

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-115</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Acquisition
<b>Project Name:</b>	Coquille Valley Wetlands Conservation		
<b>Applicant:</b>	The Nature Conservancy		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$720,000.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$1,205,530.00

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### **Application Description**

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) requests \$720,000 to purchase three properties (from two owners) totaling approximately 622 acres of coastal wetlands in the Coquille Valley on the southern Oregon Coast. The properties are approximately 10 miles upstream from Bandon National Wildlife Refuge, which consists of approximately 900 acres of wetlands. The properties are currently mostly pasture, which was converted from wetlands by dikes, drainage ditches, and tide gates.

OWEB was recently awarded \$1 million in matching project funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program (Coastal Wetlands). A portion of the Coastal Wetlands funds will be used for acquisition of the properties. The remaining Coastal Wetlands funds will be used to restore the properties to tidal influence as described in the application. The application budget indicates that TNC will contribute \$65,000 to the property purchases.

The application states that the following priority ecological systems are present on the properties: deciduous swamp (143 acres), freshwater emergent marsh (37 acres), intertidal freshwater wetland (30 acres), and lowland riparian woodland and shrubland (45 acres), for a total of 255 acres of priority habitats. The application states that restoration - which will consist of reconnecting historic tidal channels, removing dikes, filling drainage ditches, placing large wood, grading to create open water areas, removing invasive species, and re-establishing native vegetation - will result in priority habitats on all 622 acres. The application also states that restoration is expected to increase stream miles from 3.04 to 6.90 (both sides within the project boundaries).

The application states that the properties contain 38 acres of Sitka spruce - grand fir/salal/sword fern, an OWEB rare or at-risk plant community. The application also states that restoration will increase the acreage from 38 acres to 82 acres.

The application states that the following priority species use the properties: coho salmon, Chinook salmon, band-tailed pigeon, black-throated gray warbler, green heron, olive-sided flycatcher, purple finch, rufous hummingbird, and short-billed dowitcher. The application also states that the following species are not known to occur on the properties, but are likely to benefit from the project after restoration: red-legged frog, northwestern pond turtle, foothill yellow-legged frog, and peregrine falcon.

The application states that the project is consistent with OWEB conservation principles because it will restore function, protect a site with exceptional biodiversity, and improve connectivity of habitat.

The application states that TNC will transfer the properties to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), although it is not clear how soon this will happen, or whether TNC will complete wetland restoration first. The application states that, once restored, the properties will be open to the public for activities such as birding, hunting, and fishing.

The application states that education and outreach will be a significant component of the project, and that ODFW is well-equipped to implement education and outreach through its STEP (Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program). The application also states that both Coquille and Bandon High Schools have committed to incorporating the properties into their environmental education curricula.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT determined that the project has the potential for significant ecological benefits for fish and wildlife, particularly coho, because it will restore tidally influenced wetlands and wetland connectivity in an area that has been highly altered by human use. The RRT expressed the need for the project partners to minimize potential conflicts by engaging neighboring landowners in conversations regarding the project. The RRT had a discussion of water rights, which concluded with the recommendation that the project partners consult with the Water Resources Department about water rights issues that might affect restoration plans for the properties.

The RRT agreed that the project's short-term educational benefits are limited, but that they are likely to increase significantly after the properties are restored, and provided that long-term public access to the properties is assured. Although the RRT had hoped that the application would contain more details regarding specific educational activities, the members generally agreed that ODFW's STEP program strongly emphasizes education, and does a great job of reaching many students.

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

High Ecological and High Educational value.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2030</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Saunders Creek Large Wood		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Lower Rogue WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$8,691.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$11,151.00

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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. Because of the proximity of a county bridge, failures at past stabilization attempts, and residential development close to the stream, the applicant felt that a restoration plan designed by a highly qualified consultant was required for any restoration project. Although riprap and channelization has been used at various reaches on the creek, the landowners and Lower Rogue Watershed Council (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. The use of large wood, currently lacking in the lower system, would be emphasized.

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 0.14-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 landowners with stream-adjacent property in Curry County, especially those on Saunders Creek. In its 2009 work plan, the 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, 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 was not sure why the applicant was only looking at large wood placement as the only solution to the problems. The stream is flashy and has a high degree of bed load movement and the RRT thought the applicant should consider looking at the hydrologic function in the design work. The RRT was not clear from the application if there was ODFW involvement in the project. There were no letters of support from ODFW. The RRT felt that ODFW needed to be clearly involved in the work.

The application was weak, lacking in specifics, and reviewers were concerned that the application noted that one landowner was not on board, and they wondered who that was and how the project might be affected. The application did not address question 4, did not provide standards in response to question 5, and the answer to question 6 was weak.

The RRT wondered if the implementation schedule was too ambitious, It showed that restoration work would be implemented in 2011 and the RRT wondered if the permits would be able to be secured as well as the restoration project funds that quickly. The RRT was not sure why two designers were needed and why there were different rates for each. There was concern that 40 hours for coordination seemed high. The RRT was also unsure about what the lump sum for travel was for and what it was based on. The RRT was not sure how high a priority this project was for the Lower Rogue. The project does not seem to benefit coho but would have benefits for steelhead and cutthroat. More information on the priority level of this project would be helpful to the RRT.

In the end the RRT did not feel the application made the case for the project. The applicant needs to examine the possibilities of other solutions to the habitat issues, consider the hydrology of the system, revisit their schedule, involve ODFW, discuss the priority level of the project and provide more information in response to the questions and on the budget components.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2031</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Cove Sediment/Pollution Control Project		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Upper Rogue WS Assn		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$11,200.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$15,690.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant is submitting a Technical Assistance Type 1 project. The project proposes to develop plans to address storm water runoff from “the Cove”, the oldest residential area in Shady Cove, into the Rogue River. The dirt roads in this section of town, built in the 1920s, slope towards the Rogue River and have never drained properly. Adjacent neighborhoods with paved streets channel their runoff through the Cove resulting in large inputs of sediment and pollutants. There is great potential to incorporate a low-cost retrofit to detain and treat runoff from most storm events prior to flowing directly into the Rogue. Continued development and expansion in the area threatens to increase runoff in the coming years. Funds are needed to develop a plan to reduce sediment and pollution inputs into the Rogue River from the Cove and adjacent neighborhoods. Components of this plan include the survey of project area to one foot contours, identifying water harvesting and runoff BMP sites, development of drainage details for roads and ditches and culverts and creation of project plans and specifications.

The applicant requires technical expertise in Low Impact Development to design alternatives for road drainage and storm water retention. This project will require expertise to develop longitudinal profiles for culverts, a survey to one-foot contours in some areas, infiltration rates at proposed water harvesting locations and water harvesting specifications and details. Storm water calculations, including area and peak rate of flow for the project area will be used to guide the design.

Project partners include Cove Property Owners Association, Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District, Medford Water Commission, City of Shady Cove and the Upper Rogue Watershed Association (URWA). OWEB funds would be used for project design services, contracted design services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT felt that this type of project could have good outreach potential in the Upper Rogue as a highly visible demonstration of addressing storm water runoff in an urban area. The URWA is moving toward being more proactive and taking on harder, more complex projects.

After a lengthy discussion, the RRT concluded that the application did not provide enough detail to evaluate the proposal. For example, reviewers wanted more information about the number of sites to be addressed. The RRT found it hard to determine if the issues the project identified as important were really the significant issues impacting the Rogue River and whether this project was a priority for the area. The RRT felt the application did not convey the anticipated project products in a clear enough manner. More information on how the runoff from above the project site will impact the project and how planning will address this issue would have been helpful to reviewers. The involvement and support of the City of Shady Cove will be critical to the success of the project and ensuring that success into the future with the unknowns regarding the levels of development above the project area. The RRT wanted to see commitment/support from City and planning department to the project and its long-term success.

It was noted that another source of funds for the project could be the state revolving fund. The RRT would like to see more information on how the \$12,000 cost for contracted services was developed, and what activities and products will be completed with those funds.

Reviewers appreciated the partnerships and community allocation of reserve funds in support of this project, and felt that the issue of stormwater is important for this area. However, they had too many questions to recommend funding at this time.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2033</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Elk Creek Bacteria Source Tracking Design		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Elk Creek WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$26,250.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$48,250.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant is submitting a Type 2 Technical Assistance project. The Elk Creek Bacteria Source Tracking Design project will enlist the services of a qualified water quality consultant to develop the design for a monitoring program and analysis plan that will determine the sources of coliform bacteria in the Elk Creek Watershed. The Umpqua Basin TMDL identified Elk Creek as water quality limited during the fall, winter and spring periods for bacteria using both fecal coliform and *E. coli* as indicator organisms. Agricultural landowners in the watershed have concerns about what actions might be necessary to reduce bacteria loads. The community feels that until the sources of bacteria are determined, any actions or BMPs to reduce these loads can only be based on assumptions and speculation. More data on the sources of the bacterial pollution in the watershed are needed to give assurance to landowners that the actions they might be asked to take have a high probability of success. The goal of the project is to develop a plan that, when implemented, will deliver clear, unambiguous conclusions as to the sources of bacterial pollution in the Elk Creek watershed.

Funding will be sought to secure the services of a qualified, private consultant to develop a comprehensive water quality monitoring study that will identify the various sources of bacteria in the Elk Creek watershed and determine their relative contributions. A draft monitoring plan will identify the number and location of proposed sampling sites within the watershed. The plan will include a sufficient number of sites, with samples to be collected at each site, over a sufficient period of time, and under varying flow conditions, to provide statistically significant conclusions. Sites will be selected so that the bacterial contributions of each of the major tributaries can be determined. Samples selected for DNA source tracking analysis will provide statistically accurate representation of the source species. The plan will cover in detail each aspect of the sampling process including the resources needed. The sampling plan will employ accepted procedures and protocols and will insure the integrity of the samples during collection and the quality of the analysis.

Project partners include DEQ, a stakeholder committee and BLM. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services, travel and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project is a resubmit and was not recommended for funding last cycle by the RRT. The goal is to design a bacterial source tracking monitoring program.

The RRT felt the application was still weak; it did not discuss how the applicant would work with ODA, NRCS, SWCD or other partners who could contribute match and expertise. The RRT was still not convinced that the applicant was trying to get outside expertise involved, either in solicitation of a contractor with expertise, or in design of the monitoring. The application discussed an ad hoc committee making the decisions. The application did not describe who would be on the committee and what expertise they have. The RRT felt the budget was unclear. Lump sums were used for some budget items and the 200 hours of

project management seemed excessive. The RRT felt that the costs to develop a monitoring proposal were excessive without explanation.

The RRT discussed that the primary purpose of Technical Assistance projects is to ultimately develop meaningful restoration projects. The RRT thought the application described a dispute resolution process and did not have confidence that this work would result in on-the-ground projects. Reviewers suggested that future applications should focus on a watershed restoration action plan rather than a monitoring plan where there are no clear ties to restoration goals or activities.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2034</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<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>\$9,350.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$15,930.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant is submitting a Technical Assistance Type 1 project. The project proposes to secure the services of an engineer to survey the site and to design channel modifications to create off-channel winter habitat for juvenile coho on Cox Creek, a tributary to Elk Creek in the Umpqua River watershed. The design will include the creation of a secondary channel through an oxbow that was cut off when the stream was straightened, instream habitat improvements in the main channel and riparian planting and fencing. The Elk Creek watershed is an important spawning and rearing habitat for coho salmon, as well as steelhead, cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey. Past land use practices have degraded much of the habitat in the watershed, especially in the lower gradient reaches which contain the majority of the best coho habitat. Over-winter habitat for juvenile coho has been shown to be the most significant factor limiting populations of coho in the Oregon Coast ESU.

This Technical Assistance grant will allow the Elk Creek Watershed Council to enter into a contract with a qualified engineer to survey the site, and to develop design alternatives, and plans, for the more technical components of the project. This will include designs and engineering drawings for the construction of at least one side channel through an old oxbow that was cut off when the creek was straightened. The survey will show if there are opportunities to develop additional off-channel, overwinter habitat improvements in the project area. Designs will include details for controlling when, and how much, water is allowed to enter the side channel during high flow events. The objective will be to allow juveniles to enter the channel to escape high water velocities during winter storms, but not to divert the flow from the main channel during the lowest flows of summer. In addition to the designs and engineering drawings, the engineer will develop cost estimates which will serve as the basis for establishing a budget for the construction phase of the project. The final component of this project will be to incorporate the designs and engineering drawings into a contract package suitable for soliciting bids from qualified contractors for the construction phase of the project. The less technical habitat improvements in the project area, such as log and boulder placements, will be designed by an ODFW Fisheries Habitat Biologist. The final plan will also include a component to improve riparian conditions in the project area. The riparian area will be planted with native trees and shrubs, and the area fenced to exclude livestock.

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

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would benefit coho and build on similar habitat restoration work already completed by the applicant in the area. Reviewers appreciated that the project would include a wildlife friendly livestock exclusion fence.

While the RRT was supportive of the goals of the project, they felt the application would have been improved with letters of support and they particularly would have liked to see a landowner letter of support. Design and implementation of the log and boulder placements is important to success, and the RRT was concerned that ODFW technical support for designing the log and boulder placements for this project may be affected by budget cuts at the end of the biennium. This will impact the likelihood of success of the project. The applicant needs to have a back-up plan if ODFW technical assistance is not available. Reviewers questioned the need for 15 days of project management. The RRT noted that future applications would be strengthened if the applicant provided information on whether other habitat restoration alternatives were considered during project development and why they were not chosen.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Justify 15 days of project management and develop a back-up plan for technical assistance if ODFW is unable to provide it and explain how the back-up technical provider will be selected.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$9,350.00</b>

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the RRT recommendations. The applicant provided information outlining tasks and associated time estimates the position would be responsible for during the project. Staff found that the information to be well thought out and based on specifics and justified the time estimated for the project manager. The applicant has also put thought into ensuring technical assistance. The applicant anticipates having BLM RAC funds secured for the project and will be able to move forward with funding that project component through these funds.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund with Conditions. The grantee will provide information in the final project completion report on how technical assistance was selected and provided.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$9,350.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$9,350.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2040</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Whetstone Creek Corridor Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Bear Creek WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$9,758.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$20,880.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant is submitting a Technical Assistance Type 1 project. The lower five miles of Whetstone Creek, a tributary to the mainstem Rogue River near White City, has been identified as a candidate for habitat restoration by ODFW and the Bear Creek Watershed Council. Future restoration work will address fish passage and riparian vegetation improvements. This Technical Assistance project will assemble a stakeholder/advisory team; prepare an assessment of the lower Whetstone Creek corridor from Whetstone Pond in the ODFW Denman Wildlife Area downstream to the confluence with the Rogue River; and develop a set of recommendations for future restoration projects focusing on this area. Whetstone Creek and Swanson Creek, a tributary of Whetstone Creek, while accessible to anadromous salmonids, have limited fish passage and riparian habitat due to past land use practices, invasive plant species and road crossings. The presence of native riparian vegetation (such as alder, cottonwood, dogwood) has been reduced or eliminated from several areas of the creek corridor, Reed canary grass (RCG) has invaded the corridor to an extent that the RCG has altered the channel and created passage obstacles for migrating native fish above the confluence of Whetstone Creek and Swanson Creek.

