



OREGON  
**WATERSHED**  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

**Board Meeting  
July 16-17, 2019**

**Klamath Falls, Oregon**



Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
Meeting Agenda  
July 16-17, 2019

---

**Tuesday, July 16, 2019**

Oregon Institute of Technology  
College Union: Mazama/Scott Rooms  
3201 Campus Dr.  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601  
Directions: <https://goo.gl/maps/NUws5rmx9coNPH8E8>

---

**Business Meeting – 8:00 a.m.**

For each agenda item, the time listed is approximate. The board may also elect to take an item out of order in certain circumstances. During the public comment periods (Agenda Items D, H, K, and L), anyone wishing to speak to the board on specific agenda items is asked to fill out a comment request sheet (available at the information table). This helps the board know how many individuals would like to speak and to schedule accordingly. At the discretion of the board co-chairs, public comment for agenda items on which the board is taking action may be invited during that agenda item. ***The board encourages persons to limit comments to 3 to 5 minutes.*** Written comments will also be accepted on any item before the board. Written comments should be sent to Eric Hartstein at [Eric.Hartstein@oregon.gov](mailto:Eric.Hartstein@oregon.gov). Please note that written comments received after July 10, 2019 will not be provided to the board in advance of the meeting.

**A. Board Member Comments (8:05 a.m.)**

Board representatives from state and federal agencies will provide an update on issues related to the natural resource agency they represent. This is also an opportunity for public and tribal board members to report on their recent activities and share information and comments on a variety of watershed enhancement and community conservation-related topics. *Information item.*

**B. Review and Approval of Minutes (8:35 a.m.)**

The minutes of the April 16-17, 2019 meeting in Salem will be presented for approval. *Action item.*

**C. Board Subcommittee Updates (8:40 a.m.)**

Representatives from board subcommittees will provide updates on subcommittee topics to the full board. *Information item.*

**D. Public Comment (8:50 a.m.)**

This time is reserved for general public comment.

**E. Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) Update (9:05 a.m.)**

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams will update the board on recent developments to OAHP, and will request action on appointing an ex-officio member of the board to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. *Action item.*

**F. Strategic Plan Update (9:35 a.m.)**

Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden will lead the board in an annual review of OWEB's strategic plan that was adopted in 2018, and request action on proposed minor edits to the document. *Action item.*

**G. Water Acquisitions Grants Rules (10:20 a.m.)**

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams and Senior Policy Coordinator Eric Hartstein will request the board authorize rulemaking for the water acquisitions grant program. *Action item.*

**H. 2019-2021 OWEB Spending Plan (10:35 a.m.)**

**NOTE: Public Comment specific for this agenda item at approximately 10:45 a.m.**

Following an introduction by Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden on the proposed OWEB spending plan for the 2019-2021 biennium, the board will hear public comment on the spending plan. After public comment, the board will hear presentations on spending plan items from the Oregon Department of Forestry Federal Forest Restoration Program Lead Phil Chang on forest collaboratives, Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership Executive Director Debrah Marriott on the work of the organization, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Native Fish Conservation Coordinator Chris Lorion on monitoring efforts supported by the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund. After the presentations, Director Loftsgaarden will lead a discussion with the board on the proposed spending plan before the board deliberates and adopts for the 2019-2021 biennium. *Action item.*

**I. Lakeview Soil and Water Conservation District Grant Amendment Request (1:45 p.m.)**

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams will introduce Lakeview Soil and Water Conservation District Manager Justin Ferrell, who will be requesting the board approve an amendment to OWEB grant #217-4017, Lake County Sage-grouse Conservation. *Action item.*

**J. Programmatic Effectiveness Monitoring Funding Request (2:15 p.m.)**

Deputy Director Renee Davis and Effectiveness Monitoring Coordinator Ken Fetcho will request the board provide funding for "Stage 0 Restoration" effectiveness monitoring. *Action item.*

**Tour – 2:50 p.m.**

---

The board and OWEB staff will conduct a field tour of the Sun Creek Restoration Project that reconnected the creek to the Wood River, providing important habitat for native redband and bull trout. Any person wishing to join the tour should have their own transportation.

**Informal Reception – 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.**

---

The public is invited to join the OWEB Board and staff at a reception sponsored by local partners and stakeholders.

Location:

Oregon Institute of Technology - College Union: Mazama/Scott Rooms  
3201 Campus Dr.  
Klamath Falls, OR 97601

Directions: <https://goo.gl/maps/NUws5rmx9coNPH8E8>

---

**Wednesday, July 17, 2019****Business Meeting - 8:00 a.m.**

---

For each agenda item, the time listed is approximate. The board may also elect to take an item out of order in certain circumstances. During the public comment periods (Agenda Items D, H, K, and L), anyone wishing to speak to the board on specific agenda items is asked to fill out a comment request sheet (available at the information table). This helps the board know how many individuals would like to speak and to schedule accordingly. At the discretion of the board co-chairs, public comment for agenda items on which the board is taking action may be invited during that agenda item. **The board encourages persons to limit comments to 3 to 5 minutes.** Written comments will also be accepted on any item before the board. Written comments should be sent to Eric Hartstein at [Eric.Hartstein@oregon.gov](mailto:Eric.Hartstein@oregon.gov). Please note that written comments received after July 10, 2019 will not be provided to the board in advance of the meeting.

**K. Public Comment (8:00 a.m.)**

This time is reserved for general public comment.

**L. 2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant Awards (8:15 a.m.)**

**NOTE: Public Comment specific for this agenda item at approximately 8:30 a.m.**

Interim Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff will update the board on the 2019-2021 Council Capacity review process. The board will then hear public comment on the 2019-2021 Council Capacity grant awards. Following public comment, Council Capacity funding recommendations will be discussed and acted on by the board. *Action item.*

**M. Rogue Forest Initiative Focused Investment Partnership (FIP) Geography Change Request (10:00 a.m.)**

Senior Policy Coordinator Eric Hartstein will provide to the board a request by the Rogue Forest Initiative FIP to update the initiative's geography. *Action item.*

**N. OWEB Board Subcommittee Structure (10:20 a.m.)**

Senior Policy Coordinator Eric Hartstein will lead the board in a facilitated discussion on the subcommittee structure for the board. Deputy Director Renee Davis, Interim Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff, Grant Program Manager Eric Williams will join the discussion to provide an OWEB staff perspective. *Action item.*

**O. Director's Update (11:20 a.m.)**

Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden will update the board on agency business and late-breaking issues. *Information item.*

**P. FIP Priorities (11:50 a.m.)**

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams, Partnerships Coordinator Andrew Dutterer, and Senior Policy Coordinator Eric Hartstein will lead a discussion on the process for updating board-adopted FIP habitat priorities. *Information item.*

**Q. Approval of Board Recommendations for 2017-2019 Biennial Report (12:10 p.m.)**

Senior Policy Coordinator Eric Hartstein will update the board on the agency's development of the 2017-2019 Biennial Report on the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. The board will be asked to adopt recommendations to include in the report,

which will be submitted to the Legislature and Governor's Office. This item may be moved to the October board meeting if time does not allow for it to be heard. *Action item.*

**R. Other Business (12:40 p.m.)**

This item is reserved for other matters that may come before the board.

## Meeting Rules and Procedures

### Meeting Procedures

Generally, agenda items will be taken in the order shown. However, in certain circumstances, the board may elect to take an item out of order. To accommodate the scheduling needs of interested parties and the public, the board may also designate a specific time at which an item will be heard. Any such times are indicated on the agenda.

Please be aware that topics not listed on the agenda may be introduced during the Board Comment period, the Executive Director's Update, the Public Comment period, under Other Business, or at other times during the meeting.

Oregon's Public Meetings Law requires disclosure that board members may meet for meals on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.

### Voting Rules

The OWEB Board has 18 members. Of these, 11 are voting members and 7 are ex-officio. For purposes of conducting business, OWEB's voting requirements are divided into 2 categories – general business and action on grant awards.

### General Business

A general business quorum is **6 voting members**. General business requires a majority of **all** voting members to pass a resolution (not just those present), so general business resolutions require affirmative votes of **at least 6 voting members**. Typical resolutions include adopting, amending, or appealing a rule, providing staff direction, etc. These resolutions cannot include a funding decision.

### Action on Grant Awards

Per ORS 541.360(4), special requirements apply when OWEB considers action on grant awards. This includes a special **quorum of at least 8 voting members** present to take action on grant awards, and affirmative votes of at least six voting members. In addition, regardless of the number of members present, **if 3 or more voting members** object to an award of funds, the proposal will be rejected.

### Public Testimony

The board encourages public comment on any agenda item.

**General** public comment periods will be held on *Tuesday, July 16 at 8:50 a.m., and Wednesday, July 17 at 8:00 a.m.* for any matter before the board. Comments relating to a specific agenda item may be heard by the board as each agenda item is considered. People wishing to speak to the board are asked to fill out a comment request sheet (available at the information table). *The board encourages persons to limit comments to 3 to 5 minutes.* Written comments will also be accepted on any item before the board. Written comments should be sent to Eric Hartstein at [Eric.Hartstein@oregon.gov](mailto:Eric.Hartstein@oregon.gov). Please note that written comments received after *July 10, 2019* will not be provided to the board in advance of the meeting.

### Tour

The board may tour local watershed restoration project sites. The public is invited to attend, however transportation may be limited to board members and OWEB staff. Any person wishing to join the tour should have their own transportation.

**Executive Session**

The board may also convene in a confidential executive session where, by law, only press members and OWEB staff may attend. Others will be asked to leave the room during these discussions, which usually deal with current or potential litigation. Before convening such a session, the presiding board member will make a public announcement and explain necessary procedures.

**More Information**

If you have any questions about this agenda or the Board's procedures, please call Darika Barnes, OWEB Board Assistant, at 503-986-0181 or send an e-mail to [darika.barnes@oregon.gov](mailto:darika.barnes@oregon.gov). If special physical, language, or other accommodations are needed for this meeting, please advise Darika Barnes as soon as possible, and at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

## Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Membership

### Voting Members

Barbara Boyer, *Board of Agriculture*  
Molly Kile, *Environmental Quality Commission*  
Vacant, *Fish and Wildlife Commission*  
Brenda McComb, *Board of Forestry*  
Meg Reeves, *Water Resources Commission*  
Jason Robison, *Board Co-Chair, Public (Tribal)*  
Gary Marshall, *Public*  
Jamie McLeod-Skinner, *Public*  
Randy Labbe, *Board Co-Chair, Public*  
Bruce Buckmaster, *Public*  
Liza Jane McAlister, *Public*

### Non-voting Members

Eric Murray, *National Marine Fisheries Service*  
Stephen Brandt, *Oregon State University Extension Service*  
Debbie Hollen, *U.S. Forest Service*  
Anthony Selle, *U.S. Bureau of Land Management*  
Ron Alvarado, *U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service*  
Alan Henning, *U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*  
Paul Henson, *U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*

### Contact Information

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem, Oregon 97301-1290  
Tel: 503-986-0178  
Fax: 503-986-0199  
[www.oregon.gov/OWEB](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB)

#### **OWEB Executive Director – Meta Loftsgaarden**

[meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov](mailto:meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov)

#### **OWEB Assistant to Executive Director and Board – Darika Barnes**

[darika.barnes@oregon.gov](mailto:darika.barnes@oregon.gov)

503-986-0181

### **2019 Board Meeting Schedule**

January 14-16, in Cannon Beach  
April 16-17, in Salem  
July 16-17, in Klamath Falls  
October 15-16, in Condon

### **2020 Board Meeting Schedule**

January 22-23, in Jacksonville/Medford  
April 21-22, in Region 5 (TBD)  
July 21-22, in Region 3 (TBD)  
October 20-21, in Region 4 (TBD)

For online access to staff reports and other OWEB publications, visit our web site:

[www.oregon.gov/OWEB](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB).

**MINUTES ARE NOT FINAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD**

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)**

**April 16, 2019 Board Meeting**

Macleay Conference Center  
Fireside Hall  
2887 74th Ave SE  
Salem, OR 97317

MINUTES: Some agenda items are discussed out of order.

(Audio time stamps reference recording at: <https://youtu.be/ppjfhDAocqg>).

**OWEB MEMBERS PRESENT**

Boyer, Barbara  
Brandt, Stephen  
Buckmaster, Bruce  
Henning, Alan  
Henson, Paul  
Hollen, Debbie  
Labbe, Randy  
Lee, Jan  
Kile, Molly  
Marshall, Gary  
McAlister, Liza Jane  
Murray, Eric  
Neuhauser, Will  
Reeves, Meg  
Robison, Jason

**ABSENT**

Alvarado, Ron  
Stangl, Kathy

**VACANT**

Board of Forestry

**OWEB STAFF PRESENT**

Barnes, Darika  
Davis, Renee  
Dutterer, Andrew  
Duzik, Katie  
Fetcho, Ken  
Greer, Sue  
Hartstein, Eric  
Hatch, Audrey  
Leiendecker, Karen  
Leopold, Kathy  
Loftsgaarden, Meta  
McCarthy, Jillian  
Redon, Liz  
Shaff, Courtney  
Williams, Eric

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Baker, Jeremy  
Beamer, Kelley  
Berg, Tristen  
Bierly, Ken  
Butler, Tim  
Coordes, Regan  
Faucera, Jason  
Guillozet, Kathleen  
Larson, Krista  
McLeod-Skinner, Jamie  
Morford, Shawn  
Owens, Mark  
Page, Stephanie  
Patrick, Amy  
Roix, Dan  
Smith, Brenda  
Taylor, Bruce

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Co-Chair Will Neuhauser. Board member comments included a farewell to two board members who stepped down from the OWEB Board: Kathy Stangl, federal representative from the Bureau of Land Management, and Rosemary Furfey, federal representative from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). The board welcomed Eric Murray, Rosemary's replacement, to his first meeting representing NMFS. It was also announced that Jan Lee is leaving the board for a leadership position with the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts, and Co-Chair Will Neuhauser is completing his final term at this meeting.

**A. Board Member Comments (Audio = 0:01:40)**

Board members provided updates on issues and activities related to their respective geographic regions and/or from the state and federal natural resource agencies they represent.

**B. Review and Approval of January Meeting Minutes (Audio = 0:51:55)**

The minutes of the January 15-16, 2019 meeting in Cannon Beach were presented to the board for approval.

Co-Chair Randy Labbe moved the board approve the minutes from the January 15-16, 2019 meeting in Cannon Beach. The motion was seconded by Jason Robison. Alan Henning found an error on page 5, which has been corrected. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio = 0:52:30)

**C. Co-Chair Election (Audio = 0:54:00)**

Co-Chair Will Neuhauser was ending his final term as a member of the OWEB Board at this meeting. His seat as co-chair was open for consideration for another board member to serve as co-chair for a two-year term. Jason Robison was nominated by Bruce Buckmaster to serve as co-chair.

Gary Marshall moved the Board elect Jason Robison to serve as OWEB co-chair for a two-year term. The motion was seconded by Will Neuhauser. The motion passed unanimously and co-chair duties were assumed by Jason Robison for the remainder of the meeting. (Audio = 0:56:20)

**D. Board Subcommittee Updates (Audio = 0:58:10)**

Subcommittee reports from the Open Solicitation, Monitoring, and Focused Investments subcommittees were provided to the board as written reports. The Operating Capacity subcommittee update was provided by Interim Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff.

**E. Strategic Plan Update (Audio = 1:07:30)**

Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden provided a written report to the board on progress made on strategic plan implementation in the last quarter.

**F. Public Comment (Audio = 1:09:35)**

Bruce Taylor, representing Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture and Intermountain West Joint Venture, came before the board to update the board on the work of Development Focused Investment Partnerships that are engaged in oak woodland and prairie conservation.

Kathleen Guillozet from Bonneville Environmental Foundation, and representing the Willamette Focused Investment Partnership, came before the board to share the partnership's first implementation report for Phase II, covering 2017-18 actions and investments.

The Oregon Conservation Partnership came before the board to provide an update on their organizations' individual and collective activities. The Partnership was represented by Kelley Beamer from the Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts (COLT), Shawn Morford from the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils (The Network), Jeremy Baker from the Oregon Conservation Education and Assistance Network (OCEAN), and Jan Lee from the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts.

## **G. Harney Basin Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (Audio = 1:25:45)**

Partnerships Coordinator Jillian McCarthy was joined by Harney County Commissioner Mark Owens, High Desert Partnership Executive Director Brenda Smith, and Consultant Ken Bierly to provide an overview of the proposed Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) for groundwater in the Harney Basin.

## **H. Executive Director's Updates (Audio = 1:56:50)**

### **H-1: Budget and Legislative Update (Audio = 1:56:50)**

Deputy Director Renee Davis came before the board to review the legislative budgeting process and to inform the board about the progress to date on some key items in OWEB's budget. Davis also reviewed House Bill (HB) 2020, which would establish an Oregon Climate Action Program. Davis will keep the board apprised of any developments regarding the budget process and HB 2020 that have the potential to impact OWEB. Senior Policy Coordinator Eric Hartstein came before the board to review the progress of two OAHP bills that are moving through the legislature, House Bills 2086 and 2729.

### **H-2: Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) (Audio = 2:09:00)**

Program Manager Eric Williams provided for the board a general review of the structure and the activities of the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission. The Commission met in March to discuss the valuation of conservation management plan implementation, the valuation of termed conservation covenants, and a possible summertime solicitation for applications for OAHP grants.

## **I. Spending Plan (Audio = 2:16:30)**

Following an introduction and spending plan overview by Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden, the board heard presentations on items in OWEB's proposed 2019-2021 spending plan. Presentations featured a summary of each line item subject, historic demand for the item, recent highlights and accomplishments, and future need.

1. Governor's Priorities: Presented by the Governors Natural Resources Policy Advisor Jason Miner. (Audio = 2:25:30).
2. Strategic Implementation Areas: Presented by Oregon Department of Agriculture Executive Director Alexis Taylor and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality Executive Director Richard Whitman. (Audio = 2:39:45).
3. Restoration Grants: Presented by Grant Program Manager Eric Williams. (Audio = 3:02:30).
4. Technical Assistance Grants: Presented by Grant Program Manager Eric Williams. (Audio = 3:10:30).
5. Monitoring Grants: Presented by Effectiveness Monitoring Coordinator Ken Fetcho, supported by Deputy Director Renee Davis. (Audio = 3:15:30)
6. Quantifying Conservation Outputs and Outcomes: Presented by Deputy Director Renee Davis, Effectiveness Monitoring Coordinator Ken Fetcho, and Conservation Outcomes Coordinator Audrey Hatch. (Audio = 3:29:18)
7. Stakeholder Engagement: Presented by Grant Program Manager Eric Williams. (Audio = 4:01:20)

8. Land and Water Acquisitions: Presented by Grant Program Manager Eric Williams and Partnerships Coordinator Jillian McCarthy. (Audio = 4:06:20)
9. Small Grant Program: Presented by Small Grants Program Coordinator Kathy Leopold. (Audio = 4:20:20)
10. Oregon State Weed Board Grant Program: Presented by Oregon Department of Agriculture's State Weed Board Program Staff, Tim Butler and Tristen Berg. (Audio = 4:27:20)
11. Implementation Focused Investment Partnerships: Presented by Grant Program Manager Eric Williams, Senior Policy Coordinator Eric Hartstein, and Partnerships Coordinator Andrew Dutterer. (Audio = 4:43:50)
12. Focused Investment Effectiveness Monitoring: Presented by Deputy Director Renee Davis and Conservation Outcomes Coordinator Audrey Hatch. (Audio = 5:14:00)

**PUBLIC COMMENT (Audio = 5:30:30):**

The Oregon Conservation Partnership, represented by Shawn Morford from the Network, Kelley Beamer from COLT, and Jeremy Baker from OCEAN came before the board to thank them for their past support of the partnership, to discuss the activities that OWEB funding supports to help the partnership operate effectively, and to request continued support for the work they do on behalf of OWEB grantees around the state.

Dan Roix Conservation Director for Columbia Land Trust and President of the COLT Board was joined by COLT's Executive Director Kelley Beamer to discuss the land trust community's partnership with OWEB and the importance of land acquisitions in Oregon.

13. Partnership Technical Assistance: Presented by Interim Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff with assistance from other OWEB program staff. (Audio = 5:47:35)
14. A. Council Capacity: Presented by Interim Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff. (Audio = 6:35:51)
14. B. District Capacity: Presented by Oregon Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Program Area Director Stephanie Page and Soil & Water Conservation District and Ag Water Quality Program Manager John Byers. (Audio = 6:41:15)
15. Statewide Organizational Partnership Technical Assistance: Presented by Interim Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff. (Audio = 6:48:00)
16. Organizational Collaboration: Presented by Interim Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff. (Audio = 6:53:40)
17. CREP Cost Share and CREP Technical Assistance: Presented by Partnerships Coordinator Jillian McCarthy. (Audio = 6:59:00)
18. Strategic Plan Priorities: Presented by Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden. (Audio = 7:12:25)

**Q. Coastal Wetlands Grant (Audio = 7:22:15)**

Partnerships Coordinator Jillian McCarthy requested the board approve the submittal of a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Fiscal Year 2020 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program (NCWCGP) application on behalf of the North Coast Watershed Association for their Cathlamet Bay Watershed Connectivity and Tidal Restoration Project.

Bruce Buckmaster moved the board approve the submission of an application for the Cathlamet Bay Watershed Connectivity and Tidal Restoration Project to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 2020 National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program. The motion was seconded by Co-Chair Randy Labbe. The motion passed unanimously.  
(Audio = 7:28:55)

**R. Focused Investment Partnership Rule Waiver (Audio = 7:29:35)**

Interim Business Operations Manager Courtney Shaff and Partnerships Coordinator Andrew Dutterer reported to the board on a rule waiver associated with a Focused Investment Partnership.

# Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)

## April 17, 2019 Board Meeting

Macleay Conference Center  
Fireside Hall  
2887 74th Ave SE  
Salem, OR 97317

MINUTES: Some agenda items are discussed out of order.

(Audio time stamps reference recording at: <https://youtu.be/7iJzxiu-8gc>).

### **OWEB MEMBERS PRESENT**

Boyer, Barbara  
Brandt, Stephen  
Buckmaster, Bruce  
Henning, Alan  
Henson, Paul  
Hollen, Debbie  
Labbe, Randy  
Lee, Jan  
Kile, Molly  
Marshall, Gary  
McAlister, Liza Jane  
Murray, Eric  
Neuhauser, Will  
Reeves, Meg  
Robison, Jason

### **OWEB STAFF PRESENT**

Barnes, Darika  
Ciannella, Greg  
Davis, Renee  
Dutterer, Andrew  
Duzik, Katie  
Fetcho, Ken  
Forney, Miriam  
Greer, Sue  
Hartstein, Eric  
Leiendecker, Karen  
Loftsgaarden, Meta  
McCarthy, Jillian  
Redon, Liz  
Shaff, Courtney  
Williams, Eric

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Beamer, Kelley  
Coordes, Regan  
Guillozet, Kathleen  
Lind, Linda  
McLeod-Skinner, Jamie  
Morford, Shawn  
Owens, Mark  
Patrick, Amy  
Roix, Dan  
Smith, Brenda  
Taylor, Bruce  
Wagner, Nicholas  
Warren, Kelly  
Weybright, Jared

### **ABSENT**

Alvarado, Ron  
Stangl, Kathy

### **VACANT**

Board of Forestry

### **J. Public Comment (Audio = 0:03:30)**

There was no public comment.

### **K. Land Acquisition Grants Administrative Rules (Audio = 0:03:40)**

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams and Senior Policy Coordinator Eric Hartstein came before the board to request board approval of proposed administrative rules for OWEB's Land Acquisition grant program.

Will Neuhauser moved the board approve the Land Acquisition Grants administrative rules as amended in Attachment C in the Land Acquisition Grants Administrative Rules

staff report. The motion was seconded by Barbara Boyer. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio = 0:28:40)

**L. October 2018 Land Acquisition Grant Offering Awards (Audio = 0:29:15)**

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams and Acquisitions Coordinator Miriam Forney presented land acquisition applications from the October 2018 land acquisition grant cycle, two of which are recommended for funding, for a total of \$3,179,542.

**Public Comment (Audio = 0:45:58):**

Dan Roix from the Columbia River Land Trust came before the board to advocate for oak habitat conservation in general, and specifically for application 219-9901 and its geographic importance.

Amy Patrick, representing the Oregon Hunter's Association, came before the board to raise awareness for maintaining hunting access on conserved land.

Board discussion led to a proposed amendment of the funding conditions for application 219-9900 to more clearly define public access. Amendments were provided to the board for review prior to voting.

*\*Voting is out of order on the recording since time was needed to develop the conditions and reproduce them for the board.*

Co-Chair Jason Robison moved the board award funding for land acquisition grants as specified in Attachment A to the Land Acquisition staff report, with the project-specific conditions detailed in Attachment C as amended hereto by staff (with input from board members and conservation partners) to the Land Acquisition Grant Awards staff report. The motion was seconded by Will Neuhauser. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio = 1:43:35)

**M. OWEB Monitoring Grant Rulemaking (Audio = 1:10:33)**

Deputy Director Renee Davis and Effectiveness Monitoring Coordinator Ken Fetcho brought before the board a request to authorize rulemaking for OWEB monitoring grants.

Co-Chair Randy Labbe moved the board authorize rulemaking for OWEB monitoring grants. The motion was seconded by Will Neuhauser. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio = 1:25:55)

**N. Programmatic Effectiveness Monitoring Funding Request (Audio = 1:26:35)**

Deputy Director Renee Davis and Effectiveness Monitoring Coordinator Ken Fetcho presented an application for the Ni-les'tun tidal wetland restoration effectiveness monitoring project, which addresses programmatic information gaps identified in a recently commissioned literature review of tide gate and estuarine restoration effects. Funding in the amount of up to \$253,000 was requested from the board from the Open Solicitation Programmatic Effectiveness Monitoring line item of the spending plan.

Co-Chair Jason Robison moved the board award up to \$253,000 for the Ni-les'tun tidal wetland restoration effectiveness monitoring project with funds from the Open Solicitation Programmatic Effectiveness Monitoring line item of the OWEB spending plan, and delegate to the Executive Director the authority to distribute the funds

through appropriate agreements with an award date of April 17, 2019. The motion was seconded by Bruce Buckmaster. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio = 1:40:33)

**O. Fall 2018 Open Solicitation Grant Offering (Audio = 1:49:45)**

Grant Program Manager Eric Williams and OWEB's regional program representatives came before the board to make a presentation on the Fall 2018 Open Solicitation grant offering, and asked the board to consider grant applications submitted for restoration, technical assistance, monitoring, and stakeholder engagement projects. Staff requested the board adjust the 2017-2019 spending plan as described in the Spending Plan Adjustments table in the Fall 2018 Open Solicitation Grant Offering staff report to accommodate funding of all recommended projects.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (Audio = 3:05:18)

Shawn Morford from the Network of Oregon Watershed Councils came before the board to announce an upcoming tour of a "Stage 0" project site on May 16-17, together with the McKenzie River Watershed Council.

Kelly Warren from Ducks Unlimited came before the board to introduce himself and discuss recent Ducks Unlimited developments in Western Oregon.

Jared Weybright, executive director from the McKenzie River Watershed Council, came to thank the board for its support and to advocate for a proposed project on the south fork of the McKenzie River. He also wanted to promote the Stage 0 tour and the work being accomplished in his region.

Co-Chair Randy Labbe moved the board adjust the 2017-2019 spending plan as described in the Spending Plan Adjustments table in the Fall 2018 Open Solicitation Grant Offering staff report. The motion was seconded by Jan Lee. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio = 3:52:30)

Will Neuhauser moved the board approve the staff funding recommendations as described in Attachment C to the Fall 2018 Open Solicitation Grant Offering staff report. The motion was seconded by Co-Chair Randy Labbe. The motion passed unanimously. (Audio = 3:53:10)

Gary Marshall moved the board fund project 219-5042, a Technical Assistance grant for the Burns-Paiute Tribe, using funds from the Development FIP carry-forward in the 2017-19 Spending Plan line 23. The motion was seconded by Meg Reeves. There was discussion among the board. The motion failed with three dissenting votes (Boyer, Neuhauser, and Lee). (Audio = 3:54:25)

**P. Water Acquisition Grants (Audio = 4:02:30)**

Partnerships Coordinator Jillian McCarthy presented to the board the applications received in the December 2018 Water Acquisition Grant Offering, and recommended three applications for funding. McCarthy provided an overview of the grant program and some of the operational issues that might be atypical. She was joined by Kacy Markowitz, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation's Program Director for the Columbia Basin, to answer questions from the board.

Meg Reeves moved the board award funding for water acquisition grants as specified in Table 1 of the Water Acquisition Grant Awards staff report. The motion was seconded by Will Neuhauser. The motion passed with two board members opposing the motion (McAlister and Buckmaster). (Audio = 4:36:20)

**R. Other Business (Audio = 4:38:20)**

Barbara Boyer suggested staff bring in experts on land trusts at a future meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m. by Co-Chair Randy Labbe.

## Subcommittee Members

Chair Alan Henning, Stephen Brandt, Debbie Hollen, Molly Kile, Jason Robison

## Background

The Monitoring Subcommittee oversees work associated with both open solicitation programmatic effectiveness monitoring (EM) and Focused Investment Partnership (FIP) monitoring, and provides **input about the monitoring of OWEB's capacity investments**.

## Summary of Monitoring Subcommittee Work this Quarter

The subcommittee met on May 14, 2019. A primary focus of this meeting was "Stage 0" restoration and associated monitoring. At the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, staff from the U.S. Forest Service provided an informational presentation about Stage 0 restoration approaches that have been implemented in Oregon and elsewhere. Following that presentation, subcommittee members and OWEB staff discussed data and information needs associated with questions that have been articulated about the effects of Stage 0 restoration, including but not limited to:

- How quickly do ecological communities reassemble following Stage 0 project implementation?
- Will residence time of aquatic species change as a result of the geomorphic changes that occur after Stage 0 implementation (e.g., more complexity of wood, substrate, flow velocity, valley inundation, etc.)?
- Which ecological metrics are most sensitive to Stage 0 restoration and can be measured across restoration sites?

Staff requested another conference call in early June to discuss a funding request for monitoring and information sharing aimed at answering questions about Stage 0 restoration.

During the May conference call, subcommittee members and staff also discussed input received during the April board meeting about topics for consideration during the administrative rule revision process for monitoring grants that will kick off during Summer of 2019, and implementation progress for Strategic Plan Priority #6, Coordinated Monitoring and Shared Learning.

In preparation of another call on June 7, 2019, staff shared a proposal that includes: 1) monitoring work in the Upper Willamette and Upper Deschutes basins associated with Stage 0 restoration, 2) compilation of data and results from Stage 0 sites across a broader geography (i.e., Oregon and beyond), and 3) multiple workshops that bring together researchers, resource managers, and restoration and monitoring practitioners to discuss and build collective foundational understanding of Stage 0 approaches. Subcommittee members provided feedback about the proposal via e-mail and during the conference call. This feedback has informed the funding request included in the staff report for Item J at the July 2019 board meeting.

The group is scheduled to meet again on July 23, 2019.

To be presented at the July 2019 Board meeting by Alan Henning, Chair.

## Staff Contact

Renee Davis, Deputy Director, [renee.davis@oregon.gov](mailto:renee.davis@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0203

## July 16-17, 2019 OWEB Board Meeting Focused Investment Subcommittee Update

### Subcommittee Members

Chair Jason Robison, Alan Henning, Gary Marshall, Ron Alvarado, Paul Henson, Bruce Buckmaster

### Background

The Focused Investment Subcommittee focuses on issues related to the Focused Investment Program (FIP), including Development and Implementation FIPs, and the effectiveness of these programs.

### Summary of Focused Investment Subcommittee Work this Quarter

The subcommittee met on June 14, first jointly with the Operating Subcommittee and then separately. The discussions are summarized below:

- The joint subcommittee meeting was called to discuss the new Partnership Technical Assistance offering included in the 2019-2021 spending plan, which shifts the FIP Development grant offering from the FIP category to the Capacity category, and broadens the offering.
- The subcommittee discussed revisions to the board-designated ecological priorities. First the subcommittee discussed incorporation of voluntary carbon markets and climate change adaptation and mitigation into the priorities. Given that the priorities are geographically based, the subcommittee felt that these topics should be incorporated into FIP initiatives comprehensively by providing research and tools and soliciting prospective applicants to address climate change in their applications.
- The subcommittee addressed staff proposed changes to the board designated ecological priorities, including Coho Habitat and Populations along the Coast, Aquatic Habitat for Native Fish Species, and Dry-Type Forest Habitat (see agenda item P).
- The subcommittee heard updates on partnership agreement development with the five new implementation FIPs scheduled to begin work after the July board meeting when funds are available.
- A new Partnerships Coordinator position has been posted in anticipation of budget approval, with applications due June 21. The new hire is expected to be on board by August and will have responsibilities managing the Clackamas and Warner implementation FIPs as well as the partnership technical assistance grants.

