

Bid Solicitation Packet:

Yakama Nation, Upper
Methow River Safety
Assessment



Request for Bids: **2015—Upper Methow River Safety Assessment**

Dear Consultant:

The Yakama Nation's Upper Columbia Habitat Restoration Project (UCHARP) is requesting bids to conduct a River Safety Assessment of the Upper Methow River during the Spring and Summer 2015. The UCHARP implements habitat restoration projects to restore endangered spring Chinook and steelhead in priority waters throughout the Methow, Entiat, and Wenatchee basins. Often these projects have the potential to affect river recreation by altering the existing riverine condition. The goal of this project is use proven scientific techniques to evaluate river conditions and river use on a reach based scale to help inform the design, location and implementation of fish habitat restoration projects.

Specific tasks and products are described in the attached scope of work. Please use the scope of work in conjunction with the bid sheets to provide a bid price for completion of each task item. Be sure to clearly articulate any assumptions made in generating the bid. Please specify in writing on the bid sheets that all bid prices are valid for 90 days.

All consultants submitting bids for this project shall provide and/or demonstrate, at a minimum, the following:

- *A signed and complete bid sheet*
- *A list of 3 professional references*
- *A brief narrative describing your ability to and/or experience performing this type of work*

Bids must be received by Close of Business **February 18, 2015**. Each consultant must have completed and submitted a signed copy of the Upper Methow River Safety Assessment bid documents to be eligible for award of this contract. All bid materials must be mailed to:

Yakama Nation Fisheries
Attn: Jackie Olney, (Safety Assessment)
PO Box 151
401 Fort Road
Toppenish, WA 98948

For additional information contact:

Jarred Johnson (Project Manager)
johj@yakamafish-nsn.gov
509-881-1462

Exhibit A – Scope of Work

Upper Methow River Safety Assessment

*Yakama Nation Upper Columbia Habitat Restoration
Project*

About the Project

Yakama Nation Fisheries (YN) Upper Columbia Habitat Restoration Project (UCHRP) is implementing habitat restoration projects to restore endangered spring Chinook and steelhead in priority streams and river reaches within the Methow, Entiat and Wenatchee basins. Projects are developed using recommendations for habitat restoration actions provided under the framework of the Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan (UCSRB, 2007) and more specifically Appendix E, the Biological Strategy (BS). The BS identifies priority restoration and habitat enhancement actions to treat spatially explicit ecological concerns in high priority tributary reaches supporting native salmon runs in the Upper Columbia Basin.

Fish habitat restoration activities have the potential to affect river users by changing the existing riverine condition. Some of the common restoration techniques include installing engineered logjams, increasing surface flows, removing dikes and levees, activating side channels and placement of large woody material. The goal of this Safety Assessment is to use proven research techniques to evaluate river conditions and river use on a reach based scale to help inform the design, location and implementation of fish habitat restoration projects. The primary emphasis will focus on recreational watersports such as rafting, kayaking, canoeing and tubing but data on all types of river use will be collected. This Scope of Work (SOW) describes the methods for the study design and the products the Consultant will be required to produce.

The assessment reach is 14 miles in length along the Upper Methow River; from the Lost River confluence at river mile 75 to the Weeman Bridge at river mile 61. The selected contractor will be responsible for supplying their own staff and materials for all tasks.

SCOPE OF WORK

TASK 1.0: PROJECT KICKOFF AND SITE VISITS

Consultant will participate in a kickoff meeting in Winthrop, with key personnel attending. The purpose of the kickoff meeting will be to verify study objectives and a timeline for completing the work. The discussion will include potential user groups to be included in surveys, contacts, timelines and reporting format.

TASK 2.0: FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS WITH RIVER USERS

Consultant will conduct focus group meetings with river users. Focus groups will include diverse experience, including swift-water search and rescue personnel, outfitter-guides, highly skilled users, and casual users. Consultant will be responsible for preparing a discussion guide, participant recruitment, selection of the meeting venue and time, facilitating a focus group type discussion, and preparing a summary report of meeting highlights.

TASK 3.0: DEVELOP A WORK PLAN

Consultant will establish sampling and data collection procedures. The general sampling approach is to collect sufficient data to make defensible generalizations about boating use, boater opinions, and safety-related behaviors for each river reach. To ensure representative boater data in each reach, data will be collected during weekend days and weekdays, and at multiple locations. Data will be collected during the spring and summer seasons.

