



West Sound Watersheds Community Salmon Fund

Deadline: Wednesday, August 27th, 2008.

Background

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) have established the West Sound Watersheds Community Salmon Fund to stimulate smaller-scale, voluntary action by landowners, community groups, and businesses to support salmon recovery on private property within the West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity. Projects on public property will be considered if they have excellent community involvement and can serve as a model for similar efforts on private property. Grants will be jointly selected by NFWF and the West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity, and administered by NFWF.

Goals

The goals of the West Sound Watersheds Community Salmon Fund are to:

- Fund habitat protection and restoration projects that have a substantial benefit to watershed health and are consistent with local salmon recovery plans. For more information about your local salmon recovery plan, please contact Kathleen Peters (KPeters@co.kitsap.wa.us), West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity Coordinator at (360) 337-4679.
- Encourage landowners, business owners, and community groups to become engaged in salmon habitat conservation and stewardship.
- Stimulate creativity and leadership among various constituencies to address conservation needs, especially farmers, rural forest landowners, suburban homeowners, businesses, and industries.

Eligible Costs

The Community Salmon Fund will award grants of up to \$75,000. The program's primary focus is smaller-scale, community-based restoration projects that reflect the goals of local recovery strategies. Requests for funds to complement large-scale restoration projects (such as SRFB proposals) will not be considered. The following are examples of eligible costs:

- Restoration of habitat within and along salmon-bearing rivers, streams, and the marine nearshore.
- Project design and development that is anticipated to lead to an on-the-ground restoration project within 18 months.

In addition, the following new project categories are eligible for funding under this round of the West Sound Watersheds Community Salmon Fund:

- Creative partnerships for salmon recovery that address the eventual implementation of restoration work.
 - Examples of eligible projects under this category include: coordinating a farmers' group interested in riparian restoration, organizing salmon workshops with streamside businesses, or doing targeted outreach to neighborhood groups to explore local restoration options. The goal of these activities is to engage new communities in salmon recovery and enlist prospective landowners willing to participate in on-the-ground restoration work.
- Maintenance of previously awarded Community Salmon Fund projects.
 - Grantees of projects funded under previous CSF rounds are encouraged to apply for funds to conduct on-site maintenance of CSF-funded project activities and deliverables.



Applicants interested in submitting a proposal under one of these new categories are asked to contact Brian Ferrasci-O'Malley (bferrasci-omalley@evergreenfc.com) at (206) 691-0700 prior to submitting an application.

Note: Full fee acquisition, less-than-fee acquisition, free-standing educational projects not associated with eventual restoration activities, mitigation or corrective actions, general planning and feasibility studies, and legal or lobbying efforts are ineligible costs under this program.

Applicants

Applicants may be non-profits, educational institutions, tribes, community groups, business associations, RFEGs, conservation districts or local governments. Community groups without non-profit tax status will need to secure an eligible financial sponsor. Successful applicants will:

- Have excellent connections and high credibility with communities that live and work along salmon-bearing waterways.
- Have a history of successfully implemented conservation or restoration projects or initiated projects with target communities.
- Demonstrate innovative and creative solutions to conservation problems.
- Develop other partnerships to sustain their recovery and restoration initiatives.
- Demonstrate the capacity to maintain the habitat values of the project site.

Application Process and Schedule

Applications for the West Sound Watersheds Community Salmon Fund are due August 27th, 2008. Applicants will be notified of the results by November 17th, 2008. *Please note:* Funded projects must be completed by September 30th, 2010.

The West Sound Watersheds Community Salmon Fund uses NFWF's online application interface: EasyGrants. To start an application, please click on the following link: <http://www.nfwf.org/easygrants>. New users to the system will be prompted to register before starting their application. Once you have started an application, you can save it and return at a later point to complete it, up until the application deadline. Please be sure to disable the pop-up blocker on your Internet browser prior to beginning the application process.

A technical team made up of regional experts familiar with salmon recovery needs, techniques and the local communities will review proposals based on technical merit, potential benefit to the community, and cost-effectiveness. Projects will be selected for funding jointly by NFWF and the West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity. Preference will be given to proposals that:

- Address priorities identified in the local recovery plan;
- Address salmon habitat restoration on private property;
- Have excellent salmon benefits and high visibility;
- Engage community groups as project sponsors and/or hosts;
- Include a location, project type, or community partner that is under-represented in salmon recovery efforts;
- Have a high likelihood of being self-sustaining after the grant period;
- Include significant match from other sources (at least 50% of the total grant request in cash or in-kind contributions; i.e. for an application requesting \$30,000 of CSF funds, an applicant would be expected to document at least \$15,000 of matching funds, for a total project cost of \$45,000). Match funds may be cash or in-kind from the applicant or partners, and must be non-federal.

Further Information

For more information about the Community Salmon Fund application process, contact Brian Ferrasci-O'Malley with Evergreen Funding Consultants (bferrasci-omalley@evergreenfc.com) at (206) 691-0700. For information about local salmon recovery priorities, please contact Kathleen Peters



(KPeters@co.kitsap.wa.us), West Sound Watersheds Lead Entity Coordinator at (360) 337-4679. This document and a link to the application form are available at <http://www.communitysalmonfund.org>.