This project will result in a comprehensive restoration plan for the lower five miles of Whetstone Creek, which will foster effective, prioritized project designs; will improve sequencing between multiple projects and landowners; and will increase buy-in and agreement among partners resulting in successful implementation of multiple restoration projects. These projects will provide greatly improved conditions for fish passage and improved habitat, including enhanced riparian vegetation, better instream conditions, and higher water quality than currently available for native salmonids, such as steelhead and coho and Chinook salmon, and other native creatures

Project partners include ODFW, ODOT, USFWS, landowners, Geos Institute and Rogue Valley Council of Governments. OWEB funds would be used for project management, travel, contracted services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Small tributaries to the Rogue River, including this creek, are important off-channel winter refugia for coho.

Canary reed grass is a critical issue in Whetstone Creek and addressing that issue is a primary focus of this project. The project involves a good mix of agency and private partnerships and the landowners are on board and involved in the project. The applicant has a good grasp of the issues and expectations for project success. There is a high likelihood that this project will lead to on-the-ground restoration activities.

The RRT noted they would have liked to see a plan for design work following the assessment, and wondered whether the applicant would have to come back for funding to do the design work.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

4 of 4

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$9,758.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$9,758.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$9,758.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2043</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Catching Slough Restoration Project Development		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coos Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$30,580.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$45,380.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant is submitting a Technical Assistance Type 1 project. This project development proposal will consist of intensive outreach to specific landowners, and development of project designs, permits and funding proposals for on-the-ground restoration projects in the Catching Slough basin that drains into the Coos River estuary. Streams in the lowland areas surrounding the Coos River estuary have a legacy of being heavily diked, tide-gated, dredged, straightened, and simplified by large wood removal due to their proximity to the Coos Bay harbor, early farming and grazing practices, and timbered slopes. These disturbance factors have lead to increased stream temperatures, high sediment loads, and simplified channel complexity in these areas. These sub-basins are also characterized by a broad range of small private ownerships and land uses which require specialized, intensive outreach to a diverse community. The Coos Watershed Association has completed two watershed assessments within the last year the lowland areas surrounding Coos Bay. Information from these assessments will be used specifically to guide technical assistance in providing outreach and project development in the Catching Slough sub-basin: a 16,535 acre system that drains into the Coos River just as it enters the bay.

One-on-one outreach will be targeted to landowners in pre-determined high priority areas as indicated in the 2008 Catching Slough Sub-basin Watershed Assessment. Technical assistance outreach will be also extended to landowners who have expressed interest in restoration involvement during a series of Coffee Klatch meetings held in 2007-2008. The projects planned for implementation as a result of this grant will be largely riparian planting, fencing, bio-engineered bank stabilization structures, bank reshaping and culvert replacements.

Project partners include ODFW, USDA, Coos County and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. OWEB funds would be used for project management, project staff, travel, production and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project is a resubmit. The project was recommended for funding last cycle but fell below the staff-recommended funding line.

The applicant has established a good track record of developing relationships with private landowners and turning technical assistance applications into on the ground projects, and the RRT felt that the trend would be continued with this application. The project builds on assessment work and targets willing landowners identified in the assessment phase. The project combines targeted landowner outreach and technical assistance to lead to viable riparian and stream restoration projects. Lowland slough areas and streams around Coos Bay provide critical habitats for juvenile coho and other salmonids. Restoring them is important.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

1 of 4

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$30,580.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$30,580.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$30,580.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2050</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Elk Creek Instream Restoration Project Development		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$31,536.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$41,906.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant is submitting a Technical Assistance Type 1 project. The Elk Creek Instream Restoration Development Project will survey and, if needed, design two bridges and evaluate five residences located in close proximity to the stream channel. This project will provide the foundation for a comprehensive restoration project along a seven-mile reach of low gradient OC coho salmon habitat proposed for restoration along Elk Creek, a tributary of the upper South Umpqua. This project will evaluate the stability of two potentially "at-risk" bridges located on the downstream end of a seven mile reach of low gradient coho salmon habitat proposed for restoration and, if necessary, produce implementation ready plans to improve or replace these bridges. Additionally, this proposal will provide LIDAR data to evaluate any impacts of restoration activities on five stream side private residences. Once this technical assistance grant is completed, restoration upstream along seven miles can begin.

The project will evaluate two bridges on the lower end of the project area to determine flow capacity and the ability to pass large wood during a high flow event and the completion of any necessary bridge design(s) if they are found to be inadequate to address the flow concerns. The range of alternatives will include the ability to pass 50 and 100 year flood events, modification to existing structures and/or replacement. The project will also use LIDAR data to develop a ground surface model which will allow the evaluation of residences and outbuildings to the risk of mobilized wood in 50 and 100 year flood events. Completion of the project will be marked by the recommendation of a stakeholder group on the need for any bridge replacement, identification of any residences or outbuilding at risk from restoration activities and the completion of any needed bridge design(s). Success of the technical assistance phase will ultimately rest on whether or not the stakeholder group concludes that risks associated with restoration projects during high flow events have been sufficiently identified and addressed.

Project partners include South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership and USFS. OWEB funds would be used for project management, contracted services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project proposes to assess the risk to two bridges downstream from an already funded but not yet implemented large wood project. The landowners who own the bridges are concerned about the stability of their bridges and are opposing the upstream large wood project. The project is intended to inform as to whether or not the bridges are structurally sound enough to withstand the flows and large wood. The applicant's hope is that they will be sound enough and the results from the project will remove the landowners' opposition to the project upstream. The large wood project is funded through a federal grant and would complete a seven mile large wood placement project to improve instream habitat conditions for coho. There is no option to do the risk assessment work through the federal grant.

The RRT found the application to be sparse and lacking details. They felt the cost of several project components were high such as the project management costs. The RRT discussed whether or not it was a good idea for OWEB to fund “stand-alone” bridge risk assessments that had no other components. Specifically, the RRT was concerned that there was no assurance that if the bridges were found to be sound, the project would move forward. Further, the application did not address what would happen if the bridges were found not to be strong enough. Would this result in the large wood project being on hold until the proponents could raise funds to build new bridges for those two landowners? Where would the technical design funds and construction funds to support that work come from? The RRT ultimately could not formulate a fund recommendation based on the concerns and recommended it for no funding.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2055</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	Umpqua Estuary and Six Tribes TA		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$47,850.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$92,400.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant is submitting a Technical Assistance Type 1 project. In 2007, the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR) initiated its Tidal Wetland Restoration Program in the Lower Umpqua River. This program has been highly successful, with six projects completed by fall 2010 and funding secured for one more planned for 2011. As a result of these efforts, PUR has received permission from the landowners of over 450 acres of estuary wetlands to work on their lands. Upon project completion, they will apply for a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Grant to perform restoration and acquisition of select parcels. Additionally, PUR and ODFW biologists have identified the Six Tribes (Elkton) area as needing significant restoration. This project proposes to identify and design the necessary parameters to move forward with conservation and restoration efforts in these important and productive systems.

The goal of this project is to develop two instream structure placement projects, plus three wetland and two riparian restoration projects. Eighteen miles of instream and riparian restoration work and 100 acres of tidal wetland restoration will be designed as a result of this project. Salmonid species including coho will benefit from improved winter refuge and summer rearing habitats that will be restored as a result of these projects. In the Umpqua Estuary portion of the project, the applicant seeks assistance to design structure placements and spruce plantings in ways that most benefit the resource. Alternative locations and design options will be investigated to determine which is most appropriate for each area. In the Six Tribes portion of the project, the applicant seeks assistance to design structure placements and riparian restoration projects in ways that most benefit the resource. Each stream will be evaluated separately for restoration potential. Upper stretches of the tributaries will be explored for the placement of large wood by excavator and helicopter, depending on access. In the lower reaches, they will seek to restore the riparian areas with native vegetation. Fish passage issues will be identified and corrected as required throughout the systems. PUR's "Umpqua Basin Action Plan" (June 2007) identified Stream Morphology, Stream Connectivity (fish passage), Riparian Zones and Wetlands as the key limiting factors in the Lower Umpqua River watershed. One probable cause for the limited number of returning adults is the lack of large wood in many of the tributaries.

Project partners include ODFW, ODF, USFS, Coos Bay BLM, City of Reedsport, Douglas County, Scholfield Development, LLC., and various private landowners. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT felt the project had the right mix of partners involved in the project. The proposed project focus areas are all coho high intrinsic potential habitat that have been simplified through the removal of large wood and simplification of the riparian areas.

Landowners who will participate in the six tributary portions of the project have not yet been identified or have not yet committed to the project and the RRT felt the match from these landowners was weak. The

application was not clear on which project components would be used where. The application discussed different potential project types in one section of the application but then moved on to other types in another section. This made it difficult to determine what was being asked for. The budget contained a lump sum for engineering but what that would be used for, or how that number was arrived at, was unclear.

The RRT felt the six tributary component was important. The sites are on private forest land and in important coho habitats that are in need of restoration. However, the application was unclear what was being proposed for the six tribs. Reviewers did not know what the requested funding would be used to produce. Further, without clear landowner commitment to the six tributary portion of the project, reviewers could not recommend it for funding at this time.

The estuary component focuses on Scholfield Creek. The RRT felt the three identified sites on Scholfield Creek were viable and ready to move forward. The landowners here are on board and committed to the project. The RRT was in agreement that this portion of the project should be funded at this time, but they requested that the applicant provide a more specific work plan for Scholfield Creek prior to receiving funding.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Fund the Scholfield portion only (including providing information to clarify which portions of the application apply to Scholfield Creek).

**Regional Review Team Priority**

2 of 4

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$35,255.00</b>

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant to determine the components and funding amounts necessary to implement only the Scholfield portion of the project. The applicant provided a revised budget sheet to reflect the RRT recommendations. The budget total reflects the revised budget supporting only the Scholfield Creek portions of the application.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. Fund the Scholfield portion only.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$35,255.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$35,255.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2060</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Technical Assistance
<b>Project Name:</b>	GRD Rogue River Restoration Phase 1		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$50,000.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$81,746.00

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### **Application Description**

The applicant is submitting a Technical Assistance Type 1 project. The proposed technical assistance activity will result in development of conceptual restoration alternatives for the Rogue River, from the former Gold Ray Dam site to Touvelle State Park. This encompasses approximately six miles of river with much of this area in public ownership. Myriad restoration opportunities exist, especially with the removal of Gold Ray Dam completed. Given the size of the Rogue River, the recent dam removal project and floodplain aggregate mining, hydrology and geomorphology expertise is needed to help develop restoration alternatives.

In the summer of 2010, Gold Ray Dam was removed from the Rogue River. Prior to removal, the dam impounded approximately 1.3 miles of river habitat and created 2 sloughs in its backwaters. Since the dam removal, the reservoir area has returned to a riverine system. The ultimate purpose of this project is to improve fish habitat and ecological function on the Rogue River between the former Gold Ray Dam site and Touvelle State Park. The project's near term objective is to develop a range of conceptual restoration alternatives sufficient in detail to apply for permits and funds for project implementation. Benefits to native anadromous fish species include, but are not limited to, increased and enhanced overwintering habitat, an improved and expanded riparian corridor, and a more stable river channel in the area, formerly impounded by Gold Ray Dam, that is less susceptible to negative impacts from periodic perturbation. Opportunities for additional habitat enhancements are numerous. Historic off-channel habitats are present in this reach of river. Some, however, have lost hydrologic connection to the river due to 100 years of inundation by Gold Ray Dam. The former impoundment caused sediments to deposit at entrances to off-channel habitats leaving them disconnected from the river following dam removal. Dam removal has also left exposed river banks void of vegetation. Finally, existing vegetation, supported by the former reservoir, is expected to experience considerable mortality due to reservoir dewatering.

Project partners include ODFW, Jackson County Parks, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Knife River Materials, Rogue Valley Council of Governments and the USFWS. OWEB funds would be used for contracted services, travel and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The applicant proposes to begin the development of a restoration plan for the areas above and below the old Gold Ray Dam site. The removal of the dam has opened up the potential for a large scale restoration effort. The applicant and project partners want to capture the momentum of the removal and build on that effort by developing a restoration plan for the area.

Some on the RRT thought that letting the reach begin to stabilize a bit first before developing restoration plans had value. Others felt that the momentum was there and it was important to begin to plan the restoration needs especially before more invasive species move in and gain a foothold. Others thought that

letting the system go through a winter and evaluating the stability of the river before beginning any restoration work had merit

The RRT did agree that the application was poorly written, lacked detail and some questions, like #3, were not answered completely. In question 3 the applicant did not provide any information on the type of technical expertise that would be needed. In question 5 the RRT felt it was a big leap that this proposal could reach the point where information developed from this application could be used for permitting and restoration grant development. The application primarily seemed to be geared for development of restoration alternatives and no specific actions in specific sites, and it looked like another proposal would be needed to develop the specific restoration projects. The applicant might wish to revisit their measures of success for the project and focus on clearly articulating the technical review and design criteria specifics needed to determine project success. The RRT found it hard to evaluate the lump sum approach to the budget and were unsure of the basis for some of the costs while other costs seemed high. For example, \$30,000 of the cost is for field data collection, but the application did not provide detail on what information would be collected. The RRT also felt that \$8,500 for a kick off meeting was an excessive expense. Adding detail to the application to support the budget request would be helpful to strengthening a future proposal.

The project area is dynamic and subject to influences from historic and recent gravel pits. There has been some restoration work and a lot of monitoring, modeling and design work in the effort to remove Gold Ray Dam and in the Rogue Stakeholder's project upstream. This is all information that can be used in future planning efforts. A significant part of the former pool areas is under public ownership and these county and state entities have a responsibility to be very proactive in developing restoration plans for the area. Areas further upstream have a host of different ownerships and it was suggested that the work could initially focus on outreaching to landowners and developing those partnerships first. This type of effort could help with public expectations and views on future restoration work. It was noted that the work focused above the former dam site and not below. The area below will be impacted by the dam removal and any work that happens above and consideration should be given to that in planning and design. The RRT was overall supportive of the idea of the development of a restoration plan at some point in time for the former Gold Ray Dam area. A well thought out technical approach to the former Gold Ray Dam section of river will be important as will involving the right technical expertise in the work. They did not feel the application was at the point where they could recommend it for funding due to the poor quality and lack of detail in the application, and disagreement among reviewers on the need to let some time pass in order to consider changes caused by dam removal as part of the restoration planning. A future application should discuss how this issue will be considered in the planning.

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

Do Not Fund.

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

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2029</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Education
<b>Project Name:</b>	Bear Creek Regional Education Project		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Bear Creek WS Ed Partners		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$30,367.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$63,767.00

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### **Application Description**

The proposed project would target 35,000 K-12 students living in the Bear Creek watershed. Serving nine school districts and four private schools, the Bear Creek Education Partners (BCWEP) will work to promote community watershed stewardship ethic by cultivating a sense of place among local students. The anticipated barrier to learning is the lack of exposure that modern students have to their surrounding environment. BCWEP will address this challenge through workshops, student and community events, a watershed symposium, field experiences, classroom programs and school equipment supplementation. Additionally, the state-of-the-art "Finding Home" project will increase student connections to their home environment through long-term, safe exploration and observation of a single site.

