

WETLAND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT GRANTS FY 2013

Alaska

Chilkoot Indian Association – *The Chilkoot Indian Association Wetland Program Plan Grant*

The Chilkoot Indian Association (CIA) will complete two components with this grant. The CIA will conduct functional assessments on the wetlands mapped in the Haines Wetland Mapping Pilot Project and develop a Tribal Wetland Program Plan (WPP) for the CIA. The CIA has developed strong partnerships within Haines to support the development of their WPP. The Outputs, Outcomes, and Results will support Goal 2: Protecting America's Waters, Objective 2.2: Protect and Restore Watersheds and Aquatic Ecosystems, Increase Wetlands of EPA's 2011-2015 Strategic Plan

State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation – *Developing an Alaska Wetland Program Plan*

Through this grant, the State of Alaska, Department of Environmental Conservation will develop an Alaska Wetland Program Plan (WPP). The WPP will be developed with an approach of forming a state agency wetlands program development work group, creating a wetlands program workshop, and developing an initial WPP which focuses on core elements of monitoring/assessment and regulatory approaches, with the goal of demonstrating the State's capacity to assume the CWA 404 program. The development of a WPP task will start in October 2013, and be completed in May 2014.

Idaho

Coeur d'Alene Tribe – *Coeur d'Alene Tribe Wetland Program Plan Development: A Tribal Cultural Approach*

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe will accomplish four main tasks with this Wetland Program Development Grant. They will develop a Wetland Program Plan (WPP) by a wetland workgroup of several of Coeur d'Alene Tribe's programs. They will identify wetlands compared to pre-settlement wetlands using remote sensing data. They will develop a Tribal wetland definition and classification scheme that includes cultural interests. Lastly, they will develop a pilot functional assessment of at least three wetlands to guide future restoration priorities. The WPP is expected to result in better integration of the various programs involving wetlands, better coordination of restoration and protection efforts, and build a foundation needed for developing outside partnerships. The project's objective ties into the EPA Strategic Plan through assisting the Tribe in its wetland program planning that will lead to greater restoration and protection goals for wetlands.

Nez Perce Tribe – *Developing Goals and Strategies for Wetland Restoration and Protection in Coordination with Partners*

The Nez Perce Tribe's wetland program will further be refined by 1) identifying restoration/protection goals, writing a restoration and management guidance by wetland type, and establishing measures of restoration success; 2) institutionalizing long-term protection and developing wetland management plans for protected wetlands; 3) developing outreach and education documents regarding importance of aquatic resources, identifying protected wetlands, and regulatory program requirements; and 4)

determining designated beneficial uses for different wetland types, mapping these wetlands, and establish narrative physical and biological criteria to support the uses. The project objective ties into the EPA Strategic Plan by advancing the restoration and protection of wetlands through developing restoration/protection goals and restoration guidance. The Strategic Plan's focus on updating water quality standards will be addressed by designated use determinations and establishing physical and biological criteria that the Tribe can use to enforce their own aquatic resource laws.

Idaho Fish and Game – *Building "Idaho's Wetlands" website for delivering maps, data, analyses, and tools for mitigation and restoration planning*

This project will maximize accessibility of data and information for the purpose of monitoring, assessing, restoring and protecting wetlands. Maps and data generated by previous WPDGs will provide the foundation for the website. Two wetland planning tools will also be produced: a mitigation planning tool and wetland restoration planting guide. The project is linked to EPA's Strategic Plan because landowners, managers, consultants, and other partners using the site will be more informed about the benefits, conditions, function and management of wetlands in their watershed, leading to more restoration and protection.

Oregon

Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs – *Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Development of Wetlands Program Plan and Wetland Assessment and Monitoring*

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs will develop a wetland program plan (WPP) including two main objectives. The first objective is to identify wetland program goals and to produce the WPP. The second objective is to develop an assessment and monitoring strategy. The WPP as well as the monitoring and assessment strategy will be incorporated into watershed plans, enhancing the ability of the tribes to protect and restore wetlands and improve water quality.

Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians – *Monitoring and Accessing Wetland Habitats within the Ancestral Territory of the Cow Creek Umpqua Tribe*

This project will develop components of the Tribe's Wetland Program Plan, which is in development. The project goals are: 1.) to develop a protocol for monitoring and assessing wetland habitats of cultural importance on tribal lands and within the ancestral territory; 2.) to monitor and assess quality and quantity of wetland habitats; and 3.) to map wetlands and prioritize future restoration projects based on data collected.

Klamath Tribe – *Upper Klamath Basin Wocus Restoration and Management Program Development Project*

The Klamath Tribe will develop a Wocus restoration and protection plan (WRMP) using their WPP as a guide. The tasks include: survey existing extent, document conditions for restoration success, and developing guidance, a timeline and funding sources for restoration. The Tribe expects Congressional funding and a WRMP will better prepare the Tribe to direct funds to well-planned restoration efforts.

