



Bring Back the Natives: A Public-Private Partnership for Restoring, Protecting, and Enhancing Populations of Native Aquatic Species

Request for Proposals

Pre-proposal Due Date: **December 1, 2009**

Full Proposal Due Date: **February 1, 2010**

Proposals should include descriptions of:

- The native aquatic species at risk or potentially at risk, requiring protection, restoration, and/or enhancement, and a description of their historic and current range
- The factors or threats that have caused a decline in the species population or other similar populations
- The temporal significance of short (1 year or less) - or longer-term risks (2 or more years) that result or will result from an existing or potential threat
- The impacts of no action(s) taken over the short- or long-term
- The importance of the species as part of the greater aquatic ecosystem and justification for why NFWF should fund the project
 - Species of special concern include but are not limited to: Upper Colorado native fish (flannelmouth and bluehead suckers, roundtail chub, and Colorado cutthroat trout), Lahontan cutthroat trout, Bonneville cutthroat trout, Sierra Nevada native fishes, Upper Green River (WY) native fishes, eulachon, Apache trout, native brook trout and associated native aquatic species (Chesapeake and Upper Ohio River), Russian River (CA) Coho, Snohomish (WA) Coho, Siuslaw (OR) Coho, Klamath suckers, redband trout and Coho, clusters of endemic southeastern native fishes, endemic southeastern river black bass, and other native fishes identified in state, federal, and tribal fish and wildlife agency planning documents (such as the Forest Service's or BLM's Aquatic Sensitive Species Lists) and/or by candidate and National Fish Habitat Board recognized Fish Habitat Partnerships
- All of the on-the-ground habitat actions needed to restore, protect, and enhance the populations and how this proposed project either initiates or fits into larger efforts in the watershed. Or, if this is a stand-alone project, how it will succeed in and of itself in protecting, restoring or enhancing the species population(s). Please be time specific in addressing these questions
- Whether the project supports the implementation of the National Fish Habitat Action Plan (NFHAP) and/or a National Fish Habitat Board recognized or candidate Fish Habitat Partnership. If so, then please describe how the project meets one or more of the NFHAP goals and how the outcomes will be measured and reported:
 - Protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems
 - Prevent further degradation of fish habitats that have been adversely affected
 - Reverse declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve overall health of fish and other aquatic organisms
 - Increase the quality and quantity of fish habitats that support a broad diversity of fish and other aquatic species
 - Is consistent with the four interim fish habitat conservation strategies found at: www.fishhabitat.org/images/documents/science/Final_Interim_Strategies_Targets.pdf

- Will take into consideration the Science and Data Report and reporting guidelines established by the National Fish Habitat Board found at:
http://fishhabitat.org/images/stories/NFHAP_Science_and_Data_Team_Report.pdf
- Where applicable, the partners and interests that will be involved in the project, including private landowners, state fish and wildlife agencies, tribal fish and wildlife agencies, and federal fish and wildlife agencies
- The outreach strategy and educational values of the proposed project in tangible terms that can be used to measure the efficacy of outreach efforts in resulting in a quantifiable protection, restoration or enhancement of a species population or populations
- A budget that describes how federal funds and the non-federal match will be used to support the project's goals
- Any nexus the project has with Bureau of Land Management, Forest Service, or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands, and agency involvement in the project
- Whether the project restores resistance or resilience to climate change in native fish populations by restoring habitat, increasing population production, expanding habitat for isolated populations, reducing outside stressors, enhancing riparian shade in grazed meadows of cold water habitats, reconnecting habitats or restoring migratory life histories
- For those projects which include a fish passage barrier inventory component, whether barrier data will be submitted to the national fish passage barriers database housed in the Fish and Wildlife Service's Fish Passage Decision Support System. Barrier inventories within the states of Alaska, Iowa and the southwest are of particular interest

No part of a BBN matching grant, either the federal funds from NFWF or the non-federal match, may be used to:

- Support litigation expenses or lobbying activities
- Cover permanent federal employee salary expenses
- Supplement shortfalls in government agency budgets
- Support multi-year grants due to the nature of NFWF's annual appropriations (applicants may apply for funds to continue previous NFWF funded projects if substantial progress has been made on the original grant)
- Support basic research
- Support basic planning, outreach, or education projects without an "on-the-ground" component

Application Procedure

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Applicants should log onto the Foundation's website: www.nfwf.org, go to *Special Grant Programs* and select the ***Bring Back the Natives*** opportunity, and use the online process to submit a pre-proposal (the Bring Back the Natives program webpage can also be found at <http://www.nfwf.org/bbn>). Pre-proposals will be evaluated and ranked by the BBN Review Committee according to the priorities and criteria outlined above. In December 2009, the strongest pre-proposals will be invited to submit a full proposal due in February 2010. If invited for a full proposal, applicants may be required to solicit peer reviews of their proposal by up to five qualified and objective reviewers. The Foundation also retains the right to require additional peer review of proposals by external experts. Full proposal applicants will be notified of grant awards by June 2010. For more information or questions about the application process, please contact:

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