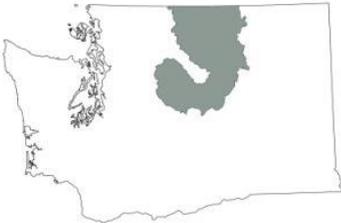
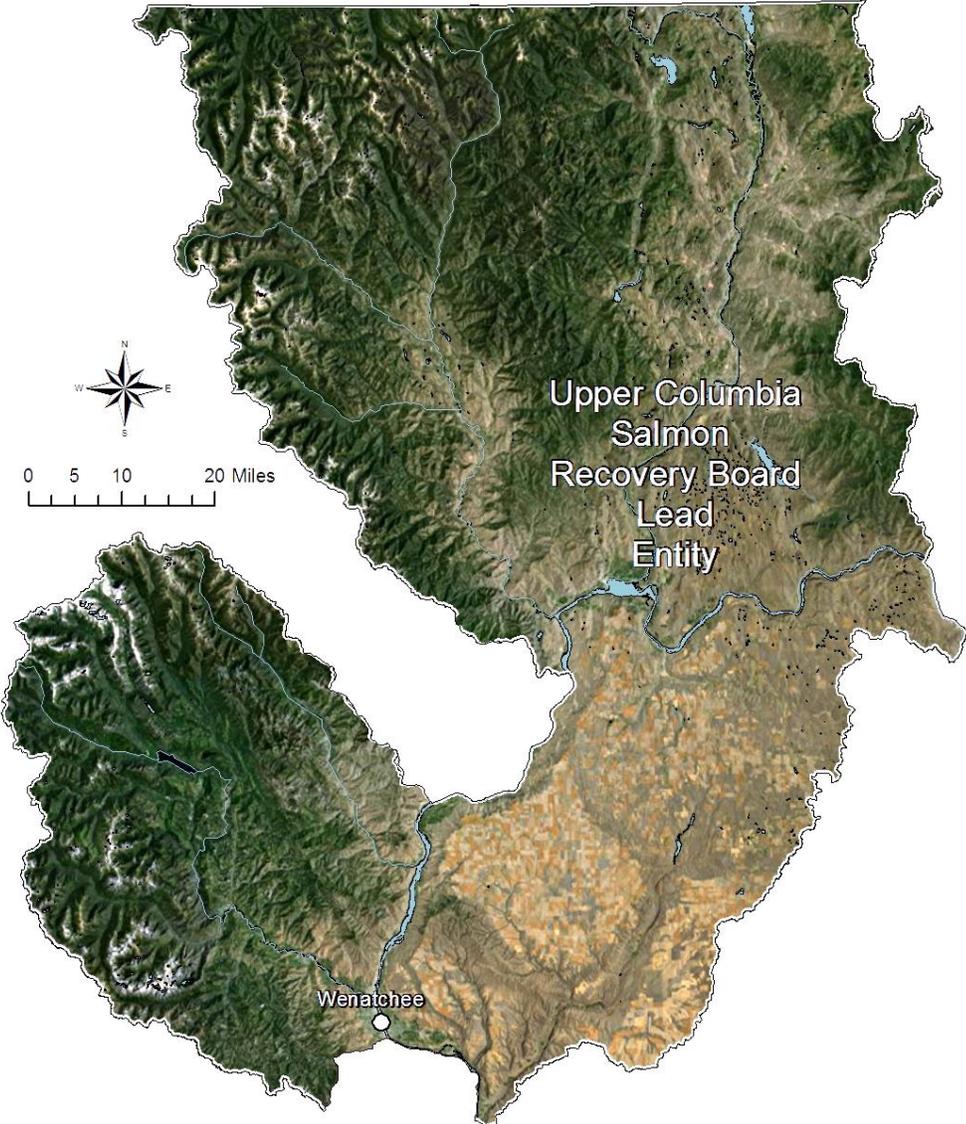


# Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region



Upper Columbia Salmon  
Recovery Board  
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[www.ucsrb.com](http://www.ucsrb.com)

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## Region Overview

### Geography

The Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region is comprised of salmon-bearing streams in Chelan, Douglas, and Okanogan Counties.

### Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA)

Moses Coulee (44), Wenatchee (45), Entiat (46), Methow (48), Okanogan (49), and Foster (50)

### Federally Recognized Tribes

Colville Confederated Tribes and the Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

### Endangered Species Act Listings

**Table 1: Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region Listed Species**

Species Listed	Listed As	Date Listed
Upper Columbia River Spring Chinook	Endangered	March 24, 1999
Upper Columbia River Steelhead	Threatened	August 18, 1997

### Salmon Recovery Plan

**Table 2: Upper Columbia River Salmon Recovery Region Recovery Plan**

Recovery Plan	
Regional Organization	Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board
Plan Timeframe	10-30 Years
Actions Identified to Implement Plan	296
Estimated Cost	\$734 million over 10 years
Status	Federal government adopted recovery plan for upper Columbia River spring Chinook and steelhead in October 2007.
Implementation Schedule Status	An implementation schedule with timeframes of 3 years, 6 years, 10 years, and beyond, and with more detailed information on recovery plan actions and costs is being used by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board and its plan implementation partners.
Web Information	Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Funding Board <a href="#">Web site</a>

## Region and Lead Entities

The Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board serves as the regional organization and the lead entity.

### Regional Area Summary Questions and Responses

#### **Describe the process and criteria used to develop allocations across lead entities or watersheds within the region**

The UCSRB Lead Entity (Lead Entity) approached the 2015 SRFB funding process in a similar way to previous years; there were no substantial changes to the process or timeline. In general, the Lead Entity facilitates a process that allocates funds within the Upper Columbia based on the regional biological priorities established in the Upper Columbia Biological Strategy (Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (RTT) 2014) and the Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan (UCSRB 2007). Since previous SRFB grants have matched the regional priorities in recent grant cycles, the Lead Entity considers these criteria to be an appropriate guideline for funding allocation. Moreover, the biological priorities in the Regional Strategy closely match those in the Salmon Recovery Plan. The ***UCSRB Lead Entity Funding Process Guide 2015 (v7), 2015 Regional Funding Timeline, and UCSRB Supplemental Application (Attachment A)*** are annually updated and document the steps in our funding process in detail.

#### **How was the regional technical review conducted?**

Since 2001, the Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (RTT) has provided independent technical review for the Upper Columbia project proposals. From the beginning, the RTT used a formal process with review criteria to rate projects on its technical merits and consistency with regional biological priorities. It was the first technical team in the state to establish biological priorities at an Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) scale.

When the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board (UCSRB) adopted the draft Salmon Recovery Plan in June 2005, the RTT met monthly from then through March 2006 to revise its project rating criteria based on the Viable Salmonid Population (VSP) parameters established in the Recovery Plan. The RTT revised its Biological Strategy again in 2009 to ensure consistency with the Recovery Plan, and in 2012/2013 in a process that included stakeholder input (UCRTT Biological Strategy 2013). This 2013 update to the Biological Strategy was an update to replace all earlier versions of the Biological Strategy provided to the UCSRB (UCRTT 2000; UCRTT 2002; UCRTT 2008). The RTT intended that the 2013 revisions of the previous draft Biological Strategy (UCRTT 2008) accomplished four objectives: 1) to better define the prioritization of habitat actions, 2) update the technical appendices and the text within the main body of the strategy

with new information regarding restoration strategies and priorities, 3) provide revised technical scoring criteria for habitat restoration, protection, assessment, and design projects submitted for funding through various sources, and 4) update the informational-needs section. The RTT made some corrections to the technical criteria for use in reviewing project proposals in 2014.

See <http://www.ucsrb.org> for the revised Biological Strategy. The RTT anticipates the need for future updates as our understanding of salmonid ecology and restoration science improves and we achieve various restoration and protection objectives.

**What criteria were used for the regional technical review?**

The **RTT Scoring Criteria** used for the 2015 funding cycle can be found in **Attachment B**. The **RTT Draft Proposal Comments** from the June 2<sup>nd</sup> Workshop and **RTT Scoring Meeting Summary** and results from the RTT’s July 8<sup>th</sup> scoring meeting are also included in **Attachment B**.