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation – *R10 Tribal Wetland Working Group (TWIG) - Chrysalis to Imago*

This project continues support for the inter-tribal wetlands working group, TWIG. This peer collaboration/sharing group has increased R10 Tribes' interest in developing wetland program plans (WPP), resulting in many more WPDG applications from Tribes. This project focuses on increasing organizational capacity for Tribes to address EPA's CEFs. Tasks include workshops to share techniques and WPDG results; asset mapping of Tribes' projects; and training opportunities that inform WPP/CEF/Aquatic Resources.

Oregon Department of State Lands - *Developing Oregon's Watershed-Based Approach for Wetlands and Stream Monitoring and Assessment Proposal Work Plan*

The Oregon Department of State Lands will conduct two projects to continue their work under their existing Wetland Program Plan. The first project completes the efforts to refine the Oregon Rapid Wetland Assessment Protocol for function-based accounting. The second project will work with Oregon Department of State Lands, EPA, and the US Army Corps of Engineers to develop the policy framework for implementing a function-based watershed-scale approach to mitigation for aquatic resources in Oregon.

Portland State University - *Oregon Wetlands Prioritization and Conservation*

This project will carry out actions from the Oregon Department of State Lands Wetland Program Plan by improving existing planning and conservation tools on the Oregon Wetlands Explorer website. They propose to add wetlands hydrology information to the state's wetland geodatabase, develop three new conservation plans, revise the Oregon's greatest Wetlands database, and complete a statewide guide to wetland and riparian vegetation.

Washington

Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

This project allows the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CTCR) to perform many CEFs/tasks outlined in their WPP, all appropriate next steps to achieving wetland protection: evaluating wetland quality, developing wetland restoration plans, improving codes so wetlands will meet the Tribe's water quality standards. This grant would allow the wetland scientist hired under last grant's funding to continue wetland program development. A restoration plan template will ultimately set the program up to achieve EPA's Strategic Plan net increase goal.

Quinault Indian Nation – *Developing a Tribal Wetland Program Plan for the Quinault Indian Reservation*

The Quinault Indian Nation will develop a Wetland Program Plan (WPP) for the Quinault Indian Reservation. The tribe will work with internal partners to set goals for restoration and protection for the WPP. A Professional Wetland Scientist will be contracted to provide technical advice for the WPP. Information on Reservation wetlands will be compiled to provide an updated wetland map. The staff will have wetland training to build their capacity to identify, monitor, and assess Reservation wetlands. The proposal addresses the core elements of Monitoring and Assessment as well as Restoration and Protection.

Tulalip Tribes of Washington – *2013 Tulalip Wetland Program Plan Implementation*

The Tulalip Tribe proposes to develop actions identified in their EPA-approved Wetland Program Plan. They will conduct the following actions: a wetland vulnerability and risk assessment; assessment and prioritization of potential wetland enhancement, protection, and restoration sites; development and pilot implementation of a wetland monitoring and assessment strategy; and implementation of regulatory stewardship activities to increase awareness of the importance and need for protection of tribal waters.

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation – *Valley Wetland Inventory and Condition Assessment on the Yakama Reservation*

This project enhances the Yakama Nation's capacity to regulate, monitor, and restore wetlands in the agricultural valley by utilizing remote sensing to accurately map wetland extent and vegetative cover within the Toppenish Corridor. The Yakama Nation will contract with a consultant with experience in wetland mapping to obtain LiDAR and color infrared imagery and perform interpretation to remap wetlands with the Toppenish corridor and floodplains of the Lower Yakima River. The results from the contractor will be a geo-referenced original imagery and GIS layers/geodatabases which map wetland vegetation by categories associated with the tribe's needs.

Washington Department of Ecology – *Washington Wetland Program Plan Stakeholder Outreach*

The Department of Ecology received a WPDG in 2012 for Wetland Program Plan development, but this grant did not contain the public outreach and comment element. The Department of Ecology proposes to develop and implement a public and stakeholder outreach process to receive feedback and gain support for the WPP by local governments, stakeholders, and public.

Washington Department of Natural Resources – *Advancing and Transferring Natural Heritage Wetland Data: Filling Survey Gaps, Delivering Data via the Web, and Training Wetland Professionals*

This project is following a three-phased project to update statewide information on Natural Heritage Wetlands and to transfer this information to the public. WDNR will conduct field surveys to fill data gaps and to develop a statewide network of wetland reference standard sites. This will ensure the best available information about the location and status of Natural Heritage Wetlands is used in the application of Washington Department of Ecology's Wetland Rating System. WDNR will also fully develop an internet-based map viewer and web site to expand public access to the Natural Heritage Wetland data. The website will also provide training for qualified individuals to apply the wetland classification and Ecological Integrity Assessment methodology which would expand the reach for inventory efforts.

Washington Department of Ecology – *Supporting Local Governments' Wetland Protection Programs*

WDOE proposes to develop a training program for Wetlands 101 for planners and elected officials. Local governments in Washington provide the front line in wetland protection, while the Department of Ecology provides science-based tools and guidance for local government staff. The training would be offered as a webinar or tutorial.