

## **May 20-21, 2008 OWEB Board Meeting Executive Director Update #C5: SIP Status**

### **Background**

The Board adopted Special Investment Partnership (SIP) programs for the Upper Deschutes at the January 2008 meeting, and for the Willamette at the March 2008 meeting. For both SIPs, daily progress continues on project design details, technical reviews, effectiveness monitoring plans, grant agreements, and the whole range of activities associated with implementation or immediate pre-implementation. The notes below capture the status as of April 30, 2008, and may be updated by the time of the Board meeting on May 20-21, 2008.

### **SIP Staffing**

The need for additional assistance to address workload demands has significantly grown with the approval of the two SIP efforts. Staff are exploring all options to either hire temporary positions or to contract for specific tasks. OWEB staff have interviewed three individuals for part-time temporary positions to assist current SIP staff with Deschutes SIP grant management and with Willamette SIP project refinement and implementation. One person began working part-time on May 1. Staff are continuing to seek additional assistance.

### **Deschutes SIP Status**

The Deschutes Partnership Agreement was signed by OWEB, Upper Deschutes Watershed Council, Crooked River Watershed Council, Deschutes Basin Land Trust, and Deschutes River Conservancy. Five projects have all received extensive technical review and are in various stages of implementation start-up. The following list gives a general description of these five projects and their current status.

1. North Unit Irrigation District Canal Intake modification (#208-4074-6558):
  - a. Improving the canal intake area to minimize injury to fish.
  - b. OWEB amount is \$420,000 of \$1,123,117.
  - c. Award Memo issued by the OWEB Director.
  - d. Grant agreement signed.
  - e. Project completed.
  
2. Lake Creek Culvert Removal (#208-4074-6560):
  - a. Improve fish passage on an important stream in the Metolius drainage.
  - b. OWEB amount is \$73,527 of \$134,292.
  - c. Award Memo issued by the Director.
  - d. Grant agreement drafted.
  
3. Whychus Creek Restoration at Camp Polk (#208-4074-6551):
  - a. Complex of activities to restore native vegetation on 35 acres of wetland and riparian area, restore habitat on 1.7 miles of stream, and restore creek to original channel, increasing its length by 2,500 feet.
  - b. OWEB amount is \$833,625 of \$2,034,625.
  - c. Extensive effectiveness monitoring plan drafted.
  - d. Award Memo issued by the Director.
  - e. Grant agreement in development.

4. McKenzie Canyon Black Butte Canal Improvement, Phase II (#208-4074-6559):
  - a. Pipe over 9,300 feet of open irrigation ditch to reduce loss and eventually restore 2.4 cubic feet per second (cfs) of permanent and protected in-stream flow to Whychus Creek.
  - b. OWEB amount is \$656,000 of \$1,629,187. This phase spends the first \$333,266 to get the first 1.2 cfs.
  - c. Award Memo issued by the Director.
  - d. Grant agreement in development.
  
5. Lower Crooked River City of Prineville (#208-4074-6562):
  - a. Restore flood plain, wetlands, riparian habitat, and in-stream complexity on about one half mile of Ochoco Creek while also providing better public access.
  - b. OWEB amount is \$216,346 of \$474,396.
  - c. Award Memo issued by the Director.
  - d. Grant agreement in development.

Applications are being written for another eight Deschutes SIP projects from the list approved by the Board in January.

### **Willamette SIP Status**

- Partnership Agreements are drafted and under review by Meyer Memorial Trust, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), Department of State Lands (DSL), and Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI).
- Meetings and site visits with partners have been held at Willamette Mission State Park to develop projects to reconnect about two miles of side channel. The approximate and anticipated OWEB contribution is \$300,000.
- Meetings with partners have been held at Confluence Island to develop projects to construct two alcoves of about .25 miles each; to consider a cross-island channel and flood plain re-connection; and to consider ways to extend the benefits from a possible hyporheic cooling project on the site.
- Exploration with DOGAMI of potential sites for aggregate mine restoration projects.
- Meetings to develop a project to reconnect the abandoned aggregate mine within Bowers Rock State Park.
- Partnership Agreements are drafted and under review by Metro and the City of Portland.
- Conversations with partners have been held to explore the best early-action projects in the Multnomah Channel and Scappoose bottomlands area.
- Willamette River Aerial Photo Atlas has been updated with OPRD, DSL.
- Meetings with land trusts have been held to explore early-action projects.
- Meetings with Meyer Memorial Trust and partners to discuss and refine small watershed focus process.

### **Staff Contact**

If you have questions or need additional information about the Special Investment Partnership, please contact Roger Wood, at [roger.wood@state.or.us](mailto:roger.wood@state.or.us) or at 503-986-0203.