



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

**FROM:** Courtney Shaff, Grant Program Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item G: OWEB Regular Grant Program Overview  
April 28-29, 2015 OWEB Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This staff report provides an overview of the October 2014, regular grant cycle and budget considerations.

### II. October 2014 Cycle Background and Summary

#### A. Applications Submitted

The October 2014 Regular Grant Cycle offered Restoration, Technical Assistance, Monitoring, and Outreach applications. A total of 170 grant applications, seeking nearly \$19 million, were received by the October 2014, deadline. Attachment A shows applications submitted by region, project type, and dollar amount.

As a result of an April 2014 Continuous Improvement event, staff made several changes on how applications were accepted for this cycle. For the first time OWEB accepted applications over two days, October 20-21, and accepted applications submitted in pdf format via email. Of the 170 applications submitted 141 (83%) were submitted via email and many applicants commented that the process saved them not only time, but also money. Staff will continue to accept applications over two days and in pdf format via email for the April 2015 grant cycle.

#### B. Applications Withdrawn or Determined Ineligible

Following the application deadline, two Restoration applications (215-4036, 215-4038) and one Outreach application (215-4027) were withdrawn by the applicants prior to review. One Restoration application (215-4037) was withdrawn after the review when OWEB staff and the applicant determined that an amendment to an existing grant would accomplish the same goals and allow for a more efficient and timely project implementation and grant administration process. Additional information on this application is provided in the Region 4 staff report. One Restoration application (215-2054) was determined to be ineligible because it was tied to mitigation requirements and was withdrawn prior to review.

### **C. Development of Staff Recommendations**

The applications were sent to the six Regional Review Teams (RRTs), which reviewed them for merit and made prioritized funding recommendations to OWEB staff.

OWEB staff considered the funding availability and the Board's 2013-2015 spending plan, as updated at the July 2014 Board meeting. Staff then integrated the separate RRT recommendations into the staff funding recommendation to the Board.

Attachment B contains the overall recommendations, and specifically details by region and type the number of applications recommended by the RRTs and staff, and the dollar amounts recommended by staff. Following this overview are staff reports containing the OWEB staff funding recommendations for each region.

### **D. Review Process**

Staff sent eligible grant proposals to the RRTs to read and consider. Staff in each region then scheduled visits to as many sites as possible, emphasizing new applications and the more complicated projects. All RRT members were invited on these visits and some members were able to participate.

The Oregon Plan Monitoring Team (OPMT), which is made up of state natural resource agency representatives, met in January 2015 to discuss the technical merits and potential benefits of the monitoring applications. The OPMT reviews each application for its benefits relative to watershed functions, evaluating effectiveness of salmon recovery, and to the people and processes that comprise the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds (OPSW). In addition, the OPMT assessed the certainty that a proposed monitoring project would accomplish its stated objectives. The results of this review were provided to OWEB Regional Program Representatives to assist in project evaluation.

The RRTs met December 2014-February 2015. In their RRT meetings, reviewers considered the ecological significance of the proposed project, technical merit, feasibility, likelihood of success, experience of the applicant, and whether the budget supports the proposed work. Given the increasing competitiveness of applications, together with reduced availability of OWEB grant funds, reviewers also considered the overall cost-benefit of applications, as contemplated by OWEB's administrative rule 695-010-0070(e) ("whether the overall budget reflects the expected watershed health benefit").

After classifying Restoration, Technical Assistance, Monitoring, and Outreach applications as "fund" or "no fund," the RRTs then prioritized the projects recommended for funding by application type. The RRT recommendations are included in each applicable regional staff report. The recommended funding amount and any special conditions are identified in the tables attached to each regional staff report.

The review teams' evaluations and recommendations in summary form are distributed to all applicants whose proposals were reviewed by that team. Prior to the Board meeting, staff forward to the Board all written comments received from applicants regarding the review team and staff recommendations.

### **III. Staff Funding Recommendations**

The funding recommendations for the October 2014 cycle fall within the Board's updated spending plan, as shown in Table 1 below.

