



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360

Salem, OR 97301-1290

(503) 986-0178

FAX (503) 986-0199

www.oregon.gov/OWEB



Lottery dollars fund watershed enhancement and restoration in local communities

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Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Awards More Than \$7 Million in Grants to Support Restoration

Awards Include \$250,000 in Salmon License Plate Revenues

For More Information:

Eric Hartstein

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

503-986-0029

eric.hartstein@oregon.gov

(Ashland) – The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) awarded 80 grants totaling \$7,371,614 to local organizations statewide to support fish and wildlife habitat and water quality projects at their October 25-26 board meeting.

“These investments will improve habitat for Coho Salmon, sage-grouse, steelhead, and other species, while also improving water quality and supporting the local natural resource economy,” says Meta Loftsgaarden, OWEB’s executive director. Grants are funded across Oregon, primarily in the state’s rural areas.

Funding for these projects comes from three primary sources – the Oregon Lottery, Salmon License Plate revenues, and Federal Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery funds provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. A listing of all awarded grants is available at:

<http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/docs/2016-Board-Awards.pdf>

Specifically, the OWEB Board selected four projects to receive a portion (\$50,000 - \$75,000) of their award from Salmon License Plate revenues. These revenues come from Oregonians who purchase Salmon License Plates for their vehicles. Projects include:

- Walker Creek Fish Passage Improvement – Siuslaw Watershed Council (Lane County) – a \$260,837 project to replace an undersized and failing culvert on Walker Creek in the Siuslaw watershed and restore passage for Coho Salmon to 1.5 miles of high-quality spawning and rearing habitat;
- Butcherknife Creek Culvert Replacement – Applegate Partnership (Josephine County) – a \$153,731 project to replace a fish passage barrier culvert with a 14'x36' bridge on Butcherknife Creek, a tributary to Waters Creek in the Applegate River watershed, which will restore access to more than 2.5 miles of cool water, "high value" Coho Salmon habitat;
- Fishers Bend Phase II Side Channel Restoration – Clackamas River Basin Council (Clackamas County) – a \$186,854 multi-stakeholder cooperative effort to create off-channel habitat for threatened salmonids on the lower Clackamas River, which is a priority migration corridor and rearing habitat for Endangered Species Act-listed salmon and steelhead;



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- Middle Crabtree and Upper Thomas Creek Riparian Restoration – South Santiam Watershed Council (Linn County) – a \$148,834 project to restore Native vegetation on 25 acres adjacent to two South Santiam River tributaries that are important spawning and rearing habitat for Endangered Species Act-listed spring Chinook Salmon and winter steelhead, which will benefit water quality in addition to improving fish habitat.

Since 1999, the Oregon Lottery has provided over \$500 million to OWEB's grant program that helps restore, maintain, and enhance Oregon's watershed along with additional investments from Salmon License Plate revenues. Combined, the Lottery has earned over \$9 billion for watershed enhancements, public education, state parks, and economic development. For more information about the Oregon Lottery visit www.oregonlottery.org

For additional information about OWEB's grant programs, contact Eric Hartstein at eric.hartstein@oregon.gov.

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