



11675 SW Hazelbrook Road | Tualatin, OR | 97062 || (503) 218 2580 | tualatinriverkeepers.org | info@tualatinriverkeepers.org

December 31, 2025

Oregon State Marine Board
 Ms. Janine Belleque, Boating Facilities Manager
 By email to: Janine.BELLEQUE@boat.oregon.gov

Dear Ms. Belleque and Marine Board members:

Tualatin Riverkeepers presents this request for Waterway Access Grant funding to promote and advocate for the development, expansion and renovation of non-motorized watercraft access to the Tualatin River National Recreation Trail and further our education and outreach to underserved communities in the Tualatin River watershed. We will complete the project by the end of the biennial period.

Website Links

Tualatin Riverkeepers Homepage:
<http://www.tualatinriverkeepers.org/>

Tualatin River Water Trail Homepage:
<https://tualatinwatertrail.org/map/>

In 1992, a key goal supporting the concept of a “water trail” on the Tualatin River was included in the Regional Greenspaces Master Plan. From its inception in 1989, to the awarding of National Recreation Trail status in 2020, Tualatin Riverkeepers has steadfastly advocated for additional and more equitable public access to the river. Once the most polluted river in Oregon, it has been impacted both detrimentally and beneficially by decades of increasing suburban development. We find that as the watershed’s population grows, connecting people to the river is a key way to increase support for its preservation. This results in a river that now provides not only clean drinking water for half a million residents of the region but also safe and healthy recreational opportunities on over 40 river miles.

Still, there are many gaps and challenges along the water trail. Few public launch sites have adequate facilities. Many are merely a muddy strip of land under a bridge, surrounded by invasive and thorny blackberry vines, with little or no safe parking, no restrooms or trash receptacles, and no signage indicating even the most basic information. Others have steep muddy embankments, and docks or ramps that have long since washed away. Only one has any significant Spanish-language signage, despite the fact that nearly 20% of the watershed identifies as Hispanic or Latinx. The 15-mile portion in the center of the TRWT through the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, some of the most peaceful, natural, and beautiful paddling in the Metro area, has no public access at all.

Tualatin Riverkeepers is a community-based organization that protects and restores the Tualatin River watershed. We build watershed stewardship through engagement, advocacy, restoration, access, and education. Our WAG educational funding request aims to address these challenges with both short-term improvements and maintenance for existing launch sites along with furthering accomplishments from our 2 year Wayfaring Project collaboration with the National Park Service. We will now integrate this work into the National Water Trail Action Plan to guide future renovation, expansion, and the addition of launch sites and associated amenities. We will bring community members, government officials, and other stakeholders together with events – to learn about the challenges and possibilities for equitable non-motorized water recreation, to collaboratively pursue creative solutions and funding to implement them, and to build community commitment to stewardship and responsibility.

The project plans and budget include Tualatin Riverkeepers' coordination of water recreation and education events, recruiting and training of staff and volunteers to ensure all community members are welcome, equipped, and empowered to participate, as well as updates to communications materials like videos, maps, and signage. Attached are the following documents, which comprise our application:

- The Boating Facility and Waterway Access Grant Application form.
- Photos of programs and launch sites
- The new Tualatin River Water Trail Map and Paddler's Guide
- Letters of support come from such partners as the City of Tigard, City of Hillsboro, The Intertwine Alliance, Adelante Mujeres, and the Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District; they will be forwarded as received.
- Our organization's Strategic Plan.

Thank you so much for your consideration of this important funding request. We are happy to answer any questions or provide any additional information that you may need.

The Tualatin River watershed includes traditional village sites of the Tualatin band of Kalapuya, the Atfalati, along with other tribes present since the last ice age, creating communities and seasonal encampments to harvest and use the plentiful natural resources of the area. This valley has a complex and layered history; we make a commitment to learn it, to recognize, support, collaborate with and advocate for Indigenous People, and to consider the convergence of legacies that bring us to where we are today as we paddle its waters. We offer gratitude for the land itself, for those who have stewarded it for generations, and for the opportunity to learn, work, and be in community on it.

Sincerely,



Mark Fitzsimons, River Experiences Manager
mark@tualatinriverkeepers.org



Waterway Access Grant Application for Nonmotorized Recreational Boating Education and Outreach

FOR OSMB USE ONLY		Grant number: 1784
Biennium:	Date Received:	

Refer to the Waterway Access Grant Education and Outreach Procedure Guide

1 - APPLICANT PROJECT TYPE AND LOCATION <i>(All applicants must complete)</i>	
Applicant or entity name: Tualatin Riverkeepers	503 218-2580
If different from above provide Assumed Business Name:	
Applicant mailing address: 11675 SW Hazelbrook St	City, State, Zip Tualatin, OR 92760
Physical address: Same	City, State, Zip Same
Type of Government Applicant: ☐ County ☐ Port ☐ State Agency ☐ Tribal Government ☐ City ☐ Parks District ☐ Federal Agency ☐ Other (Specify)	
Type of Private Entity Applicant: ☒ Non-profit 501c3 or 501c4 ☐ Oregon Limited Liability ☐ Private ☐ Partnership - Foreign Limited ☐ Business Corporation ☐ Liability Partnership – Business Trust ☐ Professional Corporation ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☐ Oregon Limited Liability Company	
Are you a registered Guide or Charter? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, provide Registration Number: If No, review the information in the link below and contact Outfitter Guide Coordinator with questions: Oregon State Marine Board : Guides & Charters : State of Oregon	
Name of Project Manager: Mark Fitzsimons	Title: River Experiences Manager
Email: mark@tualatinriverkeepers.org	Phone: 503 218-2580
Name of Fiscal Point of Contact: Glenn Fee	Title: Executive Director
Email: glenn@tualatinriverkeepers.org	Phone: 503 218-2580
Project Name: Tualatin River Equitable Access Project	
Brief project statement <i>(1-4 sentences describing scope of project)</i> TRK will advocate for more and improved non-motorized access to the Tualatin River, especially for underserved communities within the watershed. This will include marketing, outreach, and advocacy campaigns to build support for funding, developing, expanding and renovating launches as well as for leading paddling trips and managing paddling events on the river.	