**Who completed the review (name, affiliation, and expertise) and are they part of the regional organization or independent?**

Members of the Regional Technical Team participated in the final proposal review (the full list of the RTT is available at [www.ucsrb.org](http://www.ucsrb.org)). The RTT is an independent group of natural resource professionals in the region with a broad range of expertise relevant to fish biology, engineering and habitat rehabilitation. The individuals volunteer their time to the RTT on behalf of their agency or organization to provide a service to the region. The UCSRB maintains an annual contract with the RTT chair to coordinate the efforts of the RTT. Tables 1 and 2 identify the Upper Columbia RTT and Citizens Advisory Committees who reviewed, scored, and ranked projects this year.

**Table 3. 2015 Project Proposal Regional Technical Reviewers**

<b>Chelan Citizen Advisory Committee Members</b>	<b>Representation</b>	<b>Geographic Area</b>	<b>Scored in 2015</b>
Mike Deason (City of Leavenworth)	City	Wenatchee	X
Jerry Gutzwiler (Former Fish and Wildlife Commission)	Citizen	Wenatchee	X
Buford Howell (Interested citizen)	Citizen	Wenatchee	X
Dave Graybill (Sporting Industry)	Other Habitat Interests	Wenatchee	X
Rick Smith (Wenatchee Reclamation District)	Landowner/Business Interest	Wenatchee	X
Jon Small (Entiat Orchardist)	Landowner/Business Interest	Entiat	

Okanogan CAC Members	Representation	Geographic Area	Scored in 2015
Jerry Barnes (Okanogan Watershed Planning Unit)	Citizen	Okanogan	X
Bob Monetta (Business Realtor)	Business Interest	Methow	X
Craig Nelson (Chair) (Okanogan Conservation District)	Conservation district	Okanogan	X
Louis Sukovaty (Farmer)	Business Interest	Methow	X
Dale Swedberg (Citizens)	Environmental Group	Okanogan	
Will Keller (Okanogan NRCS)	Other Habitat Interests	Okanogan	X

**Were there any projects submitted to the SRFB that were not specifically identified in the regional implementation plan or habitat work schedule? If so, please provide justification for including these projects in the list of projects recommended to the SRFB for funding. If the projects were identified in the regional implementation plan or strategy but considered a low priority or in a low priority area please provide justification.**

No

**Criteria the SRFB considers in funding regional project lists:** Revised Code of Washington 77.85.130 identifies criteria that the SRFB must consider and give preference in awarding funds to projects. Please provide a short description of each of the criteria (when applicable) on how your region considered these factors in presenting your project list to the SRFB.

**How did your regional review consider whether a project:**

- A. Provides benefit to high priority stocks for the purpose of salmon recovery or sustainability. In addition to limiting factors analysis, Salmonid Stock Inventory, and Salmon and Steelhead Habitat Inventory and Assessment Program, what stock assessment work has been done to date to further characterize the status of salmonid species in the region? Briefly describe.**

The *Upper Columbia Biological Strategy (UCRTT 2014)* identifies actions to consider in implementing projects with high biological benefit. The RTT rated actions and developed quartiles that compare actions across the entire ESU. Restoring the productivity of salmon and steelhead habitat in the Upper Columbia requires a prioritization of habitat actions to maximize the benefit derived from limited funding. The RTT Biological Strategy (Appendix H in UCSRB 2007, updated RTT2014) documents biological considerations for the protection and restoration of habitat in order to provide a technical foundation for setting priorities. The intent of the document is to provide support and guidance on implementing the Recovery Plan. The Biological Strategy provides guidance on habitat actions that are expected to contribute to the improved

status of the VSP parameters. Priority areas and ecological concerns have been identified for each assessment unit within the region (see the **2015 Project Information Table** in **Attachment C** that identifies the priority area and ecological concern rating for this year's proposed projects). The Biological Strategy complements the Recovery Plan by providing further support and guidance, and serves as the technical foundation to set regional priorities for habitat protection and restoration actions. The strategy is developed by the RTT, and is periodically revised. The RTT worked with various stakeholders within and outside of the region to generate criteria and recommendations on habitat restoration and protection projects.

