

PROJECT COMMITTEE  
 Zoom meeting via web  
 September 10, 2020

Committee Members			Staff
Brad Bales	Davia Palmeri	Lori Steele	Kalei Augustine
Brad Staples	Tony Pullen	Garth Wyatt	Sarah Armstrong
Susan Foster	Pat Richardson	Dave Cummings	Tim Greseth
Carl Burnham	Bill Shake		Nicole Nordin
Marcia Hartman	Pam Simser		

Dave called the meeting to order at 11:30 am.

*Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the June 4, 2020 meeting as written.  
 Motion carried.*

**PROJECT FUNDS** – Nicole shared her screen and reviewed the new project funding summary. It is a Google Sheet workbook with tabs that summarize the balance of unrestricted and restricted funds available to the committee for grantmaking. A “read-only” link will be provided to committee members with the information in the workbook consistently updated and always available for viewing. The link will be shared with the committee by the end of next week. Any questions should be directed to Nicole (nicole@myowf.org)

The funds available for grantmaking are: \$85K in funds that are unrestricted in their use, \$18K in the Pacific Seafood Environmental Enhancement Fund for eligible coastal projects, and \$20K in the Deschutes Fund for eligible projects within the Deschutes River basin.

**NEW PROJECT FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

**Project 20-16 Wolverine Persistence in Oregon – Field Season 2**

OWF staff is requesting \$9,996 in funding support for the 2nd field season of our wolverine survey project in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. Funds will be used to cover the cost of field labor, materials, and supplies. OWF Staff, working in collaboration with Scott and Kayla (our contract researchers) plan to raise an additional \$9,905 for expansion of the project to include simultaneous presence surveying for Montane fox, wolves, and coyote. Total project budget is \$38,101

*Motion was made and seconded to approve funding. Motion carried.*

**Project 20-17 Nestucca Bay Habitat Improvement**

Ducks Unlimited (DU) is requesting \$5,000 in funding support for a project to improve habitat in the Bay Unit of the Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge for wintering geese and other migratory birds; aquatic species including Oregon Coast Coho salmon; and other wildlife inhabiting this portion of the refuge. Funds will be used to support continuation of their design work. Total project budget is \$721,000.

This grant application meets our match requirements, funding guidelines, addresses an OCS species or habitat: Oregon Coast Coho salmon, and includes a letter of support from Kelly Moroney, Project Leader, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

*Motion was made and seconded to decline funding. Motion carried.*

*Of the \$721,000 funds needed, \$146,093 is uncommitted and \$171k is pending with OWEB. The applicant is welcome to reapply once all funding is secured.*

#### **Project 20-18 Foredune Restoration Strategies**

Oregon State University is requesting \$5,000 in funding support for a pilot study using native Oregon beach dune vegetation (instead of invasive species) for restoration along the Oregon coast. The established practice for dune stabilization dates back 100 years and uses non-native, invasive grasses (mainly European beach grass). This grass type grows so densely that it squeezes Snowy plover and native vegetation out of the ecosystem. OWF funds will be used to support greenhouse costs to grow native plants and contractor expenses at the pilot study location. Total budget is \$10,000.

This grant application meets our match requirements, our funding guidelines, addresses an OCS species or habitat: coastal dunes and includes a letter of support from Trevor Taylor, Stewardship Section Manager, Oregon Parks & Recreation Department, and Meg Reed, Coastal Shores Specialist, Department of Land Conservation & Development.

*Motion was made and seconded to approve funding. Motion carried.*

#### **Project 20-19 East Cascades Oak Habitat Monitoring**

The East Cascades Oak Partnership via Columbia Land Trust is requesting \$5,000 in funding support for a project to develop disturbance event monitoring protocols and a rapid ecological integrity assessment for East Cascade Oregon white oak systems and to build a data set that supports development of best management practices and targets land protection and restoration efforts where they can be most effective. Funds will be used to hire consultants to perform the aforementioned work. Total budget is \$34,500

This grant application meets our match requirements, funding guidelines, addresses an OCS species or habitat: Oregon white oak and associated obligate species, and includes letters of support from a prior grant application for the same project.

