



# EAGLE RIVER COALITION

Protecting Our Local Watersheds

## **Request for Proposal for Homestake Valley Stream Crossing Structures in the White River National Forest near Red Cliff, CO**

The Eagle River Coalition (ERC) is requesting proposals from qualified consultants for environmental and engineering planning and design for stream crossings & Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) Structures in the Homestake Valley area within the White River National Forest near Red Cliff, CO. This project aims to replace failing stream passage structures and to expand fish passage to cold water fisheries through the installation of AOP structures while supporting the ecological health of the surrounding area and maintaining sustainable OHV traffic. The selected contractor will be responsible for the following aspects of the project; data collection, design, permitting, and some construction oversight.

Proposals must be submitted as one, single electronic file (PDF). via email to Peder Franson at [franson@eagleriverco.org](mailto:franson@eagleriverco.org) on or before 5:00 PM MDT, Friday, February 28th, 2025.

If you have any questions or would like further clarification of any aspect of this request for bid, please contact Peder Franson at [franson@eagleriverco.org](mailto:franson@eagleriverco.org). Responses to all questions submitted by consultants will be distributed by email to all parties and posted on the ERC website by Monday, February 10, 2025.

<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
Issue Request for Proposal	January 13, 2025
Questions/clarifications about RFP due	February 3, 2025
Responses to questions emailed to all parties and posted on ERC's website (link will be provided in email)	February 10, 2025
Proposals Due	5:00 PM MDT, February 28, 2025
Select Consultant	By March 14, 2025
Issue Notice of Award & Begin to Finalize a Contract	March 17 - 21, 2025

## **Homestake Valley Aquatic Organism Passage Project Background**

In 2020, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Homestake Partners identified aging culverts on Homestake Road that required updates to Aquatic Organism Passages (AOPs) in alignment with USFS construction standards. NEPA reviews were completed for three priority sites: French Creek, East Fork Homestake Creek, and Missouri Creek. The French Creek AOP was completed in 2021 with funding from a USFS participating agreement and an NFF Ski Conservation Fund grant. The East Fork Homestake Creek AOP was completed in 2023, supported by similar funding sources. In the same year, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was finalized with Aurora Water to secure additional project funding. In 2024, AOP construction is on pause due to USFS prioritization and the scale of the Missouri Creek project, which will likely require more extensive planning and a more costly bridge installation rather than a culvert. An additional stream crossing project was also identified and likely will not need to be scoped for AOP. A small culvert in the Upper Fancy has failed and we are now seeing low water crossing on the road.

The project goals for the final project design is to address the failing stream crossings at Missouri Creek and Upper Fancy Creek. This will be achieved by following best management practices for AOP work while incorporating efforts to improve flood capacity resilience, aquatic connectivity, aquatic and riparian habitat, and transportation resiliency in a changing climate. It is anticipated that the Missouri Creek stream crossing will be a bridge, and the upper fancy stream crossing could be a hardened ford.

## **Background of the Eagle River Coalition**

Eagle River Coalition (Formerly Eagle River Watershed Council) has a mission to advocate for the health of the Upper Colorado and Eagle River basins through research, projects, and education. The Coalition strives to protect and enhance the high-quality natural, scenic, and economic values that our rivers and tributaries provide to the citizens, visitors, and wildlife of the Eagle River and Colorado River watersheds located in Eagle County.

Our organization has been working to achieve our mission since 1992, and has direct ties to the Eagle River Environmental Business Alliance which sought to improve water quality and river experiences following the Eagle Mine Spill in the late 1980s. Since then, we have achieved measurable progress in water quality throughout the watershed and grown as an organization to better serve our community.



## Scope of Services & Deliverables

1. Site Assessment and Data Collection:
  - a. Work with ERC, USFS, and other project partners to determine what available data is applicable and acceptable for developing a 100% project design.
  - b. Conduct field surveys to evaluate existing conditions (e.g., culvert structure, stream morphology, hydrology, sediment transport).
  - c. Collect additional aquatic habitat, and/or species presence data as needed.
  - d. Gather topographical, hydrological, and geological data as needed to inform design considerations.
2. Regulatory Compliance and Permitting:
  - a. Review applicable environmental regulations and compliance requirements.
  - b. Coordinate with relevant agencies to ensure alignment with local, state, and federal guidelines.
3. Hydraulic and Structural Analysis:
  - a. Perform hydraulic modeling to assess stream flow, sediment transport, and scour potential.
  - b. Conduct structural assessments for culvert or bridge design, ensuring it meets load and durability requirements.
4. Design Development:
  - a. Develop preliminary design concepts for AOP structures (e.g., culverts, bridges, natural streambed crossings).
  - b. Refine the design to meet USFS or other relevant standards, such as FP-14 specifications as needed.
5. Stakeholder Engagement Support:
  - a. Support ERC as needed with co-hosting meetings to review design concepts and gather feedback.
6. Construction Planning:
  - a. Prepare detailed construction plans, specifications, and bid documents.
  - b. Identify construction methods, access points, and staging areas.
  - c. Provide a detailed cost estimate for the design, materials, and construction phases.
7. Monitoring Plan Development:
  - a. Develop a post-construction monitoring plan to evaluate AOP effectiveness and maintenance needs.

