

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Tenas Creek Channel Restoration and Bridge Design

October 14, 2026

Forest Service Road 26, Milepost 7.8–8.2

1. Introduction

The Skagit River System Cooperative (SRSC) provides fisheries and environmental services for the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe (SSIT) and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community (Swinomish). SRSC, in partnership with the **U.S. Forest Service (USFS)**, invites qualified engineering firms to submit Statements of Qualifications (SOQs) for design services associated with the Tenas Creek Restoration Project.

The project aims to reconstruct a portion of the Suiattle River Road (FR26) with a ~360ft multi-span bridge to restore the lower Tenas Creek channel, floodplain, and alluvial fan. The goal is to improve habitat conditions for native fish species by reconnecting disconnected floodplain through the construction of sustainable infrastructure alignment that protects transportation access.

2. Project Overview

This design project includes:

- Developing Construction-ready designs, specs, and bid package for:
 - A new approximately **360-foot multi-span bridge**
 - Removal of existing roadway embankment and spur levee
 - Channel and floodplain restoration
- Design work should be based on preliminary design package and must accommodate flood flows, fish passage, and fish habitat elements.
- Design elements must meet NOAA/NMFS fish passage criteria and all relevant official transportation criteria, including US Forest Service criteria and standards.

The existing structure includes an **80-foot cast-in-place concrete bridge** on a two-lane paved roadway. This bridge is undersized for Tenas Creek, which must be directed under the bridge by an 800ft long training levee which dramatically constrains the creek footprint within its much wider historical floodplain. This levee is also eroding at its upper end and an avulsion to the lower elevation eastern floodplain would route the creek directly into FR26 where the proposed

bridge will be located. Without the bridge a significant road washout is likely, and harm to fish populations is certain. The proposed road reconstruction and bridge installation will remove the eroding levee, reroute the stream under the proposed bridge while leaving the existing bridge in place. This will allow the creek to migrate in its historic floodplain. A new channel must also be constructed under the bridge, with additions of large wood to provide channel stability, habitat, and prevent erosional pressure on bridge abutments.

Supporting studies (feasibility, geotechnical, and geomorphic assessments) have been completed along with a 30% basis of design report and drawing package and are provided as attachments. NEPA is complete, and construction funding strategies are awaiting final design.

3. Project Location

The project is located on the **Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest**, Darrington Ranger District, along Forest Service Road 26 at milepost 7.8.

An optional field visit will occur on November 4, 2026 at milepost 7.8 of the Suiattle River Road (FR 26). Please coordinate with SRSC on meeting times.

Additional nearby sites may be used for:

- Rock borrow
- Waste disposal
- Construction staging

Table 1 – Project Location Information

FS ROAD	MILEPOST	DESCRIPTION	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE
2600000	7.8	Start of Project	48.328815°	-121.438992°
2600000	8.2	End of Project	48.325595°	-121.434936°
2640000	1.3	Rock Source	48.342741°	-121.430330°
2510000	0.1	Waste Area	48.291360°	-121.425770°

4. Scope of Work

The existing design concept (see 30% basis of design report) proposes to leave the current bridge in place, remove floodplain road fill and levee, and construct a 3-span 360ft bridge on the US Forest Road 26. This project will allow Tenas Creek to reoccupy its historic floodplain east of its current location perched on the western edge of the floodplain. The selected consultant will provide professional engineering services including:

- Project management and coordination
- Recurring meetings with SRSC and USFS
- Survey and control establishment
- Geotechnical evaluation (if needed)
- Hydraulic and geomorphic analysis (if needed)
- Roadway and bridge design
- Construction staging and sequencing
- Erosion control and instream restoration plans
- Pit development, rock source and material waste plan
- Preparation of Plans, Specifications & Estimates (PS&E)
- Bridge load rating
- Bid package
- 60%, 95%, 100% design packages

The consultant will work with SRSC, USFS, and other project partners to develop the above scope of work. Products must conform to applicable USFS and AASHTO standards and must meet the requirements of Washington State RCO manual 18 for final design projects, as well as NOAA fish passage criteria.

5. Project Budget

The project is primarily funded by the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board, with additional funds provided by Seattle City Light and the Sauk-Suiattle Tribe. The anticipated funding allocated to fund this work is \$1.7-2.2 million.

After consultant selection the consultant will work with SRSC to develop a contractual scope of work and fee proposal based on the approach outlined in the SOQ. If an agreement cannot be reached, SRSC may contact the second highest ranked proposer to open contract negotiations.