List the waterbodies and approximate river miles where activities will occur.
Tualatin River – From river mile 50 (Steamboat Park, Cornelius) to river mile 0 (Willamette Park, West Linn)

Project type, check all that apply:

- ☒ Education – Training
- ☒ On-Water Opportunity
- ☒ Equipment Purchase

2 - PARTICIPATION FEES

A. Describe any fee a participant will pay to participate in the activity or program.

No fees will be charged for the planning, coordinating, convening, consulting work.
A portion of the awarded grant money will be used to eliminate or reduce fees for boat and equipment use by groups representing underserved populations and those of low socio-economic status.

B. Is the fee refundable upon completion of the activity or program?

N/A

C. Are there scholarships available to reduce financial barriers to participation?

N/A

3 - PROJECT NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION –

This section is your opportunity to sell your project. Do not assume that Marine Board staff will know the answers to the questions. You have project knowledge and experience that must be conveyed in your responses. Provide clear and concise responses to the questions.

A. Describe the goal, need and anticipated outcomes of the project or program. (This field will expand as needed)

The goal:

- The Tualatin River Water Trail (TRWT) Equitable Access Project supports business, organization, and government stakeholders in their efforts to develop, expand and renovate safe public access to the Tualatin River and it will deliver paddling opportunities to the watershed's underserved communities.

The Need:

- Tualatin Riverkeepers (TRK) is the only watershed-based organization whose mission includes advocating for the TRNWT. No other organizations or agencies are positioned to convene its many stakeholders.
- TRK manages the only on-line webpage "home" that acts as a source of information to drive visitation and economic activity, resources to support launch development, and contacts to coordinate planning. TRK's efforts also link and share regional developments with other state water trail activities and initiatives.
- No formal developed, non-motorized public access is available above Rood Bridge Park (RM 38) at Cornelius or Hillsboro, between the 99W Bridge (RM 11) and Farmington (RM 33.4), and below Brown's Ferry Park (RM 7)

- There are no paddle-in campsites or BnB's, and no dedicated shuttles along the TRWT.
- Few TRWT public launch sites have adequate restroom facilities, trash receptacles, and boat racks, and only one (Rood Bridge Park) has accessible hardware and any extensive Spanish-language safety and informational signage, despite the fact that nearly 20% of the watershed identifies as Latinx or Hispanic.
- Many TRWT public non-motorized launch facilities are in disrepair or otherwise lacking in safe and accessible access opportunities. They are often nothing more than a steep muddy bank, occasionally with a narrow path through dense vegetation, an inadequate parking area that is merely a pull-off on the narrow shoulder of the street, or a broken concrete ramp that's difficult or dangerous to use during periods of low water.
- Paddlesports require expensive equipment, and training is necessary to get started safely and in a manner that prepares beginning paddlers to deal with the wide range of challenging situations they might face on Oregon's waters.

Anticipated Outcomes:

Stakeholder Planning

- We will work with cities, Washington and Clackamas County, Metro regional government, and state/federal agencies to develop access where gaps exist in Metro's 1992 Water Trail charter, expand, and renovate existing public access, and implement long-delayed access plans.
- We will take key groups of decision-makers and media staff on 4 guided paddle tours of targeted stretches of the Water Trail to visit public launch sites and meet with management agency staff to see and hear about each site's challenges and opportunities.
- We will meet regularly with individual stakeholders and hold a Water Trail wide design charrette that will inform and update our comprehensive 10 year plan for the next development phases of the TRWT.
- We will enhance and expand the webpage central "home" of the TRWT National Recreational Trail that helps visitors plan trips, businesses promote services, and stakeholders share information.

Paddling Opportunities

- We will take advantage of large, nearby suburban population centers, bordering public lands devoted to wildlife habitat, a fairly flat gradient, and low current to provide, coordinate, and host a variety of paddling experiences to organizations representing underserved and income limited populations.
- We will organize 20 group trips; 2 community events that include paddling opportunities; and make our boats and equipment available to partnering groups with the necessary skill and safety training.
- We will make our boats and volunteers available to the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District and other agencies to support their conservation, restoration, and invasive species work.
- These opportunities will provide recreation, education, and mental health benefits, connect people to nature, and empower and activate the community to advocate for the Tualatin River, its natural places, and highlight the need for access and public facility improvements to the TRWT.

Education and Training

- We will train TRK volunteers as well as our partner staff and volunteers in basic first aid, safe boating practices for canoe, kayak, and SUP operation, waterway rules, essential equipment, and how to share waterways with other users.
- We will enhance our capacity to hold guided paddle trips and special events in the upper TRWT by recruiting paddle volunteers who are fluent in Spanish.
- We will activate public support for needed improvements by encouraging people to attend and offer testimony at government-convened public meetings devoted to site/facility development, improvement plans, and funding. We will spur hundreds more to submit written support, ideas, responses, and comments.

B. Describe if your project or program is identified in any education, business, strategic, or other plans. (This field will expand as needed)

- As administrator of the TRNWT, TRK is the designated reviewer of the potential impact that construction of the new I-205 bridge will have on the National Recreation Trail.
- The 1992 Regional Greenspaces Master Plan includes the goal of supporting the concept of a "water trail" on the Tualatin River with a facility for camping.
- A 2011 Metro budget amendment provided funding to begin the first phase of an effort to plan and design the TRWT with boat launches spaced every five to seven miles along the river.
- A 2011 Metro Light Watercraft Task Force prioritized the development of a non-motorized launch at River's Bend Natural Area.
- The development of improved public access to the Tualatin River is included in municipal park and recreation master plans from Cornelius to West Linn.

