

Request for Proposals

for Professional Services for Water Supply, Use, and Reliability Assessment for the White Salmon River Basin



August 4, 2025

Prepared By:

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Critical Dates:

<u>Bid Submission Deadline:</u>	August 27, 2025 – 12:00 pm
<u>Questions due*:</u>	August 15, 2025
<u>Tentative Award Selection:</u>	September 12, 2025
<u>Contract Award/Project Initiation (est.):</u>	October 10, 2025
<u>Project Completion (est.):</u>	May 1, 2027

** questions and answers will be distributed to all interested parties and posted on the Yakama Nation Fisheries website: <https://yakamafish-nsn.gov/>.*

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

Professional Services for Water Supply, Use, and Reliability Assessment

White Salmon River Basin Planning Study

Issue Date: 8/4/25

Proposal Due Date: 8/27/25

Contact Person: Jeanette Burkhardt, Watershed Planner

Email: jeanette@ykfp.org

Phone: 509-945-1617

Mailing Address: PO Box 215, Klickitat, WA 98628

I. INTRODUCTION

Yakama Nation is requesting proposals from qualified professional consulting firms to perform an integrated assessment of current and future water supply, use, and reliability in the White Salmon River Basin (Skamania and Klickitat counties, WA). This work will contribute to a Basin Study Plan that forms a foundation for long-term watershed planning and resiliency strategies.

II. PROJECT PURPOSE

The purpose of this project is to define current and future water supply and demand imbalances in the White Salmon River Basin. This will include data evaluation, assessment of existing infrastructure and operations, development of groundwater and surface water conceptual models, identification of data gaps, and recommendations for conservation, storage, and resilience strategies.

III. SCOPE OF WORK

1. Water Supply, Use, and Reliability Assessment

- Current Water Supply: Precipitation and temperature, snowpack, streamflow, groundwater
- Future Water Supply: Projected changes with climate variables, snowpack and glaciers, streamflow, groundwater recharge and availability
- Water Use (current and future): Potable and irrigation water use, diversion and return-flow analysis
- Water Reliability: Synthesis of supply and demand, water infrastructure and operations analysis

2. Water Conservation Assessment

- Potable Water: Existing and projected use due to population change, indoor and outdoor conservation strategies, municipal infrastructure, operations, rate structures, water-wise practices
- Irrigation water: Infrastructure assessment, modernization strategies, increased water storage potential (wetlands, aquifer recharge)

3. Groundwater Assessment

- Literature review and geologic mapping
- Assembly and analysis of existing well and aquifer data
- Conceptual model of surface/groundwater interactions
- Impact of climate change
- Simple water budget development
- Recommendations for monitoring and data collection

4. Instream Flow Incremental Methodology (IFIM) Habitat Suitability Assessment

- Habitat-flow modeling for Coho salmon and steelhead
- Use of existing habitat data and aerial photography
- Up to 8 cross-sections (4 per site across two sites)
- Field measurements at three streamflow levels
- Focus on Buck and Rattlesnake creeks

5. Basin Study Plan

- Synthesis of assessment components
- Summary of findings and data gaps
- Recommendations for future studies and actions
- Framework for stakeholder and tribal engagement

IV. PROJECT SCHEDULE

Milestone	Estimated Timeline
Contract Award/Project Initiation	10/10/25
Project Kickoff	Week 1
Water Supply and Use Assessment	Month 1 – Month 7
Water Conservation Assessment	Month 2 – Month 8
Groundwater Assessment	Month 4 – Month 10
Instream Flow Habitat Suitability Assessment	Month 5 – Month 11
Draft Basin Study Plan	Month 11 – Month 17

V. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Cover Letter: Statement of interest and summary of qualifications
2. Firm Description: History, ownership, office locations, and capabilities
3. Team Organization and Key Personnel: Organizational chart, roles and responsibilities, resumes of key staff
4. Project Approach and Methodology: Narrative outlining your technical approach and process for completing each task
5. Experience and References: Description of relevant projects, at least three references for similar work
6. Project Schedule: Timeline with key milestones and deliverables
7. Cost Proposal: A sealed, separate envelope labeled “Cost Proposal” should be included as part of the submission

VI. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Criteria	Weight
Technical expertise and qualifications	30%
Relevant experience	25%
Proposed methodology and understanding	20%
Project management and personnel	15%
References and past performance	10%

VII. SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Deadline: Proposals must be received by **August 27, 2025 – 12:00 pm**

Submission Method: Electronic to: jeanette@ykfp.org cc: azud@yakamafish-nsn.gov

All proposals must be clearly labeled: “Proposal – White Salmon River Basin Planning Study”

Late submissions will not be considered.

VIII. GENERAL TERMS

- The Yakama Nation reserves the right to reject any or all proposals.
- The selected firm must enter into a professional services agreement with Yakama Nation.
- All work products will become the property of Yakama Nation upon completion.
- The selected firm shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal regulations.

IX. CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions or clarifications, contact:

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