

Housatonic NRD Project in Connecticut



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Factors Leading to Selection of Projects in Final Restoration Plan

- Distribution Across Restoration Priority Categories
- Eligibility Assessment
- Evaluation Scores and Rankings
- Detailed Analysis of Feasibility
- Trustee Discretion in Meeting NRD Goals

Funding Categories

- Aquatic Natural Resources
(e.g., fish & invertebrates)
- Riparian & Floodplain Natural Resources
(e.g., plants, birds, mammals, and some amphibians and reptiles)
- Recreational Resources – active and passive uses
(e.g., boating, fishing, hiking, bird watching, picnicking)

NOTE: Land Acquisition will be considered as a “type” of project and scored based on the degree it advances the relevant priority.

Eligibility Criteria

Criterion		Result
1. Does the proposal contain the information identified by the CT SubCouncil as set out in the “Instructions for the Preparation and Submission of Restoration Project Proposals”?	YES or NO	A “NO” response may render the proposed project <i>ineligible</i> for further consideration.
2. Does the Proposed Project restore, rehabilitate, replace, and/or acquire natural resources or natural resource services equivalent to those that were injured by the release of PCBs or other hazardous substances from the GE facility at Pittsfield, MA?	YES or NO	A “NO” response renders the Proposed Project <i>ineligible</i> for further consideration.
3. Is the Proposed Project, or any portion of the Proposed Project, an action that is presently required under other federal, state, or local law, including, but not limited to, enforcement actions?	YES or NO	A “YES” response renders the Proposed Project <i>ineligible</i> for further consideration.
4. Is the Proposed Project inconsistent with any federal, state, or local law or policy?	YES or NO	A “YES” response renders the Proposed Project <i>ineligible</i> for further consideration.
5. Will the proposed project, or any portion of the proposed project, be inconsistent with any ongoing or anticipated remedial actions in the Housatonic River watershed?	YES or NO	A “YES” response renders the Proposed Project <i>ineligible</i> for further consideration.

Draft Evaluation Criteria

- Scoring system of ratings and weighting factors
- 5 Categories
- 23 Criteria
- Grounds for eliminating projects from further consideration

Scoring System

Ratings

- High – 5 points
- Medium – 3 points
- Low – 0 points

Weighting Factor

- High - 3
- Medium - 2
- Low - 1

- Initial ratings for each criterion are multiplied by the corresponding weighting factor to generate the total points for that criterion (e.g., 5 X 2 = 10).
- Criterion scores are then summed to generate a total project score.

Evaluation Categories

- Relevance and Applicability of Project
(5 criteria)
- Technical Merit
(5 criteria)
- Project Budget
(4 criteria)
- Socioeconomic Merit
(5 criteria)
- Applicant Implementation Capacity
(4 criteria)

Relevance and Applicability of Project

- Natural Recovery Period
(max. 15 pts)
- Location of Project
(max. 15 pts)
- Sustainable Benefits
(max. 15 pts)
- Magnitude of Ecological Benefits
(max. 15 pts)
- Magnitude of Recreational Benefits
(max. 10 pts)

Technical Merit

- Technical/Technological Feasibility
(max. 15 pts)
- Adverse Environmental Impacts
(max. 15 pts)
- Human Health and Safety
(max. 10 pts)
- Measurable Results
(max. 10 pts)
- Contingency Action Plan
(max. 10 pts)

Project Budget

- Relationship Expected Costs/Benefits
(max. 15 pts)
- Implementation Oriented
(max. 15 pts)
- Budget Justification/Understanding
(max. 15 pts)
- Leveraging Additional Resources
(max. 10 pts)
- Comparative Cost-Effectiveness
(no points assigned)