C. Describe who is the target audience, how you will engage underserved communities to participate and how the project or program is providing opportunities to the communities. (This field will expand as needed)

Our target audience is the general public residing in the Tualatin River watershed with a focus on underserved communities along the upper TRWT, between Forest Grove and Tualatin. Though the population of these communities tends to be more Spanish speaking and lower income, polling has indicated higher than average concerns about environmental issues, especially water quality issues. TRK programs and activities such as Tualatin River Discover Day and Rumbo al Rio are geared towards providing access that includes free or low-cost boat rentals. We are planning additional paddle trips and events for underserved communities, but are challenged by the lack of safe and accessible public access to the river. This project will seek to activate participants and their families to advocate for more and better public access facilities for their communities. We also target the city, county, and other governmental agencies that manage or have planning authority for public access points. We plan to engage this audience with special trips - including a Paddle Tualatin event that will tour key sections of the river with stops at access points to meet and talk with site managers. We also plan to hold a Politician Paddle event which brings local elected leaders together to experience their communities from the river.

We will convene underserved communities and governmental site managers at a planning charette to assess progress, identify opportunities, develop plans, and prioritize actions creatively and collaboratively.

We will present and organize testimony for government-hosted events that likewise are intended to get public input on plans or funding for site facilities, engaging our large network of members, supporters, followers, and other partners. We will ensure that underserved communities have a voice at these events.

D. Describe how waterway and boating safety is incorporated into the project or program. (This field will expand as needed)

We provide properly fitted PFDs to all trip and event participants, and we include water safety instruction in the lesson or introduction to the launch. Our water trail map and other printed and online resources include water safety information and education. For our Spanish-language events and materials, the safety instruction will be conveyed in Spanish. At all events, at least one Spanish-speaking staff member or volunteer will be on site. In addition, we will work with partners such as Centro Cultural and Adelante Mujeres - to recruit bilingual participants as trip volunteers.

E. Describe specific actions, materials or equipment that will be completed or donated by the applicant. Include any time, availability or other limitations for these contributions and how that is factored into the overall project.

Tualatin Riverkeepers has a fleet of paddlecraft (canoes, kayaks, and paddleboards), as well as the necessary associated gear and PFDs, that will be made available for participants' use during project events and activities. We have five boat trailers and two gear trailers along with the opportunity to access others that ensures we can conduct activities at multiple sites on the TRWT.
We recruit new paddle trip and event volunteers on an ongoing basis and train them annually.

F. For any products, materials or equipment purchased as part of the grant, describe the useful life and how it was determined. Describe where the items will be stored and maintained to meet or exceed the useful life.

Our boats are both donated and purchased new. They are in use for multiple years depending on their age when obtained, requiring only minor repairs in the off season. The City of Tualatin and the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge donate indoor or covered storage space for us to securely house boats, trailers, and gear when not in use. The City of Tigard donates enclosed and secure outdoor space at Cook Park for us to store part of our fleet and one gear trailer during the summer months. The printed materials (flyers, signs, etc.) and any perishables are stored and distributed from our office and garage in spaced donated by the City of Tualatin.

G. Does the proposed project or program occur at public recreational boating facilities? If yes, describe the frequency of use, number of participants and any agreements or permissions you have with the facility owner.

Yes, our river access events will occur at public launch sites on the Tualatin River, and on the river itself. We have contracts and agreements for boat storage at Cook Park in Tigard.
Agreements for specific events at specific sites are negotiated and obtained in coordination with the government entity that controls or owns the site, as they are scheduled.
Rood Bridge Park – City of Hillsboro – Event Use Permits (2 events, 4 trips, 100 people)
Farmington Paddle Launch – Metro - Special Use Permit (2 trips, 40 people)
Eagle Landing – Washington County – Event Use Permit (2 trips, 40 people)
River's Bend Natural Area – Metro – Special Use Permit (2 trips, 15 people)
King City Community Park – City of King City - informal use (2 trips, 20 people)
Highway 99W – informal use (6 trips, 120 people)
Jurgen's Park – informal use (multiple trips throughout the summer)
Cook Park – informal use (12 trips and events 240 people throughout the summer)
Tualatin Community Park – Event Use Permits (6 trips, 120 people)
Shipley Bridge – informal use (2 trips, 25 people)
Willamette Park – informal use (2 trips, 40 people)

H. Describe past performance on OSMB grants. If you have not received a previous grant from OSMB, describe past performance with Oregon State Parks, Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife or other state agency awarded grant.

\$40,000 2021 Boating Facility and Waterway Access Grant
\$45,000 2023 Boating Facility and Waterway Access Grant
\$10,000 2024 Small Grant

I. Describe the project implementation and completion timeline.

Paddling trips and events will be held from June through October of 2026 and 2027.
Meetings and planning events held in 2026 will inform events held in 2027 that will guide the further development and refinement of the comprehensive 10 year plan for future development of the TRWT.

4 - PUBLIC SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION (All applicants must complete)

Identify specific public support and opposition to the proposed project:

Note: this section is part of the grant ranking criteria-include emails and letters with application

<u>Supporters Name</u>		<u>Opponents Name</u>
☒ Adjacent landowners:	Metro	
☒ User groups:	Adelante, Centro, CPAH, OR Zoo	
☒ Neighborhood association	King City	
☒ Local government:	Cornelius, Hillsboro, Tigard, Tualatin	
☒ State/federal government:	Tualatin River NWR, Nat Park Service	
☒ Legislative/congressional:	Katherine Harrington	
☒ General Public	Alder Creek	
☒ Other (specify):	Intertwine Alliance, Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District	

5 – PROJECT BUDGET (All Applicants must complete – See budget worksheet below)

	Applicant	Other	Marine Board	TOTAL
Total TIME Budget	\$6,000	\$	\$14,000	\$20,000
Total FEES Budget	\$	\$	\$2,000	\$
Total MATERIALS, SUPPLIES & EQUIP Budget	\$2,000	\$7,000	\$4,000	\$13,000
Total PRE-AGREEMENT Budget	\$	\$	\$	\$
GRAND TOTAL	\$8,000	\$7,000	\$20,000	\$33,000

