



## **LARGE PROJECT APPLICATION**

**THE DEADLINE FOR LARGE PROJECT APPLICATIONS IS OCTOBER 1.**

*The Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (FWCP) works on behalf of its program partners, BC Hydro, the B.C. Ministry of Environment and Fisheries and Oceans Canada to conserve and enhance fish and wildlife populations affected by the construction of BC Hydro dams in the Columbia Basin.*

# Large Project Application

Conservation and enhancement activities by the Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program – Columbia Basin (FWCP) started as long as 20 years ago and some of them continue (e.g., spawning channels and hatchery operations). Other activities will evolve from new proposals submitted by members of the public, partner agencies or other organizations. All ongoing and new projects will be funded from the annual budget of approximately \$3.2 million (1995 dollars, indexed for inflation).

The specific objectives of the Program are to:

- Conserve and enhance existing fish and wildlife habitat in areas affected by the construction of BC Hydro's hydroelectric developments in the Columbia River Basin. For example a project to improve spawning areas at the mouth of a fish-bearing stream that feeds into a reservoir.
- Conserve and enhance habitat in other areas where the opportunity for on-site enhancement has been significantly reduced or eliminated by reservoir development. For example, a project to improve deer winter range similar to habitat lost due to flooding.
- Increase stakeholder/public awareness about impacts of the construction of BC Hydro dams on fish & wildlife in the Columbia Basin.

Projects will be considered for funding under this Program if they support one of the above objectives.

## 1. Small vs. Large Projects

As the name implies, this application process is designed for larger, more complex and more scientifically rigorous projects with an annual budget of greater than \$10,000. A separate, simplified process is available for small projects under \$10,000 (Small Project Application). If you are unsure which application process is more suitable for your project idea, consult the nearest FWCP office (see addresses on page 4).

## 2. Submission Deadline and Format

There is only one intake of large project applications each year. All applications must be received by the deadline of **4:30 pm on October 1**. If October 1 is not a working day, the deadline will move to the next working day.

Applicants should mail, courier, fax, e-mail or hand deliver one copy of the completed application package to any of the Program offices.

As explained below, the application consists of two parts: a Project Summary & Budget form and a Project Outline (see #8 below). Both must be typed. Note that proposals that are incomplete, late or hand-written will **not** be considered.

## 3. Eligible Proponents and Projects

Project proponents may be individuals or organizations. The Program will support projects that complement and do not duplicate the work of other agencies and organizations, and that involve partnerships with other groups whenever possible.

In meeting the two broad objectives of the Program (see #1 above), projects may directly address habitat conservation and enhancement or they may indirectly address habitat and population issues. Four types of activities will be considered for funding by the Program:

- **Inventory and assessment**, to describe the current situation. For example, conducting a population count of deer in a particular area and assessing their habitat;
- **Design and planning**, to define how the current situation can be improved. For example, researching the habitat needs of deer, comparing these requirements with the results of a habitat assessment, and developing a plan to achieve improved habitat;
- **Enhancement or conservation** activities;
- Follow-up **evaluation** and **monitoring** to ensure goals are met.

The following activities are examples of unacceptable projects. Please ensure your project proposal **does not** include:

- Construction of boat launches, recreational access and recreation sites.
- Debris clean-up on reservoirs;
- Ongoing administrative costs for interest groups or organizations;
- Compensation for individual losses resulting from hydroelectric development;
- Promotion of business opportunities.

#### **4. Review Process**

Applications are reviewed by Program staff and committees to ensure they are cost-effective, achievable, biologically appropriate and socially desirable. There are three steps to the review process:

- 1) Stage 1 - Acceptability
- 2) Stage 2 - Ranking
- 3) Stage 3 - Project Considerations

##### **1. Stage 1 – Acceptability**

Any project submitted to the Program must meet the following criteria before receiving further consideration:

- Consistent with Program objectives (as stated above);
- Consistent with BC Government/BC Hydro/DFO mandates and policies, and with regional fish and wildlife management goals;
- Compatible with other resource management objectives;
- Based on sound biological principles;
- Located within the Program area. This includes most of the Columbia River Basin in Canada, extending from the Valemount area in the north to Grasmere in the southeast and Rossland in the southwest. Note that the Flathead, Kettle and Okanagan river drainages are not included in the Program area at this time;

If a project is not recommended following Stage 1 review, a letter will be sent to the applicant explaining why.

##### **2. Stage 2 – Ranking**

Proposals that meet the Stage 1 acceptability criteria are forwarded to the appropriate technical committee (fish or wildlife) for ranking based on the following criteria:

#### **Contribution to conservation of indigenous species and wild stocks.**

This criterion is a major priority under the Ministry of Environment's mandate and follows provincial policy. Secondary importance can be given to augmented or introduced stocks which satisfy angler demand, provided task actions do not impact wild stocks significantly and meet local MoE's management goals.

**ii) Protects or augments sensitive or valuable habitats.**

This criterion support those habitats which serve to protect wild stocks of both sport and nonsport species. It also provides secondary support for introduced or augmented, but valuable, angled and/or harvested stocks and their related habitats.