**To be presented at the July 2019 Board meeting by Jason Robison, Chair.**

### Staff Contact

Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager  
[eric.williams@oregon.gov](mailto:eric.williams@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0047

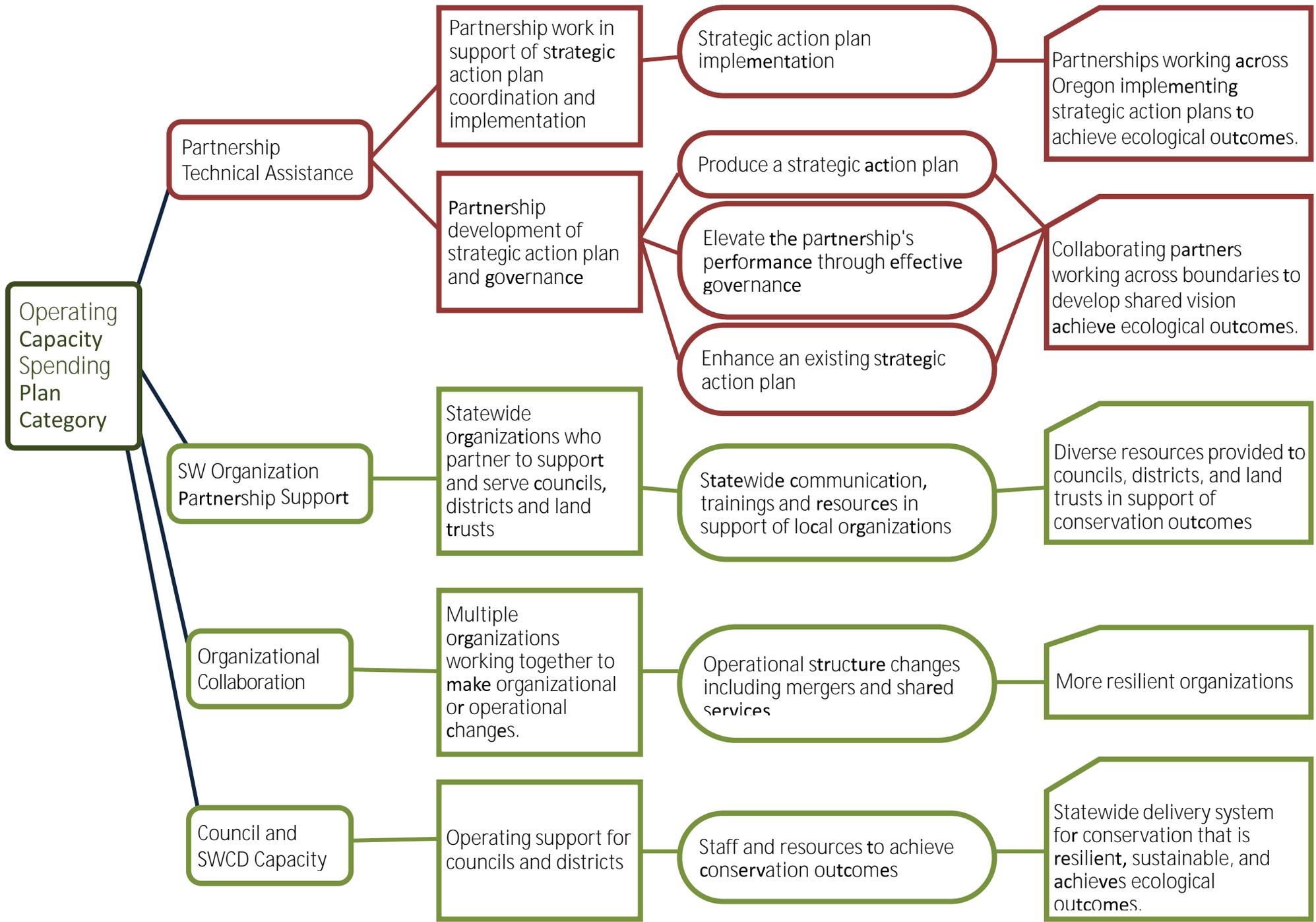
Attachment A – Partnership Technical Assistance Grant Offering Graphic

Inputs (Grant Types)

Activities

Outputs

Impacts



Operating Capacity Spending Plan Category

Partnership Technical Assistance

SW Organization Partnership Support

Organizational Collaboration

Council and SWCD Capacity

Partnership work in support of **strategic** action plan coordination and implementation

Partnership development of strategic action plan and **governance**

Statewide **organizations** who partner to support and serve **councils**, districts and land trusts

Multiple **organizations** working together to **make** organizational or operational changes.

Operating support for councils and districts

Strategic action plan implementation

Produce a **strategic action plan**

Elevate the **partnership's performance** through effective governance

Enhance an existing **strategic** action plan

**Statewide** communication, trainings and **resources** in support of local **organizations**

Operational **structure** changes including mergers and shared **services**

Staff and resources to achieve **conservation outcomes**

Partnerships working **across** Oregon implementing strategic action plans to achieve **ecological outcomes**.

Collaborating **partners** working across boundaries to develop shared vision **achieve** ecological outcomes.

Diverse resources provided to councils, districts, and land trusts in support of conservation outcomes

More resilient organizations

Statewide delivery system for conservation that is **resilient**, sustainable, and **achieves** ecological outcomes.



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item E supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority # 5: Working Lands.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item E – Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP) Update  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Background

The Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission is appointed by the board, and is authorized by statute to recommend grant projects for succession planning, conservation management plans, and conservation easements and covenants on working lands. This staff report provides an update on Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program activities and requests the board appoint an *ex-officio* member to the commission.

### II. Program Activities

One of the authorized OAHP grant programs is to pay for implementation of conservation management plans. The commission decided that further analysis of this grant type was needed because there is not currently an accepted methodology for valuing the public benefits of implementing conservation management plans (CMPs). Highland Economics, the consultant engaged to analyze the feasibility of valuing CMP implementation, submitted a report on June 30. The commission articulated four criteria for a valuation methodology: that it is fair, transparent, easy to apply, and accurate across differing geographies. Based on an economic analysis of valuation methodologies, Highland Economics developed high-medium-low feasibility ratings for four categories of practices: water quality, water quantity, habitat, and carbon sequestration.

The next step will be to develop valuation methodologies for those practices deemed feasible by the commission.

### III. Budget

The 2019-2021 budget adopted by the legislature did not include funds for the OAHP. By statute, the commission will continue to meet at least annually. Staff intend to schedule a

commission conference call in August or September to identify next steps and a meeting schedule for the commission.

**IV. Ex-officio Member**

The commission includes an ex-officio member appointed by the board. Unlike the other commissioners, this position does not have a term limit and the ex-officio member serves at the discretion of the board. Will Neuhauser has been the ex-officio member of the commission representing the board. Since Neuhauser's board term has expired, the board needs to appoint a new ex-officio member. To fill this role, the member should have a good understanding of working lands, the needs of working lands owners and operators, and the integration of agricultural and natural resource values.

**V. Recommendation**

Staff recommend the board appoint Barbara Boyer to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission as ex-officio member.



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item F supports all of OWEB's Strategic Plan priorities.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item F – Strategic Plan Update  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

At this and upcoming meetings, the board will be provided with both general updates on plan progress, and more detailed updates as needed on specific priority areas.

### II. Background

In June, 2018, the board approved a new strategic plan. For the October 2018 board meeting, staff developed a template to track quarterly progress on strategic plan priorities. This template was presented and feedback about structure and content was provided by the board.

Following the October board meeting, staff added a header to all staff reports outlining the connection between the work contained in the staff report and the board's approved strategic plan.

### III. Updates

Attached is the quarterly update of the strategic plan. This follows the same format as previous reports. In addition, staff have drafted a simple annual report to highlight some of the strategic plan accomplishments in the first year of the plan's implementation. Staff will review these with the board at the July meeting.

### IV. Changes to Strategic Plan

In reviewing the strategic plan to determine what portions of the plan might work to replace the agency's outdated Guiding Principles, the board's executive committee identified 'The Approach We Take' portion of the document as a good replacement for the guiding principles. In reviewing that text, executive committee members also suggested a minor change to that portion of the plan to capture the board's desire to connect in a meaningful way with other funders. The change is noted below, and the executive committee recommends the board approve this change to the strategic plan.

Our work is characterized by...

### **Involving stakeholders broadly and in partnership**

- Involving the community members at all levels
- Promoting community ownership of watershed health
- Collaborating and authentically communicating
- Bringing together diverse interests
- Building and mobilizing partnerships

### **Using best available science supported by local knowledge**

- Basing approaches on the best available science
- Advancing efficient, science driven operations
- Addressing root sources and causes
- Incorporating local knowledge, experience, and culture
- Catalyzing local energy and investment

### **Investing collaboratively with long-term outcomes in mind**

- Aligning investments with current and potential funding partners
- Maintaining progress into the future
- Stewarding for the long term
- Taking the long view on projects and interventions

### **Demonstrating impact through meaningful monitoring and evaluation**

- Providing evidence of watershed change
- Measuring and communicating community impact
- Increasing appropriate accountability
- Incorporating flexibility, adaptive management – when we see something that’s not working, we do something about it

### **Reaching and involving underrepresented populations**

- Seeking to include the voice and perspectives that are not typically at the table
- Specific, targeted engagement
- Ensuring information is available and accessible

## **V. Recommendation**

The executive committee recommends the board approve the additions to the ‘Approach We Take’ portion of the strategic plan.

## **Attachments**

Attachment A. OWEB Strategic Plan Progress Report, April to June 2019

Attachment B. OWEB Strategic Plan 2019 Annual Plan Summary

## OWEB Strategic Plan Progress QUARTERLY PROGRESS UPDATE – April-June 2019

- Black font indicates quarterly actions
- Navy font indicates progress towards outputs and outcomes
- Gray font indicates background activity

Priority 1 - Broad awareness of the relationship between people and watersheds					
<b>Strategies</b>	1. Develop and implement broad awareness campaigns and highlight personal stories to tell the economic, restoration, and community successes of watershed investments	<u>In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (actions)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The recently launched news site of the Governor’s Office, <a href="https://myoregon.gov/">https://myoregon.gov/</a>, has shared two stories featuring OWEB grantees.</li> <li>- Oregon Lottery presented at CONNECT 2019 about coordinating with the media on outreach.</li> <li>- Produced five fact sheets about newly-funded Implementation Focused Investment Partnerships and updated the state-wide FIP fact sheet.</li> </ul>	<u>So That: (outputs)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Local partners are trained and have access to media and tools.</li> <li>- Local conservation organizations have meaningful connection to local media.</li> <li>- Each region has access to public engagement strategies that reach non-traditional audiences.</li> <li>- Oregon Lottery media campaigns have new stories every year of watershed work and progress.</li> </ul>	<u>To Make This Difference: (outcomes)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Non-traditional partners are involved and engaged in strategic watershed approaches.</li> <li>- Successes are celebrated at the local and state level through use of appropriate tools.</li> <li>- More Oregonians:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o are aware of the impacts of their investment in their watershed;</li> <li>o understand why healthy watersheds matter to their family and community;</li> <li>o understand their role in keeping their watershed healthy.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<u>Near-term measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fall 2018 Oregon Lottery campaign featured 6 partners from 5 OWEB regions with 1,865 YouTube views (accessed 5/21/2019).</li> </ul> <u>Potential impact measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase in public conversation about watersheds and people’s role in keeping them healthy.</li> <li>- Increase recognition of landowner connection to healthy watersheds.</li> <li>- Broader representation/greater variation of populations represented in the Oregon watershed stories.</li> </ul>
	2. Increase involvement of non-traditional partners in strategic watershed approaches				
Priority 2 - Leaders at all levels of watershed work reflect the diversity of Oregonians					
<b>Strategies</b>	1. Listen, learn and gather Information about diverse populations	<u>In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (actions)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distributed a DEI survey to grantees to learn more about their demographics and to better understand how OWEB’s work engages all Oregonians.</li> <li>- Provided support for the 2019 Oregon Diversity Conference as a sponsor and are planning for staff attendance.</li> <li>- Engaged staff in a “streamside chat” with Siuslaw Watershed Council to learn about living and working in a rural Oregon community from a grantee’s perspective.</li> </ul>	<u>So That: (outputs)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OWEB board and staff have been trained in diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI).</li> <li>- OWEB has DEI capacity.</li> <li>- OWEB grantees and partners have access to DEI tools and resources.</li> <li>- DEI are incorporated into OWEB grant programs, as appropriate.</li> <li>- OWEB staff and board develop awareness of how social, economic, and cultural differences impact individuals, organizations and business practices.</li> <li>- OWEB staff and board share a common understanding of OWEB’s unique relationship with tribes.</li> <li>- Board and staff regularly engage with underrepresented partnerships and stakeholder groups to support DEI work.</li> </ul>	<u>To Make This Difference: (outcomes)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- New and varied populations are engaged in watershed restoration.</li> <li>- Grantees and partners actively use DEI tools and resources to recruit a greater diversity of staff, board members and volunteers.</li> <li>- Increased engagement of under-represented communities in OWEB grant programs and programs of our stakeholders.</li> <li>- OWEB, state agencies, and other funders consider opportunities to fund natural resource projects with a DEI lens.</li> </ul>	<u>Near-term measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Staff has participated in 194 hours of cumulative training since July 2018.</li> </ul> <u>Potential impact measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased awareness by grantees of gaps in community representation.</li> <li>- Increased representation of Grantees and partners from diverse communities on boards, staff, and as volunteers.</li> <li>- Increased funding provided to culturally diverse stakeholders and populations.</li> </ul>
	2. Create new opportunities to expand the conservation table				
	3. Develop funding strategies with a lens toward diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI)				

**Priority 3 - Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds**

<b>Strategies</b>	1. Evaluate and identify lessons learned from OWEB's past capacity funding	<u>In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (actions)</u> - OWEB and Oregon Department of Agriculture hosted a session at CONNECT 2019 on the retrospective capacity evaluation project to share information on the current approach and gain feedback.	<u>So That: (outputs)</u> - Data exists to better understand the impacts of OWEB's capacity investments	<u>To Make This Difference: (outcomes)</u> - Partners access best community capacity and strategic practices and approaches.	<u>Near-term measure:</u> - Under development
	2. Champion best approaches to build organizational, community, and partnership capacity	- OWEB staff participated in four-day place-based learning and discussion session hosted by Water Resources Department and the Ford Family Foundation to cultivate learning circles and build capacity of place-based planning groups around the state. - Board approval of a new Partnership Technical Assistance grant to replace the Development FIP grant offering. These grants will support Partnerships to: 1) develop a strategic action plan and organizational structure, and 2) collaborate in support of a strategic action plan.	- Help exists for local groups to define their restoration 'community' for purposes of partnership/community capacity investments. - A suite of alternative options exists to invest in capacity to support conservation outcomes. - New mechanisms are available for watershed councils and soil and water conservation districts to report on outcomes of capacity funding.	- OWEB can clearly tell the story of the value of capacity funds. - Funders are aware of the importance of funding capacity. - Lessons learned from past capacity investments inform funding decisions. - Restoration projects involving multiple agencies are implemented more efficiently and effectively.	<u>Potential impact measure:</u> - Increase in indicators of capacity for entities. - Increased restoration project effectiveness from cross-agency efforts. - Increase in funding for capacity by funders other than OWEB.
	3. Accelerate state/federal agency participation in partnerships	- Staff presented at the Project Impact Summit for funders (organized by Dialogues in Action, OWEB's strategic plan consultant) about OWEB's experience with developing measurement approaches to tracking impact of the agency and our grantees.	- A set of streamlined cross-agency processes exist to more effectively implement restoration projects. - Local capacity strengths and gaps are identified to address and implement large-scale conservation solutions.	- State-federal agencies increase participation in strategic partnerships.	

**Priority 4 - Watershed organizations have access to a diverse and stable funding portfolio**

<b>Strategies</b>	1. Increase coordination of public restoration investments and develop funding vision	<u>In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (actions)</u> - Requested and received legislative approval to apply for Coastal Wetlands grant funding from US Fish and Wildlife Service. - Traveled to Washington, DC to lobby for increased funding for the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund with co-chair Robison and a local grantee (Liesl Coleman).	<u>So That: (outputs)</u> - OWEB has a clear understanding of its role in coordinating funding. - OWEB and other state and federal agencies have developed a system for formal communication and coordination around grants and other investments.	<u>To Make This Difference: (outcomes)</u> - Agencies have a shared vision about how to invest strategically in restoration. - Oregon has a comprehensive analysis of the state's natural and built infrastructure to direct future investments.	<u>Near-term measure:</u> - Increase in the use of new and diverse funding sources by grantees.
	2. Align common investment areas with private foundations		- OWEB and partners have a coordinated outreach strategy for increasing watershed investments by state agencies, foundations, and corporations.	- Foundations and corporations are partners in watershed funding efforts.	<u>Potential impact measure:</u> - Increase in grantees cash match amount and diversity of cash match in projects.
	3. Explore creative funding opportunities and partnerships with the private sector		- Foundations and corporations are informed about the important restoration work occurring in Oregon and understand the additional community benefits of restoration projects. - Foundations and corporations know OWEB, how the agency's investments work, and how they can partner.	- Foundations and corporations increase their investment in restoration. - Natural resources companies are implementing watershed health work that is also environmentally sustainable.	- Increase in new and diverse funding sources. - Increase in creative funding mechanisms and strategies.
	4. Partner to design strategies for complex conservation issues that can only be solved by seeking new and creative funding sources	- Continued engagement with the state's process to update the Oregon climate adaptation framework. - Water Core Team mitigation sub-group has met three times to develop a common understanding of current mitigation funding and needs and explore pilot project opportunities to more strategically invest mitigation funding in high-quality restoration.	- Foundations and corporations understand the importance of		- Increased high-quality conservation and restoration projects are funded without OWEB investment. - Increased funding for bold and innovative, non-traditional investments.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>investing in healthy watersheds</li> <li>Foundations and corporations consider restoration investments in their investment portfolios.</li> <li>Oregon companies that depend on healthy watersheds are aware of the opportunity to invest in watershed health.</li> </ul>		
--	--	--	--	--	--

**Priority 5 - The value of working lands is fully integrated into watershed health**

<b>Strategies</b>	1. Implement the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP)	<u>In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (actions)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged a contractor to develop a feasibility analysis of valuing conservation management plans. This work will explore frameworks to value the public benefits of best management practices.</li> </ul>	<u>So That: (outputs)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landowner engagement strategies and tools are developed and used by local conservation organizations</li> <li>Strategies and stories are being utilized to reach owners and managers of working lands who are not currently working with local organizations.</li> </ul>	<u>To Make This Difference: (outcomes)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generations of landowners continue to integrate conservation on their working lands while maintaining economic sustainability.</li> <li>Fully functioning working landscapes remain resilient into the future.</li> </ul>	<u>Near-term measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Percentage of landowners identified within Strategic Implementation Areas that receive technical assistance.</li> </ul>	
	2. Strengthen engagement with a broad base of working landowners			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local organizations have the technical assistance to address gaps in implementing working land conservation projects.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Across the state, local partners have the resources necessary to better facilitate why and where restoration opportunities exist on working lands.</li> </ul>	<u>Potential impact measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased conservation awareness amongst owners and managers of working lands.</li> </ul>
	3. Enhance the work of partners to increase working lands projects on farm, ranch and forestlands			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examples of successful working lands conservation projects are available for local organizations to use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustained vitality of Oregon's natural resources industries.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A better understanding of conservation participation, barriers and incentives for working lands owners.</li> </ul>
	4. Support technical assistance to work with owners/managers of working lands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presented information on Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA) to Regional Review Teams 1 and 6 to communicate that SIA restoration projects to improve water quality are a priority.</li> <li>Coordinated with Oregon Department of Agriculture to present at CONNECT 2019 on SIAs to increase awareness of paired restoration and monitoring opportunities in targeted agricultural areas.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New partners are engaged with owners and operators of working lands to increase conservation.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanded relationships with agriculture and forestry associations.</li> </ul>
	5. Develop engagement strategies for owners and managers of working lands who may not currently work with local organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholder engagement grants that target and recruit private working landowners are underway in the following: Santiam Watershed Regional Landowner Recruitment for Restoration Program, Marys River Watershed Council Oak Creek Stakeholder Engagement Project, and Sustainable Northwest - Arch Cape Community Forest.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Oregon Agricultural Heritage Commission has administrative rules and stable funding for the OAHP to protect working lands.</li> <li>Local capacity exists to implement the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program.</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased engagement of owners and managers of working lands conservation projects.</li> <li>Increased working lands conservation projects on farm, ranch, and forest lands.</li> <li>Expanded working lands partnerships improve habitat and water quality.</li> <li>Expanded funding opportunities exist for working lands conservation.</li> </ul>

**Priority 6 - Coordinated monitoring and shared learning to advance watershed restoration effectiveness**

	1. Broadly communicate restoration outcomes and impacts	<u>In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (actions)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presented the FIP monitoring approach at the Washington Salmon Recovery Conference and at NOWC's "watershed camp" to emphasize the importance of long-term monitoring to tell the restoration story.</li> </ul>	<u>So That: (outputs)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional technical resources—such as guidance and tools—are developed and/or made accessible to monitoring practitioners.</li> </ul>	<u>To Make This Difference: (outcomes)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Decision-making at all levels is driven by insights derived from data and results.</li> </ul>	<u>Near-term measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of communication tools developed through staff, grants or partnerships.</li> </ul>
	2. Invest in monitoring over the long term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>OWEB and Department of Environmental Quality co-hosted a webinar on the components needed to develop a successful water quality monitoring grant.</li> <li>Worked with Natural Resource Conservation Service to host field-based CREP training for Stream Visual Assessment Protocol to ensure consistency when using this tool to track performance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Priorities are proactively established and clearly articulated to plan for adequate monitoring resources that describe restoration investment outcomes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited monitoring resources are focused on appropriate, high-quality, prioritized monitoring being conducted by state agencies, local groups, and federal agencies conducting monitoring.</li> </ul>	<u>Potential impact measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased public awareness about the outcomes and effects of watershed restoration and why it matters to Oregonians</li> </ul>
	3. Develop guidance and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded supplemental monitoring funding to four of the six</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring practitioners focus efforts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local organizations integrate</li> </ul>	

	technical support for monitoring	Implementation FIPs to implement top monitoring priorities identified through their Progress Monitoring Framework.	on priority monitoring needs.	monitoring goals into strategic planning.	- Increased utilization of effective and strategic monitoring practices by grantees and partners
	4. Increase communication between and among scientists and practitioners	- Participated in a joint meeting between Middle Fork Intensively Monitored Watershed working group and John Basin Day Partnership to facilitate interactions between researchers and practitioners.	- A network of experts is available to help grantees develop and implement successful monitoring projects.	- Evaluation of impact, not just effort, is practiced broadly.	- Improved restoration and monitoring actions on the ground to meet local and state needs.
	5. Define monitoring priorities	- Convened an Oregon Plan Monitoring Team meeting for an interim check-in about recent refinements to the grant making process and update on rulemaking for monitoring grants.	- Information is readily available to wide audiences to incorporate into adaptive management and strategic planning at the local level.	- Impacts on ecological, economic and social factors are considered as a part of successful monitoring efforts.	- Increase in local organizations that integrate monitoring goals into strategic planning.
	6. Develop and promote a monitoring framework		- A dedicated process exists for continually improving how restoration outcomes are defined and described.	- Partners are using results-based restoration 'stories' to share conservation successes and lessons learned.	- Increased engagement and support of restoration and conservation activities.
			- Strategic monitoring projects receive long-term funding.	- Monitoring frameworks are developed and shared.	- Increased decision-making at all levels is driven by insights derived from data and results.
				- Monitoring results that can be visualized across time and space are available at local, watershed and regional scales.	- Increased ability to evaluate social change that leads to ecological outcomes.
				- Limited monitoring resources provide return on investment for priority needs.	

**Priority 7 - Bold and innovative actions to achieve health in Oregon's watersheds**

<b>Strategies</b>	1. Invest in landscape restoration over the long term	<u>In The Last Quarter, We Did This: (actions)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Board approval of a new Partnership Technical Assistance grant to replace the Development FIP grant offering. These grants will support Partnerships to: 1) develop a strategic action plan and organizational structure, and 2) collaborate in support of a strategic action plan.</li> <li>- Bonneville Environmental Foundation and OWEB staff convened an all-day meeting to review the FIP program's theory of change and to document program changes and emerging lessons learned from the first three years, and considered adaptations for the future.</li> </ul>	<u>So That: (outputs)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- OWEB works with partners to share results of landscape scale restoration with broader conservation community.</li> <li>- OWEB and partners have a better understanding of how restoration approaches can be mutually beneficial for working lands and watershed health.</li> <li>- OWEB's landscape-scale granting involves effective partnerships around the state.</li> </ul>	<u>To Make This Difference: (outcomes)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Multi-phased, high-complexity, and large geographic footprint restoration projects are underway.</li> <li>- OWEB's investment approaches recognize the dual conservation and economic drivers and benefits of watershed actions, where appropriate.</li> <li>- Diverse, non-traditional projects and activities that contribute to watershed health are now funded that weren't previously.</li> <li>- Conservation communities value an experimental approach to learning and innovation.</li> <li>- Conservation communities become comfortable with properties and projects that show potential, even if the work is not demonstrated based on demonstrated past performance.</li> <li>- OWEB becomes better able to evaluate risk</li> <li>- OWEB encourages a culture of innovation.</li> </ul>	<u>Near-term measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 16.98% of Oregon is covered by a Strategic Action Plan associated with a FIP or Coho Business Plan.</li> </ul> <u>Potential impact measure:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased strategic watershed restoration footprint statewide.</li> <li>- Increased money for innovative watershed work from diverse funding sources.</li> <li>- Increased learning from bold and innovative actions so future decisions result in healthy watersheds in Oregon</li> <li>- New players or sectors—such as healthcare providers—engaged to invest in watershed restoration, enhancement and protection.</li> </ul>
	2. Develop investment approaches in conservation that support healthy communities and strong economies				
	3. Foster experimentation that aligns with OWEB's mission	-			



# Strategic Plan Progress Annual Summary of Highlights 2018-2019, Year 1



This summary highlights examples of key actions taken by OWEB to implement the 2018 Strategic Plan in its first year. Detailed quarterly updates are available in OWEB [board meeting agendas](#).

## Priority 1

Broad awareness of the relationship between people and watersheds

### ACTIONS

- Partnership with Oregon Lottery on a state-wide awareness campaign featuring restoration work of six OWEB partners through video, television, and billboards.
- Outreach for OWEB's 20th Birthday, unveiling a new logo and events at the Capitol and around the state.

## Progressing towards:

### OUTPUT

Oregon Lottery media campaigns have new stories every year of watershed work and progress.

### OUTCOME

More Oregonians are aware of the impacts of their investment in their watershed.

## Priority 2

Leaders at all levels of watershed work reflect the diversity of Oregonians

### ACTIONS

- Agency staff completed 194 hours of training in diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI).
- Formed a DEI cross-sectional team to plan, listen, learn, and gather information internally and externally and provide training opportunities for staff.

## Progressing towards:

### OUTPUT

OWEB board and staff have been trained in diversity, equity, and inclusion.

### OUTCOME

New and varied populations are engaged in watershed restoration.

## Priority 3

Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds

### ACTIONS

- Initiated capacity evaluation project to develop a framework to complete a retrospective evaluation of council and district Operating Capacity investments.
- As a result of OWEB's continuous learning approach to the Focused Investment Partnership program, OWEB is now offering partnership TA grants.
- Continue to engage in agency partnerships to fund capacity and collaborative natural resource management.

## Progressing towards:

### OUTPUT

Data exists to better understand the impacts of OWEB's capacity investments.

### OUTCOME

OWEB can clearly tell the story of the value of capacity funds.

## Priority 4

Watershed organizations have access to a diverse and stable funding portfolio

### ACTIONS

- Coordinated grant-making with NRCS, ODOT, USFWS, and others to leverage investments.
- Partnered to develop state's 100-year water vision.
- Engaged throughout cap and invest process to develop an incentives framework for natural and working lands.
- Analysis of the natural resource funding landscape by Oregon Fellow.

NRCS = Natural Resources Conservation Service  
ODOT = Oregon Department of Transportation  
USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

### Progressing towards:

#### OUTPUT

OWEB has a clear understanding of its role in coordinating funding.

#### OUTCOME

Agencies have a shared vision about how to invest strategically in restoration.

## Priority 5

The value of working lands is fully integrated into watershed health

### ACTIONS

- Strategic Implementation Area technical assistance grant program engaged private landowners in streamside management for water quality in 11 watersheds.
- Supported the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP), including commission establishment and rulemaking.

### Progressing towards:

#### OUTPUT

Local organizations have the technical assistance to address gaps in implementing working land conservation projects.

#### OUTCOME

Fully functioning working landscapes remain resilient into the future.

## Priority 6

Coordinated monitoring and shared learning to advance watershed restoration effectiveness

### ACTIONS

- Funded seven Telling the Restoration Story grantees to share quantified success.
- Supported the Conservation Effectiveness Partnership to describe benefits of cumulative conservation actions among agency partners.
- Advanced progress monitoring frameworks with and strategic monitoring by Implementation FIPs to measure long-term outcomes.

### Progressing towards:

#### OUTPUT

Information is readily available to wide audiences to incorporate into adaptive management and strategic planning at the local level.

#### OUTCOME

Partners are using results-based restoration 'stories' to share conservation successes and lessons learned.

## Priority 7

Bold and innovative actions to achieve health in Oregon's watersheds

### ACTIONS

- Engaged Regional Review Teams on the importance of innovation and experimentation.
- Approved five new Implementation FIP partnerships for collaborative and strategic long-term conservation.
- Incorporated a shared risk approach in the draft land acquisition rules.

### Progressing towards:

#### OUTPUT

OWEB works with partners to share results of landscape-scale restoration with broader conservation community.

#### OUTCOME

Conservation communities value an experimental approach to learning and innovation.



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item G supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority # 7: Bold and innovative actions to achieve health in Oregon's watersheds.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Jillian McCarthy, Partnerships Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item G – OWEB Water Lease and Transfer Grant Rulemaking  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This report seeks board authorization to initiate rulemaking for OWEB Water Lease and Transfer Grants (Division 46).

### II. Background

Water lease and transfer grants are an integral OWEB grant offering, providing important resources that assist grantees in acquiring an interest(s) in water from a willing seller for the purpose of increasing instream flow in order to address the conservation needs of habitats and species and/or to improve water quality. Administrative rules for the program were adopted in 2005 and updated in 2013.

Given the complexity of water transactions and an increase in the number of applications received in OWEB's annual grant offering, staff propose to work with a rules advisory committee (RAC) to review the water lease and transfer grants administrative rules and determine how these rules should be updated to reflect current needs of the grant program.

### III. Proposed Rulemaking Process

Staff will convene a RAC for the water lease and transfer grants rulemaking process. The RAC will be composed of a diversity of stakeholders, ranging from grantees, agency partners and technical advisory committee members that evaluate water lease and transfer grant applications. Staff propose to develop the Water Lease and Transfer Grant rules according to the draft schedule below.

<b>Rulemaking Action</b>	<b>Dates/Deadlines</b>
Board Authorization for Rulemaking	July 2019
RAC Meetings to Review Current Rules, Vet Draft Rules and Provide Feedback	August-December 2019
Draft Rules Revisions Based on RAC and DOJ Feedback	Early January 2020
Public Comment Materials posted online	February 1, 2020
Notice to Agency Mailing List and Legislators	February 1, 2020
Noticed Published in Secretary of State's Bulletin	February 1, 2020
Public Comment Period	February 1-29, 2020
Public Hearing(s)	February 2020
Revisions to Draft Rules Based on Public Comment	Early March 2020
Board Adoption of Rules	April 2020

#### **IV. Recommendation**

Staff recommend that the board authorize rulemaking for OWEB Water Lease and Transfer Grants.



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item H supports all of OWEB's strategic plan priorities.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item H – Spending Plan  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This report provides the 2019-21 Spending Plan for board review and approval based on both feedback from the April board meeting and using the May revenue forecast for the Oregon Lottery along with any recaptured funds.

### II. Background

After the Oregon Legislature approves OWEB's budget at the beginning of each biennium, the board considers and approves a spending plan for the distribution of grant funding. The OWEB Spending Plan guides the agency's grant investments for the biennium. Available funding for the board to distribute includes Measure 76 Lottery, federal, and salmon license plates. The bulk of OWEB's funding comes from two major sources: Measure 76 Lottery and the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF).

### III. 2019-2021 Spending Plan Development

Based on the May 2019 revenue forecast, it is estimated that a total combined \$105 million will be available for grant distribution through Measure 76 Lottery Funds and PCSRF funding over the course of the biennium. For Lottery funding, this amount is dependent on revenues received. For PCSRF funding, Oregon was successful in receiving a 2019 grant similar to the amount received in 2018. Additions to the spending plan in July 2020 will be dependent on OWEB's successful receipt of 2020 PCSRF funding through their competitive grant process.

In October 2018, the board was updated on the process and timeline for approving the 2019-2021 Spending Plan. In January 2019, the board discussed spending plan categories and provided feedback on the proposed percentages allotted to each category. In April 2019, the board received a presentation and had the opportunity to provide feedback on all spending plan line items except those that are directly awarded to other agencies and organizations. An update on those items will be provided at the July 2019 board meeting, along with staff-proposed changes to the spending plan between April and July.

#### **IV. PCSRF Funding**

Since 2000, approximately one-third of OWEB's funding has been provided through the competitive PCSRF grant process, which is offered by NOAA Fisheries. Oregon has received more than \$236 million from PCSRF for salmon and steelhead recovery efforts in that time. On an annual basis, OWEB applies for PCSRF funding on behalf of the State of Oregon. Oregon provides the required 33% match through a combination of lottery funding, salmon license plate revenues, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

NOAA has awarded the state \$15 million in PCSRF funding for FFY 2019. This amount is nearly as large as FFY 2018 award of \$15.2 million. For the FFY 2019 grant solicitation, NOAA increased the minimum award to states to \$5 million. In previous years, multiple states received funding lower than this amount. The change affected the funding available to individual grantees, given that the total available PCSRF funding for FFY 19 did not increase.

