



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

West Fork Teanaway River Mile 5.1 – 7.1 Restoration Engineered Design

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group (MCF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to restoring self-sustaining salmon and steelhead populations through habitat preservation, restoration, and education projects. **MCF, in collaboration with the Yakima Klickitat Fisheries Project (YKFP) of Yakama Nation, is requesting proposals for qualified engineering consultants to design instream and floodplain restoration actions for the West Fork Teanaway River, River Miles 5.1 – 7.1, on the Teanaway Community Forest. Proposals will be accepted electronically until 5 pm on Wednesday, January 31, 2024.**

A mandatory online site tour will be held at 1PM PST on Wednesday, January 10, 2024. Registration is required at this [link](#)¹. Questions about the project should be sent electronically to Rebecca Wassell, MCF's Yakima Basin Program Director, at becca@midcolumbiafisheries.org and cc Brandon Rossi, YKFP, at rossb@yakamafishnsn.gov no later than noon on Friday, January 12, 2024. MCF and YKFP will answer each inquiry and provide a compiled copy of all questions via email to each firm that attends the mandatory online site tour.

I. PROJECT BACKGROUND

MCF is seeking professional engineering services to design instream and floodplain restoration on portions of the Teanaway Community Forest (TCF). The overall West Fork-Middle Fork Teanaway project aims to:

1. significantly improve the hydrologic function of the river by reversing incision, reconnecting floodplains, lengthening flow paths, and retaining water longer in the season;
2. increase the availability of spawning and rearing habitat for federally threatened Mid-Columbia steelhead, improve bull trout Critical Habitat, and enhance downstream rearing habitat for Chinook and coho salmon;
3. increase the resilience of the Yakima headwaters to climate change through hydrologic improvements, in-stream thermal heterogeneity and enhanced shade;
4. benefit the members of the Confederated Bands and Tribes of the Yakama Nation by restoring treaty resources; and
5. support the local community by creating jobs, providing increased recreational opportunities, lessening risk of flood damage, protecting the availability of drinking water, and creating riparian fire breaks.

In 2020, MCF contracted with Natural Systems Design (NSD) to complete a wetlands assessment and a geomorphic assessment of the West and Middle Fork Teanaway Rivers on the TCF. The assessments, [available here](#)², identified and prioritized restoration actions. Additional background information is filed in the same location.

¹ <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwpdOmhrDlqGtfnhBkbPhwam83dZy2uk1uZ>

² <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/17KKLVoZFVhf39OvqFzQ62pKkvnkPwoQ4?usp=sharing>

NSD evaluated alluvial water storage potential throughout the Teanaway watershed using a geospatial model accounting for valley morphology and substrate characteristics (NSD, 2019) and incision estimates from Schanz et al., (2019). Potential alluvial water storage for each valley bottom segment where restoration opportunity areas (ROA) were mapped is derived from a conceptual rise in the channel WSE, which effectively reduces the groundwater gradient between floodplain and channel areas. Outputs from the alluvial water storage model, geomorphological assessment, and wetlands assessment within each ROA were scored and ranked based on acre-feet per mile of stream channel. These investigations led to the identification of 53 restoration project opportunities aimed at aggrading the channel bed to re-engage off-channel and floodplain areas, wetlands, and improve suitability for beaver. Conceptually, this would be achieved through large wood and channel fill, side channel inlet grading, floodplain grading, road relocations, and forest thinning.

The watershed experienced the Jolly Mountain Fire in 2017, and wood and sediment recruitment from burned areas is accelerating.

Due to FEMA's rescinded policy on fish enhancement structures in the floodway and the goal of producing a rise in water surface elevations, pursuing CLOMR/LOMR is certain as the majority of the restoration project opportunities identified lie within the mapped floodway.

