

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION OF PILOT PROJECTS v 0.6 01/22/03

Procedural Criteria for determining when proposed pilot projects are ready for evaluation:

To receive further consideration a proposed pilot project must meet the following procedural criteria:

- **Timeliness:** the proposed pilot project must be presented in complete form (as defined in Section 1.2 below) by a due date certain, said date to be established as the planning process proceeds. All WRIA 1 participants shall be notified well in advance of such due dates.
- **Completeness:** a proposed pilot project must be presented in such a manner that it is capable of full evaluation, which requires that it be presented with a specific budget, timeline, list(s) of required data sets and input parameters, complete list of project action items, location(s) of project actions, list of obligated parties and what each party is obligated to perform and clear linkages between the action items and the goals and objectives of the Watershed Management Plan that the proposed pilot project is intended to address. If it is appropriate for a given proposed pilot project to be processed by the DSS Scenario Builder Module, all inputs necessary to that module will be provided.
- **Relevance:** a proposed pilot project must clearly address one or more of the four major elements (quantity, quality, instream flow, fish habitat) as identified in the Watershed Management Plan. Projects should be designed so as to provide the means to assist in further plan development by evaluating management options and/or developing the DSS.
- **Capacity for evaluation:** pilot projects must be designed so that there will be sufficient data collected to evaluate the proposed project's effectiveness and must, if feasible, incorporate checkpoints during project implementation to allow for interim evaluation and adaptive management..

Feasibility Criteria: To receive further consideration a proposed pilot project must meet the following feasibility criteria:

Legal:

- The proposed pilot project shall satisfy the obligations and requirements for certain agencies, as set forth in the Watershed Management Act, RCW 90.82.130 (3) and RCW 90.82.130 (4).
- The proposed pilot project shall not require entities to undertake actions for which they have insufficient legal authority, or if there are other regulatory or statutory barriers to implementation. If either of these conditions applies, is there a clear pathway to resolution of same, within the time frame required to make the pilot project viable, which pathway has a reasonable probability of success? If not, such pilot projects may not be included in the initial elements of the plan, but may

be incorporated into the long-range elements, to be implemented if and when their constraints are removed.

Financial:

- The proposed pilot project must be affordable to those who are asked to pay for it, where affordable means that the party or parties in question is capable of bearing the cost throughout the life cycle of the proposed pilot project.

Consistency with rest of Watershed Management Plan:

- The pilot projects adopted in the initial Watershed Management Plan shall not conflict with one another or with the rest of the Watershed Management Plan.

Administration and staffing:

- Proposed pilot projects shall not require implementing entities to act beyond their organizational capacities, in terms of personnel or any other limiting organizational resources.
- The proposed pilot project shall satisfy the obligations and requirements for certain agencies, as set forth in the Watershed Management Act, RCW 90.82.130 (3) and 90.82.130 (4).

Technical feasibility:

- Proposed pilot projects shall be scientifically and technically sound and implementable within an agreed-upon specific time frame.

Substantive Criteria:

Preference shall be given to pilot projects that meet any of the following:

- They are designed to help achieve minimum instream flows requirements.
- They simultaneously address three or all four of the major elements of the Watershed Management Plan.
- They promise to provide measurable progress within the first water year of project initiation.
- Landowners or other entities needed for participation are willing and able to participate on a voluntary basis.
- They are located within Detailed Management Areas or within other drainages formally selected for special attention through the WRIA 1 process..
- There is evidence that similar types of projects have demonstrated positive results under different circumstances or in other geographic locations.

- They can be coordinated with, or augment, other programs and projects that are deemed to further the goals of the WMP.
- They are supported with matching funds.
- They receive unanimous support among all WRIA 1 Joint Board and Planning Unit representatives or their successors.