

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b> 212-111	<b>Project Type:</b> Acquisition
<b>Project Name:</b> McGribble Tract Fee Title Acquisition	
<b>Applicant:</b> Elk River Land Trust	
<b>Basin:</b> SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b> Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b> \$423,650.00	<b>Total Cost:</b> \$200,000.00

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### **Application Description**

The Elk River Land Trust (ERLT) requests \$200,000 to purchase a 217-acre second growth forested upland property adjacent to Elk River, in Curry County. OWEB granted funds to ERLT for the purchase of the 163 acre Keystone Nature Preserve in 2005.

The application states that the property proposed for acquisition is estimated to be valued at \$400,000. The application states that an appraisal will not be conducted until funding is secured. ERLT has a purchase option until April of 2012 with the option to extend for a year. The application states that “match is anticipated from USFWS with the decision spring or summer of 2012.”

The application states that the priority ecological systems proposed for conservation are: Montane riparian woodland and shrubland (70 acres currently; 80 acres after restoration); oak woodland (20 acres currently; 120 after restoration.)

The application states that the project will benefit the following at-risk plant communities: Grand fir-Douglas fir/tanoak/swordfern. The application states that the project will benefit the following species: Marbled murrelet, coho salmon, band-tailed pigeon, black-throated gray warbler, green heron, olive-sided flycatcher, peregrine falcon, rufous hummingbird, red tree vole, Del Norte salamander, and foothills yellow-legged frog.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT did not conduct a site visit to the property. Members of the RRT noted that steelhead, cutthroat, Coho and Chinook have all been reported in the Elk River tributaries that flow through the property but there is mixed information as to their presence and prevalence. Some reviewers indicated there was at least a partial fish passage barrier below the property. The RRT did not believe that the property, in its current state, supports the priority species.

They noted that the ecological value of the property is primary long-term and contingent on restoration and management for those ecological values. Thus the RRT concluded that the ecological value of the project was moderate at best.

The RRT thought that the project offers limited educational opportunities, in part due to the limited access to the property. The application states the purchase would provide an opportunity to “inform” the public about the protection of steelhead habitat, and states that ERLT “anticipates publishing a brochure” and will “address the project on our website”.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Medium Ecological and Low Educational value.

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2035</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Project Name:</b>	Non-point Source Pollution Education Package (NSPEP)		
<b>Applicant:</b>	OSU Office of Sponsored Programs		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$27,671.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$39,379.00</b>

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### Application Description

OSU in Jackson County proposes to conduct programs involving students and the broader community to increase awareness and understanding of water quality issues and the role of personal responsibility in watershed stewardship with an emphasis on storm water quality issues in the basin. The anticipated barriers to learning are the misconceptions and a lack of background knowledge among students and community members pertaining to general watershed functions, and the variety of learning styles, socio-economic and cultural backgrounds of a large community. These will be addressed by engaging participants in appropriate activities, service learning projects, outreach events that will increase their awareness and participation in local watershed enhancement.

A minimum of 20 classrooms and 600 students, grades 4th -12th, will participate in the program for non-point source and Bear Creek pollution reduction. High school service learning opportunities will be provided via participation in outreach with younger students and adult community members. A minimum of one non-point source pollution workshop will be offered for 20-25 local educators. Lastly, the applicant will perform outreach to the community. Outreach will include fairs and events (estimated exposure to 3000-5000 community members), surveys, workshops, presentations or field tours (estimated contacts 100). The project will occur at locations throughout Jackson County.

Project Partners include Rogue Valley Council of Governments, Rogue Valley Sewer Services, OSU Extension, Bear Creek Education Partners, ODEQ and the City of Medford. OWEB funds will be used for project coordinator's salary, travel, production, supplies and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### Regional Review Team Evaluation

Reviewers were familiar with this is a continuation of a previously funded program. The applicant has a current project funded by OWEB which will be completed in 2012. Strong letters of support demonstrate that they have created good partnerships. Reviewers appreciated the alignment with DEQ's water quality improvement objectives and NRCS focus areas. Some of the watershed restoration and monitoring work done in this project includes assessing parking lots and designing bioswales for stormwater pollution issues, and field trips to restoration sites.

Reviewers were concerned that specific schools were not mentioned in the proposal. Even though the project has a long history, reviewers would have liked to have seen more details regarding the community outreach activities, as well as more details about what the students are actually doing during the outdoor components of the program. Reviewers indicated that they would like to see feedback and assessment results from teachers included in future project applications. Information like how the program is working for their students would have been helpful and suggested that OSU coordinate with Bear Creek Watershed Education Partners and others who are reaching similar target audiences. Overall, reviewers support the program and recommended it be funded.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

4 of 6

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$27,671.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Conditions. Staff believe that including additional final reporting requirements that document specific results for this project is important. Staff will develop reporting requirements as special conditions in the grant agreement.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$27,671.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$27,671.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2038</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Gold Ray Stewards</b>		
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Klamath Bird Observatory</b>		
<b>Basin:</b>	<b>ROGUE</b>	<b>County:</b>	<b>Jackson</b>
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$65,703.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$65,703.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

The applicant proposes to engage 150 adults and 75 high school students in six presentations and seven "living laboratory" workshops collecting data and performing restoration activities on the Rogue River following the removal of the Gold Ray Dam. The intent is to foster a deep sense of stewardship for the Rogue River and an appreciation of the relationship between the river, wildlife, and the community. This project will provide the resources to allow citizens and students to witness the return of the former Gold Ray Dam impoundment area to a free-flowing river, and the re-establishment of streamside vegetation, shorelines and habitat. By visiting the area repeatedly over a two-year period, and through active engagement in restoration and monitoring of the area, citizens and students will develop a deep understanding of natural systems, the ecology of the Rogue, and will acquire a deep sense of stewardship for this magnificent resource and an appreciation of the symbiotic relationship embodied by the river and its watershed. This project will be a community-wide project that will address environmental stewardship through use of a local "living laboratory" and related restoration and monitoring activities associated with the Gold Ray transformation. It will also help District 6 schools achieve science and environmental literacy goals, instill a love for the river and its denizens in the hearts of project participants, and may also spark an interest and inspire workers and students to pursue careers in the conservation and natural resources fields.

Project Partners include Rogue Valley Council of Governments, School District 6, the Kinsman Foundation and Jackson County. OWEB funds will be used for project coordination, contracted services, supplies and materials, production costs and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers appreciated the concept of getting more people involved in their watershed. However, reviewers were unclear about a number of elements in the proposal and found it confusing and vague, lacking specifics. As a result, they were not sure they understood what would be happening. They also commented that a lot of restoration, outreach and monitoring work is already occurring around the Gold Ray dam removal site, and they did not think this proposal was connected to that existing work. There were no letters of support from other local groups. Reviewers also questioned whether the focus of the project should be on the benefits of dam removal, since the dam was already removed and there are other watershed problems that need to be addressed.

Reviewers also questioned the application's stated focus on people who are skeptical of restoration. They did not think presentations held at watershed councils, fly fishing and steelhead groups, Audubon societies, and other conservation and environmental groups would be a way to reach those who are skeptical of restoration projects. The involvement of schools was not clear. The match funding from Crater Lake High School is shown as \$36,000. However, the application did not describe the relationship between the school and the proposed project.

Reviewers recognized that there is currently a large turnout for restoration plantings and other stewardship activities in the former dam area and encouraged the applicant to work in partnership with other groups in the area. Reviewers felt this was probably happening but the application did not articulate the connections. Finally, reviewers felt the costs in the budget were high and additional budget explanation would have been helpful to justify how the costs were determined.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2039</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Project Name:</b>	Stream Smart - Bear Creek Clean Water Project		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Bear Creek WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$16,600.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$34,680.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

Bear Creek Watershed Council proposes to develop a "Stream Smart – Bear Creek Clean Water Project" branding and marketing campaign in order to raise awareness of water quality issues, influence attitudes and values, and promote behavior change in the watershed. The long term objective of the campaign is to increase the understanding of residents and businesses in the watershed of their impact and responsibility in maintaining watershed health. They propose to utilize a variety of outreach tools, including a website/social networking effort, signage, giving away stickers, radio ads, a brochure and public relations/media kit.

Using a recent survey of residents regarding their understanding and experience of the Bear Creek watershed, the applicant and project partners determined that a messaging plan is needed to target several specific audiences for public education from the Bear Creek Clean Water Project including: Urban Individuals, creek-side property owners and small businesses. Direct contact expected with over 1,000 individuals living in urban areas, along with over 500 individuals involved in agricultural and over 200 small business owners including small construction, business district merchants, car-related businesses, food-related businesses and landscape and gardening services. Anticipated barriers to learning include: lack of exposure to media or the internet. OWEB funds will be used to implement the marketing strategy.

Project Partners include Rogue Valley Council of Governments, Cities of Jacksonville, Central Point, Medford and Ashland, Jackson SWCD, ODEQ, Rogue Valley Sewer Services and Jackson County. OWEB funds will be used for project coordination, contracted services, supplies and materials, production costs and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers understand the need to increase awareness among the broader community about water quality issues and how they can get involved. They noted favorably that there was a mix of techniques proposed, from traditional (media kits) to more emerging (social networking) methods. Reviewers recognized that the program aims to serve as an umbrella communications program for other outreach groups in the valley, providing a united marketing message about how community members can volunteer and participate in watershed events. However, the level of participation and commitment of these other partners was not documented clearly. If funded, reviewers wanted to make sure that contact information for these other groups in the basin be listed on the materials provided: the website, at events, and other related materials. Reviewers encouraged the applicant to engage volunteers, or, if they are engaged, to include their participation in the proposal's budget so that their efforts are recognized and included in the documentation of match funding.

Reviewers struggled with whether or not the marketing materials provided a direct connection between the target audiences and activities that would result in on-the-ground restoration or monitoring activities. Ads would direct people to specific resources, potentially the first step in encouraging involvement in the watershed restoration programs. However, there was some discussion about the effectiveness of this approach. Furthermore, reviewers noted that the proposal is lacking in measurable outputs as well as

outcomes, without which, there was no yardstick by which to measure effectiveness. Other watershed marketing campaigns have demonstrated that real-on-the-ground water quality improvements can be correlated with a social marketing campaign, however those programs have been at a much larger scale.

Overall, reviewers liked the idea, but thought it should be combined with other programs and/or have a clear connection with other partners in the region, rather than come in as a stand-alone project. Reviewers also noted that this could possibly be a good vehicle for bringing in the multiple education efforts in the Bear Creek watershed together under one focused program.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$16,600.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund; falls below staff-recommended funding line. OWEB staff discussed whether or not this proposal was eligible with the Regional Review Team. OWEB's updated guidance for outreach applications, disseminated to potential applicants in July 2011, states that "stand alone" proposals for outreach that do not also engage Oregonians directly in activities that protect, restore, or monitor native fish or wildlife habitats or improve water quality and stream flow are ineligible. This proposal requests funding for a suite of stand alone products: on-line media, radio, tv, brochures, stickers, and signage to name a few. Staff concluded that it is essentially a stand alone social marketing campaign persuading people to act differently for improved watershed health and/or to support those doing the on-the-ground restoration and monitoring work without engaging them directly in those activities.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$ 0.00**

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2041</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Outreach
<b>Project Name:</b>	Upper Rogue Environmental Education Cooperative		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Upper Rogue WS Assn		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$17,450.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$23,450.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

Upper Rogue Watershed Association proposes to provide a continuing program for teachers from four different schools in the Upper Rogue. The purpose of the training is to increase teachers' skills and confidence taking students outdoors for watershed learning experiences. The program includes a two-day workshop with content such as water quality analysis, macro-invertebrate sampling, river ecology and fish habitat, and four four-hour long workshops, one held at each school. These follow-up workshops would provide activities, information, and ideas for teachers tailored to the specific needs of that school.

This program will reach thirty teachers from schools in the Upper Rogue and 300 of their students. Ten teachers from each community will participate in a professional development workshop designed to deal with concerns over implementing a place based, curriculum around watershed enhancement projects. Teachers will become familiar with water quality analysis, macro-invertebrate sampling, the riparian zone and healthy fish habitat. Teachers will learn how to correlate environmental education with Oregon content standards. The workshop will involve field study and teachers will receive a Project WET Activity and Curriculum guide along with related handouts. A two day work shop will be followed up by a smaller workshops specific to each schools designated enhancement site. There will be a student "needs assessment" at each school to help teachers implement the curriculum.

Project partners include Prospect Charter School, Butte Falls Charter School and Shady Cove Schools. OWEB funds will be used for project management, supplies, travel and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers understand the need to support teachers in their effort to involve students in hands-on watershed restoration and monitoring activities and the needs assessment associated with this proposal seemed thorough. Reviewers noted the integration of Project WET, a well-established curriculum, and the potential for getting students restoring and monitoring sites in their watershed was strong component of the proposal.

Without letters of support from the schools or teachers, and school match support pending, reviewers questioned if the applicant had fully engaged the intended participants in the program design. There seemed to be some planning that was needed: the budget included some lump sums, the applicant hadn't selected sites yet, and there was concern that a two-day workshop was not going to provide enough training to be successful in the stated outcomes. Reviewers commented that they wanted more information on the sites to be worked on, and what needs to be done for the restoration and monitoring activities mentioned in the application. Overall, reviewers concluded the proposal lacked sufficient detail and that too much needed to still be planned in order for a successful program to be coordinated by May of this year.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund

### **Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2049</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Project Name:</b>	Watershed Field Program for 6th Graders		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Deer Creek Center		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Josephine
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$21,630.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$82,830.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

Siskiyou Field Institute proposes a two-year project that will reach 1,200 6th grade students as well as 96 parents and 32 teachers. Students receive an in-classroom visit, and two field trips, one to Deer Creek Center (managed by Siskiyou Field Institute) and one to Oregon Caves National Monument. Students assist in monitoring water quality and their data is uploaded to a National Park Service website. This data is available to, and may potentially help inform, federal and state land managers. Teachers and principals in the Grants Pass District 7 and Three Rivers School Districts have conveyed to project partners that they struggle with finding opportunities to fully engage the interest of 6th grade students in Earth science, especially those field experiences that are fully relevant and integrated with their curriculum and the state standards to which these curricula must adhere. Students must learn watershed concepts, the water cycle, scientific inquiry, and aquatic ecology. These students also have a great need to learn the connection between their actions and the impact of these actions on their local watershed.

The curriculum to be utilized is tied to Oregon state science benchmarks, so it will help students meet required state educational standards. Indoor nature learning is marginally effective, so to facilitate learning, science learning here is hands-on, in the field, with a pre-field classroom visit to help prepare and students' knowledge base. Students write about the field experience and record data in a field journal. In the field, student activities will include collecting water quality data which is uploaded to the National Park Service website; and they will discover and learn basic macroinvertebrate types and vocabulary; along with learning "Leave No Trace" principles to become better land stewards.

Project partners include the West Family Foundation and National Park Service. OWEB funds will be used for project management, travel and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers liked this proposal, describing it as well-written, with good value reaching a large number of students over a two-year period, and a nice level of matching support funds. One particularly well-received aspect of the program was that students collect meaningful and useful data on water quality. Overall, reviewers recommended funding this proposal based on the reasonable budget, combined with the organized curriculum with specific goals and objectives.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

### **Regional Review Team Priority**

2 of 6

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$21,630.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**  
Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$21,630.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**  
**\$21,630.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2052</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Project Name:</b>	<b>Cultivating Healthy Watersheds Project</b>		
<b>Applicant:</b>	<b>Applegate Partnership &amp; WC</b>		
<b>Basin:</b>	<b>ROGUE</b>	<b>County:</b>	<b>Jackson</b>
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$24,400.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$41,800.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

The Applegate Partnership and Watershed Council propose to provide K-12 students in the Applegate and Rogue Valleys field trips to Salmon Safe farms and ranches. Participating farmers and ranchers will receive assistance in the implementation and monitoring of restoration projects and Salmon-Safe certification. This project aims to increase the knowledge of watershed restoration approaches and effectiveness. Students in the Applegate and Bear Creek watersheds, where schools are weathering additional funding cuts, have very few opportunities to learn about and participate in watershed stewardship and restoration projects. The program will also educate and build support for watershed restoration among participating teachers and parents, and farmers and ranchers will receive assistance in the completion and monitoring of watershed restoration projects, and will be encouraged to participate in the Salmon Safe agricultural certification program.