BCWEP will host workshops to provide educators with the knowledge and skills needed to develop effective watershed education programs. Four workshops will be held annually. Since 1994, BCWEP has reached tens of thousands of students. The 15th annual Watershed Education Symposium will bring together students and teachers to share their watershed experiences with others. This event will involve over 250 students plus parents and community volunteers. Through Kids and Bugs, a bilingual watershed education project, a hands-on outdoor educational opportunity will reach and involve over 100 students and over 75 community members. BCWEP will host the annual Bear Creek Cleanup in May 2010. This event will bring out 25-100 participants from local schools and community organizations. The "Finding Home" project will engage eight, fifth grade classes in a year long project which involves monthly field and classroom programs designed to provide an opportunity for familiarizing students with their local environment. 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 BCWEP Board, the Medford Water Commission, the Jefferson Nature Center and the Bear Creek Watershed Council. OWEB funds would be used for project coordination, travel, supplies and materials, production and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project is a resubmit. Last cycle the project was recommended by the RRT for funding, but it was not recommended by staff because the project schedule showed funds would not be utilized until 2011. Staff did not feel it was justified to tie up limited education/outreach funds for a year, essentially "holding" funds that could be used for projects that were ready for implementation in 2010. As a result the project was not funded and the application was resubmitted.

The RRT reaffirmed their evaluation that the project is important and effective and actively engages a high number of students and teachers in watershed education activities. The project partners have forged good relationships with local organizations. The project would be a continuation of a program that has been ongoing for over fifteen years. Besides classroom activities, the program engages students in hands-on

restoration and monitoring activities. The application showed that the applicant was continuing to diversify funding sources and attracting new partners. They have developed a great track record for putting on workshops and community events. The RRT noted the application provided good budget detail. The application was well written but did not provide specific details on accomplishments from previous projects. The RRT was very interested in what the specific outcomes from the previous project and strongly recommended that the applicant make this a clear component of future proposals.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

2 of 4

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$30,367.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Because OWEB lacks sufficient available 2009-2011 non-capital funding to meet the Board’s non-capital funding target in March, staff recommends the Board award funds at its June Board meeting, dependent on OWEB’s 2011-2013 budget.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$ 0.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2038</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Education
<b>Project Name:</b>	South Umpqua - Elk Creek Demonstration Wayside		
<b>Applicant:</b>	South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$8,406.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$23,381.00

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### **Application Description**

The project will develop a location for teachers from the Tiller School District to educate students about stream enhancement work. Five to ten field trips a year will happen at the site. The project is designed to be a place to bring local schools, local landowners along with travelers by to view and create enhanced understanding of the dynamics of a successful stream restoration project. The project will also develop a self-guided tour using interpretive signage demonstrating stream conditions before and after stream restoration work, project accomplishments and fish and animal species identification information. Signage will be styled after National Park Service interpretive signs.

Project partners include the Rock-n-Diamond Ranch, LLC. OWEB funds would be used for contracted services for sign design, construction and installation and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT thought that outreach and education to the community on the role of large wood in the stream system and the importance of replacing lost wood was needed and would be valuable. However, the RRT found the application poorly written, vague on details and unclear on what activities would be done to reach the project goals. It was also not clear how agencies would be involved in the project or if they would be consulted during the development of the project deliverables. The RRT noted overall that the applicant did not address the application questions specifically or clearly enough for the RRT to adequately review and evaluate the project.

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

Do Not Fund.

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

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2042</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Education
<b>Project Name:</b>	Coastal Oregon Riparian Silviculture Guide		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coos Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$36,644.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$46,335.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to increase participation in watershed enhancement by updating the Coastal Oregon Riparian Silviculture Guide (2003). The original guide was designed to provide guidance for active riparian restoration. The major concepts provided in the guide are setting planting objectives, site selection, planting establishment, maintenance, monitoring and assessment. The updating of the guide will make effective, state-of-the-art practices more user friendly and accessible. The improved guide will incorporate lessons learned since the guide was developed and add practical, comprehensive monitoring and reporting and database application information. The project will also offer companion face-to-face trainings. This combination will overcome confusion and apprehension about details and processes of habitat restoration while attending to different learning styles. Additionally, focus group meetings will seek to identify and overcome unseen potential barriers. In addition to providing easy to use tools, the project will help restoration managers expand their project visions for more effective long-term habitat management. The primary target audience will be watershed councils, conservation districts, public land use managers, Oregon State Extension Service and other restoration practitioners on the Oregon Coast.

Project partners include the Laird Norton Family Foundation and the Coos Bay BLM RAC. OWEB funds would be used for project coordination, contracted services, travel, supplies and materials, production and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The scope of the project spans both Region 1 and Region 2. As a result both Region 1 and 2 RRTs evaluated the project. Both RRTs came to similar conclusions and the following evaluation reflects the findings and conclusions of both teams.

The project would update the Coastal Riparian Silviculture Guide (201-112) published in 2003. The RRT felt that a uniform guidance covering all the aspects of riparian restoration is an important need and the development of a consistent monitoring database would make reporting easier and more consistent. It was noted that the existing guide is used by several coastal watershed councils, and they have found it to be helpful to their riparian restoration programs.

The application did not explain specific reasons why the existing guide needs to be updated now, nor did it present information on where the demand for updating was coming from, or how large that demand was. A copy or excerpts from the first guide would have been helpful to reviewers in their evaluation. The audience for the guide is riparian restoration practitioners, and reviewers had questions whether the target audience was too small or should be more broad based. The need for three focus groups was not clear. The database could be useful in creating a consistent method of project tracking and reporting, but reviewers had questions about who would use the database, how would it be made available, and how it would be disseminated or marketed. Reviewers thought that the database could be a good tool for tracking implementation of riparian

planting, but there was not enough detail provided in the application on the database component to understand it and feel comfortable with it. The map of the project area included the inland Rogue areas. There are much different climate, soil and geologic situations in this area. Reviewers were not sure how the guide would bridge the change from the coastal areas to inland, and they did not see anything in the application to indicate that the applicant is working with partners from the inland Rogue.

The RRT liked the idea of the guide and the database, but they had too many questions and concerns to recommend funding at this time. The reviewers thought the application could be strengthened by looking at ways to reduce costs, for example providing the guide by CD instead of printing, explaining the need for the update (what is outdated, etc.), providing more details about the database and providing more budget explanation. The amount of supplies, materials and production costs seemed excessive when looking at the end product of 250 printed guides. An explanation in the application would be helpful to reviewers in evaluating these costs. The RRT did not feel the application made the case for the need for updating the document at this time.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2053</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Education
<b>Project Name:</b>	Umpqua Basin Watershed Stewardship Education Program		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$18,322.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$29,169.00

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### **Application Description**

The project will initiate a “Master Watershed Stewards” program in the Roseburg area. The project is broken into two components: (1) enroll 30 people in a Master Watershed Stewards (MWS) training, and (2) engage at least 20 MWS graduates in post-training volunteer projects to become “Master Watershed Stewards.” The target audiences for this project are Oregon Youth Conservation Corps students and educators, landowners, resource users and natural resource and community members. Key barriers to learning are awareness, scheduling, transportation, cost, lack of training opportunities and volunteer support. These barriers will be addressed through advertising events, hosting evening and weekend sessions, providing transportation and scholarships as needed, matching volunteer interest and needs with projects and providing volunteer support. Awareness and understanding will increase through formal and peer-to-peer training and hands-on participation.

Project partners include the Pheonix Charter School, the Roseburg BLM RAC, UCA Americorps, Oregon State University, local resource specialists and the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers. OWEB funds would be used for project coordination, travel, supplies and materials, production and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would implement the OSU Extension Master Watershed Steward program in the Roseburg area, which in the past has had a low success rate there. The RRT was generally supportive but had questions about regenerating the same program when it had failed in the past. The application did identify the reasons behind the low success rate and put forward actions to address those issues. These key areas being addressed to avoid failure were transportation and follow-up after graduation. Transportation is being offered, but the RRT was not sure if only offering transportation to students at one school would address the entire issue.

The Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR) has committed to working on another key issue which was follow-up after the course to get the volunteers engaged and involved in the required volunteer service hours. PUR will actively work with the graduates to make sure they have the information and opportunities to complete their volunteer work. There are a lot more opportunities for volunteer activities than there were in the past. The RRT felt that the applicant and project partners had the commitment to make this project work. The project is based on an established model that has been successful in other areas. The RRT noted that the cost per student was high when compared with other projects. The RRT felt the application would have been strengthened by including letters of support.

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

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

3 of 4

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$18,322.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Because OWEB lacks sufficient available 2009-2011 non-capital funding to meet the Board's non-capital funding target in March, staff recommends the Board award funds at its June Board meeting, dependent on OWEB's 2011-2013 budget.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$ 0.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2059</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Education
<b>Project Name:</b>	Curry County Watershed Education		
<b>Applicant:</b>	South Coast and Lower Rogue WCs		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$35,942.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$96,734.00

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### **Application Description**

The project will continue to deliver a successful watershed education and outreach to students throughout Curry County. Project activities will include over 100 watershed lessons in combination with 25 field trips to streams, 4 Adopt-a-Stream programs with 11 projects and stream trailer outreach to 10 schools. The project targets 1,400 youth in South Coos and Curry counties throughout the school year. This project has become important to filling the void created by the loss of funding in public schools in Curry County for “outdoor schools” which delivered environmental education to students in an outdoor setting. Barriers to learning may include pre-formed attitudes, weather and group size. These can all be managed by through this project by presenting factual information, thoughtful coordination and involving knowledgeable adult support for field days. The proposed classroom activities will include using established curriculum from Project WET, Aquatic Wild, WOW of Wetlands, Project Learning Tree, The Stream Scene and other watershed related resources along with already developed curriculum from the South Coast and Lower Rogue Watershed’s existing watershed education program.

Field trip activities may include: macro invertebrate collection, water quality testing, stream habitat sketching and labeling, decomposing log study, riparian hikes, tour of a watershed, fish hatchery visit, salmon surveys with ODFW and other related ecology activities. Watershed stewardship projects include activities such as invasive weed removal and tree planting.

Project Partners include Curry BLM RAC, OSU Extension, ODFW, local schools, OPRD and South Coast Fisherman. OWEB funds will be used for project management, travel and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would continue a long running successful watershed education program involving students and teachers in Curry County in both classroom and hands-on restoration and monitoring activities. The program continues to grow and reach more students and teachers each year. More partnerships and support are being developed as this program expands. The project continues to demonstrate a good level of cash match. The applicant was able to reduce their request to OWEB because of their success in obtaining a BLM RAC grant to help support the program. The RRT was highly supportive of this project and felt it has established a good track record.

The application was well written but did not provide specific details on accomplishments from previous projects. The RRT was very interested in what the specific outcomes from the previous project and strongly recommended that the applicant make this a clear component of future proposals.

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

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

1 of 4

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$35,942.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Because OWEB lacks sufficient available 2009-2011 non-capital funding to meet the Board's non-capital funding target in March, staff recommends the Board award funds at its June Board meeting, dependent on OWEB's 2011-2013 budget.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$ 0.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2062</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Education
<b>Project Name:</b>	Non-point source pollution education package		
<b>Applicant:</b>	OSU Office of Sponsored Programs		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$26,845.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$37,553.00

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### **Application Description**

Under this project, OSU Extension in Jackson County proposes to conduct educational programs with 4th-12th grade classes in NPDES Phase II communities in the Rogue Valley, as well as work with the Jackson County community at large to enhance their understanding of water quality issues and raise awareness of Bear Creek TMDL implementation. In Ashland, the project will work with the Ashland Forest Resiliency Project to educate Ashland residents about the connection between healthy forests and a healthy water supply. The anticipated barriers to learning are the misconceptions and an overall lack of background knowledge among students and community members pertaining to general watershed functions. Jackson County students and community members have a limited understanding of their local watershed, riparian function, non-point source pollution and storm water runoff. Without background education, citizens will be unaware of the impact their decisions have on local water quality and will be unable to promote positive change. This will be addressed by engaging participants in activities, service learning projects and field tours that will increase their awareness and participation in local watershed enhancement. Riparian restoration projects will occur at unhealthy riparian areas, while learning about riparian function and the impacts of erosion, creek sedimentation and invasive species. Students will place "Dump No Waste. Drains to Creek" markers on storm drains in communities throughout Jackson County. Storm Drain marking projects will provide students with the opportunity to interact with, and educate, community members about storm water pollution. Outreach will be conducted in a variety of different forms in order to appeal to all learning styles. A survey developed by the City of Medford and Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) to gauge the level of public knowledge. Workshops coordinated with project partners will feature engaging presentations and slideshows and present the material in a manner that is easy to understand. Field tours that will cater to visual, hands-on learners will be held to enhance the learning experience.

Project Partners include Bear Creek Watershed Council, RVCOG, Rogue Valley Sewer Services, OSU Extension and Bear Creek Education Partners. OWEB funds will go towards project management, travel production and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

Non-point source pollution is an area where increased outreach and education is needed, and this project will continue to implement successful outreach and education in the the Rogue Valley on these issues. The project demonstrates strong local stakeholder and agency partnerships and working relationships. The partnerships make for a strong foundation for continuing the work. The project has attracted a good array of matching fund sources.

The RRT had some concerns on the expansion of project to cover fuel reduction outreach in the Ashland watershed. The application was vague on what would be done. No curriculum or examples were provided for the RRT on this issue. The RRT did feel that education and outreach was important on the issues of fuel and felt there was a strong need in the Ashland area for this type of work.

The project demonstrates a good mix of partnerships which will help to ensure that the project work is successful. The RRT did note, however, that DEQ was not included as partner. DEQ would be interested in participating in project activities. The RRT recommended that the applicant contact the local Medford DEQ office and involve them in the project planning and development. Overall, the RRT felt that the application could have been better written and more detail presented. The application did not document details on accomplishments from previous projects. The RRT was very interested in specific outcomes from the previous project and strongly recommended that the applicant make this a clear component of future proposals.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$26,845.00</b>

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Because OWEB lacks sufficient available 2009-2011 non-capital funding to meet the Board's non-capital funding target in March, staff recommends the Board award funds at its June Board meeting, dependent on OWEB's 2011-2013 budget.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$ 0.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2037</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b>	Priority Stream Assessments		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Stream Restoration Alliance of the Middle Rogue		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Josephine
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$5,393.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$11,813.00

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### **Application Description**

In 2010, the Stream Restoration Alliance of the Middle Rogue (SRA) completed an assessment of the existing conditions in the Middle Rogue. The work identified 22 streams as high priority to population recovery based on their fish population viability and proximity to population strongholds. Phase I of the strategy calls for assessing potential projects on these streams to gather habitat data and information regarding landowner participation, project complexity, the likelihood of success, response time, cost-effectiveness and species benefitted. This information would be used to prioritize and sequence individual habitat projects for the restoration effort. This project would support the Phase I site assessments on four priority streams for a total of 6.8 miles to be surveyed. The SRA would utilize a site assessment form developed specifically for this work. The form includes a description of ecologic and socio-economic conditions. Data will be collected using Rosgen and ODFW guidance and definitions.

