

Revitalizing Sustainability and Stewardship Planning in the Nisqually River Watershed



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Unique Entity Identifier: DUNS 768493705

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Technical Proposal and Evaluation Criteria

Executive Summary

January 30, 2018

Applicant Name: Nisqually River Foundation on behalf of the Nisqually River Council

City: Olympia

County: Thurston

State: WA

The Nisqually River Council (NRC), an Existing Watershed Group in Western Washington State, is applying for funding to support information gathering and stakeholder outreach to inform watershed planning activities for the next seven to ten years. Funding is sought through the Nisqually River Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit established to staff and implement NRC initiatives. This watershed planning process will begin in January 2018, with an estimated completion date of August 2019, if awarded Reclamation funds. The proposal expands on in-progress planning efforts in the Nisqually watershed, providing a more comprehensive baseline of data on watershed health indicators, and facilitating an inclusive, grassroots planning process to address critical issues, including habitat and water quality degradation, recovery of threatened species including salmon and orcas, and booming population growth in the watershed. Reclamation funding would primarily cover the NRC Program Coordinator's role in conducting research, information gathering, project management, and outreach to partners and community members throughout this two-stage process, first in collecting data and perspectives from a diverse group of stakeholders in the Nisqually watershed, and second in engaging those stakeholders in identifying, prioritizing, designing, and implementing projects to improve the long-term social, economic, and environmental sustainability of the watershed. The Coordinator will implement these projects with partner support through the NRC's monthly meetings and additional subcommittees as needed, and will conduct community outreach and education programs involving citizens as well as organizational partners. This funding is key to the NRC's ability to execute an ambitious plan of study, outreach, and watershed-wide action planning by mid-2019.

There are several Federal facilities located partly or entirely in the Nisqually Watershed, including Mount Rainier National Park, Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, and Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Tacoma Power also operates two FERC-licensed hydroelectric projects in the upper Nisqually. All of these federal agencies are active members of the Nisqually River Council (NRC) watershed group.

Background Data

Watershed Characteristics

The Nisqually Watershed drains an area of 768 square miles in the southern Puget Sound basin. The River is supplied by glacial outflow and snowmelt from the Nisqually Glacier on Mount Rainier. The watershed encompasses a broad range of land uses and jurisdictions: rural communities; national and state parks and forests; public and private timberlands; municipal hydropower dams and reservoirs; farmlands; the Nisqually Indian Reservation; Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge. It is the only Puget Sound watershed with its headwaters in a national park and its estuary in a national wildlife refuge. The Nisqually River is the major tributary to southern Puget Sound, providing fifty percent of the freshwater flowing into the Sound below the Tacoma Narrows. Most tributaries to the Upper Nisqually River are typical mountain streams producing falls, cascades, and rapids with large rock or boulder stream bottoms. Most tributaries are surrounded with dense cover, usually deciduous trees and underbrush with some conifers. Streams in the upper reaches of the watershed tend to be lower-order tributaries (non-fish bearing and seasonal). The primary salmon-bearing streams in the Nisqually watershed are the mainstem Nisqually River, the Mashel River, and Ohop Creek. In the lower watershed the land flattens out and water velocity slows. The tributary streams tend to meander across the glacial outwash plains and sometimes lose flow to the underlying aquifer.

Major Water Rights

There is limited water available for new uses in the Nisqually basin, especially given that river levels need to be maintained to ensure adequate water quality and fish migration. Increased demands from population growth, low summer and early fall streamflow levels, and impacts from climate change add to the challenge of finding new water supplies in the watershed.

Instream flows. The Washington State Department of Ecology sets minimum instream flows in the Nisqually watershed to protect fish migration and water quality. The rule governing instream flows in the Nisqually and its tributary streams (including the Mashel River and Ohop, Tanwax, McAllister, and Yelm creeks) was adopted in 1981 (173-511-30 WAC).

Hydroelectric Projects. Since 1912, Tacoma Power has operated the Nisqually River hydroelectric Project in the upper watershed, currently at Alder Dam and La Grande Dam (built in 1945 and currently operating under a FERC license issued in 1997 with input from the NRC and its members). The Nisqually River Project dams power around 41,000 homes annually. Tacoma Power has senior water rights to maintain reservoir levels in Alder Lake for generation and recreation needs, while satisfying in-stream flow requirements. The City of Centralia also operates a diversion dam and hydropower facility in the central watershed near Yelm, built in 1929 and relicensed by FERC in 1997. The Yelm Hydroproject includes fish passages for salmon and generates around a third of the electricity for the City of Centralia's 16,000 residents.

Municipal and well water supply. 83,000 local residents obtain water for drinking, irrigation, and recreational purposes from the Nisqually River or its aquifer. The city of Olympia, which lies

outside the watershed, obtains 76% of its drinking water from an aquifer-fed wellfield within the Nisqually watershed. Limited water availability for new wells in developing areas of the watershed is a significant concern.

Water Issues Affecting the Watershed

The Nisqually River basin is one of the least developed watersheds in south Puget Sound. In the last 10 years, however, the central watershed has experienced significant population growth in communities around Joint Base Lewis-McChord. Significant development has largely occurred in the lower reaches and elevations of the watershed. Habitat degradation, stemming from hydroelectric dams, forest practices, agricultural development and urbanization was identified as one of the primary reasons for the sharp decline of Nisqually Chinook salmon and steelhead trout, which are listed as threatened under the federal Endangered Species Act. Salmon recovery is a central concern for both water quality and quantity in the watershed, as a cultural and economic resource critical to the Nisqually Indian Tribe and as a keystone species essential to the ecosystem functions of the watershed.

Water timing is a closely related concern in the Nisqually, due to climate patterns affecting water availability throughout the year. Most of the watershed's precipitation arrives during the winter months when water demands are the lowest. During the summer, the snowpack is gone, there is little rain, and naturally low stream flows are dependent on groundwater inflow. At the same time the demand for water for human uses, including irrigation, is at the yearly maximum. This means that groundwater and surface water are least available when water demands are the highest. In recent years, an emerging pattern of drier summers and more intense winter storms has made water timing unpredictable, with challenging consequences for instream flows, salmon recovery, and residential and economic demands for water.

There has been tremendous work performed in the Nisqually River watershed to manage water quality, quantity and timing, protect existing habitat, recover damaged habitat, mitigate harmful conditions and plan for future progress for salmon and other species recovery. Significant restoration work throughout the watershed has been undertaken in the last decade, by NRC partners including the Nisqually Land Trust, Nisqually River Foundation, Nisqually Indian Tribe, and US Fish & Wildlife Service. While collaboration between NRC members and other community stakeholders has been consistently strong, a lack of reliable and sufficient funding has been an ongoing challenge in addressing long-term data collection and planning for big-picture watershed management projects.

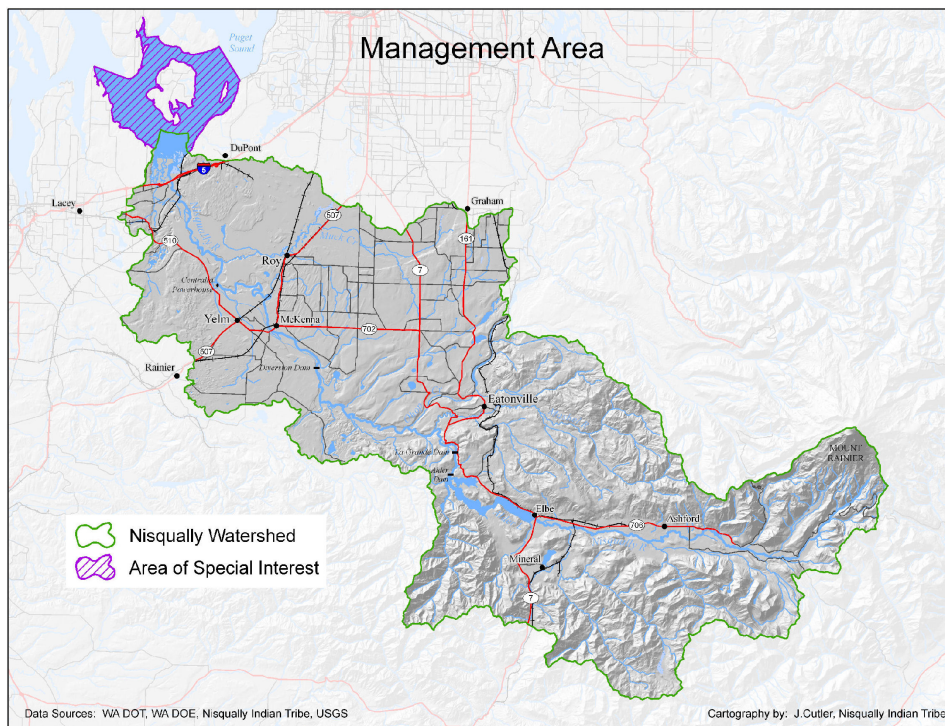
Project Location

The Nisqually Watershed (USGS HCU 17110015) is located in western Washington State, encompassing parts of Thurston, Lewis, and Pierce Counties approximately 10 miles east of Olympia, WA. The watershed includes the communities of Ashford, Elbe, Mineral, Eatonville, McKenna, Roy, Yelm, Fort Lewis, and portions of Graham, Lacey, DuPont, and Rainier. Flowing 78 miles from its source at the Nisqually Glacier on Mount Rainier to its delta at the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, the Nisqually is a direct link between the summit snows of Mount Rainier and the marine waters of Puget Sound.