Classroom sessions, followed by field trips, will provide students, parents, and teachers with both the understanding and the skills to undertake watershed restoration projects such as conserving and restoring riparian vegetation communities. The program will provide schools the means with which to transport students to project sites and educators to provide real life experiences in watershed stewardship and restoration. Participating farmers and ranchers will receive assistance in the implementation and monitoring of restoration projects and Salmon-Safe certification. Students will learn about watershed-friendly farms, farming practices, and forest management and will participate in restoration projects and will monitor the results instream, riparian and woodland areas. This proposal will allow the expansion of the Cultivating Healthy Watersheds program to the Bear Creek Watershed, where the applicant will work with partner group Rogue Valley Farm to School.

Project partners include multiple local landowners and farms, Rogue Valley Farm to School and the Gray Family Foundation. OWEB funds would be used for project coordination, travel, supplies and materials, contracted services, production and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers described the application as lacking in sufficient detail. Neither the in-class lessons nor the on-site lessons and activities were described. This lack of detail was notable because this program has been established in the basin for some time. Reviewers familiar with the program noted that while it is good to have multiple site visits, the result is that students may experience similar lessons repeatedly. There was little information about the adult workshops. And there were no letters of support from the schools nor participating farms and ranches. Reviewers suggest that future proposals include a map of the farms and schools involved in the program. Reviewers found conflicting numbers of students reached. Reviewers did not feel questions from previous reviews had been addressed sufficiently. While it was understood that one objective was to expand in to the Bear Creek Watershed, several programs are already occurring in that watershed and it was not clear how this project would fit in or coordinate with them.

While reviewers appreciate that this proposal takes a rural approach to watershed restoration outreach, overall they could not recommend it for funding at this time because of the lack of details in the application.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

### **Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2054</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Outreach
<b>Project Name:</b>	Community Land Use Management Initiative		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Williams Community Forest Project		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Josephine
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$17,055.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$23,055.00

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### **Application Description**

Williams Community Forest Project proposes four themed workshops with first-hand experiences in local restoration projects to residents of their community. The audience would gain increased knowledge that would inform their decisions in how they manage and interact with their land as well as skills in techniques for restoring and maintaining their land. Workshop themes include: community collaboration, noxious weed management, upland forest restoration, riparian restoration. Additionally, a handbook would be produced from workshop handouts, relevant information, and a list of available funding resources and contacts.

The project targets individuals who are responsible for private land use decision-making in the Williams watershed. Based on previous workshops and tours presented through WCWC and other groups, it is estimated that 30-50 individuals will attend each workshop and the tour. Residents have expressed their interest in detailed information regarding appropriate management practices and available resources to assist them. The audience will be exposed to a variety of ideas and practices to inform their own decision-making, and be empowered with first-hand experience of applicable techniques and local restoration projects. Four themed workshops will cover community collaboration, noxious weed management, upland forest restoration, and riparian restoration, and two field projects will engage residents directly with restoration practices. Additionally, a handbook will be produced to provide a summary of material covered and a directory of available funding and resources to assist landowners in restoration projects.

Project partners include local landowners and instructors and the Williams Creek Watershed Council. OWEB funds would be used for project coordination, travel, supplies and materials, and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers were confident the program would be well attended based on the organizers' connections within the community. Aware of the area, reviewers also agreed that the watershed needs riparian restoration. While it was agreed that workshops could be a helpful tool in this community, the proposal seemed to overlap broadly with OSU Extension programming and reviewers suggested that the applicant collaborate with OSU Extension in the future to share funding, marketing efforts and speakers. Reviewers found the idea to provide daycare as a means to overcome that barrier to participation creative, but suggested that rather than simply childcare, the program should include an outdoor/natural-resources outreach and project component.

Reviewers' greatest concern was over the cost which seemed steep for four workshops that could potentially be attended by the same people. They recommended to staff that this proposal not receive funding.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

### **Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2056</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Project Name:</b>	PUR Salmon Schools - Phase I		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$14,568.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$23,152.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

Partnership for Umpqua Rivers (PUR) began this program after being approached by Elkton and Phoenix Charter Schools who requested help implementing long-term water quality monitoring projects with their schools. PUR proposes to help them by equipping the schools with the supplies, training and support needed to properly monitor streams for dissolved oxygen, turbidity, temperature (ambient and stream), and macroinvertebrates. The project will directly reach 118 high school-aged youth and four educators at Elkton Charter School and Phoenix Charter School. The applicant will also begin developing three additional programs that will reach at least 200 school-aged youth and at least four educators in other Umpqua schools.

By the end of the project, PUR will have established two long-term, school-operated and evaluated monitoring sites and will have trained eight teachers in four water quality monitoring parameters to continue the program into the future. As a result of this project, the families and communities served by the schools have a greater understanding and appreciation of the socio-economic and ecological value of watershed-benefiting activities, resulting in behavioral changes that benefit salmon and their habitat.

Project partners include Phoenix Charter School, Elkton Charter School, Autzen Foundation and the Ford Family Foundation. OWEB funds would be used for project coordination, contracted services, travel, supplies and materials, and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers were impressed with the origins of this proposal, noting that it began with schools requesting the help from PUR in developing a program. It was clear the schools had a high level of support and commitment to the project. The use of the water quality monitoring data was well-received and reviewers suggested that PUR work with the schools to identify and incorporate established curriculum which may provide more creative ideas for the program. Reviewers liked the idea of Salmon School Certification, though there were questions regarding the costs of the plaque associated with certification.

The RRT had questions about the specifics regarding PUR's lesson plans for the schools, and described the outcomes for the program as vague. Reviewers suggest that PUR add an evaluation tool in addition to group discussions which, taken alone, may not provide the most objective information on whether or not the outreach objectives had been met. Part of the proposal included a request for funding efforts to recruit new schools which reviewers questioned, and ultimately they recommend that the proposal be funded at a reduced level and focused on the two schools already involved in the program.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced. Fund Phoenix and Elkton School portions only.

### **Regional Review Team Priority**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$10,468.00</b>

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

RRT recommended only funding components associated with Phoenix and Elkton Charter Schools. Staff worked with the applicant to develop a revised budget to reflect the RRT recommendations. The original proposal requested \$14,658. There is a total reduction of \$4,100. The revised budget requests \$10,468 from OWEB.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$10,468.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$10,468.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	212-2067	<b>Project Type:</b>	Outreach
<b>Project Name:</b>	Coos Watershed Master Watershed Stewardship Youth Program		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coos Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	\$20,825.00	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$30,847.00

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### **Application Description**

Coos Watershed Association proposes to provide 20-30 Coos Bay School District students, grades 8-12, twelve Friday afternoon outdoor field experiences primarily at Matson Creek Wetland Preserve, seven miles east of Coos Bay. The site is a 110 acre tidal wetland that was previously a dairy, and is now owned by The Wetlands Conservancy and managed by Coos Watershed Association. Other sites include the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, Noble and Morgan Creek fish hatcheries, altered and farmed wetlands surrounding the estuary, restoration projects throughout the watershed. The program will provide hands-on, real-world science activities teaching students about watershed processes, monitoring, conservation, and potential natural-resources related careers. OWEB funds are for staff planning, implementation and transportation of the students to the site.

Project partners include Wetlands Conservancy, OSU Extension, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, DLCD, UCAN VISTA, Coos Bay School District and Wild Ones Seeds for Education. OWEB funds would be used for project coordination, travel, supplies and materials, and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers found this proposal to be well-thought out and were confident that there will be ample students interested in participating. Reviewers liked the emphasis on the field work, but would have liked to have seen a more detailed description of what was going to be taught each day, including some more detailed outcomes. Reviewers understood, however, that this was a pilot project. The application demonstrated a good evaluation process, and the applicant has a strong history of quality watershed stewardship work. Additional positive aspects of the proposal were the emphasis on field methods, and a strong connection to natural resources careers. There was some discussion concerning the costs per student of the project, but in the end, reviewers recognize that a rich, meaningful experience will have a longer term impact and the costs were warranted. The letters of support were strong, indicating community support for the effort.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

### **Regional Review Team Priority**

1 of 6

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$20,825.00</b>
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### **Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

### **Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$20,825.00</b>
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### **Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$20,825.00**

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2070</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	<b>Outreach</b>
<b>Project Name:</b>	Bear Creek Regional Education Project		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Bear Creek WS Ed Partners		
<b>Basin:</b>	<b>ROGUE</b>	<b>County:</b>	<b>Jackson</b>
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$60,875.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$121,375.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

Bear Creek Watershed Education Partners proposes a suite of activities: teacher workshops, a clean-up event, a Kids and Bugs event, a one-day symposium, school activities and operation of an equipment loan program.

This project targets 35,000 K-12 students and their teachers living in the Bear Creek Watershed. Serving nine school districts and four private schools, the applicant, Bear Creek Education Partners (BCWEP) will host four teacher workshops (reaching 80 teachers); one stream cleanup event (30-100 community volunteers), one Kids and Bugs event (40-60 students); and the watershed education symposium (200 students). BCWEP will partner on the August Institute, a week-long teacher workshop. BCWEP will also provide service learning projects; classroom and field programs; and watershed education equipment loans. The biggest anticipated barrier to learning is the lack of exposure that modern students have to their surrounding environment. Today, more so than ever before, children are growing up with little connection to the natural world. BCWEP will address this challenge through the activities, programs and events we offer with our partner organizations. BCWEP projects are designed to increase student awareness of their sense of place in the watershed by appealing to all learning styles. Strategies include field trips, service learning projects, symposiums and workshops.

Project partners include the Carpenter Foundation, the Medford Water Commission, Jackson County OSU Extension, Southern Oregon University and the Bear Creek Watershed Council. OWEB funds will be used for project coordination, travel, supplies and materials, production, and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers recognize that this long-running program has infused itself into the community, through its participation and leadership in a variety of facets of watershed and outdoor education. The project has reached and engaged a high number of students and teachers throughout its history.

There were many activities (approximately eleven sub-projects) described in the proposal. The reviewers felt the application should have provided more details on each of them. The reviewers would have liked to see more information on results from previous proposals and letters of support from teachers. There was at least one budget concern, over the cost of storing the equipment that is used in the loan program. The RRT noted that this activity cost should be able to be absorbed by a project partner. In addition, review team members recognized that perhaps not all elements of the program are eligible for funding under Measure 76.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Fund only activities tied to M76 and do not fund storage costs.

### **Regional Review Team Priority**

3 of 6

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$46,648.00</b>

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

The RRT felt several activities did not meet the OWEB M76 Outreach eligibility requirements and recommended that funding be reduced for those activities. Staff reviewed the application budget and requested coordinator time break out for activities. The budget was reduced by activities that staff determined did not clearly meet the M76 eligibility requirements. Storage costs were also removed. Staff will work with applicant to develop revised budget page. The original proposal requested \$60,875. Staff recommends funding \$46,648. There is a total reduction of \$14,227.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Staff believe that including additional final reporting requirements that document specific results for this project is important. Staff will develop reporting requirements as special conditions in the grant agreement.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$46,648.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$46,648.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	212-2033	<b>Project Type:</b>	Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b>	Tenmile Lakes Watershed Monitoring		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	\$124,100.00	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$194,130.00

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### Application Description

Tenmile Lake's water quality is declining as a result of nuisance weeds and toxic algae, dramatic increases in sedimentation, and land-use activities. A TMDL and associated Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) was developed and approved in 2006. The approved Tenmile Watershed Water Quality Assurance Project Plan (TLBP 2005) and WQMP, lists the baseline and trend water quality monitoring needs as well as data analysis that project partners are seeking OWEB funding to support. Monitoring priorities identified are lake water column nutrients and chlorophyll a, algae composition, and tributary sediment delivery. In addition, funding will implement delta building, invasive species, effectiveness monitoring of 29 watershed enhancement projects and establishment of a Coastal Lakes Algae toxin lab.

The first goal of this multifaceted project is to continue the monitoring components within the 2005 Tenmile Watershed Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) that was developed in coordination with ODEQ, by taking a more strategic approach with our effectiveness monitoring. The second goal is to focus resources towards data analysis and interpretation of existing data sets as recommended by the DEQ and our reporting partners. Monitoring will involve: water quality, lake algae and nutrient, delta building, winter storm turbidity, invasive species presence/absence, and post-project effectiveness. Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership (TLBP) has removed stream temperature monitoring data collection and will instead focus on stream temperature data analysis. TLBP will also significantly reduce the number of project effectiveness sites. The number of sites that will be monitored for effectiveness will have a change in the monitoring frequency of riparian sites, from twice a year to once every 5 years, to reflect the longer duration that these sites need to show significant changes.

Project partners include Tenmile Lakes lakeside lakefront property owners, M&D Environmental, South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, DSL, USFS, BLM, DEQ and the City of Lakeside. OWEB funds will be used for project management, staff, contracted services, travel, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### Regional Review Team Evaluation

The RRT found the application to be well thought out. It demonstrated good strong partnerships and good lines of communication. The RRT was happy to see the applicant moving towards doing more data analysis. The RRT felt looking at land use is a good focus for the applicant and partners. The project has strong direct ties to TMDL implementation. Many different agencies are using the data from this program.

The RRT had discussions about the frequency of monitoring for algae and invasive species. The discussion ended up determining that the frequencies proposed were sufficient. The RRT also wanted to determine the feasibility of Oregon Health Association helping to support the toxin monitoring. The RRT was confused by the toxin lab discussion, there seemed to be some overlap and it was unclear if the applicant had their own lab or if they were referring to the lab at the South Slough NEER and confused the issue in their referencing

of the lab. The budget could have had more breakout to help determine basis for costs. The RRT would like to see the applicant provide a more detailed budget breakout.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Applicant provide a more detailed cost breakout to Staff. Investigate potential for OHA funding for toxic algae monitoring.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

5 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$124,100.00</b>

**Oregon Plan Monitoring Team Evaluation**

The OPMT appreciated the fact that this monitoring effort and the data that is being collected ties in with local priorities for DEQ and TMDL implementation as well as with ODA and WQMP goals. This area is a high priority for DEQ and the local basin coordinator is actively using the water quality data collected from this monitoring project. It was also noted that it has been 10 years since the TMDL was implemented in Tenmile Lakes and data will be valuable for analysis from TMDL implementation. The OPMT also acknowledged the fact that the applicant took time to revise the application and focus additional effort on analysis and report writing. Some aspects of the effectiveness monitoring and stream temperature data collection were modified (lessened) to accommodate this shift.