6 – BUILD YOUR BUDGET (All applicants must complete. Attach additional worksheets as needed)

A. TIME (labor and administration)

Budget Item and Description					Contributors		
Item	Description	Hours	Rate	TOTAL	Provided by Applicant	Provided by Other	Requested from Marine Board
Administration	Contract Oversight, Planning, Financial Services		\$	\$1,000.00	\$1,000	\$	\$
Labor	Event Coordination		\$	\$2,000.00	\$2,000	\$	\$8,000
Labor	Advocacy		\$	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$	\$6,000
Labor	Advertising and Marketing		\$	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$	\$
Labor			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Labor			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Labor			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Labor			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Labor			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Labor			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
TIME Sub-Total					\$6,000	\$	\$14,000

B. FEES (permit, training, rental, participation etc.)

Budget Item and Description					Contributors			
Item	Description	Qty.	Value	TOTAL	Provided by Applicant	Provided by Other	Requested from Marine Board	
Long Canoes	Traditional Chinookan Canoe program	2	\$1,000	\$2,000		\$	\$2,000	
			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
FEES Sub-Total					\$	\$	\$2,000	

E. "OTHER" SOURCE, TYPE, AND AMOUNT OF (NON-APPLICANT) CONTRIBUTIONS				
Grant/Loan/Donation Entity	Name of Grant/Loan	Approved		Amount of Grant/Loan/Donation
Tualatin Basin Public Awareness Committee - grant	Event sponsorship	☐ Yes	☒ No	\$2,000
TRK Membership - cash	Food & Event Supplies	☐ Yes	☒ No	\$2,500
Explore Tualatin Valley – grant	cash	☐ Yes	☒ No	\$2,500
		☐ Yes	☐ No	\$

6 - APPLICATION SIGNATURE AND CERTIFICATION *(All applicants must complete)***Applicant Signature and Certification**

Application is hereby made for the activities described above, together with attachments. I certify that I am familiar with the information contained in the application and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, this information is true, complete, and accurate. I further certify that I possess the authority, including the necessary requisite property interests, to undertake the proposed activities.

I also certify that the Applicant's governing body is aware of this request and has authorized the person identified as the official representative of the Applicant to act in connection with this application and subsequent project as well as to provide additional information as may be required.

Mark Fitzsimons

Print/Type Name

River Experiences Program Manager

Title



Applicant Signature

January 5 2026

Date

By signing below, I affirm the Applicant's intention to enter into a Cooperative Grant Agreement and agree to comply with Oregon State Marine Board's program rules, policies, and guidelines as well as all applicable federal, state, and local laws relating to this proposal, additional conditions applicable to an approved Waterway Access Grant, and the resulting project.

ATTACHMENTS *(Are the following items attached to this application?)*

Required For:	Education-Outreach
Cover letter	x
Photos	x
Cost estimate or quotes	x
Consultant contract	If applicable
Pre-agreement documentation	☐
Letters/emails of support	x
Informational Brochure and/or website	x
Education or Business Plan	x

For more information about completing this application refer to the [Boating Facility, Waterway Access Education and Opportunity Procedures Guide](#) found on our website, www.oregon.gov/osmb/boating-facilities.

For questions contact Janine Belleque, Boating Facilities Manager, 503-877-7580, janine.belleque@boat.oregon.gov

Submit completed application and documentation to Ann Fleckner, Facilities Administrative Assistant, 503-378-2727, ann.fleckner@boat.oregon.gov

Tualatin Riverkeepers Strategic Plan 2025 – 2029

Mission:

Tualatin Riverkeepers protects, restores and expands access to the Tualatin River watershed through advocacy and fostering broad community engagement.

Vision:

We envision a thriving Tualatin River watershed sustained by an engaged community that protects, restores, and enjoys this vital resource.

Values:

Passion. We bring enthusiasm, excitement, dedication, and commitment to our work, overcoming challenges with determination and teamwork.

Leadership. Our leadership means sharing what we know, advocating for what's right, and inspiring action for a thriving Tualatin watershed and community.

Belonging. We strive to cultivate a sense of belonging, particularly for groups who have been marginalized by systems of oppression. We use an equity and inclusion lens to address barriers and promote access.

Integrity. We recognize our responsibility to the community, and seek to be transparent, responsive, and connected to those who live, work, and play in the watershed.

Collaboration. We know our vision is bigger than us and we strive to be good partners, working with others to achieve mutual goals.

Goals:

Goal 1: Strengthen and focus advocacy efforts to be responsive to existing and emerging watershed threats

Goal 2: Expand engagement with and access to the Tualatin River

Goal 3: Grow programs that care for the land by engaging residents and partners

Goal 4: Strengthen our revenue sources and financial systems

Goal 5: Build an inclusive organization that attracts and retains a diverse staff, board, and core volunteer team

Our Programs:

Advocacy

As a proud member of the international Waterkeeper Alliance, our work to protect clean water in the Tualatin River watershed is at our core. Tualatin Riverkeepers is the organization dedicated to advocating for water quality, ecosystem sustainability, and the overall health of the Tualatin River watershed. While advocating for policies and legislation that prioritize environmental concerns, we strive to include livability, affordability, and sustainability in all that we do so that we can create collaborative, community-based solutions that are implementable for everyone.

River Experiences

Most residents know about Tualatin Riverkeepers through our river experiences program. We rent paddle craft at Cook Park in Tigard and Rood Bridge Park in Hillsboro throughout the summer months, and host more than 2,000 paddlers annually. Our guided paddle trips focus on engaging residents of the watershed - often through partnerships with community organizations - who are unlikely to have experienced the river prior to coming out with us. A primary component of our River Experiences program is our Equitable Access work, an ongoing initiative to work with communities - primarily in the upper watershed - to create additional launches and connections to the river where community members can enjoy the river, whether they paddle or not.

