

# Grant Application

Jim McCarthy



Email : jim@waterwatch.org

Application ID : A10MJ42

Custom Ref. -

Application Start Date: 2021-08-20 02:46:16

Application Completed Date: 2021-08-20 12:33:47

1 Have you ever applied for an OWF grant before?

no

2 Have you ever been denied for an OWF grant before?

no

3 Project Title

Slate Creek Dam Removals

4 Name of my Organization

WaterWatch of Oregon

5 If your organization is not a tax-exempt nonprofit, please list the name of your fiscal sponsor

-

If this does not apply to you, write N/A

N/A

6 Project Manager Full Name

Jim McCarthy

7 Project Manager Mailing Address

-

Please enter full address with city, state & zip

PO Box 261, Ashland, OR 97520

8	Project Manager Phone Number
	541-708-0048
9	Project Manager Email Address
	jim@waterwatch.org
10	Please provide a brief biographical statement about yourself
	WaterWatch's southern Oregon representative since 2012, Jim McCarthy has been a working advocate for PNW rivers and salmon since 2001. He has teammember experience on several successful past dam removal/fish passage projects in the Rogue Basin, including Fielder and Wimer dam removals, Gold Hill Irrigation District Diversion Dam improvement, Gold Ray Dam removal, and Savage Rapids Dam removal. Jim has a BA from Princeton University.
11	Provide any social media handles you use - Enter social handles or URLs such as instagram, facebook, twitter, youtube, etc. so that we can use to cross promote on our channels - if you do not have any, please place N/A
	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/WaterWatchofOR/">https://www.facebook.com/WaterWatchofOR/</a> , <a href="https://twitter.com/WaterWatchofOR">https://twitter.com/WaterWatchofOR</a> , <a href="https://www.instagram.com/waterwatchoforegon/">https://www.instagram.com/waterwatchoforegon/</a>
12	Please indicate if you are currently following Oregon Wildlife Foundation on our social media channels
	- Twitter
13	Total estimated project cost
	585218
14	Funding that you are requesting from OWF - If you're request if for more than \$5,000, please contact Tim Greseth - <a href="mailto:tim@myowf.org">tim@myowf.org</a> before submitting your application.
	5000
15	What type of project are your proposing?
	Fish
16	Will your project address an Oregon Conservation Strategy habitat or species?
	yes
16.1	What habitat or species is addressed?
	Flowing water and riparian habitats; Coho salmon; Chinook salmon; Pacific Lamprey; Steelhead/rainbow trout

17	Start date of project- Day/Month/Year
	01-07-2021
18	End date of project
	15-10-2021
19	Location of project
	Wilderville, OR, USA
20	Has a local, state or federal biologist reviewed this project?
	yes
20.1	What is their name and contact info?
	Pete Samarin, ODFW, peter.a.samarin@state.or.us, 541-930-2702
21	Have you already or will you obtain necessary permits from all requisite agencies as applicable to proposed project?
	yes
22	What will the requested funds be used for?
	Construction contracting
23	Provide a brief Project Summary
	<p>This project would remove 3 dams, including 1 dam ranked in Group 4 of ODFW's 2019 Statewide Fish Passage Priority List, and significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat. This project includes a transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point roughly 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing added benefit for fish and water quality. A new solar-powered, screened pump will be installed to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property but increase irrigation efficiency by eliminating a leaky 1,000-foot canal. Impacted species include Chinook, Coho, summer and winter Steelhead, Pacific Lamprey, Cutthroat, and Suckers.</p>

24 Upload pre-project pictures or a video -  
By submitting these photos or video I warrant that I am the legal owner of this media and grant the Foundation permission to reproduce, exhibit, or publish them for all general purposes in relation to Oregon Wildlife Foundation's work. If you have questions about photo or video submissions please refer to [myowf.org/grants](http://myowf.org/grants) for guidance.

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25 Fill out the budget

<b>Project Revenue</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind</b>	<b>Committed / Pending</b>
<b>Oregon Wildlife Foundation Request</b>	10000		Pending
NOAA	70000	1477	Committed
Rogue Flyfishers	1000		Committed
OWEB	67500		Committed
USFWS Partners Program	58000	3801	Committed
ODFW	104200	4000	Committed
PacifiCorp	177700	10000	Committed
TFT Blue Sky	40000		Committed
LNFF	20000		Pending
WaterWatch		15540	Committed
BLM		2000	Committed
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>548400.00</b>	<b>36818.00</b>	
		<b>TOTAL PROJECT SUPPORT</b>	<b>585218.00</b>
<b>Project Expenses</b>	<b>Cash</b>	<b>In-Kind</b>	<b>Total</b>
Project Coordination (WaterWatch)		15540	<b>15540.00</b>
Permitting (PacifiCorp)		10000	<b>10000.00</b>
Contracted Services	548400		<b>548400.00</b>
Technical Assistance		11278	<b>11278.00</b>
			<b>0.00</b>
			<b>0.00</b>
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			<b>0.00</b>
		<b>TOTAL PROJECT EXPENSES</b>	<b>585218.00</b>
<b>Balanced budget? This cell should read "0" ----&gt;</b>		<b>NET</b>	<b>0.00</b>

26 Upload your Project Narrative -  
Please make sure your narrative is no more than 7 pages long, single spaced, 12 pt. font (Calibri preferred).

