

HOUSATONIC RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES RESTORATION PROJECT  
CONNECTICUT SUBCOUNCIL REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

**Part A: RESPONDER AND PROJECT SUMMARY FORM**

Please read "RFP: Overview of Selection Process" before completing this form.

RECEIVED

JAN 19 2007

INLAND FISHERIES

Part A must be completed using Submittal Form A.

Responses may be entered electronically using the Microsoft Word version of Part A of this form available on the Housatonic River Basin Natural Resource Restoration Project in Connecticut website (www.housatonicrestoration.org), saved and printed. Alternatively, the responder may print the form and complete it with black ink.

An Adobe Acrobat version of the entire form (Part A and Part B) is also available on the Housatonic River Basin Natural Resource Restoration Project in Connecticut website

**Project Name** Provide a brief working name.

Halfway River Fishery Access

**Responder** – if there is more than one party involved in the project, please provide the information for the primary or lead party.

Herbert Rosenthal

Name

First Selectman, Town of Newtown

Title

Edmond Town Hall

Address

45 Main Street

Address

Newtown CT 06470

City State Zip

203 270 4201

Phone

newtown@snet.net

Email

**Type of Entity**

Check the box that best describes the primary respondent.

Private individual

Non-profit organization

Municipal government

State government

County government

Federal government

Tribal government

Corporation or Business

Academic Institution

Other (explain)

**Project Implementation**

Does the responder plan to be the Project Sponsor and respond to the Request for Supplemental Information (RSI) pending approval of this Proposal?

Yes  No

If yes, please list any other project participants. \_\_\_\_\_

If the responder does **NOT** plan to be the Project Sponsor and does **NOT** intend to respond to the Request for Supplemental

Information (RSI), is the responder interested in being a project participant and assisting a different Project Sponsor on this project?

Yes  No

**Request for Proposals:**

**Restoration Priority Funding Category** See Sec. 3 of "RFP: Overview of Selection Process" for category descriptions.

**Primary Restoration Category.** Check the restoration category that is the primary goal of the project.

Check one box.

- Aquatic Natural Resources Restoration/Enhancement
- Riparian & Floodplain Natural Resources Restoration/Enhancement
- Restoration/Enhancement of Recreational Uses of Natural Resources

**Secondary Categories.** Check all relevant boxes.

- Aquatic Natural Resources Restoration/Enhancement
- Riparian & Floodplain Natural Resources Restoration/Enhancement
- Restoration/Enhancement of Recreational Uses of Natural Resources

**List Specific Injured Natural Resources and/or Impaired Natural Resource Services to Benefit from Project**

Purchase 12-acre property with more than 1200 feet of frontage along the Halfway River - a high quality tributary of the Housatonic River - to provide public access for trout fishing and passive recreational uses. The property is located upstream of Derby Dam in the Housatonic Watershed and contains a River with a Surface Water Quality Rating of A, which includes naturally-reproducing brown trout. This project will promote the recreational enjoyment of these resources by both ensuring their protection and by actively increasing fishing opportunities and other passive uses of the property.

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**Project Location** (if known) See directions and "RFP: Overview of Selection Process" for additional materials to provide (maps, aerial photographs)

Municipality/ies:

Newtown

Longitude for approximate center of project area: 73 11' 55" W

Latitude for approximate center of project area: 73 11' 55" W.

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**Project Budget Estimate** (if known)

Total Project Cost Estimate: \$ 325,000

Housatonic River NRD Fund Estimate: \$ 325,000

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## Housatonic River Natural Resources Restoration Project Request for Proposals

### **Project Title: Halfway River Fishery Access**

*Project Sponsor:* Herbert Rosenthal, First Selectman  
Edmond Town Hall  
45 Main Street  
Newtown, CT 06470

### **Part B**

#### **I. Project Narrative**

##### *1. Project Goals and Objectives*

The proposed project would acquire a 12-acre parcel of land that has more than 1200 feet of frontage along the Halfway River – a tributary of the Housatonic River located north of Derby Dam in Newtown, CT. The acquisition would permanently protect the riparian and aquatic habitat of the Halfway River and provide public access for recreational fishing and for other passive uses of the streamside property.

The proposed project would satisfy the CT SubCouncil's goals (as described in the Request for Proposals) by acquiring riparian and aquatic habitat equivalent or superior to those damaged by contamination of PCBs, by replacing recreational fishing opportunities lost as a result, and by enhancing the recreational uses of the natural resources on the property. The Halfway River contains wild populations of brown trout in a river with high surface water quality (rated A by the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection<sup>1</sup>). In addition the project is located upstream of Derby Dam in the Housatonic watershed – an area prioritized for project proposals, and thus, highly rated by the CT SubCouncil.

The project also includes plans to create an entrance to the property and parking area along the highly traveled Route 34, and by upgrading existing trails in the riparian area that access the river. These actions will facilitate the use and enjoyment of these important natural resources and improve access to the myriad recreational opportunities the property provides.