II. PROJECT APPROACH AND SCOPE

The priority restoration areas have been grouped into large reaches based on location, and the project partners plan to work on all the reaches over the course of 10 years. This request targets the first phase of restoration work, **West Fork (WF) Teanaway, approximately RM 5.1 – 7.1** That work is scheduled for construction in 2026 and described below. MCF may choose to extend the contract with the selected engineer to incorporate future project phases if budget allows and both parties wish to do so.

Work in the project area will remove old berms and return native material to the streambed. It will place trees instream in engineered log structures and loose wood placements to restore natural geomorphic processes and create thermal heterogeneity. Channel-spanning log structures will raise the water surface elevation, engaging side channel areas and the floodplain. Installation of large wood accumulations will create complex hydraulics and promote gravel deposition. New pools, gravel bars, and floodplain alluvium will retain water. The selected consultant may work with the project team to suggest adjustments to the upstream extent of the work area if necessary for project cohesion.

The work is located entirely on the TCF, which is owned by Washington Department of Natural Resources and managed collaboratively with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The project seeks to pair instream restoration with upland forest management. The project partners are working to identify nearby stands where thinning will improve forest health and provide wood for the instream restoration. The trees selected for thinning are likely to be smaller than 20 inches in diameter, and will include a range of species and size classes.

The project partners seek engineering support to:

- 1) Design effective restoration actions consistent with Bonneville Power Administration's HIP 4 or future programmatic consultations. Iterative review and revision (15%, 30%, 80%, and final designs) should be factored into the scope of work (allow 6 weeks between iterations for BPA and NMFS review);
- 2) Communicate project elements to land managers, permitting agencies and the public through written and oral communication, including meetings and presentations. The project partners currently meet online once a week;

- 3) Model the predicted change in flood elevations and lead the project partners through the FEMA map revision process. YKFP has developed a preliminary HEC-RAS model for the project area, which will need to be updated with the new LiDAR data;
- 4) Assist the project partners with other elements of project permitting through timely provision of spatial data and construction quantities;
- 5) Assist the project partners with cost estimation, bid package preparation using a template provided by the project partners, and evaluation of construction bids;
- 6) Provide construction oversight; and
- 7) Provide as-built documentation.

MCF holds grant funds from the WA Salmon Recovery Funding Board and the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan to complete final design (items 1-5, above). Construction funding (including items 6 & 7) is not yet secured.

III. SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION SCORING

Partnerships and subcontracting are allowed and encouraged. MCF and YKFP are particularly interested in seeing partnerships with restoration construction contractors in which the contractors consult on construction feasibility, cost, and clarity of plans. Proposals should be concise, and should address the following elements.

Qualifications & Relevant Experience (30 pts, 3 page limit):

Proposals will be ranked in this category on the qualifications of the firm, team members and project manager. Resumes and/or general Statements of Qualifications can be included as an appendix.

- 1) Discuss the overall experience of your firm working on this type of project.
- 2) Identify the consultant team that will be involved with the project. Highest scores will be given to consultants that demonstrate relevant qualifications for key members of the team, and for firms that demonstrate they have a coherent team that has worked together on similar projects.
- 3) Identify the project manager and discuss their skills and experience in managing this type of project as well as their technical expertise.

Applicants should describe at least three (3) completed projects that demonstrate experience in:

- 1) Process-based restoration using site available wood.
- 2) Large scale restoration using a range of treatments.
- 3) Working with landowner and public expectations and providing layman discussions in written reports and at technical meetings involving interested parties.
- 4) Ability to work within budget and timeframes.
- 5) Ability to plan for and adapt to project contingencies.

Please provide references for these projects with current contact information. While an understanding of the Teanaway watershed must be demonstrated, the scoring will not give preference for in-watershed experience.

Methodology (50 points, 10 page limit):

Proposals should address the following:

- 1) What restoration approach do you propose for the project reach? In what ways would your approach be process-based? How would it be self-sustaining? How would you address the effects of the Jolly Mountain Fire?
- 2) Would you expect to see changes in shallow groundwater storage from the proposed restoration approach? Are they quantifiable? If so, please explain how this could be calculated and monitored.
- 3) How would you approach the required map revisions for FEMA?
- 4) How would you incorporate construction expertise into your design team?
- 5) How would you make the best use of the available site adjacent trees, which are smaller in diameter than historic key pieces? How would you incorporate the range of size classes and species that will be available from nearby forest health projects?
- 6) How could you support the project team in communicating with recreationists and private landowners during the design process?