Socioeconomic Merit

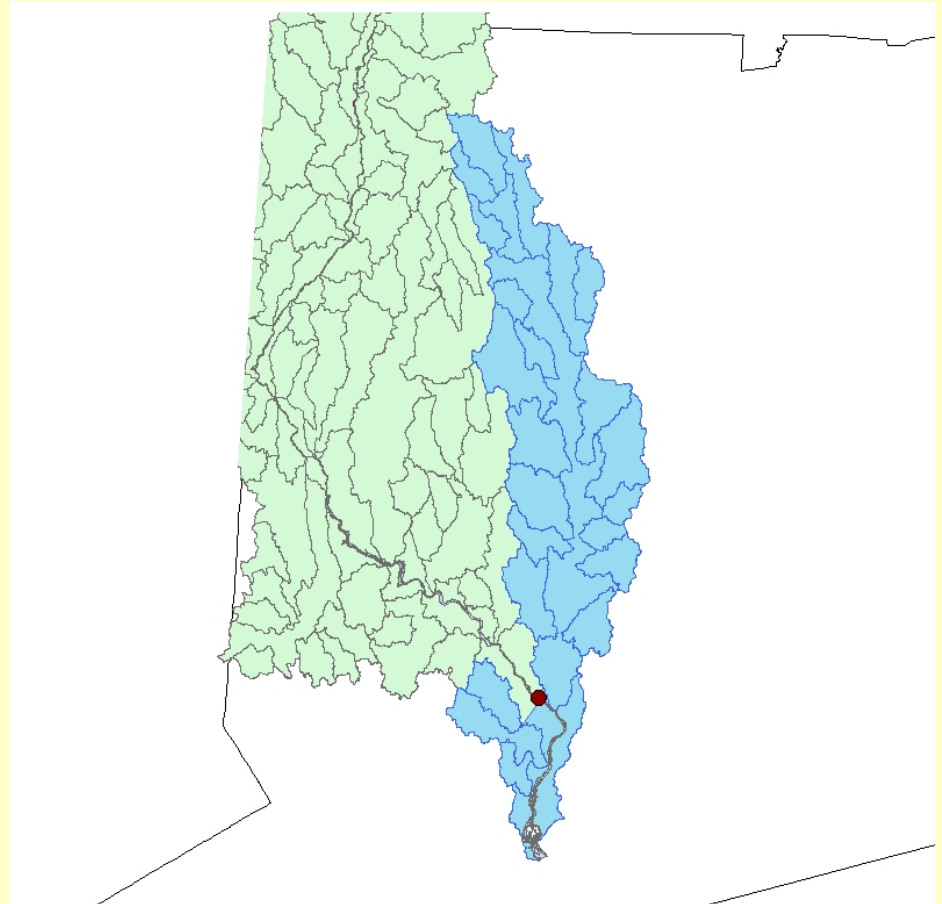
- Adverse Socioeconomic Impacts
(max. 10 pts)
- Complementary with Existing Plans
(max. 10 pts)
- Community Involvement
(max. 5 pts)
- Public Outreach
(max. 5 pts)
- Diverse Partnerships
(max. 5 pts)

Applicant Implementation Capacity

- Technical Capability of Applicant/Project Team
(max. 15 pts)
- Administrative Capability of Applicant/Project Team
(max. 10 pts)
- Coordination and Integration
(max. 5 pts)
- Project Commitments
(max. 5 pts)

Location of Project

- **High** (15 pts)
Housatonic watershed in CT upstream of Derby Dam
- **Med** (10 pts)
Housatonic Watershed in CT downstream of Derby Dam
- **Low** (0 pts)
Not in Housatonic Watershed in CT



Grounds for Eliminating Projects: Low Ratings

- **Natural Recovery Period** – Benefits of project are unlikely to result in restoration benefits in advance of the natural recovery period.
- **Adverse Environmental Impacts** – Project has significant adverse environmental impacts, and such impacts are not adequately mitigated.
- **Human Health and Safety** – Potential for significant adverse effects to human health and safety, and such effects are not adequately mitigated.