##### *2. Project Benefits*

The acquisition of the subject property would ensure the permanent protection of the riparian and aquatic habitat along this stretch of the Halfway River, which supports a high quality fishery containing naturally-reproducing brown trout. In addition, the project proposes to enhance public access to the fishery by creating an entrance and parking area and by improving the existing trails in the riparian corridor.

The project would replace the resident river fish and recreational fishing injured by the release of contaminants into the Housatonic River from the GE facility. By providing needed public access to this important fishery, the project may also provide an opportunity for the Connecticut Department

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<sup>1</sup> A Class A designation is defined as “Designated for habitat for fish and other aquatic life and wildlife; potential drinking water supplies; recreation; navigation; and water supply for industry and agriculture.”



of Environmental Protection to designate the Halfway River as a Class 1 wild trout fishery. In addition, the existing trails in the riparian area will support other recreational activities, including hiking and birdwatching.

### 3. *General Tasks*

The proposed project would require that the subject property, which is already on the market, be purchased from the private landowner. This would require that the buyer (the Town of Newtown) commission a Phase I environmental assessment and any other due diligence that must be performed on the property prior to sale, contingent upon all required town approvals. Once the transaction is complete, the project would improve public access to the natural resources on the property by a) creating an entrance and parking area off of Route 34 and b) completing basic trail maintenance for trails that run alongside the river.

## **II. Project Location**

The subject property is located in the upper Housatonic watershed, along the Halfway River in Newtown, CT. The property borders Route 34 to the north. See maps included with this application for more detail.

## **III. Criteria Statements (from 6.1 of RFP Overview)**

*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, the proposal contains one original and six copies of the completed Responder and Project Summary Form, Project Narrative, Project Location (including supplemental maps), and Criteria Statements.

*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, the proposed project - the acquisition of this property along a tributary of the Housatonic River - will permanently protect the riparian and aquatic habitat of the Halfway River (rated A for surface water quality), provide public access to a wild brown trout fishery, and replace the recreational fishing and boating damaged by the release of PCBs and other hazardous substances. The natural and recreational resources at this site are equivalent or superior to those impacted by contamination in the upper Housatonic River.

*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?*

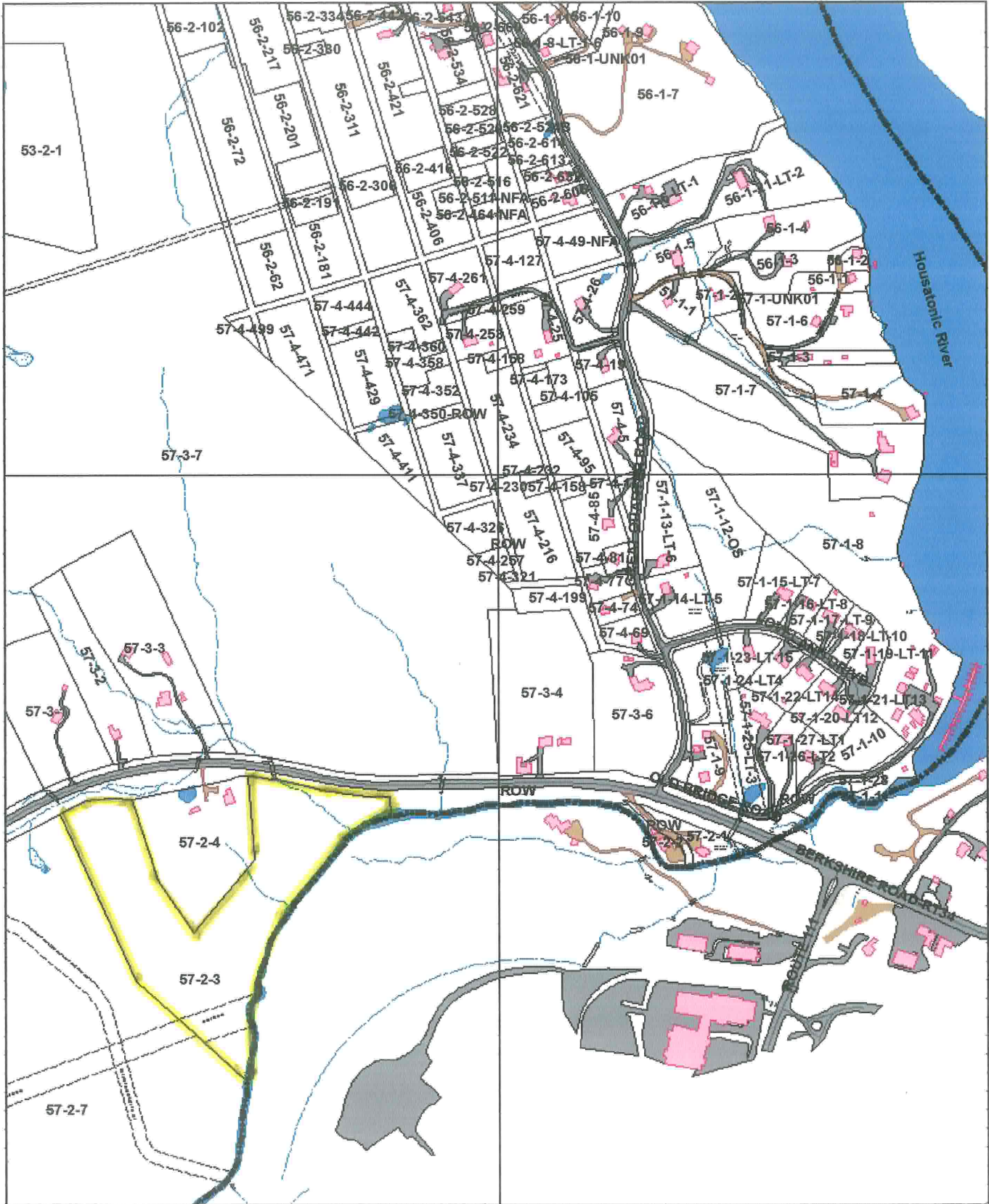
No.