1 Document Uploaded

27 Upload letters of support

10 Documents Uploaded

28 I understand that I am 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

yes

Powered by **Submit.com**

— Grant Application

Jim McCarthy

Application ID: **A10MJ42**

1 Are the eligible?

No Answer Provided

## Oregon Wildlife Foundation Grant Application

### Project Narrative - Slate Creek Dam Removals

#### 1. Describe your organization and the work that it does.

Since 1985, WaterWatch has pursued a single clear mission: To protect and restore flows in our rivers to sustain the native fish, wildlife, and the people who depend on healthy rivers. WaterWatch was the first organization in the West to seek structural reform of antiquated water laws to protect and restore our rivers.

WaterWatch is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization working in the legislature, the courts, with state and federal agencies, and with other stakeholders at the intersection of water law and river conservation. We have seven full time staff, two part time staff, and one contract lobbyist in Salem. Our main office is in Portland, with a longstanding field office in the Rogue River Basin.

WaterWatch has worked for decades to remove dams and improve flows to benefit the Rogue Basin's fish populations while enhancing the region's way of life. WaterWatch's other successful fish passage improvement projects include Savage Rapids, Gold Ray, Fielder, and Wimer dam removals, and Gold Hill Irrigation District Dam improvement. Combined, these achievements represent one of the most substantial dam removal and river restoration efforts undertaken in the United States. Even so, much work remains to protect this incredible resource, and WaterWatch remains a leader in continuing Rogue River restoration efforts.

#### 2. Identify the need for the proposed project; an outline of it; and the anticipated benefits upon completion.

Need: This project will address the problem of fish passage at Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek and two unnamed dams on Slate Creek's tributary Welter Creek. Harboldt Dam specifically is ranked in Group 4 of ODFW's 2019 Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. Local ODFW staff have stated that the two unnamed dams to be removed on Welter Creek would also have qualified for ranking on this list.

The two unnamed Welter Creek dams do not have fish passage structures. Harboldt Dam does not comply with NOAA and



ODFW fish passage and fish screen criteria. The dam presents a complete barrier to juvenile salmonids and a partial barrier to adult salmonids. The current diversion intake screen violates fish protection criteria. The approach velocities exceed 0.4 fps, the screen openings are irregularly shaped and the openings are larger than 3/32 inch diameter, and there are gaps larger than 3/32 inch between the screen and the concrete intake structure.

The Rogue River Basin is the largest salmon and steelhead producer in Oregon outside of the Columbia River. Dam building began in the Rogue in the 1860s, and several hundred dams were built and maintained within the range of migratory fish. While overall the Rogue Basin supports a vibrant fishery, it is also replete with low-head dams that block or impede fish passage - including the three dams to be removed under this project.

Several high profile, Rogue River Basin dams have been removed over the past 12 years. However, more than 600 known fish passage barriers exist on tributary streams. These remaining fish passage barriers such as the three Slate Creek subbasin dams to be removed through this project pose both a high stress to juveniles and a medium-threat overall to Coho populations (NOAA Fisheries SONCC Recovery Plan, 2014).

The NOAA Plan specifically outlines the severity of stresses affecting each life stage of Coho in the Middle Rogue and Applegate River. Dams and diversions are identified as a key limiting threat; ranked as "medium" for fry and "very high" for juveniles, low for smolts, medium for adults with an overall rank of "high." In addition, altered hydrologic function is identified as a key limiting stress with a rank of "medium" for eggs and "very high" for fry, juveniles, smolts, "high" for adults and an overall stress rate of "very high." This project will address both fish passage and returning flow instream by moving the current point of diversion approximately 950 feet downstream, installing a screened pump, and replacing an approximately 1000-foot leaky concrete canal with a pipe for irrigation water delivery.

Other native fish, including fall Chinook, winter and summer steelhead, Cutthroat Trout, and Pacific Lamprey are also impacted by the passage issues at the dams.

As noted in the NOAA technical assistance letter attached to this application, "[t]he final SONCC coho salmon Recovery Plan identifies key limiting stresses for the MRAR population as dams/diversions and urban/residential/industrial development.

The Applegate River sub-basin stressors are the dams and diversions, that influence fish passage, stream flow and water quality. The low gradient tributaries of the Applegate River once provided important high quality summer and winter rearing habitat, the two primary limiting factors for recovering SONCC coho salmon. Slate Creek, the stream where [the] proposed dam removals would occur is long known as a refugia for coho salmon in the Applegate River sub-basin."

