

May 20-21, 2008 OWEB Board Meeting Executive Director Update #C1: Oregon 150 Grants

Background

In September of 2007, the Board approved an investment of \$1 million to fund a grant offering addressing Oregon's symbolic species in conjunction with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) as part of Oregon's sesquicentennial celebration. The Board delegated authority to the OWEB Director to distribute the funding. This report provides an update on the status of the grant solicitation, response, and award recommendations.

Progress to Date

On January 2, 2008, ODFW posted grant application forms for the Oregon 150 grant offering on their web site. The application forms were developed in consultation and collaboration with OWEB staff. The deadline for submitting applications was February 25, 2008. ODFW received 12 applications for a total of \$750,000.

As reported at the March Board meeting, OWEB and ODFW staff coordinated roles and responsibilities for application processing and project management. ODFW developed a review process, including a review team consisting of taxon specialists (one each for Chinook Salmon, Western Meadowlark, American Beaver, and Swallowtail Butterfly), ODFW staff, OWEB regional review team members, and OWEB staff. The review criteria presented in March included how the application addresses the symbolic species, its technical feasibility, partnership and financial considerations, and project impact and context.

On April 11, 2008, the reviewers met and developed consensus funding recommendations for the OWEB Director to consider. The funding recommendations, contained in Attachment A, have been reviewed by Director Byler who concurred with the recommendations. Grant agreements will be developed for each recommended applicant. ODFW has prepared written evaluations and is contacting the applicants of the funding decisions.

The grant award total is \$282,511. With the remaining funds, ODFW will advertise for grant applications later this summer for additional projects that would benefit Oregon's symbolic species.

Staff Contact

If you have questions or need additional information about Oregon 150 Grants, please contact Ken Bierly, at ken.bierly@state.or.us or 503-986-0182.

Attachment A

Applicant	Species Addressed	Amount Requested	Funding Recommendation
City of Eugene	beaver, chinook salmon	\$81,558	Fund with conditions
Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation	meadowlark	\$15,852	Fund with conditions
East Lane SWCD	beaver	\$31,113	Do Not Fund
Heritage Seedlings, Inc.	beaver, meadowlark	\$39,846	Fund
Inland Empire Action Coalition	beaver, meadowlark	\$74,765	Do Not Fund
Institute for Applied Ecology	meadowlark	\$118,887	Do Not Fund
Lower Columbia Watershed Council	beaver	\$37,300	Do Not Fund
MidCoast Watersheds Council	beaver	\$42,352	Do Not Fund
Nez Perce Tribe	beaver	\$20,432	Fund with conditions
The Nature Conservancy	meadowlark	\$124,823	Fund with conditions
Wallowa SWCD	meadowlark	\$18,210	Do Not Fund
Willamette Riverkeeper	chinook salmon, meadowlark	\$125,231	Do Not Fund