



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Bend Field Office  
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8/23/2021

Oregon Wildlife Foundation  
901 SE Oak St, Suite 103  
Portland, OR 97214

Re: Funding for Escape Ramps

Dear Oregon Wildlife Foundation Grant Committee,

Please accept this letter regarding Crook SWCD's application for the Sage-Grouse Escape Ramp Conservation Measure Implementation project.

This project allows for the implementation of a discrete action, installation of escape ramps in stock water troughs, which is required for every property that enrolls in the Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCAA) program. The CCAA is permitted by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and being implemented in Crook and Deschutes Counties by Crook SWCD, to preserve and enhance sage-grouse habitat on private rangelands (permit #TE356631B-0).

The action of installing escape ramps in troughs is a simple yet effective way to prevent sage-grouse and other wildlife that use these water sources from drowning. Crook SWCD successfully acquired funding to write the conservation plans that identify the specific number and locations for the ramps and now it is important that they can follow through with the actions called for in the plans.

We urge the Oregon Wildlife Foundation to fund this Escape Ramp project.

Sincerely,

Bridget Moran, Field Supervisor  
Bend Field Office  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service