

JONAH INTERAGENCY MITIGATION & RECLAMATION OFFICE

1625 West Pine
PO Box 768
Pinedale, Wyoming 82941
(307) 367-5363

APPLICATION FOR FUNDING

(use additional sheets if necessary)

1. GENERAL PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Name:

New Fork River Restoration Project

General Location (distance and direction from nearest city/town, attach map at a scale not less than 1/2" = 1 mile):

4.5 miles S of Pinedale, Wyoming

Legal Location of Project (attach map at a scale not less than 1" = 2,000').

Township: T **33** N

Range: R **109** W

Section(s): **26**

County: **Sublette**

Surface Ownership (check all that apply): Federal State Private

**If project includes a mosaic of land ownerships (e.g., mix of federal, state and/or fee lands), provide a breakdown for each specific owner by acres and percent of total project area.

Contact Information for Affected Parties or Agencies:

2. APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name/Organization: **By the Way, LLC**

Mailing Address: **P.O. Box 819**

City: **Teton Village**

State:

WY

Zip Code : **83025**

Daytime Phone # **(307) 733-4806**

Fax #

Email Address: **tbrooks@bresnan.net**

Point of Contact (if different from above) **Katie Salsbury, Intermountain Aquatics, 208-354-3690**
katie@intermountainaquatics.com

3. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

General Project Type (check all that apply): Wildlife _____
Land Use/Livestock _____ Land Use/Recreation _____
Cultural _____ Other _____

Describe Project Proposal (e.g., mechanical treatment, water improvement, etc.)

The Newfork River Restoration Project intends to enhance recreation opportunities in the JIO mitigation area by actively restoring degraded reaches of the Newfork River on private and state lands. The project is a collaborative effort between private landowners, Intermountain Aquatics, Wyoming Game & Fish Department and Trout Unlimited. A secondary goal of the project is to demonstrate restoration techniques that can be used by landowners and agencies in the upper Green River watershed to address limiting factors to trout populations and riparian function, thereby increasing regional recreation opportunities.

Total Project Acres (if applicable) **3.4 miles of the Newfork River**

Acres Indirectly Affected (if applicable, explain)

4. OBJECTIVES OF PROJECT, AND BENEFITS TO JIO OFF-SITE MITIGATION STRATEGIC GOALS.

The project goal of enhancing recreation opportunities in the Newfork River will be achieved by restoring degraded habitat and promoting natural river functions on 1.75 miles of river on private lands (Phase I) and 1.65 miles of river on State lands (Phase II). The project will provide substantial recreational user benefits by increasing wild trout production and angler catch rates. Private lands within the project are accessible to the public by floating and state lands are accessible by wade fisherman and floaters. This stretch is also popular for guides and outfitters and the project will have a positive impact on important natural resources and regional tourism.

The Newfork River is of statewide importance and one of the most popular fisheries in the region. It is managed as a wild brown trout fishery and the primary impacts to the fishery are degraded riparian and stream habitat. Degraded stream habitat exists throughout the project area and is characterized by unnatural eroding banks, excessively wide and shallow riffles and limited pools. Opportunities to improve habitat in the New Fork River are limited by the large percentage of private land along the river corridor. This project provides an excellent opportunity to address habitat issues located on private lands which will improve habitat and fish population density throughout the New Fork River.

To be effective over the long-term, habitat improvement efforts on the New Fork River will focus first and foremost on riparian plant community health and function. Natural stability and habitat quality in this stream system is primarily dependant on riparian vegetation. The previous owners of By-The-Way property implemented a riparian grazing management plan

which was reviewed and coordinated between NRCS, WGFD, the landowner, and grazing lessee. The new owners are committed to continuing to improve and implement sound riparian grazing strategies. This project includes installing instream structures that complement natural channel processes by encouraging restoration and enhancement of appropriate riparian communities and include: deflector logs, J hooks, log jams, rock sills, vegetated point bars, transplanted willows, planting of potted willows and other instream stream structures (see attached figures).

5. DIRECT/INDIRECT EFFECTS ON OTHER RESOURCES. (if applicable)

Other resources that will benefit from the restoration project include riparian obligate species, wintering/migrating ungulates and reduced sediment inputs to downstream sections of the Newfork River.

6. POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE EXPANSION OF PROJECT. Explain

The monitoring plan proposed for the project will allow Wyoming Game & Fish to evaluate the success of a variety of instream restoration techniques that could be applied to future fisheries/recreation projects. An educational brochure for private landowners describing instream restoration techniques appropriate for the upper Green River watershed will be developed at the end of the project and made available to the public. Lessons learned from Phase I will be applied to the 1.65 miles of river on State lands in Phase II. The project has the potential to expand throughout the mitigation area by demonstrating techniques that can be used by private landowners and agencies in the watershed to improve fish habitat and recreation opportunities.