Restoration

TRK partners with land management agencies throughout the watershed, hosting dozens of habitat restoration projects annually. We engage in restoration work not only to remove invasive species and plant native species, but to engage both young people and organizations that serve community members who will be most impacted by our changing climate. We seek out partnerships with schools and organizations that serve young adults, and our Restoration Leader program trains volunteers to lead these diverse groups in a safe, culturally-appropriate manner.

Land Acknowledgement

Washington County was originally inhabited by the Tualatin Band of Kalapuya (also known as the Atfalati, Twalaty, Twalatin, Quality, Tualaty, or Twalati).

It is fair to say the Tualatin Band of Kalapuya inhabited the entirety of Washington County at one time or another, but their most valued homeland was at Wapato Lake, near modern day Gaston. Wapato Lake supplied large amounts of wapato (an aquatic plant with a nutritious tuber much like a potato) to the Tualatin people, who grew camas and oak acorns as well. The Tualatin Band of Kalapuya traded extensively with their neighbors, and also traded with Euro-American settlers. In 1851 the Tualatin Band of Kalapuya signed a treaty which would have retained for them a reservation surrounding Wapato Lake, but it was never ratified by Congress. Instead the Willamette Valley Treaty of January 22, 1855 (which the Tualatin Band of Kalapuya also signed) was ratified by Congress, which provided other rights and benefits for them but not their own reservation. Chief Ki-

a-cuts was the treaty signer for the Tualatin Band of Kalapuya, and he was later elected Head Chief at the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation.

As with most of the tribes and bands of western Oregon, disease epidemics brought by Euro-Americans devastated the populations of these peoples, and in some cases their surviving members and/or descendants had either incorporated into neighboring bands or assimilated into the larger settler population out of necessity by the 1850s. After the signing of the Willamette Valley Treaty in 1855 (through which the entire Willamette Basin was ceded to the U.S. in exchange for certain rights and benefits), many of them were moved onto small temporary reservations, and later to the Grand Ronde Indian Reservation where they became members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde. Their descendants live on as Tribal members today, carrying on the traditions and cultures of their ancestors, the original people of this land.

Goal 1: Strengthen and focus advocacy efforts to be responsive to existing and emerging watershed threats

Strategy 1: Work with community partners, including CPOs and NGOs, to educate residents on emerging risks to the watershed and Tualatin Riverkeepers' role in advocating for clean water

- Initiative 1: Meet with leaders of watershed organizations to provide background on current and emerging issues
- Initiative 2: Create materials in multiple languages that TRK partners can utilize to educate their communities on watershed issues and their rights
- Initiative 3: Create tools and pathways that allow residents to quickly and effectively engage with elected officials and decision makers

Strategy 2: Consistently engage with elected officials and decision makers to increase their awareness and knowledge of issues impacting the watershed

- Initiative 1: Hold annual meetings with each Washington County Commissioner, Metro Councilor, and key state elected officials
- Initiative 2: Create and distribute an annual Advocacy Report detailing key issues and opportunities in the Tualatin River watershed
- Initiative 3: Track and submit public comment on bills related to watershed health

Strategy 3: Establish a strong presence of Tualatin Riverkeepers staff, board, and members on civic committees that impact on key issues of concern for the watershed

- Initiative 1: Create and update a comprehensive list of civic and nonprofit committees that inform decisions around planning, parks, sustainability and related issues

- Initiative 2: Identify committee openings on an annual basis, alerting TRK members and partners about opportunities to apply for openings

Goal 2: Expand engagement with and access to the Tualatin River

Strategy 1: Define and grow the Tualatin River Water Trail while expanding river access

- Initiative 1: Create a Tualatin River Water Trail website, serving as a dynamic hub for paddlers, planners, and advocates
- Initiative 2: Convene and provide access to training for partners on best practices around equitable access and design for river access planning
- Initiative 3: Hold annual paddle with elected officials highlighting an opportunity to provide additional access to the river

Strategy 2: Expand volunteer leadership in TRK paddling programs and initiatives

- Initiative 1: Develop a River Runners program that engages residents and provides key data and information to watershed partners
- Initiative 2: Recruit and train paddle trip volunteers representing historically marginalized communities

Strategy 3: Strengthen partnerships with organizations that serve community members who have been historically excluded from river experiences

- Initiative 1: Develop and update outreach materials that better reflect the languages spoken and experiences of a greater share of watershed residents
- Initiative 2: Create annual paddle events with targeted community organizations
- Initiative 3: Provide resources and programs where underserved communities members live and play, rather than bring them to current TRK programs

Goal 3: Grow programs that care for the land by engaging residents and partners

Strategy 1: Use a climate resilience and future impact lens to plan projects on strategic sites in the watershed

- Initiative 1: Ensure that climate adapted plant materials are prioritized to match site conditions

- Initiative 2: Assess sites with care to prioritize long term viability and care through volunteer resources or partnership commitments
- Initiative 3: Increase the number of sites where TRK-trained volunteers can lead groups of volunteers in ongoing restoration work

Strategy 2: Build a volunteer ambassador core with a strong baseline knowledge of the watershed, and Tualatin Riverkeepers' work to protect and restore it

- Initiative 1: Create distinct opportunities for residents to learn about key issues in the watershed, and TRK's work to protect it
- Initiative 2: Recruit volunteers with the capacity to serve on internal committees and to represent Tualatin Riverkeepers at appropriate community events
- Initiative 3: Identify key community events, newsletters, and partnerships where TRK can be present, and will help advance our mission to protect and restore the watershed

Strategy 3: Expand partnerships with culturally specific organizations that provide experiences for young residents to learn about restoration and outdoor recreation in the watershed

- Initiative 1: Secure funding to continue to provide workforce opportunities in conservation for young people identified by partner organizations in the upper watershed
- Initiative 2: Develop and support community-led projects on sites that are identified by community members and organizations as high priorities for them

Goal 4: Strengthen TRK's financial position and long-term sustainability

Strategy 1: Grow revenue, with an emphasis on increasing general operating support, ensuring that TRK can attract and retain talented staff

- Initiative 1: Create planned giving materials and meet with key prospects on an annual basis
- Initiative 2: Increase annual memberships and individual giving
- Initiative 3: Build a 6-month operating reserve