A work plan will be developed to include:

- Staff resources to be used for data collection
- Detailed sampling schedule and technique description (dates and duration that staff will be in the field).
- Health and safety protocols.
- Boater count and interview survey forms

TASK 4.0: DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

Data collection will include desktop and field based methods.

Task 4a: Desktop Data Collection. Desktop data collection will entail compiling existing readily available information about boating characteristics and search and rescue capability for the river reach. This will involve a review of websites, guidebooks, and discussions with local river users (e.g., guides, search and rescue personnel, and frequent river users).

Task 4b: Field Data Collection. Field-based data collection will entail using surveyors to collect data on number of boaters, easily observable behaviors (e.g., type of watercraft, whether a party has personal flotation devices etc.), and boater responses about their perceptions of river hazards (e.g., number of strainers and snags, eddies observed), use and experience levels.

Additionally Yakama Nation personnel will install, maintain and compile still images collected from motion activated cameras positioned at natural bottlenecks to improve and evaluate the observation efficiency. The contractor will be responsible for analyzing these images for data on use behaviors and use frequency.

Data analysis will involve generating simple descriptive statistics for each season and river reach. For boater numbers, counts will be reported by season, weekday, and weekend day periods, as well as by varying surface flow levels.

TASK 5.0: ON-WATER SAFETY ASSESSMENT.

Consultant will conduct on-water safety (boatability) studies using expert boaters, including swiftwater search and rescue personnel. The expert boaters will travel down a study reach multiple times, and rate its boatability including safety hazards, under multiple flows. The survey group will include 4-10 expert boaters to travel each reach, and at the conclusion, rate the relative risk level and comment on particular features (e.g., strainers, snags, eddies) that contribute to the risk rating. The focus will be on enumerating and evaluating existing large wood conditions as related specifically to boater safety.

TASK 6.0: PRODUCE RIVER SAFETY ASSESSMENT REPORTS

Following completion of data collection, Consultant will produce a report for each river reach. The Yakama Nation project manager will review and provide feedback to the Consultant on content and completeness of the report prior to finalizing it. The Consultant will be solely responsible for creation and editing of the report.

The report will include the following elements:

- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
 - Focus group results
 - Existing information safety on river reaches
 - Search and rescue response capabilities
 - User counts, field survey responses and photo analysis
 - Identification of relative risks along each reach
 - On-water assessment of existing safety conditions
- Conclusions and Discussion

Each report will be supplemented with maps and photographs depicting identified safety hazards by reach, and a summary of overall risk level. Based on results of the focus groups and river user surveys, each reach will be described in terms of features that contribute to risk, given an overall risk rating, and ranked as to its relative risk with the other reaches. This information will be used to inform possible locations of

restoration structures that present the lowest relative risk to boaters. Prior to submittal to YN, each report will be peer reviewed and will be edited for writing style and clarity of expression by a technical editor.

TASK 7.0: PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Consultant will provide regular communication with Yakama Nation (YN) staff and reporting of project status.

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

YN is seeking to have this work begin as early as March 2015 and proceed through the May 2016.

Bid Sheet

Upper Methow River Safety Assessment

Please provide costs by Project Task as described in your Scope of Work in table below and include your cost assumptions. Task 4b will be the cost for a typical sampling day and will not address total number of days for field sampling as that will need to be determined during Work Plan Development.

Task	Cost	Cost Assumptions
TASK 1.0: KICKOFF/SITE VISITS		
TASK 2.0: FOCUS GROUP MTGS		
TASK 3.0: DEVELOP WORKPLANS		
TASK 4.0: DATA COLLECTION/ ANALYSIS 4a. Desktop		
4b. Field Data Collection- provide the typical cost for one day of sampling . Total cost for this task will be determined later once the sampling work plan is developed.		
TASK 5.0: ON-WATER SAFETY ASSESSMENT		
TASK 6.0: PRODUCE REPORTS		
TASK 7.0: PROJECT MANAGEMENT		

CERTIFICATION:

Company Name

Date Prepared

Printed Name and Title

Signature