Benefit to Oregon Plan: Medium

Certainty of success: High

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

Staff followed up with applicant on the question of potential OHA funding for toxic algae monitoring. Applicant has worked hard to try to secure funds through that venue but OHA does not have funding to contribute to the monitoring effort. The applicant will continue to pursue this avenue but in the foreseeable future funding from OHA is unlikely. In regards to the RRT discussion on lab overlap - there is only one lab. The applicant has obtained funds to build lab at the South Slough specifically for microcystis testing. Staff followed up with applicant on more detailed budget breakout. In summary, Staff felt the applicant provided budget detail was sufficient to support costs. The basis for the application budget line items were costs from previous years of project work.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$124,100.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$124,100.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	212-2042	<b>Project Type:</b>	Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b>	Gold Ray Dam Removal Monitoring Program		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Jackson County Parks		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	\$247,236.00	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$1,037,590.00

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### **Application Description**

Gold Ray Dam was removed from the Rogue River in 2010. NOAA awarded funds for "before and after removal" monitoring from September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2014. Funding from NOAA for Phase 3 has not been appropriated, leaving the last two years (September 1, 2012 through August 2014) of planned monitoring unfunded. Monitoring has been conducted by several partners. The data collected to date, in the first three years of monitoring is valuable. However, the data will be much more useful and robust if the proposed OWEB funds are supplied to finish the study. Based on information obtained during two plus years of monitoring, the applicant has proposed to add two monitoring tasks and discontinue other activities. This request to OWEB continues post-dam-removal monitoring for approximately two years (late summer of 2012 through December 2014) and adds investigations within lower Bear Creek and the "Old North" channel areas (March 2012 through December 2014).

This project will provide valuable data relating to multiple environmental parameters and their behavior in relation to dam removal in a riverine system. The applicant proposes to continue monitoring the results of the removal of Gold Ray Dam (river mile 125.7) on fish passage, sediment transport, geomorphic changes, ecological impacts and wetland conditions as well as benefits of restoration projects on lower Bear Creek. The applicant intends to determine the benefits and impacts to the physical and biological systems located in and adjacent to this river reach from the removal of Gold Ray Dam and relate those effects to the cumulative results of the recent removal of nearby Gold Hill Dam (river mile 121) and Savage Rapids Dam (river mile 107). In addition, monitoring the results of physical and biological restoration projects on lower Bear Creek and the "Old North" channel (both tributary streams in the Gold Ray Project Area) will help guide future restoration efforts in other parts of the project area, and in other rivers. Under this proposal, Rogue Valley Council of Governments, in cooperation with U.S.G.S. and ODEQ, proposes to conduct: water quality sampling from Dodge Bridge (river mile 134) to the mouth of Evans Creek, turbidity monitoring at Ray Gold gauging station (river mile 127.3) and photo documentation of the restoration of several areas within the former Gold Ray Dam and impoundment area. Southern Oregon University proposes to conduct high resolution aerial photo nights: one each for two years (2013 and 2014) to analyze for any significant geomorphologic changes. Collaboration with OSU and the use of LiDAR technology will assist in determining sediment volume and transport changes along the Rogue River and associated wetlands. Timing of the aerial nights may also assist ODFW in their assessment of salmon spawning activity within the former reservoir areas by documenting salmonid redd construction areas.

Project partners include NOAA, Amnis Opes, ODFW, DEQ, USGS, OSU and SOU. OWEB funds will be used for contracted services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Removal of Gold Ray dam presents an opportunity to inform future dam removal efforts. The former dam site sees runs of fall and spring Chinook, winter and summer steelhead, coho as well as Pacific lamprey and cutthroat trout. The former dam site also is a diverse home to many non-game wildlife and bird species. The RRT noted that the monitoring work was to be funded through NOAA, but these funds have not made it to the project. The project work is time sensitive and in order not to lose the chance to collect the data the applicant is approaching OWEB to help. In the application, the applicant stated that if the NOAA funds materialized that they would turn the OWEB grant back to OWEB and use the NOAA funds instead.

Reviewers supported much of the work in the application, but noted that the application was weak on details, including the budget which provided lump sums with no breakout of hours or rates. They found the budget confusing and were not sure about the value of some of the proposed monitoring. The RRT noted that including results from the previous year's monitoring work would have helped strengthen the application. As a result, the RRT discussed each of the multiple distinct monitoring components and made individual recommendations about what should be funded and what they did not think needed funding.

The RRT recommended for funding the sediment survey, aerial photography work and SOU groundwater/wetland study. Reviewers found the socioeconomic analysis interesting but were unable to reach a consensus on its priority.

The RRT concluded that the application represented important and time sensitive work that needed to move forward but recommended only funding those components they deemed as a higher priority.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Fund only the sediment survey, aerial photography work, and SOU groundwater/wetland study.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

2 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$135,385.00</b>

**Oregon Plan Monitoring Team Evaluation**

The OPMT identified with the need to conduct effectiveness monitoring after the removal of Gold Ray Dam and that opportunities to conduct monitoring on a scale such as the Rogue River after removal of three major dams were not likely to happen very often. The team discussed the need for more information from studying dam removal from Oregon. There was good partnership development from the application and the team appreciated that aspect as well as the comprehensive nature of the monitoring effort. The potential findings would have applicability to other dam removal projects.

Benefit to Oregon Plan: Medium

Certainty of success: High

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

The RRT recommended to fund only certain components of the project which they felt were the higher priorities. Staff followed up with the applicant to revise the budget to reflect the RRT recommendations on activities to fund. The activities not recommended for funding included KBO bird surveys, the Opes survey and the RVCOG/DEQ/USGS photo doc, water quality and turbidity monitoring plus reporting. Project management time was reduced accordingly. The RRT was split on funding the socio-economic portion. Staff followed up with the applicant to determine the timeliness of the project and importance. In summary the applicant provided sufficient detail to make the case for inclusion in this recommendation. The original request was for \$247,236. The revised budget is for \$135,385. This is a difference of \$111,851.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. The grant agreement will reflect the revised scope of the project.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$135,385.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**  
**\$135,385.00**

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2044</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b>	Coho Life History in Tide Gated Lowland Coastal Streams		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coos Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$148,962.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$308,114.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

This project is a continuation of a long-term monitoring study initiated in 2004 to examine coho salmon survival, life histories and habitat use in tide gated coastal lowland streams that are critical for the sustainability of Oregon Coastal coho. Specifically, this project will demonstrate use of innovative PIT tag techniques for coho life cycle monitoring, to evaluate over-winter habitat use and for project effectiveness monitoring in Larson, Palouse and Willanch Creeks subbasins.

The objectives of the proposed project are to obtain reliable coho salmon freshwater and marine survival data to calibrate limiting factors models that identify habitat bottlenecks and monitor movement patterns, survival and growth in lowland stream systems where restoration projects have improved habitat connectivity. Objective 1 will expand ODFW Coho Life Cycle Monitoring sites from seven to nine and enhance their usefulness to identify trends in coho abundance and survival by adding critical data from productive lowland coastal streams. Objective 2 will provide information on habitat use by juvenile salmonids within lowland coastal streams and their upper estuarine zones. This will not only allow for a better description of the various freshwater- and estuarine-rearing life histories, but will help in assessing the effectiveness of past restoration projects and identify future potential restoration needs.

Project partners include ODFW, Oregon State University, UCAN AmeriCorps, the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, and local landowners. OWEB funds will be used to support project management, project personnel, contracted services, supplies and materials, production and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project builds on many years of successful work. The RRT found the application to be very detailed and it cites results from previous work. The project uses established protocol, and is well designed. The work is providing very good information on coho. The work complements ODFW life cycle monitoring work.

The RRT wanted to find out what the applicant's procedures were if the array went down. The RRT felt the travel costs were high and that the applicant needed to provide basis and justification for the request. The RRT requested that the water quality QAPP and water quality data be provided to DEQ.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Justify travel expense, submit QAPP and data to DEQ. Clarify procedure for disabled array.

### **Regional Review Team Priority**

3 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$148,962.00</b>

**Oregon Plan Monitoring Team Evaluation**

The OPMT expressed a major concern about the knowledge gap, which exists with respect to tide gates and acknowledged the fact that this project is helping in that arena. There is good support from ODFW and OSU who help complete data collection and analysis and produce high quality reports that are applicable to other tide-gated systems. Potential information may come from this project and may help identify and refine techniques for monitoring juvenile fish movement with increased accuracy and lower cost.

Benefit to Oregon Plan: High

Certainty of success: High

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the RRT recommendations. The applicant provided details on travel related to site locations and frequency of visits. The mileage and costs are based on the actual mileage from the previous years of project implementation. The applicant has a DEQ-approved QAPP for temperature, and the salinity protocols were developed as part of the OWEB-funded research project that evaluated fish passage at tide gates (Giannico/Art Bass thesis). The information collected will be provided to DEQ as part of the reporting requirements. Regarding the event of an array becoming disabled, the applicant has put a lot of thought and effort into this issue in previous projects and is laying the foundation for a more reliable network in the future. Each array is visited at least weekly when the batteries are swapped, and inspected after each high flow event. During these visits the antenna efficiency (i.e., tuning) and data logging are checked; data is downloaded and QA/QC run each month. CoosWA can (and does) make adjustments in the tuning to recover antenna efficiency. However, due to high flow events and equipment failure sites can become disabled. While this is generally infrequent, at this time CoosWA does not have sufficient multiplexers to have a spare in reserve (CoosWA does have spares for some of the antennas). Given the multiple antennas on each stream, there is redundancy to overcome array failure at a specific site (knowing the relative antenna efficiencies) during the spawning returns. CoosWA has the capacity to shift around some of the multiplexers to accommodate equipment failures while awaiting repair, but our highest priority for the project is to obtain a multiplexer that can be kept in reserve if a site goes down. CoosWA has been working to apply for AT&T Technology Innovation grants that would allow them to build a wireless array among the antenna sites connected to a cellular model.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$148,962.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$148,962.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b> 212-2050	<b>Project Type:</b> Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b> Deer Creek Center Baseline Monitoring	
<b>Applicant:</b> Deer Creek Center	
<b>Basin:</b> ROGUE	<b>County:</b> Josephine
<b>OWEB Request:</b> \$29,414.00	<b>Total Cost:</b> \$46,280.00

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### **Application Description**

This project will provide the first baseline monitoring data for an 850-acre property on Deer Creek, a tributary to the Illinois River near the town of Selma. The Deer Creek Center (DCC) property is an OWEB project which has invested \$500,000 through a conservation easement. Baseline data will accomplish three objectives. First, it will allow project partners to determine the impact, over time, of the conservation values in which it has invested. Second, it will allow DCC to maintain a databank that will be useful to future university researchers who wish to begin or continue their research at DCC. Currently, nine different universities conduct research at DCC.

Baseline monitoring will be conducted for one year and cover the following areas. 1) Fisheries. Spawning surveys will be conducted annually for coho salmon, fall Chinook salmon, steelhead, and Pacific lamprey. 2) Rare plants. Presence/absence surveys in both riparian and upland areas of this 850-acre property. 3) Stream channel transects, profile, and pebble counts on the mile of Deer Creek owned by DCC. 4) Water temperature at 12 locations on Deer Creek and Squaw Creek. 5) Breeding season bird populations in the riparian corridor of Deer Creek, paired with upland sites. Having baseline data will make DCC a more attractive location for researchers, whose ultimate research will benefit land managers regionally and nationwide. Third, this project will allow DCC to fulfill its dual mission of scientific research and education, especially by engaging volunteers in citizen science efforts.

Project partners include Siskiyou Field Institute and USFS. OWEB funds will be used to support project management, project personnel, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT found the application to be well written and detailed. The project involves and informs the community around the Deer Creek Center and will provide a good outreach benefit.

The RRT noted that there were nine different monitoring components in the project. The RRT felt that there might already be some baseline data existing for the area. A search needs to be done to ensure work does not duplicate efforts and can build on already existing info. The RRT wanted to see the applicant build in an analysis component. The project is ambitious for a one year effort but the application demonstrates a great deal of thought and planning in the process. The RRT requested OWEB look into the conservation easement agreement funded by OWEB when the property was originally purchased to see if any of the work activities being requested were required under that agreement.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Clarify whether existing baseline data exists and check on OWEB conservation easement requirements.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

7 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$29,414.00</b>

**Oregon Plan Monitoring Team Evaluation**

The OPMT noted that this proposed monitoring would be collecting baseline information on plant species presence/absence among other monitoring parameters and that information would likely be known from previous surveys and information developed for the conservation management plan. It would have been helpful to have some description of previous monitoring efforts and any linkage to requirements in the current management plan for monitoring.

Benefit to Oregon Plan: Medium

Certainty of success: Medium

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

OWEB staff followed up on the RRT comment to check with OWEB acquisition program requirements. While there are many components of the proposal supported, OWEB staff found areas in the application that would best be covered as a part of the applicant's standard baseline requirements for the OWEB-funded acquisition, as well as other areas that would benefit from additional conversations with OWEB acquisitions and monitoring staff. As a result, staff recommend the applicant work with both acquisitions and monitoring staff to improve the application for consideration in a future grant cycle.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$0.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$0.00**

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2058</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b>	Curry Watersheds Monitoring Program 2012		
<b>Applicant:</b>	South Coast & Lower Rogue WCs		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$105,860.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$177,964.00

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### **Application Description**

The proposal will continue the monitoring efforts of the South Coast and Lower Rogue Watershed Councils within Curry County. Tidal wetland monitoring, water quality monitoring and project effectiveness monitoring are the three main areas the work will cover. This proposal will document historic extent and alterations, and establish conservation and restoration priorities for the Southern Oregon/Northern California (SONNC) ESU tidal wetlands, south of Rogue River. Indicators of wetland function and risks will be collected on eight sites prioritized with review by an Advisory Committee. WQ data will be analyzed for relations with environmental and land use variables, and results shared with a broader audience. Effectiveness, design, recovery, and future needs of channel reconstruction, off-channel rearing, and wood placement projects (implemented and to be designed) will be monitored using aquatic habitat inventories, smolt traps, snorkel surveys, and coho spawning surveys.

Tidal wetlands are limited in extent and have experienced alterations that reduce their function. Having a strategic plan for restoration and conservation will be critical for remedying habitat losses for coho in the SONCC. This proposal will monitor the effectiveness of projects implemented to address limiting factors to south coast coho populations; will conduct coho spawning surveys; and will provide general monitoring program support. The goals of this proposal are: to evaluate the performance of past projects; to incorporate monitoring results into future project designs; to maintain and update monitoring data and GIS; and to provide technical assistance internally and to outside partnering agencies and organizations. This proposal will benefit native salmonids by determining if additional restoration action is needed at existing projects; by improving future project designs; and by identifying new restoration needs/opportunities.

Project partners include ODFW, BLM, Curry Weed Advisory Board, members of watershed council advisory committees, USF&WS, NFWF, OSP. OWEB funds will be used to support project management, project personnel, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The application was very large with a great amount of detail and information. The applicant provided information from previous project work. Agencies use the water quality data that the applicant produces and it will be important in TMDL development work. The RRT felt the monitoring in the tidal wetlands was an important component. The application demonstrates good solid partnerships. The application contained many strong letters of support and commitment to the project. The South Coast WC has become a recognized go to entity to get quality monitoring data. The RRT found the effectiveness monitoring work to be very useful especially the monitoring of the reconstructed channels.

The application provided a very detailed budget. One question the RRT noted was the category of project manager general program support. The RRT wondered if it was appropriate to fund. The RRT discussed it at length. It was noted that it was likely most applicants running a long-term monitoring program built something like this into their applications but it was not apparent because most do not provide the detail in

the budget that this applicant did. The RRT recommended that staff look into it to determine the appropriateness of the work to the project. No QAPP plan was mentioned in the application. DEQ felt there was one already. Staff will follow up with DEQ to determine whether in place or not. If not DEQ will work with the applicant to get one in place.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Verify if there is a QAPP plan and check into general program support applicability.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

6 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$105,860.00</b>

**Oregon Plan Monitoring Team Evaluation**

The OPMT noted that the current application removes a large component of water quality data and did not understand why this was the case. The team recognized that there was a focused monitoring effort on fish and fish habitat related metrics in the current application. The team also discussed the complexity of the monitoring program and that there seems to be many components being tackled in the application and there may be a need to focus the monitoring over time. The team also discussed the importance of a long-term data set and the need to integrate and report on trends in the data and ensure this was included in final reports.