**iii) Improves or maintains local or regional species diversity.**

This criterion serves to protect existing biodiversity, but also allows for non-wild stock enhancement in presently barren or depopulated habitats, particularly those which are isolated.

**iv) Includes ongoing/existing work requiring continuity.**

Projects resulting in defensible habitat actions usually require a plan including background and design studies, constructions plans and evaluation studies. This criterion recognizes the importance of this planning approach. It also recognizes that some projects may be staged in their planning and implementation while other must be continuous going from planning to implementation in order to complete the project.

**v) Involves restoration, rehabilitation or enhancement of habitat.**

Conservation, rehabilitation or enhancement which will protect or augment indigenous biodiversity receives the highest score. Secondary importance is given to habitat work which will contribute to the strength of sport fish stocks, including both wild and introduced species provided these projects meet local management goals.

**vi) Addresses a direct impact as a result of dam construction and inundation.**

This criterion recognizes that addressing water license requirements is a Program mandate and an objective of BC Hydro. Importance can, however, be given to offsite tasks (those outside the direct impact zone, but still within the Program area), especially where on-site opportunities are restricted. Such support is derived from the basin-wide mandate of the Program as dictated by the Steering Committee.

**vii) Adequate/logical background and planning has been completed.**

As task development nears completion within the Program, additional support should be provided to assure final construction and/or evaluation. In addition, tasks may come forward for which the necessary background work has been partially or fully completed outside the Program. Provided such tasks meet Stage 1 Acceptability Criteria (i.e. regarding transfer of liability) such tasks should be considered for priority approval.

**viii) Addresses an urgent requirement or threat to population maintenance and/or habitat protection.**

This criterion is included to provide extra support for those species or habitats which are undergoing unforeseen or unresolved dramatic alienation or decline in abundance, respectively. It is directed to both designated endangered species, as well as important sport species.

**ix) Cost effectiveness (benefit to cost or risk ratio) and value-added aspects.**

Higher scores are given to those tasks which show evidence of getting the biggest benefit for the budget provided.

**x) Encourages a co-ordinated basin-wide approach either in terms of methodology, applicability of study results or the enhancement of habitat productivity.**

Tasks which only benefit isolated local needs receive less support, while those which benefit wider geographic area or ecosystems within the Program area receive higher scores.

**xi) Ease of implementation**

Project is easy to implement requiring a low staff commitment or will require significant staff commitment and coordination to implement.

**xii) Encourages innovation**

Project is innovative, incorporating/developing new techniques.

### **3. Stage 3 – Project Considerations**

After the Technical Committees complete the Stage 2 ranking, recommended project applications are reviewed by the Program's Steering Committee (which includes representatives from the BC Government, BC Hydro and DFO, as well as public and First Nations representatives). The following considerations are used by the Steering Committee to capture socio-economic and geographic values:

**i) Consistency with the Compensation Program's Strategic Plan.**

In order to ensure the Program fulfills its mandate and maintains the direction it sets for itself, projects must be consistent with the Program's goals and objectives.

**ii) Financial impact of the project on the total Program budget.**

The Program operates within the limits of a defined annual budget that funds four components of the Program, namely fish, wildlife, public communications and administration. Each project should be reviewed with an eye to how it affects the budget allocation within the individual components and between the components.

**iii) Timeline impact on the Program's ability to meet its mandate and/or public expectations.**

Delivery of projects may span one fiscal year, several fiscal years or be an ongoing requirement to meet project evaluation needs. Commitments to a multi-year or ongoing project need to be reviewed for their impact on the Program's ability to deliver other project work in future years; the contribution that project makes towards fulfilling the Program mandate; and how it may impact public expectations of the Program.

**iv) Encourage the involvement of First Nations, community based groups and interested individuals.**

Does the project have direct involvement or potential for direct involvement; volunteer and/or in kind contributions from First Nations; community based groups or interested individuals. The level of direct involvement or in kind contributions and the impact on project delivery and benefit to the resource is considered.

**v) Other partners are involved in the project (e.g., other agencies, stakeholders or industry).**

While the Program encourages project partnerships, it is important that those partnerships are compatible with the goals of the Program; do not divest agency or industry responsibilities to the Program; ensure that the commitment of those partnerships are clearly defined and do not impact on the ability of the Program to deliver projects in the future. This is of particular concern where multi-year project partnerships are proposed.

**vi) Opportunities provided to raise public awareness of and active support for the Program.**

Projects can provide varying degrees of opportunities to raise public awareness of both the Program and its partners. Such recognition can be dependent on project location, number and type of partnerships, scope of public exposure, timeliness, local versus international significance, etc.

**vii) Geographic distribution of projects throughout the Basin.**

The Program does strive to take a basin wide approach to project allocation and provide a balance of projects throughout the basin. It is recognized that distribution of projects also has to be weighed against priorities and benefits to the resource but it is expected that a wide distribution of projects across the basin will occur over time.

**viii) Meeting community and public values.**

Projects may meet a variety of community and public values in a direct or indirect way. Depending on the type of project, previously identified community priorities, public feedback received and level of community partnership involvement, public values may be taken into account.

