

March 18-19, 2009 OWEB Board Meeting Executive Director Update #C1: Watershed Council Support Update

Current Status

OWEB received 63 council support applications on the January 30, 2009, deadline requesting \$8,746,029. Applications included requests from two watershed councils that have never before applied to OWEB for council support funding: the Molalla River Watch in Region 3 and Upper South John Day Watershed Council in Region 6.

On February 10 and 12 OWEB held trainings for the 15 council support reviewers. The review team includes resource professionals from each of OWEB's six regions and statewide members. The reviewers have been scoring the applications individually and submitted their scores to OWEB by March 5, 2009.

The review teams meet March 9 - 12 for two facilitated review sessions to develop "consensus scores." Reviewers' individual scores will be used to develop consensus scores during the review sessions. Applications are scored on eight criteria taking into consideration a council's organization and governance structure; commitment to improvement; presence of a management structure; fiscal responsibility; leadership role within the watershed, including collaboration with partners; planning process; and progress towards council goals.

OWEB will use the review team's consensus scores to create a merit score and merit category placement for each application. The merit score and merit category distribution will be evaluated by staff and the Board Council Support Subcommittee. Grant awards to councils will be based on (1) an applicant's merit category, (2) whether OWEB decides to award bonuses for umbrella or multiple councils or other factors, and (3) available funding.

Staff Contact

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Courtney Shaff, at courtney.shaff@state.or.us or 503-986-0046, or Lauri Aunan at lauri.aunan@state.or.us or 503-986-0047.