



empowering the lasting conservation of fish and wildlife and citizen enjoyment of our natural resources

Grant Application Cover Sheet

Please complete the following coversheet. See the grant application guidelines on our website www.myowf.org/grants to complete your application. Volunteer organizations without nonprofit status must have a tax-exempt fiscal sponsor. You may scan and email this cover sheet and your application.

About You

- 1 Project Title: Explorer Packs for Harney County Environmental Education Initiatives
- 2 Organization: Audubon Society of Portland
- 3 volunteer organizations without nonprofit status, list your fiscal sponsor:
- 4 Tax id number (not required for governmental applicants): 93-6026088
- 5 Project Manager Name: Teresa Wicks Title: Eastern Oregon Field Coordinator
- 6 City: Burns Address: Zip Code:
- 7 Phone (office): (541)-450-7560 Phone (mobile): (541)-450-7560 email: twicks@audubonportland.org

Tell us about yourself (brief biographical statement): Teresa Wicks joined Portland Audubon in April 2018. In her role as Eastern Oregon Field Coordinator, Teresa works on bird surveys, policy and connecting peopl from Harney County and throughout Oregon to the conservation work being done throughout the Harney Basin. Teresa spent her childhood roaming the forests of Southern Oregon. An early obsession with birds led to hours of hiking and exploration, and earned her the nickname Bird. Teresa has a B.S. in Natural Resources, nearly completed a B.S. in Wildlife Conservation, an M.S. in Environmental Education, and recently completed her PhD at OSU. Teresa has a diversity of conservation related experiences including field work, and coordinating an environmental education cooperative in Klamath.

- 8
- 9 Have you applied for a grant from Oregon Wildlife Foundation before? Yes No
- 10 If "yes", what was the name of the project?

About Your Proposed Project

- 11 What type of project are you proposing? Fish Wildlife Other
- 12 Will it address an Oregon Conservation Strategy habitat or species? Yes No
If "yes", please name the habitat and/or species addressed:
- 13 Proposed start date: Ongoing Anticipated end date: Ongoing
- 14 Project Location (attach map): Nearest town or city: Burns County: Harney County
- 15 Has a local, state, or federal biologist reviewed this project? Yes No
If "yes", what is their name? Phone: ()- - email:
- 16 If "no", what is your plan for an external review of the project? None
- 17 Estimated project cost: \$23,000 Funding you are requesting: \$5000
- 18 How will you use the requested funds? Supplies for Youth Programs in Harney County
- 19 What will you accomplish (ex., stream miles enhanced, acres planted?)
- 20 Check the following box to be added to our email distribution list:

Project Abstract/Summary

- 21 Limited to 750 characters. Do not begin your narrative here or link to other pages: Portland Audubon is requesting funding to make "Explorer Packs" that can be loaned out from the Harney County Library in Burns by members of the community and for supplies for its Bird Scouts Program. These materials will be utilized for a variety of environmental education programs led by Portland Audubon in Harney County and designed to engage youth and families in birding and

OREGON WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

empowering the lasting conservation of fish and wildlife and citizen enjoyment of our natural resources ongoing efforts to connect restore wetlands at Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and across the Harney Basin. One of the limiting factors in Audubon's efforts to engage the community is lack of quality birding equipment.

Certifications

- 22 Check here to certify that you have already or will obtain necessary permits from all requisite agencies *as applicable to the proposed project*.
- 23 I have included pre-project pictures or video as well as a picture or video entry of myself.
- 24 I understand that I'm required to submit a Project Completion Report, copies of any publications or social media posts crediting the Foundation's support, and post-project pictures at the completion of my project.
- 25 I warrant that I am the legal owner of all pictures and video submitted in application and grant permission for the Foundation to reproduce, exhibit, or publish them for all general purposes in relation to Oregon Wildlife Foundation's work.
- 26 Signature of Applicant or Authorizing Official: _____

Robert Schlinger
Robert Schlinger
Conservation Director
Audubon Soc of Portland

Audubon Society of Portland Project Application to Oregon Wildlife Foundation

About Audubon Society of Portland:

Audubon Society of Portland was founded in 1902 with a mission to inspire people to love and protect nature. Today we are the largest chapter of the National Audubon Society in the United States with over 35 staff, 600 active volunteers and 17,000 members. We work across the State of Oregon to protect native wildlife and the habitats on which they depend and to engage communities in conservation. Our activities include conservation advocacy, environmental education, running Oregon's busiest wildlife hospital and owning managing wildlife sanctuaries in Portland, at the Oregon Coast and on Mt. Hood.