Of the total award, \$6 million is available for grants in the 2019-21 spending plan, with the remainder invested in support of OWEB staff costs, distributed to ODFW, or held in reserve for future spending plans. OWEB anticipates another \$8 million in PCSRF funding for FFY 2020.

#### **IV. Spending Plan 'Other Distributed Funds'**

The spending plan contains a range of items, many of which were presented to the board at the April 2019 meeting. Others, listed under the 'Other Distributed Funds' category in the spending plan, will be presented at the July 2019 board meeting. These include:

**Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (LCEP)** - LCEP is a two-state, public-private National Estuary Program (NEP) created by the Governors of Oregon and Washington and the Environmental Protection Agency in 1995 to focus on the 146 miles of the lower Columbia River. LCEP needs state matching funds to complement federal funding received through the NEP. OWEB funds will support riparian and habitat restoration in the lower Columbia River watershed.

**Forest Collaboratives** - Forest Collaborative technical assistance grants fund local forest collaboratives to increase restoration efforts on federal forests statewide. 2019-2021 will be the fourth biennium in which OWEB has implemented the Forest Collaborative technical assistance grant program on behalf of Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). OWEB staff work collaboratively with ODF staff to set grant offerings, develop application materials, and review grant applications.

**Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)** - A portion of the PCSRF funds are legislatively directed to be transferred to ODFW. The amount of funding transferred depends on the State of Oregon's successful receipt of PCSRF funding through NOAA's competitive grant process. Eligible uses of PCSRF funds based on NOAA recovery priorities include restoration, technical assistance, and monitoring. For the 2019-2021 biennium, the following ODFW programs are proposed to receive PCSRF funding: Fish Screening and Passage Program, Lower Columbia River Harvest Management Program, Conservation and Recovery Plan Implementation and Technical Support Program, Chum Reintroduction Program, and the Oregon Plan Fish and Habitat Monitoring Program.

In addition, this category in the spending plan includes the **Upper Middle Fork John Day Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW)**. The Upper Middle Fork John Day River IMW is designed to evaluate the implementation of watershed restoration projects over a large geography and extended period of time to describe the collective benefits provided to salmon and steelhead populations, habitat, and water quality. Funders historically have included NOAA Fisheries, via the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), and OWEB, among others. Partners in the IMW have conducted work in a coordinated fashion to evaluate and document watershed restoration actions and ecological conditions since 2008. In December 2017, partners published a comprehensive 10-year synthesis report that was presented to the board in January 2018. An overview of the findings and lessons learned from the first 10 years is attached (Attachment D). Ongoing monitoring supported by PSMFC funding during the 2019-21 biennium includes fish monitoring by ODFW; stream temperature, streamflow, and macroinvertebrate monitoring by the North Fork John Day Watershed Council; and streamflow monitoring and website support by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs.

**Greater Sage-grouse Conservation Monitoring** - A new opportunity exists to receive federal funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to support monitoring efforts associated with voluntary conservation agreements involving the USFWS, soil and water conservation districts, and ranchers in eastern Oregon. These agreements directly address both short and long term threats to sage-grouse on private land, while maintaining grazing, irrigation, and agricultural production. The funding will be used to provide grants to soil and water conservation districts to conduct effectiveness monitoring on measures taken to conserve sage-grouse habitat, including cutting juniper, controlling the spread of invasive annual grasses, and re-establishing beneficial vegetation for sage-grouse.

#### **V. Recommended Spending Plan Changes**

Changes to the spending plan are outlined in Attachments A-C. Attachment A is the proposed spending plan with increases identified in specific program areas based on the increased Lottery revenue forecast, as well as an increase in recaptured funds from previously awarded grants. Attachment B describes those increases. Attachment C outlines any specific requests to delegate authority for distribution of certain funding to the executive director. All attachments will be reviewed with the board during the spending plan presentation.

#### **VI. Recommendation**

Staff recommend the board approve requests outlined in the 'Carry forward' and '2019 Spending Plan Requests' columns of Attachment A: Proposed OWEB 2019-21 Spending Plan.

Staff recommend the board approve tables 1-3 of Attachment C to the staff report regarding spending plan policy decisions, carry forward, and delegation authorities for the spending plan.

#### **VII. Attachments**

- A. Draft 2019-21 Spending Plan
- B. Summary of Changes Proposed from April 2019 Spending Plan Draft
- C. 2019-21 Spending Plan Policy, Carry-Forward, and Delegation Recommendations
- D. Upper Middle Fork John Day Intensively Monitored Watershed summary

## OWEB 2019-21 Proposed Spending Plan

	OWEB SPENDING PLAN	2017-19 Spending Plan as of Jan 2019	Carry Forward	Proposed 2019 Spending Plan	Proposed 2020 Spending Plan	Difference from 2017-19 Biennial Plan
1	<b>Open Solicitation:</b>					
2	Restoration	32.000		31.200	32.200	0.200
	Coastal Wetlands Restoration <i>(no new applications)</i>	1.000				-1.000
3	Technical Assistance					
4	Restoration TA	4.000		3.100	4.100	0.100
5	CREP TA <i>(includes NRCS &amp; ODF funds 17-19; and \$250k NRCS funds in 19-21)</i>	1.435		1.375	1.375	-0.060
6	Stakeholder Engagement	0.700		1.000	1.000	0.300
7	Monitoring grants	3.100		3.500	3.500	0.400
8	Land and Water Acquisition					0.000
9	Acquisition <i>(2017-19 includes \$ 1m USFW Coastal Wetlands)</i>	8.900		6.750	8.750	-0.150
	Coastal Wetlands Acquisition	1.000				-1.000
10	Acquisition Technical Assistance	0.600				-0.600
11	Weed Grants	3.000		3.000	3.000	0.000
12	Small Grants <i>(carryforward up to \$500k based on 2017 board policy)</i>	3.150	0.500	2.800	2.800	-0.350
13	Quantifying Outputs and Outcomes <i>(name change)</i>	1.587	0.578	0.700	1.200	0.191
14	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60.472</b>	<b>1.078</b>	<b>53.425</b>	<b>57.925</b>	<b>-1.969</b>
15	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>	<b>63.12%</b>		<b>54.35%</b>	<b>55.28%</b>	
16	<b>Focused Investments:</b>					
17	Deschutes	4.000		4.000	4.000	0.000
18	Willamette Mainstem Anchor Habitat	2.445		2.180	2.180	-0.265
19	Harney Basin Wetlands	1.970		2.500	2.500	0.530
20	Sage Grouse	2.355		0.474	0.474	-1.881
21	Ashland Forest All-Lands	2.340		2.000	2.000	-0.340
22	Upper Grande Ronde	2.417		2.777	2.777	0.360
23	John Day Partnership			4.000	4.000	4.000
24	Baker Sage Grouse			1.715	1.715	1.715
25	Warner Aquatic Habitat			2.000	2.000	2.000
26	Rogue Forest Rest. Partnership			1.500	1.500	1.500
27	Clackamas Partnership			3.455	3.455	3.455
28	Fl Effectiveness Monitoring	0.750		0.450	0.700	-0.050
29	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16.277</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>27.051</b>	<b>27.301</b>	<b>11.024</b>
30	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>	<b>16.99%</b>		<b>27.52%</b>	<b>26.05%</b>	
31	<b>Operating Capacity:</b>					
32	Capacity grants (WC/SWCD) <i>(19-21 includes 3.8% COLA &amp; \$177k Rogue merger funding)</i>	13.547		14.416	14.416	0.869
33	Statewide org partnership support	0.500		0.250	0.500	0.000
34	Organizational Collaborative Grants	0.400		0.200	0.200	-0.200
35	Partnership Technical Assistance <i>(name change)</i>	1.150		0.500	1.000	-0.150
36	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>15.597</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>15.366</b>	<b>16.116</b>	<b>0.519</b>
37	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>	<b>16.28%</b>		<b>15.63%</b>	<b>15.38%</b>	
38	<b>Other:</b>					
39	CREP	0.750		0.750	0.750	0.000
40	Governor's Priorities	1.011		1.000	1.000	-0.011
41	Strategic Implementation Areas	1.200		0.700	1.700	0.500
42	Strategic Plan Implementation Grants	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.000	-0.500
43	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3.461</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>2.450</b>	<b>3.450</b>	<b>-0.011</b>
44	<b>% of assumed Total Budget</b>	<b>3.61%</b>		<b>2.49%</b>	<b>3.29%</b>	
45	<b>TOTAL OWEB Spending Plan</b>	<b>95.807</b>	<b>1.078</b>	<b>98.292</b>	<b>104.792</b>	<b>9.563</b>
46	<b>OTHER DISTRIBUTED FUNDS IN ADDITION TO SPENDING PLAN DISTRIBUTION</b>					
47	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife - PCSRF	10.450		11.690	11.690	1.240
48	Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership	0.309		0.321	0.321	0.012
49	Forest Health Collaboratives from ODF	0.500		0.500	0.500	0.000
51	NRCS technical support	1.000		0.000	0.000	-1.000
52	PSMFC-IMW	0.729		0.600	0.600	-0.129
53	PSMFC-Coho Habitat Tools	0.166		0.000	0.000	-0.166
54	USFW Greater Sage Grouse Monitoring	0.000		0.284	0.284	0.284
55	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13.154</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>13.395</b>	<b>13.395</b>	<b>0.241</b>
56	<b>TOTAL Including OWEB Spending Plan and Other Distributed Funds</b>	<b>108.961</b>	<b>1.078</b>	<b>111.687</b>	<b>118.187</b>	<b>9.804</b>

## Summary of Changes Proposed from April 2019 Spending Plan Draft

<b>Restoration grants</b>	Increase of \$1.0 million	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Technical Assistance Grants</b>	Increase of \$250,000	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Stakeholder Engagement</b>	Increase of \$100,000	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Acquisitions</b>	Increase of \$250,000	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Open Solicitation Effectiveness Monitoring</b>	Increase of \$250,000	Additional funding to meet program demand
<b>Strategic Implementation Areas</b>	Reduction of \$100,000	Minor adjustment down based on workload planning by ODA since the April board meeting.

## 2019-21 Spending Plan Policy, Carry-Forward and Delegation Recommendations

**Table 1. Carry Forward**

*Carry forward amounts as indicated through June 30, 2021*

<b>Program</b>	<b>Carry Forward Amount</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<b>Small Grants</b>	Carry forward up to \$500,000	Using new reallocation methodology, funds will be redistributed to qualified small grant teams in 2020
<b>Open Solicitation Effectiveness Monitoring</b>	Carry forward \$578,000	During the 2017-19 biennium, staff initiated several new programmatic efforts, including SIA monitoring, 'telling the restoration story,' CREP performance tracking, and scoping of a retrospective evaluation of capacity investments, among others. Carryforward of funds is requested to support additional programmatic monitoring that has been in development (e.g., monitoring of Stage 0 restoration, 'hybrid' restoration/monitoring initiatives for telling the restoration story), but for which funding requests will come to the board during the 2019-21 biennium.
<b>Total carry forward:</b>	<b>\$1,078,000</b>	

**Table 2. Spending Plan Associated Board Approval Requests**

*Approve policy recommendations and receipt of funds from other sources as outlined.*

<b>Program</b>	<b>Policy or Funding Approval Request</b>	<b>Background</b>
<b>Programmatic Effectiveness Monitoring Grant Program</b>	Change name from Programmatic Effectiveness Monitoring to Quantifying Conservation Outputs and Outcomes	
<b>Development Focused Investment Partnership Grant Program</b>	Change name from Development FIP to Partnership Technical Assistance	
<b>Intensively Monitored Watershed</b>	Accept up to \$600,000 of other funding to support the Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW) Program	Reflects maximum amount expected to be received during the 2019-21 biennium from Pacific States Marine Fisheries Service in support of the Upper Middle Fork John Day IMW
<b>CREP-TA</b>	Accept up to \$250,000 of federal funding to support the CREP Technical Assistance program	Reflects funding made available from the Natural Resources Conservation Service in support of technical assistance for this program.
<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Greater Sage-grouse Monitoring</b>	Accept up to \$284,000 of federal funding to support CCAA monitoring efforts	Reflects funding made available from the USFWS to support soil and water conservation districts engaged in monitoring activities associated with CCAAs.

**Table 3. Delegation of Authority**

*Delegate authority to the Director to enter into agreements for the following spending plan line items with award dates as identified. Amounts are as identified on spending plan unless otherwise noted below.*

<b>Spending Plan Line Item</b>	<b>Award Date</b>	<b>Background/Description</b>
<b>CREP Technical Assistance grants</b>	July 17, 2019	Grants are approved once per biennium with a technical review completed by all CREP partners: NRCS, FSA, Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), OWEB and associated statewide organizations.
<b>Weed grants</b>	July 17, 2019	OWEB administers these funds on behalf of ODA and the State Weed Board. ODA staff complete a review process for these grants and approval comes through the State Weed Board.
<b>Small Grants</b>	July 1, 2019	Delegation increases timeliness of program implementation. Funds are allocated to small grant teams (\$100,000 per team plus additional funding based on reallocation process) so they can quickly approve and request OWEB funding for small grants.
<b>Quantifying Outputs &amp; Outcomes (SIA monitoring grants)</b>	July 17, 2019	Staff request \$400,000 (16 SIA's x \$25k) in delegated funds to support monitoring activities associated with Strategic Implementation Areas (SIAs). A statewide monitoring advisory group, consisting of DEQ, ODA, ODFW, and OWEB, coordinates with local partners and a local monitoring team for each SIA. SIA-specific monitoring plans are developed and used to guide baseline and ongoing data collection by local partners. Reporting milestones ensure monitoring progress is tracked and monitoring results are reviewed jointly by state and local partners.
<b>FIP Implementation grants</b>	July 1, 2019	The board has already approved the overall funding for each existing FIP-implementation area, and will approve new FIP implementation funding as a part of the approval of the spending plan based on approval of the programs at the January 2019 meeting. Delegation of funds allows staff to work with grantees on agreed-to timelines, reviewing and approving grants as they are ready within overall budget.
<b>Soil and Water Conservation District capacity grants</b>	July 1, 2019	Delegation allows for a one-time distribution of funds based on process developed by Oregon Department of Agriculture for implementation of local area plans under the state's agriculture water quality program, including focused implementation in identified areas. Delegation allows for a one-time distribution of funds for the biennium.
<b>Statewide Organization Partnership grant</b>	July 17, 2019	Delegation allows for 1 year of funding for this partnership. Staff will update the board on the project accomplishments and request the remaining funds in October 2020.
<b>Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)</b>	July 1, 2019	CREP contracts are directly with landowners and can arrive at any time in the biennium. CREP contracts are fully reviewed by the Farm Service Agency (FSA) and plans approved by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).
<b>Governor's Priorities</b>	July 17, 2017	<b>Per details provided in the memo that will be in the board's 'blue folder', the Governor's Natural Resources Office requests:</b> <b>\$150,000 in delegated funds for continued Tide Gate Partnership work</b> <b>\$300,000 in delegated funds for Oregon's Sage Grouse Conservation Partnership (SageCon)</b> <b>\$400,000 to support the Oregon's 100-Year Investment Strategy for Water</b> <b>\$150,000 to support analysis work related to forest watersheds and streams</b>

		The board receives reports from the Governor’s office on overall program priorities. For 2017-19, these include tide gates, sage grouse conservation, post-fire recovery, and water. The 2019-21 priorities listed above are proposed to the board by the Governor’s office, with associated justification. Staff then complete the grant application and agreement process with appropriate entities for the selected programs.
<b>Strategic Implementation Areas (SIA) grants</b>	July 17, 2019	These funds are utilized in support of Oregon Department of Agriculture’s (ODA) agriculture water quality program. Grants are reviewed by a technical team that includes OWEB and ODA staff to ensure compliance with statute and quality of proposals. The state’s team also includes Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ).
<b>Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)</b>	July 1, 2019	Based on the grant submitted by the State of Oregon through OWEB, ODFW receives a specific funding distribution from the approved PCSRF grant via pass-through by OWEB.
<b>Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership</b>	July 1, 2019	Oregon and Washington both provide funding in support of the cross-state Estuary Partnership. The Governor’s office has selected OWEB to be the funding source from which these funds are provided to the program. These funds are then administered as a grant from OWEB.
<b>Forest Collaboratives grants</b>	July 17, 2019	These funds are transferred from ODF and are managed on their behalf. Through a partnership with ODF, OWEB manages a review team process to ensure high quality projects are approved.
<b>PSMFC-Upper Middle Fork John Intensively Monitored Watershed (IMW)</b>	July 1, 2019	The IMW is designed to evaluate the implementation of watershed restoration projects over a large geography and extended period of time to describe the collective benefits provided to salmon and steelhead populations, habitat, and water quality. Historically, funders have included NOAA Fisheries, via the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission (PSMFC), and OWEB, among others. Funding continues to be made available through PSMFC to support IMW monitoring.
<b>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Greater Sage-grouse Monitoring</b>	July 17, 2019	Federal funds that are provided to OWEB in order to provide grants to soil and water conservation districts to conduct effectiveness monitoring on measures taken to conserve sage-grouse habitat associated with voluntary conservation agreements. Technical review will occur through a team developed by OWEB and USFWS.

# Middle Fork John Day River Intensively Monitored Watershed

Don't guess whether your river restoration achieved its goals: Measure it.  
We summarized 10 years of restoration and scientific monitoring.



Middle Fork John Day River Forrest Conservation Area

Photo credit: K. Handley

## Key Findings from 10 Years of Monitoring (2008-2017)

### FISH

- Stream temperature remains the most significant limiting factor for steelhead and Chinook populations in the Middle Fork John Day River (MFJDR) Intensively Monitored Watershed.
- Life cycle modeling can help prioritize actions by identifying which life stages of fish (juveniles vs. adults) are most limited by river conditions.

### STREAM TEMPERATURE

- Although stream restoration has improved the quality and quantity of habitat, monitoring did not detect an increase in the fish population within the Middle Fork John Day River Intensively Monitored Watershed (MFIMW) time scale of 10 years. This is most likely due to high stream temperatures within the project reaches that require longer-term recovery.
- Tributary inputs of cold water to the mainstem MFJDR, rather than groundwater inputs from the mainstem floodplain, play the most important role in cooling the MFJDR.
- Solar radiation is the primary driver of temperature gain along the mainstem; therefore, wider channels with more surface area are more susceptible to temperature increases.
- Riparian plantings may reduce stream temperatures, but they require time and stewardship. Even when grazing livestock are absent, browsing pressure from deer and elk limited plant growth. Only ponderosa pine and thinleaf alder showed consistent growth; cottonwood and aspen were heavily browsed.

## HABITAT

- The overall habitat index score had an improving trend for the majority of watershed-scale habitat monitoring sites; this result confirms the hypothesis that restoration actions would improve aquatic habitat at a watershed scale.
- Removal of livestock grazing on riverbanks allowed the spread of native bank-building and erosion-controlling vegetation, including torrent sedge. The increase in these plants caused beneficial changes to fish habitat by providing cover and helping to alter the river channel.
- Among the subset of projects monitored, channels did not significantly narrow and deepen or become more sinuous in response to restoration as hypothesized. Restoration projects in some locations did increase pool depth.

## RESTORATION

- River restoration is a long-term investment. Given the lag time for riparian plantings to mature (15-40 years) and the 5-10 year life cycle of focal fish species, the limited fish responses to restoration actions are reasonable.

## MFIMW GOALS

- Compare changes in watershed-scale productivity as a result of restoration actions in MFIMW for summer steelhead and spring Chinook salmon relative to the South Fork and Upper Mainstem John Day Rivers.
- Learn how specific restoration actions influence salmonid abundance, survival, and growth at the reach and project-scale.
- Understand how specific restoration actions impact instream habitat, riparian condition, and water temperature at the reach, project, and watershed scales.

## RESTORATION ACTIONS

- Fish passage: 122 miles opened/improved
- Channel reconfiguration: 35 channel miles improved
- In-stream habitat: hundreds of complex wood structures
- Flow: 6 cfs instream increase
- Upland management
- Riparian fencing and plantings:  
21 miles of fencing  
15 miles of plantings

## MONITORING ACTIONS

- Water temperature
- Fish production
- Macroinvertebrates
- Geomorphology
- Groundwater
- Socio-economic impact
- Models: Steelhead Lifecycle & HeatSource

**17** student projects earned degrees at OSU, UO, PSU, and WSU

**213** jobs created from planning and project implementation

**\$16.9** million brought into the local economy through projects

### Study Area

Upper portion of the Middle Fork John Day River watershed (2,088 km<sup>2</sup>) in Oregon.

### Focal Species

- Middle Columbia River steelhead (Federally threatened)
- Spring Chinook salmon

## Lessons Learned and Recommendations

Partners shared the following insights for ongoing planning, monitoring, and restoration efforts within the IMW. Many of these recommendations may translate to similar complex monitoring initiatives that include many partners and projects.

### PLANNING

- Completely review all monitoring activities each year prior to the field season and before subsequent restoration activities occur to protect the integrity of the monitoring framework and research.
- Carefully consider the potential trade-offs between restoration actions during planning and design phases. Keep in mind the long-term benefits of increasing habitat quality/quantity and vegetation recovery with other factors, such as short-term elevated stream temperatures.
- Prior to implementation, determine whether restoration plans will increase stream surface area at low flow; models show that greater surface area could further elevate water temperatures.
- Identify socio-economic indicators and outcome measures in consultation with local officials and the community.

### MONITORING

- Ideally, monitor both treatment and control locations for multiple years prior to restoration. This can help detect differences between natural background variation versus changes due to restoration actions.
- Data collection efforts should have established protocols across both temporal and spatial scales. A monitoring plan will help researchers determine which sampling sites are most important to sample consistently over time.
- Use life cycle modeling to predict the expected magnitudes and timing of fisheries responses from restoration, and to enhance the probability of success in detecting responses to restoration actions.

**100** restoration projects implemented in the study area

**14** scientific reports on river restoration

**20** organizations participated in monitoring, restoration, and analysis

## RESTORATION

- Expectations for restoration outcomes should be tempered with a realistic understanding of the rate at which natural systems can recover and account for relatively rare episodic events.
- Given the importance of temperature in habitat quality, focus riparian revegetation efforts in streams where shade is currently limited. Give careful attention to stewardship of plantings to maximize growth. Salvage and re-plant all existing on-site vegetation when possible and hire a full-time vegetation care specialist.
- Consider installing elk-proof fencing on major restoration efforts to protect riparian plantings if browsing will reduce plant vigor.
- To maximize potential for stream temperature reductions, consider the magnitude and location of cold-water inputs from tributaries and groundwater upwellings in restoration designs. Connecting known groundwater sources to the channel could create cooler habitats.
- Place wood that interacts with low-flow conditions, and consider side channels and other human features that constrain valley processes. Consider treating the entire reach and valley.
- Design channels with a profile where the riffle crest or head is the highest feature in the substrate. In streams subject fish passage issues at low flows, riffles need to be constructed with fines washed in to ensure the matrix is sealed and stable.



This fact sheet provides highlights only. For details on restoration and monitoring, review the Middle Fork John Day River Intensively Monitored Watershed Final Summary Report (114 pages), available at [www.middleforkimw.org](http://www.middleforkimw.org).



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item I supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority # 3: Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item I – Lakeview SWCD Grant Amendment Request  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Background

The board awarded grant # 217-4017, Lake County Sage-grouse Conservation, to Lakeview SWCD on October 25, 2016. The purpose of the grant was to develop site-specific plans on individual ranches in eastern Oregon that outline habitat needs and restoration actions to aid in sage grouse conservation on those lands. The work was a local component of the overall umbrella of the state's sage grouse conservation work. At completion of the project, Lakeview SWCD submitted a project completion report that indicated that all of the project work was actually completed prior to the date of board award.

Lakeview SWCD noted that the work was completed at a time when listing sage grouse as an endangered species was under consideration, and that during that time, their goal was to complete as many site specific plans as possible to demonstrate the likelihood of landscape scale implementation of voluntary habitat restoration actions. They also believed that more landowners would come in after the grant was awarded, and so they made the assumption they would have been completing more plans after the award date. This did not occur, as no additional landowners came forward for site-specific plans. As a result of these factors, Lakeview SWCD is requesting the board amend the award date of the grant agreement to January 1, 2016.

### II. OWEB Staff Response

Following receipt of the project completion report, OWEB staff informed Lakeview SWCD that they did not comply with the grant agreement, which does not allow for reimbursement of project expenses prior to the board award date. In addition, OWEB had already made two payments to Lakeview SWCD for the project totaling \$28,571. Reports are not required for interim payments, so OWEB staff were unaware that products outlined in the proposal had already been completed. Since this reimbursement was made for ineligible work, Lakeview SWCD was informed that they would have to repay those funds unless the grant agreement was amended, and that such an amendment request

would have to be approved by the board. In addition, staff informed Lakeview SWCD that the remaining \$21,429 of the \$50,000 grant will not be paid by OWEB.

To prevent similar problems in the future, OWEB is amending six other grants with Lakeview SWCD that include reimbursement for salary and wage costs to require documentation of timesheets and payroll/accounting record, and has provided sample timesheet and payroll record systems.

### **III. Lakeview SWCD Request**

In conversations with staff, the grantee has requested to come before the board to request a grant amendment to change the start date of the grant to January 1, 2016.

Lakeview SWCD acknowledged that doing the work prior to the grant award was inappropriate and stated that during the period of the grant, Lakeview SWCD staff continued to work on the subject ranches by implementing and monitoring site-specific plans.

Lakeview SWCD agreed to develop timesheet and payroll/accounting records that will associate staff costs with projects in the future.

### **IV. Board Options**

There are several options for the board to consider:

Option 1: Require Lakeview SWCD to pay back the \$28,571 reimbursed to date.

Option 2: Amend the scope of services of the grant by either,

- A. Changing the effective date of the award from October 25, 2016 to January 1, 2016;  
or
- B. Changing the scope of services to match the work performed during the effective dates of the grant agreement, which was implementing and monitoring site-specific plans on eligible ranches.

Under either options 2.A or 2.B the board can authorize reimbursement of \$28,571 included in the payment requests received to date. The board could also authorize reimbursement of the total award of \$50,000 pending submittal and approval of payment requests for the remaining \$21,429.

### **V. Recommendation**

Staff recommend the board approve option 2.A, and change the award date to January 1, 2016 for grant #217-4017, and reduce the award to \$28,571.



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item J supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority #6: Coordinated monitoring and shared learning to advance watershed restoration effectiveness.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Renee Davis, Deputy Director  
Ken Fetcho, Effectiveness Monitoring Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item J – Programmatic Monitoring Funding Request – Stage 0 Restoration  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

OWEB's programmatic monitoring investments evaluate specific types of restoration actions at broad geographic and/or temporal scales through targeted funding. This staff report requests up to \$360,000 from the board's newly renamed Quantifying Conservation Outputs and Outcomes line item in the 2019-21 spending plan for monitoring and information sharing associated with Stage 0 restoration approaches.

### II. Background

Traditional approaches to river restoration have focused on restoring channel structure by engineering channels that remain relatively stable through time. Recently, there has been increased interest in process-based approaches that create complex river channels and floodplains. One such approach for wide alluvial valleys is called Stage 0 restoration which restores fluvial processes at the valley scale, typically by filling previously incised channels with native materials (e.g., gravels, soil, and large wood), and then letting the river valley shape itself in response to environmental drivers like floods, and in response to biological drivers such as riparian forest development and beaver damming.

Stage 0 restoration has been implemented at sites in Oregon (including sites funded by OWEB grants), and these projects appear to be creating dynamic and spatially complex river valleys. Stage 0 restoration practitioners and scientists studying this approach assume that these projects will result in river systems that are more biologically productive and resilient, and thus, better able to support focal species such as salmon, trout, and lamprey. However, the ecological response to Stage 0 restoration has not yet been fully documented. For this reason, concerns exist that organisms may be negatively affected during and following project implementation, thus delaying or negating ecological benefits.

### III. Overview of the Funding Request

Beginning in 2018, OWEB staff convened discussions with restoration practitioners and scientists engaged in Stage 0 restoration and monitoring at several locations around the

state, along with those who have expressed concerns about the restoration approach. Discussions have identified the need for a better understanding of: 1) the current state of knowledge about Stage 0 restoration, 2) questions and concerns about Stage 0 restoration, and 3) monitoring and information needs that, if addressed, would increase the collective understanding about the effects of Stage 0 restoration and provide guidance about applying this restoration technique.

Staff propose a multi-pronged approach to addressing monitoring and information needs for Stage 0 restoration:

- Monitoring of Stage 0 projects in the a) South Fork McKenzie River, Upper Willamette Basin, and b) the Upper Deschutes Basin. Monitoring activities include biological, geomorphic, physical habitat, and water quality monitoring. The monitoring will utilize a mix of field based methods and remote sensing approaches. Monitoring in the Upper Willamette and Upper Deschutes basins would occur for 5 years.
- Data compilation and synthesis of existing knowledge about Stage 0 restoration with the intent of summarizing results to date, assessing the success of various implementation and monitoring approaches that have been utilized, and developing guidelines to inform best practices for restoration and monitoring of Stage 0 projects.
- Convening workshops that bring together stakeholders to share knowledge, describe concerns and considerations about this restoration approach, identify monitoring and information needs, and articulate best practices for Stage 0.

These activities will be complemented by ongoing and potential work under OWEB's 'Telling the Restoration Story' targeted grant offering. Under that offering, findings to date from a Stage 0 project in Deer Creek (Upper Willamette Basin) are currently being developed, and a similar data-driven summary is being scoped for the Fivemile-Bell (Siuslaw Basin) restoration projects.

Staff are staging the funding request for these work items, with initial funding requested during the 2019-21 biennium. Following the initial two years of work, OWEB staff and grantees will reflect on findings to date and ongoing monitoring and communication needs. Based on this reflection, staff will propose a second phase of funding for monitoring of and best practices for Stage 0 restoration during the 2021-23 biennium.

The board's monitoring subcommittee has reviewed the proposed funding request (including more detailed information about the monitoring parameters, methods, and locations), and is supportive of advancing it for consideration by the full board.

#### **IV. Recommendation**

Staff recommend the board award up to \$360,000 for monitoring and information sharing for Stage 0 restoration with funds from the Quantifying Conservation Outputs and Outcomes line item of the OWEB spending plan, and delegate to the Executive Director the authority to distribute the funds through appropriate agreements with an award date of July 16, 2019.



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item L-1 supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority # 3: Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Courtney Shaff, Interim Business Operations Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item L-1 – Council Capacity Guidance for Merger Funding  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This staff report provides an overview of council capacity merger funding policy and staff recommendations for board adoption of the guidance.

### II. Background

In 2013 the board awarded its first Organizational Collaboration grants, one of which supported the merger of four watershed councils in the Rogue Basin. At the same time, the board recognized the real costs associated with post-merger life and created the merger implementation grant offering, available to newly merged councils for up to four years post-merger.

During the last year OWEB staff and the operating capacity subcommittee have been discussing OWEB's approach to merger funding and shared that discussion with the board in April 2019.

### III. Merger Funding

Staff and subcommittee conversations around mergers have emphasized the need to continue to provide support and encouragement to groups that are interested in merging. Part of that support is demonstrating OWEB's long-term commitment to financially supporting councils that choose to merge. Attachment A describes a process by which OWEB would provide funding to councils exploring the possibility of a merger, and on-going support to organizations that have completed the process.

### IV. Recommendation

Staff recommend the board adopt the guidance for merger funding as described in Attachment A.

### Attachments

Attachment A. Guidance for Merger Funding

# Guidance for Merger Funding

---

## Background

In 2013 the Board awarded its first Organizational Collaboration grants, one of which supported the merger of four watershed councils in the Rogue Basin. At the same time, the Board recognized the real costs associated with post-merger life and created the merger implementation grant offering. These grant funds can be used for strategic planning, board and staff development, and other real costs of merging multiple organizations. The goal of both the Organizational Collaboration and the Merger Implementation grant programs is to build capacity and support strategic collaborations in order to build resilient, sustainable, local organizations that achieve ecological outcomes and engage local communities.

Mergers in general are not common, and OWEB is in a unique situation as an agency which funds both mergers and ongoing operating costs of organizations. In addition, the agency believes that more organizations may consider merging in the future, and OWEB wants to support organizations in that process.

## Merger Funding Approach

### Pre-merger funding

Continue to provide Organizational Collaboration grants. Applicants requesting merger funding must include direct and clear measures of success for the merger process. The final project completion report must report on direct measures of success and methods for evaluating the new organization's post-merger progress toward integration.

### Post-Merger Funding

Individual councils apply for a council capacity grant each biennium. If a group of councils is interested in merging they can apply for an organizational collaboration grant to help cover the costs of the merger process. The descriptions of funding options below are what two or more merged councils can apply for after the merger process is complete. The funding amount available is different when two, three, or four or more councils merge. The funding available reduces between the first biennium after the merger and the second biennium, reducing again in the third biennium. The explanation and proposed amounts are below. All council capacity grant award amounts are from the 2017-2019 biennium and are examples. Actual award amounts would be calculated on actual council capacity award amounts.

### Four or more watershed councils

When developing the numbers below, staff took into consideration what four or more watershed councils would be eligible to receive if they had not merged. For example, in 2017-2019, that would be at least \$473,300 for a biennium.

