

**Bonneville Power Administration
Fish and Wildlife Program FY98 Watershed Proposal Form**

Section 1. General administrative information

**Title Coordination Of Watershed Restoration
Projects In Umatilla River Basin**

Bonneville project number, if an ongoing project 9608500

Business name of agency, institution or organization requesting funding
Umatilla Basin Watershed Council Foundation

Business acronym (if appropriate) UBWC

Proposal contact person or principal investigator:

Name Mr. Tracy L. Bosen
Mailing Address PO Box 1551
City, ST Zip Pendleton, Oregon 97801
Phone 541-276-2190
Fax 541-276-8130
Email address _____

Subcontractors.

Organization	Mailing Address	City, ST Zip	Contact Name

NPPC Program Measure Number(s) which this project addresses.

Section 7.6 & 7.7, specifically 7.7A4

NMFS Biological Opinion Number(s) which this project addresses.

Other planning document references.

Wy Kan Ush Me Wa Kush Wit; Umatilla Basin TMDL Assessment; Buckaroo Creek, Mission Creek, Wildhorse Creek, & McKay Creek watershed assessments; ODF&W various basin assessments

Subbasin.

Umatilla River subbasin

Short description.

Improve water quality& increase fish & wildlife habitat diversity in the Um.Basin by 1) coordination of watershed restoration efforts by landowners, agencies, and other entities
 2) providing forum for participation & comment by stakeholders of Basin

Section 2. Key words

Mark	Programmatic Categories	Mark	Activities	Mark	Project Types
X	Anadromous fish		Construction	X	Watershed
+	Resident fish		O & M	+	Biodiversity/genetics
+	Wildlife		Production	+	Population dynamics
	Oceans/estuaries		Research	+	Ecosystems
	Climate		Monitoring/eval.	+	Flow/survival
	Other		Resource mgmt		Fish disease
		X	Planning/admin.		Supplementation
			Enforcement	+	Wildlife habitat en-
			Acquisitions		hancement/restoration

Other keywords.

Political, coordination, integration, collaboration

Section 3. Relationships to other Bonneville projects

Project #	Project title/description	Nature of relationship
8710001	Umatilla Rir Basin Anadromous Fish Habitat Enhancement	Socio-political integration, multi-level collaboration
9506000	Squaw Creek Watershed Project-Anadromous Portion	Socio-political integration, multi-level collaboration
9405400	Bull Trout Studies in Central and NE Oregon	Socio-political integration, multi agency input, issues awareness
9506001	Squaw Creek Watershed Project-Wildlife Portion	Socio-political integration, multi-level collaboration

Section 4. Objectives, tasks and schedules**Objectives and tasks**

Obj 1,2,3	Objective	Task a,b,c	Task

1	Provide technical support, public forum & access of information to stakeholders in watershed issues via watershed council facilities, personnel, resources and activities	A	Continue information sharing, providing expertise, time and materials for public meetings, concerns, issues, or other Umatilla Basin watershed health issues
		B	Hold monthly council meetings to provide opportunities for public participation and input regarding all watershed projects, assessment, or other pertinent issues
		C	Develop innovative outreach plan to literate stakeholders concerning watershed resources, wise use conservation, former & pending regulatory issues, & permit stipulations and applications
		D	Provide resources to landowner associations, private individuals, civic groups, professional associations, agencies, and other affected groups or entities to facilitate and coordinate watershed related projects & activities
2	Provide coordination & technical support to entities involved in restoration and/or enhancement projects and the remediation of watershed problems	A	Facilitate & coordinate meetings for landowner associations (e.g. East Birch Creek) which deal with perennial flooding problems, and subsequent remediation
		B	Provide assistance and expertise to obtain pertinent permits for in-stream work while seeking viable alternatives to those activities which adversely affect fish habitat
		C	Provide a "clearinghouse" of information to all interested entities; specifically project locations & activities, past and present.

