Request for Proposal
Release Date: January 22, 2025

RFP Title: **Dungeness River Flow Status Web App**	Proposal Due By: **February 28, 2025**	Requested By: **LWVCLA Future of Water Committee**

Project Overview:

The streamflow rate (in cubic feet per second, CFS) of the Dungeness River is a key indicator of seasonal and daily water availability for human users and the ecosystem of the Dungeness watershed. The League of Women Voters of Clallam County (LWVCLA) Water Committee seeks a contractor to develop a digital app or widget that displays or accesses the real-time Dungeness River flow status on computers, fixed displays, and mobile devices.

The digital app would pull the real-time flow rate in cfs from the USGS gauge posted online (links below). The digital display would feature a rectangular layout, showing the date, time, flow rate, and a status representation associated by color (and optional inclusion of the range for that status category), such as:

Dungeness River Flow Status:
12/25/2024 @ 10:00 AM
143.4 CFS
"LOW - Conservation Advised" on a yellow background
[Optional, for example: "Low" Flow Conditions = 120-180 CFS]
[Optional, QR code or link straight to USGS graph]

The status representation would follow criteria set by Dungeness basin water managers (e.g., criteria used for physical signs in 2024, attached), reflecting the flow conditions compared to seasonal averages from the last 5-10 years. The background color of the display would indicate one of four conditions – for example: Red (Extremely Low), Orange (Critically Low), Yellow (Low), or Blue (Healthy).

The app would be available for download to mobile or computer users, or to a fixed electronic display, allowing continuous and automatic viewing of real-time River flow level. The placement of the information could be adjusted by website owners (but not the layout or background color).

Project Goals:

- River flow forms the foundation of a public awareness initiative aimed at informing the public on a daily (at least) basis about water availability.
- Some water managers and recreationists adjust practices multiple times each day, so an app would facilitate those adjustments.

Using mobile apps for public awareness initiatives offers several benefits:

1. **Accessibility**: Information is available anytime and anywhere, increasing engagement.
2. **Real-time Updates**: Users can receive current information via notifications.
3. **User Engagement**: Interactive features encourage participation.
4. **Targeted Messaging**: Personalized content enhances relevance.
5. **Visual Appeal**: Apps present information with graphics and videos, simplifying complex topics.
6. **Community Building**: Forums and social media integration foster interaction.
7. **Data Collection**: Apps gather user behavior data to improve outreach.
8. **Cost-Effectiveness**: They offer a more economical way to reach audiences compared to traditional media.
9. **Environmental Benefits**: Reducing printed materials contributes to sustainability.
10. **Enhanced Education**: Educational tools promote awareness on specific issues.

Scope of Work:

1. The successful proponent would meet once (online ok) within 10 days of acceptance with no more than 2 project contacts from LWVCLA to ensure common understanding of the project goals, scope, deliverables, schedule, and contract details (which can be worked out via email). Subsequent meetings should be once per week, online ok.
2. The pros and cons of using an app, widget or other method will be presented for a decision by LWVCLA project managers.
3. The contractor would implement the scope and update LWVCLA at least weekly. Once developed, the app must be maintainable by multiple entities or a new owner.
4. The contractor would support installing the app for at least five known website managers, and guidance on marketing the app to other potential users.
5. Links:
    - USGS Water Services Web (https://waterservices.usgs.gov/) provides documentation and query-building tools for USGS water data and will be a critical resource.
    - USGS reporting page for Dungeness: https://waterdata.usgs.gov/monitoring-location/12048000/#period=P7D&showMedian=false&dataTypeId=continuous-00060-0

Potential Obstacles

- Funding source(s) and budget are To Be Determined, but LWVCLA committee members are confident that grants or funders will be found from a local or regional partner once proposals and costs are obtained.

- Questions from proponents about the RFP must be submitted 14 days prior to RFP due date and LWVCLA responses due within 7 days after that; however, if responses require unexpected coordination they could be delayed.
- The final criteria used for flow status categories will need to be approved by project partners outside the LWVCLA committee before the app goes live.
- The LWVCLA committee offers no guarantees on the project schedule or conclusion.

Evaluation Metrics and Criteria

- Comprehension of the scope (25%)
- Experience (25%)
- References (25%)
- Proposed fee (25%)

Submission Requirements and Expected Schedule

- Proponents must include:
  - Detailed proposal and itemized cost (1-2 pages)
  - Contact information including website, phone number, email (1 page)
  - References for similar work, and any experience or connections with entities on the North Olympic Peninsula (1-2 pages)
- Questions on the RFP are due 14 days prior to the RFP due date
- LWVCLA responses to questions are due 7 days prior to the RFP due date
- Interviews with high-ranking candidates will be 14-21 days after RFP due date
- LWVCLA will identify funding source(s) to implement the project and notify the successful proponent (or cancel the project) within 30 days from the interviews
- Draft contract will be available for negotiation within 14 days after notification

Project Due: **No more than 5 months after contract date**	Estimated Budget: **[TBD]**

LWVCLA Contact(s):
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Figure 1: Photograph of roadside Low Flow Alert sign in 2024

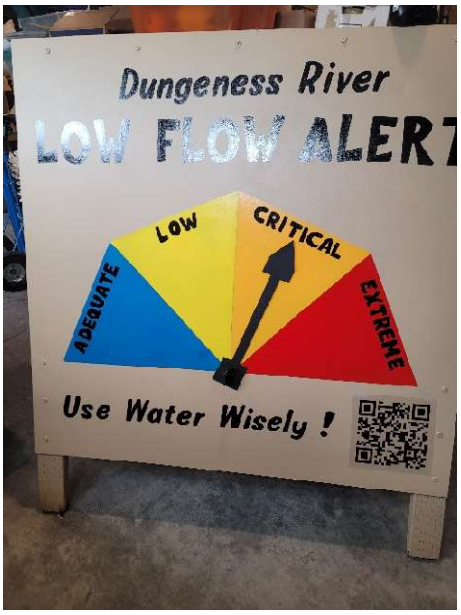

Figure 2: Criteria used in 2024 for Low Flow Alert signs (example only; to be reset for 2025)

DATE	BLUE ZONE = **"Adequate"** >> Flow can support ecology (ISF) AND irrigation demand WHILE ALSO considering loss to groundwater.	YELLOW ZONE = **"Low"** >> Flow is not high enough to support both ecology and irrigation demand, given loss to groundwater.	ORANGE ZONE = **"Critical"** >> Flow level requires sacrifice by irrigators; salmon migration concerns prompt intervening action.	RED ZONE = **"Extreme"** >> Flow is too low for successful salmon migration without intervention; irrigation diversions must cease.
April – July	**>= 582.5**	**582.5-120**	**120-60**	**< 60**
August – Oct.	**>= 238**	**238-120**	**120-60**	**< 60**