Budget, Scope and Schedule (20 points, 3 page limit): Please provide a detailed description of the scope of work for the identified tasks, and include a concise budget narrative/ cost proposal. Include a proposed schedule for the tasks described. A final budget and schedule will be agreed upon during contract negotiations.

IV. CONTRACTOR SELECTION PROCESS

Submittals will be reviewed and ranked by project managers from Mid-Columbia Fisheries and Yakama Nation Fisheries, and by members of the Teanaway Forks Steering Committee. We will schedule follow up video conferences to discuss the proposed scope and methodology with respondents. The contractor(s) will be selected based on the methodology and scope of work proposed, strength of project team, and demonstrated commitment to process-based restoration.

V. SUBMITTAL PROCESS

- A. Please send your proposal electronically to Rebecca Wassell, Yakima Basin Program Director, at becca@midcolumbiafisheries.org and cc Brandon Rossi, Yakima Klickitat Fisheries Project, at rossb@yakamafish-nsn.gov by 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 31, 2024. Call Becca at (509)281-1311 to confirm receipt.
- B. MCF Reserves the Right to:
 - Reject any and all proposals received in response to this request, if deemed not to be in the best interest of the project and in consideration of the limited grant funds available.
 - Waive or modify any irregularities in submittals received, after prior notification to the proponent.
 - Consider submittals or modifications received at any time, if such action is in the best interest of MCF.
 - Seek clarification of contractor's submittal.
 - Negotiate a final contract under which the compensation paid to the contractor is fair and reasonable to MCF and contractor as determined solely by MCF and its funder(s).

- C. MCF shall not be liable for any cost incurred by proponents prior to issuance of a contract.
- D. In the event it becomes necessary to revise any part of this request, addenda will be sent to each firm from whom we have requested a proposal, and any other firms that have expressed interest in the work.
- E. The contents of the submittal of the successful proponent will provide the basis for a more detailed contractual obligation if the proposal is accepted. Failure of the successful proponent to accept these obligations in a contract may result in cancellation of the award.
- F. If a contract is awarded, the successful proponent must provide a certificate of coverage at the time of contract execution, indicating proof of insurance coverage with worker's compensation and employer's liability insurance such as required by Washington State; comprehensive automobile and vehicle liability insurance covering claims with \$1,000,000 combined single limits; comprehensive general liability insurance for injuries arising out of any negligent act or omission with \$1,000,000 combined single limits; professional liability insurance of \$500,000. Such insurance shall be evidenced by Certificate of Insurance provided to MCF, indicating coverage, limits and effective dates, by an insurance company licensed to do business in the state of Washington. Washington Department of Natural Resources shall be named as Additionally Insured.

VI. CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION

- A. The awarded contract will be between the chosen contractor and MCF. Mid-Columbia Fisheries' project representative and primary contact is:

Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Rebecca Wassell, Program Director
413 N. Main St., Suite K, Ellensburg, WA 98926
Phone: (509)281-1311
Website: www.midcolumbiafisheries.org
Email: becca@midcolumbiafisheries.org
- B. A "not to exceed" total contract price will be negotiated prior to start of work.
- C. MCF will disburse all payments after the invoices from the contractor have been reviewed and approved by MCF and other project stakeholders. Payments will be distributed within 60 days of receipt by MCF to provide for processing times with MCF and our funders.
- D. The contract will comply with federal, state, and local laws and regulations governing the performance of the business or activity.
- E. MCF will not award a contract to any contractor or sub-contractor that has been debarred or suspended or otherwise excluded from participation by Federal Order 12549. Contractors will be asked to state that they have not been debarred, suspended or otherwise excluded.