



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

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February 27, 2008

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

**FROM:** Lauri Aunan, Grant Program Manager  
Tom Shafer, North Coast Regional Program Representative

**SUBJECT: Agenda Item F: OWEB Grant Award Recommendations  
Region 1, North Coast  
March 19-20, 2008 OWEB Board Meeting**

### I. Introduction

This staff report describes the North Coast Regional Review Team recommendations, special issues, and staff recommendations for funding.

### II. Background and Summary

Applicants submitted 37 applications for a total request of \$3,592,352. The Regional Review Team (RRT) recommended 24 applications for approximately \$2.4 million. Because the demand for funding exceeds available funds, staff recommend 22 applications for a total award of \$2,169,758: \$1,667,945 for Restoration, \$342,257 for Monitoring, \$88,912 for Technical Assistance, and \$70,644 for Education/Outreach.

### III. Regional Review Team Recommendations

The North Coast Regional Review Team (RRT) met at the Guin Library at the Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport on January 9, 2008, to review the applications received in this grant cycle. One application (208-1021) was not reviewed by the RRT because it answered Watershed Assessment questions rather than Monitoring questions, and Assessment applications were not solicited for this round of funding. All other applications were reviewed for technical merit and given a “do fund” or “no fund” recommendation by the RRT. The RRT then prioritized the applications recommended for funding.

The RRT increased funding for two applications. Application 208-1024 proposes to address the lack of spawning gravel in the main stem of the Big Elk River by placing large trees and boulders in three reaches along 3.4 miles of the river. Because this is a large, powerful, bedrock-dominated river, the proposed restoration technique is unique and experimental. The RRT recommended adding \$48,400 for effectiveness monitoring to assess the project’s success and provide guidance for future similar projects. The new total recommended award is \$212,968. For the second application, the RRT’s site visit to Wildcat Creek (208-1044) led to the identification of the opportunity to expand the project for a relatively low cost. Ten large wood sites were added at a cost of \$5,280, which will result in improved project benefits. The new recommended amount for the Wildcat Creek application is \$229,017.

The RRT recommended reduced funding for five applications. The RRT recommended:

- Eliminating the effectiveness monitoring components for Restoration applications 208-1025 and 208-1040. While the RRT appreciates the value of Rapid Bioassessment surveys, they questioned whether such a survey for 208-1025, at a cost of \$48,000, would provide any new or different effectiveness information for large wood projects. For application 208-1040, the RRT recommended eliminating fish monitoring, at a cost of \$18,000.
- Reducing the administration costs of application 208-1029 by \$29,202 and reducing the total application cost to \$469,800 as a result.
- Eliminating cyanotoxin testing from Monitoring application 208-1041, and reducing the application by \$8,050.
- Minor reductions in Monitoring application 208-1034 to account for donated monitoring supplies.

Special conditions are recommended for one Monitoring application, 208-1050, and one Restoration application, 208-1051.

#### **IV. Acquisition**

One land acquisition application was received from Region 1 this grant cycle for the Coal Creek Swamp acquisition (208-106). The North Coast Land Conservancy submitted an application requesting \$100,000 (total project cost of \$145,750) to purchase 80 acres of tidally influenced lowland forested wetlands adjacent to the lower Nehalem River in Tillamook County. Staff requested due diligence materials in November of 2007. The appraisal was submitted to OWEB in January of 2008, but the other requested due diligence materials have not been received. Staff and the Board Subcommittee recommend the Board defer consideration of the Coal Creek acquisition application pending receipt and review of all the due diligence materials.

#### **V. Staff Recommendation**

##### **A. Capital Applications**

Staff recommend funding eight of the nine Restoration applications recommended by the RRT. Lower Deadwood (208-1029), Elkhorn Creek (208-1025), Gods Valley (208-1026), and Wildcat Creek (208-1044) are large projects that will restore important coho habitat. Elkhorn Creek is the second most important anchor habitat in the Tillamook Bay watershed and Gods Valley Creek is a key coho stream in the Nehalem basin. All of these applications build on previous restoration work in these watersheds.

##### **B. Non-Capital Applications**

- *Technical Assistance.* Staff recommend funding all three of the Technical Assistance applications recommended by the RRT.
- *Education and Outreach.* Staff recommend funding four of the five applications recommended by the RRT, with reductions to application 208-1049 in an effort to fund as far down the list as possible given the limited non-capital funds. The first-

and third-ranked applications continue and expand the award-winning Siuslaw Stream Team that involves the community and numerous partners in supporting in-the-field and classroom activities to increase student understanding of watershed resources and issues. The one Education and Outreach application not recommended by staff has merit, but the limitation of non-capital funds makes it impossible to meet these needs.

- *Monitoring.* Staff concur with the RRT recommendation to fund all seven of the Monitoring applications.

Attachment A shows the applications, funding amounts, conditions (if any), and priority rankings recommended for funding to OWEB staff by the RRT. The table also indicates, by means of shaded entries, the OWEB staff recommendations to the Board. For some applications, the amount shown in the table is the staff or RRT funding recommendation rather than the amount requested in the application.

Attachment B shows those applications not recommended for funding at this time by the RRT or by OWEB staff.

Staff recommend the Board approve the staff funding recommendations as contained in Attachment A to this report.

