

**2008 - 2011 Secure Rural Schools
Public Law 110-343
TITLE II PROJECT SUBMISSION FORM
USDA FOREST SERVICE
SHOSHONE RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Project Status: Proposed

Funding Fiscal Year: 2011 - 4th year

2. Project Name: North Fork Shoshone Irrigation Canal Fish Screen

3a. State: Wyoming

3b. County: Wyoming - Park

4. Project Submitted by: Tommy Thompson, Trout Unlimited

5. Date: 03/01/2011

6. Contact Phone:

7. Contact E-Mail:

8. Project Location

a. National Forest: Shoshone

b. Forest Service District: Wapiti

c. Location (Township-Range-Section)
52-105-20

9. Project Goals and Objectives:

10. Project Description:

a. Brief: (*in one sentence*) Install a fish screen and debris boom on the North Fork Valley Ditch Company's canal to eliminate entrainment of native and wild fish and reduce disturbance caused by headgate maintenance operations.

b. Detailed:

The North Fork Valley Ditch Company's irrigation canal is the largest diversion that draws water directly from the North Fork Shoshone River and is the primary site of entrainment of Yellowstone cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, mountain whitefish, and an assemblage of native, non-sport fishes including: flathead chub, longnose dace, longnose suckers, mountain suckers, and white suckers. According to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD) North Fork Shoshone River Basin Management Plan (January 2011), the North Fork Shoshone river has 415 miles of trout streams and is a crucial and enhancement aquatic habitat priority area because it supports a highly productive sport fishery with a core conservation population of Yellowstone cutthroat trout in Grinnell Creek. The Management Plan also recommends screening irrigation canals in this system to reduce loss of fish through entrainment. Due to the annual migration of trout in the basin, virtually all of them are susceptible to entrainment by this canal. During the 2009 irrigation season, WGFD estimated fish loss in the North Fork Canal to be 4,453. On October 22, 2010, the East Yellowstone Chapter of Trout Unlimited (EYTU) rescued 933 salmonids (almost all were of reproductive age) from the first 1.5 miles of the canal. A vertical traveling fish screen will be installed in the canal that will pass ample irrigation water while redirecting fish back into the river. The head gate structure collects large amounts of debris requiring daily maintenance by the water users. A debris-deflecting boom will be installed upstream of the head gate to reduce maintenance and mitigate current bank erosion and vegetation trampling caused by debris-removal equipment.

11. State/Private/Other lands involved? No

If Yes, specify:

12. How does the proposed project meet purposes of the Legislation? (*check at least 1*)

Improve maintenance of existing infrastructure, Implements stewardship objectives that enhance forest ecosystems, Restores and improves land health, Restores water quality

13. Project Type:

a. Check all that apply: (*check at least 1*) Watershed Restoration & Maintenance, Fish Habitat Restoration

b. Primary Purpose (*select only 1*)

14. Identify what the project will accomplish

1 Miles of stream/river restored/improved

415 Miles of fish habitat restored/improved

15: Estimated Project Start Date:

10/01/2011

16: Estimated Project Completion Date:

11/01/2012

17. List known partnerships or collaborative opportunities.

North Fork Valley Ditch Company
East Yellowstone Chapter Trout Unlimited
Wyoming Game and Fish Department
Shoshone National Forest
US Fish and Wildlife Service

18. Identify benefits to communities.

(max 12 lines)

The North Fork Shoshone River is the most popular trout fishery in the Wapiti Ranger District, attracting thousands of anglers every year. Preventing the entrainment of fish by this irrigation canal will improve angling opportunities for the public and will help to anchor one of the most important natural resource based economic drivers of the area.

19. How does this project benefit federal lands/resources? *(max 12 lines)*

This project site is located on land managed by the USFS. It will eliminate the primary site of entrainment of fish in the North Fork River drainage and will improve water quality.

20. What is the proposed method(s) of accomplishment? *(check at least 1)*

Contract, Volunteers, Grant, Agreement

21. Will this project generate merchantable timber? No

22. Anticipated Project Costs

a. Please fill out a project cost form for each fiscal year the project will be funded

b. Is this a multi-year funding request?

24. Monitoring Plan *(Input or attach below)*

a. Provide a plan that describes your process for tracking and explaining the effects of this project on your environmental and community goals outlined above.

TU is responsible for the monitoring of this project and will continue to be in close contact with landowners and project partners about its success. The fish screen will be managed by project partners including TU, East Yellowstone Chapter of Trout Unlimited and the North Fork Valley Ditch Company. TU will communicate project results through the media including TU newsletters and local newspapers.

Success of the project will be determined by electro shocking the ditch at the end of the first irrigation season that the screen is operable. A lack of entrained fish will indicate project success. Several times during the first irrigation season TU will also net-sample the return water from the screen to document fish passage.

\$0 from the RAC Funding will be used to carry out specified monitoring tasks. Other project partners will absorb the \$1000 monitoring costs.

b. Identify who will conduct the monitoring:

Trout Unlimited, East Yellowstone Chapter Trout Unlimited

c. Identify total funding needed to carry out specified monitoring tasks:

d. Identify remedies for failure to comply with terms of the agreement.

If project cannot be completed under the terms of this agreement:

If other is selected, explain:

Project Recommended by:
Chairperson, RAC

Project Approved by:
Forest Supervisor, Shoshone National Forest

Project Cost Analysis

| Item | <i>Column A</i> Fed. Agency Appropriated Contribution | <i>Column B</i> Requested Title II Contribution | <i>Column C</i> Other Contributions | <i>Column D</i> Total Available Funds |
|----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
| a. Field Work & Site Surveys | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| b. NEPA/CEQA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| c. ESA Consultation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| d. Permit Acquisition | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| e. Project Design & Engineering | 0 | 0 | 7500 | 7500 |
| f. Contract/Grant Preparation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| g. Contract/Grant Administration | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| h. Contract/Grant Cost | 0 | 0 | 15000 | 15000 |
| i. Salaries | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| j. Materials & Supplies | 20000 | 30000 | 56000 | 106000 |
| k. Monitoring | 0 | 0 | 1000 | 1000 |
| l. Other | | | | |
| in-kind technical support | 10000 | 0 | 10000 | 20000 |
| Partner Indirect Costs | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 | 0 0 |
| m. Project Sub-Total | 30000 | 30000 | 89500 | 149500 |
| n. FS Indirect Costs | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Cost Estimate | 30000 | 30000 | 89500 | 149500 |