7. LIST ALL PROJECT PARTNERS/COOPERATORS, THEIR ROLES AND/OR CONTRIBUTIONS

By the Way, LLC – Private land, matching funds, in-kind donation of rocks and other materials.

Intermountain Aquatics, Inc. – Project consultant, grant writing, design team.

Mocroft Ranch – Private lands and construction access.

Wyoming Game & Fish Department – Technical review, grant writing, personnel support.

Trout Unlimited – Project partner, volunteers, outreach.

8. PROJECT MONITORING AND REPORTING (Describe how monitoring and reporting will be done, and how it relates to the objectives)

Monitoring will consist of pre and post project trout surveys, structural evaluations, surveyed cross-sections, photo points and vegetation surveys. Baseline data was collected in 2009 and will be added to in 2010. The project will be monitored for three years post construction.

9. RESEARCH POTENTIAL

The restoration project utilizes known, successful stream restoration techniques to address limiting factors on the Newfork River. We are confident that the project will have a positive impact on the trout fishery, however information regarding structural design and river response collected from the monitoring efforts will provide an excellent opportunity to evaluate and research how these techniques can be used to achieve project specific goals in the upper Green River watershed.

10. PERMITS AND AUTHORIZATIONS REQUIRED PRIOR TO PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION (including but not necessarily limited to the following):

PERMIT OR AUTHORIZATION	REQUIRED		SUBMITTED		APPROVED	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Cultural Resource Inventory		X				
COE Section 404 Permit	X		Will submit in June 2010.			
Cooperative Agreement(s)		X				
NEPA Analysis		X				
Pesticide Application Permit		X				
Private Landowner Agreement(s)	X		Have verbal sign off from Mocroft Ranch, need written agreement.			
Sensitive Species Clearance		X				
Surface/Ground Water Permits		X				
T/E Species Clearance		X				
Other (explain)						

11. TOTAL PROJECT COST (Attach detailed budget)

Project Planning, Design & Permitting	\$ 33,070 _____
Project Implementation	\$ 291,500 _____
3 years Monitoring; Grazing Plan; Fencing	\$ 37,300 _____
Total Required	\$ 361,870 _____

12. MATCHING FUNDS ANTICIPATED IN CASH (list source and amount)

30% Landowner Match - \$108,561 (\$33,070 in design and permitting) = \$75,491 COMMITTED

WGFD - \$50,000 COMMITTED
WWNRT - \$85,000 (Application Submitted)

13. ANTICIPATED "IN KIND" MATCHING FUNDS (list source, valuation, and valuation method)

A portion of the landowner match may come from supplying existing boulders stock piled on the site. A fair-market price for purchasing additional boulders will be used to value this match.

14. PERCENTAGE OF FUNDING ON HAND OR COMMITTED 35%

15. TOTAL JIO FUNDING REQUESTED: \$118,309

16. EXPECTED/ANTICIPATED LIFE OF PROJECT (LOP)

Perpetual _____ > 50 Years _____ Vegetation 25-50 Years _____ Structures _____ < 25 Years _____

Explain Basis for Projected LOP: The intent of the design is for the instream structures to provide the initial treatment and for the vegetation to provide the long term riparian function. The project is intended to compliment natural river processes, including lateral migration, rather than halt movement. The rocks and large woody debris prescribed in the plan will add habitat value even if they are moved from their original location and deposited downstream.

17. PROJECT TIMELINE AND ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE. Explain

The project will be constructed in two phases. Phase I (1.75 miles) will be constructed in early spring 2011. Construction of this phase is anticipated to take 3-4 weeks and will begin in late March/early May. Final revegetation efforts will take place after high-water in late June or July. Monitoring efforts will begin in August 2011 and will be repeated in 2012 and 2013. Phase II designs will be revised based on results and lessons learned from monitoring Phase I. Construction of Phase II would commence in the spring of 2013. We are only requesting assistance for the construction of Phase I at this time, but may ask for assistance with Phase II construction in the future from either JIO or PAPO.

18. ATTACHMENTS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Project Design **X** _____

Letters of Support _____

Management Plan _____ Long Term _____ Short Term _____¹

Monitoring Plan **Additional details can be provided upon request.**¹

Relevant Past Experience _____ Other _____ Explain:

¹ Long term is defined as greater than (>) 5 years; short term is less than (<) 5 years.

19. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR JIO CONSIDERATION

The project is located along the northern edge of the Jonah Field and is adjacent to the Wind River Front focus area. We strongly feel that the restoration project will demonstrate effective fishery enhancement techniques that could be applied to other areas in the watershed. The Newfork River is often limited (particularly in drought years) by very low, late season flows. The habitat improvements will provide additional holding water in areas that are typically too low to support fish in August and September, thereby increasing the recreation opportunities and the angling season.

20. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Signed

Printed Name

Title

Date