



King County Community Salmon Fund



King County

Deadline for Proposals: November 6, 2009

Background

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and King County have established the Community Salmon Fund to stimulate small-scale, voluntary action by community groups, in cooperation with landowners and businesses, to support salmon recovery on private property in the Cedar River, Lake Washington, Sammamish Watershed (WRIA 8), the Green/Duwamish & Central Puget Sound Watershed (WRIA 9), and southern Snohomish County. Projects on public property will be considered if they have excellent community involvement and can serve as a model for projects that target similar efforts on private property. Grants will be jointly selected by NFWF and King County and administered by the Foundation.

Goals

The goals of the King County Community Salmon Fund are to:

- Fund salmon habitat protection and restoration projects that have a substantial benefit to watershed health and are consistent with local salmon habitat plans. See <http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/planning/chinook-conservation-plan.aspx> or <http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/plan-implementation/default.aspx> for more information.
- 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 King County Community Salmon Fund will award grants of up to \$75,000. However, only a limited number of awards will be made at that level and requests of \$30,000 or less are more the norm. The program's primary focus is smaller, community-based projects that are part of a larger effort to restore a main stem or a tributary to a level likely to produce, maintain, or increase sustainable runs of salmonids, so requests for funds for large-scale restoration projects (such as SRFB proposals) will not be considered.

Examples of eligible activities:

- 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.
- Conservation easements and/or less-than-full-fee acquisitions.
- Enlisting landowners in tangible activities that will have a direct impact on salmonid habitat protection and/or restoration.
- Other projects that have a direct impact on salmonid habitat protection and/or restoration.

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

- Maintenance of previously awarded King County Community Salmon Fund projects.
- Development of a micro-granting program to fund very small (<\$5,000) restoration, enhancement, or education projects. Successful applicants would receive CSF funds to award as subgrants to individuals and/or other organizations to implement small restoration projects.

Applicants interested in submitting a proposals 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.

Finally, special consideration will be given to applicants that are proposing to implement a fish barrier removal project based on the winning design from the 2007 Radical Salmon design contest – Stacked Culvert Fish Ladder. A link to information and instructions for this design are available at <http://www.nfwf.org/csf/kingcounty>.

Note: Full-fee acquisition, education projects uncoupled from measurable actions, mitigation or corrective actions, general planning and studies, and legal or lobbying efforts are ineligible. Also, isolated projects (i.e. those with no coordinate link to community-based or government efforts to restore or sustain salmonids in a specified system) will not be considered for funding unless they can serve as a compelling model for widespread adoption.

Applicants

Applicants may be non-profits, educational institutions, tribes, community groups, business associations, RFEs, 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 waters.
- Have a history of successfully implemented conservation or restoration projects or have initiated projects with target communities.
- Demonstrate innovative and creative solutions to conservation problems
- Develop other partnerships to sustain their conservation initiatives.
- Demonstrate the capacity to maintain the habitat values of the project site.

Application Process and Schedule

Applications for the King County Community Salmon Fund are due November 6, 2009. Applicants will be notified of the results in March 2010.

The King County 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 starting an application.

Review 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 King County. 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 case 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. Note: BIA 638 program funds, such as the "Pacific Salmon Treaty Research Fund," are eligible as match funds. Washington DOE 319 funds are not eligible as non-federal match funds.

See <http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/8/planning/chinook-conservation-plan.aspx> or <http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/plan-implementation/default.aspx>, or contact your regional funding coordinator for more information on local salmon recovery priorities. The contact for WRIA 8 (Cedar, Sammamish, and Lake Washington) is Mary Jorgensen at (206) 296-8067. The contact for WRIA 9 (Green/Duwamish) is Karen Bergeron at (206) 296-8383.

Further Information

For more information about the Community Salmon Fund application process, contact Brian Ferrasci-O'Malley (bferrasci-omalley@evergreenfc.com) at (206) 691-0700. This document and links to the online application are available at <http://www.nfwf.org/csf/kingcounty>.