

2021 SUMMER GRANT SOLICITATION WORKSHOP

NORTH COAST SALMON PROJECT / CUTTING THE GREENTAPE

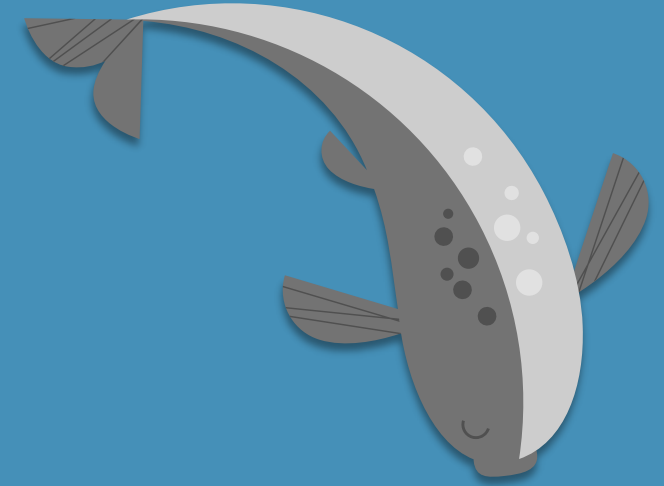


WORKSHOP AGENDA

- Welcome – Overview
- The North Coast Salmon Project
- Update on Cutting the Green Tape
- Overview of the Summer 2021 Solicitation
- Discussion and Input



NORTH COAST SALMON PROJECT



PROJECT OVERVIEW AND GRANT
SOLICITATION

NORTH COAST SALMON PROJECT – OVERVIEW

- Developed in 2018 through the Sustainable Funding BCP
- Collaborative with direct involvement of the restoration community
- Advisory team comprised of CDFW managers/supervisors and leaders from partner NGOs
- Primary goal is to evaluate the effectiveness of past Coho Salmon recovery efforts, identify actions to expedite and enhance recovery, and provide recommendations on how CDFW programs can further support recovery





NORTH COAST SALMON PROJECT – FOCUS AREAS

- Selected focus areas of high importance for Coho Salmon recovery with significant restoration efforts and monitoring
 - Lower Eel River and South Fork Eel River (SONCC Coho)
 - Mendocino Coast streams: Ten Mile River, Noyo River, Pudding Creek, Navarro River, and Garcia River (CCC Coho)
 - Lower Russian River tributaries: Green Valley, Dutch Bill, Mill, and Willow creeks (CCC Coho)
 - Lagunitas Creek (CCC Coho)
- Evaluation and analysis of CDFW programs pertinent to Coho Salmon recovery is concentrated in these areas
- Development of priority recommendations for more effective, targeted restoration is underway in these areas

NORTH COAST SALMON PROJECT – GRANT SOLICITATION



NCSP conducted an analysis of restoration projects implemented to date that have focused on Coho Salmon

- Current scale of restoration implemented over a large geographic area may limit effectiveness in terms of population-level impacts
- Large breadth of choices in priority tasks across state and federal recovery plans may not be focused enough



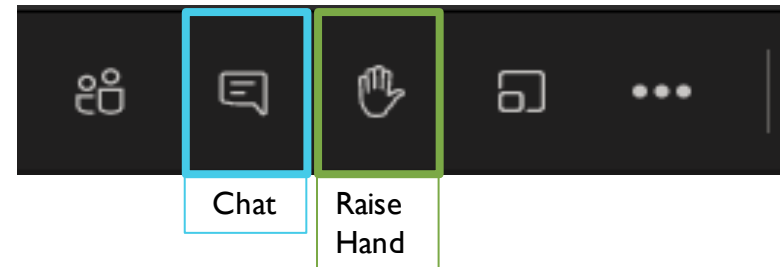
Potential solution is to utilize a targeted approach for restoration

- Focus on areas that have high probability of recovery and success of habitat restoration
- Prioritize recovery actions where possible through SHaRP, PACT document, and state Recovery Strategy
- Implement watershed-scale approach to restoration

QUESTIONS?