Objective schedules and costs

Objective #	Start Date mm/yyyy	End Date mm/yyyy	Cost %
1	8/1998	7/1999	60.00%
2	8/1998	7/1999	40.00%
			TOTAL 100.00%

Schedule constraints.

Completion date.

There is no anticipated expiration to Watershed Council activities

Section 5. Budget

FY99 budget by line item

Item	Note	FY98
Personnel	Salaries	\$37,260
Fringe benefits	@ 30%	\$11,178
Supplies, materials, non-expendable property	postage, copies, publications & newsletters, subscriptions, meeting notices	\$6075
Operations & maintenance	Office rent & phone service	\$8175
Capital acquisitions or improvements (e.g. land, buildings, major equip.)	fax machine, software	\$450
PIT tags	# of tags:	
Travel	Coordination & presentations of meetings, vehicular costs, mileage,	\$5,115
Indirect costs	@ 3%	\$1702
Subcontracts		
Other		
TOTAL		\$69,955

Outyear costs

Outyear costs	FY99	FY00	FY01	FY02
Total budget	\$69,955	\$69,955	\$69,955	\$69,955
O&M as % of total				

Section 6. Abstract

UBWC is recognized as the leader who coordinates, obtains & provides public input into watershed issues. This stems from their mission statement which calls for “education, cooperation, and providing comment for stakeholders regarding watershed health & to facilitate & coordinate activities that will maintain, restore, and enhance Umatilla Basin watershed health” (relevance to CBFWP). These goals are accomplished through the use of a coordinator providing skills which bring affected and interested entities together for well coordinated restoration efforts. Higher water quality standards for all beneficial uses will be the expected results. Results will be evaluated by peers and stakeholders.

Section 7. Project description

a. Technical and/or scientific background.

Natural resource management issues are clearly a priority of public attention in the Columbia River Basin. Fish & wildlife habitat restoration and clean water in particular have been the subject of much contested debate & legislation. The Umatilla Basin (UB) faces issues related to the FWP and NMFS Biological Opinion in their respect to providing habitat suitable for fish recovery and/or reintroduction. Many stream segments in the UB have been listed as water quality limited. High levels of pollutants, temperature issues, and sedimentation are just a few problems relating to degradation of fish habitat. Compounding this problem is the complexities of land use, land owner objectives, and how that fits into many of the proposed or ongoing CTUIR wildlife and anadromous fish restoration projects. OFD&W have projects too, that require much public attention and input, and historically there has been a poor relationship between regulatory agencies and stakeholders.

Through activities sponsored by the Umatilla Basin Watershed Council, the barriers which separate a successful and non-successful restoration project can be diminished or even eliminated. It should be especially noted the council has an established and respected reputation as an entity providing a neutral position on issues, and providing the resources which can bring polarized factions into common territory.

b. Proposal objectives.

Objectives of the council are as follows:

- 1: To provide technical support, public forum, and access of information to stakeholders and interested entities in watershed issues via UBWC facilities, personnel, resources and activities.

- 2: To provide coordination and technical support to entities involved in fish restoration and/or enhancement projects, and the remediation of related issues.

c. Rationale and significance to Regional Programs.

There are currently a significant number of projects ongoing or proposed in the UB which are related by similar goals and objectives, but not through coordination. Many tasks and assessments are unwittingly duplicated due to lack of information sharing. The council provides a “clearinghouse” for the public as well as agencies to become informed as to where projects are and what their purpose is. Similar efforts by entities are encouraged to collaborate by providing meeting spaces and facilitation, and also providing them with information concerning project contacts etc. This pools scarce resources such as grant monies, personnel, time, and equipment purchases.