Project partners involved in this project include the Middle Rogue Steelheaders, the Rogue Flyfishers and the Southern Oregon Flyfishers. OWEB funds will be used for project management and staff, travel and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT thought the proposed assessment work would be beneficial to the applicant and project partners' ultimate goal of restoring priority stream habitats for salmonids in the Middle Rogue watershed. The project would target private lands which may have been unavailable for samplings by agencies. The information would be important to selecting project areas and developing solutions to the habitat issues in those streams. The results of the project could help the applicant be more strategic in their restoration approach.

The RRT was concerned that none of the 25 landowners proposed to be involved in the project have been contacted. The RRT did not know how to determine the existing level of cooperation because the application provided no letters of support. The RRT thought it important that the landowners involved in the project needed to be contacted before the project could be recommended for funding. The RRT also noted that the application was vague and lacked detail about proposed activities and what criteria will be used in the work, and apparently was not developed in coordination with ODFW. Reviewers suggested that the application could be strengthened by providing: (1) detail on existing stream surveys in the project area, (2) more detail on why only four streams were chosen for the work, (3) more information on the protocols used for all the survey work, (4) clear coordination with ODFW and (5) a QA/QC plan.

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

Do Not Fund.

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

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2052</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b>	North Umpqua Pacific Lamprey Monitoring 2011		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$10,522.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$32,107.00

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### **Application Description**

This project will complete the last phase of a two-year telemetry research project on the North Umpqua Pacific lamprey and will assess the reproductive success of the lamprey tagged during 2010 in the study area. In 2009 and 2010, two-year classes of adult Pacific lamprey were tagged and monitored to assess their passage of the Winchester Dam and upstream migration. Approximately 90 percent of the tagged lamprey remained below the dam after migration season and many adult lamprey were found to be occupying spaces within the dam's "wood-crib" structures. This raised questions as to whether the lamprey were trapped or were preferentially using the habitat for overwintering.

Currently North Umpqua Pacific lamprey populations are suffering a sharp decline as indicated by Winchester Dam passage counts dating back to 1946. Very little is known about Pacific lamprey distribution, population and passage in the North Umpqua sub-basin. The tags used for the previous phase of the project will expire in the summer of 2011 (due to battery life). The spring/summer of 2011 represents the remaining chance to monitor their migration and spawning behavior with the currently embedded tags.

Project partners involved in this project include ODFW, OSU, USGS and the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR). OWEB funds will be used for project staff, mileage, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would be the final step in the lamprey monitoring project at Winchester Dam. There is little known about the decreases in lamprey numbers in the North Umpqua and the lamprey ability to navigate around Winchester Dam to spawning and rearing habitats above. This project could provide important information on these issues. The RRT overall felt that this was an important effort and questioned why the applicant did not include this final phase in the original proposal.

The RRT was concerned over the time sensitive nature of the project. The battery life in the tagged lamprey expires during the summer 2011. Delays in the project timeline could result in the inability to collect the data. The schedule describes tracking beginning in April with project conclusions to be made in August. OWEB does currently have a shortage of non-capital dollars and the ability to fund the project in March might be delayed. The application described the data being collected and analyzed by a graduate student or project contractor. The RRT questioned whether the application provided the justification for the levels of staffing requested. The team recognized the graduate student was collecting the lamprey information, but the basis for in-house personnel costs for the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR) were not clear and needed to have additional justification provided by the applicant or else these line items needed to be removed from the budget. While the supply costs were small, the budget listed the items together in one line item and presented it in a lumped format. The RRT would like to see future applications break out each item

and the costs to help in the evaluation of the budget. The RRT thought the USGS lodging cost was not warranted and recommended that this cost be removed from the funds requested from OWEB.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. The applicant will justify PUR staff positions and, if not justified, remove PUR staff time from the budget. USGS lodging costs need to be removed.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

1 of 1

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$8,960.00</b>

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the justification for the PUR staff positions. One position was not warranted for funding due to retirement. The applicant provided information outlining tasks the position would be responsible for during the project. Staff found that the one staff PUR position was warranted and necessary to the successful implementation of the project. The budget reduction reflects the removal of one PUR staff position and removal of the USGS lodging costs.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
			<b>\$8,960.00</b>

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$8,960.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2056</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Monitoring
<b>Project Name:</b>	Ni-les'tun Tidal Wetland Restoration Effectiveness Monitoring 2011-2016		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Ducks Unlimited Inc		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$249,543.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$336,793.00

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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. The OWEB restoration project 210-2032 will remove dikes and restore meandering channels, re-establishing historic tidal flows to benefit native species, and watershed health. The proposed effectiveness monitoring project builds on monitoring work already funded by OWEB and others but what is requested does not overlap with funded activities. 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, and water quality and salmonids prey availability. Baseline monitoring was completed in 2010. 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, 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 Oregon State University, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians, Green Point Consulting, 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**

The project would add additional monitoring components to the current effectiveness monitoring efforts at the Ni-les'tun tidal wetland restoration project. The application contained a lot of letters of support, clearly demonstrating the strong array of partnerships and support for this project. The monitoring of the restoration will have value in informing similar future tidal wetland restoration projects.

The RRT discussed the fish video monitoring in the project area and remained unsure how successful this technique was or if it should be replaced with snorkeling or seining or tried side by side with another technique. Some reviewers felt that while this technique has not been used a great deal, it has been used by

the Siletz Tribe with success. Additional information on the use of video monitoring would be helpful to future discussions. The applicant needs to communicate with ODFW on this component.

Reviewers discussed the proposed water quality monitoring and noted that it would be important for the applicant to coordinate with the local DEQ office regarding water quality parameters to be monitored. The RRT felt the application lacked budget detail. Specifically, they were concerned as to how budget numbers were established since amounts were presented as lump sums. Reviewers felt that without a more detailed budget they could not evaluate cost effectiveness or cost appropriateness of this multi-component project, and could not tell who was doing the work.

The RRT is supportive of this important project and would like to support monitoring that will inform future tidal wetlands restoration projects. At the same time they did not feel comfortable recommending funding at this time. Reviewers discussed the timeline and schedule outlined in the application and concluded that crucial elements would not be missed if the applicant resubmitted the application in the next October cycle with greater detail. The baseline monitoring appears to be done, or have funds secured already, and this project request does not contain baseline monitoring components. The actual breach of the dike will not take place until the summer of 2011, and the proposed monitoring schedule looks to be heaviest in the years following the breach. The RRT wanted the applicant to coordinate with DEQ's office in Coos Bay regarding water quality monitoring including potentially looking at other water quality parameters such as temperature, salinity, possible fecal bacteria in the area, dissolved organic carbon and potential high levels of foaming occurring after project implementation.

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

Do Not Fund.

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

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2026</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Riley Creek Habitat Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Lower Rogue WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$90,993.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$115,076.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve instream habitat conditions on the mainstem of Riley Creek and along sections of South Riley Creek located in Gold Beach. 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. Historically, Riley Creek and its tributaries were utilized by steelhead and coho. Fish passage barriers and simplified instream habitat conditions have resulted in poor habitat and incised banks in this urban stream. The project will take place along 0.35 miles of stream adjacent to Riley Creek School. Three rock riffles and two longitudinal peaked stone toe protection structures will be installed to help with stream grade control. Large wood and root wads will be placed to help stabilize stream banks at two sites in the project reach. Additional bioengineering techniques will be employed throughout the reach to help restore natural stream function. This will involve bank reconstruction, toe stabilization using logs, root wads and rock, compost socks and brush layering. Additionally, bioengineering techniques will be utilized to reinforce abutments on two of the replaced culverts in previous project work where the abutments have the potential to erode. Brush layering will be incorporated here to stabilize the area. The project is part of a community-based prioritized plan for restoration of Riley Creek.

Project partners providing project match include , USFWS, ODFW, the City of Gold Beach, OSU Extension, Southwestern Oregon Community College, ReMediation, Salix Applied Earthcare, 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 project builds on fish passage activities in the watershed and begins to work on restoring instream habitat. The project would build on the already high level of outreach and education opportunities the previous projects have offered. The project has demonstrated a good level of local coordination and partnerships.

The RRT was concerned with the high cost of the project to work on .35 miles of habitat and whether the benefits would support the costs. The stream is a direct tributary to the Pacific and currently only supports steelhead and cutthroat trout, but it does have the potential to support populations of coho and Chinook. The RRT did not have a high level of comfort with the riffle component of the project. The application did not provide enough details on how the riffles would be sized and constructed and whether they would be effective in an area with deeply incised banks. The RRT found the budget hard to evaluate. Lump sums were used in several budget items making it hard to determine how costs were arrived at or what they were based on. The reviewers thought that \$150 per hour cost for the workshop was not reasonable. The budget appeared to show costs for travel and lodging for five people from out of state. Costs could be reduced by utilizing more local resources and perhaps just one out of state consultant if needed. The RRT was not sure that the training video component was necessary. There is a lot of training material out there and the RRT

was not sure if another was needed. There is a riparian planting component of the proposal, but the application was vague on the work, making it hard to evaluate likely success. It was noted that the applicant did not fill out the Question 17 planting activities insert information. This would have helped the RRT evaluate the work. The RRT also felt the alternatives analysis was weak. The RRT was supportive of restoring the stream and felt the project had the potential to provide valuable education and outreach benefits for urban landowners. The RRT felt the applicant needed to provide more project specific technical design and implementation information, look at reducing costs and consider other project alternatives more closely.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund

## October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2027</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Little Butte Creek Meander Restoration Project		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Geos Institute		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$79,829.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$770,464.00

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### **Application Description**

The project requests additional funds to support a previous OWEB project (210-2000), which will recreate a historic channel on lower Little Butte Creek within the state-owned Denman Wildlife Area on Little Butte Creek near its confluence with the Rogue River. This reach of Little Butte Creek was straightened and constrained by a dike in the 1950's to control flooding and to facilitate aggregate mining and farming. The final project design and permitting work resulted in some changes to the original project. The project still maintains the general character of the original design and the goals and the benefits of the project remain unchanged from those identified in project 210-2000. Upon completion of the final design, it became evident that additional riparian and wetland enhancement along the new channel was necessary to facilitate long-term channel stability, instream habitat quality and riparian habitat quality. The stream has lost connection with its floodplain, been scoured to bedrock and lost habitat complexity. Returning the stream to its historic channel will solve these problems. The increased floodplain storage will also increase fine sediment depositional area, helping to reduce downstream water quality as it attenuates peak flow events. Long term water temperature benefits are also expected. The historic meandering channel is still visible today and is partially intact. Considerable amounts of native riparian vegetation (willows, cottonwoods, alders) still line its banks. The proposed solution is to return Little Butte Creek to its historic, meandering channel and construct alcove and log complex habitat features. This will reconnect the stream to its floodplain and provide complex habitats for native fishes. Approximately 0.7 stream miles will be treated. Project activities would benefit coho, steelhead, resident trout and Chinook.

The historic channel has undergone significant alteration. Therefore, some channel shaping and grading will be necessary before returning water to this channel can occur. Where needed, banks will be shaped to a natural angle of repose to allow riparian vegetation development and natural floodplain connectivity. Additional habitat features will be incorporated into the historic channel. Log complexes and alcoves will be created to increase aquatic habitat quality. Four riffles will be constructed by adding gravels, cobbles, and boulders to the historic channel to replace those lost to aggregate mining and to create a natural pool to riffle ratio. The historic channel will be re-activated by abandoning the current channel and diverting 100 percent of the creek's flow into the former stream course. Earthen and rock plugs will be used to prevent water from flowing down the current, straightened channel. The areas lacking native riparian vegetation will be replanted with native species. Project activities are consistent with findings and recommendations from *The Watershed Health Factors Assessment* (Rogue Basin Coordinating Council 2006), the *Denman Wildlife Area Management Plan* (2006) and the *Little Butte Creek Watershed Analysis*. ODFW will conduct aquatic inventories surveys, spawning surveys and riparian vegetation survival monitoring.

Project partners include ODFW, Middle Rogue Steelheaders, the Medford Water Commission, DEQ, USFWS and The Nature Conservancy. OWEB funds would be used for design, project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The application is a request for additional funds to support the implementation of project 210-2000 which has run into increased costs following final project design and contractor bidding. This request would support the increased costs. Project 210-2000 has not been implemented yet.

The RRT was highly supportive of the original project, but they concluded that the applicant did not make the case for increasing the amount of funding. They noted that the application asked for funding for increased riparian planting (more than proposed in 210-2000), but did not explain why the increased planting is needed. Is it essential to project success? It was not clear. The RRT also noted that the riparian component did not provide enough project detail to determine what would be done or why there was an increase in costs. The RRT was concerned with the planting schedule and felt that willow plantings in September had a low chance of success as would the planting of non-dormant willows. They thought that using an excavator for large trees in the middle of summer was a bad idea. They liked that the planting plan anticipates irrigation but wondered where is the source of water.

The RRT noted that the original 210-2000 budget was for a small stream segment and encouraged the applicant to consider using more volunteer labor to reduce the planting costs. The RRT was sympathetic to the plight that the applicant faced with an unexpected increase in permitting costs, but after discussing this aspect of the application, they concluded that the application did not contain enough new information or new elements in the project as originally funded and recommended that OWEB not fund the application.

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

Do Not Fund.

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

Do Not Fund.

## October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2028</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Monson Fish Passage and Sediment Abatement		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$71,689.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$92,128.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve juvenile coho passage on a middle reach of Johnson Creek, a tributary to Tenmile Lakes. Two culverts will be replaced with bridges which will improve access to an estimated four miles of habitat. The stream has been highly impacted by past land use practices, agriculture and forestry. The culvert sites pose a high risk for failure. Nutrient loading from these high erosion potential sites has direct linkages to the growth, distribution and densities of toxic blue-green algae and the heavy infestation of the exotic plant, *Egeria densa* in the Lakes.

The bridges will be concrete stringer bridges, and the installation will comply with the Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership (TLBP) Stream Crossing Repair Standards which are similar to ODOT standards and have been reviewed and approved by DSL and ACOE. Johnson Creek is a high priority basin for coho within the Tenmile Lakes watershed. The project is consistent with the *Tenmile Lakes Voluntary Water Quality Implementation Plan* (TLBP 2008) and the *Tenmile Lakes Fish Passage Plan* (TLBP 2009). The project ties directly into multiple fish passage improvement and sediment reduction projects on this stream system.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include the City of Lakeside, Wilcox Engineering and ODFW. OWEB funds will be used for permitting, project staff, supplies and materials, contracted services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project takes place in high priority habitat for coho and is important to do. The project will improve fish access to four miles of habitat and will help reduce sediment loading into the stream and lake.

