

2024 Notice of Intent (NOI) Screening Tool: CWM WRIA 7



In 2023, the Cooperative Watershed Management WRIA 7 Project Review Committee (PRC) agreed to pilot NOI screening criteria as outlined below. The PRC may request a project be deferred to future grant rounds or other funding sources based on the following screening:

All Projects

A project may be deemed not technically sound and deferred if any of the following apply:

- The application is incomplete.
- Project goals or objectives are not clearly stated or do not address restoration or protection of salmon/watershed health.
- The project is dependent on addressing other key conditions or processes first.
- The project has a high cost relative to the anticipated benefits and the project sponsor failed to justify the costs to the satisfaction of the PRC (e.g. through a formal request for additional info following the NOI submission).

Restoration and Protection and Restoration-Riparian Projects

A project may be deemed not technically sound and deferred if any of the following apply:

- It is unclear there is a problem to salmonids or watershed health that the project is addressing. For acquisition projects, this criterion relates to the lack of a clear threat if the property is not acquired.
- Acquisition parcel prioritization (for multi-site proposals) is not provided, or the prioritization does not meet the project's goal or objectives.
- The project does not account for the conditions or processes in the watershed.
- The project may be in the wrong sequence with other habitat protection, assessments, or restoration actions in the watershed.
- The project does not work towards restoring natural watershed processes or prohibits natural processes.
- There is low potential for threat to habitat conditions if the project is not completed.

Monitoring and Evaluation

A project may be deemed not technically sound and deferred if any of the following apply:

- The monitoring plan is based on inaccurate assumptions.
- The monitoring methods are not accepted by technical experts.
- Analytical techniques proposed are inadequate to achieve the project goals and/or objectives.
- The value of the study for recovery of salmon populations or the application of the study for future recovery efforts is not explicit. See [Monitoring Prioritization \(2023\)](#) for guidance.
- The objectives of the proposed study can be found in previously completed studies or reports.
- The study does not demonstrate how it builds from previous studies and reports nor where or how the information gap was identified.

Education and Outreach

A project may be deemed not technically sound and deferred if any of the following apply:

- Objectives are unclear, unfocused, or unmeasurable.
- Target audience is not identified and/or not relevant to salmon recovery nor watershed health.
- Target audience is not within Snoqualmie nor South Fork Skykomish watershed geographies.