Building on the Biological Strategy, the region uses a river reach-based action approach to ensure priority habitat projects are implemented with a clear understanding of the existing physical processes. This reach-based approach to project development incorporates information from tributary-scale and reach-scale hydro-geomorphic assessments and monitoring, which inform restoration and protection actions based on an assessment of channel processes and habitat impairments. As reach-level degradations and processes are defined, alternatives are produced in order to identify, sequence, and prioritize specific actions to protect and/or restore channel and floodplain connectivity and complexity.

**B. Addresses cost-effectiveness. Provide a description of how cost-effectiveness was considered.**

Cost effectiveness of 2015 proposals was determined using the methods described in the RTT's Biological Strategy (2014) and were calculated for monetary requests for both the "total project request" and the "SRFB only request". Cost-effectiveness scoring was determined for all project types. As has been done historically, the benefit scores were compiled and averaged. Once the benefit scores were averaged for a specific project, benefit scores and costs for all the projects were used to develop a 1:1 benefit: cost ratio that is based on percentiles (using regression analysis). The magnitude of the benefit (the vertical distance between the benefit score of a particular project and the one: one benefit-to-cost line) is calculated for each project. Projects are then ranked based on the magnitude of the benefit and assigned to a bin, which is associated with a score. See actual analysis graphs in **Attachment B RTT Scoring Meeting Summary**.

In 2014, the RTT and CAC made the decision to have the CACs take a greater role in reviewing project costs. RTT decided to reduce the weight of cost-effectiveness in their scoring criteria. In 2013, cost-effectiveness was 15% of the total score and in 2014 it was decreased to 5% of the total RTT score. The Citizen Advisory Committees (CAC) now

includes a detailed cost-effectiveness review through three separate criteria: project longevity, project scope, and economics.

- C. Provides benefit to listed and non-listed fish species. Identify projects on the regional list that primarily benefit listed fish. Identify projects on the regional list that primarily benefit non-listed species.**

See Table 4, Appendix K Matrix 3 C for answer

- D. Preserves high quality habitat. Identify the projects on your list that will preserve high quality habitat.**

See Table 4, Appendix K Matrix 3 D for answer

- E. Implements a high priority project or action in a region- or watershed-based salmon recovery plan. Identify where and how the project is identified as a high priority in the referenced plan.**

See Table 4, Appendix K Matrix 3 C for answer

- F. Provides for match above the minimum requirement percentage. Identify the project's match percentage and the regional match total.**

See Table 4, Appendix K Matrix 3 F for answer

- G. Is sponsored by an organization that has a successful record of project implementation. For example, identify the number of previous SRFB projects funded and completed.**

See Table 4, Appendix K Matrix 3 F for answer

- H. Involves members of the veterans conservation corps established in Revised Code of Washington 43.60A.150.**

None

**Local review processes.** (Lead entity provide response)

- I. Provide project evaluation criteria and documentation (local technical reviewer and citizen committee score sheet or comment forms) of your local citizen's advisory group and technical advisory group ratings for each project, including explanations for differences between the two groups' ratings.**

RTT project scores are distributed to the local CACs to assist them in the development of their rankings see **Attachment B** for the July 8 *RTT Scoring Meeting Summary*.

Okanogan and Chelan Citizen’s Committees had two separate ranking meetings and then a joint meeting to finalize the list.

**Table 4. 2014 Project Proposal Reviewer’s Documentation**

<b>Technical Scoring</b>	
RTT Scoring Criteria	Attachment B
RTT Draft Proposal Comments	Attachment B
RTT Scoring Meeting Notes	Attachment B
<b>CAC Ranking Criteria</b>	
Citizen’s Advisory Committee (CAC) Ranking Criteria	Attachment D
Chelan and Okanogan CAC’s Meeting Notes	Attachment D
Joint Committees Meeting Notes & Final Rank	Attachment D
<b>Final List</b>	
Upper Columbia Final Project List	Attachment E

**J. Identify your local technical review team (include expertise, names, and affiliations of members).**

See Table 1.

