

Oregon Water Resources Department
Water Conservation, Reuse and Storage Grant Program
Evaluation for September 2, 2008 Applications

APPLICANT:	Heceta Water District		
STUDY TYPE:	Water Conservation		
APPLICATION NO.:	GC0027 09		
STUDY NAME:	Water Management and Conservation Plan		
BASIN:	Mid Coast	WRD DISTRICT:	2
WRD FUNDS REQUESTED:	\$6,250	TOTAL COST:	\$12,500

APPLICATION DESCRIPTION:

The Heceta Water District serves approximately 4,500 customers north of Florence. The District's sole drinking water source is Clear Lake.

The Heceta Water District is proposing to develop a Division 86 Water Management and Conservation Plan (WMCP). The WMCP will focus on four key elements to provide an overall management plan for the City's water resources. These key elements include: (1) a description of the District's water system that includes descriptions of water customers, water use and demand, reliability and adequacy of water sources, and water system infrastructure; (2) evaluation of current and potential water conservations activities, programs, and measures that will reduce average and peak water demands; (3) a curtailment plan that can be implemented during water emergencies; and (4) an analysis of the existing water source ability to meet future demands. The goal of the WMCP will be to develop a strategy to reduce the average water demand per capita by at least 10 percent.

APPLICATION REVIEW TEAM EVALUATION:

The Application Review Team recognized that Heceta Water District is required to complete an updated Water Management and Conservation Plan by October 21, 2010. If the team were to recommend funding Heceta Water District's Water Management and Conservation it indicated that it would want to see that the plan developed in coordination with the City of Florence. Heceta Water District's source of water is Clear Lake, which flows into Munsel Lake and then into Munsel Creek, for which the City of Florence has a water right.

The team found that the water curtailment element of a Water Management and Conservation Plan was not associated with a feasibility study and had concerns that other elements of the plan, such as inventory of the District's water rights, may not be associated with a feasibility study, and therefore these tasks would not be eligible for funding under SB 1069.

The team felt that given the limited funding associated with the Water Conservation, Reuse and Storage Grant Program, and the severe water quantity problems facing the state, that other applications should be funded prior to this application.

The study is a priority for funding under SB 1069 because it is identified on the Department's statewide water assessment and inventory of potential conservation opportunities. The study could begin in January 2009 and

be completed by October 1, 2009.

Application Review Team Funding Recommendation: Do Not Fund.

COMMENTS:

Adam Sussman, GSI Water Solutions, expressed concern that the Application Review Team added a criterion that was not part of the grant application material. Specifically, that the Application Review Team did not recommend funding Water Management and Conservation Plan applications because they were a “required” plan. If the District had known of this criterion, they might not have expended the resources to apply for the grant application.

RECOMMENDATION:

Do not fund.

Note: This is one of three applications that were forwarded to the 2008 Oregon Water Supply Conservation Initiative (OWSCI) Community Match Funding Program to be considered for funding along with other similar grant applications submitted to that program.