In addition, the reservoir pools created by the three dams result in increased predation on juvenile salmonids, inundation of spawning and rearing habitat, and warm up water in the creek. All three dams reduce gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

Outline: This project is currently being implemented and is located on private property and BLM-managed property near Wilderville, in Josephine County, on Slate Creek and its tributary Welter Creek, within the Applegate River subbasin of the Rogue River Basin.

Project design and permitting has already been completed. Construction completion is expected by October 2021. Remaining project steps include:

- Eliminate water diversion into the current inadequately screened, leaky, 1000-foot-long canal thereby eliminating harm to fish
- Regulate the diversion of water to the existing water rights at a new, screened diversion downstream from the current point of diversion, thereby reducing the overall amount of water diverted and eliminating the entrainment of fish in the diversion system, and increasing flows in Slate Creek for approximately 950 feet below the current site of Harboldt Dam
- Improve fish passage conditions in Slate Creek by removing Harboldt Dam
- Restore access to blocked salmon and steelhead habitat on Welter Creek by removing 2 dams
- Remove a relic road abutment to restore riparian and floodplain connectivity
- Decommission a BLM logging road adjacent to Welter Creek
- Generate a Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan (MAMP) in consultation with USGS, USFW, and NOAA Fisheries. The MAMP is to ensure the project meets the intended outcomes of restoring longitudinal stream

processes that facilitate fish passage. Furthermore, ODFW has conducted yearly pre-project monitoring and will continue yearly fish monitoring in both Slate and Welter Creeks, respectively, to evaluate the effect on salmonid populations in response to increased passage and habitat access

WaterWatch's project partners include the private landowner, OWEB, Rogue River Watershed Council, PacifiCorp, ODFW, USFWS, NOAA Fisheries, BLM, OWRD, Cascade Stream Solutions, and Rogue Basin Partnership.

Benefits: This project will remove the three dams and significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and water quality. A new solar-powered, screened pump will be installed to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property but increase irrigation efficiency by eliminating a leaky 1,000-foot-long canal.

3. Quantify your outcomes (i.e., acres planted, stream miles enhanced, etc.)

This project will improve access to 15 miles of salmon and steelhead habitat, increase flows in Slate Creek for approximately 950 feet below the current site of Harboldt Dam, and recover approximately 0.1 miles of spawning habitat by eliminating the Harboldt Dam reservoir pool.

4. Identify who or what entity will manage or operate the project once it's completed.

The project is located on private land and BLM land. BLM will continue to manage the lands under their control. The new, screened diversion will be located on private land and managed by the private landowner. A written landowner agreement provides site access to ODFW, USFWS, and other project partners for required project effectiveness monitoring going forward. The landowner has also signed an agreement to provide ODFW access for basic maintenance of the new fish screen.

5. Describe how the Foundation will be recognized for its funding support.

The Foundation will be recognized as a project funder and included in WaterWatch media, outreach, and informational materials regarding this project. These materials will be distributed in print and electronically to news outlets, elected officials, natural resource agency officials, and the general public. These materials will be posted on the WaterWatch website, and on our social media platforms. The Foundation will also be recognized as a project funder in articles regarding the project in WaterWatch's newsletter, which is distributed to approximately 2,200 supporters four times per year. WaterWatch will also create or help create informational video(s) for highlighting the project, which will recognize project funders.



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

Rogue Watershed District Office

1495 East Gregory Road

Central Point, OR 97502

(541) 826-8774

Fax: (541) 826-8776

www.odfw.com



April 26, 2019

Jim McCarthy  
Southern Oregon Program Director  
WaterWatch of Oregon  
P.O. Box 261  
Ashland, OR 97520

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

I am happy to support your project to restore fish passage at the Harboldt dam site on Slate Creek in the Applegate watershed. This multiphase project will remove a dam that is currently on the statewide list of priorities for fish passage restoration, and remove two smaller dams on a tributary adjacent to Harboldt Dam. Fish species that will benefit include: fall Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, summer steelhead, winter steelhead, cutthroat trout, Pacific lamprey and Klamath smallscale suckers. Significant benefits are expected.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife offers \$8,200 as match for grant applications, as shown below.

- Survey and concept design; \$4,200 funding : ODFW has committed to fund preliminary survey work and concept design development to help complete one phase of the project (Welter Creek dam removal)
- Effectiveness monitoring; \$3,500 in kind: ODFW believes this project will be a good candidate for measuring fish response to dam removal. The anticipated commitment is approximately \$500 annually for seven years.
- Project design review and permitting; \$500 in kind.

I look forward to project completion!

Sincerely,

Dan Van Dyke  
Rogue District Fish Biologist





# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Grants Pass Field Office  
2164 NE Spalding Avenue  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526  
[www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford)

APR 19 2019

7200 (ORM070)  
Support for the Harboldt Dam Fish Passage Project  
WaterWatch of Oregon

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)  
775 Summer St NE #360  
Salem OR 97301

To Grant Review Team:

I am writing to support WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal for removal of three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek sub basin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in coho salmon habitat. ODFW staff have visited the project site and believe these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop design for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including chinook salmon, coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, Pacific lamprey, cutthroat trout, and suckers. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and water quality. The removal of these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project. Bob Lange (Hydrologist) and Jon Raybourn (Fish Biologist) will provide an in-kind contribution of 40 hours of technical assistance toward this project.