**K. Explain how and when the SRFB Review Panel participated in your local process, if applicable.**

Two members of the State Review Pane (SRP), Steve Toth and Tom Slocum, participated in our process for the 2015 round as follows:

Review Draft Proposals

The SRP had the opportunity to review of draft applications for 9 draft applications

Project Tours

Members of the Lead Entity, CACs, RTT, HCP Tributary Committees, and SRP toured Methow sub-basin on May 7 and the Wenatchee sub-basin on May 13. The purpose of the tours was to evaluate the projects on site and to provide additional comments to the sponsors on ways to improve the technical merit of each project. These tours also facilitated productive discussions among all participants on local priorities in project development.

RTT Draft Proposal Workshop

The purpose of the June 2, 2015 RTT meeting was for the RTT to discuss individual projects and provide well thought out comments to assist sponsors in improving the

project concepts and also to request specific information or clarification to be addressed in the final project proposals. RTT provided one set of comments after the meeting.

#### SRP Comment Process

Comments and feedback were distributed to individual sponsors using the standardized review panel comment forms and process. Project sponsors answered questions and received feedback during the site visits and in written form. The project sponsors addressed all feedback in their final PRISM submittals.

#### **Local evaluation process and project lists.** (Lead entity provide response)

##### **A. Explain how multi-year implementation plans or Habitat Work Schedules were used to develop project lists.**

The principle guiding document for identifying appropriate projects for implementation in the region is the Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan's (UCSRP) Biological Strategy (UCSRB 2007, RTT 2014), a federally approved Recovery Plan for this Evolutionary Significant Unit (ESU) in Washington State. The Biological Strategy outlines priorities so that sponsors can use this document to identify priority projects. The UCSRB staff works with project sponsors to populate the Habitat Work Schedule (HWS), which serves as the on-line database for the UCSRB Implementation Schedule.

##### **B. Explain how comments of technical, citizen, and policy reviews were addressed in finalizing the project list. Were there any issues about projects on the list and how were those resolved?**

#### RTT Reviews & Scoring

The RTT provided three separate technical reviews: direct feedback during the project site tours (May 7 and 13); detailed comments generated at the June 2 RTT Draft Proposal Workshop; and during the final review and scoring on July 8. The RTT chair, Lead Entity, and regional staff attended the Chelan and Okanogan CAC meetings on July 23 & 28 to describe the RTT scoring criteria.

#### Citizen's Reviews & Ranking

The ***Citizen's Advisory Committees Ranking Criteria*** can be found in **Attachment D**. On July 21<sup>st</sup> the Chelan CAC heard presentations from the project sponsors and asked questions, and then met again on July 28 to formally rank the projects for Chelan County. The Okanogan CAC met on July 23<sup>rd</sup> to both hear presentations from project

sponsors and formally rank the projects. See the ***Joint Committee Meeting Notes*** in **Attachment D**.

#### Joint Committee Approval of the Final Project List

The UCSRB staff facilitated the Joint CAC on August 4 to combine the Chelan and Okanogan project lists into one list for the Upper Columbia Region. During the Joint CAC meeting, members were presented with lists combined in different ways in order to choose their working list. Like past years, the joint committee members adopted a working list that combines the individual Chelan and Okanogan lists by using the 1-1 approach. This approach honors the sequence of the individual committee lists and while placing the top ranked projects in each county towards top of the list. The primary determinant in breaking the tie between a project in Chelan County and in Okanogan County was the RTT biological benefit score. Once the working list was adopted members can move projects up or down the list by utilizing the following ground rules before approving a final list.

