

**HINKSON CREEK COLLABORATIVE ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT
SYMPOSIUM PROPOSAL: FY2015**

**Total Budget (Not to Exceed):
\$7,000.00**

Submitted To:
Hinkson Creek Watershed Collaborative Adaptive Management
Stakeholders, Actions and Science Teams

Date:
January 27, 2014

Symposium Title:
Hinkson Creek Collaborative Adaptive Management
1st Biennial Symposium

Symposium Chair:
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Advisory Panel:
Science Team: Joe Engeln
Stakeholder Team: _____
Action Team: _____

Background and Justification

The overlying intent of Collaborative Adaptive Management (CAM) is to provide a systematic management approach that provides guidance to adjust management practices over time based largely on new scientific findings and social and economic demands. The process incorporates knowledge and “good science” with experience and expertise of stakeholders and managers leading to greater efficacy in management practice decisions. Most CAM processes come about due to questions about *the* best management practice. Therefore, and as is the case in Hinkson Creek Watershed (HCW), multiple groups come together learn and develop a shared understanding in pursuit of goals, objectives and management decisions. Obviously effective communication across disciplinary, professional and social boundaries is requisite for success of the CAM process.

To support the CAM process in the HCW and facilitate effective communication and process transparency, a series of biennial symposiums are proposed. The first symposium is proposed to be held in January 2015 entitled, “*The Hinkson Creek Collaborative Adaptive Management 1st Biennial Symposium*”. The symposium will be guided by science-based information about Hinkson Creek to provide basis for discussion with symposium attendees and citizens with a better understanding of the history, current status and plans for the creek.

The symposium will be aimed at the interested general public rather than the experts. This means that scientists that present at the symposium are required to communicate the science to the general public. The goal with this approach is to provide understandable, intelligible yet common dialogue that opens lines of communication and understanding between stakeholders and partners of the CAM process that attend the symposium.

Objectives

The overarching objective of the symposium is to educate CAM partners and attending citizens about progress of CAM in the HCW. The outcomes of a successful symposium will include increased public support for efforts to improve water quality in Hinkson Creek and the surrounding region and enhanced engagement by organized group efforts to improve water quality. By increasing understanding, the symposium will promote local support for water quality efforts of the partners to the CAM agreement.

Relevance and Audience

The audience is anticipated to be CAM partners and the general public. Student groups and members of local organizations are also likely to attend and may dominate the audience. By providing an inclusive symposium and clear explanation of the science, the CAM process, and the actions being taken, the symposium will help support a more transparent discussion of water quality.

Organization and Schedule

It is proposed that a symposium be held in the beginning of 2015. By this time, there will be a good scientific body of work completed under the CAM agreement, multiple actions will have been completed both prior to and during the CAM process and the next set of science and actions proposals will be pending as we try to match the budget cycles of the three local partners.

We anticipate the symposium taking most of a single day. The exact date will be polled among CAM partners to arrive at the most broadly feasible date. Contingent on approval the final schedule and location, beverages (coffee, water, etc) may be provided throughout the event and lunch may also be provided. While providing lunch would add to the cost, it will provide an opportunity to do something interactive such as a panel discussion of community leaders.

Symposium attendance is free and open to the public. A system will be arranged (polling mechanism, or other) to obtain a count of attendees (i.e. on-line RSVP or similar) to plan for lunches, etc (if approved). To improve symposium transparency and assure positive outcomes it is recommended that an Advisory Panel be assembled. The panel should be comprised of one representative of each CAM group (i.e. Stakeholder, Advisory, Science team). The job of the Advisory Panel is to provide the Symposium Chair feedback about speakers, timing and other program related activities and also to serve as moderators for the event (as feasible). As such, the Chair will keep Advisory Panel members apprised at each step of symposium development (see timeline below). The Advisory panel members can report progress back to their respective group, thus maintaining process transparency.

Tentatively, the morning will focus on the science: what we know and don't know and plans to learn more. The afternoon will focus on actions being taken to improve water quality and end, potentially, with a brain storming session that encourages the public participation on future actions.

Deliverable

The symposium will be free to attend and presentations will be provided on-line through the Help the Hinkson website. This approach will provide information not only to attendees, but also to others interested in local water quality issues and/or the CAM process that were unable to attend.

Potential Symposium Topics

Morning: CAM definition and local process; Biological science (invertebrate sampling and what it shows 2001-2014); Urban Stream Syndrome, Conceptual model and the questions that arise from it; Habitat and hydrology (what is needed to support native populations); Water chemistry; Summary of what we know and don't know and major questions to be addressed (return to conceptual model).

Lunch: Panel discussion by a number of the stakeholders focused on process and progress.

Afternoon: Actions underway and how they address water quality; Engineering perspective on CAM, Hinkson Creek and actions taken; future plans and opportunities. Possible short, facilitated session to brainstorm ideas for future actions.

Major Questions Remaining: To be developed in Program (see Tentative Timeline below).

Timing, Location, Budget

Stipends will not be provided for speakers. It is proposed that one of the three local sponsors could provide the space and the capacity to record the presentations. Thus, costs can be kept relatively low. Even if lunch is provided, we do not anticipate exceeding \$7000 and expect costs will be much lower. \$2000 is included in the estimate for venue cost, which may be waived.

Tentative Timeline

First Announcement Circulated	August 2014
Program and Speakers Finalized	September 2014
Reminder Announcement & Program Circulated	First Week January 2015
Symposium	2 nd or 3 rd Week in January 2015