

2026 Proposal Form for NorthWestern Energy (NWE) Project 2188 TAC Funds

Project 2188 (Madison-Missouri River) License Protection, Mitigation and Enhancement (PM&E) projects are required to offset impacts to river resources from the continued operation of one or more of NWE's nine hydro developments (Hebgen, Madison, Hauser, Holter, Black Eagle, Rainbow, Cochrane, Ryan and Morony Dams). PM&E projects need to be prioritized toward in-river or on-the-ground measures that directly benefit fisheries and/or wildlife populations and their habitats:

Priority 1: 2188 License projects which meet License Article requirements and PM&E for fisheries or wildlife populations or their habitats within the main stem Madison River (Hebgen Reservoir to Three Forks) or Missouri River (Hauser Reservoir to Fort Peck Reservoir)

Priority 2: 2188 License projects which meet License Article requirements and PM&E for fisheries or wildlife populations or their habitats in primary tributaries or on adjacent lands and, in doing so, provide PM&E for Madison River (Hebgen Reservoir to Three Forks) or Missouri River (Hauser Reservoir to Fort Peck Reservoir) resources.

Priority 3: 2188 License PM&E projects which meet License Article requirements by providing scientific or other tangible PM&E benefits to Madison-Missouri River fisheries or wildlife populations or their habitats. These projects must be located in the greater Missouri River drainage upstream from Fort Peck Reservoir, but not necessarily located on the main stem Madison River or Missouri River or their adjacent lands or primary tributaries.

All TAC project proposals must include the following information:

Project Title: Middle Missouri River Electrofishing Generator - 2026

Date: November 10, 2025

Explain how this Project addresses a specific Project 2188 License Article(s): This is a Priority 1 project because it meets License Article requirements and PM&E for fisheries populations or their habitats within the Missouri River system from Hauser Reservoir to Fort Peck Reservoir as required by FERC license 2188.

Provide justification for Priority 1, 2 or 3 (above) that you selected:

This generator will be used on the Missouri River near Cascade and from Morony dam to Fort Peck Reservoir (Priority 1) during annual electrofishing surveys that fulfil the FERC license requirements.

Project Sponsor (submitted by): Luke Holmquist

Location of Proposed Project: Missouri River at Pelican Point and the Missouri River between Morony Dam and Fort Peck Reservoir

Geocode (in decimal degrees ex 46.89743)

Site: Morony Dam

Lat: 47.58159

Lon: -111.05972

Site: Pelican Point

Lat: 47.20082

Lon: -111.77251

Site: Fort Peck Headwaters

Lat: 47.55384

Lon: -107.92449

Total Project Cost: **\$4,560**

TAC Funds Requested for Project: **\$4,560**

I. Introduction; brief statement of project to be completed with pertinent background information.

In 2025, a new Wooldridge jet boat was purchased by the TAC (2024-10) for the sole purpose of electrofishing to fulfil license requirements under FERC Project 2188. Primarily this boat is intended for use at the Pelican Point section of the Missouri upstream of Great Falls and the five standardized sections between Morony and Fort Peck Reservoir. This boat was outfitted with most of the equipment needed to conduct electrofishing surveys, except generator. Currently, FWP has a 6500 watt generator from another boat that is transferred to this boat when needed. Purchasing a second newer generator that remains in the recently purchased jet boat would allow the Middle Missouri River fisheries crew to have two complete electrofishing boats. Having a second complete electrofishing boat gives the crew flexibility to adapt to changing weather and flow conditions by deploying two crews or selecting appropriate vessels for the appropriate conditions. Furthermore, moving these large generators between boat is cumbersome and dangerous without 3 or 4 people present. That would not be necessary if this generator was purchased and remains in the new boat full time. The below emailed quote is provided by Lewistown Honda in Lewistown.

II. Objectives; explicit statement(s) of what is intended to be accomplished.

This generator will be used to accomplish sampling efforts as outlined in the monitoring plan.

III. Methods; description of how Project objectives will be accomplished. NA

IV. Schedule; when the Project work will begin and end. Purchase a generator for use during 2026 field season.

V. Personnel; who will do the work? Identify Project leader or principal investigator. NA

VI. Project budget must include amounts for the following:

Materials Only: Honda EU7000 inverter Generator - \$4,560

Direct Labor	NA
Travel and Living	NA
Other Direct Expenses	NA
Direct Overhead	NA – Purchase by NWE
All contribution sources and amounts	

VII. Deliverables; describe work product (reports, habitat restoration, etc.) which will result from this Project. How will “success” for this project be monitored or demonstrated? NA

VIII. Cultural Resources. Cultural Resource Management (CRM) requirements for any activity related to this Project must be completed and documented to NWE as a condition of any TAC grant. TAC funds may not be used for any land-disturbing activity, or the modification, renovation, or removal of any buildings or structures until the CRM consultation process has been completed. Agency applicants must submit a copy of the proposed project to a designated Cultural Resource Specialist for their agency. Private parties or non-governmental organizations are encouraged to submit a copy of their proposed project to a CRM consultant they may have employed. Private parties and non-governmental organizations may also contact the NWE representative for further information or assistance. Applications submitted without this section completed, will be held by the TAC, without any action, until the information has been submitted.

Summarize here how you will complete requirements for Cultural Resource Management: No ground disturbance associated with this project.

IX. Water Rights. For projects that involve development, restoration or enhancement of wetlands, please describe how the project will comply with the Montana DNRC’s “Guidance for Landowners and Practitioners Engaged in Stream and Wetland Restoration Activities”, issued by the Water Resources Division on 9March2016.

Summarize here how you will comply with Montana water rights laws, policies and guidelines: No water rights associated with this project.

All TAC Project proposals should be 7 pages or less and emailed (as a WORD file) to each of:

- Andrew.Welch@Northwestern.com
- Jon.Hanson@Northwestern.com
- Grant.Grisak@Northwestern.com

Further questions about TAC proposals or Project 2188 license requirements or related issues may be addressed to: Andy Welch, Leader Hydro License Compliance, NorthWestern Energy, 1315 N Last Chance Gulch, Helena, MT 59601; 406-444-8115 (office); 406-565-7549 (cell); Andrew.Welch@northwestern.com.

Luke

Here is the price of the Honda EU 7000 generator we talked about I can sell it to you for \$4,560.00 later in the fall when you need it. If you need anything else feel free to reach out.

--

Thank you

JOHN WOLD

LEWISTOWN-POLARIS-HONDA-KAWASAKI

302 TRUCK BYPASS LEWISTOWN MT 59457

JOHN@LEWISTOWNHONDA.COM

WWW.LEWISTOWNHONDA.COM [lewistownhonda.com]

406-538-9435