*4. Is the Proposed Project inconsistent with any federal, state, or local law or policy?*

No.

*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?*

No.



TOWN OF NEWTOWN, CT

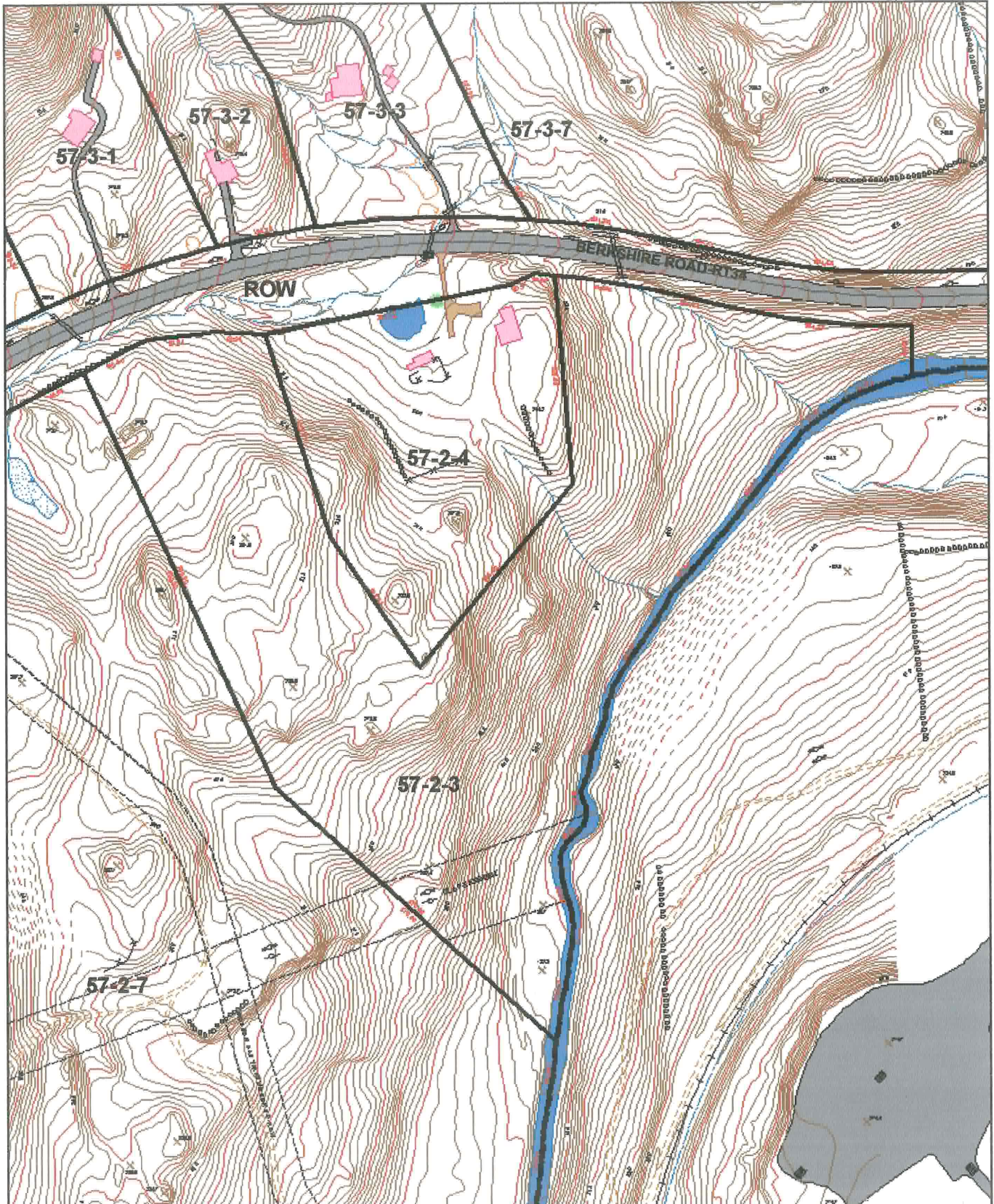
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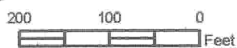






TOWN OF NEWTOWN, CT

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