

Yukon River Panel's Restoration and Enhancement Fund

Guidance for Stock Restoration Proposals

The intent of this document is to assist proponents in the creation of stock restoration proposals and to assist the Yukon River Panel's Joint Technical Committee's reviewers in the evaluation of stock restoration projects or concepts.

For Proponents Developing Proposals

This document provides information on considerations for stock restoration project proponents when completing the *Approach* and *Capacity to Deliver* sections of the Yukon River Panel's Restoration & Enhancement Fund's project proposal. Specifically, it provides guidance on: ensuring the project aligns with watershed management priorities, clearly defining the restoration objectives to be addressed, identifying the biological and other factors to be considered, establishing linkages to a longer term plan or objective, engaging community support, and including measures to ensure monitoring of effectiveness. Whether the proposal is a feasibility project, or a multi-year program, it will be important to include details on the topics listed below.

For Reviewers Scoring Proposals

The proposal should explain the rationale for the following considerations. The evaluation of a proposal should consider if the appropriate approaches were selected, the rationale for the approaches selected, and if they are appropriately described.

The following sections provide guidance to help proponents prepare a project proposal and identify criteria used by reviewers to evaluate proposals.

1) Broad Objectives

Projects should fit within the purpose, principles and guidelines of the *Yukon River Salmon Agreement*. More specifically, projects that meet one of the Yukon River Panel's *Near Term Priorities*, will receive additional consideration (see the document entitled *Call for Project Proposals* to view the *Near Term Priorities*). In addition, priority consideration will be provided for project proposals that demonstrate local community involvement or local partnerships (in particular First Nations).

2) Restoration Project Approach and Objectives

The following section is intended to provide advice and direction regarding details that should be included when completing the *Approach* section of the project application form.

Define the approach and duration of the project that is intended.

- Where possible, define the stock for which restoration is considered. Provide any information that indicates if there is a long-term decline in the stock size or productivity for which a restoration project would be a potential or appropriate response.
- Please provide an annotated summary of the available information on the specific stock and watershed including historic data, technical information and Local and Traditional Knowledge.

- What is limiting the population? Describe the biological, physical, and/or anthropogenic factors that are believed to be limiting production.
- Longer term approaches tend to be more successful than shorter term approaches. Provide a description of the expected duration of the project.

Projects should be associated with, or be a component of, a restoration plan.

- Has a management or recovery plan been developed for this stock?
- Explain how the need/benefit of the project is connected to the broader restoration plan.

Project objectives/types of actions most likely to promote recovery.

- Provide an explanation of the project's objectives. What does this project intend to achieve in terms of helping a stock to recover? Include both near-term and long-term objectives.
- What is your plan for activating or implementing the project's activities? Describe the strategies, approaches, and/or techniques that will be used to promote recovery.
- What is the anticipated outcome?
 - What would define the success of the project?
 - What are your project performance measures? Are there targets the project is attempting to achieve that would help define if the project is achieving its objectives?

Project monitoring and evaluation.

- Explain how project outcomes will be presented and evaluated
- How do the project conclusions inform/link back to the broader restoration plan?

3) Project Regulatory Considerations/References

Within the *Capacity to Deliver* portion of the application form, there is a requirement to ensure that there is a description of regulatory considerations and permitting. It is important to ensure that project proponents are aware of all regulatory obligations and are taking steps to acquire the necessary regulatory approvals.

Please identify in your proposal how you are meeting appropriate regulatory requirements. Additional advice should be sought from Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Salmonid Enhancement Program for assistance and advice on regulatory requirements.

The following list is not exhaustive, but is intended to help a proponent be aware of some of the approvals and permits that may be required for a restoration project:

- Yukon Environmental and Socio-Economic Assessment Act (YESAA): <http://www.yesab.ca>
- *Fishery General Regulations* (Canada) s.52: Authorization of fish collection for Scientific, Educational or Public Display Purposes (Yukon/Transboundary Area (commonly known as a DFO Scientific Collection License): http://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/yukon/licence_sci-permis_sci-eng.html
- *Fishery General Regulations* (Canada) s.56: Introductions and Transfers License: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/management-gestion/licen-permi-eng.htm>

- Lands and Resources Department of the First Nation(s) in whose Traditional Territory the project will take place: http://www.env.gov.yk.ca/maps/media/uploads/pdf-maps/Traditional_Territories_ENV.020.01.pdf
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Salmonid Enhancement Program – (Pacific Salmon) Biological Risk Management Framework, May 2013
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Salmonid Enhancement Program – Production Planning Framework, November 2012
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Salmonid Enhancement Program – Restoration Planning Framework, November 2015
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Salmonid Enhancement Program – Genetics Management - Operational Guidelines for Broodstock Collection and Spawning, February 2014
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Salmonid Enhancement Program – Guidelines for Transplanting Pacific Salmon, March 2015
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Salmonid Enhancement Program –Community Involvement Program Best Management Practices Guide, September 2013