## Contents of Proposals

Responses to the RFP should include a description of the following:

1. **Understanding the Work.** Demonstrate an understanding of the work and present an overall summary of what the Consultant determines is necessary to accomplish the goals of the project
2. **Project Approach.** Description of how the firm plans to complete these services (i.e. the approach), including any recommended changes or additions to the Scope of Services above. Provide any proposed strategies based on additional insight, capabilities, or perspectives of the Consultant. Clearly describe how the proposed Project Approach meets the goals of the project.
3. **Project Team.** Propose a project team including Consultant staff and subconsultant(s). Include resumes for individuals from all associated consultant(s) and any additional subconsultants. The resumes should emphasize recent experience of the project team and should include the following information:
  - a. Geographic location of the office to which the individual is normally assigned
  - b. Proposed responsibility and function on the team
  - c. Estimated percent of time and duration assigned to this project
  - d. Background, relevant experience, and education
4. **Anticipated Schedule.** The work is anticipated to start as soon as possible. We request that the Consultant submit a project schedule for consideration illustrating when each task will be accomplished.
5. **Estimated Costs.** Although the selection of a consultant will not be wholly based on cost, an estimate of costs for each task in the Consultant's Scope of Work must be included.
6. **Consultant Qualifications.** This section of the proposal should summarize the recent experience of the Consultant in performing related work. A maximum of five projects, completed within the last five years, may be included. For each related project, please include the following information:
  - a. Name of client
  - b. Name and current contact information of primary client contact.
  - c. Date pertinent work was completed.
  - d. Specific role of the firm on this project.
  - e. Initial Consultant contract amount and initial completion date.



- f. Final Consultant contract amount and final completion date.
  - g. Involvement of staff proposed for Eagle River Coalition's project.
- Information on projects completed by the firm that did not actively involve members of the proposed project team should be minimized. The above clients will be considered references by Eagle River Coalition that may be checked for finalists of this project.
- 7. **Project Management Plan.** The Consultant shall provide a brief project management plan for the work. The plan shall demonstrate the following:
    - a. Scope, progress measurement, and reporting
    - b. Schedule measurement and reporting
    - c. Staff and subconsultant team management

### **Selection Procedure**

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by Eagle River Coalition staff and board. This will be a selection process designated to identify the "best fit" of Eagle River Coalition and the Consultant, taking into consideration a variety of criteria including, but not limited to, the following:

- 1. Qualifications and experience (1 - 25 points)
- 2. Project team (1 - 10 points)
- 3. Project approach (1 - 20 points)
- 4. Ability to meet project schedule (1 - 5 points)
- 5. Past project references (references may be contacted during the review process) (1 - 10 points)
- 6. Quality of proposal (1 - 10 points)
- 7. Consultant fee (1 - 10 points)



## **Appendix A: Photos**



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**Missouri Creek Stream Crossing; Upstream Step-Pool System (Facing Upstream)**

**(39°23'52.3"N 106°26'40.2"W)**



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**Missouri Creek Stream Crossing; Upstream Step-Pool System (Facing Downstream)**

**(39°23'52.3"N 106°26'40.2"W)**





**Missouri Creek Stream Crossing; Downstream Perched Outlet**  
**(39°23'52.3"N 106°26'40.2"W)**

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**Missouri Creek Stream Crossing; Downstream Perched Outlet**  
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### **Missouri Creek Stream Crossing; Downstream Pool and Stream System**

**(39°23'52.3"N 106°26'40.2"W)**

#### **Missouri Creek Stream Crossing Field Notes and Photos; 9/21/24 (Eyeballed Values)**

- **Step-pool system feeding into slightly off perpendicular squashed culvert.**
- **1-2 inches of flow depth inside culvert**
- **~ 1ft flow drop into downstream scour hole**

#### **Culvert Specs (Eyeballed Values)**

- **10-14 ft wide**
- **6-8 ft high**
- **27-30 ft bank to bank (upstream)**
- **~ 3% slope (negative)**



**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing; Stream percolating/overbanking upstream of the culvert and spilling onto the roadway at base flow.**

**(39°23'42.7"N 106°28'12.9"W)**

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**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing; Stream Percolating/Overbanking running onto the roadway at base flow. Crosses the roadway downstream of the culvert.**

**(39°23'42.7"N 106°28'12.9"W)**

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**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing; Upstream of culvert facing downstream.  
(39°23'42.7"N 106°28'12.9"W)**



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**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing; Upstream of culvert.**  
**(39°23'42.7"N 106°28'12.9"W)**



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**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing; Upstream of culvert.**

**(39°23'42.7"N 106°28'12.9"W)**

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**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing; Erosion/head cut at the culvert outflow.**  
**(39°23'42.7"N 106°28'12.9"W)**



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**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing; Culvert outflow. Most water is running around/below the culvert.**

**(39°23'42.7"N 106°28'12.9"W)**

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**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing; Culvert outflow feeding into a step-pool/cascading system.**

**(39°23'42.7"N 106°28'12.9"W)**

**Upper Fancy Stream Crossing Field Notes and Photos; 9/21/24 (Eyeballed Values)**

- **Small channelized stream along roadway feeding into crushed culvert.**
- **< 1 inches of flow depth inside culvert. Most water is flowing around the culvert or along the roadway.**
- **~ 1ft flow drop into downstream scour hole**

**Culvert Specs (Eyeballed Values)**

- **~2 ft “diameter” x 10-15 ft across roadway**