

Yukon River Panel

Restoration and Enhancement Fund

Call for Project Concepts for the 2015 Project Year

The Yukon River Panel anticipates that up to approximately U.S. \$1.2 million will be available to fund Yukon River restoration and enhancement projects in 2015. Both private and public sector applicants are eligible for funding.

The 2015 Call for Proposals is consistent with the purposes and principals of the Fund and emphasizes the Fund Goals, Management Needs and Actions identified in the Yukon River Panel's *Restoration and Enhancement Fund for Yukon River Salmon - Budget Priorities Framework 2007*. The 2007 Framework describes seven funding categories or envelopes, and each category within the Framework includes a Goal or Goals to be achieved by the Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Fund and groups of Management Needs ranked in descending order of priority that describe short-, medium- and long-term Actions that will result in the achievement of the Goals. To ensure the R&E Fund Goals and Management Needs are met, the Yukon River Panel annually derives focused Near-Term priorities from the 2007 Framework and issues a Call for Project Concepts to elicit proposals for projects that will address those priorities.

New for 2015

In March 2014 the Yukon River Panel confirmed six key Near-Term priority interests as the focus of the 2015 Call for Project Concepts. This realignment of priorities was largely driven by the Panel's desire to improve the effectiveness of Restoration and Enhancement Fund resources in response to the decline of Yukon River Chinook salmon stocks in recent years. The Panel will continue to consider project proposals that address subjects identified in the Budget Priorities Framework 2007; however, preference will be granted to projects that support these six Near-Term priorities:

RESTORATION

- 1) *Identify depleted stocks or limits to production and identify candidate stocks or systems for stock restoration; or*
- 2) *Identify potential spawning and rearing habitat restoration sites.*

CONSERVATION

- 3) *Expedite strategies that will facilitate the timely collection and distribution of the most reliable harvest data;*
- 4) *Monitor escapements to key salmon spawning streams; or*
- 5) *Locate and document salmon spawning locations throughout the Yukon drainage.*

COMMUNICATIONS

- 6) *Conduct public outreach and education projects to involve people who fish on the river, their communities, and their youth, to increase their desire to maintain and protect salmon stocks and habitat.*

In addition, priority consideration will be provided for 2015 project proposals that demonstrate local community involvement or local partnerships (in particular First Nations).

Application Process

The Yukon River Panel uses a two-stage submission and review process. The initial review stage is designed primarily to evaluate the proposal's relevance and significance to the *Yukon River Salmon Agreement*, and the priorities outlined in the *Budget Priorities Framework 2007* and this Call for Project Concepts. As such, project proponents should focus on providing a clear description of project objectives and benefits in this first round concept stage, rather than on the development of detailed project implementation and budget information. Project Concepts selected for second stage review will be asked to provide greater detail at that time.

The two-page Project Concept Form accompanying this Call for Project Concepts must be used by all proponents. This format enables the Yukon River Panel to conduct its first-round review in as fair and expeditious a manner as practicable. Completed forms must be returned in electronic format only and by email to the Fund Manager at the Pacific Salmon Commission office in Vancouver, B.C. by **midnight Wednesday, October 1st, 2014**.

The Yukon River Panel will review all Project Concepts in early December 2014. Proponents whose Project Concepts are selected will be invited to submit a more detailed proposal on a form that will be provided by January 25, 2015. Those detailed proposals will then undergo an in-depth technical review before the Yukon River Panel finalizes its funding decisions in March 2015. Successful proponents will be notified in April 2015.

Deadlines

Project Concept forms must be submitted in electronic format by **midnight Wednesday, October 1st, 2014** to yukonfund@psc.org

Contact Information

More information and Project Concept Forms are at www.yukonriverpanel.com.

Questions or points of clarification can be directed to the Fund Manager, Angus Mackay or the Fund Assistant, Victor Keong at (604) 684-8081 or fax (604) 666-8707.

You may also email Mackay@psc.org or Keong@psc.org

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