The RRT supported the project but raised some questions and asked OWEB staff to follow up. Reviewers were concerned that the inspector on the project is the landowner and wanted to see additional project inspection built into the project. Landowners are contributing in-kind heavy equipment time to help support the project. Contractors will also be utilized for heavy equipment work for bridge placement. The RRT felt the time allocated for project management was not warranted by the project tasks and schedule. The RRT was also concerned that the cost per hour for the project manager was very low for this type of work. The RRT felt the applicant needed to provide a work plan for the project manager which detailed the actual time the management of the project will take. The RRT was concerned over the amount of rock and wanted the applicant to work towards as much natural streambed simulation as possible. It was recognized that rock is required to ensure structure stability, but the RRT encouraged the applicant to utilize as little rock as possible in shoring up the banks. During discussion of this issue, reviewers noted that the amount of rock and design will be a consultation issue that will be looked at by NOAA during the permitting process, and with that information they felt more comfortable. The RRT noted that future applications of this type would be benefit by providing more hydrologic data.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of access to habitat for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout as well as improve water quality conditions through the project reach and below.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. The applicant must justify Project Manager time and provide for additional project qualified inspection.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$71,689.00</b>			

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant about the RRT concerns. The applicant provided information on project inspections. A project committee, which includes a state certified engineer, inspects projects prior to, during and after project completion. The applicant provided the names of the project committee and the name of the engineer with documentation confirming state certification. The applicant provided additional detail on the Project Manager (PM) work activities and the basis for the timeline. PM work activities and time estimated for the project are based on experience from construction of over 40 other bridge structures in the watershed over the last ten years. These tasks and timelines cover activities ranging from pre-implementation and permitting, contracting and material procurement, project implementation and oversight, to project close out and reporting. The applicant provided enough documentation from similar projects along with workplan information to justify the time period the PM will work.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$71,689.00</b>			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$71,689.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2032</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Quartz Creek Restoration - Hardin		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Stream Restoration Alliance of the Middle Rogue		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Josephine
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$50,675.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$70,757.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to address the loss of riparian vegetation and loss of bank stability on a property on Quartz Creek through riparian plantings and the placement of instream structures and bioengineering techniques. Quartz Creek is a tributary to Jumpoff Joe Creek, a tributary to the Rogue River located near Merlin, Oregon. Historic land management involved the removal of large wood from the channel and loss of complex riparian areas. Currently few pieces of large wood are found in these reaches, and the riparian area is extremely simplified with non-native blackberry species dominating sections of the riparian area. Bank incising is evident in several locations, likely due to the removal of wood and riparian vegetation.

Under this proposal, bank stability will be restored to the 700 foot project reach. Four hundred feet of vertical bank will be shaped and sloped to a 3:1 slope. These slopes will be protected with 36 log/rock structures installed along the toe of the slope. The entire riparian area will have non-native blackberries removed and replanted with native trees and shrubs. The riparian planting will be irrigate to help insure survival. The project will help improve water quality in the project reach as well as increase the quality and quantity of summer and winter rearing and spawning habitat for coho and steelhead. The project is consistent with recommendations from the *Rogue Basin Coordinating Council Watershed Health Limiting Factors Assessment* (2006) and the *Middle Rogue 2009 Comprehensive Stream Restoration Strategy*.

Project partners include ODFW, BLM, landowners, MRWC, the Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, Rogue Fly Fishers and Middle Rogue Steelheaders. OWEB funds will be used for project coordination, materials, contracted services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project is a resubmit. The last review resulted in a no fund recommendation from the RRT. The project shows a lot of interest and commitment to the success of project by the landowner. The project would benefit coho and takes place in a high intrinsic potential area. The work would help build connectivity to projects above the site. The project would also provide good outreach potential to other landowners.

The RRT noted that the quality of the application had improved since the previous application, but still found essential information and details lacking. Reviewers noted that a lot of rock and logs were proposed for bank stabilization and did not see enough information explaining the fish and habitat benefits of this part of the proposal. In their review of the previous application, the RRT had asked for ODFW involvement in the project design, review and inspection and the application did not address those prior comments. Reviewers wanted to see a project design and noted that the application did not contain hydrologic information such as what "bankfull" was. This would be helpful in evaluating the likelihood of success. The costs seemed high for such a short section of stream. Information on what the estimated costs are based on and how costs were determined would be helpful in looking at the cost effectiveness of the proposal. For example, the application did not show the cost of the plants. The RRT also wanted to see more detail on the use of

herbicides. Reviewers noted that this area is potentially high quality habitat for coho and steelhead but found the answer to question R4 very vague about how success would be measured. The RRT noted that the application was not well written and thought that due to the complex nature of this project it might benefit from a small technical assistance grant to help aid with designs.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2035</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Elk Creek Habitat Improvement		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Elk Creek WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$42,940.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$72,750.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve instream habitat along one-half mile of Elk Creek located in the Umpqua River watershed. The project will construct five full-spanning rock weirs to trap gravels, and create pool habitat along with increasing hyporeic flow and reducing summer water temperatures. The project will help create additional pool habitats for juvenile coho and other salmonids. Historic land management activities, stream cleaning and channel straightening have contributed to increased water velocities which have eroded the stream to bedrock. As a result, there is little complex habitat for juvenile fish, and no accumulated gravels to help cool summer water temperatures.

The boulder weirs will consist of approximately 160 large boulders averaging one and a half cubic yards in size. The active channel width in the project area is thirty two feet plus and the stream gradient is generally less than one percent. The boulder weirs will be constructed by an excavator. With this perspective, all degraded but interdependent habitats within the Wasson Creek watershed will receive treatments that the best contemporary science recommends for the project and falls into an area designated by ODFW as high Intrinsic Potential for coho. Project activities are consistent with activities necessary to address habitat conditions and limiting factors identified in local BLM watershed analysis's and ODFW Aquatic Habitat surveys of Elk Creek and the project area. Project activities will be consistent with the *Oregon Habitat Restoration Guides*. Summer water temperatures will be monitored above and below the project site as well as in an untreated control reach.

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

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

This application was a resubmittal of a proposal that the review team had previously recommended "no fund." The landowner is very proactive and is enrolled in the CREP program. This is an important coho stream that has been extremely simplified and down cut to bedrock and the stream banks are incised and about 15 feet tall. The active channel width is between 30 feet and 50 feet, and because of this and the steepness of the bank, the applicant decided that wood is not an optimal approach, it would be hard to get the wood to remain in place and difficult to work effectively in the channel. The rock weirs will be designed with large rock and will be longer than typically used. The weirs will be placed at a longer 65 degree angle instead of a 45 degree angle to help promote stability. The banks will be armored to prevent downcutting.

The RRT noted that in response to their previous comments in the original application, the applicant did not modify the application, and they would have liked to see more effort to address their concerns. Reviewers had a long discussion about the design and effectiveness of the proposed rock structures. They wondered whether the proposed project would address the causes of stream incisement, or would be band-aids on symptoms. For example, would it be an alternative to pull the banks back and reconnect to the flood plain?

They would have liked to see the applicant discuss the success of other boulder weir projects and their effect on fish habitat and fish use. They would have liked to see the applicant make more of an effort to tie this project to low terraces and potential alcove areas associated with that reach. The RRT was concerned that the project would utilize too much rock and too many structures in a stretch where benefits to fisheries will be questionable. The RRT encouraged the applicant to look at redesign and be less intrusive with rock. The RRT felt that the connection between large wood and coho has been established and that rock does not have the benefits that wood brings. The applicant may want to start higher in the system and work down rather than trying to begin lower in the system. Future applications should address the issues raised by the RRT by providing the requested information and looking at alternatives.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2036</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Brush Creek Instream Restoration ( Phase I )		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Elk Creek WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$136,600.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$251,450.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to enhance instream habitat in Brush Creek and Squaw Creek, in the Elk Creek drainage located in the Umpqua River watershed, through the placement of large wood and boulders along 5.1 miles of stream. The Elk Creek watershed provides spawning and rearing habitat for coho and Chinook salmon, cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey. Removal of large wood from the stream channel has resulted in an incised, bedrock-dominated channel that is largely disconnected from the historical floodplain. This is an important winter habitat for juvenile coho and other species. Past land use practices have degraded much of the habitat in the watershed, especially in the lower gradient reaches which contain the majority of the best coho habitat. Incised channels are widespread. Many have been reduced to bedrock by splash dams to move logs to the mills, by channel straightening to create pasture land or to reduce flooding, and by "stream cleaning," a required forest practice in the 1960s and '70s, which removed most of the large woody debris from the channel.

Approximately 470 large logs and 450 large boulders will be placed in approximately 5.1 miles of Brush Creek and Squaw Creek. Willows will be planted throughout the project area to improve forage for beavers and expand beaver activity. Invasive weeds will be treated and conifers planted in reaches of both streams totally approximately two miles of stream receiving riparian plantings. Instream sites will be selected at suitable pinch points with existing riparian trees to secure the structures and at locations that provide opportunities to improve floodplain connectivity. Staging areas will be selected that provide access to the stream channel with minimum impact to the riparian area. Logs and boulders will be placed with an excavator. All logs will be at least twice the active channel width and comply with ODFW log placement guidelines. Large boulders will be used to seal and reinforce structures. Log and boulder placement will be supervised by BLM and ODFW biologists to assure minimum impacts to fish, their habitat or the riparian area.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include Roseburg BLM, Lone Rock Timber, Douglas SWCD and ODFW. OWEB funds will be used for design and engineering, contracted services, supplies and materials, project management and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would take place in high intrinsic potential habitat for coho at a low cost per mile. The stream is not incised, but stream cleaning has removed the large wood from the system. Stream temperatures are cool in the summer, and there is already a large beaver complex in the project area which provides exceptional rearing habitats for juveniles. The project demonstrates good partnerships with strong ODFW and BLM involvement in the design and oversight. The project will place large wood and boulder combinations. The RRT felt the project was a high priority and had a high likelihood of success.

The RRT noted some concern with the high level of match that was unsecured. The RRT felt the measureable objectives were weak and commented that overall the response to this question was a weak area in most applications. The budget for the excavator was in the form of a lump sum. The RRT would like the applicant to provide more budget detail in future applications and avoid lump sums. The RRT would also like to see more specifics in the future on what match and in-kind dollars being put into the project are for specifically and the source they are coming from. The RRT wanted to see additional information on the qualifications of the instream design contracted services provider. The RRT felt it was important to see how this position fit in with and augmented the design efforts of BLM and ODFW. The reviewers also wanted to see more information on his qualifications and what that provider would be doing to justify the cost.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of stream function and instream habitat for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Applicant will provide qualifications and cost justification for the instream design contracted services provider.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$136,600.00</b>			

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the instream design contracted services provider. The applicant provided qualification information for the contractor as well as providing information on work history. The contractor undertook spawning surveys and habitat surveys for ODFW on the project streams as well as conducted detailed habitat project potential reports for BLM on the streams as well. The contractor will be involved in developing final site designs with ODFW and BLM biologists. The costs and time estimated for the position are based on estimates for the amount of structures that will be designed per mile and the time required to do the work. The contractor will work closely with ODFW and BLM biologists. The information provided by the applicant showed reasonable justification for the position.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund with Conditions. Applicant will provide qualifications and cost justification for the instream design contracted services provider.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$136,600.00</b>			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$136,600.00**

## October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2039</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Squaw Creek Salmon Habitat Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	South Umpqua Rural Community Partnership		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$99,500.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$470,210.00

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### **Application Description**

The project plans to restore fish habitat by placing large wood to the lowest three miles of Squaw Creek and restoring unhindered salmon and steelhead passage to Ralph and Tallow creeks. The streams are located in the South Umpqua watershed. The project addresses several watershed problems. The first watershed issue is access to valuable habitat through barrier culverts; the second is restoring aquatic habitat lost when large wood was removed from the streams decades ago. Loss of large wood from the stream and lack of instream diversity has resulted from historic large wood removal and riparian logging. Removal of instream wood allowed bed load to exit the system during flood events and quality deep gravels is lacking in the lower reach as a result. Large wood removal and high water scour has converted the stream to a series of riffles with smaller pools. Squaw Creek's upper headwaters are within a large roadless area. The stream has enough remaining quality habitat and a summertime low water temperature that the stream maintains populations of salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout.

The proposed solution is to replace two culverts on Ralph and Tallow creeks with arches and with natural substrate in the bottom as per Forest Service stream simulation guidelines for fish passage and to restore large wood to Squaw Creek in stable accumulations. The project will employ the use of a helicopter for log placement; 300 pieces of large wood will be flown to project sites. The wood will meet ODFW instream guidelines. Large wood will be placed in stable accumulations ranging from 3 - 15 pieces in each structure. Sites will focus on stream segments with side channels, some existing flood plain connectivity and the highest potential for restoring habitat. The project is consistent with recommendations from the *Umpqua Basin Action Plan, "Tiller Region, South Umpqua Subbasin"* (PUR 2003).

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include USFWS and USFS. OWEB funds will be used for contracted services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project complements and builds on other successful log placement projects in the area, and it would be the final large wood placement project for this watershed and on this creek. The stream provides cold summer water temperatures and it is an important stream for coho.

Reviewers supported the project and were confident that the applicant's tremendous experience and strong track record supported likely success, but noted areas for improvement in the application. As a standard practice, the applicant needs to provide in future applications the names and qualifications of people involved in design and implementation of the project. Applicants assume RRT members are familiar with agency and private consultants but this is not necessarily the case. The RRT also commented that lump sums in budgets are not helpful when reviewing the budgets. All applicants need to work on providing the budget detail and cost justification necessary for the RRT to evaluate the cost effectiveness of proposed projects. The RRT

also noted that this application, like many other applications, does not go into a great deal of detail on the hydrology and channel form.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of stream function and instream habitat for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$99,500.00</b>			

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$99,500.00</b>			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$99,500.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2041</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Larson Creek Fish Passage Project		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Bear Creek WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Jackson
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$168,040.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$225,040.00

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### **Application Description**

Two existing culverts (at Ellendale Road and at Black Oak Road) on Larson Creek, a tributary to Bear Creek, in southeast Medford, are barriers to fish passage. The proposed solution at both culverts is to construct an engineered riffle to eliminate the drop at the culvert exits and to provide baffling inside the culverts to provide adequate flow depth during low flows. The combination of the engineered riffles and baffles at the culverts will provide fish passage at these sites, opening up more than three miles of spawning and rearing habitat for steelhead and two miles of spawning and rearing habitat for coho.

Larson Creek flows year round through the City of Medford, supporting coho as well as winter and summer steelhead. Larson Creek has several road crossings within the city limits that provide vital access to commercial and residential sections of Medford. The Bear Creek Watershed Council (BCWC) has conducted an inventory of fish and identified the culverts at Ellendale Drive and Black Oak Drive as a high priority in the Bear Creek watershed. Ellendale Drive crosses Larson Creek approximately 0.37 miles from the confluence with Bear Creek. The Ellendale Drive crossing is a concrete box culvert with a 3-foot drop at the exit. Black Oak Drive crosses Larson Creek approximately 1.04 miles from the confluence with Bear Creek. The Black Oak Drive crossing is a concrete double box culvert with a ramp exit. Due to inadequacies in the original crossing designs to provide fish passage and recent changes in the channels due to hydrologic events, both culverts are presently obstacles to fish.