In biennium 1 and 2 after the merger, in addition to their council capacity grant, the council could apply for merger implementation funding. Merger implementation funding in biennium 1 would be \$236,850, which is the council capacity grant award, \$118,425 x 2. In biennium 2 merger implementation funding would be \$207,243, which is the council capacity grant award, \$118,425 x 1.75. Beginning in biennium 3, and in all future biennia, the merged council would be eligible to receive additional merger funding of \$177,637, \$118,425x1.5.

Table 1 shows the distribution of funding across three biennia for a new organization where four or more watershed councils merged.

**Table 1**

	<b>Council Capacity</b>	<b>Merger Funding</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Biennium 0 (pre-merger, four councils)</b>	\$473,300	\$0	\$473,300
<b>Biennium 1</b>	\$118,425	\$236,850 (\$118,425x2)	\$355,275
<b>Biennium 2</b>	\$118,425	\$207,243 (\$118,425x1.75)	\$306,425
<b>Biennium 3 and in all future biennia</b>	\$118,425	\$177,637 (\$118,425x1.5)	\$296,062

### **Three watershed councils merge**

When developing the numbers below, staff took into consideration what three watershed councils would be eligible to receive if they had not merged, in 2017-2019, that would be \$355,275 for the biennium.

In biennium 1 and 2 post merger, in addition to their council capacity grant, the council could apply for merger implementation funding. Merger implementation funding in biennium 1 would be \$207,243, which is the council capacity grant award, \$118,425x1.75. In biennium 2 merger implementation funding would be \$177,637, which is the council capacity grant award, \$118,425x1.5. Beginning in biennium 3, and in all future biennia, the merged council would be eligible to receive additional merger funding of \$148,031, \$118,425x1.25.

Table 2 shows the distribution of funding across three biennia for a new organization where three watershed councils merged.

**Table 2**

	<b>Council Capacity</b>	<b>Merger Funding</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Biennium 0 (pre-merger)</b>	\$355,275	\$0	\$355,275
<b>Biennium 1</b>	\$118,425	\$207,243 (\$118,425x1.75)	\$325,668
<b>Biennium 2</b>	\$118,425	\$177,637 (\$118,425x1.5)	\$296,062
<b>Biennium 3 and in all future biennia</b>	\$118,425	\$148,031 (\$118,425x1.25)	\$266,456

### **Two watershed councils merge**

When developing the numbers below, staff took into consideration what two watershed councils would be eligible to receive if they had not merged, in 2017-2019 that would be \$236,850 for the biennium.

In biennium 1 and 2 post merger, the council could apply for merger implementation funding in addition to their council capacity grant. Merger implementation funding in biennium 1 would be \$88,818, which is the council capacity grant award, 118,425 x .75. In biennium 2 merger implementation funding would be \$59,212, which is the council capacity grant award, \$118,425 x .5. Beginning in biennium 3, and in all future biennia, the merged council would be eligible to receive additional merger funding of .25x the base award (\$118,425x.25=\$29,606).

Table 3 shows the distribution of funding across three biennia for a new organization where two watershed councils merged.

**Table 3**

	<b>Council Capacity</b>	<b>Merger Funding</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Biennium 0 (per-merger)</b>	\$236,850	\$0	236,850
<b>Biennium 1</b>	\$118,425	\$88,818 (118,425x .75)	\$207,243
<b>Biennium 2</b>	\$118,425	\$59,212 (118,425x .5)	\$177,637
<b>Biennium 3 and in all future biennia</b>	\$118,425	\$29,606 (118,425x .25)	\$148,031



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
**WATERSHED**  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

**Agenda Item L-2 supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority # 3: Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds.**

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Courtney Shaff, Interim Business Operations Manager  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item L-2 – Council Capacity Grant Awards  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### **I. Introduction**

This staff report provides an overview of the 2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant offering process and outlines staff recommendations for grant awards. Staff recommend funding 57 watershed councils (councils) for \$7.165 million. Two councils are not recommended for funding.

### **II. Background**

For more than 15 years, OWEB has provided capacity grants to councils, which are shown on the attached map (Attachment A). In July 2014, following four years of work, the board adopted administrative rules and guidance for Council Capacity grants, which help support the operating capacity of effective councils. The Council Capacity grant process includes both an eligibility determination and initial and secondary merit review based on those rules and guidance.

For the 2019-2021 grant offering, both the eligibility and application materials were submitted at the same time using the online application. This resulted in a more streamlined process with easier access to information for applicants, OWEB staff, and technical review team members.

### **III. Eligibility Determination**

Eligibility criteria define how OWEB will determine whether a council is eligible to apply for a Council Capacity grant. OWEB does not control the existence or creation of councils, and councils can exist without receiving OWEB funding. In fact, about one-third of watershed councils in Oregon are not funded by OWEB; as such, councils can operate outside of OWEB funding and eligibility criteria.

Sixty councils applied by the application deadline. OWEB staff completed the eligibility review during the first week of March. After review, one watershed council, Coquille Watershed Association, was determined to be ineligible. As a part of the process established by rule and guidance, the council appealed and was determined to be eligible based on additional information received within the established process.

#### **IV. Merit Review**

Merit criteria (Attachment B) evaluate councils for performance and progress including how the council addresses challenges.

- A. Initial Merit Review.** OWEB staff completed the initial review. They reviewed application materials and determined fifty councils met all merit criteria. Ten councils did not meet all criteria and were referred to the secondary review and interview process.
- B. Secondary Review and Interview.** The secondary review panel consisted of OWEB staff and external reviewers. Reviewers considered: 1) application materials and supplemental materials provided by the council; 2) reviewers' knowledge of the council; 3) OWEB staff input; and 4) an interview with council staff and board.

#### **V. Staff Funding Recommendations**

Staff funding recommendations are based on the merit evaluation and available funding, including a 3.8% cost of living increase. Staff recommend three funding levels described in Attachment C: 'full funding', \$122,900, for 56 councils that meet all merit criteria, 'reduced funding', \$98,320, for one council that does not meet all merit criteria, and 'do not fund' for two councils, with inadequate performance. In addition, staff recommend one council receives merger funding on top of the base award. Evaluations for the councils are contained in Attachment D.

OWEB staff recommend two councils for the 'do not fund' category, the Tillamook Bay Watershed Council and Rickreall and Glenn Gibson Watershed Councils. OWEB staff recognize the significance of this recommendation and do not make it lightly. Evaluation summaries are provided for both councils as attachments to this staff report.

It is important to note that the 'do not fund' recommendation is not permanent, and each council may submit Council Capacity grant eligibility determination documents in future cycles.

#### **VI. Recommendation**

Staff recommend the board award Council Capacity grants as described in Attachment C.

#### **Attachments**

- Attachment A. Map of Locally Recognized Watershed Councils
- Attachment B. Merit Criteria Overview
- Attachment C. Staff Funding Recommendations
- Attachment D. Council Capacity Evaluations

# Oregon Watershed Councils

**Wasco County Watershed Councils**  
 \*Bakeoven WC  
 \*Fifteenmile WC  
 \*Mosier WC  
 \*The Dalles WC  
 \*White River WC

**North Coast Watershed Association**  
 \*a. Ecola Creek WC  
 \*b. Nicolai-Wickiup WC  
 \*c. Skipanon WC  
 \*d. Youngs Bay WC

**Salem Keizer Area Watershed Councils**  
 \*k. Claggett Creek WC  
 \*l. The North Santiam Watershed Council is also locally recognized in the Mill Creek and Pringle watersheds.  
 \*m. Rickreall WC  
 \*n. Glenn-Gibson WC

\*\*The MidCoast Watersheds Council is also locally recognized in the Alsea Basin and Salmon Drift.

\* Indicates locally recognized watershed councils that have never received their own individual Council Support Grant and are not eligible for a Council Capacity Grant.

For Purposes of OAR 695-040-0030(2)(a) Geographic Eligibility Criteria: Boundaries of Councils which received a Watershed Council Support Grant Before July 1, 2013.



Area with no watershed council



**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
 775 Summer St. NE Suite 360  
 Salem, OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/OWEB](http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB)



Updated by Paula Witts August 2017 using ESRri ArcMap 10.3.1 Oregon Lambert Projection, NAD 83 SRID 2992

Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, USGS, NRCAN, METI, JPC, TomTom

## Council Capacity Merit Criteria Overview

### The goals of the merit review are to:

1. Ensure strategic and accountable investment of public funds;
2. Encourage continuous improvement in watershed councils' organizational management, operating structure, and functions, and the planning and implementation of on-the-ground watershed protection, restoration, enhancement, and community engagement activities; and
3. Ensure watershed councils are working toward strengthening their role in watersheds through activities focusing on council resilience, leadership, collaboration, and representing a balance of interested and affected persons within the watershed as required by ORS 541.910(2).

### Merit Criteria

Merit Criteria	Review for performance
Effective Governance and Management	<p>The council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has effective bylaws/charter and policies/ procedures, and follows them.</li> <li>• Includes a balance of interested and affected persons on its governing body.</li> <li>• Regularly evaluates and takes action to improve its organization.</li> </ul> <p>The council's governing body acts to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure the council meets legal obligations and requirements.</li> <li>• Support successful achievement of the council's goals.</li> <li>• Create a structure, policies, and procedures to support good governance.</li> <li>• Provide effective oversight of staff and contractors.</li> <li>• Continuously improve its business practices.</li> </ul>
Progress in planning	<p>The council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Uses planning documents to identify and implement restoration and community engagement projects.</li> <li>• Regularly evaluates and updates its action plan and work plans.</li> <li>• Engages a mix of stakeholders in its planning.</li> </ul>
Progress in On-the-Ground Restoration	<p>The council's actions result in progress in completing priority on-the-ground watershed restoration work tied to council-identified watershed limiting factors.</p>
Progress in Community Engagement	<p>The council makes progress in achieving community engagement objectives that address limiting factors identified in the council's 2-year work plan.</p>

## OWEB STAFF FUNDING RECOMMENDATION 2019-2021 COUNCIL CAPACITY GRANTS

Staff Recommended Funding Level	Part of Secondary Review	App#	Watershed Council	Merger Funding	19-21 Award	17-19 Awards
Full Funding		218-001	North Coast WS Assn	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-003	MidCoast WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-004	Upper Nehalem WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-005	Nestucca-Neskowin Watersheds Council	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-006	Siuslaw WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-008	Applegate Partnership & WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-010	Coos Watershed Association	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-011	Coquille Watershed Association	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding	Y	218-012	Illinois Valley WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-014	Lower Rogue WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-016	South Coast WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$94,465
Full Funding		218-017	Tenmile Lakes Partnership	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-018	Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-019	Rogue River WC	\$ 184,350	\$ 307,250	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-021	Elk Creek WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-022	Calapooia WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-023	Clackamas River Basin Council	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-024	Coast Fork Willamette WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-025	Columbia Slough WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-026	Johnson Creek WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-027	Long Tom WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-028	Marys River WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-029	Middle Fork Willamette WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-030	North Santiam Watershed Council	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-031	Pudding River WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$94,465
Full Funding		218-034	Sandy River Basin WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-035	Scappoose Bay WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-036	South Santiam WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-037	Tualatin River WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-038	McKenzie WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-039	Greater Yamhill Watershed Council	-	\$ 122,900	\$94,465
Full Funding		218-040	Klamath Watershed Partnership	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-041	Crooked River WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-042	Gilliam East John Day WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-043	Hood River Working Group	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-044	Middle Deschutes WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-045	Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding	Y	218-046	Sherman Area WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-047	Upper Deschutes WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding	Y	218-048	Wasco Area WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-049	Grande Ronde Model WS Program	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-050	Harney Watershed Council	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-051	Malheur WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-052	North Fork John Day WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-053	Umatilla Basin WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-054	Walla Walla Basin WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding	Y	218-055	Mid John Day-Bridge Creek WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding	Y	218-056	Owyhee WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding	Y	218-057	Powder Basin WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-058	Luckiamute WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-059	Greater Oregon City WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding	Y	218-060	Smith River WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-061	Lower Nehalem WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-062	Necanicum WC	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-063	Upper South Fork John Day Watershed Council	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Full Funding		218-064	Molalla River Watch Inc	-	\$ 122,900	\$118,425
Reduced Funding	Y	218-002	Lower Columbia River WC	-	\$ 98,320	\$98,195
Do Not Fund	Y	218-007	Tillamook Bay WC	-	\$ -	\$94,465
Do Not Fund	Y	218-032	Rickreall & Glenn-Gibson WCs	-	\$ -	\$94,465
<b>Total</b>					\$ 7,165,070	

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
 2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
 Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-001**

---

**Project Name:** NCWA 2019-21 Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** North Coast WS Assn

**Application Description**

---

The Council Capacity Grant funds watershed restoration planning and operational activities for the North Coast Watershed Association. Limiting factors, include: altered quality of physical habitat, historic diking and roads, disconnection from the floodplain, impaired water quality, lack of habitat complexity and large wood, lack of riparian coverage, fish passage barriers, lack of quality monitoring data, and increased erosion from land use practices.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the agendas and minutes from those meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including the regional Chum Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including the Nature Matters series at Fort George Brewery. The Council also has also developed a concerted stakeholder engagement effort associated with its strategic action planning around chum salmon.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meets all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-002**

---

**Project Name:** LCRWC Coordinator and Project Management Support

**Applicant:** Columbia SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Lower Columbia River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the contracted council coordinator works with the board to update and improve organizational governance and management. The council is also making plans for the long-term structure of the council, including the council coordinator position.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council works on both organizational strategic planning as well as engaging in local planning efforts.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council did not demonstrate progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is planning for future restoration actions, but has not completed any progress in on-the-ground restoration projects this biennium.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council did not demonstrate progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working with a contractor to develop an outreach plan, which will be necessary for the council to work toward active stakeholder engagement for the purposes of restoration.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Does not meet all merit criteria and should be recommended for the reduced funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Reduced funding: does not meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$98,320

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-003**

---

**Project Name:** MidCoast WC Council Capacity 2019-2021

**Applicant:** MidCoast WC

**Application Description**

---

The MidCoast Watersheds Council, located in Newport, OR, works in an area of nearly one million acres, including all streams draining from the crest of the coast range to the Pacific Ocean, and from the Salmon River at Cascade head to Cape Creek at Heceta Head. The council relies on Council Capacity funding to maintain baseline funding for two staff positions to complete work related to watershed restoration, planning processes, community outreach, and other activities.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board reviews and updates policies and procedures as necessary to ensure the council is following good business practices.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including the facilitation of the Siletz Coho Business Plan.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council did not demonstrate progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is working on existing and future restoration projects, and has a successful track record of securing funding for project implementation through OWEB's other grant programs over the last biennium.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is regularly hosting community events and speakers at council meetings.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings. Minutes must include a list of attendees.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-004**

---

**Project Name:** Upper Nehalem Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Upper Nehalem WC

**Application Description**

---

The Upper Nehalem Watershed Council service area encompasses 555 square miles of temperate rain-forest. UNWC is a Stakeholder consensus governed organization established in January 1996 in sync with the Governor's Coastal Salmon Restoration initiation. UNWC is recognized as per HB3441 by Columbia County Board of Commissioners in July 1996 and the Clatsop County Local Government Group in August 1997. We plan to utilize the Council Capacity to maintain our base operation in the heart of the Nehalem watershed. From this foundation we are able to maintain a viable network of supporters with whom we secure and leverage essential resources in order to implement a wide scope of actions. We seek capacity support to continue to advance watershed health and native salmon population recovery actions across the landscape in collaboration with partners.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and having an active and engaged board of directors.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is an active participant in the coho business planning efforts.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council did not demonstrate progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is working on existing and future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is regularly hosting community events and speakers at council meetings that cover a variety of viewpoints.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-005**

---

**Project Name:** Nestucca, Neskowin & Sand Lake Watersheds Council Support

**Applicant:** Nestucca-Neskowin Watersheds Council

**Application Description**

---

The Nestucca, Neskowin & Sand Lake Watersheds Council operates in South Tillamook County. Limiting factors include high stream temperatures due to a lack of riparian vegetation, over-appropriation of stream flow in the summer, numerous fish passage barriers, erosion and sedimentation, invasive plant species, wetland degradation, lack of habitat complexity and lack of floodplain connectivity.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board has been very engaged board before, during and after the recent coordinator transition.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts, including within the Sand Lake watershed and the Tillamook-Nestucca Salmon SuperHwy partnership, as well as working on organizational planning.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council's work plans demonstrates the council has made progress completing priority on-the-ground watershed restoration.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council regularly hosts community events and speakers at council meetings.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-006**

---

**Project Name:** Siuslaw Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Siuslaw WC

**Application Description**

---

The Siuslaw Watershed Council, located in Mapleton, OR, has been working with local partners to restore the Siuslaw and Coastal Lakes watersheds on the central Oregon coast since 1997. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board and staff continuously working toward organizational improvements.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading the Siuslaw Partnership's strategic action plan development, is involved in the coho business planning process, and facilitates the Siuslaw Coho Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council has implemented numerous priority projects over the last biennium and is working on the development of future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council regularly hosts events and recently relaunched its website, which includes a series of videos about the watershed and the people that work there.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-007**

---

**Project Name:** TBWC Council Support 2019-2021

**Applicant:** Tillamook Bay WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Tillamook Bay Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council did not demonstrate effective governance. The council continues to struggle with many of the same concerns raised in the council capacity review last biennium. These include the council board not providing clear management and oversight of the council coordinator and the council board has not worked toward a diverse board that is inclusive and representative of a broad spectrum of the local community. For example, during the secondary review process, the council commented that it wished to exclude some groups from council membership in the future in order to reduce the number of diverse opinions being shared during council meetings.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council did not demonstrate progress in planning. The council did not provide clear and specific information as to how the council has, and will in the future, engage with the broader community to plan and implement the work of the council. In addition, during the secondary review process, the council did not provide any additional information to demonstrate it has a planning process that engages the broader watershed community. Based on the information received and the secondary interview, it appears the work of the council is driven by a few people and not collaborative.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council did not demonstrate progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council did not initiate any new restoration projects during the 2017-2019 biennium. They have not made progress on current on-the ground restoration projects. In addition, during the secondary review process, the council did not provide any specific examples of how it would initiate and implement future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council did not demonstrate progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council has not worked with the broad and diverse groups within the watershed. In addition, during the secondary review process the council did not seem aware of the need for broad stakeholder engagement and did not provide any specific examples of future stakeholder engagement activities.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Does not meet all merit criteria and should be not be recommended for funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Do Not Fund: The council shows inadequate performance in all merit criteria.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$0

**Staff Conditions**

N/A

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-008**

---

**Project Name:** Council Capacity - Applegate Partnership

**Applicant:** Applegate Partnership, Inc.

**Application Description**

---

The Applegate watershed contains over 493,000 acres and is split between Jackson and Josephine Counties and Siskiyou County in northern California. The land ownership is primarily federally managed lands with rural residential and private forest making up the rest, and over 700 miles of stream habitat for winter and summer Steelhead, Coho salmon, fall Chinook salmon, and Pacific Lamprey. Through on-the-ground projects, outreach, and participation in local activities, the APWC strives to bring awareness to these communities through our work that mutually benefits the landowners, community and our natural resources.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and having a very engaged board actively working to support the organization and staff.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including its work on barrier assessment and removal.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council regularly hosts community events and is actively reaching out to and engaging with new partners.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-010**

---

**Project Name:** Coos Watershed Association

**Applicant:** Coos Watershed Association

**Application Description**

---

The mission of the Coos Watershed Association is to support environmental integrity and economic stability within the Coos watershed by increasing community capacity to develop, test, promote, and implement management practices in the interest of watershed health. This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Coos Watershed Association. Council identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board reviews and updates policies and procedures as necessary to ensure the council is following good business practices.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local assessment and planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including coho business planning.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working to engage stakeholders related to tidegate work within the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must update its bylaws to clarify whether or not the council is a membership organization.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-011**

---

**Project Name:** Coquille Watershed Association Council Capacity Application

**Applicant:** Coquille Watershed Association

**Application Description**

---

This council capacity grant will support the work of the Coquille Watershed Association. The mission of the Association is to work collaboratively with landowners to develop and implement voluntary watershed restoration, enhancement, and engagement activities that promote healthy and resilient ecosystems and economies in the Coquille watershed. Council identified watershed limiting factors include hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of Information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water Quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board is active in the management and oversight of the council.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including work on tidegates.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working to engage stakeholders related to tidegate work within the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-012**

---

**Project Name:** Illinois Valley WC Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Illinois Valley WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Illinois Valley Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's governance and management. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and is working improve overall organizational operations and management as well as providing supervision and oversight for the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's progress in planning. However, during the secondary review process staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council has a current strategic plan and is beginning a new strategic planning process that will engage the full board and staff and well as local partners.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's progress in stakeholder engagement. However, during the secondary review process staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working to engage a broader diversity of stakeholders throughout the community.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2020 describing the council's progress on its stakeholder engagement activities.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-014**

---

**Project Name:** Lower Rogue Watershed Council Capacity 19-21

**Applicant:** Curry SWCD

**Application Description**

---

The Lower Rogue Watershed includes all lands and waters of these lands that drain into the Rogue and Illinois rivers within Curry County, Oregon, and is the western extent of the Rogue River Basin. Our purpose is to protect, enhance, and restore long-term natural resources and economic stability of the Lower Rogue Watershed and the near shore environment. Council identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings, reviews and updates council documents, and the council board members attending trainings during the last biennium.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is involved in organizational and partnership strategic planning efforts.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working to engage a variety of stakeholders including local businesses related to sediment reduction efforts.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-016**

---

**Project Name:** South Coast Watershed Council Capacity 2019-2021

**Applicant:** Curry SWCD

**Application Description**

---

The South Coast Watershed Council encompasses 10 coastal watersheds on the southern Oregon coast that support coho salmon, Chinook salmon, and/or steelhead. Limiting factors vary across these watersheds, but all are impaired by elevated summer stream temperatures, an overabundant supply of coarse grained sediment, invasive plants, small estuaries, loss of floodplain connectivity and off-channel habitat, and the oversimplification of the low gradient stream network.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board members worked, in coordination with the SWCD, to update organizational processes and hire a new council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively involved in partnership strategic planning efforts and planning for its own strategic planning efforts next biennium.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council completed priority on-the-ground watershed restoration projects during the biennium and is planning for future projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working to engage landowners in the Sixes watershed as a result of the recently completed strategic action plan.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-017**

---

**Project Name:** Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Cascade Pacific RC&D

**Application Description**

---

The Tenmile Lakes Watershed is a coastal lake system that contains 113 stream miles and over 3,000 surface acres of Lakes that provide high priority habitat for native Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey. Limiting factors identified include nonnative fish predation, multiple fish passage barriers, increases sedimentation resulting in toxic algae blooms and nuisance aquatic plant growth, and reduced riparian zone functions. Council capacity funding will coordinate and support the TLBP and Partners in implementing multiple projects prioritized within the assessment and action plans as well to continue to assist state agencies with implementation of their Tenmile Lakes Water Quality Implementation Plans.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board is taking an active role in leadership and management of the organization, specifically during the period of growth when the council moved its fiscal sponsorship from the City of Lakeside to Cascade Pacific RC&D.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners, including the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is hosting a variety of community events throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-018**

---

**Project Name:** Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers Council Capacity 2019-21

**Applicant:** Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers

**Application Description**

---

This project is located in the Umpqua Basin and is focused on working with willing landowners to improve stream habitat and water quality throughout the project location area. This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers Watershed Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council is reviewing and updating its bylaws and makes agendas and minutes from meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including leading the Umpqua Basin Development FIP, working on Umpqua Basin oak and tidegates.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-019**

---

**Project Name:** Rogue River Watershed Council Capacity 2019 to 2021

**Applicant:** Rogue River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Rogue River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality –altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes agendas and minutes from those meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including coho business planning.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria plus Merger Funding

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$307,250

At the April 2019 Board meeting the Board discussed providing on-going merger support to watershed councils that have successfully merged. Agenda item L-1 asks the Board to approve this policy.

Additional merger funding is calculated by multiplying 1.5 times the council's base award.

$(\$122,900 + ((\$122,900 \times 1.5 = \$184,250)) = \$307,250)$

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-021**

---

**Project Name:** Elk Creek Watershed Council Support

**Applicant:** Elk Creek WC

**Application Description**

---

Project will provide funding for the Coordinator/Executive Director, and operations of the Elk Creek Watershed Council in the northern part of Douglas County. The Council will work with local landowners and state and federal agencies to plan, develop, and implement on-the-ground projects to benefit fish and wildlife, and water quality in the Elk Creek Watershed, and in the Umpqua basin. Key partners are local landowners, Douglas and Umpqua SWCD, ODFW, Roseburg District BLM, and others.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council staff.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is working to expand who is involved in the council planning efforts, including engagement of timber companies.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and leading coordination and management of the local weed program.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings. Minutes must include a list of attendees.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-022**

---

**Project Name:** CWC Council Capacity 19

**Applicant:** Calapooia WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Calapooia Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council holds regular meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision to the council staff and working to update policies and procedures.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively using its monitoring activities to inform and plan for future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council implementing existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report in June 2020 that describes progress on updating the council's policies and procedures.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-023**

---

**Project Name:** Clackamas River Basin Council Capacity Support

**Applicant:** Clackamas River Basin Council

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Clackamas River Basin Council which. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality –altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision to the council staff.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the completion of a Strategic Action Plan with the Clackamas Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development through the new Clackamas Implementation FIP.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including, events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-024**

---

**Project Name:** Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Coast Fork Willamette WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision of the council staff.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including engagement with the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-025**

---

**Project Name:** CSWC GCS 2019-21

**Applicant:** Columbia Slough WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Columbia Slough Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision of the council staff and organization. However, the council has not been consistent in presenting annually to the local government entity that recognized the council. The council needs to be more consistent in these efforts.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council actively engaging in multiple planning processes including finalizing and adopting a five year strategic plan.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council's work plan demonstrates its actions result in progress toward on-the-ground watershed restoration.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meets all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2020, that 1) describes progress on strategic planning and 2) provides documentation that the council presented its 2019 annual report to the local government entity that recognized the council.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-026**

---

**Project Name:** Johnson Creek Watershed Council 2019-2021 Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Johnson Creek WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Johnson Creek Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision to the council staff and organization. The council's website provides clear and specific organizational information about the council's activities and its governance and management. However, the council capacity grant application was lacking details on specific actions the council is taking toward organizational development and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the completion of a Strategic Action Plan with the Clackamas Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development both within and outside the new Clackamas Implementation FIP.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meets all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-027**

---

**Project Name:** Long Tom Watershed Council Support

**Applicant:** Long Tom WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Long Tom Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision of the council staff.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including engagement with the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network and Willamette Valley Oak Strategic Action Plan.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-028**

---

**Project Name:** Marys River Watershed Council - Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Marys River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Marys River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision of the council staff, evident through the recent executive director transition.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes and working with a diversity of partners to plan the work of the council.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-029**

---

**Project Name:** Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council Capacity Application 2019-2021

**Applicant:** Middle Fork Willamette WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision to the council staff and the council is actively working to improve its governance and management as evident through specific actions listed in the work plan.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network, and working with a diversity of partners to plan the work of the council.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council making progress on existing restoration projects and the many projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-030**

---

**Project Name:** North Santiam Watershed Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** North Santiam WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the North Santiam Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes information available to the general public. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision of the council staff and the council is actively working to improve its governance and management, evident through specific actions listed in the work plan.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including leading efforts around the North Santiam Basin Drought Contingency Plan.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has projects currently in development that are in support of its planning efforts.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed and specific events in support of its planning efforts.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-031**

---

**Project Name:** Pudding River Watershed Council Capacity Grant 2019 - 2021

**Applicant:** Pudding River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project will enable the council to continue partnership support to various state and federal agencies currently relying on the Council for their role in organizing the grassroots in an otherwise difficult to access demographic area. Limiting factors include high stream temperatures due to a lack of riparian vegetation, over-appropriation of stream flow in the summer, numerous fish passage barriers, erosion and sedimentation, invasive plant species, wetland degradation, lack of floodplain connectivity and low public engagement.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision of the council staff. The council is actively working to improve its governance and management as evident through specific actions listed in the work plan.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is working toward using its rapid bio assessment results to help plan future restoration actions of the council.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council making progress on existing restoration projects and is planning future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-032**

---

**Project Name:** Rickreall and Glenn-Gibson-Creeks Watershed Councils

**Applicant:** Cascade Pacific RC&D

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund Watershed Council Coordinators for the Rickreall and Glenn-Gibson watershed councils. The collective council identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found that neither council demonstrated effective governance. For both councils, the same concerns that were expressed by OWEB in the 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 council capacity evaluations still exist. Specifically, the councils continue to discuss and plan for board recruitment and training, and clear coordinator oversight and management, however, only minor changes to the management of the coordinator and governance of the individual councils has occurred over the last two years. The one specific change that has occurred is the councils did switch the employer of the coordinator from Polk SWCD to Cascade Pacific RC&D in June 2018. During the 2017-2019 biennium, OWEB awarded the councils an Organizational Collaboration grant to work on developing a more effective governance and management structure. The work under that grant is still not complete. At the time of the secondary interview, there was still no clear timeline or products for the grant or agreement from the councils on how to proceed to achieve effective governance and management and what they want to achieve as collective or individual councils. Phase I was initially supposed to be complete by December 2018 and Phase II was supposed to begin in early 2019.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found that neither council demonstrated progress in planning. The same concerns that were expressed by OWEB in the 2015-2017 and 2017-2019 council capacity evaluations still exist. Specifically, both councils continue to use opportunistic approaches to plan future restoration actions. The lack of plans to guide the work of the councils makes it difficult for the shared council coordinator to plan and prioritize work. It is also challenging for each council's stakeholders to understand the goals, vision, and conservation priorities of the councils.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the councils demonstrate progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. Both councils continue to make some progress on existing restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the councils demonstrate progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The councils, with their partners, are use multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including county fair, participation in SOLV events, community events around rain garden in Wallace Marine Park, and other events spread throughout the watershed.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Does not meet all merit criteria.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

This is the third consecutive biennium that the Rickreall and Glenn-Gibson Watershed Councils have not met all of the merit criteria. According to OWEB's Board Adopted Council Capacity Guidance document, Section VIII: Board Action on Eligible Grant Applications (pg 12),

If a council or group of councils is placed in the reduced base funding category for two consecutive grant cycles and does not meet all merit criteria in the following grant cycle, it shall be placed in the "do not fund" category for that third grant cycle. If eligible, a "do not fund" council may apply in future grant cycles.

