

# Bureau of Indian Affairs – Fish Hatchery Maintenance Program, Ranking Criteria and Application Process

## DEFINITIONS

1. Eligible Fish Hatchery - Any multi-purpose or single-purpose facility owned by the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) or a Federally recognized tribe engaged in the spawning, hatching, rearing, holding, caring for, or stocking of fish and/or shellfish. The Hatchery must be on Trust Lands. Facilities owned by other federal agencies, states, and non-tribal entities are not eligible to receive maintenance funds.
2. Maintenance - Work that is required to prolong the life of a structure, building, or other facility component including: delay of physical deterioration; enhancement of original function; application of new technological advances; or replacement or acquisition of associated capitalized equipment.

*Construction - Work that involves breaking new ground or building a new hatchery where none formerly existed. Not covered through this program funding.*

## Proposal Eligibility

- Proposals must provide the information requested on the hatchery facility description form and the contact information (phone, e-mail, address) for the hatchery manager overseeing the project.
  - **Failure to provide this information will result in disqualification**
- Proposal budget cannot include tribal indirect rate. *Tribal indirect rate comes from a separate account and should be requested at the time you develop the budget with BIA contracting officials (if selected for funding).*
- Proposals are limited to maintenance projects as defined above.
- There is no limit to the amount that can be requested.

## RANKING CRITERIA

1. Health, Safety and Security. Project merits in eliminating hazardous working conditions, correcting safety and security problems, and protecting property;
2. Water Quality. Project merits in ensuring compliance with applicable effluent discharge standards;
3. Economic Value. Project merits related to the development of tribal resource management capabilities, creation of jobs for tribal members, generation of tribal income, and development of tribal self-sufficiency and reservation economies. Project merits in assisting tribes develop their fisheries management expertise and capabilities and in reducing their dependence on Federal fisheries assistance programs. Project merits in benefiting more than one tribe and relatively many tribal members;
4. Rights Protection. Project merits in protecting the exercise of Indian fishing rights and in fulfilling tribal resource management responsibilities and commitments resulting from court order, statute, treaty, or other binding instrument;
5. Resource Value. Project merits in restoring, mitigating for, or otherwise enhancing depleted stocks and other stocks of significance, notably, anadromous salmonids, Great Lakes stocks, and species listed as threatened and endangered;
6. Tribal Youth. Project merits in providing summer employment or other positive learning experiences to tribal youth (ages up to and including 25). The focus should be on tribal youth interested in careers in natural resources. Youth positions should be viewed as both a source of labor and as an opportunity to mentor tribal youth, encourage them to pursue an education, and expose them to careers in natural resources management. The seasonal hiring of tribal youth will be an allowable expenditure for hatchery maintenance funding.

## PROCEDURES AND PRODUCTS

Bureau-wide application of the definitions and criteria will facilitate project priority comparisons between facilities and areas and allows for the establishment of a meaningful national project ranking system.

Two standard forms will be used:

Facility Description Form. Complete an attached Facility Description form for each eligible facility for which funds are requested. **Each hatchery requesting funds must complete all parts of this form in order to be eligible for hatchery maintenance funding.**

Maintenance Project Proposal. Utilize the attached Maintenance Project Proposal form and the attached ranking criteria to describe and rank each proposed project. Categorize individual project merits associated with each of the five ranking criteria as high, moderate, or low, and provide additional supporting justification in the space provided. Use one form for each individual proposed project. **Do not combine individual projects** for a given hatchery on a single form unless absolutely required due to their interrelated nature. Ensure recommended projects adhere to the definition of maintenance established herein. **On a separate sheet, provide a summary listing in order of priority of all maintenance projects/costs recommended for tribes and hatchery facilities in your area.**

Facility Description forms, Maintenance Project Proposal forms, and respective summary listing of maintenance project rankings should be submitted to the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Regional office that services the applicant's area **(address and contact info below) by close of business on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.**