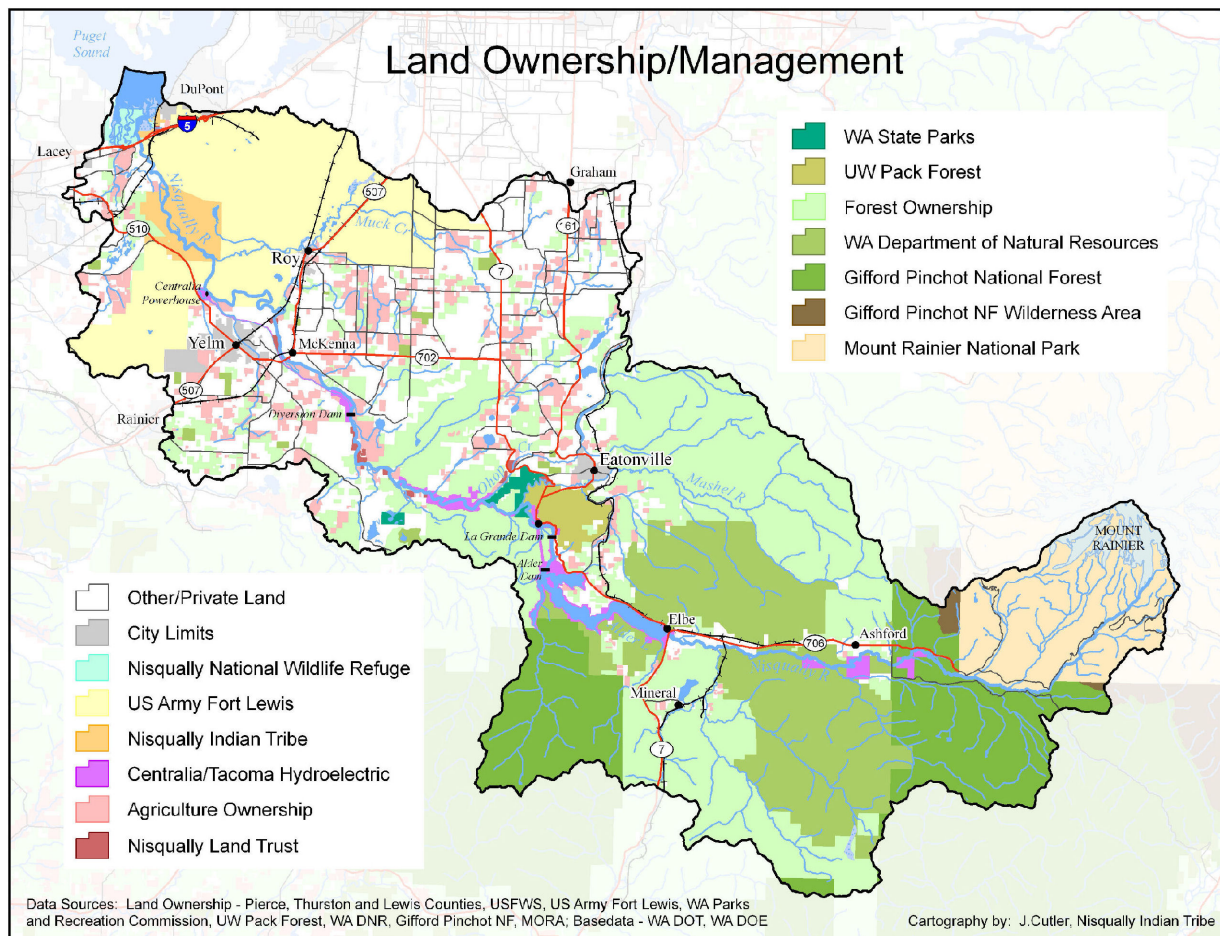
MAP: WATERSHED LOCATION



MAP: NISQUALLY WATERSHED, WATER RESOURCES INVENTORY AREA 11 (WASHINGTON STATE DEPT. OF ECOLOGY)



MAP: LAND OWNERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT IN NISQUALLY WATERSHED



Technical Project Description

Applicant Category, History, and Ongoing Projects

We are seeking funding on behalf of the Nisqually River Council (NRC) as an Existing Watershed Group. In 1987, an interagency task force led by the Washington State Department of Ecology established the NRC as a non-regulatory watershed group to implement the Nisqually Watershed Management Plan and serve as a long-term stakeholder forum to address ongoing watershed issues. The 1987 Watershed Management Plan focused on the river itself and land within 300 feet of the banks, and outlined management principles intended to balance the rights of private landholders, statewide public interests, public access to the river, and fish and wildlife protection. As the NRC has evolved over the years, the group shifted to adopt a whole-watershed approach to watershed management challenges and opportunities, recognizing the interconnected impacts that regional development, population growth, and community health and economic stability have on the long-term sustainability of the watershed's habitat, water, and natural resources. The NRC has remained a venue for strong partnerships among member organizations. Over the years, the Council has supported interagency collaboration on innovative watershed management projects, including the largest estuary restoration project in

the Pacific Northwest (beginning in 2006), developing resources and implementation plans for a Nisqually River Water Trail (2016-2018), and the creation of a Community Forest project in the watershed.

Today, the NRC has 24 member agencies representing federal, state, local, and tribal stakeholders, along with an active Citizens Advisory Committee. The Council's mission is to create sustainability in the Nisqually Watershed for current and future generations by developing a common culture of environmental, social, and economic balance. In 2011, the NRC produced an update to the 1987 Management Plan titled the Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan (NWSP). The NWSP created the NRC's current mission, guiding principles, and organizational structure. It also established 12 long-term goals for watershed sustainability, including social, economic, and environmental measures. Beginning in 2018, the NRC is working to produce a Status Report on the 12 NWSP goals that will establish a baseline of data about the watershed and its communities to inform future strategic planning for long-term sustainability projects. This proposal for funding from Reclamation will support these efforts to craft an inclusive, holistic, and data-driven approach to leading Nisqually into the next decade.

Eligibility of Applicant

The NRC is a grassroots, non-regulatory entity with 24 member organizations including agricultural, hydropower, conservation, landowner, citizen, state and federal agency, and tribal interests: City of Roy, City of Yelm, Town of Eatonville, Lewis County, Thurston County, Pierce County, Mount Rainier National Park, Nisqually Indian Tribe, Puget Sound Partnership, Tacoma Public Utilities, University of Washington's Center for Sustainable Forestry at Pack Forest, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Pierce, Thurston, and Lewis Conservation Districts, and the Washington State Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Ecology, Fish & Wildlife, Natural Resources, Transportation, and Parks and Recreation. The Nisqually River Council coordinates and analyzes policy issues relating to the implementation of the Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan. It also acts as a clearinghouse and coordinating unit for Nisqually River interests. It has limited powers, with no independent regulatory or land acquisition authority. It elects its own officers and establishes subcommittees as necessary. It is required to hold public meetings at least annually and currently meets every month at locations throughout the watershed.

The Nisqually River Foundation (NRF) is a 501(c)(3) organization providing staffing and funding support to the Nisqually River Council's meetings, education programs, and member initiatives. The NRF is funded through a combination of in-kind support from the Nisqually Indian Tribe, individual fundraising, and funds appropriated through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. The NRC Program Coordinator is employed by the NRF to manage NRC meetings, projects, and stakeholder engagement. The NRF's Unique Entity Identifier in the System for Award Management is DUNS 786493705.