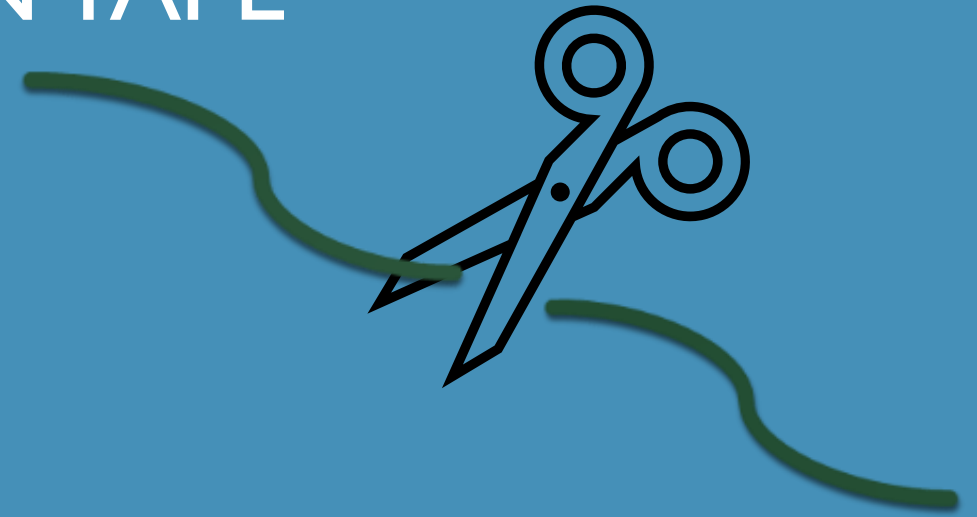


- If you have a question/comment, please either
 - Submit a question through the chat OR
 - Raise your hand



- You will be called upon to ask your question, or we will read the questions from the chat aloud

CUTTING THE GREEN TAPE INITIATIVE



OVERVIEW, CDFW ACTIONS, AND
GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

CUTTING THE GREEN TAPE – OVERVIEW

- The Pace and Scale of Environmental Restoration in California must increase
- Grant Programs that support restoration are arduous, complex processes, with multiple oversight processes
- Environmental Permitting is a separate process from granting and presents additional challenges
- December 2019, California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) Secretary officially kicked off Cutting the Green Tape through series of public meetings.
 - CNRA Cutting the Green Tape effort has continued in unison.



CUTTING THE GREEN TAPE – CONT'D



- Culmination of Discussions with restoration community over past several years
 - Challenges in Grant Administration
 - Challenges in Permitting Restoration
 - Engineering Concerns
 - What are *CDFW's* Priorities for Restoration
- *CDFW's* Restoration Leaders Committee (RLC) formed and worked on these topics throughout 2018
 - 18 Recommendations Presented to Department to improve granting, permitting, and engineering processes.

CUTTING THE GREEN TAPE IN 2021

- In 2020, CDFW received one-time allocation of funding to support the implementation of Cutting the Green Tape



