

Native Trout Stewardship Initiative

Funding Application Requirements

Eligible Applicants:

- Recognized non-government, volunteer-based groups and organizations, including First Nations.

Partnership Requirements:

- Priority will be given to projects with significant volunteer contributions.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate at least 50% matching in-kind/monetary contributions including: volunteer participation (estimated based on \$15.00/hr) and donations (expert services, equipment, materials) and cash donations. While applicants are encouraged to seek other supporting funds as needed, monetary grants received from other granting agencies cannot be considered a cash donation for the purposes of calculating matching contributions.

Key Project Evaluation Criteria:

- Current focus is on Coastal Cutthroat Trout, particularly in developed areas of East Coast Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland. However, proposals that target at least one other native trout species including Rainbow Trout, Westslope Cutthroat Trout, Bull Trout, Lake Trout, Dolly Varden, or Kokanee will also be considered, depending on funding availability.
- Projects must have an associated demonstrable benefit to native trout species and eligible activities include:
 - 1) Native trout population assessments and monitoring
 - 2) Riparian and instream habitat protection and restoration including barrier removal and flow recovery
 - 3) Community outreach and education
 - 4) Seed funding may also be considered, where it can be applied to access other funding opportunities for native trout conservation activities.
- **Important:** Proposals should identify permissions and permits required in their proposal (e.g. land access, fish sampling, habitat-related activities). Upon project approval, applicants must obtain the appropriate approval and permits from government agencies for activities in and about streams that affect fish habitat or water flow, or handle fish before any work begins.
- Applicants must ensure all methodologies for fish, habitat and water sampling, monitoring and restoration activities are sound and impose minimal negative impacts on the ecosystem. Please confirm methods with your local provincial fisheries staff. Contacts can be obtained via <http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/offices.html>
- All successful applications must be endorsed by the regional Provincial Fisheries Biologist at time of review.
- Cost-effectiveness in terms of partnerships, leveraging funds and engaging volunteers is a key consideration.

- Completeness of application including a completed detailed budget and letters of support are critical to funding success.

Selection Process:

- A small committee consisting of Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC and provincial fisheries biologists will review proposals against criteria, regional priorities, soundness of methods and completeness.

Funding Model:

- Successful applicants will receive notification via email by February 15, 2019 along with an unsigned copy of the Grant Agreement. Upon signing and returning Grant Agreement letter to the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC, the applicant will receive a cheque.
- All receipts and invoices must be retained for submission at the end of the project. Upon completion of the project, the applicant must submit a final report along with an accounting of all expenses. Any unspent funds must be returned to the society.

Maximum Project Funding:

- Generally, projects requesting up to \$5,000 from the Freshwater Fisheries Society will be considered. Requests for Society funds exceeding this level may be considered on a case-by-case basis depending on fund availability and project impact.
- Additional funds for the project can be requested in future years.

Project lifespan:

- Projects can be up to two years in length.

Reporting Requirements:

- A final report must be submitted using the Final Report Form upon completion of the project describing objectives, accomplishments, methods, who was involved, and high resolution before/after photos (where applicable). A statement of expenditures along with supporting receipts and invoices must be included. These reports may be posted on the internet to be accessed by the public. Reports must be electronic.
- The final report and statement of expenditures are due within 60 days of your stated date of completion. Any unspent funds are to be returned to the Freshwater Fisheries Society at this time as well.

Grant Application:

- Applications should be no longer than 10 pages including support documents. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications should include:
 - 1) Completed Grant Application
 - 2) Detailed Project Budget for the Lifespan of the Project (included in Application)



Freshwater Fisheries
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- 3) Optional Documents – including letters of support, photographs of the site, maps, designs, etc. Applicants are strongly encouraged to seek letters of support from their regional Provincial Fisheries office.

Application Submission:

Please email or mail completed application and any supporting documents to:

Native Trout Stewardship Initiative
C/O Sue Pollard
Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC
101 – 80 Regatta Landing
Victoria, BC.
Phone: 1-250-414-4207
Email: sue.pollard@gofishbc.com