Thank you for giving this application your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin Heatley  
Field Manager  
Grants Pass Field Office





# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Oregon Water Resources Department

Jake D Johnstone  
Southwest Region Manager  
10 S. Oakdale Rm 309a  
Medford Oregon, 97501  
Phone: 541-774-6880  
jake.d.johnstone@oregon.gov

April 16, 2019

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
775 Summer St NE, Suite 360  
Salem, OR 97301-1290

RE: Harboldt Dam Removal Fish Passage Project

To Grant Review Team:

I am writing in support of WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal for removal of three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek sub basin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The project would also remove two concrete dam structures on Welter Creek, a tributary to Slate Creek. The dams on Welter Creek were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in coho salmon habitat and the removal of them would allow fish access to further spawning grounds.

The proposal would develop designs for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water diversion and use on the landowner's property. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of approximately 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point of diversion located approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek. The water rights involved appear to be certificates 15257, 15522 and 27392. It is my understanding that WaterWatch has secured landowner consent and is working with them on the proposed downstream point of diversion transfer.

OWRD will provide \$1000 of in-kind technical assistance in review and input into the water rights impacted by the dam removal and be available for water rights related questions.

Respectfully,

Jake D Johnstone  
Southwest Region Manager, OWRD

Cc: Ivan Gall – Field Services Division Administrator, OWRD  
Lisa Snyder – Fiscal Services Administrator, OWRD



April 5, 2019

From: Jake Crawford  
River Steward Program Director  
Native Fish Society

Grant Review Team,

I am writing in support of WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal to removal three stream-spanning concrete dams that impede fish passage in the Slate Creek subbasin, a tributary to the Applegate River.

These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in designated coho salmon habitat. We understand that ODFW staff have visited the project site and believe these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

The WaterWatch of Oregon proposal would develop design for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project is important to Native Fish Society and our over 4,000 members and supporters, as it would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including Chinook salmon, coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, Pacific lamprey, cutthroat trout, and suckers. Additionally, this project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream of Slate Creek, which would provide great benefits to native fish and water quality. Removing these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project and appreciate your consideration of the WaterWatch of Oregon application.

Respectfully,

Jake Crawford  
River Steward Program Director

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**Native Fish Society** is a 501c3 non-profit grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and recovery of wild, native fish and promotion of the stewardship of the habitats that sustain us all. We envision a Pacific Northwest abundant in wild fish, free-flowing rivers, and thriving local communities.



**Subject:** NOAA Fisheries anticipated assistance

**Date:** Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 10:50:12 AM Pacific Daylight Time

**From:** Ken Phippen - NOAA Federal

**To:** Jim McCarthy

Hi Jim,

Per our conversation this morning, I anticipate NOAA Fisheries will provide technical assistance through the design phase for removing the Slate Creek dams. I anticipate 32 hours of support from our staff through on-site discussions, plan reviews, and other strategy and technical needs. The value of these hours is approximated \$46.15 per hour or approximately \$1,477.

I look forward to working on this next effort to improve fish passage conditions in the Rogue Basin.

Keep me posted on your progress.

Thanks,

Ken

--

Ken Phippen

*Oregon Coast Branch Chief*

*Oregon/Washington Coastal Area Office*

*NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region*

*U.S. Department of Commerce*

Office:541-957-3385

[Ken.Phippen@noaa.gov](mailto:Ken.Phippen@noaa.gov)

[www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov)





**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
OREGON WASHINGTON COASTAL AREA OFFICE  
OREGON COAST BRANCH  
2900 Stewart Parkway  
ROSEBURG, OREGON 97471

April 5, 2019

Jim McCarthy  
Southern Oregon Program Manager  
WaterWatch of Oregon  
P.O. Box 261  
Ashland, OR 97520

Re: Technical assistance concerning NMFS trust resources and ESA recovery plan actions related to dams in the Applegate basin, Josephine County, Oregon.

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

The purpose of this letter is to provide an assessment of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) trust resources in the Slate Creek watershed, a tributary of the Applegate River, identify the role of Slate Creek and the Applegate River in the recovery of Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast (SONCC) coho salmon, and identify collaboration and technical assistance opportunities associated with reducing the limiting factors holding back recovery. I appreciate your interest in assisting us with conserving and recovering aquatic ecosystems in the Applegate River basin.

As you know, in our discussions over the many years regarding the potential need for recovery actions in the Rogue basin, we have discussed the importance of fish passage, over-wintering and summer rearing habitat, and improved instream flows as key recovery elements needed for the Interior Rogue populations of SONCC coho salmon. Quite a few times we have discussed the importance and opportunity to remove these dams in Slate Creek. The many successes our two organizations have had together as partners reflect the commitment our partnership has to protecting and recovering NMFS trust resources. Additional trust resources, besides the ESA-listed species, in this watershed include essential fish habitat for coho salmon and Chinook salmon, which is designated under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.



