FY2020 Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership
Request for Proposals

Issue Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2019
Deadline for proposals: Thursday, November 14, 2019 5:00PM PST

Table of Contents
Funding Opportunity Description.................................................................1
Funding available and project budget.........................................................2
Project period and timing of funding.........................................................2
Eligibility.....................................................................................................2
Priority Species and Priority Areas ............................................................4
Climate and ocean change .......................................................................5
Project monitoring.....................................................................................5
How to Apply.............................................................................................6
Evaluation Criteria.....................................................................................7
Appendix A: Budget Sheet Template .........................................................10
Appendix B: Project Timeline Template ....................................................12
Appendix C: Jotform Application ...............................................................13

Funding Opportunity Description
The Pacific Marine and Estuarine Fish Habitat Partnership (PMEP) is one of 20
regional fish habitat partnerships in the United States. Its mission is to provide
science, data, and funding to conserve and restore West Coast nearshore and
estuarine fish habitat. Learn more about PMEP at www.pacificfishhabitat.org. PMEP
is advancing estuarine habitat classification and mapping and is gathering and
assessing information about estuarine and nearshore marine fish habitat use. It
also prioritizes and funds fish habitat restoration projects through a partnership
with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and the National Fish Habitat
Partnership (NFHP). To read about recent PMEP-funded projects, please visit
http://www.pacificfishhabitat.org/pmep-funded-projects/.
Funding available and project budget

PMEP will award a total of $100,000-$150,000 in 2020 for projects that advance its mission. This amount is based on funding received from the USFWS and NFHP for this purpose. The exact amount of funding available varies annually and is not known at this time. Individual project awards are generally between $30,000 and $60,000. In an effort to fund a diverse portfolio of projects, strong project proposals that request less than $50,000 are preferred. However, proposals of particular merit may be funded at a higher level at PMEP's discretion. Final project grants will be administered by the USFWS.

All projects must show financial match and broad-based support for the work, though no specific match amounts are required. Matching funds may come from federal or non-federal sources.

A detailed project budget is required, specifying which components of the project will be paid for with PMEP funds. Matching funds, and their status (in-hand, proposed, in-kind) should be indicated. See Appendix A for information required.

Project period and timing of funding

The project or portion of a project that PMEP funds must be completed within two years and all PMEP funding should be spent during that time. The proposal should include a detailed timeline for the use of PMEP funds. See Appendix B.

Timeline for project funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 14, 2019</td>
<td>Proposals due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 2019</td>
<td>Proposal evaluation and project ranking by PMEP committees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 5, 2019</td>
<td>Final approval of ranked project list by PMEP Steering Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January, 2020</td>
<td>Notification of project ranking (not award notification)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer, 2020</td>
<td>Announcement of award recipients*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer 2020</td>
<td>Funding available*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Funding availability is dependent upon the federal appropriations process and USFWS agreements.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include state, tribal, and federal management agencies, non-governmental organizations (e.g. conservation groups, community associations, watershed councils, cooperatives, civic groups), municipalities, universities, schools, private landowners, and local governments.
Eligible projects

Restoration and protection projects - PMEP funding may be used to pay for a small habitat restoration or protection project or parts of a larger project. Restoration and protection projects should clearly describe the need for the project relative to regional or local restoration and protection planning efforts. Proposals should clearly detail which part of the proposed project will utilize PMEP funds in the project budget, see Appendix A.

Assessment projects - PMEP will fund assessment projects that fill data gaps identified for estuary and nearshore marine fish habitats in its region. Proposals should clearly justify the assessment in relation to needs identified in PMEP or other planning documents. PMEP encourages projects that assess the effectiveness of restoration techniques. If PMEP funds will be used to pay for a part of a larger assessment project, proposals should clearly detail which part of the project will utilize PMEP funds in the project budget, see Appendix A. Any data collected should conform with data collection methods recommended or used in PMEP assessments.

Ineligible projects

PMEP will not fund projects that:

- Place large woody debris, without addressing long-term habitat quality improvements or other means of restoring connectivity and function.
- Conduct salmonid-only habitat use assessments. Habitat use assessments must be primarily designed to elucidate the use of estuary or nearshore habitat by non-salmonid PMEP focal species. Assessments that focus on multiple species are preferred.
- Modify rather than remove tide gates, unless the project will significantly improve both habitat connectivity and fish passage to areas above the tide gate.
- Are located above impassable barriers.
- Are primarily research studies (fish habitat assessment projects can be funded and are not considered research).
- Conduct long-term monitoring (this includes long term monitoring of fish populations).