Goals

The 2011 Nisqually Watershed Sustainability Plan established 12 central watershed management goals for the NRC, under the three broad headings of environmental, social, and

economic sustainability. The NWSP designates 3-4 indicators for each goal. While the NRC refers to these 12 goals in responding to specific issues that arise within the watershed, a comprehensive baseline study has never been undertaken of all indicators to provide the Council with a global picture of the watershed's health. In 2018, the NRC, with NRF staff support, has begun a review of the indicators to collect baseline data and identify gaps and additional metrics as needed. This NWSP Status Report will inform the Council's long-term strategic planning for watershed restoration, species recovery, and community resource development as needed to work towards these 12 goals.

Environmental Sustainability: A viable, healthy natural resource base

The natural resources of the Nisqually watershed -- the forests, the fish and wildlife, the water, and the agricultural lands -- co-exist with the community and economy it supports. The natural resources of the watershed are finite and can easily be spoiled. With the looming pressures of population growth, we must redouble our efforts to leave a legacy of one of the healthiest and unspoiled watersheds in the region.

Goal 1: Protect, restore, and enhance ecosystem function

Viable, resilient amounts of all watershed ecosystems are present and providing ecosystem services.

Indicators:

1. Prairie lands with a predominance of native species and minimal populations of invasive species
2. Forest lands with a diversity of species and age classes; complexity within stands, and complexity inter- and intra-stand
3. Snow and ice lands with sufficient amounts to support healthy hydrologic cycles
4. Alpine lands continue to support diverse biological communities
5. River and stream systems are fully functioning – healthy riparian zones, intact channel migration zones, connected and intact floodplains and wetlands, good water quality, flow regimes which support biological diversity

Goal 2: Protect and enhance biological diversity

Local populations of native species are self sustaining.

Indicators:

1. Harvestable amounts of culturally-important species are present
2. Invasive species are eradicated or managed
3. Diverse communities of native fish, wildlife, and plants are thriving
4. Recovery plans for species listed under the Endangered Species Act are fully implemented.

Goal 3: Promote sustainable resource use

All resource extraction is conducted in a manner consistent with the long-term viability of watershed ecosystems.

Indicators:

1. Forests are harvested in a sustainable manner.

2. Water usage protects in-stream flows, groundwater recharge areas, and surface filtration systems
3. Sustainable agricultural practices protect soils, water quality, and sensitive habitats
4. Mineral extraction and associated industries are conducted in a manner that protects water quantity and quality, and air quality, and keeps the ecosystem intact
5. Animal densities are within the carrying capacity of the land

Goal 4: Facilitate the appreciation, protection, and enhancement of the watershed through education and participation

Watershed residents, visitors, and others have access to a variety of programs and resources, which enable and empower them to be responsible watershed stewards.

Indicators:

1. Students engaged in actively exploring, monitoring and restoring their watershed
2. Local landowners and community members are active stewards of their lands and watersheds
3. Watershed-based education programs are present in schools throughout the watershed
4. Organizations and businesses throughout the watershed provide visitors and residents access to educational programs and resources
5. Opportunities are provided by various organizations for volunteers to learn and contribute to watershed sustainability.

Social Sustainability: A community that is healthy, wealthy, resilient, and wise

Communities in this watershed determine how they affect the economy and environment. It is important to keep these communities healthy so they can continue to make good decisions. Strong communities require access to good schools, health care, employment, the arts, and a healthy environment.

Goal 5: Promote health and wellness in the community

Indicators:

1. Locally grown and produced foods are available and affordable
2. Community health indicators show marked improvement
3. Disaster Response Plans and Community Emergency Response Teams are developed

Goal 6: Protect and enhance the network of trails and recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities

Indicators:

1. Individual communities are linked by a network of multi-use trails; trails are sustainable/compatible within the environment
2. A diverse assortment of recreational opportunities exists in the watershed

3. The public is aware of, and uses, regional recreational opportunities

Goal 7: Promote local community identities, cultures, arts, and heritage

Indicators:

1. Farmers markets, co-ops, and alternative economies exist throughout the watershed
2. Natural and built heritage facilities are protected
3. A vibrant artisan community exists in the watershed
4. Celebrations of watershed events occur throughout the watershed
5. Community members are informed, engaged, involved, and interconnected with a sense of local identity

Goal 8: Support fully functioning, integrated communities with the full complement of services

Indicators:

1. Transportation infrastructure supports public transportation, ride sharing, and alternative fuel vehicles
2. Increase access to quality health care
3. Opportunities for formal and informal education exist throughout the watershed

Economic Sustainability: Increased economic productivity in a sustainable manner

An economy that is built on sustainable industries is critical to the success of this plan and the Nisqually watershed as a whole. We work to encourage other new and sustainable economic opportunities along with the tourism industry that is becoming well established. Our vision for sustainable businesses includes sustainable goods and services that are produced in a sustainable manner, within a culture of sustainability. We seek a healthy, vibrant economy that values the qualities that make the Nisqually watershed a wonderful place to live.

Goal 9: Promote the development of sustainable businesses and built communities

Indicators:

1. An increase in sustainable manufacturing within the watershed
2. Goods and services are produced within regenerative and/or zero-waste systems
3. Increased investment in natural capital by small and large business owners
4. Developed areas of the watershed support ecosystem services

Goal 10: Support sustainable tourism and recreation

Indicators:

1. An abundance of sustainable recreation opportunities exist within the watershed
2. A vital agriculture tourism industry exists
3. Scenic vistas and viewpoints are protected
4. Non-traditional experiential tourism is supported

Goal 11: Enhance economic viability of sustainable agriculture, forestry, and fisheries

Indicators:

1. Increased opportunities to add value to products in order to maximize economic return for sustainable natural resource industries
2. Expansion of economic opportunities for sustainable non-traditional natural resource uses
3. Infrastructure exists with which to process products locally

Goal 12: Increase market access for watershed-based businesses

Indicators:

1. Watershed marketing program is expanded to include all watershed businesses
2. Regional and national recognition of the Nisqually brand
3. Significant value resulting from use of Nisqually brand

Approach

This proposal outlines a two-stage process for developing specific watershed goals for the NRC, based on the 2011 Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan (NWSP). First, the NRC is convening a working group of Council member representatives to develop a Status Report on the current baselines of indicators outlined in the 12 NWSP goals. The NRC Program Coordinator will work with this group to implement pre-planning activities, research existing data on the indicators, survey NRC members and other stakeholders about watershed restoration and planning needs, and identify gaps or areas for future study. Second, the NRC will use the Status Report as a baseline for seven-year strategic planning, setting priorities and outlining specific projects to improve watershed outcomes. Both stages will include outreach through personal relationship building, web-based and print materials for the general public, and regular meetings with both small groups of stakeholders and broad public participation.

Task A: Watershed Group Development

- **Convene working group.** Beginning in January of 2018, the NRC will convene a small working group of core stakeholders to meet every two weeks to review and direct the Status Report project. Working group participants include people with critical depth and breadth of expertise in the watershed, along with staff members from agencies with essential data collections and jurisdictions within the Nisqually watershed, including the Nisqually Indian Tribe, the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, Pierce and Thurston Counties, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, Mount Rainier National Park, and NRC Citizens Advisory Committee. The Nisqually River Council Program Coordinator and the directors of the Nisqually River Foundation and Nisqually Land Trust will also be part of the working group and execute working group decisions. The working group will advise the NRC Program Coordinator about necessary research and data collection for the Status Report, and invite representatives of other stakeholder organizations to participate as needed in meetings and information gathering. The working group will

report monthly to the Nisqually River Council on progress and will receive ongoing collaborative feedback and input from the full Council.

- **Information gathering to establish watershed health indicator baselines.** Under the guidance of the NRC working group, the NRC Program Coordinator will conduct broad outreach to NRC members, partners, and community members to identify existing data collections, knowledge gaps, and qualitative assessments of watershed health aligned with the 12 goals and sub-indicators of the NWSP. Research will focus on collecting and summarizing available data from partner agencies to establish a current baseline for each sub-indicator. In addition, the Program Coordinator will conduct survey outreach with the NRC's strong network of members and partners with long-term expertise in the watershed to develop a qualitative snapshot of watershed health and challenges at the present time.