The Middle Rogue-Applegate River (MRAR) population of SONCC coho salmon are inhabitants of the Interior Rogue Basin biogeographic genetic stratum of the SONCC coho salmon Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU). The MRAR population is considered an independent population, meaning historically this population was self-sustaining and likely had relatively little demographic influence from neighboring populations. NMFS anticipates each independent population within the ESU are needed to complete recovery of the species. The Applegate River sub-basin is an important component of the population where historically many low gradient streams with sufficient flow and quantity of habitat once provided a significant amount of SONCC coho salmon habitat.

The final SONCC coho salmon Recovery Plan identifies key limiting stresses for the MRAR population as dams/diversions and urban/residential/industrial development. The Applegate River sub-basin stressors are the dams and diversions, that influence fish passage, stream flow and water quality. The low gradient tributaries of the Applegate River once provided important high quality summer and winter rearing habitat, the two primary limiting factors for recovering SONCC coho salmon. Slate Creek, the stream where your proposed dam removals would occur is long known as a refugia for coho salmon in the Applegate River sub-basin. Although Slate Creek is not specifically mentioned in the recovery plan, my personal knowledge of Slate Creek places it as one of the important coho salmon habitats with significant potential in the Applegate River sub-basin.

On-going efforts by your organization and other partners, including NMFS, demonstrate a concerted and focused effort within the Interior Rogue basin stratum which contribute to the recovery of SONCC coho salmon. As a group, we continue to identify and tackle recovery action opportunities. Section 31 and table 31-4 of the SONCC coho recovery plan describes the key strategies and potential actions needed for this population. These strategies are clearly reflected in the development of the proposed actions within your proposal to remove these three dams, restore access to juvenile coho salmon rearing habitat, and restore instream flow in Slate Creek.

I look forward to further opportunities to work with you and other partners as we strive to restore key habitat components within the Rogue River basin.

If you have questions about this letter, additional questions regarding implementation, or about how to continue with coordination, please call me at 541.957.3385.

Sincerely,



Kenneth W. Phippen  
Branch Chief, Oregon Coast Branch

**Subject:** Harboldt Dam Letter of Support - USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

**Date:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 4:57:58 PM Pacific Daylight Time

**From:** CalLee Davenport

**To:** Jim McCarthy

Hi Jim,

Thanks for taking the time to visit with me about the potential opportunity to collaborate with you and other project partners regarding the Slate Creek sub-basin dams you mentioned to me on the phone (Harboldt Dam and two additional unnamed dams on Welter Creek). It sounds like there is a lot of potential to work proactively with Mrs. Harboldt (Avis) and her son Larry, the landowners of the property where the dams are located. The concept of working together to improve fish passage conditions, all the while helping to provide the landowners a much more efficient (and safe) alternative for water delivery across their property, hits at the very cornerstone of the Service's private lands program (the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program), of which I serve as State Coordinator for. The project's overall potential to benefit to a number of imperiled salmonid and non-salmonid species, some of which are federally listed (ie coho salmon) as well as others that stand the potential to be state and federally listed (such as lamprey), is very worthwhile and very much complements many of the other efforts that are taking place on both public and privately owned lands around the Rogue basin.

In providing support to the project, the Service, through our Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, would be able to provide an "in-kind" match, valued at \$3,800.35 (~81.5 hours at \$46.63/hour), to provide technical input for project development, as well as assist with items such as development of the project's regulatory compliance coverage (e.g. ESA, NHPA, CWA, NEPA, and other). Please feel free to use this email as documentation of the Service's match.

Good luck as you move forward with this project, and I look forward to working with you and others on the development of this project!

Take care,

CalLee

CalLee Davenport, Oregon State Coordinator

Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Oregon Fish & Wildlife Office

2600 SE 98th Avenue, Suite 100

Portland, OR 97266

E-mail: [callee\\_davenport@fws.gov](mailto:callee_davenport@fws.gov)

(503) 231-6924 (direct line)

(503) 231-6179 (main office line)

(503) 231-6195 (fax)

Check out our [website](#) or connect with us on [Facebook](#)



Protecting Natural Flows in Oregon Rivers

April 29, 2019

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
775 Summer Street NE, Suite 360  
Salem, OR 97301

**RE: Slate Creek Dam Removals Project Phase 1**

Dear Grant Review Team:

In early April 2019, WaterWatch of Oregon entered into an agreement with Avis A. Harboldt, individually and as Trustee of the Harboldt Living Trust, to secure funding for the installation of a replacement water diversion system and the removal of three stream-spanning concrete dams on her property which currently impede fish passage in the Slate Creek subbasin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked in Group 4 on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) 2019 Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in coho salmon habitat. ODFW staff have visited the project site and believe these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop designs for removal of the three dams as well as a new, screened pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including chinook salmon, coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, Pacific lamprey, cutthroat trout, and suckers. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point of diversion approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and water quality. The removal of these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

WaterWatch has already committed \$1,053 in cash to the project for initial survey and engineering work by Cascade Stream Solutions. WaterWatch has also committed to provide \$8,520 in in-kind services to this project, related to the transfer of the landowner's existing water rights, project coordination, and project management.