Based on Board Adopted guidance, OWEB staff recommend the Rickreall and Glenn-Gibson Watershed Councils for a "Do Not Fund"

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$0

**Staff Conditions**

N/A

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-034**

---

**Project Name:** Sandy River Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Sandy River Basin WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Sandy River Basin Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision to the council staff and organization. The council's webpage provides clear and specific information on the council's governance and management activities, however, the council capacity grant application was lacking details on specific actions the council is taking toward organizational development and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including the annual State of the Sandy Report. The council is encouraged to use the collective planning work to continue looking forward toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-035**

---

**Project Name:** Scappoose Bay Watershed Council, Capacity

**Applicant:** Scappoose Bay WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Scappoose Bay Watershed Council which. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council has an active and engaged board and is working to improve its governance and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community, including planning efforts along Milton Creek.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council's work plans demonstrates its actions result in progress in completing priority on-the-ground watershed restoration.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council regularly hosts community events, including work with its native plant nursery.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-036**

---

**Project Name:** South Santiam Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** South Santiam WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the South Santiam Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council describes in the application clear board development and governance actions to be taking during the 2019-2021 biennium.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and engaging with several local planning efforts, including working with the Santiam All Lands Collaborative.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects. However, the council needs to continue to look forward and plan the council's future restoration efforts.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2020 that provides an update on the council's board development actions.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-037**

---

**Project Name:** Tualatin River Watershed Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** Tualatin River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Tualatin River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board demonstrated strong leadership during the recent council coordinator transition.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and engaging in both organizational and local planning efforts.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and is developing a plan for future on-the-ground restoration.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community and is planning for future stakeholder engagement actions.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-038**

---

**Project Name:** McKenzie Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** McKenzie Watershed Alliance

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the McKenzie River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board demonstrating strong leadership during the recent council coordinator transition.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and engaging in both organizational and local planning efforts, including the Pure Watershed Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and has many projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-039**

---

**Project Name:** Greater Yamhill Watershed Council Capacity 2019 - 2021

**Applicant:** Greater Yamhill Watershed Council

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Greater Yamhill Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board is making progress in council coordinator and organization oversight and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading efforts around monitoring and assessments in the watershed and using the information collected to inform future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community, including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-040**

---

**Project Name:** Klamath Watershed Partnership Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Klamath Watershed Partnership

**Application Description**

---

The project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator position and operating expenses for the Klamath Watershed Partnership. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality-altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and the council board and staff regularly review council actions to improve overall organizational governance and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin, including on the Upper Klamath Lake Action Plan.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including landowner workshops.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-041**

---

**Project Name:** Council Capacity Grant 2019-2021 Crooked River W.C.

**Applicant:** Crooked River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Crooked River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board and are staff working to improve overall organizational governance and management, including the upcoming process to review the council's organizational strategic plan.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of monitoring and assessment projects which are designed to inform future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2020, providing an update on the council's progress toward updating its internal strategic plan.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-042**

---

**Project Name:** Gilliam-East John Day Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Gilliam SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Gilliam-East John Day Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board and staff are working to improve overall organizational governance and management, including working to address low meeting turn-out and develop a plan for future board recruitment.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts, including updating the council's strategic plan and Placed Based Planning.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2020, providing an update on the council's progress toward updating its strategic plan.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-043**

---

**Project Name:** Hood River Watershed Group Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Hood River SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Hood River Watershed Group. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board and staff are working to improve overall organizational governance and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts, including leading the Hood River Partnership strategic action plan development.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including regular educational presentations at council meetings.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-044**

---

**Project Name:** Middle Deschutes Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Jefferson SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Middle Deschutes Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the information available to the general public. The council board and staff are working to improve overall organizational governance and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts, including planning future work in the Upper Willow Creek Watershed.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage with landowners in targeted geographies to advance future restoration actions.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-045**

---

**Project Name:** Council Capacity - Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Lake County Umbrella Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings around the watershed to engage a broader diversity of landowners. The council board and staff are working to improve overall organizational governance and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is working with multiple partners throughout the basin on a variety of planning efforts, including leading the development of the Warner Basin Aquatic Habitat Partnership Strategic Action and Design Plan.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions, including work on the Warner Basin Focused Investment Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-046**

---

**Project Name:** Sherman County Area Watershed Council Capacity Grant

**Applicant:** Sherman County Area WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Sherman County Area Watersheds Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's governance and management. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and is working to improve overall organizational governance and management. The council has recently recruited new board members.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's approach to planning. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council has a very specific niche within the watershed and is engaging a diversity of partners to think about current and future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's approach to on-the-ground restoration. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council has a clear niche and is working collaboratively with the SWCD to make progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage a variety of landowners, including Oregon State Parks throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-047**

---

**Project Name:** Upper Deschutes Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Upper Deschutes WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Upper Deschutes Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board demonstrated strong leadership and effective governance and management during the recent council coordinator transition.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and participating in multiple planning efforts throughout the watershed.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions, including work on the Deschutes Partnership Focused Investment Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-048**

---

**Project Name:** Wasco County Area Watershed Councils

**Applicant:** Wasco SWCD

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Wasco Area Watershed Councils. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access -impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's governance and management. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The coordinating council and individual councils regularly hold meetings and working together, with the SWCD to improve overall organizational governance and management.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's approach to planning. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the coordinating council and individual councils have very specific niches within the watershed and are using a strategic approach to plan the council's collective work around the watershed.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's approach to on-the-ground restoration. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions:**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-049**

---

**Project Name:** Grande Ronde Model Watershed

**Applicant:** Grande Ronde Model WS Foundation

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Grande Ronde Model Watershed. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board demonstrated strong leadership and effective governance and management during the recent executive director transition.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and participating in multiple planning efforts throughout the watershed including Strategic Action planning and Placed Based Planning.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions, including work on the Grande Ronde Focused Investment Partnership and a diversity of other restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-050**

---

**Project Name:** Harney County WC Council Support 2019-21

**Applicant:** Harney County Watershed Council

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Harney County Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the agendas and minutes from those meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and participating in multiple planning efforts throughout the watershed including Placed Based Planning.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates some progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and spending significant time in planning efforts, which will inform future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2020. The progress report must describe how the council is working to address challenges with monitoring grant 217-5052, including establishing best practices for managing work completed by a council board member serving in the role of a contractor for the organization. In addition, the report must include updated board member roles and responsibilities, officer position descriptions, a policy of who may serve on the board, and a process by which to elevate potential conflicts of interest.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-051**

---

**Project Name:** Malheur Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Malheur WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Malheur Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the agendas and minutes from those meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator. In addition, the council has significantly increased attendance at council meetings during the last year, recruited new members and elected a new board chair.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and participating in multiple planning efforts throughout the watershed and involved in monitoring efforts to inform future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates some progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, working to engage landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-052**

---

**Project Name:** North Fork John Day Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** North Fork John Day WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the North Fork John Day Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board demonstrated strong leadership and effective governance and management during the recent council coordinator transition and the recent addition of new board members.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the completion of a Strategic Action Plan with the John Day Basin Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions, including work on the John Day Basin Focused Investment Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-053**

---

**Project Name:** 2019-2021 Council Capacity - Umatilla Basin Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Umatilla Basin WS Foundation

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Umatilla Basin Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the agendas and minutes from those meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes spread throughout the watershed to inform future restoration and conservation actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, working to engage landowners throughout the watershed and in previously underserved geographies.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-054**

---

**Project Name:** Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council 2019-2021 Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Walla Walla Basin Watershed Foundation

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and has lots of information available on the council website. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council actively engaging in multiple partners to use monitoring data inform future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council making progress on existing restoration projects and is working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage a variety of landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-055**

---

**Project Name:** Mid John Day-Bridge Creek Watershed Council

**Applicant:** Bridge Creek WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Mid John Day-Bridge Creek Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's governance and management. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and is working to improve the overall organizational governance and management and has successfully recruited new board members.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including participation in the John Day Basin Partnership and Placed Based Planning efforts.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's approach to on-the-ground restoration. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council has a clear niche and is working collaboratively with multiple local partners to make progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is working to participate in outreach events throughout the watershed. The council is also working to incorporate more active stakeholder engagement into its actions during the next two years.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The OWEB Project Manager must receive, via email, agendas and minutes of all meetings.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-056**

---

**Project Name:** Owyhee Watershed Council Capacity 2019-21

**Applicant:** Owyhee WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Owyhee Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's governance and management. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings, has good governance and management processes in place and the council board is working ensure effective management during a period of staff transition.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including working toward updating the council's action plan.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, working to engage a variety of landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must submit a progress report by June 30, 2020 on describing the council's progress on updating its action plan.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-057**

---

**Project Name:** Powder Basin Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Powder Basin WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Powder Basin Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the agendas and minutes from those meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's progress in planning. However, during the secondary review process, staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council has a clear process for updating its strategic plan and is engaging a diversity of partners in the process and will use the plan to inform future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council has a clear niche within the watershed and making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is working to engage a variety of landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-058**

---

**Project Name:** Luckiamute Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Luckiamute WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Luckiamute Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the agendas and minutes from those meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and engaging in both organizational and local planning efforts, including the using NetMap, rapid-bio-assessments, and a project review committee to plan and prioritize the work of the council.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and the many projects currently in development.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-059**

---

**Project Name:** Greater Oregon City Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Greater Oregon City WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Greater Oregon City Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - Impaired access to habitat; hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology; knowledge gaps - lack of information; physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat; water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and makes the agendas and minutes from those meetings available to the general public. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the completion of a Strategic Action Plan with the Clackamas Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and planning for future restoration actions through the Clackamas Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-060**

---

**Project Name:** Smith River Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Smith River WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Smith River Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's governance and management. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's progress in planning. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is engaging with local partners and the community around future tidegate projects in the watershed and working with partners to prioritize restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff initially had questions and concerns about the council's stakeholder engagement activities. However, during the secondary review process, OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council has developed a new invasive species outreach program that is proving to be a successful way to engage landowners.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

The council must update its board roles and responsibilities documents and develop a plan for board training by the June 30, 2020.

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-061**

---

**Project Name:** Lower Nehalem Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Lower Nehalem WC

**Application Description**

---

This project will fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Lower Nehalem Watershed Council (LNWC). The Council has identified several limiting factors for watershed health including hydrologic alterations, impaired habitat access, water quality degradation, and knowledge gaps. These limiting factors impact a wide variety of fish and wildlife species.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings and hosting community events. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners and the community including the coho Business Plan process.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is regularly hosting community events including the successful Explore Nature program.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-062**

---

**Project Name:** Necanicum Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Necanicum WC

**Application Description**

---

The grant will provide operating capacity support for the Necanicum Watershed Council, located in Seaside, Oregon. The Necanicum watershed contains 86 miles of stream habitat for Coho, Chum, fall Chinook, winter steelhead, resident cutthroat trout, brook and Pacific lamprey. Limiting factors include impaired access to habitat, high stream temperatures due to a lack of riparian vegetation, numerous fish passage barriers, erosion and sedimentation, and lack of floodplain connectivity.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and participating in several local planning efforts that are engaging local partners, especially in the community of Seaside.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing projects and planning for future restoration projects.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in community engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council is regularly hosting community events including the Necanicum Bird Discovery Day.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-063**

---

**Project Name:** South Fork John Day Watershed Council Capacity

**Applicant:** South Fork John Day WC

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the South Fork John Day Watershed Council. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality - altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council board is engaging with and providing support, management, and supervision to the council coordinator and has recently added new board members.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is actively engaging in multiple planning processes, including the completion of a Strategic Action Plan with the John Day Basin Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and working toward future restoration actions, including work on the John Day Basin Focused Investment Partnership.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, working to engage landowners throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board**  
2019-2021 Council Capacity Grant  
Evaluation for March 8, 2019 Operating Capacity Applications

**Application # 220-064**

---

**Project Name:** Molalla River Watch Council Capacity

**Applicant:** Molalla River Watch Inc

**Application Description**

---

This project seeks to fund a Watershed Council Coordinator for the Molalla River Watch. Council-identified watershed limiting factors include habitat access - impaired access to habitat, hydrograph/water quantity - altered hydrology, knowledge gaps - lack of information, physical habitat quality - altered quality of physical habitat, water quality -altered physical, chemical, or biological water characteristics.

**Review**

---

**Merit Criteria #1: Effective Governance and Management**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates effective governance and management. The council regularly holds meetings. The council board engages with and provides support, management, and supervision of the council coordinator.

**Merit Criterion #2: Progress in Planning**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in planning. The council is leading and engaging in both organizational and local planning efforts, including a culvert barrier inventory.

**Merit Criterion #3: Progress in On-the-Ground Watershed Restoration**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in on-the-ground watershed restoration. The council is making progress on existing restoration projects and using the council's planning efforts to plan future restoration actions.

**Merit Criterion #4: Progress in Stakeholder Engagement for Watershed Restoration Purposes**

OWEB staff found the council demonstrates progress in stakeholder engagement for watershed restoration purposes. The council, with its partners, is using multiple stakeholder engagement methods to engage the local community including events spread throughout the watershed.

**Evaluation and Recommendations**

---

**Merit Evaluation**

Meets all merit criteria and should be recommended for the highest funding level.

**Staff Recommendation to the Board**

Full base funding: meet all merit criteria

**Staff Recommended Award**

\$122,900

**Staff Conditions**

None



Kate Brown, Governor



775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item M supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority # 7: Bold and innovative actions to achieve health in Oregon's watersheds.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Eric Hartstein, Senior Policy Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item M – Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative Geography Change Request  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This item requests board action on a request to change the geography of the Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative Focused Investment Partnership (FIP).

### II. Background

The Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative was selected by the board as a FIP at the January, 2019 meeting. The selected initiative proposed to implement 6,150 acres of dry-forest restoration treatments across six project areas in the Rogue Basin. This spring, the partners recognized that in one of the proposed project areas (Pickett West), implementation may be delayed due to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) issues. In order to prevent implementation delays, the partnership has requested to replace the Pickett West project area with a watershed in the Williams project area.

### III. Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative Request

The partnership's request to substitute the Williams project area for the Pickett West is detailed in Attachment A to this staff report. While the overall footprint acres (geography where federal agencies are proposing to treat in NEPA project analysis) has been reduced with this request, the amount of dry-forest conservation acreage slated for funding through the FIP initiative remains at 6,150 acres. The Williams project area is identified in the partnership's strategic action plan as having similar attributes as Pickett West, with modeling suggesting slightly less effectiveness at reducing wildfire risks to communities, but higher opportunities to reduce fire risk to Northern Spotted Owl habitat. Federal match to the project is anticipated to increase, for while the overall footprint acres are reduced, conditions on the ground make forest treatments more expensive in Williams than in Pickett West.

### IV. Recommendation

Staff recommends the board approve the proposed geography change for the Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative as described in Attachment A.

### Attachments

Attachment A. RFRI Geography Change Request Memo

# Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative

Rationale for Changing Project Location

Clarification on Project Analysis Areas

May 2019

The Rogue Forest Restoration Partnership sincerely thanks the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board for their award of a Focused Investment Partnership grant in 2019 for the Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative (RFRI). Building on the successful Ashland Forest Restoration Initiative and scaling to conserve dry forests of southern Oregon, the RFRI protects complex forest habitat and restores dry-type forest through selective thinning and fuel reduction. Throughout the Rogue basin, our partners are engaging with private landowners and diverse communities to implement an all-lands cohesive forest restoration vision.

Our project concentrates the majority of conservation implementation in the Upper Applegate watershed and seeds five additional project areas across the Rogue Basin. This strategic approach is intended to leverage OWEB investment by pairing demonstration in the Upper Applegate with outreach and engagement, and with limited treatment implementation in the other geographies. We request OWEB Board approval to shift the location of one of the smaller projects, Pickett West, to a small sub-basin in the Williams watershed, an adjacent project area within the same Resource Area as Pickett West.

The original Pickett West analysis area is located in the Medford BLM Grants Pass Resource Area. The majority of planned activities are located in a southern portion of the larger footprint project boundary (See Map 2). The Pickett West project is still viable, but implementation is likely to be delayed due to an emerging need to address NEPA issues associated with the larger project. The Grants Pass Resource Area's staff have proposed that the Williams project area, within the same watershed as the lower Pickett West, has the same need for conservation activities and a greater likelihood of timely implementation. Complementing this shift in focus, the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) recently wrote a Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) for private land engagement on 2,000 to 3,000 acres in Williams. This area ranks similarly in terms of the Strategic Action Plan (Rogue Basin Strategy) priorities and while it performs slightly less well at reducing wildfire risk to local communities, treatments in the Williams planning area are modeled to better reduce wildfire risk to Northern Spotted Owl habitat.

The Rogue Forest Restoration Partnership is in agreement that exchanging this project area is logical and will achieve comparable conservation and community engagement outcomes, leveraged by the added benefit of partnering with NRCS to accomplish additional private acres. There is an increase in cost per acre associated with the activities because of the vegetation

condition; however, the Partnership expects to still treat the same acreage with additional BLM match.

In reviewing the projects, maps and list of acres associated with the projects, we would like to clarify that the map we submitted with the application shows larger analysis areas than the “footprint” acres listed in the application. To be clear, the mapped analytical areas span large geographies and ownerships and include significant untreated acres (watershed scale). Conversely, “footprint” acres are only those parts of the landscape that federal agencies are proposing to treat in their NEPA project analysis. “Conservation acres” are the areas where OWEB funds will be applied including private lands and are a subset of the larger landscape. The attached map shows a refinement of the analysis areas (Figure 1) and below is a chart noting the differences between the analysis areas, the footprint acres and the conservation acres. Maps of the Project Area boundaries will be included in our Grant requests.

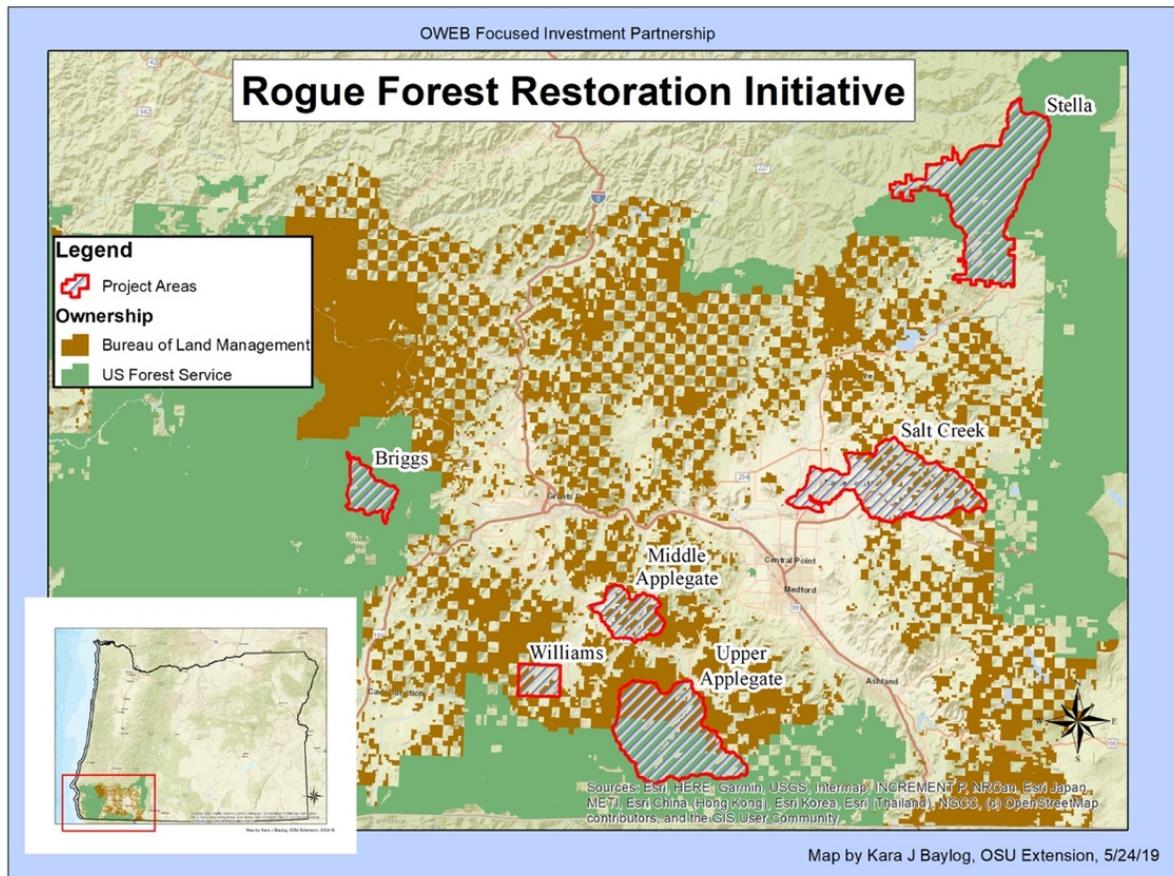
The following chart lists the RFRI mapped **Analysis Acres** which span all ownerships and untreated areas, the federally proposed **Footprint Acres** and the **Conservation Acres** proposed for thinning and prescribed burning with OWEB funding. Note that while analysis and footprint acres are being refined, proposed conservation acres have not changed.

Project	Analysis Area Acres	Footprint Acres (Proposed Federal)	Conservation Acres (OWEB)
Upper Applegate	52,301	20,000	3,700
Middle Applegate	15,100	10,000	200
Williams (formally Pickett West)	7,801	6,625	1190
Briggs	10,732	3,000	350
Salt Creek	51,098	800	710
Stella*	66,478	20,000	0
* Engagement Only—Stewardship byproduct receipts applied to other project areas			

Thank you for your consideration on this matter. If you have additional questions, please let Eric Hartstein know and we will gladly provide additional material and information.

***The Rogue Forest Restoration Partnership***

NEW MAP of the Rogue Forest Restoration Initiative analysis areas (Figure 1)







Kate Brown, Governor



775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item N supports all of OWEB's Strategic Plan priorities.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Eric Hartstein, Senior Policy Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item N – OWEB Board Subcommittee Structure  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This item updates the board on the current subcommittee structure, and outlines the process for asking the board to provide direction to staff on moving forward with subcommittee structure options, with potential board action in July 2019 or October 2019.

### II. Background

The board currently has subcommittees structured around OWEB's grant programs:

- The Open Solicitation Subcommittee focuses on issues related to open solicitation grants, including restoration, technical assistance, and stakeholder engagement, and the effectiveness of these programs.
- The Operating Capacity Subcommittee focuses on issues related to watershed council and soil and water conservation district operating capacity grants, monitoring of capacity investments, support for the statewide partnership organizations, and organizational collaboration grants.
- The Focused Investment Subcommittee focuses on issues related to the Focused Investment Program (FIP), including Development and Implementation FIPs, and the effectiveness of these programs.
- The Acquisitions Subcommittee meets on an ad-hoc basis, and focuses on issues related to the land acquisition grant program, including applications and policy reviews.
- The chair of each subcommittee serves with the board co-chairs on the Executive Committee which meets as needed to discuss OWEB policy, program, and budget issues.

Over the past several months, the Executive Committee and OWEB staff have discussed the current subcommittee structure, and are seeking the full board direction on whether

the structure needs to be refreshed in order to provide more value to both the board and staff.

### **III. Considerations for the Board**

In July, the board will be asked to reflect on:

- Experience with the current subcommittees, particularly on what elements the board has found useful, or have not provided as much value.
- Involvement with subcommittees of other boards, commissions, or similar groups, and any feedback or advice that can be shared that may strengthen OWEB's board subcommittees.
- What topics are of interest that could be incorporated into the subcommittee structure. This could mean retaining the current subcommittee structure based on OWEB grant programs, building a new structure based on 2018 Strategic Plan priorities, or other policy ideas related to important natural resource issues relevant to OWEB.
- Logistics for subcommittee meetings and reporting out to the full board.

### **IV. Recommendation**

Staff do not have a recommendation for the board. The topic will be discussed at the July board meeting with possible board action in determining a subcommittee structure at that meeting, or developing a framework for staff to develop, and present to the board for approval at the October board meeting.

## July 16-17 2019 OWEB Board Meeting Executive Director Update O-1 Washington, DC Update

This report provides the board an update to the agency's Washington, DC visits.

### **Background**

Each year, OWEB's executive director, a board member and more recently, a local grantee travel to Washington, DC to meet with Oregon's congressional delegation to share Oregon's positive experience in delivering Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) grants. In addition, the team usually meets with leaders from key federal agencies to discuss support for the combined federal-state agency work that is a hallmark of Oregon's conservation approach. This year's team included OWEB Board Co-Chair Jason Robison, Executive Director Meta Loftsgaarden and Curry Soil and Water Conservation District Manager Liesl Coleman.

Since 2017, Oregon has been joined by Washington, Idaho and Alaska during these visits, which have also been coordinated with California, though they have not yet been able to travel to Washington, DC. Alaska was also not able to join this year due to last-minute travel restrictions.

This year, Oregon met with all members of the state's congressional delegation, along with the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service and National Marine Fisheries Service. The event was coordinated to coincide with Washington's "Puget Sound Days on the Hill" to help that state deliver a coordinated message about the importance of salmon to the health of the Puget Sound ecosystem.

### **Next Steps**

While PCSRF was funded in the 2019 budget, it is still zeroed out for the President's 2020 budget. In addition to the Washington, DC trip by state representatives, OWEB's partners have initiated an extensive outreach effort to the state's congressional delegation members, and have also placed editorials in many of the state's newspapers supporting the program.

### **Staff Contact**

If you have questions or need additional information about the Washington, DC trip, contact Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director, at [meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov](mailto:meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0180. For questions about PCSRF, contact Renee Davis, Deputy Director, at [renee.davis@oregon.gov](mailto:renee.davis@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0029.

### **Attachments**

- A. 5-state PCSRF Handout
- B. 5-state PCSRF Letter
- C. PCSRF Op-Eds

# PACIFIC COASTAL SALMON RECOVERY FUND

## SALMON BY THE NUMBERS

**28** threatened and endangered salmon species on the West Coast

**20** salmon species with sufficient monitoring data to evaluate trends

**13** are exhibiting stable trends in abundance

**5** are showing increasing trends

**2** continue to decline

## WEST COAST SALMON ARE IN TROUBLE

In the 1990s, salmon and steelhead populations along the West Coast showed alarming declines, mostly caused by environmental factors and human activities. In response, Congress established the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) in 2000 to reverse the decline of those populations.

## PCSRF IS CRITICAL TO SUCCESS

PCSRF is a competitive grant program through which the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service awards grants to Alaska, California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington States and the tribes in those states to protect, conserve, and restore these populations.

The program has made a significant impact. In many cases, PCSRF has contributed directly to stabilizing at-risk populations and set the stage for their recovery—18 of the 20 West Coast species with enough data to evaluate are showing sustaining or increasing trends. Continued support is essential to prevent the extinction of these species and return them to healthy, sustainable levels.

## WHY IS THIS A FEDERAL RESPONSIBILITY?

- PCSRF plays a vital role in helping the federal government meet its obligations to tribal treaty fishing rights and subsistence fishing traditions.
- Recovery is needed to support interstate and international fisheries. Weak stocks, especially in Puget Sound, negatively affect fisheries in Alaska and Canada.
- Recovery is required under the federal Endangered Species Act.

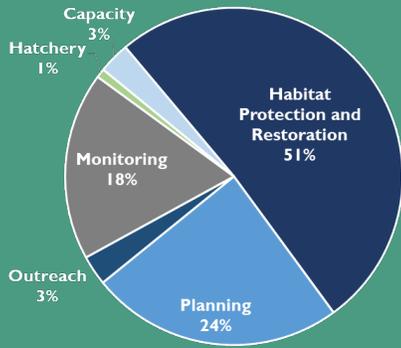
## PCSRF LEVERAGES OTHER FUNDING

PCSRF is a critical anchor for funding that attracts additional state and local dollars, which match the grants.

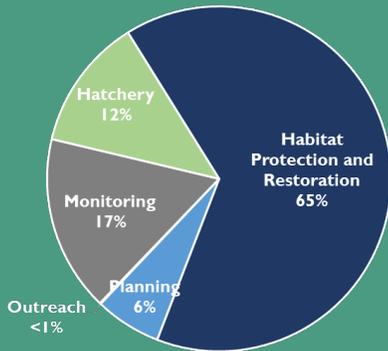
- \$75 million on average awarded annually by PCSRF since 2000.
- \$1.6 billion in contributions from state and local partners.
- \$1.23 in local and state dollars is leveraged for every \$1 in PCSRF funding.



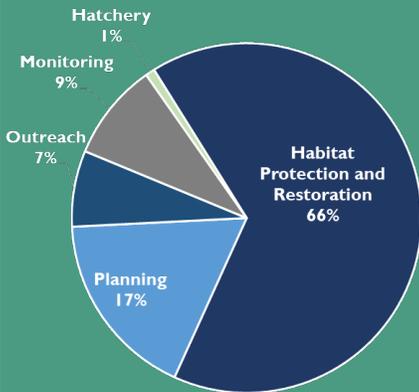
## CALIFORNIA



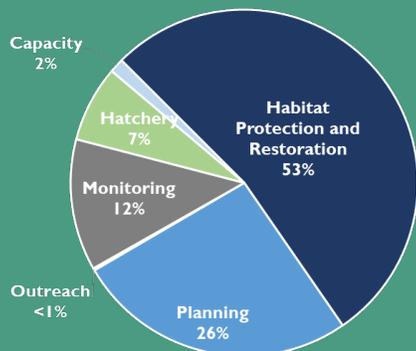
## IDAHO



## OREGON



## WASHINGTON



## HOW THE MONEY IS SPENT

Projects have restored salmon habitat, removed barriers to fish passage, and improved water quality. In addition, funding is spent to monitor and track progress of restoration investments.

The majority of PCSRF funding has gone to projects on-the-ground. Collectively, more than 13,200 projects have been implemented to-date.



**RESTORING SALMON HABITAT**



**IMPROVING FISH PASSAGE**



**IMPROVING WATER QUALITY**



**MONITORING**

## PCSRF SUPPORTS BUSINESS AND THE FISHING INDUSTRY

**16.3** local jobs supported for every \$1 million invested in salmon habitat restoration

**33,000** jobs in commercial and recreational fishing in Oregon and Washington alone



Cover photograph courtesy of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, Southwest Fisheries Science Center

Man holding fish photograph (right) courtesy of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

## SALMON RECOVERY PROVIDES MANY BENEFITS

Restoring salmon and steelhead populations on the West Coast provides additional benefits.

### Economic Benefits

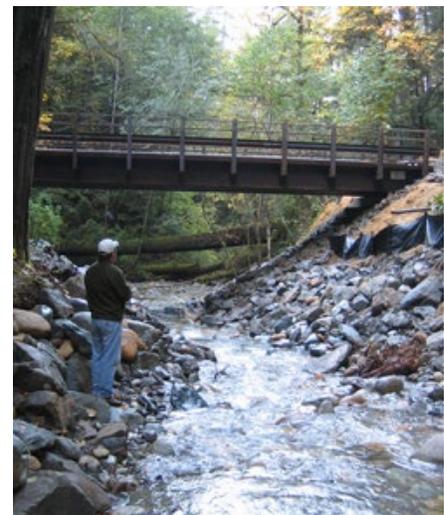
- Commercial and recreational fishing are estimated to support thousands of jobs, many of which are in rural areas. In addition, every \$1 million invested in restoration projects generates \$2.2 million to \$2.5 million in economic activity.

### Environmental Benefits

- Restoration activities reconnect floodplains, reducing flood risk for communities.
- Restoring rivers for salmon improves water quality, ensuring clean and reliably available water for drinking, irrigation, and recreation.
- Restoring natural habitats, such as forests and estuaries, creates more places that absorb carbon, offer refuge for wildlife, and provide economic opportunities for rural communities.
- Restoring habitats for salmon also provides outdoor places for recreation, such as swimming, fishing, and boating, and for educational opportunities.
- Recovering salmon helps to balance the food web, sustaining many species that depend on salmon, such as bears, eagles, and orcas.

### Infrastructure Benefits

- In many cases, salmon restoration projects improve or repair roads, bridges, culverts, dikes, and other community infrastructure.



## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT BY THE NUMBERS\*

**1,432** Nonprofits, fish enhancement groups, watershed councils, soil and water conservation districts receiving grants

**692** Local governments receiving grants

**353** State and federal agencies receiving grants

**312** Businesses receiving grants

**90** Tribes receiving grants

**44** Schools and universities receiving grants

**1,078,853** Volunteer hours

\*Statistics for California, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington only

## WORKING SMART

Projects are prioritized with rigorous technical and cost review, and significant local and state cost-sharing.



## CONTACTS

### Alaska

Peter Bangs, Commercial Fisheries Assistant Director  
Department of Fish and Game  
907-465-8154  
[peter.bangs@alaska.gov](mailto:peter.bangs@alaska.gov)

### Oregon

Meta Loftsgaarden, Executive Director  
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
503-986-0180  
[meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov](mailto:meta.loftsgaarden@oregon.gov)

### California

Tim Chorey  
Fisheries Restoration Grant Program  
Lead Coordinator  
Department of Fish and Wildlife  
916-327-8842  
[Timothy.Chorey@Wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Timothy.Chorey@Wildlife.ca.gov)

### Washington

Erik Neatherlin, Executive Coordinator  
Governor's Salmon Recovery Office  
360-902-3080  
[Erik.Neatherlin@gsro.wa.gov](mailto:Erik.Neatherlin@gsro.wa.gov)

### Idaho

Mike Edmondson  
Governor's Office of Species Conservation  
208-334-2189  
[Mike.Edmondson@osc.idaho.gov](mailto:Mike.Edmondson@osc.idaho.gov)





May 14, 2019

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce,  
Justice, Science, & Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
S-128, U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jose Serrano  
Chairman, Subcommittee on Commerce,  
Justice, Science, & Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
House of Representatives  
H-310 U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen  
Vice Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Commerce,  
Justice, Science, & Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
S-128, U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Commerce,  
Justice, Science, & Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
House of Representatives  
H-310 U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Moran and Serrano, Vice Chairwoman Shaheen, & Ranking Member Aderholt:

We are writing to express our support for robust federal investment in the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF) in fiscal year 2020 (FY20). PCSRF is a critically important program aimed at recovering salmon and steelhead populations in Western states, and the economically and culturally-important commercial, recreational, and tribal fisheries that are dependent upon them. We have appreciated your subcommittees' past support for this program, and we request that you appropriate at least \$70 million for PCSRF in FY20.

As you know, Pacific salmon play an essential role in the economy and habitat of Western states, dating back to long before the establishment of the United States of America. To this day, the Pacific salmon fishery provides jobs and supports the livelihoods of thousands of Americans, and feeds many more. Healthy salmon populations are essential to the health of this fishery.

Pacific salmon populations, however, continue to face tremendous pressures. Today, 28 salmon and steelhead stocks face the threat of extinction on the West Coast. PCSRF was created to support the conservation and recovery of salmon across rivers, watersheds, and coastal habitats in Western states. Since 2000, this program has compelled effective, collaborative approaches to salmon recovery across federal, state, local, tribal, and private sector partners. In Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Idaho, California, and Nevada, PCSRF investments have contributed to over 13,000 projects, and have helped restore more than 10,000 miles of streams and over 1,080,000 acres of fish habitat.

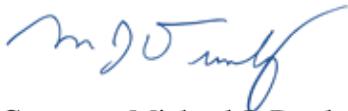
Chairman Moran, Vice Chairwoman Shaheen, Chairman Serrano, and Ranking Member Aderholt  
May 14, 2019

Furthermore, PCSRF directly supports economic activity and job creation, particularly in rural communities. Recent analysis shows that every \$1 million invested through PCSRF and state matching funds supports more than 16 jobs and generates about \$2.3 million in economic activity.

While important progress has been made, continued federal investment is crucial to maintaining this progress, and to achieving the goal of full recovery and a healthy, sustainable Pacific salmon fishery.

We thank your subcommittees for your past support and request your continued support for PCSRF. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Governor Michael J. Dunleavy  
State of Alaska



Governor Gavin Newsom  
State of California



Governor Brad Little  
State of Idaho



Governor Kate Brown  
State of Oregon



Governor Jay Inslee  
State of Washington

Chairman Moran, Vice Chairwoman Shaheen, Chairman Serrano, and Ranking Member Aderholt  
May 14, 2019

CC: Members of the Alaska Congressional Delegation  
Members of the California Congressional Delegation  
Members of the Idaho Congressional Delegation  
Members of the Oregon Congressional Delegation  
Members of the Washington State Congressional Delegation



Follow us on Twitter.  
Click here now!