Benefit to Oregon Plan: Medium

Certainty of success: High

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

The RRT questioned some of the general tasks of the project manager and their applicability. Closer review by staff determined that most activities did have a correlation to the work being undertaken and that this request was not dissimilar from job descriptions of other applicants and previously funded monitoring applications. Staff did conclude that the culvert measuring work was technical assistance, not monitoring, and recommends removal of that line item cost at \$1,440. The original request was for \$105,860. The Revised budget is for \$104,276. This is a difference of \$1,584 which includes reducing fiscal administration costs. It was verified that the applicant does have a QAPP.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$104,276.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$104,276.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2062</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b>	South Umpqua Watershed Monitoring		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$120,351.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$214,837.00

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### **Application Description**

The South Umpqua and its tributaries are home to five salmonid species and other native fish. Unfortunately, poor water quality is a major concern, with many streams 303(d) listed for water quality. The Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR) proposes to continue water quality monitoring previously established sites and add new sites to fill-in geographic data gaps providing needed information, where none has existed on the smaller tributaries in the South Umpqua Watershed. In order to not duplicate monitoring efforts, PUR will compile a database for the Umpqua Explorer indicating where PUR and its partners' monitoring sites are, and the parameters recorded. The shared data will enable project partners to prioritize restoration projects to restore salmonid habitat and improve water quality.

PUR will focus its monitoring efforts on on-going volunteer water quality monitoring program in five 5th-field watersheds in the South Umpqua 4th-field Watershed, PUR's Monitoring Coordinator and volunteers will monitor four areas: Elk Creek/Tiller, Myrtle Creek, South Umpqua Days Creek to Winston, and Olalla/Lookinglass, in addition, instream temperature data loggers recording every 30 minutes will be located throughout the watersheds. The USFS will deploy loggers in the Elk Creek Watershed and share the data with PUR; PUR in return shares water quality data with the Forest Service. Each run will be monitored once a month at specific sites collecting water quality data on temperature, turbidity, conductivity, dissolved oxygen, pH, total coli form and E. coli bacteria, photos points and during the summer/fall taking readings for harmful blue/green algae presence. If harmful Algal Bloom are detected then monitoring will be increased to twice a month in the region where detection occurred, DEQ and the Health Department will be notified when high levels of blue/green algae are detected. The monitoring team will use a portable microscope at the site to identify up to three strains of algae, if the algae is present, samples will be taken and shipped to a laboratory for algal identification, enumeration, algal toxins and/or algal genetic testing.

Project partners include BLM, ODEQ, USFS and Meyer Memorial Trust. OWEB funds will be used to support project management, project personnel, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project builds on a long running water quality monitoring effort by the applicant and its partners. The information collected under this project will be added to an existing, substantial data set. This is a very coordinated effort between agencies and stakeholders. The project is working to identify gaps and eliminate overlaps with other monitoring efforts in order to avoid duplication.

Water quality is certainly an issue in the area to be monitored. The presence of toxic algae is of great concern. This area has been identified as high priority by ODA and DEQ for water quality monitoring and efforts to improve water quality. The information collected will be useful to focus restoration efforts.

Reviewers did not like the lump sums on some items, they want to see cost breakdowns. In the future it would be nice to have a budget narrative question added to the monitoring application for applicants to explain budgets. The RRT felt additional budget detail was needed for the project manager and contractor line items. Additional information would help determine the basis for the lump sums.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Applicant will provide additional budget detail for project manager and contractor costs.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

4 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$120,351.00</b>

**Oregon Plan Monitoring Team Evaluation**

The OPMT was strongly impressed with past results from this monitoring project and from the applicant undertaking the monitoring. The data being collected is used in the TMDL process and is used by other groups as well as DEQ. There is a high standard being set by this applicant and should provide an example for other monitoring programs to strive for. There is clear linkage from the results of the monitoring program and how that information is being used to target future restoration opportunities and identify aspects for improving current approaches to restoration project implementation in the local area.

Benefit to Oregon Plan: High

Certainty of success: High

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

The RRT found the lump sums presented under the personnel costs hard to review and requested more detail on requested a break out of the monitoring coordinator's and consultants line item. Staff followed up with the applicant and, in summary, was provided a break out of costs and hours showing the basis for the line item total. Staff concluded the information provided was sufficient to justify the request.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$120,351.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$120,351.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b> 212-2068	<b>Project Type:</b> Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b> Ni-les'tun Tidal Wetland Restoration Effectiveness Monitoring 2012-2013	
<b>Applicant:</b> Ducks Unlimited Inc	
<b>Basin:</b> SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b> Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b> \$164,579.00	<b>Total Cost:</b> \$236,610.00

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### **Application Description**

The 418 acre Ni-les'tun Unit of Bandon Marsh NWR is the largest tidal wetland restoration project in Oregon. OWEB restoration project 210-2032 will remove dikes and restore meandering channels, re-establishing historic tidal flows to benefit native species and watershed health. This project's high visibility and substantial restoration investment call for targeted monitoring to document results, guide adaptive management, and disseminate lessons learned. This proposal builds on monitoring already funded by OWEB and others, and has no overlap with funded work.

Under the proposal, the applicant will quantitatively document achievement of restoration objectives by measuring salmonids habitat development and utilization, development of native marsh vegetation and supporting hydrology, soils, topography, water quality and salmonids prey availability. Baseline monitoring was completed in 2010-2011. The goal of restoration is to restore natural processes (tidal exchange, salinity, natural temperature regimes), which in turn create the desired terrestrial and aquatic habitats, allowing native species to return to the site and contributing to overall watershed health and productivity within the Coquille Basin. The overall goal of monitoring is to provide results that current and future practitioners can use to help design, construct and evaluate tidal wetland restoration projects.

Monitoring parameters to be looked at include tidal hydrology, channel morphology, plant communities, ground water levels, soil organic matter including salinity and texture, water temperature and salinity, salmonids density and distribution, salmonids tidal migration patterns, instream habitat, salmonids utilization of wood vs. non-wood habitats and benthic macro-invertebrate density and composition. Data will be collected by staff and contractors of the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Oregon State University, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Green Point Consulting. These organizations have extensive experience in data management and quality assurance to meet federal standards. Data quality will be assured through the standard QA/QC protocols used by each of these organizations.

Project partners include the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, South Slough NERR, Ducks Unlimited, Inc. and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. OWEB funds would be used for contracted monitoring services, travel, supplies, equipment and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Reviewers recognize this is an important and valuable restoration project and the value of the monitoring data to be collected. The RRT felt the applicant has done a very good job addressing reviewer concerns from previous application evaluations. The project demonstrates good partnerships and a committed effort to learn from the marsh restoration work. The work will help inform future efforts as well as provide a second data set to be compared to similar work farther north. Having all the different aspects monitored in one location and assembled in one package is very valuable. Questions on the efficacy of video surveying fish, and questions on budget items from the last submittal were answered in detail. Reviewers were positively impressed with the thoroughness and response to questions about how the end products will be used.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

1 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$164,579.00</b>
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**Oregon Plan Monitoring Team Evaluation**

The OPMT agreed that this monitoring project had significant potential for understanding the full range of ecological effects from dike removal and returning a large component of the landscape in this area to an estuarine ecosystem. The team recognized the long-term nature of the estuary re-connection and discussed the timeline for wetland restoration. Specifically, how long of a time period does it take for a wetland to be “restored”? There was also conversation about the uniqueness of the monitoring for a wetland project of this scale and wondered about the applicability and transferability to other locations.

Benefit to Oregon Plan: High

Certainty of success: High

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. Fiscal administration costs are reduced by \$7,462 to a total of \$7,500.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$157,117.00</b>
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**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$157,117.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b> 212-2031	<b>Project Type:</b> Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b> Riley Creek Habitat Restoration	
<b>Applicant:</b> Lower Rogue WC	
<b>Basin:</b> SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b> Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b> \$57,293.00	<b>Total Cost:</b> \$81,373.00

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### Application Description

The project proposes to improve instream habitat conditions on Riley Creek. The project would build on fish passage improvement efforts undertaken by the applicant which have opened up the entire stream to coho and steelhead usage. Riley Creek is an urban stream that flows through the City of Gold Beach. Development and urbanization have degraded stream habitat and function by causing stream incision, loss of complexity and connectivity to the flood plain, and riparian simplification. Barrier culverts, decreased number and depth of pools, and lack of hiding cover has decreased native runs of anadromous steelhead and cutthroat trout. Two barrier culverts have been replaced under previous grants; a third is scheduled for summer 2012.

This project will improve habitat, stabilize stream banks, and provide grade control to 0.57 miles of stream. Sites include 0.35 miles of reach adjacent to Riley Creek School and improvements to two large culvert abutments. Designs for the project include installation of rock riffles, longitudinal peaked stone toe protection structures, large wood and root wad placement, compost socks, and brush layering. The project is part of a community-based, prioritized restoration plan for Riley Creek and builds on fish passage improvements previously undertaken that have successfully opened the stream to utilization by anadromous fish. Other objectives of the project are to demonstrate good riparian stewardship and alternative bioengineering alternatives to stream-adjacent urban landowners expand on experiential watershed education opportunities for Gold Beach students, and to provide a hands-on workshop for local contractors in bioengineering techniques in riparian areas. Several of the many partners will be directly involved in effectiveness monitoring.

Project Partners providing project match include USF&WS, ODFW, the City of Gold Beach, Southwestern Oregon Community College, Salix Applied Earthcare, ODFW, local volunteers, Curry County. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### Regional Review Team Evaluation

The RRT felt the application demonstrated good partnerships and a presented a highly visible project in a coastal urban area. This project would primarily benefit cutthroat and steelhead.

Riley Creek is a very restricted, deeply incised channel and high energy stream that is very constrained by housing and urban infrastructure. The RRT recognized that project designs that would be acceptable in rural settings will not work in urban setting because of issues primarily related to infrastructure protection. The RRT noted that the urban setting, including houses located very near the creek, impedes natural function and as a result the restoration benefits will be limited.

Because of the complexity of the project, its location in an urban area and the need to project existing infrastructure, the RRT did not feel comfortable recommending the project for funding without more detailed designs. They noted that hydraulic calculations would be needed since the stream is a restricted, high-energy

system. Sediment issues also need to be looked at. The RRT also felt having more discussion on upstream and downstream conditions and how this project would affect them was important for the project to have a larger watershed benefit. The RRT was very supportive of the outreach potential of the project, but felt the restoration component was not ready.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2032</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Tenmile Lakes Boat/Trailer Spray-off Stations		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$43,280.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$115,365.00

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### **Application Description**

An inventory for aquatic plant species in coastal lakes conducted in 2003-2005 revealed a high degree of association between the number of invasive species present in a water body and whether that water body had a boat ramp. Additionally, although many lakes with boat ramps already contain one or two species of invasive aquatic plants, they often do not contain the same species. Tenmile Lakes is a heavily used water body. This means there is still potential for spread of invasive species just among the larger lakes of the central Oregon coast. Add to this, the potential for additional species such as quagga/zebra mussels from outside the area, and the impacts to native species could be tremendous.

This proposal is to construct two permanent, two-bay boat wash stations at Tenmile Lake's Coos County Park in the City of Lakeside, Oregon. The applicant will utilize Oregon State Marine Board engineering to complete stations. The two stations would consist of a concrete and asphalt drain pad, low pressure hot water supply, refuse (weed) disposal container, and signage. Water and electrical connections would be made to existing park facilities. Effluent would be processed through an independent drain field.

Initial approach utilized only one spray-off station for boaters entering Tenmile Lakes. A second station was added for boats exiting park to prevent Tenmile Lake nuisance species being transferred to other Oregon water bodies. In addition, the original OSMB budget and diagrams planned in the future for stations to have hot water. Research shows that 140 degree water is necessary to kill mussel species. Tankless water heaters have been added to this budget. No similar project exists in Oregon. The mostly likely comparable project is the Hauser Lake Eurasian watermilfoil rinse station in Idaho. The importance of this project is that it will be the first of its kind in Oregon and can be utilized as a pi lot project for the state to determine effectiveness of this type of project.

Project Partners providing project match include USFS and Coos County Parks Department. OWEB funds would be used for contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Invasive species are a huge concern in this water quality limited lake system which sees a high level of recreational use and is an important coho system. Weed management is part of the water quality plan that has been developed for the lake. The stations will be located at the only public ramp on the lake. The RRT discussed the source of water for the spray-off stations and if it complied with Oregon water law. The RRT determined through discussion that the use of the water for spray-off stations was consistent with the water right. It was noted that if they generate more than 2500 gallons of water per day at the stations, they will need a permit. While ODFW was not listed as a partner in the project, ODFW is very supportive of the project and appreciated that the water being used is hot water. Since the proposed spray-off stations are a voluntary measure and not a regulatory requirement, it is eligible for OWEB funding. While nothing will probably stop the eventual introduction of invasive species into a system, this kind of effort will definitely slow it down, benefit coho in the system, and it is an important measure to take. It was noted that there is significant USFS

RAC match funding tied to this project and this could be lost if not funded. Reviewers wondered if there was any way to reduce the cost of the project to OWEB.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would help protect from introduction of invasive species which harm natural ecosystem processes.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

10 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

Recommended Amount	EM Portion	PE Portion
\$43,280.00		

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund; falls below staff-recommended funding line.

**Staff Recommended Award**

Recommended Amount	EM Portion	PE Portion

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$ 0.00

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2036</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	LBC Water Quality Vetch Phase		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Jackson SWCD		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$64,616.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$132,932.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to convert a flood irrigation system to a sprinkler system. The project will occur on the C2 Cattle Ranch, which has historically flood irrigated their pastures. However, the quantity and velocity of water that flows over the pastures coupled with highly erosive soils has resulted in massive erosion and also led to excessive overland flow, which picks up nutrients and bacteria as it flows over the surface before emptying into Salt Creek, which then empties into the North Fork of Little Butte Creek. Little Butte Creek is a tributary to the Rogue River. The sections of North Fork, mainstem of Little Butte Creek and Rogue River affected by this project are 303d listed for E Coli, pH, and temperature. Converting to a sprinkler irrigation system will eliminate run-off into the creek, permanently eliminating pollution inputs and improving water quality and spawning and rearing habitat for coho as well as other salmonids.

The project will center on the installation of a pod irrigation system, which applies water at low rates to allow infiltration and eliminate run-off. This system does not need high pressure to run, which allows this project to be completed without pumps or other energy sources which could lead to air pollution. Prior to system installation, the removal of blackberries and rose through the use of masticator, followed by selective herbicide where needed, will be undertaken. The ranch worked with Jackson SWCD to develop a master plan for the entire ranch and a prioritization of concerns. Although the process took over 4 years, the resulting plan is all-inclusive and considers aspects, in addition to, water quality and quantity, such as energy needs and air quality, noxious weed management, forestry management and wildlife habitat improvements. The first phase of this plan was completed in the spring of 2011. The project site was identified as a part of this master plan and prioritized based on several factors.

Project Partners providing project match include C2 Cattle Co., Medford Water Commission, Jackson SWCD and DEQ. OWEB funds would be used for contracted services, supplies and materials, reporting and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT felt this project provided an excellent outreach opportunity to the local agricultural community. The Ranch has spent four years developing a ranch management plan and has implemented Phase I, which completely eliminated poor quality water runoff from the project pasture back into Little Butte Creek. This application proposed phase II, which is similar to what was accomplished under phase I, of a potentially seven phase project. The objective of this project is to improve the water quality of water entering Little Butte Creek which would help to address a limiting factor for coho in this system.