WaterWatch has made an organizational commitment to this project and strongly supports this important fish passage improvement effort. It will complement recent and ongoing watershed restoration efforts in the Rogue River Basin and build on the strong track record of success in this regard in the Rogue.

Thank you for giving this application your consideration.

Sincerely,

John DeVoe  
Executive Director  
WaterWatch of Oregon



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

Rogue Watershed District Office

1495 East Gregory Road

Central Point, OR 97502

(541) 826-8774

Fax: (541) 826-8776

www.odfw.com



April 26, 2019

Jim McCarthy  
Southern Oregon Program Director  
WaterWatch of Oregon  
P.O. Box 261  
Ashland, OR 97520

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

I am happy to support your project to restore fish passage at the Harboldt dam site on Slate Creek in the Applegate watershed. This multiphase project will remove a dam that is currently on the statewide list of priorities for fish passage restoration, and remove two smaller dams on a tributary adjacent to Harboldt Dam. Fish species that will benefit include: fall Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, summer steelhead, winter steelhead, cutthroat trout, Pacific lamprey and Klamath smallscale suckers. Significant benefits are expected.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife offers \$8,200 as match for grant applications, as shown below.

- Survey and concept design; \$4,200 funding : ODFW has committed to fund preliminary survey work and concept design development to help complete one phase of the project (Welter Creek dam removal)
- Effectiveness monitoring; \$3,500 in kind: ODFW believes this project will be a good candidate for measuring fish response to dam removal. The anticipated commitment is approximately \$500 annually for seven years.
- Project design review and permitting; \$500 in kind.

I look forward to project completion!

Sincerely,

Dan Van Dyke  
Rogue District Fish Biologist



**Subject:** Harboldt Dam Letter of Support - USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program

**Date:** Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 4:57:58 PM Pacific Daylight Time

**From:** CalLee Davenport

**To:** Jim McCarthy

Hi Jim,

Thanks for taking the time to visit with me about the potential opportunity to collaborate with you and other project partners regarding the Slate Creek sub-basin dams you mentioned to me on the phone (Harboldt Dam and two additional unnamed dams on Welter Creek). It sounds like there is a lot of potential to work proactively with Mrs. Harboldt (Avis) and her son Larry, the landowners of the property where the dams are located. The concept of working together to improve fish passage conditions, all the while helping to provide the landowners a much more efficient (and safe) alternative for water delivery across their property, hits at the very cornerstone of the Service's private lands program (the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program), of which I serve as State Coordinator for. The project's overall potential to benefit to a number of imperiled salmonid and non-salmonid species, some of which are federally listed (ie coho salmon) as well as others that stand the potential to be state and federally listed (such as lamprey), is very worthwhile and very much complements many of the other efforts that are taking place on both public and privately owned lands around the Rogue basin.

In providing support to the project, the Service, through our Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, would be able to provide an "in-kind" match, valued at \$3,800.35 (~81.5 hours at \$46.63/hour), to provide technical input for project development, as well as assist with items such as development of the project's regulatory compliance coverage (e.g. ESA, NHPA, CWA, NEPA, and other). Please feel free to use this email as documentation of the Service's match.

Good luck as you move forward with this project, and I look forward to working with you and others on the development of this project!

Take care,

CalLee

CalLee Davenport, Oregon State Coordinator

Partners for Fish & Wildlife Program

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Oregon Fish & Wildlife Office

2600 SE 98th Avenue, Suite 100

Portland, OR 97266

E-mail: [callee\\_davenport@fws.gov](mailto:callee_davenport@fws.gov)

(503) 231-6924 (direct line)

(503) 231-6179 (main office line)

(503) 231-6195 (fax)

Check out our [website](#) or connect with us on [Facebook](#)





# United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Grants Pass Field Office  
2164 NE Spalding Avenue  
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526  
[www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford)

APR 19 2019

7200 (ORM070)  
Support for the Harboldt Dam Fish Passage Project  
WaterWatch of Oregon

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)  
775 Summer St NE #360  
Salem OR 97301

To Grant Review Team:

I am writing to support WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal for removal of three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek sub basin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in coho salmon habitat. ODFW staff have visited the project site and believe these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop design for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including chinook salmon, coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, Pacific lamprey, cutthroat trout, and suckers. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and water quality. The removal of these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project. Bob Lange (Hydrologist) and Jon Raybourn (Fish Biologist) will provide an in-kind contribution of 40 hours of technical assistance toward this project.