Task B: Watershed Restoration Planning

- **Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan Status Report.** By June 30, 2018, the working group will produce and the NRC will approve a Status Report document of the 12 NWSP goals and available data on the indicators. The Status Report will establish quantitative baselines on indicators of water quality and quantity, endangered species status, resource use, and economic productivity in the watershed. It will also assess community services, health, and development trends, using both qualitative and quantitative metrics. Where information is not readily available, the Status Report will identify the gaps and indicate where further study is needed.
- **Community and partner engagement for long-term planning.** From July to December of 2018, the NRC will begin formulating a seven-year plan of strategic actions for watershed restoration and sustainable development. The NRC will draw on the Status Report to determine priority needs and projects, which may include: further study and data collection on particular indicators; implementing shovel-ready watershed management projects such as habitat restoration, culvert removal, or conservation land purchases; or convening additional subgroups to develop in-depth project plans addressing cross-cutting issues like salmon recovery, sustainable population growth management, or regional transportation challenges impacting the watershed. A key element of the long-term planning process will be a public outreach and engagement strategy, to be developed and implemented by the Program Coordinator at the direction of the NRC. Depending on the needs identified in the Status Report by the NRC, outreach may include targeting lapsed NRC members, identifying new partners who should be involved, and conducting community forums for underserved areas of the watershed. Outreach will also include support for the Nisqually Stream Stewards program, an environmental education and volunteer program serving community members in the watershed with in-depth opportunities to be involved in watershed planning and stewardship.

Task C: Watershed Management Project Design

- **Create long-term strategic plan, near-term action plans, and indicator update schedule.** The NRC will approve a seven-year strategic plan in early 2019. From this basis, the Nisqually River Foundation and member organizations will develop near-term action plans, with timelines and milestones, addressing the NRC's priorities for specific

long-term watershed sustainability projects. Both the seven-year and action plans will be tied to improvement targets for the NWSP's 12 goals. The plans will incorporate a reporting process to provide regular updates to the NWSP goal indicator baselines established in the 2018 Status Report. If necessary, the NRC may revise goals and indicators to better reflect the current and future needs of the watershed community.

Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation Criterion A— Watershed Group Diversity and Geographic Scope (30 points)

Sub-criterion No. A1. Watershed Group Diversity

The Nisqually River Council has maintained an active roster of diverse stakeholders who regularly participate in meetings and projects around water quality and quantity. The NRC meets monthly at locations around the watershed, and regularly invites presentations from stakeholders, researchers, educators, and experts on issues affecting the watershed. Council members include representatives from federal, state, local, and tribal government entities, as well as a public utility, three local conservation districts, and a major military base. In addition, the Council facilitates citizen participation through the Citizens Advisory Committee, which is open to public participation and includes individual landowners and community members around the watershed and South Sound region and maintains three voting seats on the Council. The Council's efforts are supported by two nonprofits, the Nisqually River Foundation and Nisqually Land Trust, both of which have boards comprising diverse business, civic, agricultural, and environmental perspectives. The cities of Olympia and Lacey, which both draw water supply from the aquifer shared by the Nisqually River, are not regular NRC members but have collaborated with the Council on water quality projects and water allocation negotiations, and will be included in the information gathering stage of the Status Report process.

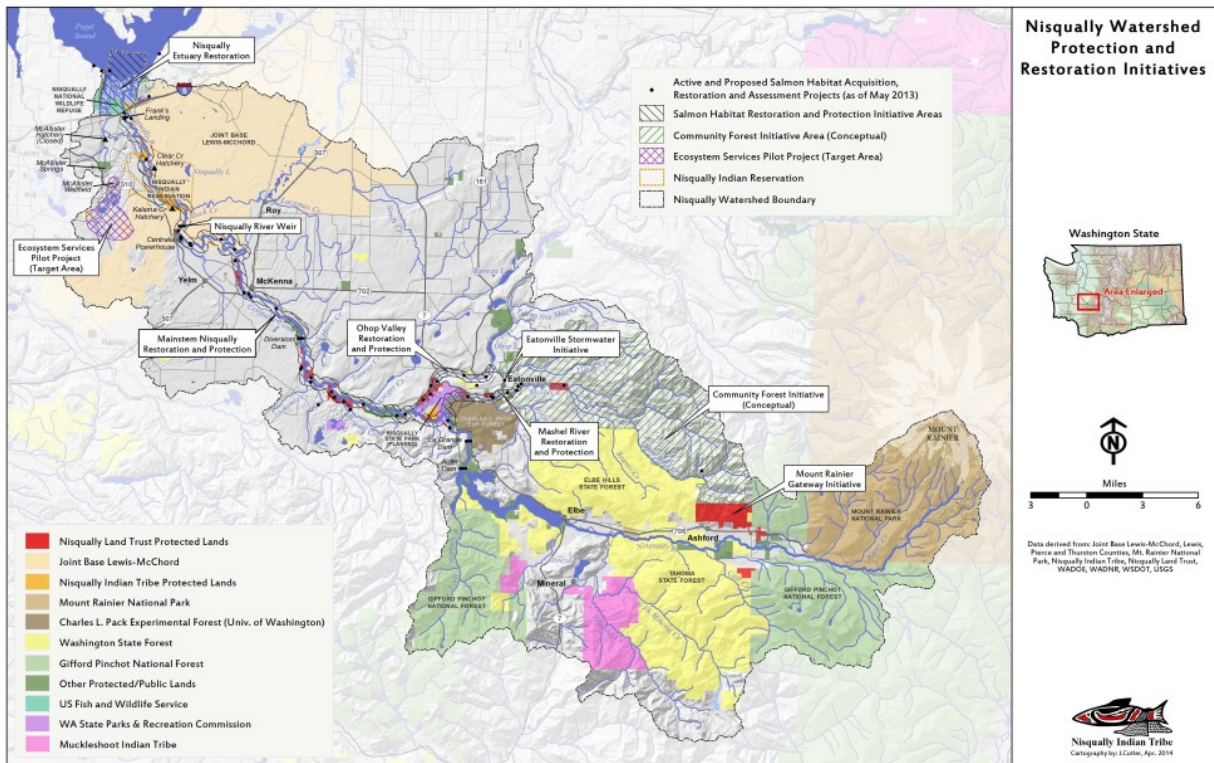
In undertaking this planning process, the NRC also plans to engage in outreach targeting new stakeholders whose perspectives are not currently well represented on the Council. As part of both compiling the NWSP Status Report and building out the NRC's next seven-year plan, the Program Coordinator will identify potential lapsed or new stakeholders and conduct through meetings, web-based and community-based outreach to encourage their participation in watershed planning. In the first half of 2018, the Status Report work group will solicit input from these stakeholders to inform the Status Report. As the NRC moves into the long-term planning phase based on the Status Report, the Coordinator will continue reaching out to publicize the Status Report findings and opportunities for public input and institutional partnerships through both web-based and print publicity and targeted development of personal relationships.

Sub-criterion No. A2. Geographic Scope

The Status Report and subsequent planning efforts of this project will cover the entire geographic area of the Nisqually Watershed. Since adopting the updated Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan in 2011, whole-watershed planning has been a cornerstone of the NRC's approach to management and collaboration. The NRC's membership encompasses the full geographic scope of the watershed, from Mount Rainier National Park, which houses the glacial

headwaters, through the rapidly developing communities in the middle watershed prairie lands, to the Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge at the Puget Sound Delta. Throughout the planning process, we will continue to engage stakeholders across the watershed area through outreach from our existing members and NRF staff to communities, landowners, and citizen groups from the glacier to the delta. Volunteer and education programs managed by the Nisqually Land Trust and the NRF's Nisqually River Education Project are already a key means of engaging citizens from communities in and around the watershed in restoration work that furthers the NRC's comprehensive goals.