Strategy 2: Increase transparency of TRK finances and financial systems, with a strong volunteer oversight committee

- Initiative 1: One board member will hold a background in finance, and lead quarterly Finance Committee meetings
- Initiative 2: Maintain an active and engaged Finance Committee

Strategy 3: Build collaborative grant opportunities that enhance watershed restoration

- Initiative 1: Assign staff members to regularly attend Tualatin SWCD, Tualatin River Watershed Council, and Metro to learn about potential landscape scale restoration opportunities
- Initiative 2: Annually assess opportunities from funders such as OWEB and SWCDs to determine funding opportunities, and share opportunities with restoration partners

Goal 5: Build an inclusive organization that attracts and retains a diverse staff, board, and core volunteer team

Strategy 1: Create and strengthen internal operations, systems, and policies to be equitable, inclusive, responsive, and adaptive

- Initiative 1: Evaluate and update recruitment and hiring practices to be more equitable and inclusive

Strategy 2: Strengthen internal committees and working groups, engaging residents with a range of perspectives and experiences

- Initiative 1: Engage residents with a broader range of perspectives and experiences
- Initiative 2: Ensure committees and working groups have clear descriptions, leadership, and membership, meeting cadence and target time frames

Strategy 3: Engage in ongoing and regular equity, inclusion, and environmental justice learning to deepen our organizational equity, inclusion, and environmental justice lens

- Initiative 1: Identify meaningful learning opportunities for staff, and engage with one or more annually
- Initiative 2: Create a library of environmental justice materials for use by staff, board and volunteers

Tualatin River Water Trail

Tualatin Riverkeepers
11675 SW Hazelbrook Road
Tualatin, OR 97062
tualatinriverkeepers.org



A river doesn't just carry water, it carries life.

– A.D. Posey

The Tualatin River stretches nearly 80 miles from its headwaters in the Oregon Coast Range to its confluence with the Willamette River. The Tualatin River Water Trail currently consists of the lower 38.5 miles of the river. The Tualatin River Water Trail became a federally designated water trail in 2020 through the efforts of the Tualatin Riverkeepers and other concerned groups and citizens. The Willamette River Water Trail is the only other designated water trail in Oregon.

The Tualatin River Water Trail is a good place for new paddlers, with a barely detectable current in most stretches during the summer. Being on the river provides an immediate connection to nature given the limited development along the river and numerous natural and historic points of interest.

When on the water trail, follow these simple rules:

- Stay safe (see **Paddle Safe** below).
- Stay off private property. Most stretches of the river run through private property.
- Don't litter. Pack out everything that is brought in.
- Be respectful of the river, its animals and plants, and other people on the river.
- Notice: You assume all associated risks and responsibilities when on or around the water trail.

For more information on the water trail including access info, points of interest, and to **report a water trail issue** visit: www.tualatinwatertrail.org.



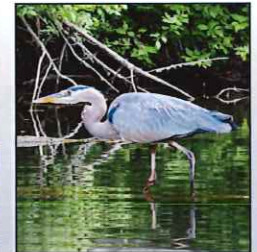
Página web disponible en español.



Beaver



Wapato



Great Blue Heron



Signal Crawfish



Paddle Safe

To stay safe while on the river, follow these safety rules:

- Before going on the river, visit the Tualatin River Water Trail website to familiarize yourself with the river access details, current hazards, points of interest, and estimated paddling times.
- Don't drink and paddle. Alcohol or drugs impair the ability to respond to dangerous situations.
- Take adequate food and water.
- Be aware of the weather and time of day.
- Plan river outings based on two miles per hour with active paddling.
- If you have an emergency or see someone in an emergency situation, immediately call 911 to get help.

Always wear a U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket device and carry a whistle and water access permit.

Don't paddle alone, or let someone know your paddle plans.

Avoid hazards such as downed trees, dams, shallow & rocky water, etc.

Wear appropriate clothing, including footwear and hats.

Stay alert while on the water. Submerged logs and other debris can quickly overturn a paddlecraft.

**ALWAYS
BRING THESE
PADDLE SAFE
ESSENTIALS:**



LIFE JACKET



WHISTLE



FLASHLIGHT



PERMIT

This guide was developed in partnership with:



Tualatin Riverkeepers was established in 1993, with a mission to protect, restore, and expand access to the Tualatin River Watershed. Among its many accomplishments, Tualatin Riverkeepers led the effort to establish the lower Tualatin River as a federally designated water trail in 2020.

Tualatin Riverkeepers staff and volunteers activities include:

- Advocating for the protection and restoration of the Tualatin River watershed.
- Restoring key watershed sites to their natural state by removing invasive plants and planting native species.
- Increasing community engagement with the Tualatin River by offering paddle craft rentals, guided paddle trips, and educational events.
- Working with local jurisdictions along the river to expand community access to the Tualatin River.
- Maintaining the Tualatin River Water Trail website.

To learn more about the Tualatin Riverkeepers, upcoming events and volunteer opportunities, and how to support our work, visit tualatinriverkeepers.org.



EXPLORE TUALATIN VALLEY

The Tualatin Valley forms the heart of Oregon's Washington County and offers:

- Over forty estate wineries and tasting rooms.
- A wide array of local farmer markets and U-pick farms.
- Hiking, birding, cycling, fishing, etc. in the region's many parks, lakes, and preserves.
- Paddling on the nationally designated Tualatin River Water Trail.
- Tax-free shopping.

To learn where to Play, Stay, Eat & Drink, and about Upcoming Events in the Tualatin Valley, visit tualatinvalley.org.



