



November 16, 2021

**Chehalis Basin Lead Entity Call for Project Proposals:
Improving Habitat for Salmon in the Chehalis River Basin**

Hello Chehalis salmon habitat restoration and protection community,

We are at a time of unprecedented opportunity for restoring the health of our waterways and salmon. While the Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) has been the mainstay of funding for implementing our local restoration strategy for the past 20 years, we are in a season of many more funding opportunities that can help us move the needle on salmon recovery.

Major Grant programs with a currently open RFP, or one that will open soon:

Funding Source – Amount – *Relevant Geography*

- Salmon Recovery Funding Board - ~\$700,000 - *Chehalis Basin*
- SRFB Targeted Investment - \$3.7 Million – *Statewide*
- Washington Coast Restoration and Resilience Initiative - \$12 Million - *Coastwide*
- Fish Barrier Removal Board - \$26.8 Million – *Statewide*
- Streamflow Restoration - \$40 Million – *Statewide*
- Aquatic Species Restoration Plan - \$20.4 Million – *Chehalis Basin*
- National Fish Passage Program - \$20-\$80k per project – *Coastwide*
- Infrastructure Bill – Millions to be spent within 5 years, more details soon - *Nationwide*

My request to you: send in all of your ideas for high priority projects that address the management unit concerns described in the Chehalis Basin Salmon Restoration and Preservation Strategy (Lead Entity strategy). In the next few months, please submit Conceptual Project Forms for consideration for SRFB funds and/or other funding sources. Please fill out the form and send it to me. Then we can set up a pre-application meeting to discuss how the project helps meet a top priority need in our Lead Entity strategy, or if not, how it could be modified to meet such a need, and, critically, which of the many funding sources might be a good funding match.

This approach will help us make use of funding sources currently available to the basin, and could save you time in terms of which funding source to apply to.

For applicants interested in applying for SRFB:

The minimum amount of funding eligible applicants can apply for is \$5,000. There is no maximum, but the total amount available for all projects in the river basin is approximately \$700,000. Each grant needs to be “matched” with funds from other sources, equivalent to 15% of the total project cost.

To apply, eligible applicants must submit a Conceptual Project Form to the Chehalis Basin Lead Entity by January 28, 2022. To learn more about the Lead Entity strategy, or how to apply for SRFB funds, visit the Chehalis Lead Entity website www.chehalisleadentity.org - see “For Grant Applicants.”

Sincerely,

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Kirsten Harma  
Watershed Coordinator  
Chehalis Basin Partnership & Chehalis Basin Lead Entity *for Salmon Recovery*  
E-mail: [kharma@chehalisribe.org](mailto:kharma@chehalisribe.org)  
Phone: (360) 488-3232