Ineligible costs

- Pre-award costs associated with preliminary design, surveys and appraisals.
- Realty costs (e.g., lease or purchase interests in real property or to make rental or other land use incentive payments to landowners).
• Operation and maintenance of facilities or structures. This applies to buildings and structures only and not to maintenance or construction of earthen structures.
• Actions required by existing regulatory programs, except that funds may support activities under voluntary agreements that exceed regulatory requirements for conserving habitats (e.g., hydropower licensing in which the licensee enters into a voluntary agreement to restore habitat that exceeds regulatory requirements).
• Incentive payments.

Priority Species and Priority Areas

Projects considered for funding should address science-based habitat protection, restoration, and enhancement activities that benefit fish habitat in PMEP's geographic scope. Assessment projects that fill identified data gaps about fish use and habitat will also be considered. PMEP’s strategic plan recognizes the importance of juvenile rearing areas within estuaries, as well as nearshore habitats, for fish. Please review PMEP’s strategic plan at http://www.pacificfishhabitat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/PMEP-Strategic-Plan-2018-FINAL.pdf for more information about its focus and geographic scope.

PMEP has determined that smaller estuarine systems receive less attention and restoration funding due to the relatively smaller area of treatment. However, smaller systems provide unique values and benefits.

PMEP is seeking project proposals that restore nursery habitats for PMEP focal species within smaller estuarine systems (with an emphasis on habitat connectivity) or that increase our understanding of fish habitats in estuarine and nearshore habitats. Smaller estuarine systems are defined as having an Estuary Size Class of 0-250 acres in the PMEP Estuary Explorer data tool http://estuaries.pacificfishhabitat.org/explore.

PMEP has identified the following priority/focal species:
• Green sturgeon (*Acipenser medirostris*)
• Leopard shark (*Triakis semifasciata*)
• Bat ray (*Myliobatis californica*)
• Pacific herring (*Clupea pallasi*)
• Bay shrimp (*Crangon franciscorum*)
• Dungeness crab (*Cancer magister*)
• California halibut (*Paralichthys californicus*)
• English sole (*Parophrys vetulus*)
• Starry flounder (*Platichthys stellatus*)
- Shiner perch (*Cymatogaster aggregata*)
- Steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*)
- Coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*)
- Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)
- Brown rockfish (*Sebastes auriculatus*)
- Staghorn sculpin (*Leptocottus armatus*)

Project proposals that benefit these priority species and smaller estuarine areas will score higher during the proposal evaluation process. **However, worthy projects that benefit other species and areas will be considered.**

Project proposals should also benefit USFWS priority species. The list of USFWS priority species can be found [here](#).

Projects must also support the goals of the National Fish Habitat Partnership:

- Protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems
- Prevent further degradation of fish habitats
- Reverse declines in quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve overall health of fish and other aquatic species
- Increase quality and quantity of fish habitat that support a broad natural diversity of fish and other aquatic species

For a full description of NFHP goals and objectives, see [The National Fish Habitat Action Plan, 2nd edition](#).

**Climate and ocean change**

Restoration project proposals will be evaluated with climate and ocean change dynamics in mind. Projects should identify how they will perform under climate and ocean change scenarios and how they will contribute to ecological resilience over time. Assessment projects that improve our understanding of the threats to fish habitat posed by climate and ocean change are encouraged. Applicants should cite appropriate climate and ocean change models, assessments, or scientific studies they have used to develop their project.

**Project monitoring**

All project proposals must include a monitoring plan. At minimum, projects should describe the implementation monitoring plan designed to document that the project was constructed or completed as proposed. Additional effectiveness monitoring is advised, though the short timeframe available for spending PMEP
funds generally does not allow our funds to be used for long-term effectiveness monitoring. For a good description of the difference between implementation and effectiveness monitoring, please see https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/habitat-conservation/monitoring-and-evaluation-restoration-projects.

Data collection

Any tidally restored areas should be mapped and spatial data should be provided to PMEP for inclusion in its Tidally Restored Areas data layer.

How to Apply

To apply for funding, complete and submit the online application at https://form.jotform.com/92315972569166.

NOTE: YOU MUST COMPLETE THE APPLICATION IN ONE SESSION. YOU CANNOT SAVE YOUR ANSWERS AND RETURN TO THE APPLICATION.

See below for an example of the Jotform application questions. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. The deadline for project proposal submissions is 5:00 PM PST, Thursday, November 14, 2019.