Rivers, Trails, and
Conservation Assistance



Oregon Parks &
Recreation Department



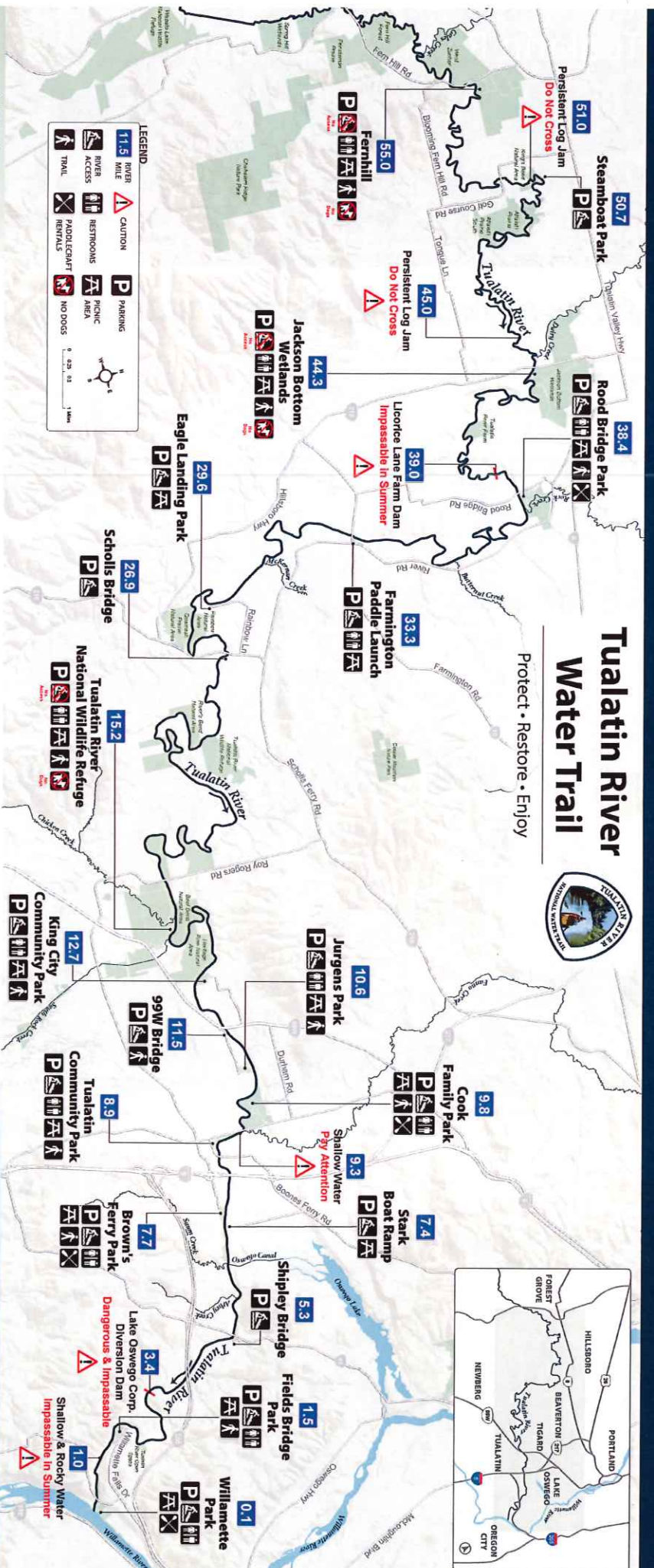
Funded in Part By



Tualatin River Water Trail



Protect • Restore • Enjoy



Padding Times

based on active paddling at 2 mph

- Road Bridge to Farmington Paddle Launch 2.5 hours
- Farmington Paddle Launch to Eagle Park Landing 2 hours
- Eagle Park Landing to Scholes Bridge 1.5 hour
- Scholes Bridge to King City Community Park 7.5 hours
- King City Community Park to 99W Bridge 40 minutes
- 99W Bridge to Jurgens Park 30 minutes
- Jurgens Park to Cook Park 30 minutes
- Cook Family Park to Tualatin Community Park 30 minutes
- Tualatin Community Park to Brown's Ferry Park 40 minutes
- Brown's Ferry Park to Stark Ramp 10 minutes
- Stark Ramp to Shipley Bridge 1 hour

Paddling the Tualatin River Water Trail

The Tualatin River Water Trail currently consists of the lower 58.5 miles of the Tualatin River. Before going on the river, review the Paddle Safe info (other side). Note: the sites are listed starting at the Willamette River and proceeding up the water trail.

Williamette Park River Mile 0.1

22-acre park with developed river access, paddlecraft rentals (summer), picnic area, playground, and water play area. It is located at the confluence of the Tualatin and Willamette Rivers.

Shallow & Rocky Water River Mile 1.0

Paddling in this area is not possible at low summer river levels due to several sections of shallow, rocky water. These sections can form Class II rapids at higher river levels.

Fields Bridge River Mile 1.5

15-acre city park with primitive river access, picnic area, playground, and water play area. It is located near the Fields Bridge and the Willamette Metcalf and Story Book walks.

Lake Oswego Corp. Diversion Dam River Mile 3.4

The dam was built in 1982 to raise the level of the Tualatin River diverting more water into the Lake Oswego Canal. The dam is difficult to see from the upper side and has no warning signs. The dam is dangerous and impassable.

Shipley Bridge River Mile 5.3

Boat ramp with limited amenities in a residential neighborhood. It is open between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. from November to April, and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. from May to October. Avoid paddling directly across from a driveway. Only use the boat ramp during the open hours. Please be quiet and courteous when at the ramp.

Stark Ramp River Mile 7.4

Boat ramp with limited amenities in a residential neighborhood. It is open between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. from November to April, and 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. from May to October. Avoid paddling directly across from a driveway. Only use the boat ramp during the open hours. Please be quiet and courteous when at the ramp.

Brown's Ferry Park River Mile 7.7

28-acre park with floating dock, paddlecraft rental (summer), picnic area, and Tualatin River Greenway Trail.

Tualatin Community Park River Mile 8.9

22-acre park with floating dock, picnic area, playground, dog park, picnic area, playground, Tualatin River Greenway Trail, and butterfly garden.

Shallow Water River Mile 9.3

Short section of river that is shallow and fast at low summer river levels, making it difficult to paddle through. Pay attention when in this area.