THE  
DAILY

## Letter: Salmon fund at risk

May 3, 2019 0



Imagine the North Coast of Oregon without salmon. While salmon populations throughout the Northwest are greatly reduced compared to pre-European settlement, salmon are still here.

That is due in part to Oregon voters, who have consistently supported state investment in salmon recovery, and to a federal fund called the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund, which Congress established in 2000 to support salmon recovery projects throughout Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington.

The salmon recovery fund is at risk. For the third year in a row, the Trump administration has proposed zeroing it out in the federal budget. Each year, Congress finds a way restore it. We need Congress to step up again and keep this work going by restoring funding to the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund in 2020.

The salmon recovery fund has been crucial to funding many important projects in Oregon and here in Clatsop County, including the North Coast Land Conservancy's acquisition of Boneyard Ridge on Tillamook Head, and adjacent Circle Creek Conservation Center.

NCLC has been investing state and federal dollars into salmon recovery to benefit local communities since its inception in 1986. And we can't stop now. I urge our congressional delegation to support this work by continuing to invest in salmon recovery for all Oregonians, current and future, near and far.

KATIE VOELKE

Executive Director, North Coast Land Conservancy

# VIEWPOINT

The Business Journal welcomes letters to the editor

Send letters to the Portland Business Journal  
851 S.W. Sixth Ave., Suite 500 Portland, OR 97204  
portland@bizjournals.com

**PORTLAND  
BUSINESS JOURNAL**

**CRAIG WESSEL**

Market President & Publisher  
cwessel@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3401

**EDITORIAL**

**Suzanne Stevens**, Editor  
sstevens@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3480

**Andy Giegerich**, Managing Editor  
agiegerich@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3419

**Christopher Bjorke**, Digital Producer/  
Associate Editor  
cbjorke@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3418

**Brandon Sawyer**, Data Editor  
bsawyer@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3411

**Jon Bell**, Real estate  
jbell@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3416

**Pete Danko**, Energy, cannabis and wine  
pdanko@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3412

**Elizabeth Hayes**, Health Care  
ehayes@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3436

**Matthew Kish**, Footwear and banking  
mkish@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3414

**Malia Spencer**, Technology and startups  
mspencer@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3417

**Cathy Cheney**, Photographer  
ccheney@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3413

**DESIGN**

**Briana Finney**, Creative Director  
bfinney@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3403

**Cerissa Lindsay**, Lead Designer  
clindsay@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3422

**Mina Gilson**, Graphic Designer  
mgilson@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3434

**ADVERTISING**

**John Stringer**, Advertising Director  
jstringer@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3406

**Christin Balentine**, Account Executive  
cbalentine@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3427

**Emily Clay**, Account Executive  
eclay@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3425

**Bryan Flaherty**, Account Executive  
bflaherty@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3428

**Krista Tappan**, Account Executive  
ktappan@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3430

**Mollie Wackler**, Account Executive  
mwackler@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3426

**AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT**

**Audrey Smith**, Director of Products  
asmith@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3431

**EVENTS**

**Lexy Garbarino**, Director of Events  
lgarbarino@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3423

**Angela Ecker**, Event Coordinator  
aecker@bizjournals.com  
503-219-3400

**GUEST COLUMN**

## Think of the fish, and businesses

TRUMP, LAWMAKERS NEED TO PROTECT SALMON RECOVERY FUND

The Trump administration has released its 2020 budget, and for the third year in a row, it has left local Pacific Northwest economies high and dry by axing the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund.

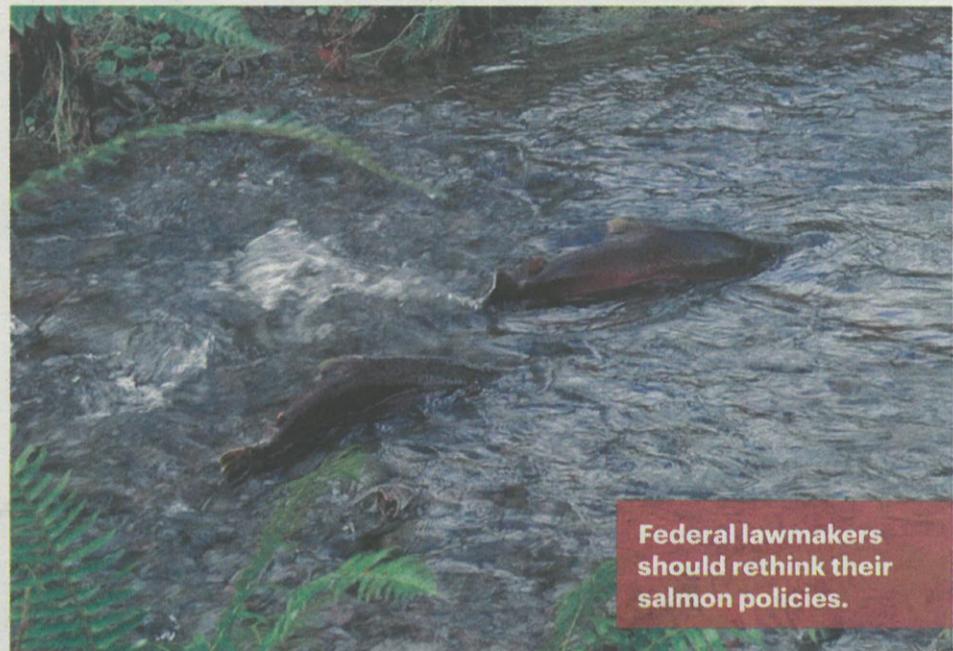
In 2018 and 2019, Congress pushed back and restored this critical funding, which was fortunate for fishing-dependent businesses like Fisherman's Marine and Outdoor. We hope our congressional delegation leads the charge again this year to restore funding for salmon recovery.

Recreational fishing is big business in the Pacific Northwest. Almost 20 percent of Oregonians fish. Sport fishers spend money on boats, bait, boots, rods, reels, tackle, gas, food, hotels, and more. That's good news to hundreds of small businesses, including boat and fishing rod manufacturers, gear shops, gas stations and local restaurants. According to data from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, recreational fishing in Oregon generates about \$1.4 billion per year and sustains nearly 13,000 jobs.

In the Columbia River, salmon and steelhead returns this year are extremely low. Most predictions for adult salmon and steelhead returns are at just half the 10-year average. Spring, summer and fall fishing will be extremely limited, with more fisheries closed than open. Summer chinook fishing below Bonneville Dam will be prohibited this year for the first time since 2002. It's one of the worst seasons we've seen since the 1990s, and the effect on local businesses and economies is significant.

That's why Congress established the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund in 2000. It provides resources for all five Pacific salmon states and federally recognized Tribes to improve habitats.

Since its inception, the fund has



Federal lawmakers should rethink their salmon policies.

OREGON DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY



Dan Grogan owns Fisherman's Marine & Outdoor, which has three locations in Oregon.



Liz Hamilton is the executive director of the Northwest Sportfishing Industry Association.

restored or protected more than 1 million acres of salmon habitat and opened more than 10,000 miles of Northwest streams to spawning fish. In Oregon specifically, the recovery fund has restored, created, or protected nearly 650,000 acres of salmon habitat and opened nearly 8,000 miles of streams to spawning fish.

By leveraging \$237 million of federal money with state lottery dollars, Oregon has invested more than \$600 million in salmon habitat protection and restoration. This year, we're asking

Congress for \$70 million.

As businesspeople, we understand investment is critical to success, and it is no different for Pacific salmon. As long as there are healthy rivers and healthy salmon, there will be Oregonians "gone fishing," and in the process, they'll support hundreds of businesses throughout the state.

We urge Oregon's congressional delegation to restore funding for the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund in 2020. Our local economies and Pacific Northwest way of life depend on it.

**▶ GOOD WEEK, BAD WEEK**



**GOOD WEEK  
HUNGRY SOCCER FANS**

The Portland Timbers and Thorns said this week the teams will freeze concession prices when Providence Park, the soccer franchises' home, reopens June 1. What's more, the team will offer a value menu for Wednesday and Thursday matches, which will yield \$2 hot dogs, \$2 nachos and \$5 16-ounce Coors Light cans.



**BAD WEEK  
DARING DRIVERS**

A Portland minivan operator lost a gamble — badly — on Friday when they raced to beat a northbound MAX train at Pioneer Courthouse Square. The resulting crash sandwiched the vehicle against the curb, indicating the race wasn't even close. The incident jammed city streets, irking those looking to beat early rush-hour traffic.



**GOOD WEEK  
PSU PEDESTRIANS**

A stretch of street near Portland State University is now car-free, for a few weeks anyway. Southwest Montgomery Street between Broadway and Sixth Avenue will be closed to cars in May to test the feasibility of permanently making the stretch pedestrian-only. The closed street will feature picnic tables for weary, and hungry, walkers.

## July 16-17, 2019 OWEB Board Meeting Executive Director Update 0-2: Budget and Legislative

This report provides the board an update about the legislative budgeting process and the 2019 Legislative Session.

### **Background**

The 2019 Legislative Session began on January 22 and adjourned on June 30, 2019. During the legislative session, budget and policy bills relevant to OWEB were considered.

### **The Legislative Budgeting Process**

The Oregon Legislature approves budgets for state agencies on a biennial basis. Budgets are structured so that each agency's current (or "base") budget is recalibrated and submitted without need for specific policy description or justification. Any resources requested to be added to the base budget by agencies must be identified separately with policy narratives and justification. The requested additions to an agency's base budget are called "policy option packages," or POPs. The board approved OWEB's POPs in June of 2018 and these were included in OWEB's Agency Request Budget (ARB) that was submitted in August 2018.

The Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) was released in late November 2018. The GRB is the starting point for agency budget discussions at legislative hearings. During the legislative session, agencies may advocate for their individual POPs only to the extent that they are included in the GRB. The GRB retains all of the POPs requested in OWEB's ARB, with the exception of the operations and grant funding related to the Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program (OAHP). In addition, the GRB proposed an internal auditor position to be added at the agency.

OWEB's budget was heard by the Natural Resources Subcommittee (NR Subcommittee) of the Joint Committee on Ways and Means on March 18-19. One substantive change to OWEB's requested budget was made following release of the GRB and prior to the budget hearing: the removal of the POP for Septic System Loan Funds from Oregon Department of Environmental Quality's Clean Water State Revolving Fund. DEQ's statutes are being revised via a separate legislative bill to address this need.

The May 2019 economic forecast, on which the next biennium's budget is based, projects that both general fund and lottery revenues will be substantially higher than what was originally estimated in OWEB's ARB. This increase resulted in an upward shift of approximately \$7 million in the amount of lottery funds available for OWEB grants.

OWEB's work session in the NR Subcommittee was held on June 6, 2019. During the legislative budget process, the following POPs were recommended by Legislative Fiscal Office and approved by the NR Subcommittee for the full consideration by full Ways and Means:

- Program Continuity package (Conservation Outcomes Coordinator position, which was transitioned from limited duration to permanent, and the Conservation Outcomes Specialist position);
- Program Enhancement package (Partnerships Coordinator position and \$325,000 of the \$375,000 requested for contracted services);
- \$7.1 million of Measure 76 Lottery funds for grants;
- \$15.9 million in carryforward of federal grant funds and other funds (which is \$500,000 less than the requested amount);

- \$500,000 for forest collaborative grant funds; and
- \$2 million from Natural Resources Conservation Service for local technical assistance and capacity grants.

Additional items in OWEB's GRB not included in the LFO recommendation are: 1) the internal auditor position, 2) an Online Systems Project Manager position, 3) the Conservation Policy and Strategy POP, and 4) federal funds expenditure limitation for Upper Klamath Basin grants associated with salmon reintroduction.

OWEB's budget bills have passed the House and Senate, and as of the writing of this staff report, are now pending signature by the Governor.

## **Policy Bills**

### **I. Oregon Agriculture Heritage Program (OAHP) Bills**

HB 2086 is an OWEB-supported bill that would have provided technical corrections to OAHP statutes. HB 2086 passed the House, but was tabled on the Senate floor, where it remained when the Legislature adjourned. HB 2729 was a bill that if passed would have provided \$10 million to OWEB for OAHP grants. HB 2729 stalled in the Joint Ways and Means Committee, and no funding for OAHP was provided in separate end-of-session funding bills.

### **II. House Bill 2020**

HB 2020 would have established the Oregon Climate Action Program. A cap-and-trade program would have been created that sets a cap on allowable emissions, then auctions these allowances to regulated entities (e.g., fuel sector, natural gas sector). HB 2020 did not pass out of the Senate.

### **III. Tide Gates**

The end-of-session funding bills contained a lottery allocation of \$6 million for the Tide Gates and Culverts program to the Oregon Business Development Department (Business Oregon). In a Legislative Fiscal Office budget report associated with the funding bills, OWEB will be tasked with coordinating with Business Oregon to develop a grant and loan program for the repair and replacement of tide gate and culvert infrastructure.

## **Staff Contact**

Budget topics or HB 2020: Renee Davis, Deputy Director, at [renee.davis@oregon.gov](mailto:renee.davis@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0203. Policy topics: Eric Hartstein, Senior Policy Coordinator, at [eric.hartstein@oregon.gov](mailto:eric.hartstein@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0029.

## July 16-17, 2019 OWEB Board Meeting Executive Director Update O-3: OWEB's Online Systems

This report provides the board an update about OWEB's online grant system improvements.

### **Background**

In 2016, OWEB launched its first online grant applications. The online application system is directly connected to OWEB's grant management system, the agency's enterprise database. Since the launch, staff have provided the board with annual updates about enhancements to the system.

### **Recent Improvements to OWEB's Online Systems**

Extensive improvements have been made to online system content and functionality since the last update to the board in October of 2018. These improvements include:

- 1) The addition of water acquisitions and council capacity to the suite of online grant applications;
- 2) Significant progress in preparing new grant applications for partnership technical assistance and weed grants using the application builder tool, a system that provides staff with the ability to 'build' new grant applications;
- 3) Ongoing refinements to OWEB's existing online applications for (e.g., restoration, technical assistance, land acquisitions grants) based on feedback from applicants, reviewers and staff;
- 4) Development of functionality that gathers information about newly funded grants, such as fund source, start and ending dates, special conditions, and reporting requirements and auto-generates grant agreements s);
- 5) Creation of a 'dashboard' for OWEB project managers that provides information about all grants they manage in a single location, enabling them to quickly and easily sort, search, view, and update project information and act on grantee requests; and
- 6) Development of training videos to help applicants and grantees navigate and use OWEB's online systems.

The cross-section initiative—titled Project Life Cycle—that kicked off in 2018 continues its work to leverage existing technology and streamline processes across the full 'life cycle' of a grant. The intent is to create a more efficient, user-friendly grant management and reporting system that captures key information at the appropriate points in time, thus maximizing both process effectiveness and accuracy of the information OWEB gathers.

### **Staff Contact**

If you have questions or need additional information, contact Renee Davis, Deputy Director, at [renee.davis@oregon.gov](mailto:renee.davis@oregon.gov) or 503-986-0203.



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item P supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority #3: Community capacity and strategic partnerships achieve healthy watersheds.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

**FROM:** Eric Williams, Grant Program Manager  
Andrew Dutterer, Partnerships Coordinator  
Eric Hartstein, Senior Policy Coordinator

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item P - Proposed Revisions to Focused Investment Partnerships (FIP)  
Board-identified Priorities

### I. Background

In July 2014, the board initiated a FIP Priority-setting process. This process included stakeholder input, review by teams of experts, and ultimately board adoption of seven FIP priorities of significance to the State at the April 2015 board meeting. See Attachment A for detailed memos on each priority.

The board-adopted FIP Priorities are:

- Aquatic Habitat for Native Fish Species
- Coastal Estuaries in Oregon
- Coho Habitat and Populations along the Oregon Coast
- Dry-Type Forest Habitat
- Oak Woodland and Prairie Habitat
- Oregon Closed Lakes Basin Wetland Habitat
- Sagebrush/Sage-steppe Habitat

FIP administrative rules were adopted by the board in January 2018. Regarding FIP board-identified Priorities, the FIP rules state: "At least every five years, the Board shall approve ecological priorities of significance to the State to be addressed by Focused Investment Partnership Initiatives. Ecological priorities shall be determined with public input and scientific rigor, and shall include maps and narrative describing the desired ecological outcomes for eligible Focused Investment Partnership Initiative activities" (OAR 695-047-0030). Pursuant to this rule, OWEB staff and the focused investments subcommittee of the board initiated an assessment of the FIP Priorities in fall 2018 with the intent of having revised Priorities in place for the next solicitation of Implementation FIP initiatives in January 2020.

## **II. History of OWEB Awards for FIP Priorities**

Since 2015, OWEB has held three grant cycles for the Development FIP offering, and two grant cycles for the Implementation FIP offering. Each solicitation includes a required pre-application consultation with OWEB staff to ensure that the partnership and/or proposed initiative meets the FIP grant offering eligibility criteria and to consider readiness for applying. A table of applications and awards per FIP Priority are found in Attachment B.

## **III. Proposed FIP Priority Revisions**

Staff reviewed priorities and consulted agency partners to draft proposed revisions to the FIP priorities. The timeline found in Attachment C provides details on the process for reassessing FIP priorities.

A table summarizing the proposed revisions to FIP Priorities to date in the process is found in Attachment D. Staff and the focused investments subcommittee are proposing revisions to three of the seven FIP Priorities, and are not recommending either eliminating or adopting new Priorities at this time.

## **Attachments**

Attachment A. FIP Priority Memos (For reference only)

Attachment B. FIP Applications/Awards since 2015

Attachment C. 2019 FIP Priorities Reassessment Timeline

Attachment D. Table summarizing proposed revisions to FIP Board-identified Priorities, June 2019



## **OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Priority** **AQUATIC HABITAT FOR NATIVE FISH SPECIES**

### **Summary Statement of Priority**

---

The OWEB Board will consider proposals for investment in initiatives that address habitat conservation and restoration needs for **inland aquatic habitat for native fish species** that are identified in a **federal recovery plan and/or a state conservation plan**. Habitat conservation and restoration must achieve ecological outcomes over time at the landscape scale<sup>1</sup>.

OWEB's Focused Investment Priority for Inland Aquatic Habitat for Native Fish Species guides voluntary actions that address limiting factors related to the protection and restoration of the watershed functions and processes in this habitat type. **Initiatives under this Priority will identify the primary limiting factors outlined in associated federal and state recovery and conservation plans that the initiative is aiming to address, and will be guided by the habitat and population objectives and conservation approaches set forth in these plans** (see Table 1 below for a list of plans).

Focal areas for this Priority (see map below) are defined as those native fish habitats in Oregon that are identified as priorities in associated federal recovery and/or state conservation plans, which are outlined in Table 1. In select cases, habitat needs for state or federal threatened, endangered, or sensitive species that do not yet have a conservation plan were also considered in assigning focal area priority designations. In some cases, priority designations could be drawn directly from state conservation and federal recovery plans, while in other cases professional judgement was needed to assign priorities based on guidance in the plans. Professional judgement included designation and review of priority watersheds by ODFW district biologists, research staff, Implementation Coordinators, and Conservation and Recovery Program staff. Priority designations reflect their knowledge of conservation and recovery plans, implementation needs, and watershed conditions in each of the planning areas, and refine where focused investment is most likely to achieve conservation goals.

**For the purposes of this Priority, OWEB Focused Investment Partnership investments will be focused in areas shown in green and yellow on the Aquatic Habitat for Native Fish Species map.** Within these identified areas, voluntary restoration and conservation actions are especially encouraged in locations where investments will also address identified non-point source water-quality concerns.

### **Background**

---

#### **Where it occurs**

As defined here, inland aquatic habitats include rivers, streams, floodplains, lakes and tidally influenced waters. These habitats typically contain water year-round. These areas occur around the state and provide essential habitat to many at-risk species, including important spawning and rearing habitat for salmonids.

Oregon's inland aquatic habitats are highly diverse. For example, as described in the Oregon Conservation Strategy, the headwaters of many of Oregon's rivers are located high in the state's various mountainous areas. In contrast, the eastern half of the state contains several playa lakes, formed when runoff from precipitation and mountain snowpack flows into low-lying areas, then evaporates and leaves mineral deposits.

---

<sup>1</sup> The landscape scale refers to the scale at which environmental, economic, and social factors intersect.



### **Indicator species and/or species of interest supported by these habitats**

Several native fish species have been listed or are candidates for listing under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and/or have been identified as threatened, endangered, or sensitive by the state. These species include, but are not limited to: Chinook salmon, chum salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and several species of sucker, lamprey, and chub. Some populations of these species that are not currently identified as threatened, endangered, or sensitive are also a focus of this Priority due to the substantial ecological, economic, and cultural benefits they provide. Specific species to be addressed under this Focused Investment Priority are identified, by geography, in Table 1 below.

In certain instances, the limiting factors and habitat needs of the aforementioned native fish species overlap with coastal coho during at least a portion of their life-cycle. However, because the overlap is not complete, this Priority focuses on the inland aquatic habitat needs for a broader collection of native fish species. This approach ensures that primary limiting factors can be addressed for a range of native fish species that are of significance to the state. Although Pacific lamprey and other native lamprey species are not specifically targeted in this Priority, actions that address limiting factors for the species outlined in Table 1 will also benefit native lamprey species throughout the state.

### **Why it is significant to the state**

Inland aquatic habitat supports an incredible number of Oregon's native fish and wildlife species. The extent of biodiversity in an aquatic habitat is a reflection of the native fish, plants, and other aquatic species (e.g., freshwater mussels, Oregon spotted frogs) present there. All require water, and high-quality aquatic systems provide essential habitat to many at-risk species, including important spawning and rearing habitat for salmonids and other native fishes.

Sustaining aquatic biodiversity is essential to the health of our environment and to the quality of human life. Healthy aquatic ecosystems are imperative for continuing to contribute to Oregon's communities and economy, including fisheries and recreation. Because native fish communities are central to the structure, function, and process within aquatic habitats, they serve as ideal indicator species of the overall health of these habitats.

An excellent example of a successful focused investment effort is the de-listed Oregon chub. This native fish species, which is endemic to the Willamette Valley, is the first fish species to be removed from the federal ESA due to species recovery. Since 1993, significant conservation efforts, partnerships, and funding have addressed Oregon chub habitat, which contributed to the recovery of the fish and ESA de-listing in March, 2015.

### **Key limiting factors and/or threats, with a focus on ecosystem function and process**

Proposals must address primary limiting factors for aquatic habitats, as identified in associated federal and state recovery and conservation plans, including:

- Impaired water quality (e.g., temperature and sedimentation), including those factors associated with the loss of riparian and floodplain vegetation;
- Reduced water quantity (e.g., low streamflow and altered hydrology);
- Loss of habitat complexity (e.g., high-quality instream structure and spawning gravel, floodplain connectivity, connected off-channel habitat, presence of pools, and presence of large woody debris);
- Loss of habitat connectivity, including: floodplain connectivity; access to cold-water refugia; and fish-passage barriers that are identified as primary limiting factors for native fish species and as noted by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's statewide fish passage priority list; and
- Spread of invasive species.

Investments for this Priority will focus on addressing primary limiting factors, as described in the plans referenced below in Table 1, with actions such as: 1) in mainstem rivers, reconnecting and restoring floodplain, riparian, side-channel, and tidal habitat; and 2) in tributaries, restoring whole watersheds to address such limiting factors as loss of instream habitat complexity and degradation of riparian areas.

### **Reference plans**

See Table 1 below for species-specific conservation and recovery plans to be addressed under this Priority.

In addition to these plans, Oregon's Native Fish Conservation Policy (NFCP), the state policy for managing native fish, provides guidance to support the implementation of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds and Oregon Conservation Strategy. Conservation and recovery plans developed under the NFCP by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and/or in conjunction with federal agencies detail how Oregon proposes to recover ESA-listed native fish species. ODFW has also developed, or is in the process of developing, conservation plans for native fish species that aren't listed under the ESA. Oregon Tribes may also have native fish species recovery plans guiding conservation efforts that can be referenced in developing restoration initiatives under this Priority. All of the plans noted here focus on maintaining sustainable native fish populations that contribute to their ecosystems and provide a variety of recreational, commercial, cultural, and aesthetic benefits.

These plans identify key limiting factors for specific fish species, geographies in which habitat for these species occur, and priority actions that will address limiting factors. While these plans have a species focus, addressing the limiting factors and meeting the goals of each plan supports native fish communities and the ecosystem function of aquatic habitats more generally. Thus, achieving the desired habitat and population objectives within these plans will provide significant ecological, economic and cultural benefits for all Oregonians.

**Table 1. Conservation and Recovery Plans for Native Fish Species**

USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

NMFS = NOAA Fisheries

ODFW = Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

<b>Conservation and Recovery Plans</b>	<b>Native Fish Species</b>	<b>Associated Basin(s)</b>
USFWS Recovery Plan for the Threatened and Rare Native Fishes of the Warner Basin and Alkali Sub-basin (1998)	Warner Sucker, Hutton tui chub, Foscett speckled dace, Warner Valley redband trout	Closed Lakes
USFWS Recovery Plan for the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (1995)	Lahontan Cutthroat Trout	Closed Lakes
USFWS Recovery Plan for the Coterminous United States Population of Bull Trout (2015)	Bull trout <i>Co-benefit species: Redband trout</i>	Deschutes, John Day, Upper Klamath, Lower Columbia, Willamette, Grande Ronde
USFWS Revised Recovery Plan for the Lost River Sucker and Shortnose Sucker (2013)	Lost River sucker, Shortnose sucker	Upper Klamath
USFWS Action Plan for Recovery of the Modoc Sucker (1983)	Modoc sucker <i>Co-benefit species: Goose Lake sucker</i>	Goose Lake
NMFS/ODFW Conservation & Recovery Plan for Oregon Steelhead Populations in the Middle Columbia River Steelhead DPS (2010)	Steelhead <i>Co-benefit species: Chinook salmon, Redband trout</i>	Deschutes, John Day, Umatilla
NMFS ESA Recovery Plan for Northeast Oregon Snake River Spring and Summer Chinook Salmon and Snake River Steelhead Populations	Spring Chinook, Steelhead <i>Co-benefit species: Redband trout</i>	Grande Ronde
ODFW Lower Columbia River Conservation and Recovery Plan for Oregon Populations of Salmon and Steelhead (2010)	Spring and Fall Chinook, Chum salmon, Summer and winter steelhead <i>Co-benefit species: Redband trout</i>	Lower Columbia River
NMFS/ODFW Upper Willamette River Conservation and Recovery Plan for Chinook Salmon and Steelhead (2011)	Spring Chinook, Steelhead	Willamette
ODFW Coastal Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan (2014) <i>Note: this plan does not assess or address coastal coho, thus differentiating this Priority from the Focused Investment Priority for Oregon Coastal Coho Habitat and Populations</i>	Chinook salmon, Chum salmon Steelhead, Cutthroat trout	Coastal watersheds from Cape Blanco to the Columbia River (including Umpqua, Tillamook, many others)
ODFW Rogue Spring Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan (2007)	Spring Chinook	Rogue
ODFW Conservation Plan for Fall Chinook Salmon in the Rogue Species Management Unit (2013)	Fall Chinook	Rogue, coastal watersheds south of Cape Blanco



## **OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Priority COASTAL ESTUARIES IN OREGON**

### **Summary Statement of Priority**

---

The OWEB Board will consider proposals for investment in Oregon's **coastal estuaries**. The focal area for this Priority is coastal estuaries and associated riparian and upland habitats, which support a multitude of fish and wildlife species. Proposals should outline initiatives that address habitat conservation and restoration needs to achieve ecological outcomes over time at the landscape scale<sup>1</sup>.

OWEB's Focused Investment Priority for Oregon's coastal estuaries guides voluntary actions that protect and/or restore estuarine habitat at a scale that ensures watershed functions and processes that support fish and wildlife dependent on this habitat type. **Actions will address the habitat, limiting factors, ecological outcomes, and conservation approaches that yield the greatest productivity across species. The importance of estuaries is noted in several plans, which are listed at the end of this document.**

### **Background**

---

#### **Where it occurs**

Oregon's estuaries exist at the confluence of freshwater rivers and the ocean. The extent of estuarine habitat at these confluences can be determined by the range upon which the ocean maintains a tidal influence on these freshwater rivers (see map).

Currently, over 70 percent of Oregon's estuarine wetlands have been lost, while tidal swamp habitat losses stand at roughly 90 percent (for estuaries where applicable data is available). A history of anthropogenic alterations to habitat and natural hydrologic processes, including diking, tide gates, dredging, and channelization, among other impacts, has contributed to these habitat losses and impairments.

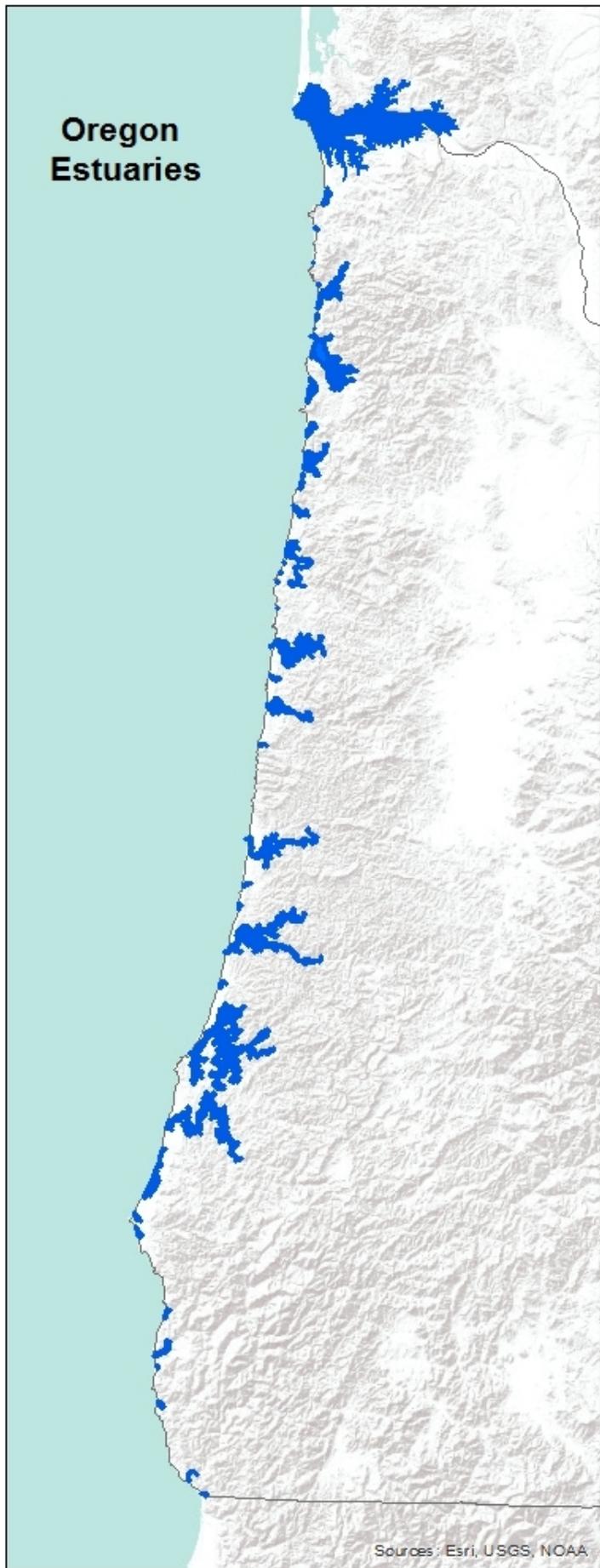
There are four main subsystems associated with estuaries, including: marine, bay, slough, and riverine. Estuary habitats experience regular fluctuations in salinity, water levels, sunlight, and oxygen. This priority includes restoration and protection of habitat and watershed function and process associated with each habitat type.

#### **Indicator species and/or species of interest supported by this habitat**

Estuaries provide habitat for a multitude of plant and animal species. The unique biophysical conditions found in estuaries as a result of tidal influence and variation in salinity fosters a complex diversity of vegetation and animal species. Such species include salmon and steelhead, crabs and other shellfish, marine mammals, seabirds and migratory birds. It is estimated that the Lower Columbia River estuary alone provides wintering habitat for peak counts of 150,000 waterfowl birds along the Pacific Flyway. In terms of fish species, estuaries provide critical breeding and nursery areas for rockfish, lingcod, and greenling, as well as rearing grounds for juvenile coho, Chinook, and chum salmon. Estuaries also foster large populations of staghorn sculpin, which are a critical food source for foraging migratory and shorebirds. Roughly 75 percent of Oregon's harvested fish species utilize estuary habitat during some portion or all of their life cycle.

---

<sup>1</sup> The landscape scale refers to the scale at which environmental, economic, and social factors intersect.



### **Why it is significant to the state**

Estuaries are significant to the state of Oregon for a wide range of reasons. First, in terms of planning efforts, Oregon's Statewide Planning Goal 16, titled "Estuarine Resources", strives: "To recognize and protect the unique environmental, economic, and social values of each estuary and associated wetlands; and to protect, maintain, where appropriate develop, and where appropriate restore the long-term environmental, economic, and social values, diversity, and benefits of Oregon's estuaries." Further, the Lower Columbia River estuary and Tillamook Bay estuaries are each designated as an "estuary of national significance" by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (two of 28 National Estuary Programs managed under the Clean Water Act). Many Oregon estuaries have Total Maximum Daily Loads developed for water quality in these habitats, as estuaries play an important role in filtering sediment, nutrients, pathogens, and other contaminants from aquatic environments.