### BIA Regional Contact List for Fish Hatchery Maintenance Funding Program

Great Plains	Southern Plains	Eastern	Midwest	Eastern OK	Rocky Mt
Todd Hauge, Safety of Dams (605) 226-7621 todd.hauge@bia.gov	Robert Codopony, Acting NR Branch Chief (405) 850-6772 robert.codopony@bia.gov	Mikail Kane, Regional NRS (629) 203-2337 mikail.kane@bia.gov	Chase Meierotto, Acting Fish Wildlife & Parks Branch Chief (715) 519-0742 chase.meierotto@bia.gov	Justin Morgan (918) 315-1465 justin.morgan@bia.gov	Frank D. Rollefson, Regional Wildlife Biologist frank.rollefson@bia.gov
Address: BIA, MC 301, 115 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave. SE, Suite 400, Aberdeen, SD 57401	Address: BIA, P.O. Box 368, Anadarko, OK 73005	Address: BIA, 545 Marriott Dr Suite 700, Nashville, TN 37214	Address: BIA, 5600 W. American Blvd, Suite 500, Bloomington, MN 55437	Address: BIA, 3100 W Peak Blvd Muskogee, OK 74401	Address: BIA, 2021 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave. North, Billings, MT 59101

Navajo	Southwest	Western	Pacific	Northwest	Alaska
Delores Becenti, Regional Geospatial coordinator (505) 863-8253 delores.becenti@bia.gov	D. Chris Kitcheyan - Regional Biologist (505) 563-3408 david.kitcheyan@bia.gov	Catherine Wilson, Supervisory Water Rights Specialist catherine.wilson@bia.gov	Peter DeJongh peter.dejongh@bia.gov (916) 718-9770	Ashton Harp, Fisheries Biologist ashton.harp@bia.gov (971) 378-2302	Rosalie Debenham, Fish & Wildlife Biologist rosalie.debenham@bia.gov (907) 310-9935
Address: BIA, 301 W Hill St., PO Box 1060, Gallup, NM 87305	Address: BIA, 1001 Indian School Road, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104	Address: BIA, 2600 N. Central Ave. 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor Mailroom, Phoenix, AZ 85004	Address: BIA, 2800 Cottage way Sacramento, CA 95825	Address: BIA, 911 NE 11 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Portland, OR 97232	Address: BIA, P.O. Box 21647, Juneau, AK 99802

## HATCHERY FACILITY DESCRIPTION FORM

Respond to each item noting “non-applicable” or “information unavailable.” Use additional sheets if necessary. **Please use a separate form for each Hatchery. This information supports annual appropriations for this program!**

1. Hatchery name:
2. Tribe:
3. Hatchery location (reservation, city, state, address):
4. Ownership status of the hatchery facility:
5. Ownership status of the land on which the hatchery is situated (Tribal or non-tribal?):
6. If hatchery is on tribal land, describe land status (trust, allotment, fee):
7. Hatchery operator (If non-tribal, name entity):
8. Hatchery Manager contact information (name, title, office address, phone, e-mail):
9. Water source (ground or surface):
10. Year(s) of construction:
11. Authorization(s) and funding source(s) for hatchery construction:
12. Estimated total investment in total hatchery facilities and equipment:
13. Current operations funding source(s):
14. List of tribes whose members derive benefits from hatchery products:
15. List non-Indian entities that derive benefits from hatchery products:
16. Assessment of contributions of hatchery products to Indian and Non-Indian fisheries:
17. Estimated value of hatchery fish to Tribal economy:
18. Estimated annual value of hatchery output (fish released in dollars):
19. Current fish species produced:
20. Purpose of the Hatchery (Recovery, Subsistence, Sport fishing, other):
20. Annual estimated target production output (output = number released) (include species and size class):
21. Capacity limitations:
22. Location where fish are released (tribal waters, non-tribal waters, or both):
23. Is tribal fishing license required for public access?:
24. If yes, does the Tribe sell licenses to the public?:
25. Number of Employees (seasonal, part-time, and full-time):

**Prepared by:**

**HATCHERY MAINTENANCE PROJECT PROPOSAL FORM**  
**(Duplicate this form for each project)**

Hatchery Name:

Project Description:

Project Cost:

Project Ranking: Number: \_\_\_\_\_ of a total of: \_\_\_\_\_ recommended projects in area

Project Merits relative to established ranking criteria:

<u>Ranking Criterion</u>	<u>Relative value</u>		
	<u>High</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>Low</u>
Health, safety and security	_____	_____	_____
Water quality	_____	_____	_____
Economic value	_____	_____	_____
Rights Protection	_____	_____	_____
Resource value	_____	_____	_____

Supporting justification for project and project ranking:

**Prepared by:**