Notification of awards will be made in Summer 2020, and funds are expected to be awarded in the Summer of 2020. Please note that this funding is linked to the federal budget.

If you have any questions, please contact the PMEP Coordinator at info@pacificfishhabitat.org.
Evaluation Criteria

Project proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria.
- To what extent does the project relate to / align with PMEP priorities and the priorities of other local, state, and regional plans?
- To what extent does the project relate to / align with PMEP geographical priorities?
- Does the project result in benefits for the habitat of one or more of PMEP's 15 focal species and priority species of the USFWS?
- Does the project align with national conservation strategies?
- Does the project yield a broad ecological benefit? How does the project incorporate climate and ocean change?
- Will the project demonstrate results within a reasonable timeframe?
- Does the project have an adequate monitoring and evaluation process for determining success?
- Is the project cost-effective?
- Does the project have the appropriate project management and technical expertise in place?
- Does the project include appropriate public outreach and partner support?

Below are the scoring categories and point assignments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Scoring</th>
<th>Restoration/ protection projects</th>
<th>Assessment projects</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(10 points each)</td>
<td>Regional plan priority – 10</td>
<td>PMEP identified data gap – 10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority area/data gap</td>
<td>Local plan priority – 5</td>
<td>Other identified data gap – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>No identified priority – 0</td>
<td>No identified gap - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Alignment</td>
<td>Small estuarine – 10</td>
<td>Small estuarine – 10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Other estuary / nearshore – 5</td>
<td>Other estuary or nearshore – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neither - 0</td>
<td>Neither - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Ecological Benefits</td>
<td>Process restoration and climate/ocean change resilience – 10</td>
<td>Fills a management need. Builds understanding of</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Process restoration or climate/ocean change resilience – 5</td>
<td>restoration technique effectiveness and impacts of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Neither process restoration nor climate/ocean change resilience - 0</td>
<td>climate/ocean change – 10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FY2020 PMEP RFP
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Scoring</th>
<th>Restoration/ protection projects</th>
<th>Assessment projects</th>
<th>Weight</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Focal Species</td>
<td>Multi-species – 10</td>
<td>Multi-species – 10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benefit</td>
<td>Single species – 5</td>
<td>Single species – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Salmon only – 0</td>
<td>Salmon only - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>*must address both PMEP and FWS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>species</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National/Federal Strategies</td>
<td>Addresses more than 1 strategy – 10</td>
<td>Addresses more than 1 strategy – 10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Addresses 1 strategy – 5</td>
<td>Addresses 1 strategy – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Does not address strategy - 0</td>
<td>Does not address strategy - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Readiness</td>
<td>Complete within 1 year – 10</td>
<td>Complete within 6 mos. – 10</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete within 2 years – 5</td>
<td>Complete within 18 mos. – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Not complete in 2 years - 0</td>
<td>Not complete in 2 years - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evaluation</td>
<td>Implementation &amp; effectiveness</td>
<td>Provision of spatial data to PMEP described and Interim milestones identified – 10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>monitoring – 10</td>
<td>Provision of spatial data to PMEP described or Interim milestones identified – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Implementation monitoring – 5</td>
<td>Neither interim milestones or PMEP data conformance described - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Inadequate monitoring - 0</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value</td>
<td>Cost share 3:1 – 10</td>
<td>Cost share 3:1 – 10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost share 1:1 – 5</td>
<td>Cost share 1:1 – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cost share 0:1 - 0</td>
<td>Cost share 0:1 - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Management</td>
<td>Applicant and key partners have completed similar projects &gt;5 projects – 10</td>
<td>Applicant and key partners have completed similar projects &gt;5 projects – 10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-5 projects – 5</td>
<td>1-5 projects – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Scoring</td>
<td>Restoration/ protection projects</td>
<td>Assessment projects</td>
<td>Weight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach</td>
<td>Public contacts involving news media and affected landowners – 10</td>
<td>Publication in peer-reviewed journal – 10</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information provided online, e.g., through social media – 5</td>
<td>Self-published report disseminated through press and social media – 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Report on website - 0</td>
<td>Report on website - 0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix A: Budget Sheet Template

