



c/o Chittenden County RPC
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Date: May 14, 2024
To: Basin 5 Water Quality Council
CC: DEC staff and subgrant applicants
Re: Staff recommendation: applications for Water Quality Formula Subgrants, 5/6/24 Round

Attached is a 3-page PDF showing how I scored the single request received, Two Heroes – Stream Restoration Final Design – South Hero. Pursuant to Act 76 Rule and Guidance, the Council may adjust the co-benefit scores if it disagrees with my scoring. Relative scoring of **Design or Construction** projects received is as follows:

	P-reduction	Co-Benefits	Other Considerations	Total	BWQC mtg date & action
<i>Projects below assessed on following P-reduction metric: an annual average cost-per-kilograms-p-reduction (\$-per-kg) of around \$25,000 and used a phosphorus scoring methodology whereby a project with a cost higher than \$50,000-per-kg scored zero points.</i>					
Two Heroes - Stream Restoration - Final Design (High-Cost Scenario)	0	9	8	17	5/16, ____
Two Heroes - Stream Restoration - Final Design (Scenario with match)	10	9	10	29	5/16, ____
Wolcott Family Natural Area – Floodplain Reconnection – Preliminary Design (Low Cost Scenario)	20	7	8	35	4/18, Fund in full
UVM Hort Farm – Floodplain Restoration - Construction	40	9	10	59	4/18, Fund in full
Fairfax St. Culvert - Floodplain Restoration - Preliminary Design	30	4	8	42	3/24, Fund in full
<i>Projects below assessed on following P-reduction metric: an annual average cost-per-kilograms-p-reduction (\$-per-kg) of around \$13,000 and used a phosphorus scoring methodology whereby a project with a cost higher than \$25,000-per-kg scored zero points.</i>					
UVM Hort Farm – Floodplain Restoration - Construction	40	9	10	59	11/23, fund in part
McCabe’s Brook – Process-Based Restoration – Preliminary Design	40	4	0	44	2/23, Fund in full
Falls Road Trail Design – Final Design	70	1	6	77	2/23, Fund in full
Mill River Road, SE – Infiltration Chamber & Gully Restoration Design – Final Design	30	3	2	35	2/23, Fund in full
Mill River Road, NW – Regrading & Plunge Pool	10	3	2	15	2/23, denied

My recommendation: The cost-efficiency of this project hinges on how much the Two Heroes Brewery would contribute towards the costs of Construction. I recommend funding this Final Design proposal, adjusted for the true cost consistent with the winning bid of the RFP, and with the proviso that the CWSP and Council will only provide \$20,000 (slightly more if P-metric improves) towards a future Construction grant so as to encourage a strong match commitment from Two Heroes as well as a Final Design that focuses on cost efficiencies.

Co-Benefit Scores

Scoring Template for Co-Benefits, as finalized, 8-17-2023

Benefit	Range	Weight, 1 or 2	Max Score	Two Heroes - Stream Resto- FD
Hazard Mitigation	1-4	2	8	8
Education	1-4	2	8	4
Ecosystem Improvement	1-4	2	8	0
Habitat Improvement	1-4	2	8	4
Environmental Justice	1-4	2	8	0
Community Support	1-3	2	6	6
Other Benefits	1-4	1	4	
		MAX	50	22
	Conversion to 20 point scale	>>>>	20	9

** Note: Co-Benefit matrix changed between version used in February 2023 and version finalized in August 2023*

Scoring Template for Other Considerations

As issued by CWSP, January 2023

Proposed phase of project funding, certainty of costs in proposal, potential complications, demonstrated ability/experience of applicant to complete project, relative commitment of landowner to project phases, project operations & maintenance costs, design life beyond 15 years, conformance with Basin 5 Plan

					Possible points	Two Heroes - Stream Resto-FD, High Cost Scenario	Heroes - Stream Resto-FD, High Cost
Positive Scores							
Construction proposal >>>					8		
Final Design proposal >>>					4	4	4
Conceptual Design proposal					0		
Design life 16-20 years					2		
Design life 21+					4	4	4
Provides match up to 10% of overall budget					2		2
Provides match over 10% of overall budget					4		
Provides match over 20% of overall budget					6		
Provides match over 30% of overall budget					8		
Negative scores							
Minor uncertainties in budget					-2		
Major uncertainties in budget					-4		
Minor but passable potential barriers					-4		
Major potential barriers to implementation					-8		
Key Landowner letter/email is missing					-4		
Landowner commitment letter weak					-2		
O & M costs exceed \$2,000 per year					-4		
Project not in conformance with Basin 5 Plan					-10		
Applicant has little applicable experience					-4		
					TOTA	8	10
						MAX IS 10	MAX IS 10