Phase II of the project encompasses 42 acres. The RRT was concerned with the cost per acre for the irrigation improvements, it seemed high. The RRT requested, if the project is funded, that additional information be submitted by the applicant to justify the high costs. The RRT did note that the applicant most likely developed the cost estimate for Phase II based on Phase I, and the need for the project to use high impact resistant pipe because the pipe is being left above ground due to the cost of burying the pipe, which

would make the cost of the project prohibitive. The RRT felt that using OWEB funds for the actual sprinklers (K-pods) was not appropriate because of their non-permanent nature. The RRT discussed whether this proposal could result in improved water quantity. The RRT concluded that if all seven phases were completed that there was potential for water savings but in the early phases addressing water quality was the most realizable, measureable benefit. The RRT was unable to determine if there was a measuring device at the point of diversion. If there wasn't the RRT was interested to see if one could be put into place to help with monitoring efforts.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem function by helping improve aquatic health by removing return water with poor quality.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Ascertain if there is a measuring device at the point of diversion, OWEB funds will not be used for the sprinklers and verify cost versus the acreage.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

6 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$54,659.00		

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

The RRT was not sure from the application if the points of diversion had measuring devices. Staff follow up with the applicant revealed that yes, all the diversions on the ranch are screened and measured.

The RRT was concerned that the cost per acre for materials was high and requested staff follow up with the applicant. In follow up it was determined that there was approximately a \$10,000 error in the applicant's calculations in materials resulting in the funds requested being reduced from \$64,616 to \$54,659.00 making the cost per acre justifiable.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. OWEB funds cannot be used for sprinklers. The project completion report will identify and discuss any potential for water savings in this or future projects.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$54,659.00		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$54,659.00

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2037</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	West Fork Evans Creek Collaborative Restoration Project- Rock Creek		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Seven Basins WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$74,777.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$113,595.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

The West Fork Evans Creek watershed, a sub-basin of the Evans Creek, in the Rogue River watershed, is one of the Seven Basins most important fisheries producers. Past management has removed large woody debris and resulted in low future recruitment potential. This lack of large wood has reduced channel complexity as well as reduced pool/riffle ratios and has resulted in a cobble/boulder dominated substrate creating a lack of winter and summer habitat for juvenile salmonids. The applicant and partners are proposing 2.4 miles of logging road decommissioning and 2.25 stream miles of fish habitat work involving the placement of 110 logs instream in the West Fork Evans Creek and two tributaries. Rock Creek and Cold Creek are perennial streams with good water quality. A 2011 review by ODFW biologists indicates that less than 1 piece of large wood per 100m exists in the project area, well below the ODFW benchmarks. Lone Rock Timber Management Co. (LRT), the Medford BLM, the ODFW and the Seven Basins Watershed Council have worked cooperatively to identify opportunities for improving water quality and in-stream fish habitat in conjunction with planned forest management activities. The LRT has inventoried its properties and developed silvicultural, infrastructure and harvest plans. The BLM has conducted a variety of analyses of resources within the West Fork Evans Creek watershed. These planning activities and analyses have led to the identification of locations where watershed benefits can be achieved efficiently and effectively.

This proposal will result in decommissioning 1.2 miles of road adjacent to Rock Creek on LRT managed lands, correction of drainage problems on 1.2 miles of road on BLM managed lands, removal of 3 culverts and returning the crossing to native material and topography on LRT managed land, removal of 24 culverts from small, ephemeral, non fish bearing streams to restore natural drainage and reduce sediment inputs to the stream on BLM managed land and placement of 130 whole or felled conifers with an excavator to create log jams on 2.25 stream miles

Project Partners providing project match include Lone Rock Timber, ODFW and BLM. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, outreach and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT found the applicant to have submitted a well-written proposal. The application demonstrates good partnerships and a good degree of outreach potential. The project partners have developed strong communication and cooperation systems. The project would address water quality (sedimentation) and habitat complexity, both of which are limiting factors for the coho and other salmonids that use the system. The road decommissioning and culvert work is a very important component, and RRT members were pleased to see both the watershed council and local partners, including private landowners, working cooperatively on these issues, which more holistically address watershed limiting factors in this watershed.

There was some concern over size of wood to be used. Discussion revealed that key pieces were consistent with requirements and most wood would have roots and limbs attached. Reviewers thought that this was a cost effective project, with "good bang for the buck" spent by OWEB.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would help improve stream function, aquatic health and flood plain connectivity by improving water quality and improving instream habitat complexity.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

1 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
<b>\$74,777.00</b>		

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
<b>\$74,777.00</b>		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$74,777.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2040</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Pickett Creek Large Wood Placement		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Stream Restoration Alliance of the Middle Rogue		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Josephine
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$28,698.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$56,049.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant proposes to place large wood into Pickett Creek to help restore lost instream habitat complexity. The project is located 10 miles west of Grants Pass on Pickett Creek, a tributary to the Rogue River. Historic human disturbance removed large wood from the stream channel and riparian zone, resulting in a simplified stream channel nearly devoid of adequate pools and instream cover needed for survival of juvenile salmonids. The project area is occupied by coho, summer steelhead, winter steel head, and cutthroat trout. The stream contains suitable habitat for Pacific lamprey. The proposal would address the key limiting factor affecting anadromous fish in this stream, loss of over-winter habitat, and would also benefit Pacific lamprey.

The proposal is to place 63 whole trees and 24 key piece logs into the stream channel to form 9 large wood complexes along a 0.7 mile reach. An excavator will place whole trees and key piece logs in the channel and active floodplain at 9 work sites. The placed wood pieces will be buttressed by existing riparian trees. The applicant will conduct effectiveness monitoring activities which will include AHI stream surveys (OOFW protocol) to measure changes in the number of large wood pieces and quality pools within the 0.7-mile reach over a 5-yr period and snorkel surveys (OOFW protocol) to measure changes in fish species distribution and abundance within the 0.7-mile reach over a 5-year period. Pickett Creek is one of only 17 Middle Rogue streams identified in the Middle Rogue Sub basin Assessment and Restoration Strategy (SRA 2010) as being a high priority for restoration. This rating is based on an assessment of each stream's habitat size, habitat quality, fish population viability, and juxtaposition to existing fish population strongholds. Consequently, SRA began a landowner outreach effort (funded by the National Forest Foundation) on Pickett Creek that resulted in site evaluations of four properties and selection of the proposed site.

Project Partners providing project match include the landowner, Southern Oregon Flyfishers, Middle Rogue Steelheaders and ODFW. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

This project is at the upper end of coho habitat in an area with excellent water quality and water quantity, and a good place for large wood to enhance habitat. The RRT felt the application described a very straight forward, technically sound, large wood placement project and should meet project goals. Structures that are currently in place below the project reach are stable and provide good overwintering habitat. Reviewers were also pleased to see the trees being donated by the landowner. The applicant is building a good track record with these types of projects.

The RRT noted a cut and paste error in the application and clarified that consultation would not be handled by BLM but by the applicant. The project is on private land, not BLM land, and will not go through the federal consultation process. The RRT also wanted to see the applicant have a plan to reduce the likelihood that invasive weeds could be brought in during and after project implementation.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem process and function by improving habitat complexity and stream function by restoring large wood to the stream.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Weed management plan required

**Regional Review Team Priority**

3 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$28,698.00		

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund with Conditions. The grant agreement will require a plan to minimize likelihood of invasive species being introduced to the site and will require disturbed areas to be treated and seeded after implementation to minimize the spread of weeds. Monitoring of these treatments will be added to the post-implementation status reporting requirements.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$28,698.00		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$28,698.00

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2043</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Vaughn Mill Creek Habitat Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coos Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$98,693.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$143,393.00

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### Application Description

Under this proposal, large wood would be placed at approximately twenty sites using eighty-one whole trees (logs with root wads) in one mile of Vaughan Mill Creek. Vaughan Mill Creek is a tributary to the west Fork Millicoma River. Vaughan Mill Creek provides a unique instream restoration opportunity due to its geomorphic context and land-use history. The project is located on the Elliott State Forest and Mike Vaughan's property. Vaughan Mill Creek is a medium sized stream that flows through a flat and broad oxbow channel naturally formed by the West Fork Millicoma River. Past activities which included logging, milling and construction of a mill pond dam have left a stream deficient of large wood and lacking habitat complexity. An aquatic habitat survey conducted by Coos WA in 2011 found that Vaughan Mill Creek is deficient in pieces of large wood. Vaughan Mill Creek provides a unique instream restoration opportunity due to its geomorphic context and past land-use management. Approximately, four-thousand years ago the West Fork Millicoma River cut through a narrow ridge and formed a meander cutoff channel that now conveys the entire range of flows in the West Fork Millicoma River. This naturally occurring meander cutoff formed an oxbow channel that is 1.5 miles long. Vaughan Mill Creek enters the oxbow approximately 0.5 miles from the upstream end and supports coho salmon and steelhead and cutthroat trout. The one mile length of has the potential to be excellent coho habitat.

Coos WA is proposing to increase stream complexity through placement of eighty-nine whole trees, at approximately twenty sites, using 81 whole trees in one mile of Vaughan Mill Creek. Trees will be pulled from outside of the riparian management area. Trees and logs will be placed using both a cable yarder and an excavator. Wood structures will be formed with 3-8 key pieces. Pieces will be keyed on riparian trees and stacked to reduce mobility. Wood will also be placed strategically to maximize the amount of wood that is within the active channel of the stream. Additionally, the applicant proposes to place a total of eight pieces of large wood at two sites, one above and one below the mouth of Vaughan Mill Creek, in the West Fork Millicoma River. Trees will be placed using a cable yarder and an excavator. Hydraulic conditions at these two sites will be modeled to determine the proportion of wood that can be submerged/exposed to flows considering the stability added by existing boulders.

Project Partners providing project match include ODF, ODFW and the landowner. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### Regional Review Team Evaluation

The stream is high intrinsic potential for coho and during the site visit a very high number of coho spawners were seen using the stream. Vaughn Mill Creek has good water quality and is rich in gravel but the stream lacks large wood and instream habitat complexity. The stream has a very wide flood plain and the addition of habitat complexity will help the stream reconnect with its floodplain. The project is technically sound and has a high likelihood of success. The project builds on strong partnerships between private and public partners.

There is an old earthen dam from a mill pond within the project reach but it possesses no potential to create a fish passage issue because the stream has meandered around it. The RRT was concerned that fiscal administration costs might be high and requested staff request additional information from the grantee if the project is recommended for funding. The RRT also felt equipment costs might be high and requested that staff also receive additional information on these costs.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem process and function by improving habitat complexity and stream function by restoring large wood to the stream and improving connectivity with the floodplain.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Applicant will provide justification for fiscal administration and equipment costs.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

5 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$98,693.00		

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

Staff followed up with the applicant on equipment costs. In summary, the equipment costs are based on a bid from an experienced contractor. The project will be difficult for several reasons: 1) long mobilization due to rough road conditions; 2) additional time will be required when placing wood because the road does not follow stream closely; 3) additional time required for engineered log jam placements to ensure factor of safety of 2.0 at 100-year flood. Staff followed up with the applicant to determine basis for the costs. The applicant provided a detailed break out of how costs were determined as well as identified their lead role in contracting for the Elliott State Forest on this project. Staff concluded the applicant provided sufficient detail to justify costs.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund with Conditions. Prior to first release of funds, the Grantee will supply OWEB with a signed MOA between Grantee and ODF to contract for the Elliott State Forest.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$98,693.00		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$98,693.00

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2047</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Hodges Creek Habitat Connectivity and Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coos Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$157,780.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$1,611,989.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

The Hodges Creek stream crossing creates the greatest risk of road-fill failure in the Coos Watershed, threatening to devastate the lower 3.3 miles of freshwater in the East Fork Millicoma River with the release of 1,022 acre feet of water and 37,300 cubic yards of road fill. An aquatic habitat survey conducted by the Coos Watershed Association (Coos WA) in 2010 found that Hodges Creek lacks large wood and deep pools. Under this proposal Coos WA proposes to replace the under-sized and perched Hodges Creek culvert with a 26' wide by 260' long open bottom arch culvert. Also proposed is the placement of seventy-four pieces of large wood to aid salmon and steelhead recovery in Hodges Creek. Hodges Creek has potentially good to excellent coho spawning and rearing habitat above the culvert. The Coos WA Weyerhaeuser Timber Company and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife are committed to the restoration of Hodges Creek and protection of the East Fork Millicoma River. The Weyerhaeuser Timber Company has made a commitment to address all salmon passage issues at their stream crossings by 2012. Hodges Creek is believed to be the last major impediment to salmon within the Weyerhaeuser Millicoma Tree Farm.

The existing culvert will be replaced with a 26 foot wide X 260 foot long 8 gauge aluminized steel open bottom arch pipe. The open bottom arch will be constructed with a multi-plate aluminized steel pipe attached to concrete footings and the footings will be tied into bedrock. The culvert width will be almost 1.8 times the bank full width and easily pass a 100 year flood event. The culvert will exceed fish passage guidelines for culvert sizing provided by ODFW and National Marine Fisheries Services (1.5 times active channel). Additionally, large wood will be placed at approximately ten sites using seventy-four whole trees (logs with root wads) in 0.5 miles of Hodges Creek.

Project Partners providing project match include Weyerhaeuser Timber Company and ODFW. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would address a huge risk potential of a catastrophic failure of a culvert with a large amount of fill. While the project only improves passage to one half mile of coho habitat, it is good low gradient spawning and rearing habitat for coho. RRT members determined that they were comfortable with the culvert details and sizing information provided and thought it was appropriate for the area. The impressive contribution from the landowner impressed the RRT, it is greatly appreciated. The RRT noted the application could have benefitted from more discussion on other alternatives that were considered. RRT discussion revealed that other alternatives were considered by the applicant, including bridge designs, which were extremely cost prohibitive and could cause safety issues. The landowner has invested a lot of resources in design efforts to this point, and is willing to invest more to see this project through to completion.

### **Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem process and function by improving stream connectivity and improving fish access to habitat and reduces likelihood of catastrophic culvert failure which would put large amounts of

fill material instream. Instream habitat complexity and stream function would be improved by restoring large wood to the stream.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

4 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
<b>\$157,780.00</b>		

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
<b>\$157,780.00</b>		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$157,780.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2048</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Zuiches Habitat Improvement		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Elk Creek WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$34,650.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$74,681.00

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### Application Description

Cox Creek is located in the Upper Elk Creek sixth-field watershed. The project site is approximately one mile from the confluence of Cox Creek and Thief Creek which empties into Elk Creek in the Umpqua River watershed. Removal of large wood from the stream, and channel straightening, have increased water velocities causing channel incision and disconnection from the floodplain, an important winter refuge for juvenile coho. Loss of over-winter habitat has been identified as the most significant limiting factor for coho populations in the Elk Creek Watershed. The Zuiches Habitat Improvement project will improve habitat and restore instream processes in approximately 3/4 mile of Cox Creek. The project will benefit federally listed coho steel head, cutthroat trout, lamprey, and other species of fish and wildlife.

Two rock weirs will be constructed in a section of the stream that has eroded to bedrock to trap gravel and create a pool. Large wood structures, and structures of both logs and boulders, will be constructed at eight sites to reconnect the stream to the floodplain and create complex pool habitat. Each site will include three to ten large logs. Logs will be 18-24 inches in diameter, and at least thirty-six feet long, more than twice the active channel width. Materials will be placed with an excavator. A backwater alcove will be created at a site where an old oxbow was cut off when the channel was straightened. A secondary channel with an expanded floodplain will be constructed in a floodplain area that was disconnected from the main channel when the stream was incised.