Please attach two budget sheets in .xls or .pdf format to your application. If using .xls, please send one file with two clearly marked sheets within the file. One sheet should outline the detailed project budget and the other should outline funding sources and status of that funding. See below for example formats to follow. Please include a short budget justification for the requested amount.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DETAILED PROJECT BUDGET</th>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td># Units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A. PERSONNEL SERVICES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. CONTRACTED SERVICES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL CONTRACTED SERVICES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. OPERATING EXPENSES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. OTHER EXPENSES (INCLUDES OVERHEAD OR INDIRECT IF APPLICABLE)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL OTHER EXPENSES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL COST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Source</td>
<td>Cash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PMEP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Federal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name(s) and amount(s) of each:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name(s) and amount(s) of each:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Sources</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name(s) and amount(s) of each:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Appendix B: Project Timeline Template

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DETAILED PROJECT TIMELINE</th>
<th>PROJECT NAME</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Activity (eg. permitting, construction, data analysis, etc.)</td>
<td>Start date</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| TOTAL COST |
PMEP Funding Opportunity – 2019

Please complete and submit this online application to be considered for funding from PMEP and its partners for 2020.

See the RFP for instructions at: http://www.pacificfishhabitat.org/funding-opportunities/

Please direct questions to info@pacificfishhabitat.org.

Deadline for submitting proposals is 5 pm PST Thursday, November 14, 2019.

Project Overview

Name of Project *

Requesting Organization *

Total Amount of Funding Requested from PMEP *

$0.00

Project Location Description *

For example: Grays Harbor Estuary, Washington
Latitude of project *
* Please use decimal degrees. Example: 46.960

Longitude of project *
* Please use decimal degrees. Example: -124.017

Datum of Lat/Long Coordinates *
Example: WGS 1984

Name of Individual Submitting Application *
First Name
Last Name

Submitter's Email *
example@example.com

Submitter's Phone Number *
Area Code Phone Number

Name of Project Manager (if different from above)
First Name
Last Name

Project Manager's Email
example@example.com

Project Manager's Phone Number
Area Code Phone Number
Project Description

Short Description of Project *

Brief summary. 0/100

Project Overview *

Descriptive project overview. 0/500

Expected Conservation Outcomes *

Example: Reconnected 11 miles of upstream habitat. 0/250
Is your project associated with a mitigation project? If so, please describe.

Alignment with PMEP Objectives

PMEP Objectives
(select all that apply)

* Protect, restore, and enhance fish habitat in estuaries with an emphasis on juvenile rearing areas.
* Protect, restore, and enhance fish habitat in the nearshore Pacific Ocean.
* Increase connectivity between habitats in PMEP’s geographic scope.

Describe how your project addresses PMEP priorities or other plan priorities.

*
PMEP Focal Species

- Green sturgeon
- Leopard shark
- Bat ray
- Pacific herring
- Bay shrimp
- Dungeness crab
- California halibut
- English sole
- Starry flounder
- Shiner perch
- Steelhead
- Coho salmon
- Chinook salmon
- Brown rockfish
- Staghorn sculpin

Identify USFWS priority species benefited by your project.*

Description of how species are benefited.*

Will your project adversely affect any of the species listed above? If so, please explain.*

0/250

0/500

0/250
National Strategy Alignment

National Fish Habitat Partnership (NFHP) Goals (select all that apply) *

- Goal 1: Protect and maintain intact and healthy aquatic systems
- Goal 2: Prevent further degradation of fish habitats that have been adversely affected.
- Goal 3: Reverse declines in the quality and quantity of aquatic habitats to improve the overall health of fish and other aquatic organisms.
- Goal 4: Increase the quality and quantity of fish habitats that support a broad natural diversity of fish and other aquatic species.

NFHP Goals. Provide a description of how your project addresses goals. *

Recovery Plans
Project Readiness

Will the portion of your project that PMEP may fund be completed within two years? *

- Yes
- No

Attach project timeline (Appendix B) (xls. or pdf.) *

Browse Files

Are all permits in place for this project? *

- Yes
- No

If not, please describe the expected timeline needed for permit approval.

What percentage of the overall project funding is secured? What percentage is pending? *

Project Monitoring and Evaluation
Monitoring Plan *

Budget

Total amount of Funding Requested from PMEP *

$0.00

Total Project Cost *

$0.00

Do you have matching funds for this project? *

- Yes
- No
- Still exploring options

Total matching funds for proposed project. *

$0.00

Will this project be fully funded if PMEP funds are received? *

- Yes
- No

Attach Project Budget Tables (Appendix A) (.xls or .pdf) *

Browse Files
Please list other funding partners (comma separated).

Example: The Nature Conservancy, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Project Management

Technical Expertise of project sponsor. Please list up to 5 previously completed projects.

Partners (comma separated)

Community Support

Outreach
Outreach - describe project outreach and results dissemination *

0/250