MAP: STAKEHOLDER BOUNDARIES AND CURRENT RESTORATION PROJECT LOCATIONS



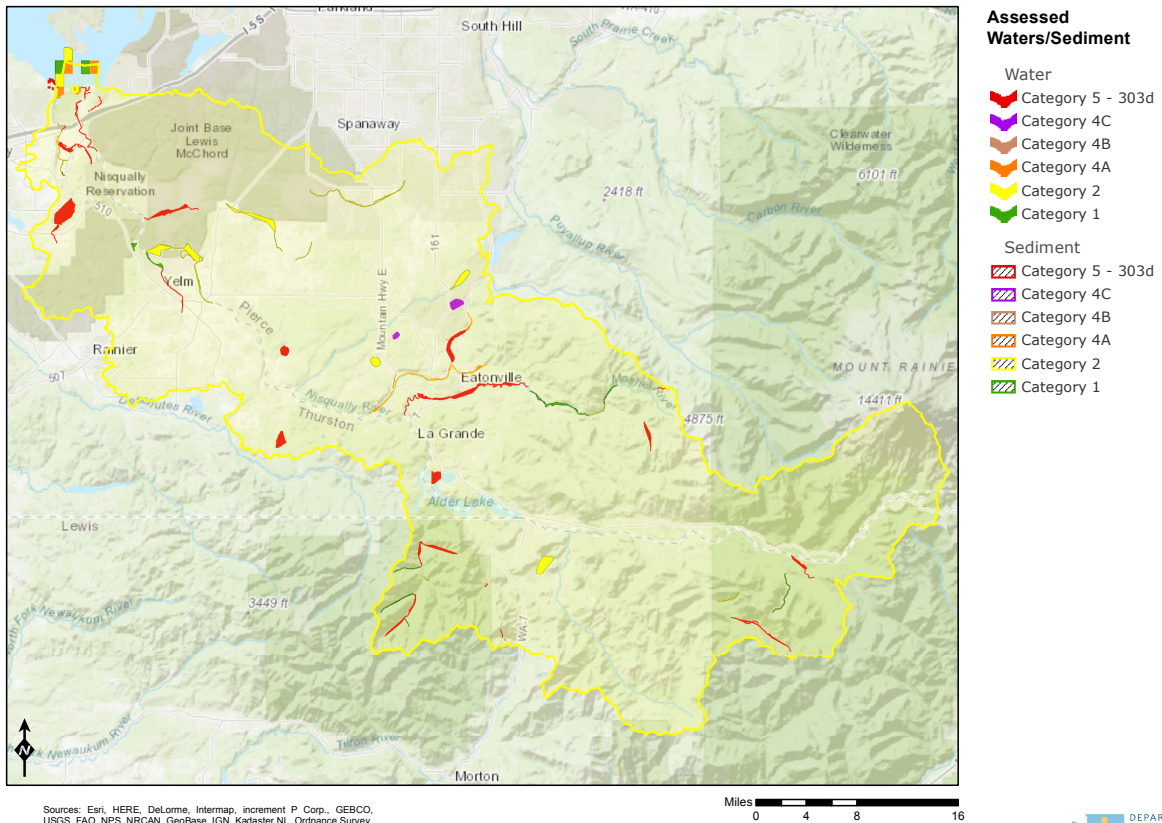
Evaluation Criterion B — Addressing Critical Watershed Needs (35 points)

Sub-criterion No. B1. Critical Watershed Needs or Issues

The interrelated issues of population growth and urban development, forestry practices impacting water quality, and threatened salmon recovery are the most significant critical issues for the future of the Nisqually. The watershed faces a critical need for planning to manage against negative impacts of population growth on water quality and quantity, particularly for in-stream flows for ESA-listed Chinook and steelhead salmon. Population growth and urban development in formerly rural areas of the watershed is impacting water availability and point and non-point source pollution, both identified concerns in this watershed's Chinook recovery plan. Thanks to concerted efforts by state and local entities, water quality is overall maintaining, with several 303(d) sites upgraded in the last three years. However, there are

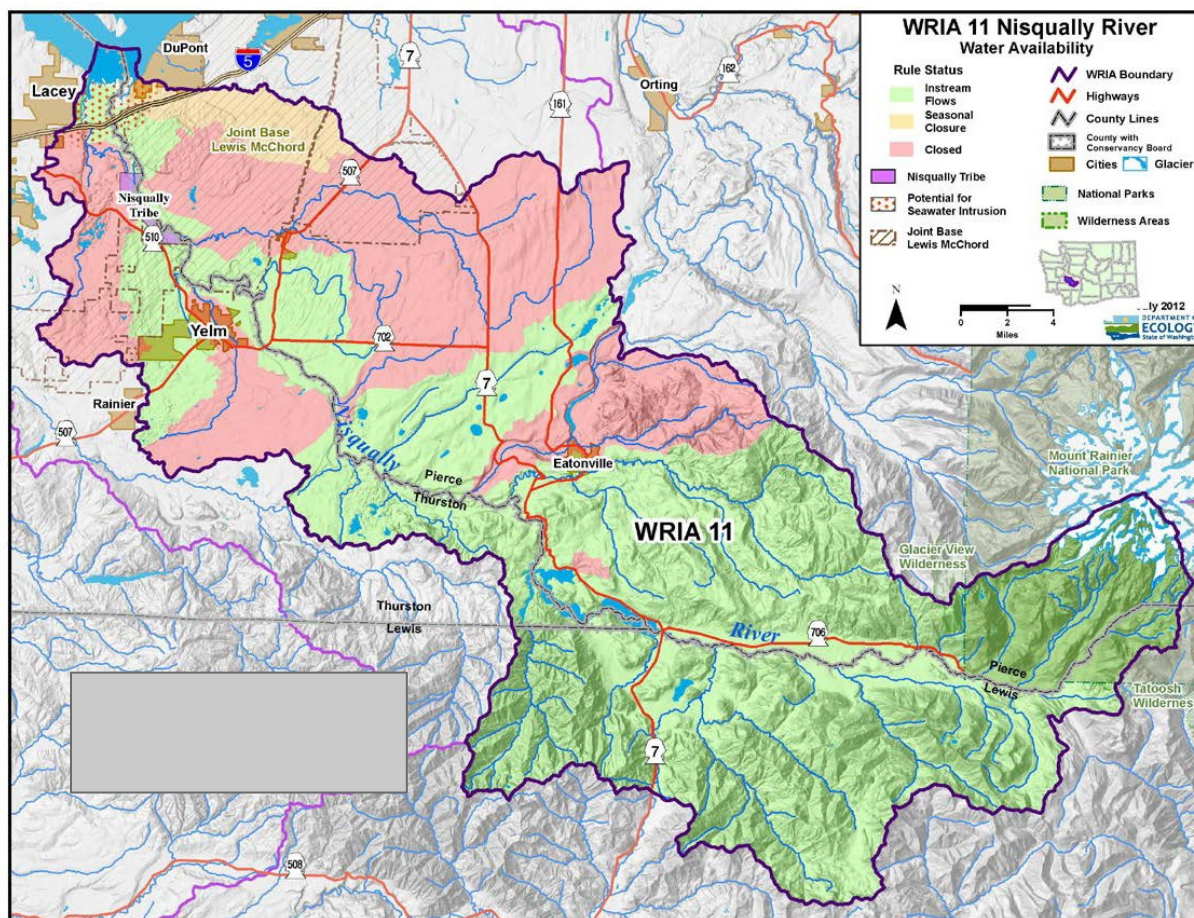
currently over 30 sites being monitored for water quality concerns, and increasing population and impervious surface area (0.8% increase between 2006 and 2011, and continuing to expand) continue to put pressure on water quality.

MAP: WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT IN THE NISQUALLY WATERSHED (WA STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY)



The number of water wells in the watershed continued to grow during 2010-2014 by 300 (3.2%) additional new wells, posing conflicts with the protected stream flows mandated for salmon habitat. The middle portion of the watershed, bordered by the towns of Eatonville, Roy and Yelm, saw an estimated population increase of almost 6% during 2010-2014. The area’s population growth is estimated to be over 5% in 2020. This area also saw 85% of the expansion of wells (256 of the 300 new wells permitted between 2010 and 2014). Water availability in Yelm and similar communities has been the subject of legal disputes in Washington State over the last several years, and will continue to require intensive adaptive management strategies with collaboration from city, state, tribal, and federal stakeholders. Water timing is likewise a significant concern, with increasingly dry summers and unpredictable snowpack levels contributing to planning challenges for water availability during the high-demand, low-flow summer months.

MAP: WATER AVAILABILITY IN THE NISQUALLY WATERSHED (WA STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY)



Finally, forestry practices in the Nisqually have been increasingly identified as a key factor in maintaining and improving habitat and water quality necessary for salmon recovery. Water quality data shows problems in the major tributaries, particularly the Mashel River and Ohop Creek, related to deforestation: high sedimentation, elevated water temperatures, and diminished water quantity. Forestry practices, including both harvest and fertilization practices, have contributed to the dramatic decline in threatened Chinook salmon and steelhead trout populations. The Mashel River, the main tributary to the Nisqually, was once one of the major steelhead rivers in the Pacific Northwest, with annual spawning runs in the range of 5,000 fish. Today, fewer than 400 steelhead are found in the entire Nisqually system. The NRC has been a founding partner in the development of the Nisqually Community Forest project, which is emerging as a leading force for sustainable forest management and will continue to engage with public and private timber stakeholders to implement better practices.

