



Cost-Share Proposal Form for NorthWestern Energy (NWE) Project 2188 TAC Funds

Project 2188 (Madison-Missouri River) License Protection, Mitigation and Enhancement (PM&E) projects are required to offset impacts to river resources from the continued operation of one or more of NWE’s nine hydro developments (Hebgen, Madison, Hauser, Holter, Black Eagle, Rainbow, Cochrane, Ryan and Morony Dams). PM&E projects need to be prioritized toward in-river or on-the-ground measures that directly benefit fisheries and/or wildlife populations and their habitats:

Priority 1: 2188 License projects which meet License Article requirements and PM&E for fisheries or wildlife populations or their habitats within the main stem Madison River (Hebgen Reservoir to Three Forks) or Missouri River (Hauser Reservoir to Fort Peck Reservoir)

Priority 2: 2188 License projects which meet License Article requirements and PM&E for fisheries or wildlife populations or their habitats in primary tributaries or on adjacent lands and, in doing so, provide PM&E for Madison River (Hebgen Reservoir to Three Forks) or Missouri River (Hauser Reservoir to Fort Peck Reservoir) resources.

Priority 3: 2188 License PM&E projects which meet License Article requirements by providing scientific or other tangible PM&E benefits to Madison-Missouri River fisheries or wildlife populations or their habitats. These projects must be located in the greater Missouri River drainage upstream from Fort Peck Reservoir, but not necessarily located on the main stem Madison River or Missouri River or their adjacent lands or primary tributaries.

All TAC project proposals must include the following information:

Project Title: Lake Chartplotter/GPS Upgrade (Lowrance HDS Pro 9) and two transducers.

Date: 10/30/2023

Explain how this Project addresses a specific Project 2188 License Article(s): This project addresses articles 414 and 416 to aid field staff in “...monitoring fish populations...” annually in the Missouri River from Hauser Reservoir to Holter Dam.

Provide justification for Priority 1, 2 or 3 (above) that you selected: This project is considered Priority 1 as the fish finder will be used on fisheries monitoring vessels exclusively on the Missouri River from Hauser Reservoir to Holter Dam.

Project Sponsor (submitted by): Adam Strainer

Location of Proposed Project: Missouri River from Hauser Reservoir to Holter Dam.

Narrative

Geocode (in decimal degrees ex 46.89743) Lat; _____ Long: _____

Total Project Cost: \$2,598

TAC Funds (Cost-Share) Requested for Project:

- I. Introduction; brief statement of project to be completed with pertinent background information.

Fisheries trend monitoring efforts on the Missouri River from Hauser Reservoir to Holter Dam occur annually and require accurate monitoring site location technology to meet a rigorous, repeatable sampling protocol at 100’s of locations throughout these waterbodies. The technology currently being used are drastically

outdated (2 Lowrance units; circa early 2000's) and require replacement. This upgrade will replace two units as it will be transferred between two monitoring vessel's (17' and 23' Alamar Boats). Contemporary features available will maintain accurate sampling locations and could lead to a better understanding of the waterbodies and associated fisheries.

II. Objectives; explicit statement(s) of what is intended to be accomplished.

Purchase Lowrance fish finder/transducer and additional transducer to replace two outdated devices.

III. Methods; description of how Project objectives will be accomplished.

Purchase Lowrance fish finder/transducer and additional transducer to replace two outdated devices.

IV. Schedule; when the Project work will begin and end: NA

V. Personnel; who will do the work? Identify Project leader or principal investigator: Chris Hurley

VI. Project budget must include amounts for the following:

- Direct Labor: NA
- Travel and Living: NA
- Materials: **\$2,598** (free shipping)

Scheels Link to Fish Finder/Tansducer: <https://www.scheels.com/p/lowrance-hds-pro-9-with-active-imaging-hd-fish-finder/42300058503.html> ; see attached.

Russell Marine Link to 2nd Transducer: <https://www.russellmarineproducts.com/lowrance-active-imaging-hdtm-3-in-1-transducer-000-16062-001> ; see attached.

- Other Direct Expenses: NA
- Direct Overhead*: NA
- All cost-share sources and amounts, including estimation of "in-kind" contributions: NA

***NorthWestern Energy TAC funds will not be used for agency overhead on projects that do not fund personnel. Applications for materials and equipment should not contain overhead.**

VII. Deliverables; describe work product (reports, habitat restoration, etc.) which will result from this Project. How will "success" for this project be monitored or demonstrated?

Deliverable will be continued annual fisheries monitoring reports for Hauser and Holter Reservoirs and their associated Tailwater's.

VIII. Cultural Resources. Cultural Resource Management (CRM) requirements for any activity related to this Project must be completed and documented to NWE as a condition of any TAC grant. TAC funds may not be used for any land-disturbing activity, or the modification, renovation, or removal of any buildings or structures until the CRM consultation process has been completed. Agency applicants must submit a copy of the proposed project to a designated Cultural Resource Specialist for their agency. Private parties or non-governmental organizations are encouraged to submit a copy of their proposed project to a CRM consultant they may have employed. Private parties and non-governmental organizations may also contact the NWE representative for further information or assistance. Applications submitted without this section completed, will be held by the TAC, without any action, until the information has been submitted.

Summarize here how you will complete requirements for Cultural Resource Management: NA

IX. Water Rights. For projects that involve development, restoration or enhancement of wetlands, please describe how the project will comply with the Montana DNRC's "Guidance for Landowners and Practitioners Engaged in Stream and Wetland Restoration Activities", issued by the Water Resources Division on 9 March 2016.

Summarize here how you will comply with Montana water rights laws, policies and guidelines: NA

All TAC Project proposals should be 7 pages or less and emailed (as a WORD file) to each of:

- Andrew.Welch@NorthWestern.com
- Jon.Hanson@Northwestern.com
- Grant.Grisak@Northwestern.com

Further questions about TAC proposals or Project 2188 license requirements or related issues may be addressed to:

Andy Welch

Manager, Hydro License Compliance

Andrew.Welch@NorthWestern.com

☎ 406-444-8115

☎ 406-565-7549

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