Granting

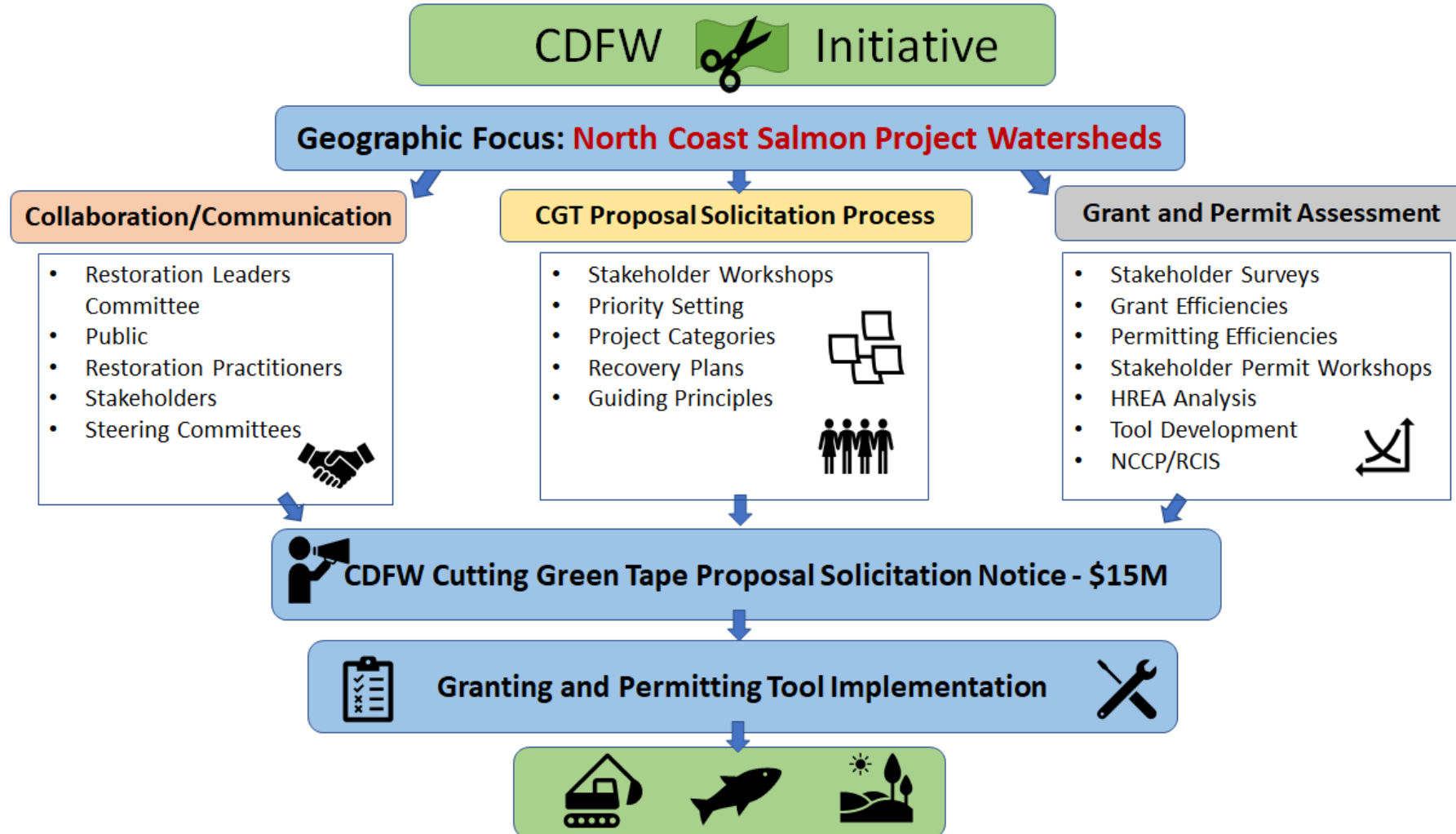
- Implement efficiencies and improvements to Grant Programs (RLC)
- Accelerating Grant Projects
- Prop | 5-year Report
- Summer 2021 North Coast Grant Solicitation



Permitting

- Supporting the Water Board's Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Statewide Large Habitat Restoration Projects
- Developing the Restoration Management Permit (RMP) Template and Pilot Program to Simplify Take Authorizations
- Creating Procedures to Enable Project-Specific Consistency Determinations (CDs) on Federal Programmatic Biological Opinions for Restoration

CUTTING THE GREEN TAPE - OVERVIEW



CUTTING THE GREEN TAPE IN 2021 AND BEYOND



- Concepts Become Policy and Process
- Improvements made throughout 2020
 - Significant Reductions in Grant Timeline
 - Shorter timeline for Grant Solicitation and Award process
 - Grant Agreement, Amendment, Invoice Processing cut as much as 40%
 - Adaptability
 - Budget Flexibility in all new grants
- Improvements will continue in 2021
 - Summer Solicitation is Opportunity to Pilot New Efficiencies
 - What recommendations can be implemented now?
 - We need your input