The NRC’s planning process is uniquely suited as a forum for ongoing discussions about balancing these competing water interests. The water needs of physical and economic

development in the watershed, versus those of protected salmon species in Nisqually tributaries and mainstem, are a core target for NWSP data collection and future planning.

Further critical watershed needs are expected to arise through the NWSP Status Report process. The Status Report will give the NRC updated information on current land use, with GIS data on forest/agriculture and urban/rural uses, and an examination of various zoning ordinances in the watershed. It will identify the land ownership patterns and the major landowners in the watershed, including a discussion of the land that is privately versus publicly owned and their general differences in size, urban/rural and agriculture/forested character. The Report will also identify pressures and changes occurring in the watershed, such as changes in land ownership patterns, land use, and the state of nature over the last ten years. Satellite Imagery may be used to compare land cover and development rates. Also included will be change in population, average income, and industry. Environmentally, the Status Report will assess water quality (including 303d status), air quality, fish run numbers, wildlife populations, etc. Once completed, the Status Report will provide the NRC and its members with a template for assessing key indicators of watershed health on a continuing basis.

Sub-criterion No. B2. Developing Strategies to Address Critical Watershed Needs or Issues Stakeholder Outreach and Partnership Building. The NRC's current membership provides a strong foundation of existing relationships with major stakeholders in watershed planning. It has been a major regional venue for land use planning discussions for the last 30 years, and this grant will enable the NRC to continue providing informed and collaborative leadership in determining public access, use, and environmental protections for lands in the watershed. NRC members will receive monthly updates from the Program Coordinator throughout the development of the Status Report and subsequent long-term planning process. Through this grant, the Coordinator will also reach out to historical NRC members, whose participation has lapsed in recent years, to reengage them, and may identify a list of new stakeholders to invite to join the Council. The NWSP working group will also invite stakeholder representatives, including experts from government agencies, researchers, conservation groups, and community members, to meet with the working group to provide input on the Status Report development process. Likewise, the NRC's seven-year strategic planning process will focus in part on building new partnerships and strengthening existing collaboration to achieve a sustainable watershed.

In the summer of 2018, following roll-out of the Status Report, the Coordinator will implement further outreach through a website, social media, local press outlets, and community presentations to raise awareness of the NWSP Status Report and ongoing opportunities to be involved in planning. If the NRC's Seven Year Plan determines that establishing partnerships with local, state, or national conservation organizations is a useful tool to further the NWSP's 12 goals, the Coordinator and Citizens' Advisory Committee will create a plan to build relationships along aligned priorities. The NRF also manages the Nisqually Stream Stewards, a community-outreach and volunteer program that combines watershed education with volunteer service. Nisqually Stream Stewards provides up to 30 local citizens each year with opportunities to engage directly with watershed planning agencies and decision-makers. Our proposal will provide supplemental funding to the Stream Stewards program in 2018 and 2019

to empower these volunteers as community liaisons through the planning process and future project implementation.

Watershed Restoration Planning. The Coordinator, working with the NWSP Status Report working group, will gather information about watershed health indicators from a variety of existing sources, including government data collections, analyses and reports, interviews and meetings with expert stakeholders, and academic sources. This project expands on the NRC's substantial previous efforts in watershed planning, by operationalizing the goals and commitments of the 2011 NWSP and providing data for decision-making on current and future collaborative projects like the Community Forest, salmon recovery, water quality monitoring, and habitat restoration. The NRC's membership roster encompasses many of the major data sources about the watershed, and the Status Report will assemble this information in one place for coordinated, cross-cutting analysis. Where resources do not exist to establish a baseline for a given indicator, the NWSP will recommend that the NRC pursue further study as part of their seven-year planning priorities.

The Status Report working group includes scientists involved in water, wildlife, land, and natural resource management for the Nisqually Indian Tribe, National Park Service, Washington State Departments of Fish & Wildlife and Natural Resources, and Thurston and Pierce county governments. The working group was convened specifically for a breadth and depth of expertise that will enable high-quality scientific analysis of data gathered from multiple sources to produce a snapshot of the watershed. In developing near- and long-term plans and project priorities, the NRC will emphasize using science-based adaptive management strategies (including pursuing further research into proven best practices as necessary).

The NWSP Status Report working group will determine later in the drafting stage, whether to present a pre-drafted set of recommended actions and priorities to the NRC. If recommendations are not included in the Status Report, the NRC will begin formulating a list of priorities at its July 2018 Planning Retreat. Recommended priorities and action items will be adopted through the course of seven-year planning in the second half of 2018. The final Seven Year NWSP document will identify ranked priority actions, with milestones and timelines, for the NRC to adopt as the next phase of watershed planning. As part of its analysis, the Report will identify current or potential conflicts between watershed stakeholders with diverging interests. At its discretion, the NRC may present itself as a forum for resolving such conflicts through further study, sub-committee planning processes, and/or facilitation. NRC members regularly discuss and vote on issues that come before the Council to determine an appropriate course of action.

Watershed Management Project Design. The NRC will identify specific projects for design and implementation over the seven-year long-range planning process, beginning in July of 2018. Prior to reviewing the information to be collected in the NWSP Status Report, and developing targeted priorities based on the indicator baselines in that report, those projects and design process are still to be determined. A facilitator hired to lead the July 2018 Planning Retreat will assist the NRC in identifying appropriate analyses for prioritizing projects and in establishing

where site-specific design, engineering consultation, and environmental and cultural compliance may be needed. The facilitator and the Program Coordinator will also work with NRC’s executive committee and project sub-committees, where appropriate, to develop project timelines with concrete deliverables and milestones through the fall and winter of 2018. If funded, the NRC’s quarterly reports to Reclamation on this project will include updates on the project design process as it takes shape, and we expect to work with Reclamation staff to determine necessary compliance studies. Project design is expected to be under way by the end of 2018 and continue into 2019, following the completion of the NWSP Status Report and NRC Seven-Year Plan.

Evaluation Criterion C— Implementation and Results (25 points)

Sub-criterion No. C1—Understanding of and Ability to Meet Program Requirements

NOTE: A portion of the activities for which we are seeking funding will be underway before Reclamation awards are made. Recognizing the urgent need for long-term strategic planning in the face of rapidly rising population and development in the watershed and critical milestones for salmon, orca, and other keystone species recovery, the NRC has initiated its planning process now with existing funds from the State of Washington, Nisqually Indian Tribe, and other partners. Without the Reclamation funding in this proposal, the NRC would need to extend the timeline for the completion of planning and significantly reduce the scope of research and project design.

Start Date	End Date	Major Tasks & Milestones	Total Cost	Cost-share	Reclamation Cost
Dec. 2017	June 2018	NWSP Status Report			
Dec. 2017	June 2018	Stakeholder outreach and project management	\$14,700	\$2,200 NRF Exec. Director (50 hours)	\$12,500 NRC Program Coordinator (500 hours)
Jan. 2018	June 2018	Research/information gathering	\$17,300	\$4,800 partner staff support (150 total hours)	\$12,500 NRC Program Coordinator (500 hours)
Jan. 2018	June 2018	Bi-monthly working group meetings and information gathering	\$50,650	\$40,000 staff time (total 800 hours) \$300 copies, materials, GIS product \$1,650	\$6,500 NRC Program Coordinator (260 hours)

				partner travel \$2,200 NRF Exec. Director (50 hours)	
Feb. 2018	June 2018	Outreach: web and print	\$3,250	\$250 (printing and supplies)	\$3,000 NRC Program Coordinator (120 hours)
May 2018	July 2018	Outreach: NWSP Status Report printing and distribution	\$2,000	\$0	\$2,000
June 2018	June 2018	NWSP Status Report completed	-	-	-
July 2018	Dec. 2018	Seven-Year Plan Development			
	July 2018	NRC Strategic Planning Retreat (Coordinator planning time -20 hours)	\$4,000	\$500 supplies and incidentals	\$1,000 Facilitator (20 hours) \$2,500 NRC Program Coordinator (100 hours)
July 2018	August 2018	Develop preliminary priority action/project list	\$14,800	\$4,800 partner staff support (150 total hours)	\$10,000 NRC Program Coordinator (400 hours)
July 2018	Sept. 2018	Outreach: Nisqually Stream Stewards community program	\$4,250	\$500 supplies \$2,000 NRF Education Director (40 hours)	\$500 supplies \$1,250 NRC Program Coordinator (50 hours)