Project Partners providing project match include BLM and ODFW. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, travel, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### Regional Review Team Evaluation

The application requests funding for large wood placement as part of a larger project on the property. Other project components identified as match include fencing, riparian restoration and creation of an off-channel complex. The stream has high intrinsic coho habitat and would benefit from increased habitat complexity. The RRT members found the large wood component of the application to be technically sound. The applicant has a strong partnership with the ODFW fisheries biologist who designs and oversees a lot of the instream work implemented in the watershed.

The RRT felt it was important to consider the ecological benefits and likelihood for success of the entire project because the restoration components would provide the match for the OWEB funded portion of the project. The RRT were concerned that the off-channel work was risky. This view is based on lessons learned from similar efforts throughout the region which demonstrate a high failure rate. RRT members acknowledged that engineered off-channel restoration work can provide some substitute for lost off-channel refugia, they need to have the right conditions to be effective and they are not generally long-term, and there is the potential for stranding of juvenile fish. The RRT was concerned by the lack of clear landowner commitment to all aspects of the project in the application. RRT members did not feel the landowner was committed to excluding livestock as the application only stated there was "intent" to work in riparian zones,

no details were provided. The RRT was not comfortable that the fencing constructed would be wildlife friendly. Future applications would be strengthened by clear landowner support documented in the application. In the end the RRT felt the instream portion was sound but were concerned that the project in its entirety with the match off-channel and riparian work did not show strong ecological benefits or high likelihood of success. If this was a “stand alone” with other match related directly to placing the instream wood, the RRT would have most likely recommended this project. The RRT was also concerned by the lack of landowner commitment. It was also noted that a project would benefit from a strong outreach component.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	212-2057	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Vincent Creek Instream Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Smith River WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	\$179,733.00	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$307,324.00

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### **Application Description**

Vincent Creek a tributary to the Smith River in the Lower Umpqua River watershed. Much of Vincent Creek is severely scoured and bedrock dominated with little habitat complexity necessary for salmonid survival. There is little woody debris within the stream channel with few spawning sites, summer rearing or winter refuge opportunities present. Vincent Creek is presently utilized by winter steelhead, fall Chinook, cutthroat trout and has been identified by the ODFW as having 'High Intrinsic Potential' for coho salmon

The proposed project is the placement of 35 log and 28 log/boulder habitat enhancement structures along 3.5 miles of Vincent Creek. There will be 63 new structures in total placed. The 35 log only sites will be used where gravel currently is deposited. The log/boulder habitat restoration will be placed in areas where gravel is not being trapped. All boulders will average 1.5 cubic yards with a 1.0 cubic yard minimum and will comply with ODFW fish passage and boulder placement guidelines. Logs and boulders will be placed using a track mounted excavator. The structures will reconnect the stream channel with the flood plain, trap gravel and woody debris to create spawning beds, complex pools and additional winter refuge opportunities. These structures will also slow winter flow rates and reduce water temperatures.

Project Partners providing project match include BLM and the Umpqua Fisheries Derby. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project demonstrates the strong working relationship that has been developed between ODFW and the watershed council. The proposed project reach lacks large wood and instream habitat complexity and the completed project would address habitat needs of coho. The proposed project is technically sound and has a high likelihood of success.

It was brought out that the RAC funding will be lost if the project is not funded at this time. The RRT noted with concern that project was one of seven projects that included the Roseburg ODFW fisheries biologist providing the direct support. The ODFW manager assured the RRT that they were aware of the potential work load issue and had worked to make sure that the biologist was not over committed in his role in all of the projects.

The RRT did feel that costs associated with fiscal administration and cost per site were on the high end and that it should be reduced. The RRT also were concerned that the amount of time requested for project management was high and needed more detail to determine if the time was required.

### **Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem process and function by improving habitat complexity and stream function by restoring large wood to the stream.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced. Reduce or justify fiscal administration, project manager time and site costs.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
<b>\$176,810.00</b>		

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

Staff followed up with applicant on all three RRT recommendations. In summary, the applicant provided detail on basis for project manager days and structure costs. Basis for determination was previous season's instream work and the time required for that work and the costs associated with each structure. Staff felt the information provided was sufficient to justify the request. Applicant provided breakout of fiscal administrative costs. These costs ended up being less than originally requested. The break out revealed that the applicant could administer the project for \$7,750. The original request was for \$10,673 in fiscal administration. There is a difference of \$2,923. The total project cost will be reduced from the requested \$179,733 to 176,810.00.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
<b>\$176,810.00</b>		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$176,810.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2059</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	North Curry Ranch Water Quality Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Curry SWCD		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$166,462.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$330,783.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

The projects in this grant application were developed through technical assistance funding from the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) to the Curry Soil and Water Conservation District (Curry SWCD). All projects proposed are located on grazing land in northern Curry County within the Sixes River, Floras Creek, and New River Watersheds. Significant populations of coho, Chinook, winter steelhead, and resident cutthroat trout rely on the spawning and rearing habitat in the streams and rivers of these watersheds. The water quality concerns being addressed are all a result of livestock access to streams. Livestock access to streams for stock drinking water and grazing in riparian areas causes a myriad of water quality and aquatic habitat degradation factors.

The projects proposed will be implemented on seven different properties. The implementation of the best management practices on the properties is necessary to facilitate livestock exclusion and riparian buffer regeneration. The projects are designed to reduce or eliminate all factors contributing to water quality and salmonid habitat degradation at the project sites. All project sites are located on land used for pasture grazing of cattle, sheep, and horses. The streams, rivers, and watersheds related to the project sites are historically highly productive systems for salmonid populations. Water quality and salmonid habitat has been documented to be currently impaired downstream of these sites and within the respective watersheds. Implementing the best management practices will reduce or eliminate the factors causing water quality and aquatic habitat degradation at the project sites.

Project activities include fencing, creation of off-channel watering systems to improve livestock management and reduce access to riparian and wetland areas, development of hardened crossings to reduce sedimentations and gully stabilization in upland areas to reduce erosion inputs. Each property has its own implementation plan designed to meet the management needs and the issues identified. The projects proposed in this grant will implement best management practices necessary to facilitate livestock exclusion and riparian buffer regeneration. The projects will reduce or eliminate all factors contributing to water quality and salmonid habitat degradation at the project sites.

Project Partners providing project match include the seven project landowners, CREP, ODA, Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The projects proposed in the application would address water quality issues which are a critical limiting factor in this watershed. Improved water quality would benefit coho in this system. The applicant provided a lot of detail in the application, which the reviewers appreciated. The project would encompass seven different landowners with four of the ownerships falling into an NRCS focus area. This is also a focus area for ODA and helps implement a component of water quality and drinking water improvement. The project utilizes the CREP program which provides increased riparian buffer protection. The RRT noted that the component to improve Western lily habitats was innovative and valuable. Reviewers also appreciated that the application was well-written and detailed, and included good photographs.

Reviewers spent a lot of time discussing various details of the proposed projects, and in many cases found issues they wanted to see addressed through conditions. After the discussion, they concluded that their

funding recommendation would come with too many conditions, and recommended the project not be funded at this time. More detail about reviewer concerns and discussion about funding conditions is explained below.

The RRT discussed the off-stream watering component of the project at length. The water delivery systems need to be enclosed and equipped with an on/off valve and the troughs have to be in an area where livestock has been watered. The RRT wanted WRD review of the proposed system to be a condition of funding. RRT also encouraged the applicant to work with CREP for funding assistance for their livestock off-watering sites. Removing the livestock from the streams will help reduce erosion and fecal inputs, which in turn would address water quality issues in the watershed. The question was brought up of whether having a grazing management plan in place was important to recommend be developed as part of the project. After discussion, the RRT did not feel that having grazing management plans were necessary to the success of the project.

The RRT had concerns with the fencing components of the application. The applicant's answer to question R4 says they will use woven wire on some of the sites. Reviewers questioned whether woven wire is wildlife friendly and wanted wildlife-friendly fencing to be a condition of funding. In addition, it was not clear in the application if the landowners were all committed to maintaining the fences for the long-term or who would be funding the maintenance. The budget appeared to include OWEB funds for fence repair components. The RRT did not feel this was appropriate use of OWEB funds and wanted this cost eliminated from the budget.

The RRT was not sure about the level of support and commitment from all of the landowners for the sites in the application. In applications with multiple landowners it is important to clearly show the level of commitment to the project and its long-term success. The reviewers would have appreciated letters of support from landowners, and information on whether some properties were of a higher priority than others.

The RRT suggested adding an effectiveness monitoring component that looks at water quality monitoring, riparian shade assessment and bacteria. The RRT felt this would be informative in developing future projects and ascertaining the benefits from the project.

The RRT raised concerns about the approach to gully work proposed for site 6 and whether piling rocks into the gullies would be successful in addressing the problem. Reviewers would have liked to see designs for the proposed gully stabilization work.

After all this discussion, the RRT wondered whether, with so many project sites and components, the applicant might benefit from breaking it out into smaller projects in different application. This would be easier to focus the application of specifics to each site and make the review more focused. Reviewers also realized that in the past they may have given the opposite advice to applicants to "bundle" projects, and they did not come to a firm conclusion, but noted the difficulty of reviewing an application with so many sites and components and questions.

Reviewers noted that more discussion in the application on similar project work and its successes would help strengthen the application. Reviewers first thought they would recommend funding with conditions, but after listing the number of conditions they would want, concluded that while they support the project work and goals, there were too many unanswered questions and they could not recommend funding at this time.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

### **Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b> 212-2061	<b>Project Type:</b> Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b> Brush Creek Restoration (Phase I)	
<b>Applicant:</b> Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers	
<b>Basin:</b> UMPQUA	<b>County:</b> Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b> \$166,782.00	<b>Total Cost:</b> \$274,309.00

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### Application Description

The project proposes to implement instream large wood placement in Brush Creek. Brush Creek is a tributary to Elk Creek and is located approximately six miles east of Elkton in the Elk Creek fifth field watershed. Brush Creek provides ten miles of spawning and rearing habitat for coho, steelhead, cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey. However, large woody debris and habitat structures necessary for summer and winter fish survival are limited in Brush Creek due to historic splash damming, channel straightening, road building and stream cleaning practices. The results from previous work at instream restoration in the watershed have been positive, but only cover a small portion of the available fish habitat. After an extensive basin-wide instream habitat survey of Brush Creek, the many other areas in need of restoration were identified as well as a previously undocumented beaver-created wetland complex.

The two main landowners in the watershed, Lone Rock Timber Company and Roseburg District BLM, support a large-scale instream restoration project in Brush Creek. The first phase of this project will be to place 400 logs and 300 boulders at 55 sites in Brush Creek with an excavator. Approximately 3.55 miles of stream will be enhanced with excavator-placed logs and boulders. Sites will consist of 5 to 10, 40 ft. to 50 ft. fir logs with boulders placed to seal gaps in the structure. Two additional phases are planned for additional restoration work in the watershed. Project activities will help to restore instream habitat complexes necessary for juvenile salmonid over-wintering.

Project Partners providing project match include Lone Rock Timber Co., the Phoenix School, BLM, ODFW and the Umpqua Fisheries Enhancement Derby. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### Regional Review Team Evaluation

This project is in an area with high intrinsic potential for coho and builds on previously completed work in the system. Smolt trap data and a basin survey were used to determine the locations for this restoration work. The project was designed by ODFW and BLM fisheries biologists, is technically sound and has a high likelihood of success. The project builds strong partnerships among local partners.

The RRT felt costs associated with logs and the excavator were high, represented in the budget as lump sums, and needed further explanation from the applicant if the project is recommended for funding. The RRT finds lump sums difficult to review and strongly encourages the applicant to break out costs in future applications. The RRT was also interested in the location of the source of the logs, this information was not provided in the application and would need to be provided by the applicant if the project was recommended for funding. The RRT also felt the fiscal administration costs were high and needed justification. The applicant does have a weed prevention component built into their instream projects in access areas. The RRT feels this is extremely important and that there needs to be a serious effort to continue to make sure weeds do not get started in project areas following implementation. The RRT suggested that reporting on weed

treatment and weed infestation should be incorporated into standard OWEB Post-status Implementation Reporting requirements.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem process and function by improving habitat complexity and stream function by restoring large wood to the stream.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Reduce fiscal administration and cost of logs unless costs are justified.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

2 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
<b>\$163,684.00</b>		

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

Staff followed up with applicant on the RRT recommendations. The applicant provided detail on basis for log costs and fiscal administration. In summary, the applicant provided information on cost determination for the logs based on length and size to be utilized in the project as well as describing the site and flow conditions and the need for larger logs. The supplier is 25 miles from the project site which increases the costs for delivery. Staff concluded the information provided was sufficient to justify the request. Applicant provided breakout of fiscal administrative costs. The breakout showed the applicant could administer the project for \$7,764. The original request was for \$10,862 in fiscal admin. There is a difference of \$3,098. The total project cost will be reduced from the requested \$166,782 to \$163,684.00.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
<b>\$163,684.00</b>		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$163,684.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b> 212-2063	<b>Project Type:</b> Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b> Bilger Creek Restoration	
<b>Applicant:</b> Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers	
<b>Basin:</b> UMPQUA	<b>County:</b> Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b> \$43,870.00	<b>Total Cost:</b> \$61,662.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve instream habitat complexity on Bilger Creek by placing large wood. Bilger Creek is a tributary to North Myrtle Creek and is located approximately three miles northeast of Myrtle Creek in the Myrtle Creek fifth-field watershed. Bilger Creek provides important spawning and rearing habitat for coho, steelhead, cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey. The watershed is a high priority within the Umpqua Basin for instream and riparian improvement because of the extremely high intrinsic potential for coho salmon production identified by ODFW and BLM. However, large woody debris and habitat structures necessary for summer and winter fish survival are limited in Bilger Creek due to historic hydraulic mining, channel straightening, road building and stream cleaning practices. Water quality issues have also been identified in Bilger Creek by the PUR volunteer water quality monitoring program and include high stream temperatures, turbidity and E. coli levels.

The first phase of this project will be to place 80 logs and 150 boulders at 19 sites in one mile of Bilger Creek with an excavator. Sites will consist of 5, 40 ft. fir logs with boulders placed to seal gaps in the structure. 3 sites are boulder weirs. A culvert, owned by Douglas County that is a partial barrier to fish passage will be replaced in a second phase of the project. The project is consistent with recommendations from the Umpqua Basin Action Plan (2007) and The Myrtle Creek Watershed Assessment and Action Plan (2003).

Project Partners providing project match include project landowners, Cow Creek Tribe Natural resource Grant, Douglas County Public Works, ODFW and the Umpqua Fisheries Enhancement Derby. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The Myrtle Creek watershed has been identified as high intrinsic potential for coho and the stream is in desperate need of instream habitat complexity. The project has high outreach potential in a watershed with a large mixed ownership and is in high need for this type of restoration. The work proposed is technically sound and has a high likelihood of success.

The RRT was concerned that the culvert replacement work, proposed for phase II, could impact the structures proposed for sites 11 and 12. The RRT felt that in a perfect world the culvert replacement would take place first, however, that project is not ready to move forward at this time and the instream work is. It is a county culvert, they are supportive of addressing the culvert but it has not been designed and the county does not currently have the resources to move on it right now. Currently the culvert is only a partial barrier. The RRT wanted staff to work with the applicant to determine if sites 11 and 12 were appropriate for placement prior to the culvert work or if it should happen following culvert replacement. The RRT did not feel this needed to be a funding condition.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem process and function by improving habitat complexity and stream function by restoring large wood to the stream.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund. Per the RRT discussion, staff will work with the applicant to determine if sites 11 and 12 were appropriate for placement prior to the culvert work or if it should happen following culvert replacement.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

11 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$43,870.00		

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

The RRT was concerned that doing instream before culvert might cause structures at sited 11 and 12 to have a short life or not function as planned. Staff was asked to follow up on this to determine the thought process behind the two structures. Staff followed up with the applicant.