Thank you for giving this application your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kevin Heatley  
Field Manager  
Grants Pass Field Office





# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Oregon Water Resources Department

Jake D Johnstone  
Southwest Region Manager  
10 S. Oakdale Rm 309a  
Medford Oregon, 97501  
Phone: 541-774-6880  
jake.d.johnstone@oregon.gov

April 16, 2019

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
775 Summer St NE, Suite 360  
Salem, OR 97301-1290

RE: Harboldt Dam Removal Fish Passage Project

To Grant Review Team:

I am writing in support of WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal for removal of three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek sub basin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The project would also remove two concrete dam structures on Welter Creek, a tributary to Slate Creek. The dams on Welter Creek were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in coho salmon habitat and the removal of them would allow fish access to further spawning grounds.

The proposal would develop designs for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water diversion and use on the landowner's property. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of approximately 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point of diversion located approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek. The water rights involved appear to be certificates 15257, 15522 and 27392. It is my understanding that WaterWatch has secured landowner consent and is working with them on the proposed downstream point of diversion transfer.

OWRD will provide \$1000 of in-kind technical assistance in review and input into the water rights impacted by the dam removal and be available for water rights related questions.

Respectfully,

Jake D Johnstone  
Southwest Region Manager, OWRD

Cc: Ivan Gall – Field Services Division Administrator, OWRD  
Lisa Snyder – Fiscal Services Administrator, OWRD



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
OREGON WASHINGTON COASTAL AREA OFFICE  
OREGON COAST BRANCH  
2900 Stewart Parkway  
ROSEBURG, OREGON 97471

April 5, 2019

Jim McCarthy  
Southern Oregon Program Manager  
WaterWatch of Oregon  
P.O. Box 261  
Ashland, OR 97520

Re: Technical assistance concerning NMFS trust resources and ESA recovery plan actions related to dams in the Applegate basin, Josephine County, Oregon.

Dear Mr. McCarthy:

The purpose of this letter is to provide an assessment of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) trust resources in the Slate Creek watershed, a tributary of the Applegate River, identify the role of Slate Creek and the Applegate River in the recovery of Southern Oregon/Northern California Coast (SONCC) coho salmon, and identify collaboration and technical assistance opportunities associated with reducing the limiting factors holding back recovery. I appreciate your interest in assisting us with conserving and recovering aquatic ecosystems in the Applegate River basin.

As you know, in our discussions over the many years regarding the potential need for recovery actions in the Rogue basin, we have discussed the importance of fish passage, over-wintering and summer rearing habitat, and improved instream flows as key recovery elements needed for the Interior Rogue populations of SONCC coho salmon. Quite a few times we have discussed the importance and opportunity to remove these dams in Slate Creek. The many successes our two organizations have had together as partners reflect the commitment our partnership has to protecting and recovering NMFS trust resources. Additional trust resources, besides the ESA-listed species, in this watershed include essential fish habitat for coho salmon and Chinook salmon, which is designated under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.



**Subject:** NOAA Fisheries anticipated assistance

**Date:** Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 10:50:12 AM Pacific Daylight Time

**From:** Ken Phippen - NOAA Federal

**To:** Jim McCarthy

Hi Jim,

Per our conversation this morning, I anticipate NOAA Fisheries will provide technical assistance through the design phase for removing the Slate Creek dams. I anticipate 32 hours of support from our staff through on-site discussions, plan reviews, and other strategy and technical needs. The value of these hours is approximated \$46.15 per hour or approximately \$1,477.

I look forward to working on this next effort to improve fish passage conditions in the Rogue Basin.

Keep me posted on your progress.

Thanks,

Ken

--

Ken Phippen

*Oregon Coast Branch Chief*

*Oregon/Washington Coastal Area Office*

*NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region*

*U.S. Department of Commerce*

Office:541-957-3385

[Ken.Phippen@noaa.gov](mailto:Ken.Phippen@noaa.gov)

[www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov)





**Rogue Basin Partnership**

P.O. Box 1214  
Medford, OR 97501

To Grant Review Team:

I am writing to support WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal to remove three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek subbasin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked in Group 4 on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) 2019 Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in Coho salmon habitat. ODFW staff members have visited the project site and believe that these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop designs for both removal of the three dams and a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, Pacific Lamprey, Cutthroat trout, and suckers. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and improved water quality. The removal of these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project. We will also be providing \$1,250 of in-kind support for RBP staff time.

Thank you for giving this application your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory Weber".

Gregory Weber  
Executive Director  
541.897.4431  
[greg.weber@roguepartners.org](mailto:greg.weber@roguepartners.org)



April 5, 2019

From: Jake Crawford  
River Steward Program Director  
Native Fish Society

Grant Review Team,

I am writing in support of WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal to removal three stream-spanning concrete dams that impede fish passage in the Slate Creek subbasin, a tributary to the Applegate River.

These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in designated coho salmon habitat. We understand that ODFW staff have visited the project site and believe these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

The WaterWatch of Oregon proposal would develop design for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project is important to Native Fish Society and our over 4,000 members and supporters, as it would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including Chinook salmon, coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, Pacific lamprey, cutthroat trout, and suckers. Additionally, this project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream of Slate Creek, which would provide great benefits to native fish and water quality. Removing these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project and appreciate your consideration of the WaterWatch of Oregon application.

