize potential private crossing or barrier projects, permanent conservation easements and instream restoration projects that potentially increases stream length and provides improved floodplain connection in high priority stream reaches. These future projects will be run through the Snake River Salmon Recovery Boards Regional Technical Team (RTT, ensuring future potential projects are in high priority areas and supported not only by the landowners but the local RTT. Time Frame: January 2013

9. Constraints and Uncertainties

We are proposing monthly landowner meetings, which will be used for adaptive management purposes. Landowners in the Alpowa have not participated in a plan for habitat restoration and protection projects. EDT from the Asotin watershed was applied to the Alpowa and we are starting from the beginning with regards to working with these landowners on the importance of elimination of barriers, conservation easements and the benefits of floodplain connection and instream projects to restore proper width-to-depth ratios and structures that utilize stream velocities to maintain resting and rearing pools for all salmonid lifestages. We don't envision any constraints or uncertainties from our end, we have been in contact with landowners, technical agencies and the Pomeroy Conservation District and everyone is interested in gauging landowner interest for barrier inventories, permanent conservation easements and potential instream and floodplain connection projects. Our biggest obstacle is gaining the funding to complete this assessment and securing future funding with our current federal and state funding constraints.

Engaging landowners is the first phase of the assessments and ensuring buy-in and support of potential protection and restoration projects for priority riparian, floodplain and instream habitat will garner support for voluntary activities that are identified through our assessments. We don't expect any constraints, uncertainties, problems, delays or unanticipated expenses that could hinder the completion of the Assessment of Landowner Interest in Barrier Inventories, Conservation Easements and/or Improving Channel and Floodplain Conditions and Connections in Alpowa Creek. Monthly meetings, information exchange on rules and funding constraints, tours and open dialog will inform

and educate both local landowners and potential project sponsors to what issues could potentially help in securing future project funding for a prioritized watershed such as Alpowa Creek.

10. Detailed project cost estimate. Please include a detailed project cost estimate and attach in PRISM. This will help the local review process and the state Review Panel better understand the project cost details.

Assessments, Feasibility and Design Project Cost Estimate

ASSESSMENTS AND STUDIES may include feasibility studies; channel migration studies; reach-level, nearshore, and estuarine assessments; and inventories such as barrier, unscreened water diversions; and landslide hazard. A feasibility study could include assessing the willingness of landowners to agree to allow access to their land for a habitat project or to consider selling a conservation easement. The results of proposed assessments must directly lead to identification, siting, or design of habitat protection or restoration projects or fill a data gap identified as a priority in a lead entity strategy or regional recovery plan.

Complete only items that apply to your project.
TOTAL COST must include the SRFB and Sponsor's Match Contribution.
Use only whole dollar amounts.

Item	Unit	Qty.	Total Cost	Description Needed	Description (60 characters max.)
Communications					
Advertising	Lump sum	4 x \$365	\$1,460	Optional	Advertisement for 3 tours and monthly information exchange meetings
Communications – other	Lump sum			Optional	
Postage	Lump sum			Optional	
Printing, binding, copying	Lump sum			Optional	
Telephone	Lump sum			Optional	
Equipment					
Equipment – other	Lump sum			Describe	
Insurance					
Insurance – other	Lump sum			Describe	
Liability insurance	Lump sum			To/From	
Permits					
Permits	Lump sum			Optional	
Professional Services					
Consultant(s)	Lump sum			Optional	
Mapping/GIS	Lump sum			Optional	
Photography	Lump sum			Optional	
Professional services – other	Lump sum			Optional	
Surveying	Lump sum			Optional	

Rentals & Leases					
Meeting rooms	Lump sum			Optional	
Item	Unit	Qty.	Total Cost	Description Needed	Description (60 characters max.)
Rentals & leases – other	Lump sum			Describe	
Vehicle lease	Lump sum			Optional	
Salaries & Benefits					
Salaries & benefits - other	# of FTE's	.55 fte	\$65,800	Title	WRIA 35 Watershed Director - 15 Months
Salaries & benefits - other	# of FTE's			Title	
Salaries & benefits - other	# of FTE's	64 hrs	\$2,880	Title	Match from at least 4 RTT, 4 hours/mo x 4 meetings x ~\$45/hr
Salaries & benefits - other	# of FTE's	392 hrs	\$5,488	Title	Match from at least 7 landowners; 4 hours/mo x 14 months x \$14/hr
Salaries & benefits - other	# of FTE's	65 hrs	\$3,892	Title	Match from PUD General Manager for 15 months
Supplies					
Computer software	Lump sum			Describe	
Forms, maps, stationery	Lump sum			Optional	
General supplies	Lump sum			Optional	
Publications	Lump sum			Optional	
Transportation/Travel					
Mileage	Rate	4000 X .51	\$2,040	Miles	Travel to watershed and meetings to gain support from Landowners and RTT members
Per diem	Each			Optional	
Transportation/travel – other	Lump sum			Describe	
Vehicle use	Rate / month			Optional	
Sales Tax					
TOTAL COSTS			\$81,534		