Cook Family Park River Mile 9.8

79-acre park with boat ramp, floating dock, paddlecraft rental (summer), picnic area, playground, Tualatin River Greenway Trail, and butterfly garden.

Jurgens Park River Mile 10.6

12-acre park with floating dock, picnic area, playground, water play area, local trail, and community garden.

99W Bridge River Mile 11.5

Launch site with developed river access, no amenities, and a segment of the Tualatin River Greenway Trail. The Tualatin Riverkeepers headquarters is located near this launch.

King City Community Park River Mile 12.7

17-acre park with a primitive river access with a fixed dock that floods seasonally, picnic area, playground, and walking trail.

Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge River Mile 15.2

The 155-acre Refuge has a visitor center, wetland view, picnic area, walking trail, and river overlook. There is no paddlecraft put in or take out in the Refuge. Dogs are not allowed in the Refuge.

Scholes Bridge River Mile 26.9

22-acre park with developed river access, limited parking, and no amenities. Paddling on Scholes Lane by 6 p.m. every Saturday is the best option. Be careful of traffic when loading and unloading.

Eagle Landing Park River Mile 29.6

One-half acre park with primitive river access and limited amenities. Upstream improvements include a floating dock and gateway. The park was established through an Eagle Scout project, hence the name "Eagle Landing."

Farmington Paddle Launch River Mile 33.3

Eight-acre launch site with developed river access, life jacket kiosk, and picnic tables. It is also a good place for cyclists to start a ride on the Washington County backroads.

Road Bridge Park River Mile 38.4

55-acre park with boat ramp and floating dock (except during the winter) for launching watercraft (15 feet max length). It also has paddlecraft rentals (summer), picnic area, playground, rhododendron garden, Rock Creek Trail, lake, and a community room. The park is the current Tualatin River Water Trail end point.

Licorice Lane Farm Dam River Mile 39.0

The dam was built in 1967 to create an irrigation water reservoir. The Licorice Dam, which was built in 1972 forming Hagg Lake, now releases water throughout the summer, significantly reducing the need for the dam. The dam is impassable during low summer river levels.

Jackson Bottom Wetlands River Mile 44.3

The 635-acre Wetlands has a nature center, 4.5 miles of trails, and river overlook. It is a popular birding area, with numerous raptors, songbirds, and migratory waterfowl. There is no paddlecraft put in or take out in the Wetlands. Dogs are not allowed in the Wetlands.

Persistent Log Jam River Mile 45.0

Log jams can cause paddlecraft to capsize and hold the paddler under water. Log jams are dangerous. Do not cross.

Steamboat Park River Mile 50.5

One-acre city park with primitive river access and no amenities. It is located near the former Emerald's Landing, which was the upper limit of steamboat navigation on the Tualatin River, hence the park name "Steamboat Park."

Fernhill River Mile 55.3

Fernhill has a visitor center (open by appointment), picnic area, and one-mile loop around Fernhill Lake. It is home to beavers, coyotes, raptors, waterfowl and more than one million native wetland plants. There is no river access in Fernhill. No dogs are allowed in Fernhill.

Upperv from River Mile 55.0

Paddling upstream is not recommended due to the large number of log jams. Log jams are dangerous. Do not cross.

PROTECT • RESTORE • ENJOY

The Tualatin River is our local treasure. Please help protect and restore it by becoming a member and volunteering with Tualatin Riverkeepers.



January 5, 2026

Oregon State Marine Board
PO Box 14145
Salem, OR 97301



RE: Equitable Access

Dear Boating Facilities Manager,

The Intertwine Alliance enthusiastically supports Tualatin Riverkeepers' application for Waterway Access Grant funding of its Equitable Access project. We've been a partner in the work done thus far, and will continue to be involved with and supportive of this very important and needed project creating access for communities along the Tualatin River.

The Intertwine Alliance is a coalition of 70 government, nonprofit and private partners across the greater Portland and Southwest Washington region committed to preserving and nurturing a healthy regional system of parks, trails and natural areas. A regional system of parks, trails and natural areas wouldn't be healthy without accessible waterways. Tualatin Riverkeepers' (TRK) funding request builds upon its successful OSMB-supported work that evaluated equitable access along the Tualatin River. With additional funding, TRK will continue to address the challenges to equitable access that have been clearly identified in the National Water Trail Action Plan to guide renovation and expansion of launch sites and associated amenities.

TRK will bring community members, government officials, and other stakeholders together through events, to:

- learn about the challenges and possibilities for equitable non-motorized water recreation
- collaboratively pursue creative solutions and funding to implement them, and
- build community commitment to stewardship and responsibility.

This inclusive, coordinated, community-oriented work is essential for resulting in practical, day to-day access for so many communities currently lacking it.

TRK centers the the needs and interests of populations who lack sufficient access to the water, including the large Spanish-speaking population and people with disabilities. The Equitable Access Project includes solid strategies to continue getting equitable results. These include recruiting and training of staff and volunteers to ensure all community members are equipped to participate, and updates to communications materials, including maps, signage, and a website to serve as a resource for paddlers and for communities as they plan their future upgrades and new facilities.

Equity is a priority for The Intertwine Alliance. The Alliance is 100 percent behind partner initiatives that endeavor to dismantle barriers that hinder equitable access to nature. Please fund this important work!

Sincerely,

Tara Wilkinson, Director
The Intertwine Alliance
tara@theintertwine.org



Public Paddle Under the Stars



Purple Loosestrife Removal & Cleanup



Tire Cleanup



Traditional Chinookan Style Canoe Paddle Opportunity



Partner Paddle



Habitat Restoration Project



Partner Paddle – City of Cornelius Officials



Future Lasich Lane Paddle Launch



New Tigard Dock – First Water Trail improvement since 2017



Planning a Paddler Passage Around the Dam



Tabling at a Local Paddle Festival



River Management Society Access Design Workshop



Wayfaring Project New Water Trail Signage



One of the Water Trail's Challenging Launches