Respectfully,

Jake Crawford  
River Steward Program Director

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**Native Fish Society** is a 501c3 non-profit grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and recovery of wild, native fish and promotion of the stewardship of the habitats that sustain us all. We envision a Pacific Northwest abundant in wild fish, free-flowing rivers, and thriving local communities.

## Letter of Support for Slate Creek Habitat Enhancement Project

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From  
Jay Doino  
Southern Oregon Water Project Coordinator of Trout Unlimited

Jay.Doino@tu.org | (541) 554-1961 | [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org)

Dear Grant Review Team:

I am writing to support WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal for removal of three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek subbasin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in Coho Salmon habitat. ODFW staff have visited the project site and believe these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop design for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, summer and winter Steelhead, Pacific Lamprey, Cutthroat Trout, and migratory sucker species. This project also includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and water quality.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project.

Thank you for giving this application your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jay Doino  
Trout Unlimited  
Southern Oregon Water Project Coordinator

April 4, 2019

To: Grant Review Team

From: Stephen Day, President

Rogue Flyfishers

P.O. Box 4637

Medford, OR 97501

I am writing you to support WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal for removal, of three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek subbasin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown structures, would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop design for removal of three dams as well as new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, Summer and Winter Steelhead, Pacific Lamprey, Cutthroat Trout and suckers, This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and water quality, The removal of these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project.

Thank you for giving this application your consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephen Day, President

Rogue Flyfishers





PO Box 962, Grants Pass, OR 97528

April 3, 2019

WaterWatch of Oregon  
Attn: Jim McCarthy  
PO Box 261  
Ashland, OR 97520

Dear Jim,

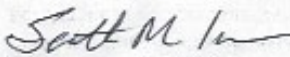
The Middle Rogue Steelheaders Strongly support WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal for removal of three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek sub basin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in designated coho salmon habitat. ODFW staff have visited the project site and believe these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop design for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including chinook salmon, coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, Pacific lamprey, cutthroat trout, and suckers. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and water quality. The removal of these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

The Middle Rogue Steelheaders represent approximately 175 resident fishermen of Josephine and Jackson County. Our mission is to conserve, protect, and restore coldwater fisheries and their watersheds in Southwest Oregon. We operate as a non-profit, non-political, and non-sectarian organization for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes while supporting sports fishing.

We sincerely appreciate the work that your organization has done, and will do, to improve the quality of the fishery in the Rogue River.

  
Scott Iversen, President  
Middle Rogue Steelheaders



## Letter of Support for Slate Creek Habitat Enhancement Project

---

From  
Jay Doino  
Southern Oregon Water Project Coordinator of Trout Unlimited

Jay.Doino@tu.org | (541) 554-1961 | [www.tu.org](http://www.tu.org)

Dear Grant Review Team:

I am writing to support WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal for removal of three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek subbasin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These three structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in Coho Salmon habitat. ODFW staff have visited the project site and believe these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop design for removal of the three dams as well as a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including Chinook Salmon, Coho Salmon, summer and winter Steelhead, Pacific Lamprey, Cutthroat Trout, and migratory sucker species. This project also includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and water quality.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project.

Thank you for giving this application your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jay Doino  
Trout Unlimited  
Southern Oregon Water Project Coordinator



**Rogue Basin Partnership**

P.O. Box 1214  
Medford, OR 97501

To Grant Review Team:

I am writing to support WaterWatch of Oregon's proposal to remove three stream-spanning concrete dams impeding fish passage in the Slate Creek subbasin, a tributary of the Applegate River. These structures include Harboldt Dam on Slate Creek, ranked in Group 4 on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) 2019 Statewide Fish Passage Priority List. The other two structures to be removed are on Welter Creek, a Slate Creek tributary, and were previously unknown to fisheries managers but are located in Coho salmon habitat. ODFW staff members have visited the project site and believe that these two previously unknown structures would also be eligible for listing on the Statewide Fish Passage Priority List.

This proposal would develop designs for both removal of the three dams and a new pump installation to maintain existing water use on the landowner's property.

This project would significantly improve access to approximately 15 miles of spawning and rearing habitat for adult and juvenile fish, including Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, summer and winter steelhead, Pacific Lamprey, Cutthroat trout, and suckers. This project includes a proposed transfer of two points of diversion of roughly 0.6 cubic feet per second total to a new point approximately 950 feet downstream on Slate Creek, providing additional benefit for fish and improved water quality. The removal of these three dams will also boost spawning gravel recruitment in Slate Creek.

For the reasons listed above, we strongly support this project. We will also be providing \$1,250 of in-kind support for RBP staff time.

Thank you for giving this application your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregory Weber".

Gregory Weber  
Executive Director  
541.897.4431  
[greg.weber@roguepartners.org](mailto:greg.weber@roguepartners.org)

