SUMMER 2021 GRANT SOLICITATION

- Proposition I Watershed Restoration Grant Program
 - \$15 million available for focused PSN in FY 2021 -22
 - Eligibility and other Requirements under existing Prop I guidelines apply
- Geographic Focus
 - Four Watersheds
 - Targeted, watershed-scale approach to restoration
- Proposal Applications
 - Summer 2021



ELIGIBLE PROJECT CATEGORIES



Planning

Support necessary activities that lead to future on-the-ground implementation projects, including environmental review, design, and project development



Implementation

Construction, restoration and enhancement projects for new or enhanced facilities



Acquisition

Purchases of land and/or interests in land and/or water

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES

Protect and Restore Anadromous Coho Salmon Habitat in Four North Coast Watersheds

The objective of this priority is to protect, restore, or enhance anadromous native fish habitat in watersheds of California to aid in the recovery and conservation of these species.

1. Removing high priority fish passage barriers
2. Restoring instream spawning and rearing habitat
3. Restoring off-channel rearing, streambank, and riparian habitats and migratory conditions
4. Restoring or enhancing instream, floodplain, side channel, estuarine or riparian habitat,
5. Improving instream flow quality and quantity
6. Reducing erosion and instream/downstream sedimentation
7. Protecting important watershed lands and riparian buffers in agricultural landscapes through acquisitions and conservation easements
8. Improve and protect the quantity and quality of water available year-round
9. Storage and forbearance projects and associated permitting as part of restoration of anadromous salmonid habitat
10. Public Outreach and Stakeholder Coordination (as part of planning and implementation projects)

RECOVERY STRATEGIES

Eel River Watershed

- Through CDFW Recovery Strategy
- Through South Fork Eel River Salmonid Habitat Restoration Priorities Report, aka SHaRP (once available)

Mendocino coastal tributaries, four tributaries of Russian River, and Lagunitas Creek

- Through CDFW Recovery Strategy
- Through Priority Action Coho Team Strategy, aka PACT

All Watersheds

- An action identified in a publicly available, authoritative Coho Salmon recovery document addressing the watersheds in question

PERMITTING SUPPORT


Permitting Innovations

- CDFW's Permitting Workshop on March 2 Will Present Existing and Proposed Restoration Permitting Tools
- CDFW is Conducting a Pilot Permitting Trial to Test Proposed Permitting Tools using 3-6 Restoration Projects Prior to Release of the PSN

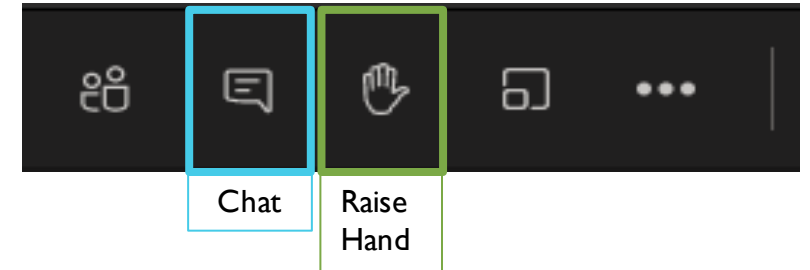
Regional Support

- CDFW's Goal is to Better Integrate Grant and Permitting Functions for Projects Funded by the PSN, Which Includes Utilizing New Permitting Tools as Applicable.

CUTTING THE GREEN TAPE – APPLICATION PROCESS

- Opportunity to Improve Application Process
 - Overall Application can be Simplified
 - Application  Grant Agreement
 - Pared Down vs. Two-Step Phased Approach

DISCUSSION AND INPUT



Questions For You:

1. Initial Thoughts on Prioritization?
2. Recovery Strategies?
3. Specific Suggestions for Application Process?
4. Other?

CONTACT US

Questions:

- WatershedGrants@wildlife.ca.gov

Next Workshop:

- Permitting Workshop: Tuesday, March 2, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., via webinar. [Agenda and Meeting Details](#)