Audubon Society of Portland's Work in Harney County:

One of our highest priorities since our founding more than a century ago has been the protection of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge and the surrounding wetlands in the Harney Basin. Malheur is one of the most important bird refuges in the Western United States, providing migratory and nesting habitat for more than 300 avian species. Each year hundreds of thousands of waterfowl and tens of thousands of shorebirds pass through Malheur. The refuge hosts up to half the world's population of Ross's Geese, 20% of the world's population of White-faced Ibises, the largest population of Sandhill Cranes of any refuge in the west, and a variety of other globally and continentally important avian populations.

In 1905, Portland Audubon's president William L. Finley petitioned President Theodore Roosevelt to create the Lake Malheur Bird Reserve, known today as Malheur National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Portland Audubon also took the lead on expanding the Refuge to the Blitzen Valley in the 1930's. More recently Portland Audubon was part of the collaborative effort to write the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for Malheur NWR, finalized in 2013 and has been a core partner in the [Harney Basin Wetlands Initiative](#) which brings together the refuge, local, state and federal agencies, local communities, the Burns-Paiute Tribe, ranchers, and conservation stakeholders in a collaborative effort to protect and restore wetlands both at Malheur and on the surrounding ranchlands on the Silvies Floodplain. The collaborative work in Harney County has been nationally lauded for its successful efforts to bring together diverse stakeholders on what has historically been one the most conflicted landscapes in the west.

Audubon has placed temporary staff resources in Harney County for more than a decade. In 2018, we were able to hire Teresa Wicks as permanent full-time Audubon staff in Harney County. Dr. Wick's priorities including leading bird surveys to support the Malheur CCP, public outreach/ engagement and outreach and policy initiatives.

Project Proposal:

Audubon is requesting \$5,000 to create 15 Explorer Packs that would be housed at the Harney County Library in Burns, Oregon and supplies for our Bird Scout Program which will engage 20 Harney County Youth in year-round birding activities. One of Audubon's top priorities in Harney County is connecting the community to birding and bird conservation efforts. In recent decades, the Harney County community has been highly estranged from the refuge and conservation efforts have often been viewed with hostility by local residents. That dynamic has slowly begun to shift due the effective collaborative conservation efforts that have been put in place over the last fifteen years and the relationships that have been built between diverse stakeholders. Continuing to build positive community engagement will be essential to expand support for conservation initiatives both on the refuge and on surrounding privately owned floodplains. It is also essential to building the type of trust, understanding and communication necessary to navigate and resolve historic conflicts over land management.

A cornerstone of Audubon's strategy in Eastern Oregon is engaging the community, and particularly youth and families, in positive birding and conservation experiences. Audubon uses a very effective model that builds long-term, sustained support for complex conservation initiatives by supporting those efforts with a wide range of fun and educational community engagement initiatives including environmental education programs, field trips, volunteer restoration work parties and community science programs. We work along a continuum the moves people from inspiration to understanding to conservation action.

Over the past 2.5 years that we have had fulltime staffing in Harney County, we have been tremendously excited by the level of enthusiasm that the local community has demonstrated towards the programs we have offered. When we first placed staff in Harney County, there was some question as to how Audubon programing might be received. In fact, we have found that there is solid support, active participation and ample opportunity for partnerships. Audubon has initiated and/ or partnered on a wide range of community engagement activities including bird walks, volunteer restoration work parties, events, programing for Burns-Paiute youth, community science initiatives, and a Christmas Bird Count for kids (CBC4KIDS). The CBC4KIDS in 2019 reached 24 youth (and 8 adults): 33% were Paiute, 2% were Paiute and African American, 65% were white. Our partners in these various efforts include the refuge, the library, the Burns-Paiute Tribe and local businesses.

One of the most significant impediments to our education and outreach efforts in Harney County is a lack of good birding resources for kids and families including binoculars, guides and other needed supplies. Many of the youth and families participating in our programs do not have equipment and resources appropriate for these programs. 29% of

youth under 18 living in Harney County are living in poverty, 22% of people in Harney County are under age 18.

The funding we are requesting would go toward two closely related efforts.

- 1) Explorer Packs: We have worked with the Harney County Library to develop a program in which youth, families and the public can check-out Explorer Packs from the library to participate in official programs or to pursue birding on their own. We would like to house 15 packs at the library for this purpose
- 2) Materials for Bird Scout Program: Our Bird Scout Program will provide field experiences for up to 20 Harney County youth throughout the year. This program will be focused on youth (and their families) who want to delve deeper into birding and bird conservation. Monthly programs will include birding trips, community science, restoration activities and bird related events.

