

Biology

also known as

Early Coordination



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ODOT/NOAA Fisheries Liaison

- ODOT National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Liaison – Endangered Species Act/Federal-Aid Highway Program (FAHP)
- 25 years with ODOT

Tom came to ODOT with 14 years of experience serving as a fish Habitat Biologist for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Tom's areas of expertise include Fish Biology, Fish habitat, and Endangered Species Act.





Biology Takeaways

1. Early Coordination is the key to success.
2. Many laws and regulations can impact scope, schedule, and budget.
3. For projects with In-water work, TWM will be an area of high risk.



Biology – Projects using the Federal Aid Highway Programmatic "FAHP"



Elements that can negatively affect: Scope, Schedule and Budget

Early Coordination



Early determination of ESA pathway:
FAHP vs BA and BO

Determine the high-risk elements
e.g. DSM, SW deficit, existing ROW needs

Several project types and elements where
early coordination is essential.

Proper QC procedures prior to FAHP
submittal



Stormwater

- Delineating the CIA
- Determination of triggers
- Developing credits
- Using credits if available
- Exemptions
- Potential needs for ROW easements
- Proprietary BMP's



Temporary Water Management



Note: New chapter is currently being drafted for the ODOT hydraulics manual.



Pre-TWM meeting



Gravity flow vs pumping



Obtaining temporary easements



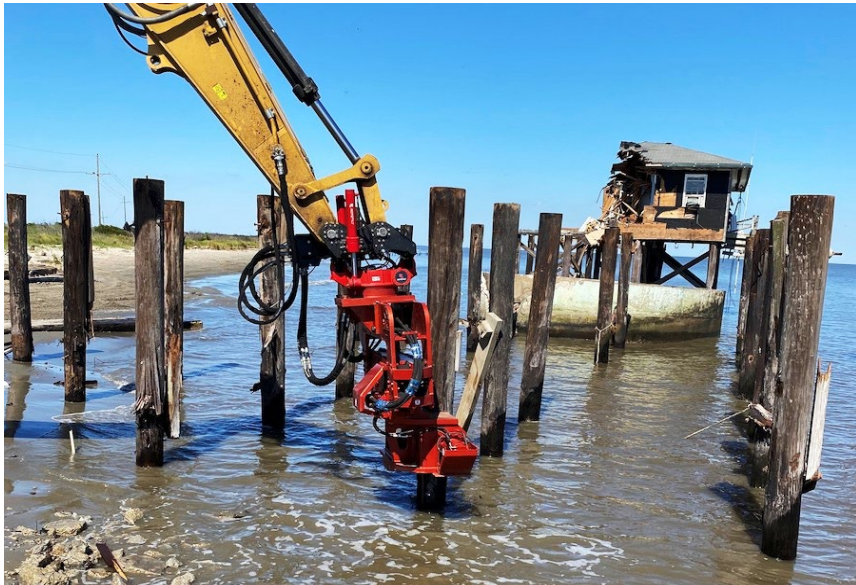
Maintaining Fish Passage



Implementing TWM and coordinating fish salvage

Project Changes – IWW Extensions

- IWW Extensions
- Contractor track record during construction
- Agency Coordination



Pilebuck.com



Nativefishsociety.org

Bridge Replacements and Seismic Retrofits

- Ground Improvements – ISM or DSM work
- Not meeting the Fluvial standard
- Early surveys of ACW



