

Jefferson County
Board of Commissioners
Agenda Request

To: Board of Commissioners
Mark McCauley, County Administrator

From: Monte Reinders, P.E., Public Works Director/County Engineer 

Agenda Date: August 8, 2022

Subject: Letter of Support for Trout Unlimited and Coldwater Connection Campaign for grant application to NOAA's Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal -- Funding Opportunity Number NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007209

Statement of Issue: Trout Unlimited has requested a Letter of Support from Jefferson County for their application to the above-referenced grant funding opportunity.

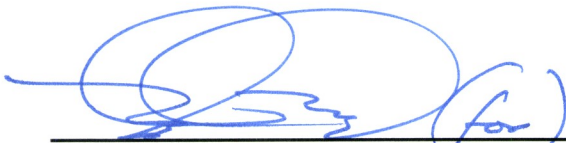
Analysis/Strategic Goals/Pro's & Con's: In coordination with Jefferson County Public Works, Trout Unlimited has identified five fish passage barrier removal projects in west Jefferson County, three on Upper Hoh Road and two on Oil City Road. Trout Unlimited intends to apply for funding for design and construction of these projects, which would replace existing culverts with new, fish-passable culverts or bridges. These culvert replacements would assist the County both by correcting high-priority fish passage barriers, as well as alleviating road maintenance issues. Public Works supports pursuing these projects.

Fiscal Impact/Cost Benefit Analysis: The total grant amount is (To be determined). If awarded, the grant will fund 100% of design and construction. Jefferson County Public Works will provide an in-kind donation of staff time for design review and coordination, and construction oversight.

Recommendation: The Board is requested to sign the Letter of Support, and return to Public Works.

Department Contact: Mark Thurston, P.E. Project Manager, 385-9210.

Reviewed By:



Mark McCauley, County Administrator

8.2.22

Date

Date: XXXX

To: NOAA Office of Habitat Conservation – Restoration Center
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, MD 20910

RE: NOAA's Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal Notice of Funding Opportunity under the IIJA; Funding Opportunity Number: NOAA-NMFS-HCPO-2022-2007209

Dear NOAA Technical Review Team,

I am writing to express support for Trout Unlimited's Olympic Peninsula Coldwater Connection Campaign – Hoh Watershed Fish Passage Project funding proposal to NOAA's Restoring Fish Passage through Barrier Removal Notice of Funding Opportunity under the IIJA.

Jefferson County Dept. of Public Works owns the roads and fish barrier culvert sites being proposed for correction in this funding proposal. Trout Unlimited and Coldwater Connection Campaign partners have been working with Jefferson County staff in developing fish passage projects on Jefferson County Roads for many years, and the County supports this proposal to design, implement, and restore fish passage for these locally vetted and prioritized fish barrier sites.

Trout Unlimited has decades of experience and a proven track record of successful partnerships and restoration projects across the country, including NOAA-funded fish passage projects. As the Chair of the Jefferson County Board of County Commissioners, I fully support Trout Unlimited's enclosed proposal.

Sincerely,

Heidi Eisenhour
Chair, Board of County Commissioners