Second, estuaries are a necessary habitat that is integral to the existence and success of various ESA listed fish and wildlife species. There are numerous species that are adapted to the unique habitat conditions that estuaries provide and are thus dependent on this habitat type. For example, nearly one-third of the west coast's nesting seabird colonies are located off Oregon's south coast. Additionally, the Klamath Bird Observatory maintains a list of 39 "Important Aquatic Bird Sites," with 24 of these sites located along the Oregon coast in and around estuary habitat.

Lastly, estuaries provide critical services for the people of Oregon. For example, estuaries serve to buffer storm wave damage and help stabilize shorelines from erosion.

### **Key limiting factors and/or ecological threats, with a focus on ecosystem function and process**

- Increasing development and land-use conversions;
- Alteration of natural hydrological processes and streamflow, including limited salt- and fresh-water exchange due to such issues as tidegates;
- Water-quality degradation (including increased bacterial loads; decreased dissolved oxygen; and toxic contaminants from industry, agriculture, and urban development);
- Loss of habitat complexity and connectivity degraded tidal areas;
- Invasive aquatic plant and animal species;
- Impacts of climate change (e.g., sea-level rise, increased acidification); and
- Nutrient cycling and sediment transport.

### **Reference plans**

- 1) Oregon Conservation Strategy  
([http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read\\_the\\_strategy.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read_the_strategy.asp))
- 2) NOAA Fisheries Columbia River Estuary ESA Recovery Plan Module for Salmon and Steelhead, 2011  
([http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/publications/recovery\\_planning/estuary-mod.pdf](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/publications/recovery_planning/estuary-mod.pdf))
- 3) ODFW Lower Columbia River Conservation and Recovery Plan for Oregon Populations of Salmon and Steelhead, 2010  
([http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/lower\\_columbia\\_plan.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/lower_columbia_plan.asp))
- 4) Oregon Coastal Multi-Species Conservation and Management Plan, 2014  
([http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal\\_multispecies.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal_multispecies.asp))



## **OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Priority COHO HABITAT AND POPULATIONS ALONG THE OREGON COAST**

### **Summary Statement of Priority**

---

The OWEB Board will consider proposals for investment in **Coho habitats and populations along the Oregon coast**, including estuaries, freshwater water bodies, and associated riparian and upland habitats, for initiatives that address habitat conservation and restoration needs to achieve ecological outcomes over time at the landscape scale<sup>1</sup>.

OWEB's Focused Investment Priority for Oregon's coastal coho habitats and populations guides voluntary actions that address primary limiting factors related to the protection and restoration of the watershed functions and processes that support coho habitat and the health of coho populations. **These actions will be guided by the habitat, limiting factors, ecological outcomes, and conservation approaches outlined in the Oregon Coastal Coho Conservation Plan, NOAA Fisheries Oregon Coast Coho Recovery Plan, NOAA Fisheries Southern Oregon Northern California Coast Coho Recovery Plan, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's limiting factors document, which are listed on page three of this document.**

This priority encompasses habitat needs for coho salmon listed in the Oregon Coast Coho (OCC) evolutionarily significant unit (ESU) and the Southern Oregon Northern California Coast Coho (SONCC) ESU. Focal areas for this Priority are coastal habitats identified as high conservation and restoration priorities for Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed coho salmon. For the purposes of this Priority, OWEB investments would be focused in areas shown in green and yellow on the map. Within these identified areas, voluntary restoration and conservation actions are especially encouraged in locations where investments will also address identified non-point source water-quality concerns.

### **Background**

---

#### **Where it occurs**

This Priority includes estuaries, freshwater water bodies, and associated riparian and upland habitats that support coho salmon and are connected to the Oregon coast. This priority includes restoration and protection of watershed functions and processes that increase and maintain instream complexity, good water quality, adequate instream flows, and floodplain connectivity, as well as actions that create and/or maintain an appropriate sediment regime throughout the range of the coho salmon.

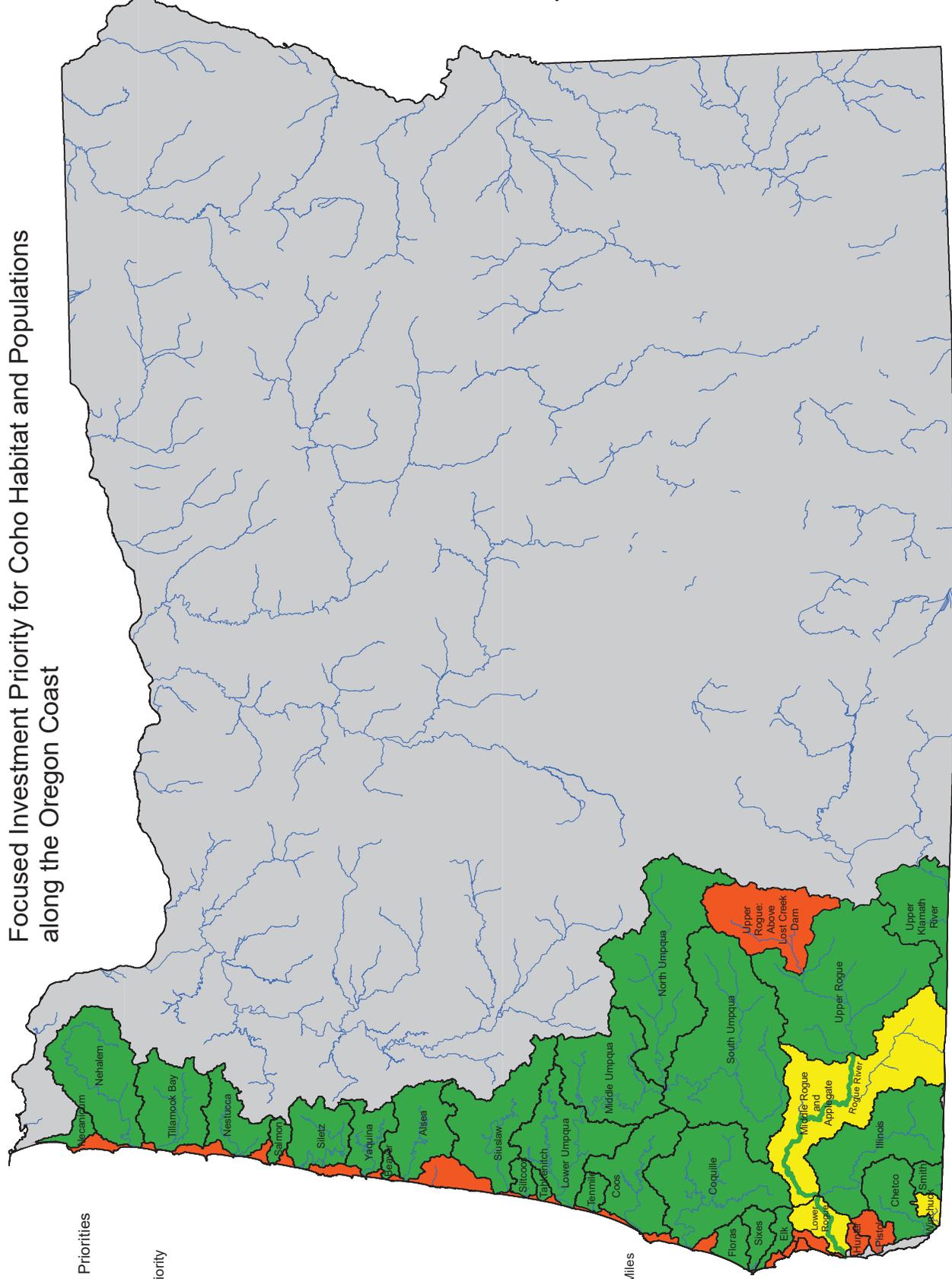
#### **Indicator species and/or species of interest supported by this habitat**

Oregon has two coastal Evolutionarily Significant Units (ESUs) that are listed under the ESA: 1) Oregon Coast Coho (OCC) ESU with 21 independent populations from the Necanicum River in the north and the Sixes River near Cape Blanco in the south, and 2) the Southern Oregon Northern California Coast Coho (SONCC) ESU from Cape Blanco to the California border with seven independent populations.

---

<sup>1</sup> The landscape scale refers to the scale at which environmental, economic, and social factors intersect.

# Focused Investment Priority for Coho Habitat and Populations along the Oregon Coast



Coastal Coho Restoration and Recovery Priorities

- Highest Priority
- Second Highest Priority
- Lower Priority



The estuarine and freshwater coastal habitats that coho use also support many other native species, for at least some portion of their life cycle. These species include, but are not limited to: Chinook and chum salmon, steelhead, coastal cutthroat trout, Pacific lamprey, Western brook lamprey, sculpins, beavers, river otters, and giant salamanders, as well as hundreds of invertebrate species. Work is underway to further assess and refine the list of estuarine species associated with these habitat areas.

### **Why it is significant to the state**

The presence of robust and sustainable populations of coho salmon are an indicator of properly functioning coastal ecosystems and can provide significant social, cultural, economic and ecological benefits to coastal communities. Because water quality has been significantly degraded and instream habitat impacted in areas along the coast, the populations of these fish have declined, thus requiring a federal ESA listing.

Several significant planning efforts have been underway to focus efforts on coho conservation. Oregon has developed a coho conservation plan (Oregon Coast Coho Conservation Plan) and NOAA Fisheries has developed federal recovery plans for the SONCC and OCC ESUs. In addition, Oregon has been preparing for the reintroduction of coho salmon to the upper Klamath basin through a reintroduction plan (see below) and an implementation plan to be finalized in 2019.

The improvement in conditions and complexity for coastal coho habitat will also lead to improved water quality. Many of Oregon's coastal streams are designated on the federal 303(d) list as "water quality limited," which affects landowners and communities and creates economic impacts. Additionally, recreational and commercial fisheries are also severely impacted by the ESA listing of these fish. Restoring ecosystem function for coastal stream habitats will benefit coho populations, which may help support fisheries over time.

### **Key limiting factors and/or ecological threats, with a focus on ecosystem function and process**

- Impaired ecosystem functions that have resulted in decreased quantity and quality of instream complexity and degraded rearing and spawning habitats;
- Lack of habitat connectivity with floodplains;
- Degraded riparian areas;
- Insufficient water quantity/flows during critical flow periods; and
- Degraded water quality (i.e., dissolved oxygen, temperature, bacteria load, sedimentation)

Investments for the priority will focus on addressing primary limiting factors, as described in the reference plans below, with actions such as: 1) in estuaries and mainstem rivers, reconnecting and restoring floodplain, riparian, side-channel, and tidal habitat; and 2) in tributaries, restoring whole watersheds to address such limiting factors as loss of instream habitat complexity and degradation of riparian areas.

### **Reference plans**

- 1) [Oregon Coastal Coho Conservation Plan](#)
- 2) [NOAA Fisheries Oregon Coast Coho Recovery Plan](#)
- 3) [NOAA Fisheries Southern Oregon Northern California Coast Coho Recovery Plan](#)
- 4) [Limiting Factors and Threats to the Recovery of Oregon Coho Populations in the Southern Oregon-Northern California Coast Evolutionarily Significant Unit: Results of Expert Panel Deliberations](#)
- 5) [A Plan for the Reintroduction of Anadromous Fish in the Upper Klamath Basin \(ODFW 2008\)](#)



## OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Priority

### DRY-TYPE FOREST HABITAT

#### Summary Statement of Priority

---

The OWEB Board will consider proposals for investment in **dry-type forest habitat** for initiatives that address habitat conservation and restoration needs to achieve ecological outcomes over time at the landscape scale<sup>1</sup>.

OWEB's Focused Investment Priority for dry-type forest habitat guides voluntary actions that address primary limiting factors related to the quality of this habitat type. These actions also support and/or improve watershed functions and processes. **These actions will be guided by the habitat, limiting factors, ecological outcomes, and conservation approaches outlined in the Oregon Conservation Strategy and other plans listed on page 3 of this document.**

Focal areas for this Priority are identified in the associated plans as high-priority dry-type forests and the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems that these habitats support.

#### Background

---

##### Where it occurs

Dry-type forests exist east of the Cascade Mountains and southwest in the Umpqua and Rogue watersheds of the Siskiyou and Klamath Mountains. This forest type spans 14 million public and private acres in Oregon, constitutes roughly half of all forests in the state, and accounts for approximately 25 percent of the state's land cover. These forests are associated with nine national forests in Oregon and also coincide with land managed by the Bureau of Land Management in southwest Oregon. "Dry-type" is a general term for forests that consist of dry pine forests, dry mixed conifer and moist-cold forests.

##### Indicator species and/or species of interest supported by this habitat

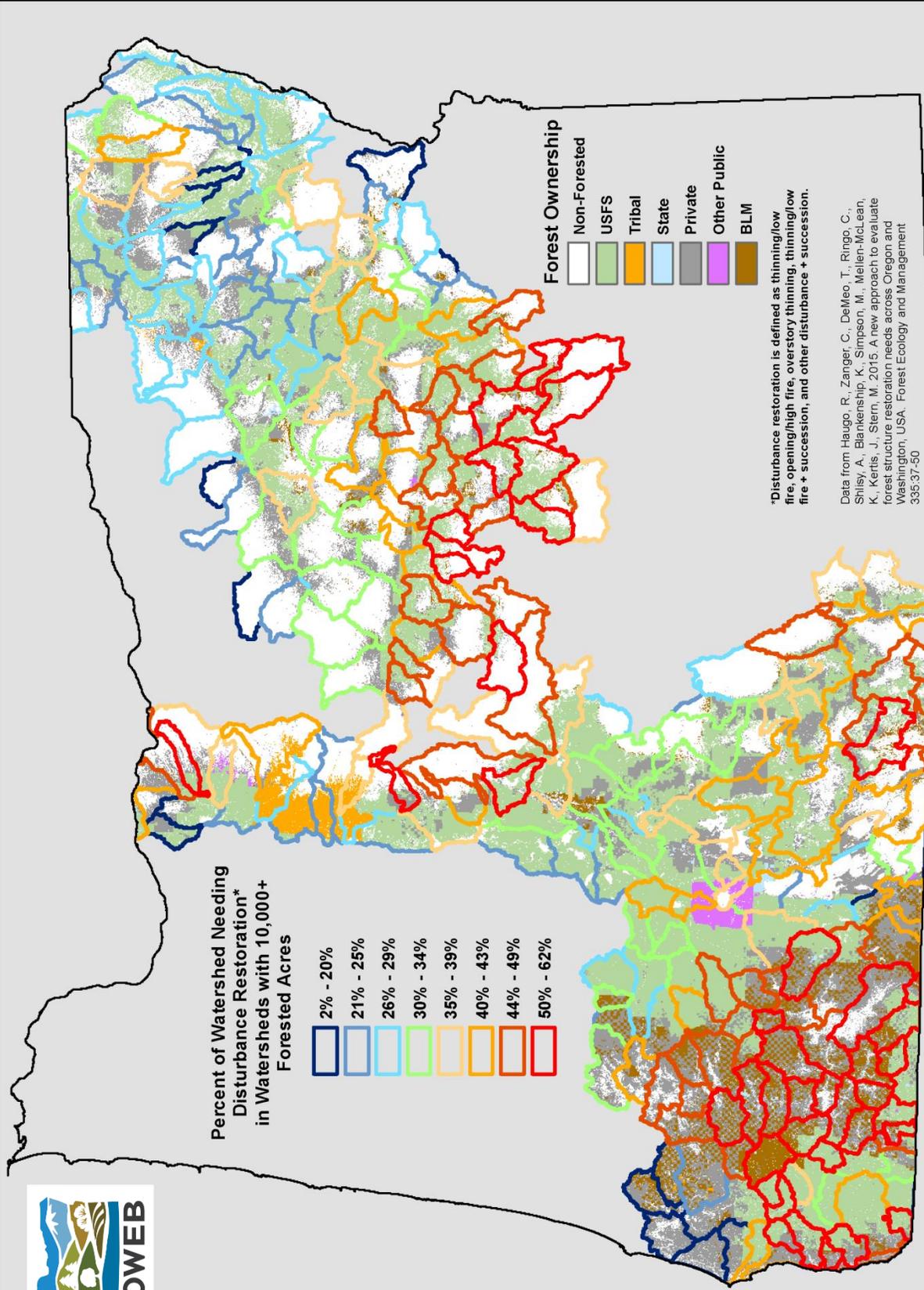
Dry-type forest habitat is composed of numerous tree species, including ponderosa pine, sugar pine, grand fir, and Douglas-fir. Historically, these forests experienced more frequent low-intensity fires that would burn off the understory and small trees on a 7-15 year cycle, resulting in a diverse and robust mosaic of older, larger aforementioned tree species mixed with areas of younger trees, stands, and forests. Fire suppression practices in the past century have elevated 'fuel levels' to a degree that has altered forest species composition and succession, and susceptibility to uncharacteristic large wildfires due to the fuel loads. In addition to the building of fuel levels, the change in forest management practices during the last century has reduced diversity of species and age structures, and increased densities of trees within this forest type.

Dry-type forests are critical to healthy watershed function and process. The aquatic habitat within these forested areas closely linked with health of the dry-type forest. Dry-type forest habitats support over 800 fish and wildlife species, including bird species such as the white-headed woodpecker and northern goshawk, and terrestrial species, such as Rocky Mountain elk and mule and white-tailed deer. Dry-type forests also support native fish such as salmon, coastal coho steelhead, bull trout, and redband trout (see related priorities). Conservation actions to protect dry-type forest habitat should be designed in way that limits unintended consequences to aquatic habitats in these areas.

---

<sup>1</sup> The landscape scale refers to the scale at which environmental, economic, and social factors intersect.

# Focused Investment Priority for Dry-Type Forest Habitats



### **Why it is significant to the state**

Dry-type forests cover vast acreages in Oregon, and are at critical risk for uncharacteristically intense wildfires. These forest systems support a diverse range of aquatic and terrestrial species, including federally listed fish and bird species. Properly functioning dry-type forests are also critical to maintaining healthy watershed function and process for the rivers and other water bodies existing within their habitat range. Dry-type forests are iconic in Oregon, of cultural significance to Native American tribes, and have economic importance related to natural resource based economies in rural communities. In addition, these areas support an increasingly important recreation-based economy in many areas throughout Oregon.

### **Key limiting factors and/or ecological threats, with a focus on ecosystem function and process**

- Uncharacteristically intense wildfires as a result of fuel buildup to fire suppression and forest management practices;
- Altered fire regimes resulting in forest densification and changed ecological role of fire;
- Loss of forest structure, age, composition, and habitat connectivity; and
- Vulnerability to threats such as uncharacteristic outbreaks of diseases and insects.

In addition to addressing these key limiting factors and ecological threats, proposals must describe how the initiative will benefit Oregon Conservation Strategy species and/or provide source drinking water protection. Additionally, the Oregon Department of Forestry is expected to adopt a new forest action plan in 2020. With this development, and other advancements in forest fire science that may occur, the board may choose to revise this priority within five years.

### **Reference plans**

- 1) Oregon Conservation Strategy  
[http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read\\_the\\_strategy.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read_the_strategy.asp)
- 2) Restoration of Dry Forests in Eastern Oregon  
<https://www.conservationgateway.org/ConservationPractices/FireLandscapes/FireLearningNetwork/NetworkProducts/Pages/Dry-Forest-Guide-2013.aspx>
- 3) General Technical Report – The Ecology and Management of Moist Mixed-Conifer Forests in Eastern Oregon and Washington: A Synthesis of the Relevant Biophysical Science and Implications for Future Land Management  
[http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw\\_gtr897.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw_gtr897.pdf)
- 4) Haugo, R., Zanger, C., DeMeo, T., Ringo, C., Shlisy, A., Blakenship, K., Simpson, M., Mellen-McLean, K., Kertis, J., Stern, M. 2015. A New Approach to Evaluate Forest Structure Restoration Needs Across Oregon and Washington, USA. *Forest Ecology and Management* 335: 37-50.  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0378112714005519>



## **OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Priority OAK WOODLAND AND PRAIRIE HABITAT**

### **Summary Statement of Priority**

---

The OWEB Board will consider proposals for investment in **oak woodland and prairie habitats** for initiatives that address habitat conservation and restoration needs to achieve ecological outcomes over time at the landscape scale<sup>1</sup>.

OWEB's Focused Investment Priority for oak woodland and prairie/chaparral habitat guides voluntary actions that address primary limiting factors related to the quality of this habitat type. These actions also will support and/or improve watershed functions and processes. **These actions will be guided by the habitat, limiting factors, ecological outcomes, and conservation approaches outlined in the Oregon Conservation Strategy and other plans and strategies listed on page 3 of this document.**

Focal areas for this Priority are identified in the associated plans as high priorities for oak and associated prairie and chaparral habitats, and the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems that these habitats support. These areas include oak and associated prairies within the Willamette Valley, the southern Oregon oak and associated chaparral habitat corridor, and oak habitats in the East Cascades.

### **Background**

---

#### **Where it occurs**

Despite a loss of approximately 90% of its historical habitat range since the 1800s, oak and associated prairie and chaparral habitats still exist throughout the state. Three types of oak habitats in Oregon are "oak savannah" (5-30% oak coverage), "oak woodlands" (30-60% oak coverage), and "oak forests" (greater than 60% oak coverage). These oak habitats primarily occur in three areas of the state: 1) Oak and prairie habitats of the Willamette Valley ecoregion; 2) Oak woodlands of the East Cascades ecoregion and foothills along the Columbia Gorge, including both Hood and Wasco counties and south to White River; and 3) Southern Oregon oak and chaparral habitats of the Klamath, Umpqua and Rogue River ecoregions.

#### **Indicator species and/or species of interest supported by this habitat**

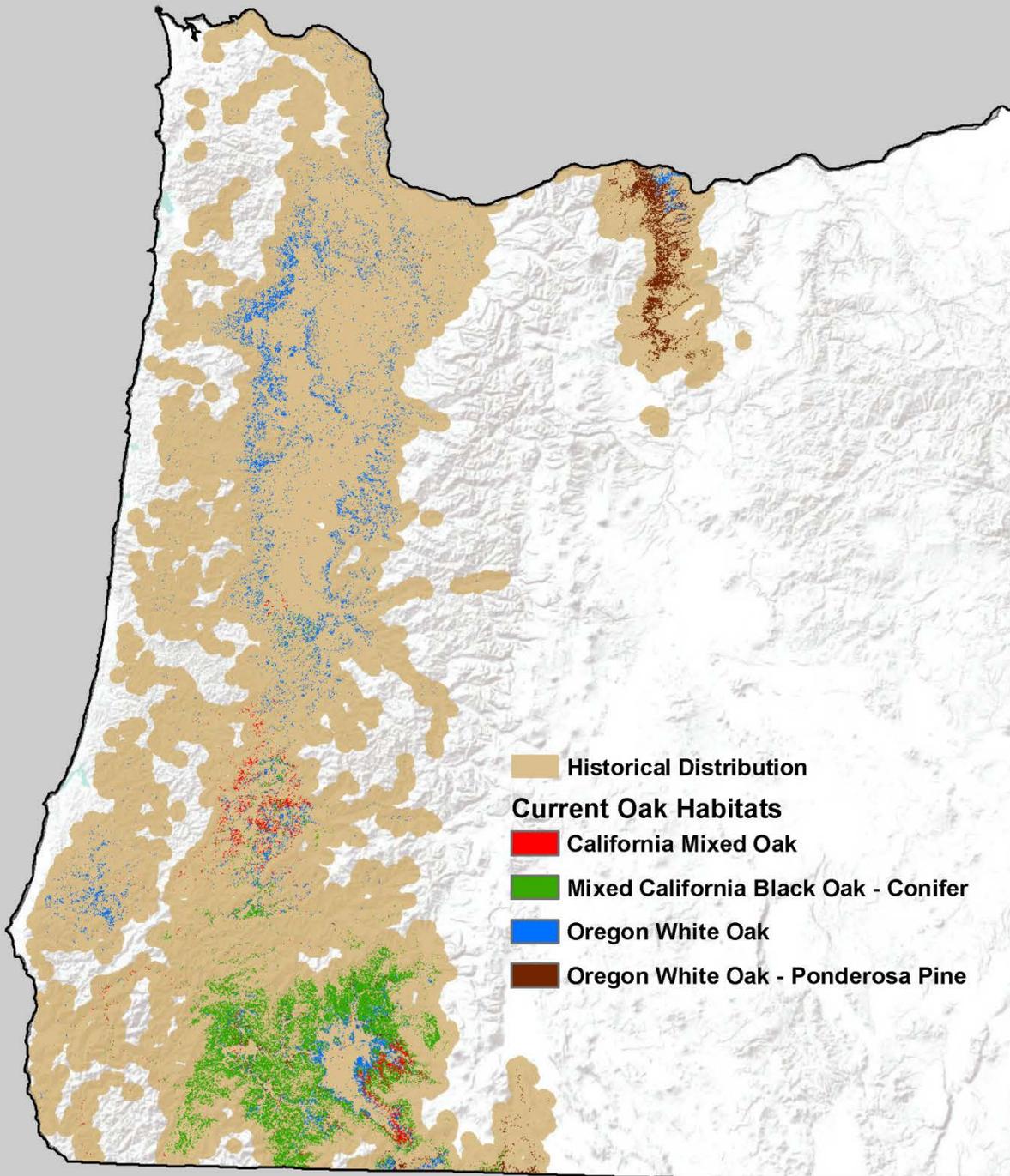
The Oregon white oak is the indicator species for oak and associated prairie and chaparral habitats. Species that are supported by these habitats include: streaked horned lark, the Western meadowlark, Lewis' woodpecker, white-breasted nuthatch, western bluebird, acorn woodpecker, western gray squirrel, Columbian white-tailed deer, Fender's blue butterfly, Taylor's checkerspot butterfly, Kincaid's lupine, and the Willamette daisy, among many other plant species depending on the region. At least seven federally Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed species are dependent on these habitats.

Oak and associated prairie and chaparral habitats also support aquatic ecosystems that exist within their habitat range. The watershed function and process of these aquatic ecosystems depend on the health of the oak and associated habitats that foster them. These aquatic habitats host inland native fish species, such as salmon, steelhead, bull trout, and redband trout. Conservation actions to protect oak woodland and prairie habitat should be designed in way that limits unintended consequences to aquatic habitats in these areas.

---

<sup>1</sup> The landscape scale refers to the scale at which environmental, economic, and social factors intersect.

## Focused Investment Priority for Oak Woodland and Prairie Habitat



### Current and Historical Distribution of Oak Habitats in Oregon



0 5 10 20 30 40 Miles

Current distribution of oak habitats was derived from the 2010 Ecological Systems Framework Data Layer. Historical distribution was derived from the Oregon Historic Vegetation Framework Data Layer by buffering historic oak habitat polygons by two miles.

### **Why it is significant to the state**

In a national assessment, oak and associated prairie and chaparral habitats are one of the most endangered ecosystems in the U.S. due to land conversions and altered fire regimes. Yet, these habitats are home to roughly 30 bird, terrestrial, and plant species addressed in the Oregon Conservation Strategy. Maintaining the connectivity of oaks and their associated prairie and chaparral habitats is crucial to support species utilization of greater habitat range, but also to facilitating the gradual movement of species to the north from California in response to climate change. Many species dependent on oak habitats may be considered for ESA-listing in the future; thus, an increase in habitat connectivity, complexity and acreage will benefit these vulnerable species. In addition, these habitat types are iconic and culturally important to the Native American tribes.

### **Key limiting factors and/or ecological threats, with a focus on ecosystem function and process**

- Habitat loss and fragmentation due to land-use conversion (e.g., residential, timber, agricultural);
- Habitat degradation, including shrub-tree and conifer encroachment, invasive species encroachment, and disease such as sudden oak death syndrome; and
- Impaired habitat persistence, due to loss of fire disturbance regimes, over-grazing, and the subsequent lack of recruitment of young oaks.

### **Reference plans**

- 1) Oregon Conservation Strategy  
([http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read\\_the\\_strategy.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read_the_strategy.asp))
- 2) Recovery Plan for Prairie species of Western Oregon and SW Washington (USFWS 2010)  
(<http://www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/Species/PrairieSpecies/>)
- 3) Oregon White Oak Restoration Strategy for National Forest System Lands East of the Cascade Range (USFS 2013)  
([http://ecoshare.info/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Oak\\_Strategy\\_draft\\_3-6-13\\_FINAL\\_HQ.pdf](http://ecoshare.info/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/Oak_Strategy_draft_3-6-13_FINAL_HQ.pdf))
- 4) Northwest Power and Conservation Council – Willamette Subbasin Plan  
(<https://www.nwcouncil.org/fw/subbasinplanning/willamette/plan>)



## **OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Priority OREGON CLOSED LAKES BASIN WETLAND HABITATS**

### **Summary Statement of Priority**

---

The OWEB Board will consider proposals for investment in the **Closed Lakes Basin wetland habitats** for initiatives that address habitat conservation and restoration needs to achieve ecological outcomes over time at the landscape scale<sup>1</sup>.

OWEB's Focused Investment Priority for Closed Lakes Basin wetland habitats guides voluntary actions that address primary limiting factors related to the quality of this habitat type. These actions also will support and/or improve watershed functions and processes. **These actions will be guided by the habitat, limiting factors, ecological outcomes, and conservation approaches outlined in the Oregon Conservation Strategy and the Intermountain Joint Venture's (IWJV) Habitat Conservation Strategy Implementation Plan, which are listed on page 4 of this document.**

Focal areas for this Priority are identified as high-priority wetland and floodplain habitat for migratory and resident bird and native fish species in the associated plans. These areas exist within the Oregon portion of the Closed Lakes Basin area (within Harney, Lake and a small portion of Malheur counties).

### **Background**

---

#### **Where it occurs**

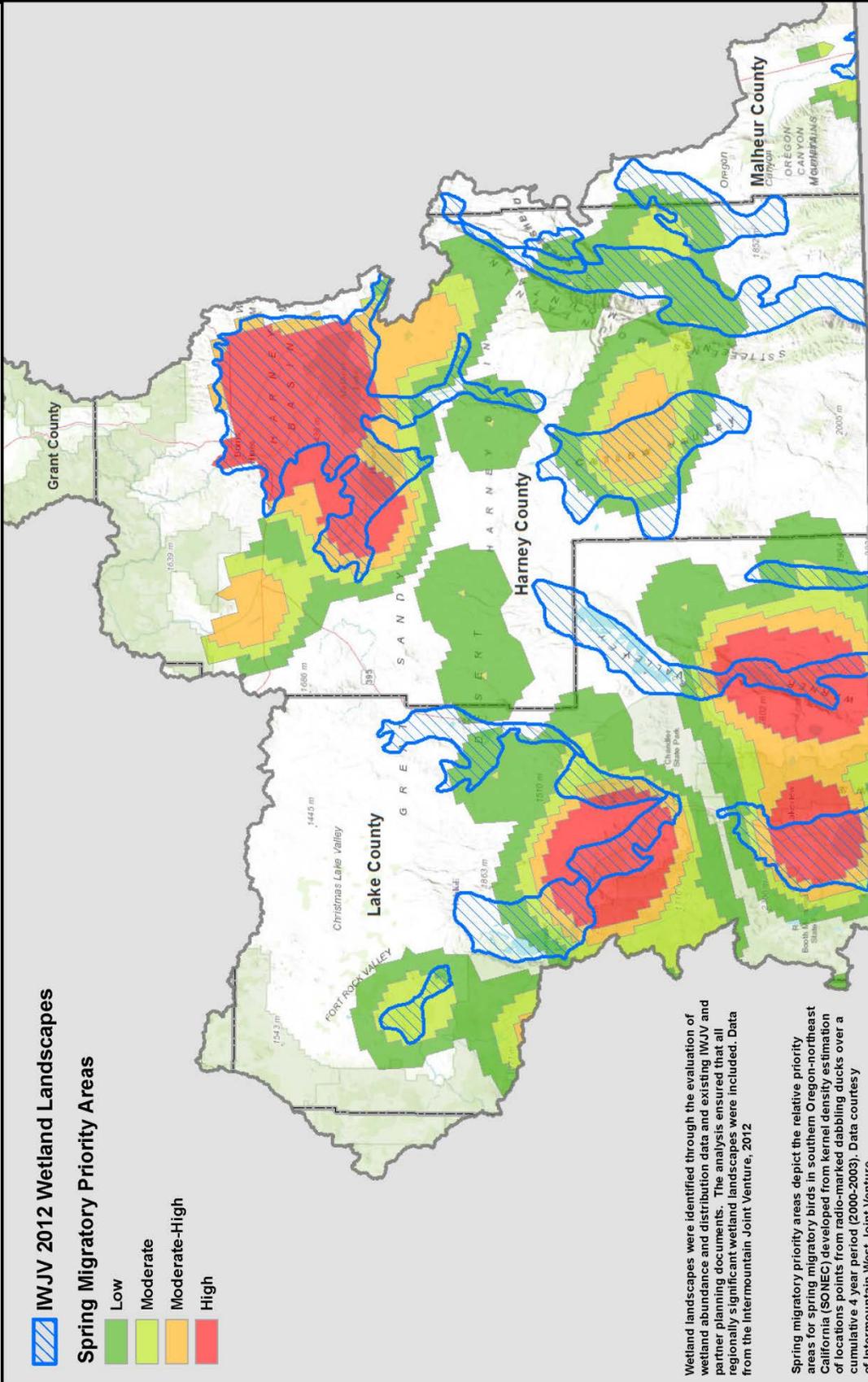
The Closed Lakes Basin wetlands exist within the Southern Oregon Northeast California (SONEC) region, which is a portion of the Closed Lakes network within the Great Basin (see map). The SONEC region geography and habitat has been defined by the IWJV and in the federal North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The Closed Lakes Basin within the SONEC region is an important part of the intercontinental Pacific Flyway. Within the SONEC region, 75% of wetland habitat is located on private lands, most of which is managed as flood-irrigated hay and pastureland. These areas also support native fish species, including ESA-listed sucker fish.