The proposed work would occur on the private land adjacent to the culvert structures. The current culverts are in good condition in relation to usage as a crossing and, because of this, not prioritized by the City for replacement or improvement in their current 20-year construction plan, the work being proposed at the structures would only improve fish passage and not improve the structures in any other way. The proposed solution at both sites is to construct an engineered riffle immediately below the culverts and install new baffles in culvert. The engineered riffle will remove the drop and provide easy access into the culverts where the baffles will aid in navigation through the structure. In summer 2011, the City of Medford is replacing a culvert upstream of the proposed project sites with a bridge. If the proposed project sites were to be addressed, then the final obstacles would be removed allowing for unobstructed fish passage in Larson Creek. This will provide access for anadromous fish to the upper reaches of Larson Creek.

Partners providing in-kind match include the City of Medford, RVCOG, and BCWC. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project is a high priority for the Bear Creek watershed. The barriers present a complete barrier to juvenile migration upstream. The project is highly visible and presents a good potential for outreach and education. The project would restore passage and create additional winter refugia for juvenile salmonids, especially for coho. This is extremely important in this watershed where winter habitat is limited.

The available habitat in Bear Creek is not growing and in fact getting harder to access as the urban growth boundaries expand in the Rogue Valley. It is important to open up and protect what is left. The project costs more than a similar project on forest or agriculture land, but the RRT recognized the increased price tag represents some of the increased costs of implementing projects in an urban area. While the application was not very clear on the matter of ODFW and BOR involvement in the project, both agencies are involved and supportive of the project. BOR will provide an engineer on site during the construction phase.

The technique proposed is not one that has been tried a lot locally, and the RRT discussed at length the stability of the artificial riffles and the possible increase in flow heights. Similar projects have been implemented successfully in California and BOR has a high degree of confidence in the proposed fix. The implementation is time consuming and a meticulous process to place the rock, but in the end it will be designed and constructed for no rise and designed to stay intact. The RRT recognized that the design would be scrutinized during the permitting process and any potential issues with the proposed design would be looked at and addressed. The RRT noted that the timeline for permitting was unrealistic and needed to be revisited, and urged the applicant to start the permitting process immediately. The RRT cautioned that the baffles to be placed could become maintenance issues, and the applicant needed to make sure that was worked into their agreements with the City of Medford. It was noted that baffle maintenance will likely be a requirement of consultation.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of stream connectivity and restoring juvenile salmonid passage and access to stream habitats above the barriers.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$168,040.00</b>			

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$168,040.00</b>			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$168,040.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2044</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Catching Slough Sub-basin Fish Passage Improvements 2011		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coos Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$82,739.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$140,839.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve fish passage and reduce fine sediment delivery in the Catching Slough sub-basin by replacing three stream crossings during 2011. These projects will improve fish access to 2.4 miles of good to excellent spawning and rearing habitat. The Catching Slough sub-basin, connecting to the Coos River at the head of the estuary is an area of high value to Chinook and coho salmon, steelhead, cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey, among other aquatic species. Road construction led to the installation of under-sized and perched culverts that currently limit migratory patterns of salmonids aquatic species. OWEB funds will be used to replace two of these crossings in Catching Creek with appropriately sized corrugated metal pipe-arch culverts. These two stream crossing upgrades would improve access to 1.8 miles of habitat. Catching Slough flows into the Coos River just as it enters Coos Bay.

The Coos Watershed Association completed a watershed assessment of the Catching Slough sub-basin in 2008. This assessment found 12 stream crossing culverts that limit salmonid migration. It was also determined that 17 stream crossings need to be replaced to prevent road failure and subsequent delivery of fine sediment to streams. The project is consistent with findings and recommendations from that assessment. The three culverts are on Lower Catching Creek, Upper Catching Creek, and Tributary D to Wilson Creek. The culverts proposed as replacement are designed to pass a minimum 100-year event according to criteria in the *Oregon Road/Stream Crossing Restoration Guide* (1999) and meet the *ODFW Fish Passage Guidance* (October, 2004).

Project partners include the Bureau of Land Management, ODFW and the Coos County Roads Department. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials, and travel.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The existing culverts are juvenile barriers but adults could get through them. The project would improve access for coho, Chinook, steelhead and cutthroat trout. The stream has high intrinsic potential habitat for coho. The applicant did look at the alternative of restoring the historic meander pattern of the stream which would have negated the need for culvert replacement, but opposition from a neighboring landowner prevented that option from moving forward.

The RRT was slightly confused by the barrier map which showed a barrier downstream. The RRT concluded that it was most likely the tide gate at the head of the stream which allows for fish passage to some degree. The RRT discussed the use of other culvert projects as valid match. The culverts proposed under this proposal contain varying degrees of funds being requested from OWEB, some more and some less. The culverts are all in the same sub-watershed and are part of a planned approach to restoring fish passage. None of the culvert work has been implemented. The applicant could move the funding source levels around between projects but the proposal contains the best budgeting effort, and it makes sense to their program and approach to addressing the priority fish passage barriers in one field season. The RRT was concerned that

the project manager time and the time allocated for the excavator might be high based on the information the application provided. The RRT requested that the applicant provide a work plan and examples from other similar projects that shows the time is warranted.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of access to upstream habitats for habitat for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout as well as improve water quality conditions through the project reach and below.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Applicant will clarify costs of the project manager and excavator.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
\$82,739.00			

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant to determine how the project manager's (PM) time on the project was determined to see how the number of days and and final cost for that position was determined. The applicant provided details based on previous similar project implementation experience that has helped them plan the time required for the project manger during the pre-implementation, construction and post-construction project phases. This project also added additional levels of time commitment due to the issue that the culverts fell into the FEMA flood zone and the Coos County requirements for the permitting process add additional requirements and workload. The costs for the excavator are based on experiences from similar projects. The culvert sites for this project have greater fill depths then normally encountered as well as phone line and traffic control issues and providing a temporary by-pass road during project implementation. The applicant provided enough details and information showing the basis for the costs and timelines expected for project implementation to justify the costs and time for the PM and excavator.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
\$82,739.00			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$82,739.00

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2045</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Hardscrabble and Jack Creeks Fish Passage Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$59,210.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$116,597.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to address nine culverts which create fish passage issues on Jack and Hardscrabble creeks. These streams are tributaries to the Elk Creek drainage located in the Umpqua River watershed. The two streams have multiple fish passage blocking culverts in the upper part of the watersheds. After a winter storm in 2005, four culverts in the project area completely washed out or lost a significant portion of the road, contributing many cubic yards of road-generated sediment into the streams. Additionally, five more culverts that did not wash out were severely scoured when they were overtopped by water.

This project, when completed, will open up 3.5 miles of anadromous fish habitat. Two of the three culverts to be replaced will have new culverts installed and the third will be replaced with a pre-fabricated bridge. Fish passage culverts are designed to match the channel width of the stream. Sizing culverts this way allows them to withstand 100-year flood and to pass wood and other debris that move through the creek during storm events and debris flows. The culverts were designed to meet state and federal fish passage standards and will greatly exceed the requirements of the *Oregon Forest Practices Act*.

The remaining six culverts will be pulled because those streamside roads are no longer used or needed by the landowner. First, an excavator will excavate and remove the old culvert. From there, the operator will cut the banks back at a natural slope that blends into the upper and lower stream banks. The dirt removed from the site will initially be piled up. But before the machine leaves, it will spread the material out in a thin layer around the site, avoiding areas where water drains. The excavator will then compact the old rusted pipe and haul it off site. This project will build on efforts the applicant, BLM and various private timber landowners have undertaken to complete fish passage and instream enhancement projects in almost every tributary to Elk Creek below Hardscrabble Creek.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include Seneca Jones Timber Company and ODFW. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project takes place on streams with high intrinsic potential habitat for coho and there is 3.5 miles of high intrinsic habitat above the barriers. The project demonstrates strong partnerships with good levels of match. ODFW is involved in the project and the culvert design work has been reviewed by a hydrologist. The application did a good job of describing and showing the rationale behind the chosen fixes. The work is designed to meet a 100-year event. Reviewers appreciated that the project was linked to state conservation plans. The RRT commended the landowner for providing significant match for the project.

The RRT had some concerns over the "home-made" concrete bridge and the lack of engineering specifications. The application left the RRT questioning if an engineer would inspect and sign off on the

finished product. It was not clear if this approach would save on costs. The RRT felt that additional information was needed on the engineered design, specifications and inspection. The RRT felt the application did not describe the rationale behind the time allocated for the executive director and the staff project manager and wanted these costs justified.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of fish passage for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. The applicant will provide engineering design and inspection information for the bridge, and provide justification for executive director and project manager staff time.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

5 of 13

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$59,210.00</b>			

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the PUR staff positions. The staff will be heavily involved in pre-implementation, implementation and post-implementation project activities. Staff time requested for the project is based on previous project experiences for time requirements and costs. The applicant provided information sufficient to justify the time requested and the associated costs.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund with Conditions. The grant agreement will require the grantee to provide OWEB with bridge designs and qualifications of the bridge engineer and inspector before the first release of funds.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$59,210.00</b>			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$59,210.00**

## October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2046</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Wolf Creek Instream		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$271,174.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$659,724.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to build on extensive instream restoration work in the Wolf Creek basin, located in the Umpqua River watershed. In 2008 and 2009 the applicant and project partners restored ten miles of degraded salmon habitat in the Wolf Creek basin and are currently assessing the effectiveness of the log and boulder placement techniques used for the instream restoration. Stream habitats had been simplified through historic timber management and stream cleaning. Nine years of pre-project ODFW and BLM monitoring efforts showed salmonid production is limited across the basin by the lack of summer pool habitat, winter backwater habitat and spawning areas. Already, post-implementation monitoring has shown increases in coho density, gravel area suitable for spawning, sand area and length of pools in areas formerly dominated by bedrock. This project will implement the final phase of this project to occur during the instream work window of 2011 benefiting coho, steelhead, cutthroat trout and lamprey.

The project proposes an additional five miles of stream to be enhanced with helicopter and cable yarder-placed logs. Approximately 3.5 miles of stream will be enhanced with 350 helicopter-placed logs. Sites will consist of four to five logs each. Approximately 1.5 miles of the stream will be enhanced with 100 cable yarder-placed logs. Each site will consist of eight logs. All logs will comply with ODFW log placement guidelines. The project is consistent with recommendations from the *Umpqua Basin Action Plan* (PUR 2007). The project proposes an effectiveness monitoring component which includes activities such as snorkel, spawning, summer and winter habitat surveys, smolt trap monitoring, deployment of temperature data loggers and complete total station mapping. The recently installed USGS stream gage on Little Wolf Creek will provide a record of stream discharge pre-and post-project.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include USGS, BLM and ODFW. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would be the last phase of the efforts to restore instream habitats on Wolf Creek, which has high intrinsic potential habitat for coho. The project has demonstrated strong partnerships and cooperation. The work has been combined with an intensive monitoring effort that is showing the work is helping improve stream and water quality conditions.

The RRT supported the restoration portion of the project, but there were a few skeptical of the monitoring proposal. It was noted that the effectiveness monitoring component was one of the few examples of total monitoring of a system and would continue ongoing data gathering. Several reviewers wondered whether the project monitoring design is looking at the right questions regarding stream health, presence of food and stream processes. In essence, the RRT wanted assurances that if further monitoring monies are invested that what OWEB receives in return will help determine project effectiveness and inform future efforts. The RRT noted that the timeline for the monitoring component seemed very tight and questioned if it was realistic.

After a lengthy discussion, the RRT was supportive of the monitoring work, but wanted the applicant to spell out more clearly the monitoring workplan and timeline.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of instream habitat for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout as well as improve water quality conditions through the project reach and below.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Applicant will provide a monitoring workplan including a detailed timeline and justification of costs prior to receiving funds.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$271,174.00</b>	<b>\$57,275.00</b>		

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Fiscal administration costs for the Restoration grant agreement are reduced by \$5,003. The effectiveness monitoring component for this project will be placed into a grant agreement separate from the restoration project. The applicant will be required to provide a monitoring workplan including a detailed timeline and budget prior to receiving an Effectiveness Monitoring grant agreement to support the project's effectiveness monitoring activities.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$266,171.00</b>	<b>\$57,275.00</b>		

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$266,171.00**

## October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	211-2047	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	South Sisters Structure Placement Phase V		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Smith River WC		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	\$145,303.00	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$354,708.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to address simplified instream habitat conditions in South Sister Creek and Russell Creek, tributaries to the Smith River, located within the Umpqua River watershed. Large wood and boulders will be placed in severely scoured and bedrock dominated sections of these creeks. Historic land use practices, road building, logging and stream cleaning have altered and simplified instream habitat conditions. Twenty-eight log and/or boulder structures will be created along a two mile section of stream. Five existing structure sites will have logs and boulders added to make them function more effectively. The structures will be placed with an excavator. The structures will reconnect the stream channel with the floodplain, trap gravel and woody debris to help create spawning beds, complex pools and additional winter refuge opportunities for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout. Boulders will average 1.5 cubic yards in size and logs will meet or exceed the *ODFW Aquatic Restoration Guide*.

The project addresses limiting factors identified in the *Summary of Watershed Health Indicators for the Oregon Coast ESU* (2008). The project builds on extensive instream habitat restoration efforts within this sub-basin. Project activities will benefit winter habitats for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout as well as improve stream channel complexity.

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

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project is a resubmit and was not recommended for funding by the RRT last cycle. The project builds on a great deal of instream work in the basin and the stream is high intrinsic potential habitat for coho. The RRT concluded that the applicant addressed the concerns from the previous review regarding noxious weed prevention and priority of the project in the watershed. The RRT found the project to have good partnerships and cooperation between agencies and stakeholders.

### **Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of instream habitat for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout.

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

Fund.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

4 of 13

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$145,303.00</b>			

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$145,303.00</b>			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$145,303.00**

## October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2048</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Big and Sagabeard Creeks Fish Passage		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$109,249.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$274,329.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to replace two culverts, one on Sagabeard Creek and one on Big Creek. Both streams are tributaries to the Umpqua River. These culverts are undersized, barriers to fish passage and have been causing both upstream and downstream erosion around the sites. The Big Creek culvert is rusted out and is a complete barrier to all fish passage with a six-foot outfall and little to no jump pool. The Sagabeard culvert has a 5 percent gradient that results in a velocity barrier to fish at high flows. In addition, there is concern that both culverts will fail and deliver a large amount of sediment into the mainstem Umpqua River.

The proposed solution is to replace the culvert at Big Creek with a 117 inch x 79 inch x 107 foot pipe arch. The Sagabeard Creek culvert will be moved upstream 600 feet and replaced with a 19 foot x 9 foot, 6 inch x 84 foot open bottom arch on concrete footings. Both replacement culverts have been designed to match the width of the stream and meet a 50-year flood event. The new culverts will open about 1.5 miles of critical spawning and rearing habitat for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout, decrease erosion and reduce the risk of culvert failure and resulting sediment delivery to the mainstem Umpqua River. The project is consistent with recommendations from the *Umpqua Basin Action Plan* (PUR 2007).