Marine Mammal Protection Act

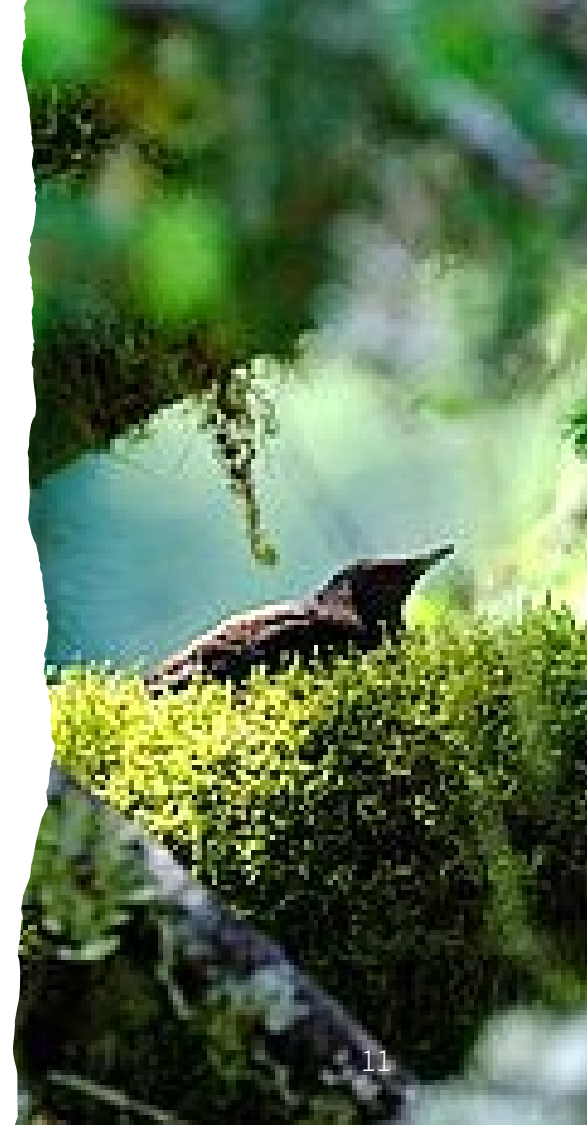
- Coastal Estuaries, Columbia River, Willamette River
- Letter to the file
- IHA or a LOA
- Coordination with NMFS Silver Spring staff
- Monitoring and stop work costs



FAHP Coverage for USFWS Species



- Northern spotted owl & marbled murrelet are our two most common
- Habitat removal requires assumed presence or multiple years of monitoring to determine no presence.
- Mitigation credits for NSO & MAMU habitat removal are available at ~\$80K an acre.
- Noise & timing restrictions without habitat removal can keep a project in NLAA determination or even potentially a no effect.





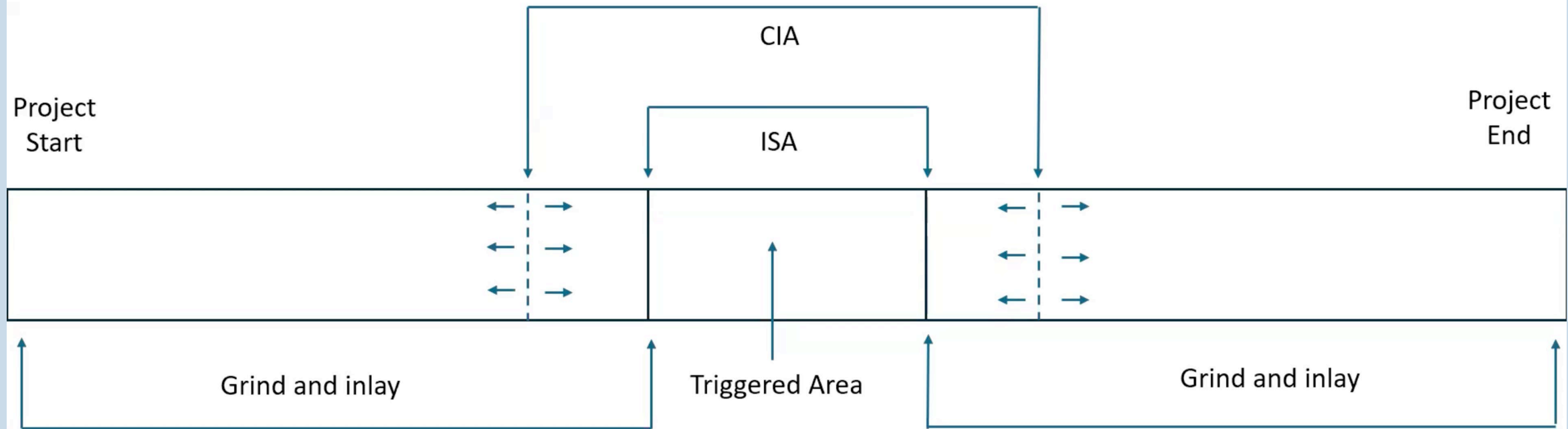
FAHP Coverage for USFWS Species

- Streaked horned lark thrives in sparsely vegetated areas, grasslands and even in large construction zones with freshly cleared vegetation.
- Bull trout are a species to consider in some parts of the state for in-water work and stormwater effects.
- Consider any ESA listed plants early in design, determine optimal survey time periods and find a reference population nearby if possible.





CIA vs ISA



Project Area = 1.0 acres
CIA = 0.35 acres
ISA (Triggered Area) = 0.20 acres

Questions?

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