In Oregon, Closed Lakes Basin wetland habitat exists primarily in Lake and Harney Counties (including Malheur National Wildlife Refuge), with a small portion in Malheur County. Closed Lakes Basin wetland habitats include shallow lakes and marshes, wet meadows, and irrigated pasturelands. Many of the managed wetland/pastures exist in the floodplain of tributaries and lakes in the area. Closed Lakes Basin wetlands represent a unique chain of desert oases that, as an integrated network, provide critical habitat and food for waterbirds throughout the seasonal cycle.

---

<sup>1</sup> The landscape scale refers to the scale at which environmental, economic, and social factors intersect.

# Focused Investment Priority for Oregon Closed Lakes Basin Wetland Habitats



**IWJV 2012 Wetland Landscapes**

**Spring Migratory Priority Areas**

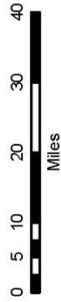
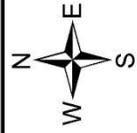
- Low
- Moderate
- Moderate-High
- High

Wetland landscapes were identified through the evaluation of wetland abundance and distribution data and existing IWJV and partner planning documents. The analysis ensured that all regionally significant wetland landscapes were included. Data from the Intermountain Joint Venture, 2012

Spring migratory priority areas depict the relative priority areas for spring migratory birds in southern Oregon-northeast California (SONEC) developed from kernel density estimation of locations points from radio-marked dabbling ducks over a cumulative 4 year period (2000-2003). Data courtesy of Intermountain West Joint Venture.



## 2012 IWJV Wetland Landscapes and Spring Migratory Priority Areas Within the Lakes Reporting Basin



### **Indicator species and/or species of interest supported by this habitat**

An estimated 70 percent of migratory birds—including over 6 million waterbirds—annually pass through the SONEC region, which includes the Oregon Closed Lakes Basin. Moreover, the Closed Lakes Basin provides critical habitat to important bird species that utilize this region as part of the Great Basin network of habitat: 1) most of North America’s snowy plovers (federally listed under the Endangered Species Act [ESA]) breed in the region; 2) most of North America’s eared grebes, long-billed dowitchers, and all of the world’s Wilson’s phalaropes use the region during migration; 3) most of the world’s American avocets (a keystone species) use the region for an extended post-breeding period, and over 50% of this species breeds in the Great Basin; 4) most of the world’s white-faced ibis breed in the Great Basin; and 5) about 80% of nesting greater sandhill cranes in Oregon are found into the Closed Lakes Basin. Additional migratory and resident bird species also rely on this habitat.

Of particular importance is habitat for shorebird species and migratory birds on the spring migration path. This region provides a diversity of food production at different salt regimes throughout the year; thus, seasonal water conditions drive habitat function and productivity. Additionally, the Closed Lakes Basin wetlands support native fish species such as Warner and Modoc sucker fish (ESA-listed), tui chub, and redband trout.

### **Why it is significant to the state**

Closed Lakes Basin wetlands are ecologically unique high-desert wetlands that provide critical habitat for numerous migratory and resident bird species. This region has international importance as habitat for migratory birds, including the ESA-listed species cited above. Oregon’s Closed Lakes Basin wetlands habitat are a significant portion of the greater SONEC complex of wetlands that are so critical to the millions of birds that travel the Pacific Flyway each year. The Intermountain West Joint Venture recognizes the SONEC region as one of two priority areas in the Intermountain West for wetland-dependent birds. Greater sage-grouse depend on these wetland habitats for foraging habitat for brooding (see related priority). ESA-listed Warner and Modoc sucker fish also are found in this habitat, as referenced above.

The region also fosters an historic and vitally important ranching community and associated economy that depends on the ecological health of these wetland habitats. In addition, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and other wildlife areas in the Closed Lakes Basin are critical recreational and economic resources for these rural counties. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has documented over 65,000 annual visitors to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge alone.

Finally, the implications of climate change in this region may lead to a reduction in water availability, further altering the natural hydrologic regime, which could lead to higher salinity levels in lakes and wetlands. This issue lends added urgency to the importance of conservation efforts concerning this unique habitat.

**Key limiting factors and/or ecological threats, with a focus on ecosystem function and process**

- Loss and degradation of wetlands habitat, including salinization and an imbalance of seasonal saline gradients;
- Seasonal water availability as a result of altered natural hydrologic functioning, including the conversion to sprinkler irrigation from flood irrigation that provided surrogate wetland habitat and impacts of climate change;
- Proliferation of invasive common carp, whose feeding behavior has destroyed vast natural marsh habitat by uprooting vegetation and increasing suspended sediments and turbidity that significantly reduces vegetation otherwise available as a food source for birds and other wildlife; and
- Invasive plant and macroinvertebrate species, which can reduce food production for native bird species.

**Reference plans**

- 1) Oregon Conservation Strategy  
([http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read\\_the\\_strategy.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read_the_strategy.asp))
- 2) North American Waterfowl Management Plan  
(<http://www.fws.gov/birdhabitat/NAWMP/Planstrategy.shtm>)
- 3) Intermountain West Joint Venture Habitat Conservation Strategy Implementation Plan  
(<http://iwjv.org/2013-implementation-plan>)



## OWEB Focused Investment Partnership Priority SAGEBRUSH/SAGE-STEPPE HABITAT

### Summary Statement of Priority

---

The OWEB Board will consider proposals for investment in **sagebrush/sage-steppe habitat** for initiatives that address habitat conservation and restoration needs to achieve ecological outcomes over time at the landscape scale<sup>1</sup>.

OWEB's Focused Investment Priority for sagebrush/sage-steppe habitat guides voluntary actions that address primary ecological threats and limiting factors related to the quality of this habitat type. These actions also will support and/or improve ecosystem functions and processes, including those required by Greater sage-grouse, which is an indicator species for this habitat type. **These actions will be guided by the habitat and population objectives set forth in the State's sage-grouse strategy and the combined ecological and social outcomes described in the State's "Oregon Sage Grouse Action Plan" which are listed on page 3 of this document.**

Focal areas for this Priority are Priority Areas for Conservation (PACs) and the important connectivity corridors between these areas (see explanation and map). PACs do not represent individual populations, but rather key areas that have been identified as crucial to ensure adequate representation, redundancy, and resilience for conservation of its associated population or populations. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW's) sage-grouse strategy identifies core areas of habitat that align with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS's) PAC habitats. The core area approach uses biological information to identify important habitats with the objective of protecting the highest density breeding areas.

Landscape-scale sage-grouse conservation is critically important in Oregon as the habitat present here, along with that in southwest Idaho and northeast Nevada, has been identified by FWS as one of two sage-grouse 'strongholds' in the U.S. These sage-grouse strongholds are distinguished primarily as those areas that contain the highest densities of birds, are the most resistant and resilient to invasive species and altered fire regimes, and are the least vulnerable to impacts associated with the onset of climate change.

### Background

---

#### Where it occurs

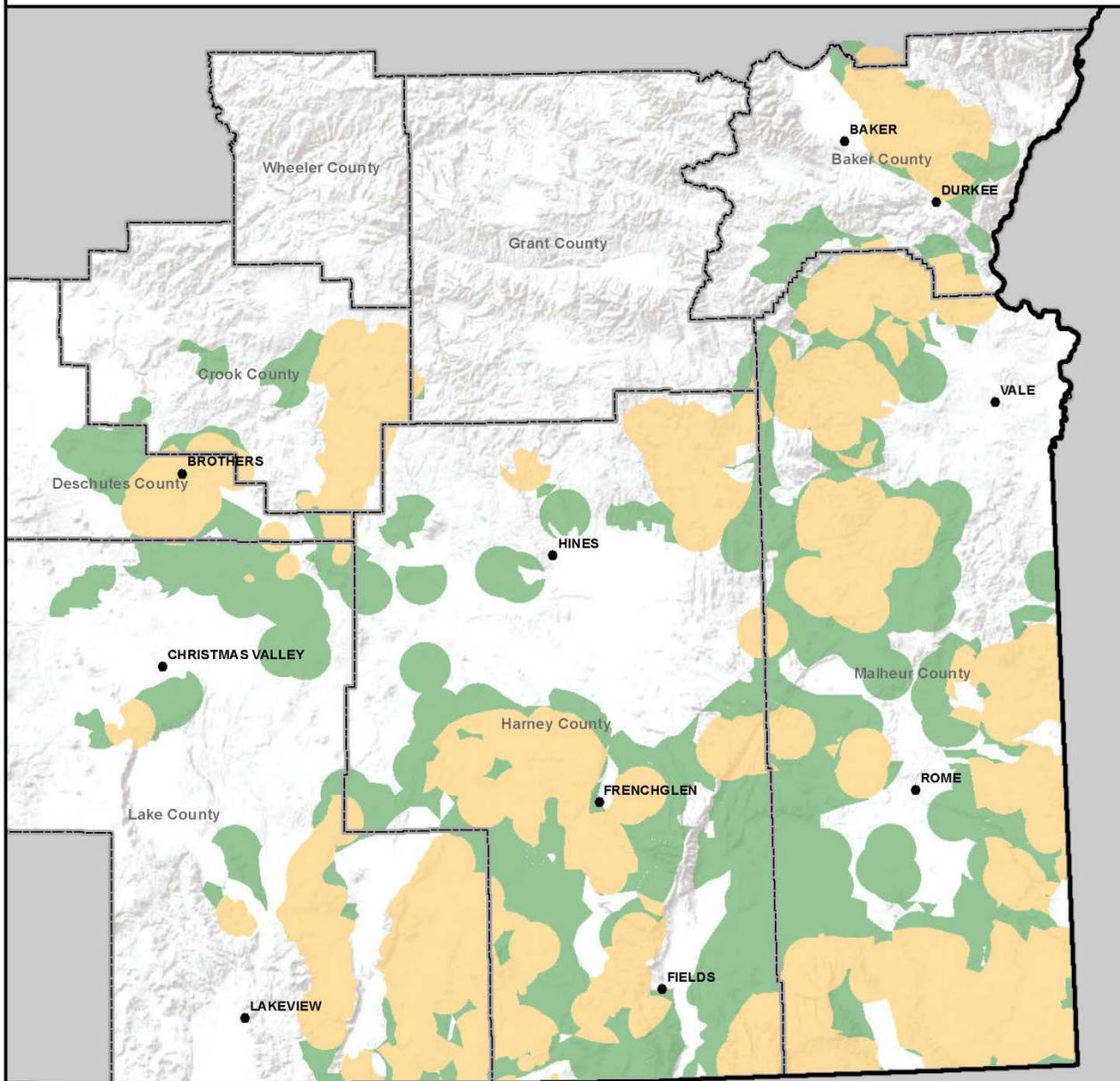
Sage-steppe habitat occurs throughout eastern Oregon and in parts of Central Oregon. Several ecoregions identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy (i.e., Northern Basin and Range, Blue Mountains, Columbia Plateau and East Cascades) contain this habitat type.

These habitats are both extensive and diverse. In general, sagebrush habitats occur on dry flats and plains, rolling hills, rocky hill slopes, saddles and ridges where precipitation is low. Sagebrush-steppe is dominated by grasses and forbs (more than 25 percent of the area) with an open shrub layer. In sagebrush steppe, natural fire regimes historically maintained a patchy distribution of shrubs and predominance of grasses. Connectivity corridors of similar habitats between these areas are important to connect otherwise fragmented sage-steppe habitat.

---

<sup>1</sup> The landscape scale refers to the scale at which environmental, economic, and social factors intersect.

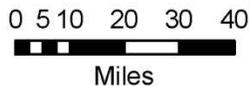
### Focused Investment Priority for Sagebrush/Sage-Steppe Habitat



Core and low density areas are ODFW designations. ODFW Core areas align with the USFWS Priority Areas for Conservation (PACs) for sage-grouse in Oregon.



### Sage Grouse Core and Low Density Areas



- S-G Core Areas / PACs
- S-G Low Density
- Counties
- cities

### **Indicator species and/or species of interest supported by this habitat**

Oregon Conservation Strategy Species associated with sagebrush include Greater sage-grouse, ferruginous hawk, loggerhead shrike, sage sparrow, Brewer's sparrow, sagebrush lizard, Washington ground squirrel, and pygmy rabbits. Other wildlife closely associated with sagebrush include: black-throated sparrow, sage thrasher, sagebrush vole, and pronghorn.

One particular species supported by sagebrush/sage-steppe habitat—the Greater sage-grouse—currently is being considered for listing under the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) and would be considered the primary indicator species for identification of priority investments for the Board through the Focused Investment Partnership program. Conservation actions to protect sagebrush/sage-steppe habitats should be designed in way that limits unintended consequences to aquatic habitats in these areas.

### **Why it is significant to the state**

Sagebrush/sage-steppe habitat is an imperiled habitat that supports a range of species. These areas are associated with an economically and socially important ranching and agricultural industry in communities throughout a large portion of the state. The state of Oregon is developing an "Oregon Sage Grouse Action Plan" to outline the actions necessary to conserve sage-grouse in Oregon in an effort to proactively avoid ESA- listing of the species. The plan has broad support by state and federal agencies, the ranching industry and conservationists.

### **Key limiting factors and/or ecological threats, with a focus on ecosystem function and process**

- Altered fire regimes, which result in changes to native plant communities and increased risk of habitat loss due to intense wildfires;
- Invasive species such as juniper and non-native grasses, which increase the frequency, intensity and extent of wildfires;
- Conversion to other land uses, which results in habitat loss and connectivity; and
- Limitations of current restoration technologies and the need for successful restoration approaches, particularly in low-elevation areas that face severe challenges to native plant species regeneration following wildfire.

### **Reference plans**

- 1) Oregon Conservation Strategy  
([http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read\\_the\\_strategy.asp](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/read_the_strategy.asp))
- 2) ODFW's Greater Sage-Grouse Conservation Assessment and Strategy for Oregon  
(<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wildlife/sagegrouse/>)
- 3) Final report from the Sage-Grouse Conservation Objectives Team (COT) 2013  
(<http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/species/birds/sagegrouse/COT/COT-Report-with-Dear-Interested-Reader-Letter.pdf>)
- 4) Oregon Sage Grouse Action Plan (in development)

## Focused Investment Partnerships (FIP)

FIP Applications/Awards since 2015

<b>FIP Board Priority</b>	<b>Development Applications</b>	<b>Development Awards</b>	<b>Implementation Applications</b>	<b>Implementation Awards</b>	<b>Total by Priority</b>
Aquatic Habitat for Native Fish Species	16	7	12	5	40
Coastal Estuaries in Oregon	2	2	1	0	5
Coho Habitat and Populations along the Oregon Coast	11*	8	3	0	22
Dry-Type Forest Habitat	2	0	3	2	7
Oak Woodland and Prairie	7	4	0	0	11
Oregon Closed Lakes Basin Wetlands	2	0	1	1	4
Sagebrush/Sage-steppe Habitat	0	0	2	2	4
<b>Total by Type</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>93</b>

\* Includes six Coho Business Planning Projects

Focused Investment Partnerships (FIP)  
2019 FIP Priorities Reassessment Timeline

<p><b>September-November 2018</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff discusses Priorities reassessment with subcommittee for input.</li> <li>• Staff prepares process and timeline for conducting Priorities reassessment review.</li> <li>• Staff initiates engagement with partnering agencies to assist with Priority review.</li> </ul>
<p><b>November 2018-April 2019</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ODFW conducts Native Fish map update process. ODFW produces a draft map for Staff review by April 30.</li> <li>• ODFW reviews Coho Priority relative to final OCC recovery plan and potential updates to Priority narrative and map.</li> <li>• Staff explores ODF Action Plan for Oregon Forests and coordinates with ODF to scope potential updates to Dry-type forest and/or Oak Woodlands Priorities.</li> <li>• Staff coordinates with ODFW wildlife habitat mapping to update Dry-Forest priority map.</li> <li>• Staff prepares updated Priorities materials: overview of Priority updates, explanation of ODFW's Native Fish mapping process, inventory of funding request/award for FIP Priorities, and Priority generic results chains to include with Priority memos as available.</li> </ul>
<p><b>May-June 2019</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff compiles full package of materials for public comment (including materials listed above).</li> <li>• Staff shares package of materials for OWEB review.</li> <li>• Staff shares package of materials for FIP Subcommittee review (June 14 mtg.).</li> <li>• Staff revises package of materials and prepares for release for public comment.</li> </ul>
<p><b>July-August 2019</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>July 16-17 OWEB Board Meeting</u>: Staff discuss status of FIP Priorities reassessment. This includes an overview of expectations for presenting final proposed revisions at October board meeting for board approval.</li> <li>• <u>July 18 – August 20 Public Comment</u>: Package of Priorities materials is shared publicly for a minimum 30-day public comment period, including with Oregon Tribes and current FIP grantees.</li> </ul>
<p><b>August-September 2019</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public comment is considered for additional revisions to updated Priorities. Staff coordinates with ODFW and/or other partners as needed.</li> <li>• Staff prepares final package of materials, including updated Priorities memos, for presentation to board at October meeting for consideration of approval.</li> </ul>
<p><b>October 2019</b></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>October 15-16 OWEB Board Meeting</u>: Staff presents final package of materials, including updated Priorities memos, to OWEB Board for consideration of approval.</li> </ul>

## Focused Investment Partnerships (FIP)

Table summarizing proposed revisions to FIP Board-identified Priorities, June 2019

FIP Priority	Proposed Revisions
Aquatic Habitat for Native Fish Species	<p>ODFW reviewed the map in the context of current conservation and recovery plans and consulted with ODFW staff statewide for professional input. Revisions have been made to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map was revised to focus on 5<sup>th</sup> field HUCs to increase spatial resolution and improve consistency across the state.</li> <li>• Southwest Oregon basins were assigned priority tiers (previously not designated with priority and identified in aqua color).</li> <li>• Several specific basins were reassessed for priority designation, including Warner, Walla Walla, Pudding, and NW coastal basins containing populations of chum salmon.</li> </ul> <p>The Priority memo narrative was updated based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stream habitats not covered by state conservation and/or federal recovery plans were also considered in the narrative discussion based on professional judgement of ODFW staff across the state.</li> <li>• Information was reviewed and updated relative to any new and/or revised plans since 2015.</li> <li>• Oregon Tribal plans are referenced relative to conservation/recovery plans guiding native fish conservation efforts.</li> <li>• Lamprey are recognized in the narrative discussion and noted as a benefitting species from conservation work related to this Priority. No lamprey plans were incorporated into the Conservation and Recovery Plans table.</li> </ul> <p>The Conservation and Recovery Plans for Native Fish Species table (Table 1) was updated based on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated based on new and/or revised plans since 2015.</li> <li>• Added ODFW Rogue Spring Chinook Salmon Conservation Plan (2007) and ODFW Conservation Plan for Fall Chinook Salmon in the Rogue Species Management Unit (2013).</li> <li>• Added dates of all plans.</li> </ul>
Coastal Estuaries in Oregon	OWEB Staff reviewed the priority memo and determined that updates are not necessary.
Coho Habitat and Populations along the Oregon Coast*	<p>The Priority memo narrative has been updated based on NOAA Fisheries having finalizing recovery plans for the Oregon Coast Coho (OCC) and Southern Oregon Northern California Coast Coho Recovery (SONCC) evolutionary significant units (ESUs) since 2015.</p> <p>The Priority memo narrative and map have been updated in anticipation of the planned removal of several major dams on the Klamath River and Coho recolonizing historical habitat in the upper Klamath basin.</p>
Dry-Type Forest Habitat	OWEB Staff worked with ODFW to determine if a species distribution map would align with the existing map illustrating percent of watersheds needing disturbance restoration. After extensive discussion, it was determined not to overlay the species map and to leave the priority map as is. Instead, staff proposes that the Dry-type Forest Habitat priority should be revised to include language that directs FIP applicants under this priority to consider how their actions would benefit Oregon Conservation Strategy Species.
Oak Woodland and Prairie	OWEB Staff reviewed the priority memo and determined that updates are not necessary.
Oregon Closed Lakes Basin Wetlands	OWEB Staff reviewed the priority memo and determined that updates are not necessary.
Sagebrush/Sage-steppe Habitat	OWEB Staff reviewed the priority memo and determined that updates are not necessary.



Kate Brown, Governor



OREGON  
WATERSHED  
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem OR 97301-1290  
[www.oregon.gov/oweb](http://www.oregon.gov/oweb)  
(503) 986-0178

*Agenda Item Q supports OWEB's Strategic Plan priority # 1: Broad awareness of the relationship between people and watersheds.*

## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
**FROM:** Eric Hartstein, Senior Policy Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item Q – 2017-2019 Oregon Plan Biennial Report: Update and Approval of Board Recommendations  
July 16-17, 2019 Board Meeting

### I. Introduction

This report provides an update about the agency's development of the 2017-2019 Biennial Report on the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds. The board will be asked to approve recommendations to include in the report, which will be submitted to the Legislature and Governor's Office by January 15, 2020.

### II. Background

Oregon Revised Statute 541.972 requires OWEB to submit a biennial report that assesses the statewide and regional implementation and effectiveness of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds to the Governor and appropriate committees of the Legislative Assembly. The report must address each drainage basin in the state and include information about watershed and habitat conditions, voluntary restoration activities, board investments, and recommendations from the board for enhancing effectiveness of the Oregon Plan, among other topics. Staff will be developing the content to be included in the biennial report over the summer and fall of 2019.

### III. OWEB Board Recommendations

Adhering to a similar approach as was used for the last biennial report, staff have been working with the board's executive committee for the last several months to review the 2015-2017 biennial report recommendations by the board found in Attachment A, and draft recommendations for the 2017-2019 Biennial Report. The executive committee supported a concept of building board recommendations for the biennial report based off of OWEB's 2018 Strategic Plan. Staff reviewed content from the strategic plan, and found the introductory board co-chair letter to the plan to contain high-level concepts, based on plan priorities, that could be incorporated into board recommendations for the biennial report. The executive committee reviewed the co-chair letter, and found that with specific examples highlighting actions taken to implement the strategic plan added, that the content would provide a useful framework for the board recommendations to the biennial

report. At the time of writing this staff report, staff have incorporated this input from the Executive Committee into a set of draft recommendations that will be presented to the board for consideration at the July meeting (Attachment B).

**IV. Staff Recommendation**

Staff recommend the board adopt the final draft recommendations found in Attachment B for inclusion in the 2017-2019 Biennial Report for the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds.

**Attachments**

Attachment A. 2015-2017 Oregon Plan Biennial Report Executive Summary

Attachment B. Proposed OWEB Board recommendations for the 2017-2019 Oregon Plan Biennial Report



## 2015-2017 BIENNIAL REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Oregon Plan* for Salmon and Watersheds

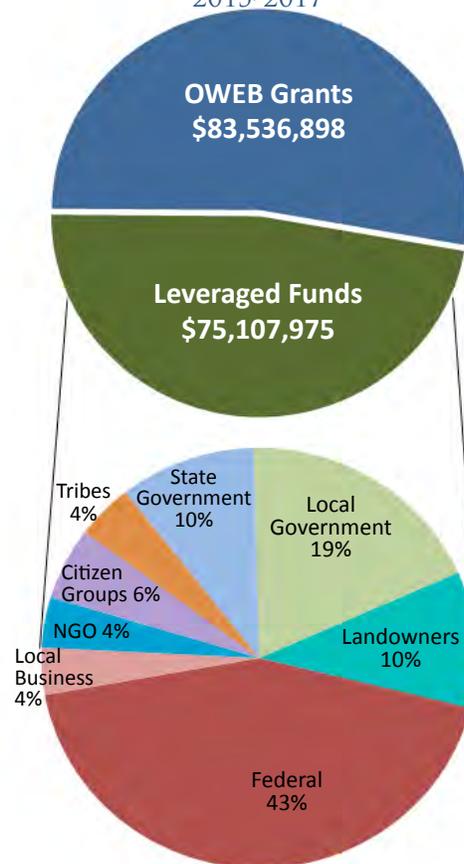
From rural landowners to urban residents, Oregonians value watersheds as a key to our quality of life in Oregon. This care and commitment helps drive on-the-ground projects that aim to improve water quality and restore habitat for native fish and wildlife. Since 1997, the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds (or 'the Oregon Plan') has guided these efforts. The Oregon Plan provides a statewide framework for restoration and conservation of the state's watersheds and fish and wildlife habitats, while at the same time supporting local economies and enriching Oregon's communities through local, voluntary restoration. Pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute 541.972, the Oregon Plan Biennial Report describes activities implemented under the plan for the 2015-2017 biennium. This Executive Summary of the biennial report highlights key investments and accomplishments over the past two years; coordinated actions among Oregon Plan partners and agencies; and recommendations from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) about future work. The full report can be found on the [Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds website](#) and includes information about each region of the state, as well as additional details about the activities and accomplishments summarized below.

### 2015-2017 INVESTMENTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Total funding for watershed enhancement projects in Oregon was over \$158 million during the 2015-2017 Biennium. This total includes funding provided by OWEB from the Oregon Lottery, the Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF), salmon license plate revenues, and other sources. PCSRF, funded by NOAA Fisheries, remained an important contributor to Oregon's restoration efforts. Significant funding to match these dollars is provided by other funders, agencies, and partner organizations, increasing the impact of OWEB funding throughout the state.

Partners under the Oregon Plan are as important and diverse as the actions they undertake to benefit salmon and watersheds. These partners include landowners, non-profit organizations, tribes, local businesses, individuals, and all levels of government, each contributing to collaborative investments designed to support priority actions across the state.

#### OWEB AWARDED GRANTS 2015-2017



Grants awarded by OWEB from 7/1/15 to 6/30/17, the amount of leveraged funds contributed by grant participants, and the percentage of leveraged funds contributed by different categories of participants.

Watershed Metric	OWRI	BLM	USFS	Total
Riparian Miles (e.g., streamside plantings)	245.6	128.8	187	561.4
Instream Habitat Miles (e.g., wood placement)	153.6	-	-	153.6
Miles of Fish Habitat Made Accessible	142.0	16.6	182.0	340.6
Stream Crossings Improved for Fish Passage	91	8	64	163
Push-up Dams Retired to Improve Fish Passage	14	-	-	14
Fish Screens Installed on Water Diversions	31	-	-	31
Upland Acres (e.g., juniper thinning, seeding)	68,141.4	-	-	68,141.4
Wetland Acres (e.g., wetland habitat created)	2,128.2	-	-	2,128.2
Miles of Road Closures	21.0	1.5	274.0	296.5
Miles of Road Improvements (e.g., erosion control)	53.0	111.5	125.0	289.5
Miles of Riparian Invasive Treatments	508.0	-	-	508.0

Watershed restoration activities completed from 1/1/15 to 12/31/16 as reported to the Oregon Watershed Restoration Inventory (OWRI), U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and U.S. Forest Service (USFS). Restoration metrics are collected after projects are completed and reported to OWEB. Therefore, there is a lag between the current biennium and the time period for which metrics are available.

## COORDINATED AGENCY ACTIONS

Oregon Plan agencies recognize the value of shared approaches. Collaboration across state natural resources agencies continued throughout the 2015-2017 biennium on several key interagency initiatives, including (but are not limited to):

- The Sage-Grouse Conservation Partnership ([SageCon](#)), which brings together landowners, agencies, and interest groups to identify and address threats to sagebrush habitats and the species that rely on them, implementing the [Oregon Greater Sage-Grouse Action Plan](#) (2015);
- The Conservation Effectiveness Partnership, a collaborative effort among multiple state and federal agencies that aims to describe the effectiveness of cumulative conservation and restoration actions in achieving natural resource outcomes through collaborative monitoring, evaluation, and reporting;
- Agricultural landowners engaging in innovative

and results-oriented water quality improvements with assistance from Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA's) Coordinated Streamside Management and Strategic Implementation Areas initiative;

- Ongoing implementation of Oregon's Integrated Water Resources Strategy (led by the Oregon Water Resources Department) and the state's Federal Forest Health Program (led by the Oregon Department of Forestry);
- The first update to the [Oregon Conservation Strategy](#) in 2016; and
- Initial implementation of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's [Multi-Species Coastal Management Plan](#) for salmon and other native fish.

Additional information about coordinated actions around the state focused on monitoring water quality and quantity, fish populations, and habitat, are described in the [Biennial Report](#), along with details about other Oregon Plan agency programs.

## FROM THE OWEB BOARD



In the past two biennia, the OWEB Board has made recommendations in four significant investment areas: Operating Capacity, Open Solicitation, Focused Investments, and Monitoring. During the 2015-2017 biennium, OWEB invested significant effort in turning these recommendations into reality, awarding over \$13 million in Operating Capacity grants; over \$45 million in Open Solicitation grants; nearly \$14 million in Focused Investment Partnerships; launching a new online grant application system; and continuing to support monitoring and reporting on all aspects of the Oregon Plan.

The OWEB Board has nearly completed an update to its 2010 Strategic Plan, which provides an opportunity for the agency to strategically look at its programs and granting decisions, and consider how best to address new challenges and seize upon new opportunities over the long term.

As we look toward the future, the Board recommends support of several investment areas and partnerships.

- Continuing to invest in local organizational capacity via OWEB's Operating Capacity grant-making and locally driven, high-priority projects—including working lands approaches on both forestry and agricultural lands around the state—through Open Solicitation grants, along with effectiveness monitoring of these investments.
- Making programmatic investments that contribute to the conservation and recovery of native fish and

wildlife and their habitats through coordinated, large-scale programs. Examples include:

- Investing in future Focused Investment Partnerships and associated monitoring and tracking of progress by these partnerships.
- Continuing OWEB's commitment to greater sage-grouse habitat restoration by investing at least \$10 million in funds between 2015 and 2025.
- Assisting with implementation of the federal recovery plan for Oregon Coast coho salmon by supporting development of strategic action plans in support of coho restoration work.
- Developing partnerships with other state and federal agencies to improve the use of water-quality data to inform conservation and restoration investments and develop tools to improve water quality and streamside health on agricultural lands. One example is Coordinated Streamside Management, initiated by ODA and OWEB to improve water quality, initially focused on agricultural lands.
- Supporting Oregon's forest health by administering grants to forest health collaboratives in partnership with Oregon Department of Forestry.
- Supporting Oregon's working farms and ranches in coordination with agriculture and conservation organizations to identify approaches to keep working lands in agriculture while supporting fish, wildlife and other natural resource values. Find more information on the [Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program webpage](#).

## **Draft 2017-2019 Biennial Report Board Recommendations**

In 2018, the OWEB Board adopted a strategic plan that celebrates all that OWEB and its partners have accomplished over the past twenty years, and sets a course for the next ten.

OWEB, our partners, and our grantees have much to celebrate. With over \$550 million in investments from Lottery, Salmon License Plates, federal and other funds, our grantees have restored 5,100 miles of streams, and improved habitat on over 1.1 million acres in the watersheds above those streams. Coupled with the restoration or creation of 51,000 acres of wetlands and estuaries, these gains support clean water and habitat for Oregonians and the fish and wildlife species that call this state home.

Our current investment portfolio – ranging from our flagship Open Solicitation grants to our newly established Organizational Collaboration grants – provides the foundation to improve the health of our watersheds by investing in people in our local communities. OWEB grants support local community partners to work with farmers, ranchers, forestland owners, and local contractors to provide clean water for Oregonians and healthy habitat for our fish and wildlife.

Our new plan builds on that strong granting foundation. As we look forward to the next ten years, the board recommends focusing our efforts, and current and future grant offerings, to address these strategic priorities:

Working with partners such as the Oregon Lottery which is engaged in a state-wide awareness campaign on conservation, we will help Oregonians better understand the relationship between people and watersheds, and provide opportunities for them to improve the health of their own watershed. At the same time, we will ensure that leaders at all levels of watershed work reflect the diversity of Oregonians, which begins by listening, learning and gathering information so that new and varied populations are engaged in watershed conservation.

Our board and staff recognize that healthy watersheds are supported by the people who care for them. As we look to the future, OWEB will use its current grant offerings and consider new offerings that support community capacity and strategic partnerships to achieve healthy watersheds, for example the new Partnership Technical Assistance grant offering.

While OWEB is a major investor in healthy watersheds, there are many others with a vested interest in this work. In partnership with agencies, foundations, and the business community, we will help watershed organizations have access to a diverse and stable funding portfolio, which includes new, coordinated grant making opportunities with NRCS, ODOT, USFWS and others to leverage investments.

Since our inception, much of the work of our local partners has taken place on private farms, ranches and forestlands. Over the next ten years, we will find ways to improve landowner access to funding and technical support for conservation on their lands, including through Oregon Agricultural Heritage Program grants, ensuring that the value of working lands is fully integrated into watershed health.

We will invest in coordinated monitoring and shared learning to advance watershed restoration effectiveness and increase the capacity to track and communicate the impact of OWEB's grant-making, including continued support for the Conservation Effectiveness Partnership that describes the benefits of cumulative conservation actions among agency partners. Oregon has long been recognized as a leader in its care for the watersheds we call home. Oregonians have chosen to permanently invest in healthy watersheds, which allow local partners the space to test bold and innovative actions to achieve health in Oregon's watersheds. This includes approving new Implementation Focused Investment Partnerships that implement landscape-scale conservation in watersheds across the state.