#### Attachments

- A. Applications Recommended for Funding
- B. Applications Not Recommended for Funding

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Education Applications Recommended for Funding by the RRT**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray			
App #	Application Name	Total Amount	Priority
208-1022	Siuslaw Middle School Stream Team	8,962	1
208-1032	Siuslaw Watershed Exploration Camp 2009	14,532	2
208-1028	Stream Team Extension II	7,150	3
208-1049	Mid Coast Watersheds Council Education Program *	40,000	4
208-1033	Building Citizen Stewardship in Local Watersheds	49,985	5
<b>Total Education Applications Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT</b>		<b>\$153,028</b>	
<b>Total Education Applications Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board</b>		<b>\$70,644</b>	

\* Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Reduction

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Monitoring Applications Recommended for Funding by the RRT**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray			
App #	Application Name	Total Amount	Priority
208-1035	East Fork Nehalem - Rapid Bio-Assessment (RBA)	17,235	1
208-1052	Mid Coast Monitoring Project	112,168	2
208-1034	Yachats Water Quality Monitoring Project *	5,035	3
208-1050	Rapid Bioassessment Surveys of Yaquina River and Ocean Tributaries **	96,300	4
208-1031	Siuslaw Volunteer Water Quality Monitoring Program 2008-2009 (VWQMP)	8,109	5
208-1023	Tillamook Sediment and Habitat Assessment	72,200	6
208-1041	Salmon Drift Creek Watersheds Water Quality Monitoring *	31,210	7
<b>Total Monitoring Applications Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT</b>		<b>\$351,357</b>	
<b>Total Monitoring Applications Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board</b>		<b>\$342,257</b>	

\* Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Reduction      \*\* Fund with Conditions

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Technical Assistance Applications Recommended for Funding by the RRT**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray			
<b>App #</b>	<b>Application Name</b>	<b>Total Amount</b>	<b>Priority</b>
208-1042	Salmon River Limiting Factors Analysis	24,514	1
208-1037	Deer Island Tidal Floodplain Integration Study	48,948	2
208-1019	Elk Flats Stream Restoration Phase I	15,450	3
<b>Total Technical Assistance Applications Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT</b>		<b>\$88,912</b>	
<b>Total Technical Assistance Applications Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board</b>		<b>\$88,912</b>	

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Acquisition Application Receiving a Positive Rating for Ecological Merit by the RRT**  
**And Recommended for Deferral by OWEB Staff**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

<b>App #</b>	<b>Application Name</b>	<b>Total Amount Requested</b>
208-106	Coal Creek Swamp Acquisition	100,000

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Restoration Applications Recommended for Funding by the RRT**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray					
App #	Application Name	Capital Funds	Non-Capital Funds	Total Amount	Priority
208-1029	Lower Deadwood Aquatic Restoration *	469,300	500	469,800	1
208-1025	Elkhorn Creek Habitat Enhancement Project *	244,830		244,830	2
208-1024	Big Elk River Restoration Project □	212,968		212,968	3
208-1040	Tamara Quays Dike Removal and Fish-Passage Culvert *	232,614		232,614	4
208-1026	God's Valley Culvert Replacements	185,154		185,154	5
208-1044	Wildcat Creek (East Beaver) Restoration □	229,017		229,017	6
208-1030	Siuslaw Restoration Materials Acquisition III	33,194		33,194	7
208-1051	Fish Log Bank - MidCoast **	60,368		60,368	8
208-1027	Hawk Creek Fishway	140,808	2,000	142,808	9
<b>Total Restoration Applications Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT</b>		<b>1,808,253</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>\$1,810,753</b>	
<b>Total Restoration Applications Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board</b>		<b>1,667,445</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>\$1,667,945</b>	

\* Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Reduction    □ Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Increase    \*\* Fund with Conditions

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Education Applications NOT Recommended for Funding by the RRT**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

App #	Application Name	Total Amount Requested
208-1020	Stewardship is Citizenship: the Deadwood Creek Restoration Story	9,565

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Monitoring Applications NOT Recommended for Funding by the RRT**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

App #	Application Name	Total Amount Requested
208-1021	Lower Columbia-Clatskanie Habitat Assessment <i>ineligible</i>	66,800
208-2046	Monitoring OR Coastal Marine Habitats to Examine Linkages to WSs & Upstream Land Use ♦	98,795

♦ Ranked 8 of 8 in Region 2

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Technical Assistance Applications NOT Recommended for Funding by the RRT**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

App #	Application Name	Total Amount Requested
208-1047	North Beaver Creek Restoration Design Project	49,968
208-1053	Yaquina Conservation Plan	27,855

**Region 1 - North Coast**  
**Restoration Applications NOT Recommended for Funding by the RRT**  
**October 22, 2007 Grant Cycle**

<b>App #</b>	<b>Application Name</b>	<b>Total Amount Requested</b>
208-1018	Coastal Windthrow Tree Salvage and Transport	240,000
208-1036	North Fork Cascade Creek Road Decommissioning	80,838
208-1038	Private Property Protection and Repair-Gnos Dike/Salmon Creek Marsh Restoration	153,989
208-1039	Private Property Protection and Repair-High Marsh Restoration	201,720
208-1043	Little Nestucca River LWD Restoration	44,185
208-1045	Horn Creek (Nestucca) Restoration	51,922
208-1046	North Beaver Creek Tributary Restoration Project	40,172
208-1048	Kosydar Farm Riparian and Wetland Enhancement Project	81,682