In summary, the applicant did deliberately consider doing the instream portion of the project prior to a culvert replacement project. The culvert is a county culvert and the county is not likely to address the culvert in the foreseeable future unless all the funds were raised to fix the culvert without the need for the county’s help. By design, site 11 was placed at enough distance downstream from the culvert that fish passage will be benefited without harming the integrity of the sites if the culvert is replaced. Site 12 was placed far enough above the culvert that any head cutting occurring from culvert replacement would not impact the site. Staff felt the information provided was sufficient to justify the request for sites 11 and 12.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund; falls below staff-recommended funding line.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$ 0.00

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2064</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Weatherly Creek Instream Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$157,583.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$223,983.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve instream habitat complexity by the placement of large wood and boulders in Weatherly Creek. The Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists have partnered with two private landowners to restore Weatherly Creek, a highly productive tributary to Umpqua River to improve instream habitat conditions for salmonids. The tributaries of the Lower Umpqua River are among the most productive streams in the basin and the most important to coho. However, many have been severely impacted by practices that are now outlawed, such as splash damming and stream cleaning. A lack of large woody debris and boulders has limited the spawning and rearing habitat, resulting in lower fish production than is potentially possible. Coho, steelhead, cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey live in Weatherly Creek and its tributaries.

This project seeks to use an excavator to place 1,390 boulders, 120 cubic yards of gravel, 93 fifty foot logs with root wads, 16 fifty foot logs without root wads, and 15 forty foot logs throughout 37 sites. Sites will consist of 5-6 logs each placed by an excavator. 15-20 boulders will be positioned in several sites to supplement log structures. 14 sites unsuitable candidates for log placement will have 60-12 boulders placed in weirs. 20 yards of gravel will be placed at each of the 7 lowest sites to augment natural gravel recruitment. The project area covers 4.9 miles of stream. The project builds on other large wood placement in the system.

Project Partners providing project match include ODFW, Roseburg Resources Co. and the project landowner. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Weatherly Creek has historically seen intensive logging. Weatherly Creek has been identified as high intrinsic Coho habitat and it is an important stream for coho spawning and rearing. The project engages an important key landowner in the area and provides opportunities for a high degree of outreach to other landowners in the area. The RRT thought the project components were technically sound and the proposal has a high likelihood of success to increase instream habitat complexity in an important watershed.

The RRT noted the budget omitted haul costs for gravel. There will be a cost associated with hauling of the gravel which the applicant will need to determine how to cover. The RRT also thought the fiscal administration requested and the mobilization costs were high and requested staff look into the basis for the costs.

### **Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem process and function by improving habitat complexity and stream function by restoring large wood and gravels to the stream.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Reduce fiscal administration and mobilization costs unless justified.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

7 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$156,100.00		

**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

Staff followed up with applicant on the RRT recommendations. Applicant provided detail on basis for how mobilization costs were determined. In summary, additional and larger equipment is required for this project which is more than a typical instream wood placement. The equipment is needed to assist moving the 93 trees with root wads attached to the project sites. Staff felt the information provided was sufficient to justify the request. Applicant provided breakout of fiscal administrative costs. The breakout showed the need for \$8,826 for the applicant to administer the project. The original proposal had \$10,309 requested. There is a difference of \$1,483. The total project cost will be reduced from the requested \$157,583 to \$156,100.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$156,100.00		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$156,100.00

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2065</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Hall Ranch Restoration Phase II		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$71,662.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$90,492.00

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### **Application Description**

This project seeks funds to restore over one mile of in stream habitat on located on the 1,700-acre Hall Ranch near Dixonville. Deer Creek Watershed is a tributary to the Umpqua River. South Fork Deer Creek and Hoot-n-Holler Creek run across the Hall Ranch. These streams are designated as intrinsic coho spawning and rearing habitat. Coho, winter steelhead, resident cutthroat, brook lamprey, Pacific lamprey and other native fish live, spawn and rear in these streams. ODFW biologists have assessed the streams and noted that they do not provide adequate summer pool habitat or winter refuge, the two biggest threats to juvenile fish survival in this system. The instream habitat has become very simplified. The loss of instream wood in South Fork Deer Creek and its tributaries changed the functioning components of the riparian zone and instream habitat. Pools and riffles were lost and the creeks became like ditches. Livestock have access to the many unfenced riparian areas. This has resulted in the lack of variety of native plants. Down-cutting of stream channels through soft valley soils significantly lowered the water table and altered the hydrology

The work proposed is the second phase of restoration work on the ranch and follows a highly successful first phase where: 6 culverts were replaced with bridges; 110 trees were placed to improve fish habitat; four off-channel stock tanks were constructed; and one mile of riparian fence was erected to exclude cattle. This project proposes to place 75 trees, 30 boulders and 10 stumps into Hoot-n-Holler Creek upstream of Phase I project work. Also planned is the placement of 305 boulders and 50 trees into South Fork Deer Creek. Materials will be placed with an excavator. The work will complete fish habitat restoration on the ranch. The outcomes expected from the project include the creation of high quality summer pool and winter high water refuge habitat.

Project Partners providing project match include project landowner, ODFW and the Umpqua Fisheries Enhancement Derby. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, travel, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project builds on previous successful restoration work addressing fish passage, riparian and instream issues on other areas of the ranch. The project has a lot of outreach value and takes place in an area with high intrinsic potential for coho. The RRT appreciated that the designs for the project were included in the application, this helped with the evaluation of the project components. The RRT thought the approach was sound with likelihood of success.

The RRT noted the cost per mile of instream work was somewhat higher than other similar projects but still within reason. Reviewers appreciated the diversified match. The RRT felt the applicant did not do a good job of illustrating how the project would address the water quality issues identified in the application, however, the RRT recognized this project was primarily intended to improve physical instream habitat conditions for coho.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project would benefit ecosystem process and function by improving habitat complexity and stream function by restoring large wood and gravels to the stream.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

9 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$71,662.00		

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$71,662.00		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$71,662.00

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2066</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	West Fork Smith River Phase III		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$325,343.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$444,343.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to build on previous phases which installed large wood in tributaries to the West Fork Smith River, located within the Umpqua River watershed. The first phase of the project resulted in the placement of 482 logs and 40 whole trees in 3.5 miles of Beaver Creek, Moore Creek, and the main stem. Phase II included the placement of more than 1200 logs and trees and 2,502 boulders in 20.5 stream miles in the watershed. Phase III will include the placement of 6,100 boulders throughout 31 sites covering 5 miles on the mainstem West Fork Smith River. Each site will consist of 170-205 boulders placed by an excavator. Additionally 10 trees will be pulled into the channel with a line-pulling machine. These trees will have a diameter between 36 and 48 inches.

Historic land use practices, road building, logging, splash dams, stream cleaning and wildfire have altered and simplified instream habitat conditions. The project will address critical summer and winter instream habitat limiting factors for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout production. Twelve years of ODFW fish monitoring data will act as a baseline to quantify the effects of the habitat restoration. ODFW will continue with coho life-cycle monitoring including spawning surveys, smolt trapping and snorkel surveys. Watershed scale stream habitat inventories will be conducted in 2013 to assess post-project habitat conditions. The project addresses limiting factors identified in the Summary of Watershed Health Indicators for the Oregon Coast ESU (2008). Project activities will benefit summer and winter habitats for coho, Chinook, steelhead and cutthroat as well as improve stream channel complexity.

Project Partners providing project match include Roseburg Resources Co., USF&WS, ODFW and BLM. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, travel, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project builds on extensive and intensive instream habitat restoration work that has occurred in the last two years in this watershed. Project activities would benefit coho and other salmonids. The application builds on extensive previous instream restoration efforts and moves from the tributaries into the larger main stem reach.

The RRT was confused by the use of riparian conversion as in-kind match. They did not feel that riparian conversion was a good match without a much larger discussion of how the proposed work impacts the stream. The RRT felt there was value in waiting to see the impacts of the first two phases of work upstream and in the tributaries. The RRT found the application to be thin on design information, No specs were provided on the size of wood to be placed instream. The system is larger in the proposed reaches and so proper sizing would be extremely important to the success of the project. Structure locations were also not provided, which are also important when planning work in larger systems. The application cites many studies but does not give specifics so reviewers could follow up. Overall the RRT was disappointed with the amount of detail in the application. Reviewers would have liked information on how the other phases worked to

evaluate the overall watershed impact of the projects. The RRT was also unable to determine the relationship of the Smith River Watershed Council in this project. There was a clear presence in previous applications but it was not evident in this one. The RRT felt the stream was a very important one for coho and instream habitat improvement is an important effort, but for the size of the system being worked in, and the amount of the funding request, they concluded the application lacked the detail they needed to recommend it for funding at this time.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2069</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Myrtle Point Wetland Enhancement and Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coquille Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$69,001.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$234,433.00

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### **Application Description**

The Myrtle Point Wetland is part of a 280 acre ranch on the South Fork Coquille River in Myrtle Point, Oregon. This unique property contains a 60 acre historical wetland protected by a conservation easement held by the Southern Oregon Land Conservancy. Enhancing the wetland and associated streams, which filter runoff from 200 acres of pasture and 20 square miles of upstream residential and highway land cover, will significantly improve over-wintering juvenile coho habitat, a critical limiting factor for coastal coho, by reducing sediment, lowering water temperatures, reducing nutrient overloading, significantly increasing fish passage, and enhancing habitat complexity.

The primary project objective of the Myrtle Point Wetland Restoration is to improve and enhance juvenile over-wintering and migratory bird habitats by; 1) restoring 60 acres of wetland conservation easement habitat and wetland streams to a diverse and complex native plant community by planting approximately 23 acres of wetland habitat and wetland stream buffers with a mixture of native conifers, hardwoods and shrubs; 2) protecting approximately 80 acres of wetland conservation easement habitat, wetland stream buffers and SFCR riparian area by constructing 2.5 miles of livestock exclusion fencing; 3) improving fish passage by replacing two undersized and perched culverts to meet ODFW Fish Passage Guidelines; 4) reducing reed canary grass and Himalayan blackberry within the wetland and along wetland streams by mechanical removal and scalping; 5) addressing DEQ 303 (d) limiting factors within the SFCR for high summer water temperatures and excessive sediment by planting and fencing a vegetative buffer on wetland streams and riparian buffer along the SFCR; 6) demonstrating how Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) and local watershed projects can partner on invaluable enhancement projects. The landowner is enrolling all wetland streams and SFCR into CREP for a minimum 10 year contract. Expected project outcomes are: 23 acres of wetlands and connected streams restored with lush native vegetation; 80 acres of wetland and streams protected by 2.5 miles of livestock exclusion fencing; and over-wintering habitat reconnected through replacing two failing culverts.

Project Partners providing project match include ODFW, Curry SWCD, CREP, project land owner, USF&WS and NFWF. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT thought that the application has been improved from the previous submittal, and that it addresses some of the reviewer concerns expressed in the previous evaluation. The project should provide water quality benefits as well as providing winter refugia for juvenile salmonids and numerous benefits to non-game fish, wildlife and bird species. This project has good outreach potential and is highly visible.

While noting that the application had improved, reviewers still had questions and concerns. The application did not include designs for the off stream watering components or the culvert. It was noted that these components were discussed during the site visit. The RRT felt strongly this information needed to be

included in any future applications. The RRT wanted the applicant to coordinate closely with OWRD on the livestock watering work to make sure it was in-line with legal requirements. The RRT would have liked to have seen more detail on culvert work, such as assurance that the applicant would work with ODFW to make sure that the culvert work meets fish passage criteria. ODFW also needs to be involved in final project inspection. The team also wondered whether it was a good idea for the planting team to also do the culvert work, as the application seemed to indicate.

Canary reed grass is a large concern in the area. The RRT felt that this issue and control/eradication efforts could have been fleshed out better in the application to ensure project success. This is something the applicant and partners will have to watch following implementation to make sure the canary reed grass issue is being addressed effectively. The RRT asked staff to make sure CREP match was appropriate. The RRT strongly urged the applicant and partners to continue looking for ways that the side of the drainage/creek system that was not being fenced due to maintenance concerns could be fenced and planted in the future.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

This project would benefit ecosystem process and function through wetland restoration which will benefit water quality and provide multiple species habitat improvements.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Involve OWRD approval of livestock watering, provide culvert designs with approval from ODFW, and staff will check on CREP match question.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

12 of 12

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>
\$69,001.00		

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund; falls below staff-recommended funding line.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$ 0.00

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b> 212-2030	<b>Project Type:</b> Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b> Saunders Creek TA	
<b>Applicant:</b> Lower Rogue WC	
<b>Basin:</b> ROGUE	<b>County:</b> Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b> \$8,679.00	<b>Total Cost:</b> \$12,089.00

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### Application Description

The applicant is submitting a Technical Assistance Type 1 project. The project proposes to develop stream restoration plans for Saunders Creek, a tributary to the Lower Rogue Estuary. Saunders Creek has been degraded by logging practices, road building, and residential development. Although riprap and channelization has been used at various reaches on the creek, the landowners and Council believed using native materials that would mimic natural stream and channel processes would be more successful in restoring rearing habitat, especially during low flow periods. This project will design a stable configuration using natural/native materials and bioengineering techniques in 0.25 miles of a low-gradient reach in Saunders Creek. Because of the lack of large wood in the system, use of large wood would be emphasized. The design would provide channel stability, restore connectivity to low terraces and floodplains, help increase and maintain pool scour and increase pool complexity for rearing, improve pool tail outs for spawning, and provide cover for juvenile fish.

Historical extent of spawning and rearing habitat for Chinook in Saunders Creek has decreased and been negatively impacted by logging practices and residential property development. This project will design a stable configuration for large wood placement in a 0.25 mile reach of Saunders Creek to restore channel connectivity and stability, maintain summer low-flow pools, and provide cover for juvenile fish. Implementation of the project will also provide an opportunity to demonstrate alternative methods of stream restoration and streambank stability other than riprap, gabions, or other "hard" fixes, to other land owners with stream-adjacent property in Curry County, especially those on Saunders Creek. In its 2009 work plan, the Lower Rogue Watershed Council identified the Rogue River Estuary as its top priority. The estuary was identified in the 2005 Lower Rogue River Assessment as a limiting factor for salmonids because of the decrease in habitat suitable for fish and aquatic organisms that support fish.

Project partners include OSU Extension, landowners, USFS, ODFW and the Curry County Road Department. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted design services, travel and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### Regional Review Team Evaluation

The RRT felt the applicant did a good job addressing the previous reviews concerns raised by the reviewers about incorporating the hydraulic analysis into the application. The applicant has brought new partners on board for the project, which reviewers were pleased to see. The project is important for the lower Rogue area and would benefit salmonids using this system.

The RRT still felt the applicant was not looking upstream far enough to determine the cause of the sediment and were concerned that projects developed from this technical assistance grant would just be a band aid fix for lower down symptoms. It also appeared that downstream from the project location was not included in the proposal but reviewers determined that landowner unwillingness seemed to be the factor. The RRT was

supportive of the applicant moving forward of the project but urged them to more closely examine factors farther upstream in determining solutions downstream.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

7 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$8,679.00</b>
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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund; falls below staff-recommended funding line.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$ 0.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2034</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	GHID Diversion Upgrade - Phase I		
<b>Applicant:</b>	WaterWatch of Oregon		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$18,750.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$25,000.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant has submitted a Type 1 Technical Assistance Application. The GHID irrigation diversion dam and system is located on the mainstem of the Rogue River between the Gold Hill Diversion Dam site and the Gold Ray Dam site. There is approximately 340 miles of salmon and steelhead spawning area above the GHID diversion. According to the Rogue Basin Fish Access Team, the Gold Hill Irrigation District's (GHID) diversion dam is now the highest ranked fish passage priority in the Rogue River Basin. This dam and diversion system present multiple fish passage problems and adversely impact Rogue fisheries, including ESA-listed SONCC coho salmon.