6. Anticipated Schedule

- RFQ Issued: October 12 & 19th, 2026
- Intent to apply **DUE**: October 27th, 2026
- Optional field visit: November 4th, 2026
- Questions accepted by email until November 9th, 2026
- Q & A posted on skagitcoop.org on November 13th, 2026
- SOQs **DUE**: November 20th, 2026
- Invitations for interviews sent December 3rd, 2026
- Interviews held on or around December 10th, 2026
- Consultant Selection: December 18th, 2026
- Scope negotiation initiated: January 4th, 2027
- Notice to proceed: Mid-late January 2027
- 60% design target: April 1st, 2027
- 95% design target: September 1st, 2027.

All deadlines should be considered COB. Project design is anticipated to begin ASAP in early 2027 with phased PS&E development (60%, 95%, 100%), and completed designs by fall 2027.

7. Minimum Qualifications

Firms must demonstrate:

- Registration as a **Professional Engineer in Washington State**
 - Structural Engineer licensure (required for bridges >200 ft)
 - Minimum **3 years of bridge design experience**
 - Experience with:
 - AASHTO LRFD bridge design
 - Forest Service or federal roadway standards
 - Hydraulic and/or stream restoration design
 - PS&E development for public works projects
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8. Submittal Requirements

Interested firms shall submit a **Statement of Qualifications (SOQ)** in PDF format to cwahl@skagitcoop.org including the following sections (with page limits):

Qualifications

Include the following (4 pages maximum):

- Company and proposed team structure, including any proposed subconsultants.
- Project Manager's name and description of his or her specific qualifications and experience relevant to this project.
- Summary of key project staff technical knowledge/area of expertise and experience on similar projects.
- Staff availability for the expected duration of this project (January 2027 – December 2027)

Consultant Teams' Understanding of the Project and Approach

Based on the information provided with this RFQ, describe your team's understanding of the project and the recommended approaches you would use to ensure a successful outcome. This project will be a large rural infrastructure project focused on restoring salmon habitat, and funding will be challenging. Cost saving approaches to construction are a high priority. Tell us why you feel your approach is creative and innovative. Include a discussion of how your team would integrate SRSC and project partner staff into project planning and development (6 pages maximum).

Communication

Communication both within the project team and between the team and project partners will be critical to the success of this project. Please describe your team's experience and approach for ensuring high-quality communication throughout the project (1 page maximum).

Prior Project Experience

Please provide the following information (4 pages maximum)

- Examples and descriptions of at least three prior projects of similar size and scope that the team has worked on within the past five years. Include example(s) of working with tribes.
- For each project, provide a client contact name, email address, and phone number.

Appendices

Please include the following information as an appendix:

- Resumes for key personnel (required) – 5 individuals maximum, resumes no longer than 2 pages.
- Company profile(s) (optional)
- Reasonable schedule for deliverables

Intent to apply and Statements of Qualifications must be submitted by email to cwahl@skagitcoop.org.

Interested consultants are encouraged to notify SRSC of their **intent** to submit an SOQ as soon as possible and no later than October 27, 2026.

Technical questions regarding this RFQ can be submitted by e-mail to Colin Wahl until COB November 9, 2026, at cwahl@skagitcoop.org. Questions will be compiled anonymously, and answers distributed to all consultants who indicated an intent to apply. No technical questions will be accepted after November 9, 2026; final answers to questions will be posted at skagitcoop.org on November 13, 2026.

The restoration area is mostly public land except for a tribal allotment parcel. The area is expected to be accessible via FR26 pending the successful installation of a temporary bridge. An optional site visit with SRSC will be held on November 4, 2026 conditioned on the bridge installation. The location is accessed via highway 530 and FR 26 (Suiattle River Road) east to milepost 7.8.

9. Evaluation Criteria

SOQs will be evaluated based on the entire project proposal including the following criteria:

- Relevant project experience
- Experience with tribes
- Qualifications of key personnel
- Understanding of project, design approach, creative cost saving efficiencies
- Experience with similar agencies/standards
- References

10. Selection Process

SRSC and USFS will:

- Review firms' qualifications
- Conduct interviews
- Select a consultant based on qualifications

Firms having completed previous work on this site or associated downstream projects will not have a scoring advantage. After receiving SOQs, SRSC and project partners will evaluate the

responding firms' qualifications and develop a short list of firms for interview. Firms invited to interview will be asked to elaborate on their team's proposed approach to this project and outline a schedule that shows how the team will meet project goals and deliverable requirements

Note: This RFQ does not request cost proposals. Fee negotiation will occur with the selected firm but is subject to limits established in Section 5 "Project Budget."

11. Attachments

1. Basis of Design Report (Tenas Creek Prelim Design Report_FINAL062423)
2. Design Modifications (497623-Preliminary Design Rev 1)
3. Concept Map (Tenas_PreferredAltDesignMap_updated20260406)
4. Geotechnical Evaluation (Tenas Creek_Geotech Data ReportFINAL)
5. USFS NEPA Cat Ex Decision Design Criteria (20260416_TenasCreek_FANEC)