July 2018	Jan. 2018	NRC meetings and subcommittee meetings	\$3,400	\$900 (facilities use)	\$2,500 NRC Program Coordinator (100 hours)
July 2018	Dec. 2018	Outreach: new/lapsed partner engagement	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000 NRC Program Coordinator (200 hours)
Aug. 2018	Jan. 2019	Develop specific project timelines and milestones	\$12,500	\$0	\$12,500 NRC Program Coordinator (500 hours)
Jan. 2019	Jan. 2019	Seven-Year Plan and project list approved	-	-	-
July 2018	Aug. 2019	Ongoing Community Outreach			
Jan. 2018	Aug. 2019	NRC meetings and subcommittee meetings	\$3,400	\$900 (facilities use)	\$2,500 NRC Program Coordinator (100 hours)
July 2018	June 2019	Outreach: updates on planning process	\$3,250	\$250 (printing and supplies)	\$3,000 NRC Program Coordinator (120 hours)
July 2019	Aug. 2019	Outreach: Nisqually Stream Stewards community program	\$4,250	\$500 supplies \$2,000 NRF Education Director (40 hours)	\$500 supplies \$1,250 NRC Program Coordinator (50 hours)

Sub-criterion No. C2—Building on Relevant Federal, State, or Regional Planning Efforts

The NWSP goals are aligned with the 1998 Washington State Watershed Management Act (referred to as ESHB 2514), which provides state funding for watershed planning at the local level. Because watershed planning is delegated to local government, the NRC, through its members, is the predominant watershed planning entity. The NRC supports local and regional planning for state and Federal initiatives, including Nisqually Chinook and Steelhead Recovery Plans under NOAA and the Washington State Puget Sound Partnership’s goals for species, water, and habitat recovery in the Puget Sound Basin. The locally-driven planning process in Washington State makes it all the more critical that the NRC be able to fully implement this proposal to evaluate our watershed’s health and plan for its long term sustainability.

Evaluation Criterion D— Nexus to Department of the Interior Initiatives (10 points)

This NRC planning process will support several crucial Department of the Interior initiatives in the Puget Sound region. The Billy Frank Jr. Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge (BFJNNWR) is a member of the NRC and a major partner in ongoing habitat restoration projects that will be included in the NWSP Status Report. The estuary restoration initiative at BFJNNWR is both a focus of ongoing study for aquatic and riparian species, and a likely target for future restoration projects. The NRC is also an active partner in recovery efforts for a number of federally threatened and endangered species, in particular threatened Chinook and steelhead salmon. Upcoming regional efforts in the Puget Sound to address salmon recovery in the context of threatened orca populations and other listed species will be a major consideration for the NRC's Status Report and long-term planning. The Nisqually Indian Tribe is also a founding member of the NRC, the lead entity for the federal salmon recovery program, and a key stakeholder in the watershed's future as an environmentally, socially, and economically sustainable community.

Environmental and Cultural Resources Compliance

Our Phase I proposal does not include any activities requiring compliance work. Research for the NWSP Status Report will gather information from existing data sources and will not involve new monitoring projects.

Required Permits or Approvals

No permits or approvals are required for this Phase I proposal.

Project Budget

Budget Proposal

Budget Item Description	\$/Unit	Quantity	Quantity Type	Grant Request	Non-Federal Cost Share	Total Cost
Salaries and Wages						
NRC Program Coordinator	\$22	3000	Hours	\$66,000	\$0	\$66,000
NRF Executive Director (NRF in-kind)	\$44	100	Hours	\$0	\$4,400	\$4,400
NWSP working group participants (partner in-kind)	\$50	800	Hours	\$0	\$40,000	\$40,000
Technical research staff support (partner in-kind)	\$32	300	Hours	\$0	\$9,600	\$9,600
NRF Education Director (NRF in-kind)	\$40	80	Hours	\$0	\$3,200	\$3,200
Fringe Benefits						
NRC Program Coordinator	\$3	3000	Hours	\$9,000	\$0	\$9,000
NRF Executive Director (NRF in-kind)	\$11	100	Hours	\$0	\$1,100	\$1,100
NRF Education Director (NRF in-kind)	\$10	80	Hours	\$0	\$800	\$800
Travel						
Participant travel to working group and NRC meetings (partner in-kind)	\$0.55	3000	Miles	\$0	\$1,650	\$1,650
Program Coordinator travel to meetings and site visits	\$0.55	800	Miles	\$440	\$0	\$440
Equipment						
N/A				\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials/supplies						
Copies for working group meetings (Nisqually Indian Tribe in-kind)	\$0.20	1000	Pages	\$0	\$200	\$200
Professional printing of Status Report and outreach materials	\$0.50	5000	Pages	\$2,500	\$0	\$2,500
GIS mapping of watershed data (Nisqually Indian Tribe in-kind)	\$0.20	500	Pages	\$0	\$100	\$100
Contractual/Construction						
Facilitator for NRC Planning Retreat	\$50	20	Hours	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Other						
Meeting facilities (partner in-kind)	\$150	12	Meetings	\$0	\$1,800	\$1,800
NRC Retreat Supplies (in-kind)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$500	\$500
Nisqually Stream Stewards program supplies (refreshments, speaker honoraria, incidentals)	\$100	20	Meetings	\$1,000	1000	\$2,000
Total Estimated Project Costs:				\$79,940	\$64,350	\$144,290

Budget Narrative

Salaries and Wages: \$123,200 total
Total Reclamation Request: \$66,000

NRC Program Coordinator

Emily McCartan, NRF Staff

Reclamation Request: \$66,000 (3000 hours at \$22 hourly base pay)

The NRC Program Coordinator will manage the tasks in the project approach for the NWSP Status Report and subsequent long-term planning process. The Coordinator has primary responsibility for organizing and staffing all project meetings, developing tasks and timelines, and administrative reporting throughout the project. During the Status Report stage of the project, the Coordinator will be responsible for gathering information and compiling research on the NWSP Goals and Indicators, at the direction of the working group and the NRC. The Coordinator will oversee final drafting, publication, and distribution of the Status Report and subsequent planning documents. The Coordinator will also develop materials and conduct outreach to existing, new, and lapsed partners as well as community members to engage participation on watershed planning activities. The Coordinator will work with Reclamation to submit all required quarterly reports and final project evaluation.

NRF Executive Director:

NRF in-kind contribution: \$4,400 (100 hours at \$44 hourly base pay)

The NRF Executive Director will serve on the NWSP Status Report working group, providing input and guidance to the Coordinator on the project. The Executive Director will also conduct outreach to partner organizations to encourage engagement in this planning process. The Executive Director will provide oversight on the budget and implementation of funding received for this proposal and supervise the Program Coordinator's work.

Working Group Participants:

Partner in-kind contribution: \$40,000

Partner agencies will contribute staff time and energy throughout this planning process. The primary direct in-kind contributions will come from the agencies represented in the NWSP Working Group (including the Nisqually Indian Tribe, the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife, Pierce and Thurston Counties, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, Mount Rainier National Park, and NRC Citizens Advisory Committee). Between 6 and 8 working group representatives will contribute at least 800 total hours of staff time at an average value of \$50 per hour from their parent organizations, for a total of at least \$40,000 in in-kind salary support.

Technical Research Staff Support

Partner in-kind contribution: \$9,600

Partner agencies will also contribute staff time and resources to research and information gathering during the NWSP Status Report development phase, and to research and project design following creation of the NRC's Seven Year Plan. Agency staff employed by Washington State, the Nisqually Indian Tribe, US Federal agencies, and county and local governments and

nonprofits will work with the NRC Program Coordinator to identify and analyze watershed data sources and develop project outlines and timelines for implementation.

NRF Education Director

NRF in-kind contribution: \$3,200

The Nisqually River Foundation's Education Director will work with the NRC Program Coordinator to lead community outreach via the Nisqually Stream Stewards Program in 2018 and 2019. The Education Director will contribute 80 hours at \$40/hour to Stream Stewards activities related to the NRC planning process.