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include BLM, Roseburg Resources Company and ODFW. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services, materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT noted that Big Creek and Sagabeard Creek are good backwater areas for juvenile coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout and that the project will open up 1.5 miles of habitat for good benefits. The two existing culverts are undersized and rusted out and need to be addressed.

Despite support for the goals of the project, the RRT found the application to be lacking in essential detail on the stream gradient, design criteria for the culverts, and information on why a 50-year event design was used and not a 100-year event. The RRT would have liked to see information on the design engineer including other projects designed. The Day Creek culvert has a 6-foot outfall. The application did not discuss the potential for headcutting that would be likely if the replacement culvert was placed to meet the stream grade or if it was not at grade, how passage would be ensured. The RRT found the application deficient because it did not discuss the headcut potential, the impacts it would present and how those would be addressed. The RRT would also like information about what will happen to the fill once the project is over. On Sagabeard Creek, the crossing was being moved upstream but no explanation for the move was provided. The RRT noted that discussion on the priority of the projects in the watershed would be helpful in putting the sites into context.

The RRT felt overall with more detail that it would be a good project. However, the RRT wanted to make sure the project was foremost about restoring fish passage and normal stream function before recommending the project for funding.

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

Do Not Fund.

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

Do Not Fund.

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2049</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	North Umpqua Gravel Augmentation		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$32,923.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$132,923.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to increase the spawning habitat in a section of the upper North Umpqua River by adding boulder structures and placing spawning gravels. A series of hydroelectric dams and diversions have interrupted the natural bedload sediment regime and blocked fish passage in the upper North Umpqua River for over 50 years. With completion of fish ladders at Soda Springs Dam planned for 2012, coho and Chinook salmon, coastal cutthroat trout, steelhead and Pacific lamprey passage will be restored to 6.6 miles of the North Umpqua River. Currently there is relatively a small amount of actual spawning habitat upstream of the dam which will likely lead to spawning inefficiencies, such as increased redd superimposition resulting in poor fish production. The proposed solution is to place 1,800 cubic yards of clean, appropriately sized spawning gravels at pre-determined locations and to place two boulder weirs to trap and retain the gravels. Design will allow for gravel to move into the stream in a natural manner during higher flows. The project is based on similar gravel augmentation efforts in the North Umpqua. The project area constitutes the absolute upstream extent of anadromous fisheries in the North Umpqua River.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include USFS and Federal Highway Administration. OWEB funds will be used for contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would build on a boulder placement and gravel augmentation project here two years ago. The project would benefit Chinook, steelhead, cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey by providing high quality spawning opportunities in the area that is now accessible to anadromous species. Reviewers noted that the past project works well. Seeded areas have created spawning habitat in areas that were formerly only bedrock, and fish are using the gravel where it was placed below the dam.

Dams have disrupted the normal flow of gravels. It was noted that Soda Springs Dam will pass fish by 2012. For habitat now accessible by anadromous fish, the applicant and project partners want to make sure that the fish have a high likelihood of spawning success. The RRT discussed the lifespan of the project as gravels move throughout the system and whether there will be the need to place additional gravels in the future. The applicant expects the gravels to maintain their effectiveness for at least five to ten years before they would have to look at the possibility of adding more gravels. The RRT felt that the requested fiscal administration funds were too high since the project is being overseen and designed by the USFS and USFWS and the applicant's role will be to write a few checks and prepare the final project completion report. The RRT thought the application did not justify the applicant's request for funding staff time for the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR) and recommended that the PUR staff time be justified or removed and the fiscal administration requested be reduced by 50 percent.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of spawning habitat for coho, steelhead, Chinook, Pacific lamprey and cutthroat trout.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Applicant will reduce fiscal administration costs by 50 percent and justify PUR staff time funds and reduce those funds if not justified.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$31,427.00</b>			

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the staffing question. The PUR staff time will be in pre-implementation activities and overseeing the contractors implementing the project activities. PUR staff will be involved with USFS in implementation and post-implementation inspection work and reporting. PUR staff time requested for the project is five days and the applicant provided detail and information sufficient to justify the time requested. The RRT recommended funding amount reflects the RRT recommended reduction in administrative costs.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. Reduce fiscal administration costs by 50 percent.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$31,427.00</b>			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$31,427.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2051</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Steamboat Instream Fish Habitat Restoration 2011		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$34,062.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$213,527.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve six miles of degraded anadromous fish habitat in Steamboat Creek and two tributaries to Steamboat Creek by placing up to 300 pieces of large woody material in the stream channel. Logs will be placed using a helicopter in Steamboat, and Deep and Steelhead creeks. Steamboat Creek is a tributary to the North Umpqua River. Deep and Steelhead creeks are lacking instream habitat complexity. Historic timber management activities and stream cleaning have resulted in a lack of large wood and spawning gravels. The project would occur within the Steamboat Watershed which is one of the largest and most intact blocks of Late Successional Reserve as designated by the Northwest Forest Plan. It is also a Tier 1 Watershed because of its direct contribution to anadromous salmonid conservation. Steamboat Creek and its major tributaries, including Deep and Steelhead creeks, provide quality habitat and water conditions that support "the" major stronghold of summer and winter steelhead trout in the Umpqua Basin.

Logs will be placed by helicopter in structures according to specific site designs. Structures will receive between 5 to 15 logs per site depending upon each site's specifications. One hundred logs each will be placed in both Deep and Steelhead creeks. An additional 100 logs will be placed in Steamboat Creek in the sections around the two tributaries. Logs will meet or exceed the ODFW Aquatic Restoration Guide. The work will build on extensive instream restoration efforts in the Steamboat Creek drainage. Past restoration efforts in the system have shown increases in spawning and rearing habitat.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include USFS. OWEB funds will be used for project management, contracted services and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The stream is highly important to the steelhead fisheries production in the North Umpqua. The project builds on a great deal of other stream restoration work in the watershed. The design team is experienced and has an excellent track record.

The RRT discussed the lack of designs in the application. After discussion it was concluded that it is hard to come in with exact designs for helicopter large wood placement projects. Project designers know the number of logs and areas of placement, but the final designs happen on the day of placement, and it is most critical to have experienced personnel onsite when the placement occurs. Reviewers have confidence in the design team and believe they have the needed experience and strong track record of success.

The applicant needs to work closely with ODFW on the project timing. ODFW may not be able to grant the inwater work extension into November as the applicant hopes. The implementation schedule needs to reflect that possibility and close coordination with ODFW will be important throughout project design and implementation. The RRT encouraged the project partners to look at developing public awareness opportunities for this and the other work that has been done in the watershed. Because the project is being

managed by the USFS, the RRT did not feel that the application justified the applicant's request to fund applicant staff time. The RRT recommended that the applicant staff time be removed and that fiscal administration be reduced by \$1,000.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of instream habitat for steelhead and cutthroat trout.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Applicant will justify PUR staff time or remove. Reduce administration by \$1,000.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
\$33,062.00			

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the staffing question. The PUR staff time will be in pre-implementation activities and overseeing the contractors implementing the project activities. PUR staff will be involved with USFS in implementation and post-implementation inspection work and reporting. PUR staff time requested for the project is two and a half days and the applicant provided detail and information sufficient to justify the time requested. The RRT recommended funding amount reflects the RRT recommended reduction in administrative costs.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. Reduce administration by \$1,000.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
\$33,062.00			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$33,062.00

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2054</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	West Fork Smith River Instream Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$134,966.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$570,525.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to install large wood in tributaries to the West Fork Smith River located within the Umpqua River watershed. 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 to coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout production. The project builds on BLM and OWEB funded project work which will place logs and boulders instream using an excavator in areas where road access is available. This project will fund helicopter log placement in the more remote project areas which will encompass approximately ten stream miles in the West Fork Smith River drainage. A helicopter will place 981 logs in over ten miles of stream. In all, both project components will see over 21 miles of stream treated with large wood and boulders.

Ten 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, BLM, Smith River Watershed Council, ODFW and USFWS. OWEB funds would be used for project management, travel, contracted services, supplies and materials, outreach and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

This application is a resubmit. Last cycle the RRT recommended funding a portion of the work proposed. The helicopter component was not recommended as part of that because the RRT did not have a level of comfort with the design team's experience and track record with helicopter large wood placement; they wanted to see additional design information before they could recommend it for funding. The West Fork Smith has high intrinsic potential habitat for coho. This project demonstrates a strong mix of partnerships and a high level of stakeholder and state and federal agency coordination.

This application provided additional project design in the form of typical structure layout and specific structure site information that was missing from the first submission. The RRT discussed the aspects and challenges involved with designing and implementing helicopter work. The RRT felt they had enough information on the structure design and placement that they were comfortable recommending it for funding. The RRT strongly suggested that the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR) continue the mentoring relationship with the Smith River Watershed Council on this project. The RRT wants to make sure this includes on-the-ground time as well as administrative time.

The RRT felt that the level of funding requested for fiscal administration was high based on the fact that the majority of funds were in the form of contracted services related to the costs of the helicopter log placement. The RRT felt that the amount requested needed to be explained and justified and then funds allocated to that line item based on actual costs.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the improvement of instream habitat for coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. Applicant will submit justification for the fiscal administration requested or reduce.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

1 of 13

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
\$132,648.00			

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the issue of fiscal administration. The applicant provided a breakdown of activities, personnel rates and times associated with administration of the OWEB grant agreement. The RRT recommended amount reflects the reduction in fiscal administration based on the information provided by the applicant.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. Reduction in fiscal administration costs.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
\$132,648.00			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$132,648.00

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2057</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Lower Deer Creek Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Phoenix Charter School		
<b>Basin:</b>	UMPQUA	<b>County:</b>	Douglas
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$108,621.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$154,833.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve riparian health along Deer Creek, a tributary to the Umpqua River in the Roseburg city limits. The stream in the project area has been greatly impacted by development and the introduction of non-native species. The urban area's degraded riparian area provides inadequate filtration of storm water runoff and results in insufficient shading of the stream. These issues will be addressed through the removal of the invasive plant species and replacement of suitable riparian plants which will improve filtration, provide shade and stabilize stream banks along an 800 meter segment of Deer Creek. Prior to planting invasive species will be removed through several methods. Hand tools, machinery and herbicides as deemed appropriate for sites along the project area. Trees and shrubs will come from appropriate native stock with many of the species being taken from cuttings or seed sources from local sources. The plantings will follow site specific planting prescriptions. Following planting, the project will be actively monitored and maintained to insure invasive species are eradicated.

The limiting factors the project will address were identified in the *2002 Deer Creek Watershed Assessment and Action Plan*.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include the City of Roseburg, Douglas County, USFS, Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers, ODFW, Rotary, Umpqua Valley Chapter of the Native Plant Society, Phoenix Charter School and the Limb Walkers Tree Service. OWEB funds will be used for staff, crew leaders, students, supplies and materials, equipment, outreach activities, monitoring and plant establishment activities and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project offers a tremendous opportunity for education and outreach in a highly visible and used urban area. There will be a lot of people watching this project and as a result there is a high potential for getting upstream landowners involved. The project demonstrates a high level of proactive partnerships and coordination in the public and private sectors. This project will help build local capacity to do additional riparian restoration work in the area.

The restoration benefits may not be great because of the project location. The riparian corridor is a narrow strip filled with a variety of non-native vegetation. The RRT was concerned with the removal of larger non-native trees too early because, while they are non-native, they are providing some shade and bank stability. The RRT encouraged the applicant to carefully evaluate when the non-native trees should be removed so as to limit impacts to the stream and banks. The project is costly when looked at the cost per mile but the RRT recognized that the project is in an urban area and that can impact costs. The applicant will have to look at how to reduce costs or increase efficiencies in the future if they wish to create a sustainable program. The RRT felt that the project should be scaled back to focus on the Deer Creek portion only at this time. The applicant is new to this work and the RRT wanted to see the applicant focus on quality. This will also help

reduce costs. The Deer Creek portion of the project has a higher likelihood of success in meeting water quality goals over the larger mainstem portion. The applicant can submit for the mainstem Umpqua at a later time. The applicant will need to make sure that watering of trees is planned as appropriate and that trees will be protected from human and animal impacts.

The RRT noted that the funds requested for effectiveness monitoring were in reality more in line with post-project implementation reporting and needed to be moved into that line item. The RRT also noted that the funds requested for fiscal administration were above the 10 percent maximum and needed to be reduced. With the RRT recommended scaled back project, the applicant will need to submit a revised and reduced budget.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through the restoration of native riparian area function. The project will benefit water quality in the long term.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund Reduced with Conditions. Fund Deer Creek section only; funds not to be released until applicant submits a watering plan for the seedlings along Deer Creek.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

9 of 13

**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$78,653.00</b>			

**Staff Follow-Up to the Regional Team Review**

Staff followed up with the applicant on the issues identified by the RRT. The applicant submitted a revised budget that reflects the Deer Creek portions of the project. The applicant also developed a watering plan for the sections along Deer Creek and provided it to OWEB as requested by the RRT. The RRT recommended funding amount reflects the removal of the mainstem Umpqua portions of the project.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. Due to the current shortage of non-capital funds, Staff worked with the applicant to remove the non-capital education and equipment costs requested from OWEB. Both the RRT and the Staff recommended budget reflects those reductions.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
<b>\$78,653.00</b>			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

**\$78,653.00**

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2058</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Curry Sediment Abatement 2010		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Curry SWCD		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Curry
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$333,643.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$707,873.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to address high and medium priority sediment risks on three ranch and two forestry road networks and a series of pasture gullies. The project will reduce chronic sedimentation and help the treated areas to withstand large storm events. Project areas have been impacted and altered by historic forest management and agricultural land use practices. In total, 31.75 miles of road and 3.75 miles of pasture gully stream will be addressed, including the replacement or improvement of 75 non-fish bearing and 6 fish bearing stream culverts. Project areas include two ranches in the New River watershed, two ranches in Floras Creek, and two road networks in the Lower Rogue, one in Lobster Creek and one in Edson Creek. The project areas were selected for treatment because of elevated levels of fine and/or coarse sediment which are negatively impacting water quality, channel morphology and native salmonid fisheries. Each of the five road networks was inventoried for sediment risks, and specific sediment abatement management plans were developed to treat all high and medium priority sites as well as addressing culverts with impaired fish passage. Roads will receive drainage improvement work including drainage feature and road drainage culvert improvements. This work will meet ODF specifications. Culverts that occur in areas with habitat suitable for salmonid use will be sized to allow adult and juvenile passage to a total of 2.6 miles of habitat above the culverts. Pasture gullies treatments are based on inventory work and the survey data collected was used to develop management plans for these areas. These pasture gullies will be stabilized using rock grade control structures. These structures have been used successfully on similar projects in the area.