**ix) Likelihood of the project moving from study to action.**

Does the initial study proposal indicate “next steps”? Have there been previous studies done on the same project and did they lead to action?

If a project is not recommended following Stage 3 review, a letter will be sent to the applicant explaining why.

*A summary of previously approved projects for both fisheries and wildlife is available from either of the Program offices or on the Program website, [www.fwcp.ca](http://www.fwcp.ca).*

**5. Important Program Information**

Proponents are encouraged to contact the nearest public representative and/or Program biologist to discuss project ideas prior to submitting an application.

Program staff or public representatives can be contacted through the FWCP (Columbia Basin) head office in Nelson:

**Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program**  
**103-333 Victoria Street**  
**Nelson, BC V1L 4K3**  
**Phone: 250-352-6874 Fax: 250-352-6178 E-mail: [beth.woodbridge@bchydro.bc.ca](mailto:beth.woodbridge@bchydro.bc.ca)**

**6. The Applicant’s Responsibility**

In addition to the work that the applicant proposes and agrees to do, there are two other important responsibilities applicants must be aware of and willing to undertake:

- once a project is accepted, adequate accident insurance and WCB coverage must be arranged for all people and activities involved for the duration of the project.
- to receive project funding, invoices accompanied by supporting documents, such as receipts, must be submitted to the Program office. Note that funds not utilized by the project are retained by the Program.

**7. Application Format**

The application consists of two parts:

**A. *Project Summary and Budget*** (see form attached). This form is the cover sheet for the more detailed project outlined described below.

**B. *Project Outline.***

The outline must include the following information. Please use the format and sequence outlined below.

1. Project Location

Indicate the location on a 1:50,000 map and provide a detailed, written description of the location including distances and directions from well-known features such as the nearest town, highway, body of water, etc.

2. Project Description and Rationale

**Issue(s):** describe why this project is necessary, what need or gap it fills, or what problem it addresses. Describe the urgency/priority of this issue on a regional or provincial scale.

**Objective(s):** briefly describe the project's objectives, i.e. what is to be accomplished to address the problem/meet the purpose of the project. For example, explain how habitat will be enhanced and for what species, or how information from this project will be used to restore habitat/populations in question.

**Description of work:** briefly describe the work to be done, including background information, enhancement activities, research techniques or educational initiatives. Mention any research used to develop the project. Describe the timelines for the project activities.

**Measures of success:** describe the measurable outcome of each activity, i.e. how the success of the project in meeting its objectives can be measured. E.g., number of hectares slashed, number of km of stream restored, production of a brochure. These measures of success will be used to evaluate the overall success of the project.

**Proposed future work:** if it is anticipated that work on this project will extend beyond the next fiscal year, outline the additional proposed phases including costs for each year. For example, ongoing maintenance costs.

3. Public Participation/Partners

The Program encourages the involvement of the public and the development of partnerships in funded projects. Describe how other partners (e.g., businesses, clubs, the general public, government agencies) are involved in the project and what resources they are contributing.

4. Credentials and Letters of Support

Provide information on the credentials of consulting companies that will be involved in the project. Letters of support may also be submitted, as well as confirmation of other contributors.

# Application for Large Project Funding

## Part A: Project Summary & Budget

**Project Title** \_\_\_\_\_

(Include a geographic name and a description of the type of activity e.g. Frenchman's Ridge Enhancement)

### Project Summary

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### Project Sponsor (group or individual)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Contact Person (if different from above)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECT BUDGET				
<b>Expenditures</b>				Total \$'s
Contracted Services (e.g. consultant)				
Materials (list)	1			
	2			
	3			
	4			
	5			
Equipment Rental				
Travel				
Other (list)				
<b>TOTAL (A)</b>				<b>\$0</b>
<b>Other (Non FWCP) Cash Contributions</b>				Total \$'s
Organizations / Individuals				
	1			
	2			
	3			
	4			
	5			
<b>TOTAL (B)</b>				<b>\$0</b>
<b>Funding Requested from the FWCP</b>				Total \$'s
<b>TOTAL (C) (A - B)</b>				<b>\$0</b>
<b>Applicants and/or Partners Contributions in Kind</b>				
		Hours	Rate	Total \$'s
Volunteer Labour			(min wage)	
Donated equipment			(Prevailing rate)	
Other (specify)	1			
	2			
	3			
	4			
<b>TOTAL IN KIND (D)</b>				<b>\$0</b>

**Part B: Project Outline**  
*(Attach Information. See guidelines on page 7)*

**APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT:**

I/we \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ hereby make application for financial assistance under the terms and conditions of the FWCP in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_.

I/we acknowledge that the Government of British Columbia, BC Hydro or Fisheries and Oceans Canada are not liable for any personal injury or destruction of property as a result of this project. All submissions received by the FWCP become the property of the FWCP.

Project sponsor (name): \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

The completed Large Project Application Form can be submitted at either of the Compensation Program offices by mail, hand delivery, courier, fax or e-mail.

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS OCTOBER 1.**