Fringe Benefits: \$10,900 total

Total Reclamation Request: \$9,000

Fringe benefits are included for Nisqually River Foundation employees supporting this project. Benefits include medical and dental insurance, Labor & Industries Insurance and State Unemployment Insurance (rates set by Washington State).

NRC Program Coordinator

Reclamation Request: \$9,000 (3000 hours at \$3 hourly benefits rate)

NRF Executive Director

NRF in-kind contribution: \$1,110 (100 hours at \$11 hourly benefits rate)

NRF Education Director

NRF in-kind contribution: \$800 (80 hours at \$10 hourly benefits rate)

Travel: \$2,090 total

Total Reclamation Request: \$440

Participant Travel to Meetings

Partner Organization in-kind contribution: \$1,650

NRC members, stakeholders, and presenters routinely travel every month to NRC meetings, held at rotating partner locations from the upper watershed to the delta. For the proposed NWSP Status Report portion of this project, working group participants (6-8 people) will be traveling to an additional set of bi-monthly meetings at the Nisqually Indian Tribe's Natural Resources Department. Total partner contributions to travel expenses are estimated conservatively at 3,000 miles at \$0.545 per mile.

Program Coordinator Travel

Reclamation Request: \$440

The Program Coordinator will travel around the watershed to facilitate NRC and subcommittee meetings and to visit stakeholders and current or potential project sites. Coordinator travel related to this project is estimated at 800 miles at \$0.545 per mile.

Equipment: \$0

No equipment is being purchased for this proposal.

Materials/Supplies: \$2,800 total

Reclamation Request: \$2,500

Copies for working group meetings

Nisqually Indian Tribe in-kind contribution: \$200

The Nisqually Indian Tribe hosts meetings of the NWSP working group as it develops the Status Report. The Tribe will cover the cost of copies and incidental materials for the working group, estimated at up to 1000 pages, at \$0.20/page, between January and June of 2018.

Professional printing of Status Report and outreach materials

Reclamation Request: \$2,500

The final NWSP Status Report will be compiled into a formal presentation document for circulation to NRC members, other stakeholders, and the public. Additional outreach materials (brochures, newsletters, etc.) may also be produced for partners to promote engagement with the Status Report and planning process. The NRC Coordinator will design these materials in-house, but will have them professionally printed for a durable, high-quality product. The NWSP Status Report is expected to be at least 20 pages long, and we anticipate producing at least 200 copies, in addition to supplemental materials publicizing meetings and opportunities for participation.

Contractual/Construction: \$1,000 total

Reclamation Request: \$1,000

NRC Retreat Facilitator: \$1,000

The NRC Retreat in July 2018 will mark the first step in the seven-year planning process. The NRC will hire a facilitator to assist at the retreat with moderating discussions and developing concrete, actionable outlines for the Seven-Year Plan, project priorities, and next steps of project design and implementation. The facilitator will work with the NRC Coordinator to prepare, facilitate, and provide follow-up on the retreat, for a total of 20 hours at an estimated \$50/hour.

Other: \$4,300 total

Total Reclamation Request: \$1,000

Meeting Facilities

Partner in-kind contribution: \$1,800

The NRC monthly meetings are hosted by Council member organizations or other stakeholders around the watershed. The estimated value of facilities use averages \$150 per hosting partner for each 3-hour meeting. This proposal covers 12 NRC meetings from June 2018 to June 2019, over the course of the seven-year plan development process.

NRC Retreat Supplies

NRF in-kind contribution: \$500

The NRF provides supplies, refreshments, materials, and overhead for the NRC's annual July retreat, which in 2018 will be dedicated to outlining the Seven-Year watershed planning document and identifying priority projects and design approaches to execute in 2018 and 2019. Costs for materials and meals for 30 participants at the full-day retreat are estimated at \$500.

Nisqually Stream Stewards Program

Nisqually Indian Tribe in-kind contribution: \$1,000

Reclamation Request: \$1,000

The Nisqually Stream Stewards program is jointly administered annually by the Nisqually River Foundation and Nisqually Indian Tribe. The program is open to 30 community members each year at no charge. Participants take part in an intensive 40-hour course of presentations and field trips about water quality, salmon recovery, land, forest, and watershed management, and citizen science and stewardship programs. Following the course, Stream Stewards donate at least 40 hours of volunteer time to the watershed, through the NRF, Nisqually Land Trust, Nisqually Indian Tribe and other partner organizations. With additional funding from Reclamation, the 2018 and 2019 Stream Stewards program will be able to serve an expanded number of participants and work with them to develop community outreach strategies to share information about the NWSP Status Report and shared responsibility for watershed management with the general public.

APPENDIX:

DRAFT Official Resolution of the Nisqually River Council authorizing and supporting WaterSMART grant application.

The following resolution has been received and provisionally approved by the NRC Executive Committee and will be formally approved by the full NRC at the upcoming Council Meeting on February 16, 2018. We will submit the final Official Resolution on that date.



Nisqually River Council

12501 Yelm Highway • Olympia WA 98513 • (360) 407-1686

Council Membership

Pierce County

Thurston County

Lewis County

Cities of Yelm,
Eatonville & Roy

Tacoma Power

UW Pack
Experimental Forest

WA Dept. of
Natural Resources

WA Dept. of
Fish & Wildlife

WA Dept. of Ecology

WA Parks &
Recreation Commission

WA Conservation
Commission

WA Secretary of State

Nisqually Indian Tribe

Department of Defense,
Joint Base Lewis-
McChord

Nisqually National
Wildlife Refuge

Gifford Pinchot
National Forest

Mount Rainier
National Park

Nisqually River Citizens
Sustainability

DRAFTRESOLUTION**DRAFT***

Authorizing and Supporting the Application for Watershed Planning Funding through the Bureau of Reclamation’s WaterSMART Cooperative Management Program 2018 Funding Opportunity

WHEREAS, the Bureau of Reclamation is offering a funding opportunity for watershed groups to support watershed restoration planning; and

WHEREAS, the Nisqually River Council was created in 1987 to provide a forum for cooperation and innovation among stakeholders in the Nisqually Watershed, with the goal of fostering long-term sustainability; and

WHEREAS, the Nisqually River Council adopted the Nisqually Watershed Sustainability Plan in 2011, setting out a whole-watershed approach with clear goals for achieving environmental, economic, and social sustainability throughout the Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the Nisqually Watershed faces critical needs for renewed planning to address salmon recovery, habitat restoration, and holistic, science-based approaches to sustainable growth and development in a rapidly-changing Watershed; and

WHEREAS the Nisqually River Foundation is a non-profit organization created to staff and implement planning efforts and projects of the Nisqually River Council:

Therefore, BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Nisqually River Council hereby authorize the Nisqually River Foundation to submit a funding proposal to the Bureau of Reclamation for a Cooperative Watershed Management Grant; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nisqually River Council and its members are prepared to fully support the proposals of the Cooperative Watershed Management Grant application, and authorize the Council or its designee at the Nisqually River Foundation to execute the terms of this application and any award of funds.

Adopted the ***[16th day of February, 2018.]***

David Troutt, Chair



Nisqually River Council

12501 Yelm Highway • Olympia WA 98513 • (360) 407-1686

Council Membership

Pierce County

Thurston County

Lewis County

Cities of Yelm,
Eatonville & Roy

Tacoma Power

UW Pack
Experimental Forest

WA Dept. of
Natural Resources

WA Dept. of
Fish & Wildlife

WA Dept. of Ecology

WA Parks &
Recreation Commission

WA Conservation
Commission

WA Secretary of State

Nisqually Indian Tribe

Department of Defense,
Joint Base Lewis-
McChord

Nisqually National
Wildlife Refuge

Gifford Pinchot
National Forest

Mount Rainier
National Park

Nisqually River Citizens
Advisory Committee

DRAFTRESOLUTION***DRAFT***

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nisqually River Council and its members are prepared to fully support the proposals of the Cooperative Watershed Management Grant application, and authorize the Council or its designee at the Nisqually River Foundation to execute the terms of this application and any award of funds.

Adopted the ***[16th day of February, 2018.]***

David Troutt, Chair

Revitalizing Sustainability and Stewardship Planning in the Nisqually River Watershed

FOA No.: BOR-DO-18-F005

Applicant: Nisqually River Foundation

12501 Yelm Highway SE

Olympia, WA 98513

Congressional Districts of Proposed Project:

WA-003

WA-008

WA-010

Nisqually Watershed