**Table 1. 2013-2015 OWEB Spending Plan and  
October 2014 Cycle Staff Funding Recommendations**

<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Spending Plan</b>	<b>Staff Recommendations</b>	<b>Grant Funds Remaining</b>
Restoration	\$7,065,000	\$6,987,278	\$77,722
Technical Assistance	\$792,000	\$815,776	(-\$23,776)
Monitoring	\$1,049,000	\$1,049,000	\$0
Outreach	\$500,000	\$514,142	(-\$14,142)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,406,000</b>	<b>\$9,366,196</b>	<b>\$39,804</b>

**A. October 2014 Cycle – Regional Application Funding Recommendations**

Staff recommendations for Board action are identified by region for the applications indicated in each of the following six regional reports. “Fund” applications are indicated on the regional Attachment A tables by gray shading.

Staff recommend funding for:

- 53 of the 60 Restoration applications recommended by the RRTs;
- All 20 Technical Assistance applications recommended by the RRTs;
- All 11 of the Monitoring applications recommended by the RRTs; and
- 19 of the 26 Outreach applications recommended by the RRTs.

Details are contained within each of the attached regional staff reports.

**Attachments**

- A. Grant Applications Submitted for the October 2014 Grant Cycle
- B. RRT and Staff Funding Recommendations for the October 2014 Grant Cycle

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### Types of Applications Received for October 2014

	Monitoring	Outreach	Technical Assistance	Restoration	Totals
<b>Region 1</b>	4	8	5	7	24
<b>Region 2</b>	4	7	8	14	33
<b>Region 3</b>	3	10	3	20	36
<b>Region 4</b>	0	3	5	10	18
<b>Region 5</b>	3	3	4	24	34
<b>Region 6</b>	2	4	2	17	25
<b>Totals</b>	16	35	27	92	170

### Dollar Amounts by Application Type

	Monitoring	Outreach	Technical Assistance	Restoration	Totals
<b>Region 1</b>	\$302,572	\$200,140	\$186,207	\$1,373,445	\$2,062,364
<b>Region 2</b>	\$578,363	\$268,983	\$288,560	\$4,488,297	\$5,624,203
<b>Region 3</b>	\$243,590	\$350,133	\$129,859	\$3,548,659	\$4,272,241
<b>Region 4</b>	\$0	\$93,283	\$169,493	\$2,360,759	\$2,623,535
<b>Region 5</b>	\$192,336	\$79,344	\$174,397	\$1,557,137	\$2,003,214
<b>Region 6</b>	\$394,864	\$90,030	\$66,368	\$1,768,587	\$2,319,849
<b>Totals</b>	\$1,711,725	\$1,081,913	\$1,014,884	\$15,096,884	\$18,905,406

## Funding Recommendations for the October 20, 2014 Grant Cycle

### Number of Applications Recommended by Review Teams and Staff for Funding

Region	Technical Assistance		Monitoring		Outreach		Restoration	
	RRT	Staff	RRT	Staff	RRT	Staff	RRT	Staff
Region 1	3	3	4	4	6	5	6	5
Region 2	7	7	3	3	6	3	9	5
Region 3	1	1	1	1	8	3	11	9
Region 4	3	3	0	0	2	2	8	8
Region 5	4	4	2	2	3	3	15	15
Region 6	2	2	1	1	3	3	12	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>53</b>

### Dollar Amounts by Application Type Recommended by Staff for Funding

Region	Technical Assistance	Monitoring	Outreach	Restoration
Region 1	\$111,140	\$290,164	\$100,914	\$1,079,373
Region 2	\$277,760	\$357,693	\$90,167	\$923,414
Region 3	\$39,969	\$74,486	\$114,839	\$1,417,760
Region 4	\$146,142	\$0	\$65,336	\$1,613,052
Region 5	\$174,397	\$167,116	\$79,344	\$1,104,111
Region 6	\$66,368	\$159,541	\$63,542	\$849,568
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$815,776</b>	<b>\$1,049,000</b>	<b>\$514,142</b>	<b>\$6,987,278</b>

*NOTE\* The Total Recommended Board Award is always equal to the Staff Recommended Award. On all Regional Review Team evaluation summaries in this binder, the Board amounts were inadvertently left off the forms. As an example, both totals below should be the same (\$142,800).*

*See example below:*

**\* Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$142,800.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$ 0.00**