The funding would go entirely towards funding the Bird Scout Packs and supplies for our Bird Scout Program and their contents which includes the following:

Explorer pack supplies for 15 packs:

- Osprey backpacks 15 x \$84 = \$1,260
- *Birds of Oregon books 15 x \$8 = \$120
- Hand lenses 15 x \$2.35 = \$35.25
- Bug boxes 48 count = \$84.24
- Binoculars 15 x \$140 = \$2,100
- Insect, night sky, butterflies and moths, and mammals id guides \$32 per set x 15 = \$480

Total = \$4,079.49

Bird Scouts Materials for 20 youth:

- *Patches and "We're with the birds" t-shirts from Bird collective 20 of each = \$1,000
- Materials and supplies for activities \$100 x 12/month = \$1,200
- Bird feeder kits 20 x \$40 = \$800
- Field Notebooks \$12.95 per 3 pack x 20 = \$259

Total = \$3,259

Combined Total: \$7,338.49**

**We are seeking \$5,000 towards these costs. We are optimistic that we can get some of these materials either via donation or at reduced cost and thereby bring the total need down to \$5000. To the degree that we are not successful in that effort, we would reduce the overall amount of materials provided accordingly. All staff time associated with these efforts is being covered by Portland Audubon (estimated at approximately \$18,000/ year)

Benefits of the Programs:

- 1) Youth and families of Harney County will have access to free high quality birding equipment that will allow them to participate in Audubon programming as well as pursue birding on their own.
- 2) Audubon will continue provide a series of birding opportunities for youth and families throughout the year including bird walks, field trips, volunteer restoration parties, events, CBC4KIDs, programming for the Burns-Paiute, and community science initiatives.
- 3) 20 youth will have the opportunity to participate in our Bird Scouts Program and receive more intensive year round opportunities to explore birding and bird conservation in the Harney Basis.

Recognition for Oregon Wildlife Foundation

Oregon Wildlife Foundation will be acknowledge in a variety of ways including promotions of the explorer packs and Bird Scout Program, through Audubon's annual reports and through Audubon's Harney Basin outreach tools (for example our Restore Malheur Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/RestoreMalheur/>)

Conclusion:

Thank you for your consideration of this grant application. Audubon believes that the conservation work that is currently occurring in the Harney Basis is essential to protecting and restoring bird populations on the Pacific Flyway. The work that is currently occurring is nationally recognized for its collaborative nature and bridging deep historic divides over conservation initiatives. In order to be successful, we must continue to broaden and deepen the engagement of the community. Audubon's youth and family outreach efforts help accomplish that objective by engaging youth and family (many of them underserved) in birding and bird conservation. The funding provided by this grant will help propel that work forward.

Photos from CBC4KIDS 2019:









Your budget should detail sources of support and expenses for your proposed project. Please do not use any format other than the one provided here. Instructions have been inserted as notes; put your cursor over the marked cell to read.

Project Budget			
Project Revenue	Cash	In-Kind	Committed/Pending
<i>Oregon Wildlife Foundation request</i> →	\$5,000.00		Pending
Audubon Staffing		\$18,000.00	Secured
revenues	\$5,000.00	\$18,000.00	
Total Project Support			\$ 23,000.00
Project Expenses			Amount
Staffing			\$18,000.00
Osprey backpacks 15 x \$84			\$1,260.00
Birds of Oregon Books 15 x \$8			\$120.00
Hand Lenses 15 x \$2.35			\$35.25
Bug Boxes 48 count			\$84.20
Insect, night sky, butterflies and moths and mammals id guides 15 x			\$480.00
Patches (monthly merit patches), t-shirts, etc. from Bird Collective)			\$1,000.00
Materials and supplies for activities for on year (\$100/ month x 12)			\$1,200.00
Bird Feeder Kits 20 x \$40			\$800.00
Field Notebooks 3 pack x 20 x \$12.95			\$259.00
Binoculars \$15 x 140			\$2,100.00
*** Note on balances budget that we expect to get some of these			
Total Project Expenses			\$25,338.45
<i>Balanced budget? This cell should read "\$0.00" →</i>			-\$2,338.45

P.O. Box 21224, Seattle, WA 98111

Portland Audubon Society
Attn: Al Miller
5151 N.W. Cornell Road
Portland, OR 97210

Charlene F. Demary

(206) 442-5130

EP/ED:TS:CFD

JAN 19 1976

Gentlemen:

This is in answer to your telephone request of January 12, 1976.

We regret that we do not have a copy of the original exemption letter issued to you.

Records of this office, however, disclose that you were granted exemption from Federal income taxes December 1, 1947, under the present section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954.

Based on the information you submitted October 19, 1970, you were classified as an organization that was not a private foundation as defined in section 509(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code.

This letter should be retained in your permanent files and photocopies only distributed.

Very truly yours,

Ralph S. Busacker
Chief, Technical Staff
Employee Plans and Exempt
Organizations Division