



Oregon

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Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

FROM: Eric Hartstein, Senior Policy Coordinator

SUBJECT: Agenda Item Q: Other Business - Rangeland Wildfire Threat Reduction Grant Program Update and Funding Request January 26-27, 2016 OWEB Board Meeting

I. Introduction

This report provides an update to the Rangeland Wildfire Threat Reduction grant program and requests the Board allocate up to an additional \$400,000 of General Funds from the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) to the 2015-2017 Spending Plan. This additional funding will bring the total amount available through the grant program to up to \$1 million.

II. Background

For the 2015-2017 biennium, ODF has been provided \$1.2 million of General Funds in support of Rangeland Fire Protection Associations (RFPAs), greater sage grouse habitat and rural community vitality. Within this funding, ODF and OWEB have established the Rangeland Wildfire Threat Reduction grant program. At the July 2015 OWEB Board meeting, the Board approved a spending plan that set aside \$600,000 in General Funds for the Rangeland Wildfire Threat Reduction grant program. The grant funding is for eligible services, supplies, and equipment expenditures of rangeland fire protection associations (RFPAs) and counties in addressing rangeland wildfire management and suppression. The grant program is consistent with wildfire-related provisions of Oregon's plan for addressing the conservation of the greater sage grouse and rural community vitality. For the Rangeland Wildfire Threat Reduction grant program, ODF has developed a formula for determining how much funding each county and RFPA is eligible to apply for. The amount of funding available for counties is determined by the number of RFPAs that predominately reside in the county. The amount of funding available for RFPAs is determined by the size of the RFPA and the percentage of ODFW-identified sage grouse habitat found within the RFPA boundary.

III. Grant Cycles

It is anticipated that the majority of the \$1 million available for grant funding for RFPAs and counties will be allocated in one grant cycle. This grant cycle was announced in November, 2015 with applications due on December 15, 2015. Eight counties and 19 RFPAs submitted grant applications by the deadline (Attachment A). A review team consisting of representatives from ODF, OWEB, the Bureau of Land Management, and the National Resources Conservation Service will evaluate the grant applications in February 2016. It is expected that this grant cycle will result in \$900,000 in awards made available in early March 2016. The remaining \$100,000

will be reserved for RFPAs that are currently in development, and made available through a small grant cycle later in the 2015-2017 biennium.

IV. Recommendation

Staff request the Board allocate up to \$400,000 of General Funds from ODF in support of the Rangeland Wildfire Threat Reduction grant program to the 2015-2017 Spending Plan, and delegate authority to the Executive Director to enter into the appropriate agreements in project number 216-8009, with an award date of July 1, 2015.

Attachment

- A. December 2015 Rangeland Wildfire Threat Reduction Grant Applications

Rangeland Wildfire Threat Reduction Applications				
December 2015 Grant Cycle				
Project Number 216-8009 Project ID	Grantee	Project Name	OWEB \$ Requested	Project Amount
12586	Warner Valley RFPA	Warner Valley RFPA 2015	52,835	81,044
12587	Baker County	Baker County Rangeland Wildfire Treat Reduction Assistance Grant	30,000	0
12588	Gateway Rangeland Fire Protection Assn	Gateway Rangeland Fire Protection Association 2015	7,000	22,250
12589	Lake County	Lake County 2015	15,000	15,000
12590	Post-Paulina Rangeland Fire Protection Association	Post-Paulina RFPA 2015	27,470	49,338
12591	Crook County	Crook County 2015	15,000	15,000
12592	Jefferson County Emergency Management	Jefferson County 2015	30,000	30,000
12593	Burnt River RFPA	Burnt River RFPA 2015	15,010	33,763
12594	Malheur County Sheriff's Office	Malheur County 2015	75,000	75,000
12595	Ashbutte RFPA	Ash Butte RFPA 2015	7,000	22,250
12596	Juntura RFPA	Juntura RFPA 2015	44,380	70,475
12597	Wheeler County	Wheeler County 2015	30,000	30,000
12598	WC Ranches RFPA	WC Ranches RFPA 2015	7,000	21,750
12599	Twickenham Fire Protection	Twickenham Fire Protection	7,000	14,550
12600	Jordan Valley RFPA	Jordan Valley RFPA 2015	94,325	132,906
12601	Ironside Fire Protection	Ironside RFPA 2015	27,130	48,913
12602	Deschutes County	Deschutes County 2015	15,000	15,000
12603	Brothers-Hampton RFPA	Brothers-Hampton RFPA	38,150	62,688
12604	Blue Mountain RFPA	Blue Mountain RFPA 2015	54,615	83,269
12605	Crane RFPA	Crane RFPA	40,035	64,544
12606	Fields-Andrews RFPA	Fields- Andrews RFPA 2015	42,155	67,194
12607	Harney County	Harney County	90,000	90,000
12608	Lone Pine RPA	Lone Pine RFPA 2015	8,335	24,919
12609	Lookout Glasgow RFPA	Lookout Glassgow RFPA 2015	15,455	34,319
12610	Silver Creek RPA	Silver Creek Fire Protection	12,340	29,925
12611	Wagontire RFPA	Wagontire RFPA 2015	8,335	24,919
12612	Frenchglen Rangeland Fire Protection Assn	Frenchglen Rangeland Fire Protection Association	62,625	92,781
27		Total	871,195	1,251,797