Many projects are derailed due to lack of education from stakeholders who feel regulated and/or pushed into situations threatening their economical means of support. The more information the public possesses, and the more they know the purposes and intent of these projects, the less likely they will attempt to block the progress of the work. The council strives to stay informed and in turn provides valuable information and forum to the stakeholders.

d. Project history

The UBWC was formed in 1994 in response to Oregon House Bill 2215, authorizing the creation of watershed councils. Our council was formed with 15 members of the Umatilla Basin which reflect the diversity of all stakeholders. Since its’ inception, the council has provided innumerable public forums to gather input or provide services to stakeholders concerning watershed issues. During the past two years, the council has provided public input to the Lower Umatilla Basin project, various and numerable assessments, and still provide administrative support to landowner associations such as East Birch Creek Landowners Association in the form of facilitation and meeting resources in their search for solutions regarding flooding, and restoration activities of East Birch Creek. An active and ongoing portion of the council’s activities has been an education and outreach project designed to foster knowledge about and conservation of natural resources. We have incorporated the CTUIR fish passages, restoration, supplementation projects to ensure public knowledge and input to activities affecting them. Currently the WC is providing perspective to the TMDL process now getting underway

e. Methods.

The council will continue to hold regular monthly scheduled meetings to accommodate the concerns of agencies and stakeholders. All interest groups and individuals will receive prior notification and invitation to attend. Press releases will be issued concerning ongoing project activities. Agency and special interest groups will be contacted on a regular basis to ensure sharing of new and proposed project status and scope. Other meetings as needed will be scheduled and facilitated by council to provide public input and education. Presentations will be made to civic, environmental, and all other groups who invite the council to participate.

Ongoing education projects of agencies and organizations will be collaborated and combined ensuring the stakeholders that cooperation and coordination of projects is being addressed.

f. Facilities and equipment.

Request for fax machine would enable the council to communicate effectively with other watershed and agency entities to convey documents, letters, press releases, and a variety of information and communication needs. Office space consists of approximately 800 square feet located on #1 SW Nye Street, Pendleton, OR. Equipment consists of basic phone service with two lines & answering machine, computer system with desk and chair.

g. References.

Section 8. Relationships to other projects

The Watershed Council is recognized by virtually all public and private entities of the Umatilla Basin as being the conduit for public input for any or all projects requiring comment and/or consent. This includes providing the forums necessary in presentation of planned or established projects such as the CTUIR enhancement & fish & wildlife projects, obtaining input and permission for subwatershed assessments (Wildhorse, Buckaroo and various other creeks).

Regulatory influence combined with growing realization for need of fish & wildlife habitat restoration has resulted in the need to organize stakeholder interests and provide a focal point from which to give and receive information. The Watershed Council provides this, along with valuable coordinating tools and personnel to foster an environment of cooperation between those who propose and construct these projects, and the stakeholders whom it affects.

Section 9. Key personnel

Watershed Council Coordinator

40 FTE hours/week

Tracy L. Bosen

Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, Idaho State University, 1994

5 years experience as Conservationist for NRCS in state of Idaho. Emphasis of work was water quality project implementation & planning statewide, specifically Lake & Plummer Creek watersheds located on Couer d'Alene Basin, Bear & Portneuf River basins in Soda Springs, Idaho, and Camas Creek project near Gooding Idaho.

Formally trained in group process and problem solving series by NRCS in 1995.

Coordinator duties:

- Develop work plan to provide smooth operations of Watershed Council (WC) activities
- Develop and facilitate good communication between WC and stakeholders of Umatilla Basin (UB)
- Develop and maintain communication between public interest groups & governmental units inside & outside UB boundaries
- Facilitation & exchange of ideas between various persons and entities involved in watershed issues of UB
- Represent WC at functions at which WC involvement is required or desired
- Refine watershed policies developed by council
- Develop funding sources for WC activities and apply for such
- Supervise employees and contractors of WC to accomplish specific projects
- Act as liaison between county government and WC
- Administer and account for all fiscal resources and obligations of WC

Section 10. Information/technology transfer

Publication of newsletter, holding regularly scheduled public meetings, press releases, coordination of information and materials via workshops and informal gatherings, fax communications, and providing presentations by invitation