This project would provide technical assistance to produce engineered design alternatives and cost estimates for modification of GHID's existing irrigation diversion system, including the dam, spill and bypass systems to improve fish passage and reduce adverse impacts to Rogue River salmon and steelhead at the site. GHID, Water Watch, NMFS, ODFW and USFWS will then evaluate the design alternatives and cost estimates and select a preferred alternative for implementation. The resulting restoration project will benefit spring and fall Chinook salmon, SONCC coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, resident cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey. Probable alternatives include moving the headgates, screening, spill and bypass systems to the top of the canal and modifying them to meet current fish passage standards and modifying or removing portions of the diversion dam.

Project partners include Gold Hill Irrigation District and Geos Institute. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT found the application to be well written and the proposed activities show a well thought out path. The project demonstrates good partnerships and lays a foundation for future project work. The project has a very high likelihood that it will result in sound designs which will lead to on the ground improvements.

The RRT discussed the potential for instream water savings. While the irrigation system is not changing, the improvements at the point of diversion and the structure removal should result in less need for conveyance water to compensate for leaks in the ditch at the point of diversion. The project would also improve the survival of juveniles being turned back out of the ditch into the river. The RRT wanted to see a measuring device incorporated into the design work and strongly suggested that the process examine the potential for decreasing the amount of water being diverted and ensuring only the legal right is being diverted. The RRT expects to see a restoration grant being developed from this project and hopes to see the potential for leaving water instream (including conserved water statute) examined seriously in that project. The project partners need to work closely with OWRD, especially if there is any need to change the current point of diversion.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Design must incorporate a measuring device and the project must look at the potential for water savings, consider the floodplain location in the design, and address any permitting needs (water right transfer in particular). Involve OWRD in alternatives/design review.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

1 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$18,750.00</b>
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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

The grant agreement will require the project completion report to include documentation and/or design that incorporates a measuring device; the potential for water savings; and consideration of the floodplain location in the design. The report must explain what permits are needed (water right transfer in particular) and explain how OWRD was involved in alternatives/design review.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$18,750.00</b>
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**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$18,750.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b> 212-2045	<b>Project Type:</b> Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b> Elliott State Forest Road Inventory and Sediment Reduction	
<b>Applicant:</b> Coos Watershed Association	
<b>Basin:</b> SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b> Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b> \$46,408.00	<b>Total Cost:</b> \$105,143.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant has submitted a Type 1 Technical Assistance Application. This project, once complete, will evaluate the Elliott State Forest's 530 mile road system to identify any remaining fish passage barriers or impediments (adults and juveniles), evaluate road drainage to determine hydrological connectivity between road surfaces and cut-slopes in order to estimate sediment yields and peak-flow effects, and determine improvements needed to effectively minimize road-related effects to watershed conditions.

This proposal will fund the initial "Pilot Phase" of a road inventory to evaluate approximately 100 - 150 miles of roads in the Elliott State Forest (ESF). The project will demonstrate the use of a road evaluation model to identify road treatment priorities. ODF will fund two subsequent phases to complete surveys for all ESF roads (530 miles). The project will provide 4 types of data: (1) estimated road sediment yield and hydrological connectivity; (2) identify needs, prioritization, and layouts for road upgrades or decommissions; (3) assess the effect of road sediment on streams; and (4) a road features database to be used for long term asset management. Forest roads have long been recognized as having significant effects on fish habitat and water quality. The results from the model analyses will provide the information needed to prepare road upgrade proposals, both internally for ODF use as well as for external grants.

Project partners include ODF. OWEB funds will be used for project management, staff, travel and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Forestry and land use practices have impacted this watershed. This work could help quantify what can be achieved through restoration. The applicant and project partners have developed a strong working relationship. The applicant has implemented other similar successful efforts like what is proposed in other parts of the watershed. The applicant has developed a good track record of turning this type of work into projects which have good monitoring components. This work could be helpful in TMDL development. The RRT noted that the applicant included the bed stability surveys as suggested in the previous review.

The RRT felt the personnel time associated with doing the surveys was overestimated based on comparison with agency crews which do similar work. The RRT requested that staff look into the basis for the time and costs with the applicant and reduce if warranted.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Follow up with applicant on crew time requested to determine basis and if justified.

### **Regional Review Team Priority**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$46,408.00</b>
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**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

The RRT felt the crew time identified was high and should be able to be reduced. Staff followed up with the applicant and received a detailed description for the basis. In summary, costs are based on the production of USFS crews and training and discussion with USFS hydrologists who invented the GRAIP process. The Coos WA crew will also perform three different surveys at once. This will slow survey time significantly. Staff concluded that the applicant justified the need for the requested crew time.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. The award amount was reduced by \$1,360 to meet the proposed budget for technical assistance for this grant cycle

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$45,048.00</b>
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**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$45,048.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2046</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	South Fork Coos Basin Aquatic Inventory Surveys		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coos Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$49,800.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$128,011.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

The applicant has submitted a Type 1 Technical Assistance Application. This project will fund Aquatic Habitat Inventory (AHI) surveys in the upper South Fork Coos River and 19 of its named tributaries. Proposed is the surveying of over 37 miles of mainstem habitat, and 40 miles of valuable tributary habitat. The lack of current baseline information about the stream channel characteristics in the South Fork Coos basin, represents a need and opportunity to begin data collection efforts and planning restoration work in these needed priority areas. These surveys will assist the Coos Watershed Association (Coos WA), BLM and Weyerhaeuser Timber Co. with the baseline data needed to properly identify and evaluate restoration projects in the Upper South Fork Coos River basin. AHI surveys will be used to determine habitat limiting factors for coho production. Limiting factor results will be compared to the intrinsic potential for coho smolt production to evaluate restoration needs.

AHI surveys will be used to determine habitat limiting factors for coho production. Limiting factor results will be compared to the intrinsic potential for coho smolt production to evaluate restoration needs. This grant will allow Coos WA, in close partnership with BLM to conduct surveys of riparian and in-stream habitat conditions, with the goal of long-term on-the-ground restoration implementation to follow. This Technical Assistance will ultimately develop a prioritized restoration action plan to improve coho spawning and rearing habitat within the project area. The Restoration Action Plan will specifically address in-stream habitat conditions, bank stability, riparian shade deficit, and fish passage issues based on the surveys conducted.

Project partners include the BLM, ODFW and Weyerhaeuser. OWEB funds will be used for project management, staff, contracted services, supplies and materials, production and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The application was well written and provided good detail. The majority of the survey work proposed will be on stream reaches never surveyed before. The project uses proven survey techniques. The applicant and project partners have developed a strong working relationship. The applicant has implemented other similar successful efforts in other parts of the watershed. The applicant has developed a good track record of turning this type of work into on the ground restoration projects. The reviewers believe that by implementing basin-wide surveys, the applicant and project partners will be able to prioritize future restoration efforts in these sub-watersheds.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

### **Regional Review Team Priority**

4 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$49,800.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. The award amount was reduced by \$1,360 to meet the proposed budget for technical assistance for this grant cycle.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$48,440.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$48,440.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2053</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Mainstem Elk Creek (South Umpqua) Habitat Improvement		
<b>Applicant:</b>	South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$41,500.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	<b>\$127,000.00</b>

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### **Application Description**

The applicant has submitted a Type 1 Technical Assistance Application. This project will produce a comprehensive implementation-ready instream design package with engineer approved plans with design options and cost estimates covering five miles of low gradient coho salmon habitat between Drew Creek and Section Creek along the mainstem of Elk Creek, a tributary of the South Umpqua River. Problems within Elk Creek include poor spawning habitat, temperature, large sediment size, lack of habitat complexity, and poor riparian vegetation conditions as identified in the Tiller Region Watershed Assessment and Action Plan (PUR 2003).

The project area encompasses ten landowners with several homes and other infrastructure immediately adjacent to the stream channel. This proximity will require high levels of design considerations including hydraulic modeling and professional engineering services beyond the capability of local restoration professionals. The proposed technical assistance project will provide a comprehensive, implementation ready instream design package with engineer-approved plans, design options and cost estimate. Instream restoration will most likely include large wood and boulder placement and streambank stabilization along the five miles stream.

Project partners include Cow Creek Band Umpqua Tribe of Indians and USFS. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The stream has high intrinsic potential for coho. Designs would focus on improving habitat for coho and it was noted that the coho using this stream represent the highest inland location for coho. Reviewers were impressed with the landowner support demonstrated in the proposal.

There is currently a project, funded by other sources, which is examining the structural integrity and ability to withstand high water events and log impacts on five private bridges downstream from the project reach. The results from this proposal should be ready at the end of January 2012. The application contained a typo which made it look like this work would not be completed until January 2013.

The project reach has more homes and infrastructure issues than traditional instream projects on federal or industrial timber lands and so has a higher need for design to take those considerations into account. The RRT discussed the bank stabilization components. Three houses need bank stabilization and one needs bank stabilization and channel repair. The application estimated that about one quarter of the five mile reach proposed for treatment would have bank stabilization components.

The RRT discussed the potential outcomes of the bridge stability evaluation work at length. The RRT asked what would happen if the study showed a bridge would likely not have the structural integrity to withstand high flows and log impacts – how would that impact the project? Would the applicant need to raise funds to

repair the bridges to bring them up to a standard to meet flow and log/debris movement estimates? RRT discussion revealed that this had already been discussed, and if the bridges came back as structurally unfit, there are areas in the system which have been identified for restoration that could go forward with design activities. At the end of the discussion the RRT felt like this was important work and that there was a high level of momentum and along with considerable partner and landowner support in place that could be lost if funding for design work was delayed for another application cycle.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

3 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$41,500.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund. Staff followed up on the bridge assessment work. Currently the work is delayed and not expected to be completed until mid to late March 2012. Staff will follow up when the bridge assessment work is complete to determine if there are findings/recommendations from that report which may impact this proposal.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
<b>\$41,500.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$41,500.00**

## October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2055</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	North Fork Coquille Watershed Project Development and Landowner Recruitment		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coquille Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$24,213.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$59,172.00

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### Application Description

The applicant has submitted a Type 3 Technical Assistance application. The North Fork Coquille River (NFCR) is a 5th field watershed located along the southern Oregon coast within the Coquille Watershed. This proposal for project development and landowner recruitment is a continuation of the North Fork Coquille River 5th Field Watershed Restoration initiative effort. The NFCR watershed has been identified as having high intrinsic potential for salmonid production. The lower reaches and tributaries of the mainstem NFCR watershed are scattered with numerous small landowners, creating a need for extensive landowner education, outreach, and project design to complete the restoration efforts in the watershed.

Under this proposal, the CWA project manager will locate and contact interested landowners for restoration project development. Landowners will be contacted using a variety of approaches: 1) letters to inform of restoration possibilities; 2) group meetings throughout the watershed to discuss restoration possibilities and identify interested landowners; 3) phone calls and electronic follow-up to interested landowners identified in group meetings; 4) tours of local past and on-going restoration projects; 5) individual site visits. The project manager will work with interested landowners to develop and design projects for on-the-ground restoration, seek funding opportunities and develop funding proposals. The Project Manager will attempt to develop projects that will enhance an entire stream reach. The applicant estimates that a minimum of five riparian and five instream projects will be developed, with several funding proposals that will be submitted to OWEB during the 2012-2014 grant cycles.

Project partners include ODFW, BLM, Coos SWCD and DEQ. OWEB funds will be used for project management, staff, contracted services, production and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### Regional Review Team Evaluation

The RRT felt it was very important to improve and increase the landowner base in this watershed. There is also a high need to build continuity between projects already implemented in the watershed. This project would lay the foundation for that to happen. The project area is very important for salmonids, including coho and is in high need of efforts to improve water quality.

The RRT recommended that in the future the applicant uncouple the two distinct TA types of projects (design and landowner recruitment) proposed and move to more fully develop the landowner recruitment proposal first before developing a design proposal. The current proposal incorporates two different types of technical assistance which do not translate well together on one type of application nor make it easy to review. The application was confusing in that it referenced 100 landowners but also mentioned 200 properties. The RRT was not sure which number was accurate. It was not clear how many properties were actually secured for project design work or how these landowners were prioritized for work activities. It was not clear what design would be developed for each property or if experienced, qualified designers were secured for these sites. There were many general references in the application referring to following the

NRCS technical guide but the specific guidance to be used was not identified nor linked to specific actions. At the end of the discussion, the RRT felt it was important to have the land owner recruitment portion of the project proceed but they did not feel that the project design portion had enough information to warrant a recommendation for funding at this time.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced. Fund only landowner recruitment work.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

5 of 7

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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<b>\$12,000.00</b>
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**Staff Follow-up to Review Team Comment**

Staff reviewed the application budget and determined that line items related to land owner recruitment should not exceed \$12,000.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund; falls below staff-recommended funding line.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$ 0.00**

## **October 17, 2011 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>212-2060</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Upper Floras Creek Coho Restoration Plan Development		
<b>Applicant:</b>	South Coast WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$42,027.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$52,827.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant has submitted a Type 2 Technical Assistance Application. Coho have been documented in upper Floras Creek, which opens up 53.5 miles of habitat previously thought to be inaccessible. The applicant has determined from observations that this habitat needs large wood and that roads in the upper watershed are impacting habitat and water quality. What is currently unknown, is where specific project activities should take place to address limiting factors. Through this proposal, the applicant will delineate coho distribution, and then inventory instream habitat and road networks for project opportunities. Inventory data will be used to develop and prioritize large wood and sediment abatement project, which will be assembled into a Coho Restoration Plan for upper Floras Creek. BLM will assist with project activities, and data will be provided to ODFW and other partners for review and feedback.

The goals of this project are (1) to delineate/map coho distribution in upper Floras Creek; (2) to identify and prioritize large wood project sites, and to develop plans and budgets for those sites, and (3) to inventory private and federal roads for sediment sources, and to use that data to develop sediment abatement project plans that include site prioritizations and implementation budgets. This work will benefit coho specifically by facilitating future restoration projects that improve spawning and rearing habitat, and reduce sediment loading. The data, maps, and plans produced through these inventories will be compiled into a Upper Floras Coho Restoration Plan.

Project partners include BLM. OWEB funds will be used for project management, staff, contracted services, travel, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Water quality is a critical limiting factor for salmonids, including coho in this system. The applicant has a demonstrated track record of using the type of work proposed to lead to on the ground restoration work. The project would also help build good working relationships with landowner in the area. The project falls into an NRCS focus area. Reviewers liked that the proposal would address water quality problems in the upper watershed and noted that this is an important area to work in.

It wasn't clear from the application whether all of the landowners in this area had been identified and if so, whether they were agreeable to allowing surveys. It was noted that the applicant has worked successfully already with several key landowners in the area to implement projects. The RRT would like to see more detail on project supervision, it seemed that the project manager is also the contractor and that raised concerns about self-supervision. The application would have been strengthened by providing more background information to justify the need and priority for the project and proposed activities. The RRT was unclear if roads were a high priority issue in the watershed and additional application detail would be helpful.

### **Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

6 of 7

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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\$42,027.00
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**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund; falls below staff-recommended funding line.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Recommended Amount</b>
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**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$ 0.00