The project builds on other successful sediment reduction project activities in the area. Project activities will benefit water quality and improve coho and other salmonid specie habitat and fish access in project areas. The project activities are consistent with the *South Coast Regional Restoration Priorities* (2006) as well as watershed assessments and action plans developed for each of the watersheds to receive treatments.

Project partners providing project match include landowners, Menasha, Curry SWCD, Bonneville Power Administration, USFS, NRCS and BLM. OWEB funds would be used for pre-project management, contracted services, travel, supplies and materials and fiscal management.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project is a resubmit that was not recommended for funding last cycle. Sediment and water quality are large issues in this watershed. The project is aimed at improving water quality and reducing phosphorus and sediment inputs into the streams. New River is on the 303(d) list for high phosphorus. The project would build on similar sediment reduction efforts in the watershed. The stream systems support coho, Chinook, steelhead, Pacific lamprey and cutthroat trout. The project locations are East of Highway 101. The application presented a project that has been well thought out. The application detailed planning and prioritization as well as costs. Some reviewers, however, noted that the application was too long and too hard to read, which hampered their review. The applicant may want to think about how to package future complex projects with multiple sites.

The RRT felt that the applicant has done a very good job of identifying sediment sources in the watershed but did not do a good job of tying it to the stream habitat below. While the primary benefit of the project is to water quality, the stream is important to salmonids and providing additional information on fish usage and the quality of the habitat would be helpful to future applications. The RRT felt that grazing management plans which address livestock access were critical to the success of the project. The RRT felt strongly that grazing management plans needed to be a key component of this project. Some properties already have plans in place and some are engaged in the CREP program.

**Ecosystem Process and Function**

The project will benefit watershed function and structure through improvement of water quality through the reduction of sediment and phosphorus inputs into the stream system.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Fund with Conditions. On agricultural lands there must be grazing/pasture livestock management plans in place or developed prior to funds being released for that property.

**Regional Review Team Priority**

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**Distribution of Recommended Award Amounts**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
\$333,645.00			

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Fund Reduced. Due to the current shortage of non-capital dollars, staff recommends removal of OWEB requested non-capital dollars for education in this project. The staff recommended funding amount reflects these reductions. Staff also worked with the applicant to reduce fiscal administration costs.

**Staff Recommended Award**

<b>Capital Amount</b>	<b>EM Portion</b>	<b>PE Portion</b>	<b>Non-Capital Amount</b>
\$322,191.00			

**Total Recommended Board Award**

\$322,191.00

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2061</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	East Fork/North Fork Riparian Restoration, Phase II		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coquille Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$32,923.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$43,012.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposes to improve riparian conditions along two properties of riparian area along the East Fork and North Fork Coquille River. The project will install fencing, remove invasive plants and replant the riparian area with a mixture of native tree and shrub species. The combined impacts of agricultural practices, past timber harvest practices and associated land management activities have degraded stream habitat conditions. The impacts addressed in the proposal are the reduction of potential large woody debris recruitment into the stream, invasive species (Himalayan blackberry), deciduous tree dominance (red alder) in the riparian areas, elevated stream temperatures and high bacteria levels.

On the East Fork property, the project proposes to construct 1,700 feet of riparian fencing to exclude livestock along the East Fork Coquille River and remove invasive plants and replant the riparian area with a mixture of native tree and shrub species. This project will fence about 1700 feet with 5-strand barb wire fencing. On the North Fork Property, 2,725 of 4-strand electric fence will be installed. Three solar chargers will be installed to power the fence. The riparian area will be planted with a mixture of native tree and shrub species. The landowners will remove the invasive plants and continue maintain the fence and riparian plantings for ten years.

The Coquille Watershed Association (CWA) Project Committee has developed, and is utilizing, a fencing protocol which includes the *Oregon Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Guide* (OAHREG) for riparian vegetation and for fencing guidelines. The fence construction also incorporates the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service design for "Wildlife Friendly Fencing". Planting consists of developing a planting prescription based on identification of native species (conifers, hardwoods and shrubs) historically present in the specific sub watersheds of the Coquille. The planting density is based on the setback total area, species to be planted and survival rates. Project activities are consistent with recommendations from The *Coquille River Sub-basin Plan* (2007) and the *Coquille Watershed Association Action Plan, version 2.0* (1997). The project will benefit water quality conditions, as well as, coho, steelhead, cutthroat and Pacific lamprey.

Project partners include the landowner. OWEB funds will be used for pre-implementation, project management, work crew oversight, contracted services, supplies and materials, travel, monitoring and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project is a resubmit that was not recommended for funding last cycle. The project adds an additional property but makes few other changes from the previous application. Property one is a current CREP project that has not been maintained. The fence is mostly removed and the riparian area has had active livestock usage. The landowner had issues with the fence catching debris during high flows. There was no plant establishment plan for the site. The original setback was 30 feet from the top of the bank. Under this proposal, the setback would be lessened to 22 feet. The RRT questioned whether this met the CREP fencing

setback requirements and was confusing since a smaller setback would create worse situations for catching debris during high flows. The RRT did not support the request for OWEB funds to repair a failing CREP project.

The second property was submitted as a project several cycles ago. The RRT noted that the issues they raised during the first review were not addressed. The planting prescription still has not been provided, there were still budget issues and it seemed CREP was not looked at as an option. The post-project plant establishment plan was not very detailed and did not cover predation issues. The applicant will need to make sure that they comply with OWRD rules regarding off-channel watering and wanted to see designs and information about offstream water. The RRT questioned the need for so many gates in the fence line. The application did not provide any detail on this aspect. The RRT was not sure why the schedule had willow plantings occurring before the fencing. The RRT was concerned livestock could damage the new plantings.

The RRT could not adequately review the proposal with the information provided and could not determine if the riparian plantings would be ultimately successful.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2063</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Sucker Creek Channel and Floodplain Restoration-Phase 2		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Illinois Valley SWCD		
<b>Basin:</b>	ROGUE	<b>County:</b>	Josephine
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$165,520.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$316,831.00

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### **Application Description**

This application will implement Phase II of project 210-2053. This phase of the project is needed due to unexpected delays in the project during the 2010 instream season resulting in channel construction being several weeks behind schedule. The delays were unavoidable as latent stream channel site conditions were only uncovered during the fourth week of the project implementation. As a result of these conditions, significantly more excavation and materials were required for channel stability than was anticipated during the original project survey and design. The portion of the project implemented during the 2010 instream season was on private lands in an area which had been previously mined. The 20-foot plus excavation depth within this segment of the project proved the rock depths and soil composition to be unpredictable at best. During 2010 approximately 0.2 miles of stream was restored of the 0.5 mile section originally anticipated for completion. This caused the project costs to rise significantly and the project implementation to be carried over into the next instream work season. This application will address the increased costs and additional field season. The Phase II excavation depth will average 4 feet or less and it is unlikely that any significant quantity of unsuitable materials will be found.

This project will restore a natural meander pattern to a section of stream that has been straightened and altered from historic conditions. The project is located in Sucker Creek, a major fish-producing tributary to the Illinois River, which is located in the Rogue River basin. This section of channel and floodplain has been altered by historic mining, road construction, timber harvest and stream straightening. The project proposes to significantly increase the amount of off-channel habitat through side channel, alcove, rearing pond, meander scar and groundwater channel construction. Sucker Creek is one of the most important tributaries to the Illinois River for threatened coho salmon, and is also a strong producer of winter steelhead in addition to supporting Pacific lamprey, Chinook salmon and other native fishes. The project is consistent with regional priority recommendations from the Watershed Health Factors Assessment (WHFA, RBCC 2006) covering the Rogue River basin.

The impaired reach is currently 75 to 85 feet wide with cut banks approximately 10 to 15 feet high. Large wood will be used to create instream structures within the stream, channel banks and floodplains. Structures will be used to reduce accelerated streambank erosion, provide grade control, enhance fish habitat, reintroduce and stabilize large wood for fisheries and stream channel stability. Portions of the mainstem channel will be reconstructed to create the pattern, dimension, and profile appropriate for the stream type and valley type. The project will also replant approximately 10 acres of riparian area with a mixture of native conifer, hardwood and shrub species. Additionally, road decommissioning will occur along 0.8 miles of a Forest Service road located in the riparian area along Sucker Creek.

Project partners include the Wild Salmon Center, Middle Rogue Steelheaders, USFS, the landowner and Ecotrust. OWEB funds would be used for pre-implementation, project management, contracted services, supplies and materials and fiscal administration.

# **REVIEW PROCESS**

## **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The application is a request for additional funds to support the implementation of project 210-2053 which has run into increased costs due to issues encountered during implementation. The project was brought to a place where they could make a clean break in the implementation without compromising the work completed. The project has been halted until additional funding can be obtained to complete the project. This request would support the increased costs.

The RRT supports the original project, noting it is a high value project that should be finished as planned. They spent a lot of time discussing the current situation where the applicant was surprised by site conditions discovered during implementation. Reviewers thought that the issues encountered should have been planned for during the design of the project, and recalled their impression during the first application review that the type of issue the applicant ran into had been considered during the design.

Following a long discussion, reviewers concluded that they want to see the project completed, but before recommending additional funding, they want to have confidence that the applicant can finish the project without additional cost overruns. They did not gain this confidence from the application as submitted. The RRT needs to see channel designs, a general operating plan and the qualifications of the personnel doing design and the channel reconstruction design work. They encouraged the applicant to develop an application that includes this information and also consider the need for geomorphic design and options and alternatives for actions if they encounter the same problems with this next phase.

A resubmitted application needs to clearly explain what went wrong, provide the data and design and a clear description of what is needed to fix the issue and move forward. The applicant will need to do some core sampling – better subsurface investigation. If they find more clay-based soils, they will need to re-evaluate the costs and benefits of the project. The RRT did not know from the application if the permit extended to another field season or if the permit would cover the additional work.

The RRT did not get a sense of urgency that if delayed, the opportunity to finish the project would be lost. The RRT felt that the applicant needed to deliver good technical information that gives the team confidence that the project can move forward and can succeed.

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

Do Not Fund.

## **Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund

## **October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)**

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2064</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	Big Creek Instream Restoration		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coquille Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$225,581.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$413,929.00

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### **Application Description**

The proposed project will place logs in sections of Big Creek and several tributaries to improve instream habitat conditions. Big Creek is a tributary to the Middle Fork Coquille River. Historic land management actions, including splash damming and stream cleaning, has simplified instream habitat conditions. Loss of overwintering habitat for juvenile coho is a key limiting factor in the Big Creek system. The stream is characterized by a lack of channel complexity, incised channels, lack of off-channel rearing habitat, bedrock substrate, lack of pools, low wood volumes instream and disconnection from the flood plain.

Approximately 600 logs will be placed throughout the 7.5 mile project reach. Where access is appropriate excavator or cable yarder will be used for placement. In more remote locations, a helicopter will be utilized for log placement. Three to four “key” logs will be used as a minimum at each site. The key logs will anchor the site and provide stability to the larger structure and help trap materials to create larger log jam complexes. Project activities are consistent with The Coquille Sub-basin Plan (Coquille Indian Tribe 2007) and the Coquille Action Plan 2.0 (1997). The project will benefit Chinook, coho, steelhead, cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey. Project activities will improve both winter and summer instream habitat complexities, retain spawning gravels, build pools and improve flood plain connectivity.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include BLM, ODFW and the Coquille Watershed Association. OWEB funds will be used for project management, supplies and materials, contracted services, travel and fiscal administration.

## **REVIEW PROCESS**

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The RRT noted that the project location is important because of the high intrinsic potential for coho. The applicant has developed good partnerships with ODFW and BLM.

The RRT noted the application lacked site specific details. The application did look at potential sites but in a broad view only. The RRT felt strongly that design details were important, especially for projects using excavators or other ground-based equipment. The project also involved a helicopter component. The RRT noted that working with helicopters requires experienced project managers and if that is not present, the project timelines can increase and placement may suffer. It was noted that breaking out each structure site by reach and GPS location would be helpful. The RRT questioned whether the size of the helicopter was correct for the project work to be undertaken. The RRT was worried that the applicant may have underestimated the helicopter costs. The application could also be strengthened by a more detailed discussion on current conditions of riparian areas and how streamside disturbances will be handled. The RRT felt that the production rate was higher than normally associated with projects: \$23 an hour versus \$15. The RRT noted that there was a lack of landowner contribution to the project. The RRT felt that overall the level of match was slim for this type of a project. The applicant needs to provide more detail on budget costs and how they were determined. This helps the RRT evaluate cost effectiveness of project work. The RRT

encouraged the applicant to provide more project details within the application and work on the quality of the grant writing. A future application should also address streamside disturbance and current conditions of riparian areas.

**Regional Review Team Recommendation to Staff**

Do Not Fund.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund

## October 18, 2010 OWEB Grant Cycle Southwest Oregon Review Team (Region 2)

<b>Application No.:</b>	<b>211-2065</b>	<b>Project Type:</b>	Restoration
<b>Project Name:</b>	McMullen Creek Fish Passage, Phase 1		
<b>Applicant:</b>	Coquille Watershed Association		
<b>Basin:</b>	SOUTH COAST	<b>County:</b>	Coos
<b>OWEB Request:</b>	<b>\$49,214.00</b>	<b>Total Cost:</b>	\$63,251.00

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### **Application Description**

The project proposed to address a fish passage barrier to juvenile salmonids on McMullen Creek. McMullen Creek is a tributary to the Middle Fork Coquille River. The culvert is undersized and perched by at least three feet. The culvert inhibits juvenile coho, steelhead and cutthroat trout passage. The culvert restricts 1.5 stream mile of suitable juvenile rearing habitat.

The current undersized culvert is a corrugated metal culvert encased in concrete. The culvert will be replaced with a 62-foot railcar bridge using two excavators. Project activities are consistent with *The Coquille Sub-basin Plan* (Coquille Indian Tribe 2007) and the *Coquille Action Plan 2.0* (1997). The project will benefit coho, steelhead, cutthroat trout and Pacific lamprey. Project activities will improve juvenile access to suitable summer and winter rearing habitats.

Project partners providing in-kind match/funds include ODFW, the landowner and the Coquille Watershed Association. OWEB funds will be used OWEB funds will be used for project management, supplies and materials, contracted services, travel and fiscal administration.

## REVIEW PROCESS

### **Regional Review Team Evaluation**

The project would improve access to upstream habitat for cutthroat trout and steelhead. There is some coho usage of the stream. The landowner is involved and supportive of the project.

The RRT found the application lacking in design detail which is critical to their ability to review the proposed project. The map visual was hard to read including determining the location of the pipe and the stream gradient. It was also unclear to the RRT if there were additional barriers upstream. The RRT also would like to see information on the project designer qualifications. The RRT was concerned about the impacts of the three-foot head cut which would occur after the structure is removed. The application did not adequately address this issue. NOAA does have guidelines on the use of treated wood contrary to what was described in the application. The RRT would like to see information and qualifications on who will be doing the bridge placement. The RRT also would like details on the proposed community outreach identified as project match. What does this involve and how was it arrived at? The RRT was supportive of the project but felt the application did not provide the detail they needed to adequately review the project.

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

Do Not Fund.

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

Do Not Fund