The 'Extra' Rating Category: Leveraging Additional Resources

- High (10 pts)
\$1.00 and greater match
- Medium (6 pts)
\$0.50 to \$0.99 match
- Low (2 pts)
\$0.10 to \$0.49 match
- NA (0 pts)
Less than \$0.10 match

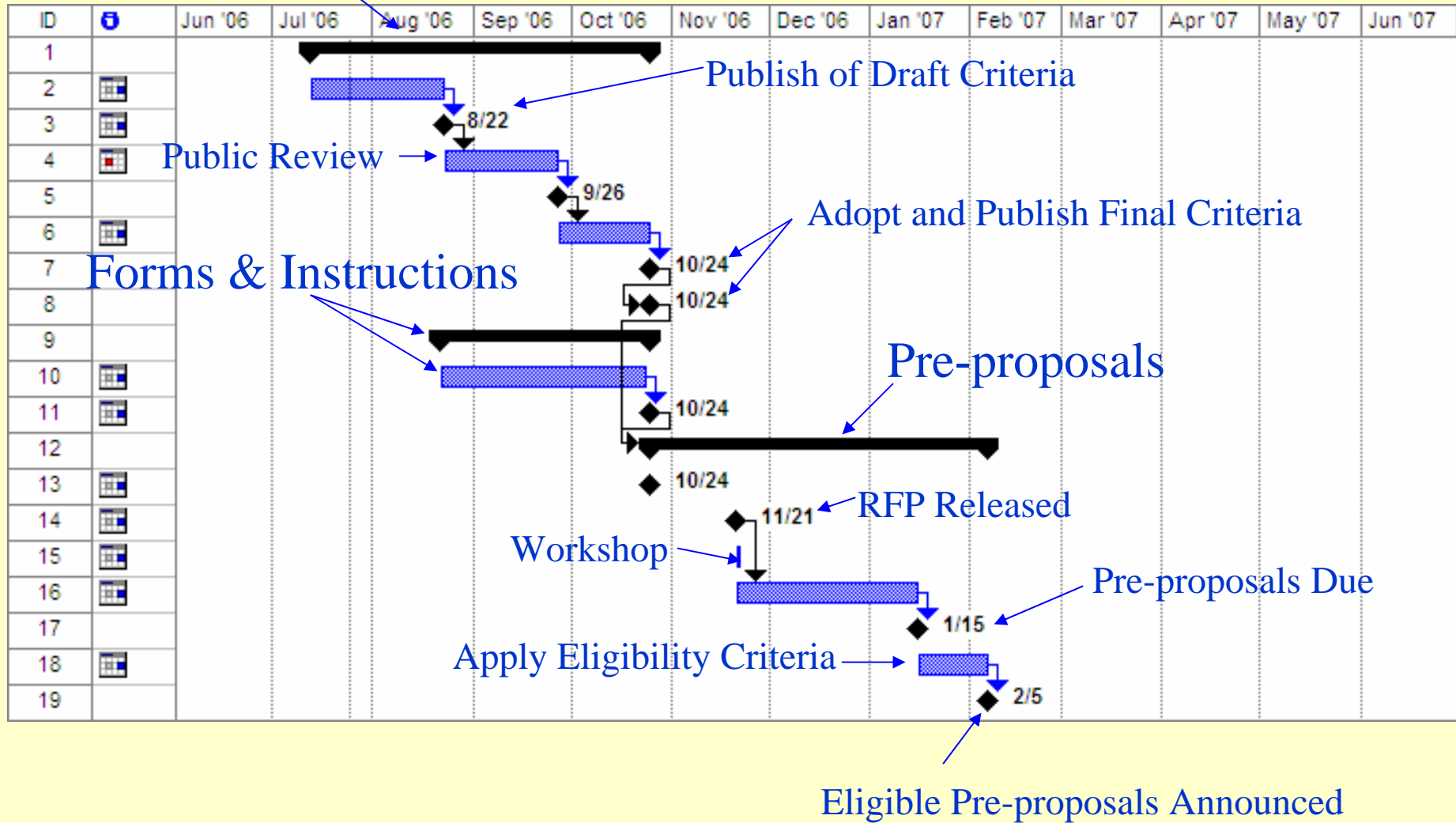
Next Steps

- Public Comment Period
- Trustee Work Group Mock Scoring Trial
- Adoption of Evaluation Criteria
- Application Forms and Instructions Under Development

Public Comment Period

- Public invited to comment on the draft Evaluation Criteria as provided for in the RPPD
- Comments period ends 9/26/2006
- Oral comments accepted at 9/26/2006 CT Trustee SubCouncil meeting.
- Written comments accepted through the close of the 9/26/2006 CT Trustee SubCouncil Meeting

Evaluation Criteria



Questions????