Joint Committee ground rules for decision-making:

1. A Citizen Advisory Committee member may, at any time, make a motion to move a particular project up or down on the list.
2. The Citizen Advisory Committee member making such a request must include rationale based on the citizens' review criteria for 2015
3. The Joint Citizen Advisory Committee will then engage in discussion regarding the motion to move a project on the list.
4. After discussion, the Joint Citizen Advisory Committee will vote – approve, oppose, abstain – on the motion to move the project on the list.
5. The motion will carry upon unanimous approval by all Joint Citizen Advisory Committee Members (excluding “abstain” votes).

See the details in the ***Joint Committee Meeting Summary*** in **Attachment D** and the ***Upper Columbia Final Project List*** included in **Attachment E**.

Please find Table 4. Appendix K, Manual 18, Regional Area Project Matrix below.

#### **Citations**

Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (UCRTT). 2014. A Biological Strategy to Protect and Restore Salmonid Habitat in the Upper Columbia Region.

Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team (UCRTT). 2013. A Biological Strategy to Protect and Restore Salmonid Habitat in the Upper Columbia Region.

UCSRB. 2007. Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board's Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan. August 2007. Available online at <http://www.ucsrb.com/plan.asp> or [www.ucsrb.com/UCSRP%20Final%2009-13-2007.pdf](http://www.ucsrb.com/UCSRP%20Final%2009-13-2007.pdf).

**Table 5. Regional Area Project Matrix** (Columns 3. H and 3. I are all N/A)

Rank	Project Number	Project Name	Project Sponsor	3 C. Primary Fish Stock Benefited	3 C. Name of Listed Species	3 C. Other Species Benefiting from this Project	3 D. Preserves high Quality Habitat	3 E. Priority in Recovery Plan or Strategy	3 F. Match %	3 G. Sponsor Record of SRFB Project Implementation
1	15-1217	M2 Right Sugar Acquisition	Methow Salmon Recovery Foundation	Steelhead	UC Steelhead, UC Spring Chinook	Spring Chinook, Bull Trout	Yes	N/A	15	17
2	15-1210	Upper White Pine Floodplain Reconnection	Chelan County Natural Resource	Spring Chinook	UC Spring Chinook, UC Steelhead	Steelhead, Bull Trout	N/A	1, 2, & 4	50.98	35
3	15-1251	Twisp River-Poorman Creek Protection, Phase II	Methow Conservancy	Steelhead, Spring Chinook, Bull Trout	UC Spring Chinook, UC Steelhead	Westslope Cutthroat, Coho	Yes	N/A	15.01	11
4	15-1220	Lower wenatchee Instream Flow Enhancement Phase II	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Spring Chinook	UC Spring Chinook, UC Steelhead	Steelhead, Bull Trout, Sockeye, Summer Chinook, Coho	N/A	5 & 3	84.67	6
5	15-1219	Icicle Creek-Boulder Field-Wild Fish to Wilderness	Trout Unlimited Inc.	Steelhead	UC Steelhead	Bull Trout	N/A	3	68.18	6
6	15-1209	Nason Creek Sediment Reduction	Chelan County	Spring Chinook	UC Spring Chinook,	Steelhead, Bull Trout	N/A	6	15	35

Rank	Project Number	Project Name	Project Sponsor	3 C. Primary Fish Stock Benefited	3 C. Name of Listed Species	3 C. Other Species Benefiting from this Project	3 D. Preserves high Quality Habitat	3 E. Priority in Recovery Plan or Strategy	3 F. Match %	3 G. Sponsor Record of SRFB Project Implementation
		Roads Inventory	Natural Resource		UC Steelhead					
7	15-1215	Wenatchee Basin Barrier & Diversion Assessment	Cascade Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group	Steelhead	UC Steelhead	Bull Trout	N/A	1, 2, 5, & 6	15.12	11
8	15-1208	Monitor Side Channel Final Design & Permitting	Chelan County Natural Resource	Spring Chinook	UC Spring Chinook, UC Steelhead	Steelhead, Bull Trout	N/A	1	15	35
9	15-1212	Lower Nason Creek KG Protection	Chelan-Douglas Land Trust	Spring Chinook	UC Spring Chinook, UC Steelhead	Steelhead, Bull Trout, Coho	Yes	N/A	15	14