*Motion was made and seconded to approve funding. Motion carried.*

#### **OLD BUSINESS -**

**North Fork reservoir:** Garth reported that this project was completed a week ahead of time, resulting in a project cost saving of over \$100,000. 12 structures are in place (2 more than originally planned), covering 1200 ft of the upper Clackamas River. With the diversity of velocity this project provides, it is anticipated the channel will increase spawning activities within this reach of the river.

When asked how the Riverside Fire might affect the project, it was noted that though both sides of the river have been impacted, the structures are surrounded by water and hopefully will not be affected.

**License Plate Vouchers:** 1,306 sold to date. Once we've reached 1,500 sold, we plan to reach out to existing voucher holders with an ask that each find one other person to buy a voucher.

**OCRF –** Just over \$25K has been donated through the Foundation to-date with ODFW collecting over \$87K through their online licensing system. Davia also noted that a charitable trust, which prefers to

remain anonymous for the time being, has pledged a five-figure gift through OCRF for the Gilchrist Wildlife underpass.

**OSP K-9:** The Foundation is working to raise more money for this program. Tim emphasized that we're only raising and expending funds to support Buck's involvement in the K-9 program. These include veterinarian and grooming expenses, food, toys, and related equipment purchases. None of the funds are going to offset OSP expenses.

**Gilchrist Wildlife Underpass** – The partners continue to fundraise for the underpass. ODOT cannot go out for bid until all or most of the funds needed for construction have been raised. At this time, we're approximately \$198K short of our fundraising goal. At this time, we anticipate that the project will be completed next spring or summer.

**NEW BUSINESS** - Tim gave a quick overview of open projects that the Foundation is raising money for.

Metolius Winter Range Habitat Improvement project - OWF is the fiscal agent for a \$250K grant from PGE to improve winter range habitat on the Crooked River grasslands and another area on the Sisters Ranger District. In partnership with the Ochoco Nat'l Forest, the Foundation submitted an application to OWEB for an additional \$241,350 to support additional work in the areas targeted by this initiative.

Greater Williams Prairie Restoration Project - OWF is also working with the Ochoco Nat'l Forest on whole watershed restoration in the headwaters of the North Fork Crooked River. Called Greater Williams Prairie, this project covers 17,000 acres including wet meadow restoration, aquatic habitat improvements, road decommissioning, commercial and pre-commercial thinning, invasive weed control and native plant restoration. The Foundation applied to OWEB for \$270K in funding for the wet meadow and aquatic habitat components of this project.

Seeley Creek Restoration Project – the Foundation has also applied to OWEB in partnership with ODFW to enhance Seeley Creek, a tributary to the North Fork Alsea River in the midcoast region. This project, if funded by OWEB, will place ~250 large wood pieces in the creek to improve spawning habitat, provide refugia for juveniles, and reconnect the stream with the floodplain.

Camp Creek Large Wood Project – Another partnership project with Dave Stewart at ODFW. This project would put large wood in a 1-mile stretch of Camp Creek on property owned by Olympic Resource Management. They have a logging operation nearby and have pledged to provide most of the large wood debris needed for the project. The funding we're seeking would cover the costs of an equipment operator and a faller to strategically place logs within structures at select locations within the lower reach of Camp Creek.

Eagle Fern/North Fork Eagle Creek Dams Removal – this was intended to be an easy project; removal of a small dam in Eagle Fern park that serves as a passage barrier to juvenile fish for much of the year and adults at low flow periods. Clackamas County Parks got cold feet and decided to engage a consultant who advised that removal necessitated a fully-fledged permitting and design process with an estimated cost of \$80K. The consultant connected us with Resource Legacy Fund which will, if our application is approved, provide the funding we need for design and permitting expenses. Monies for construction will still need to be raised. Garth suggested that it might be possible to shift the unspent PGE funding for our North Fork project to this one. It's also within the Clackamas River basin and he felt sure that the company would be interested in supporting it. Garth said he'd make an inquiry and get back to Tim.

**OTHER BUSINESS -**

This will be the last Project Committee meeting for 2020. If needed, Tim and Dave will call an ad-hoc meeting or otherwise use email.

Brad Bales is retiring from PBHJV at the end of this year. This will be the last Project Committee meeting he will attend. Once someone is hired to fill his position, PBHJV will have someone else representing the joint venture on this committee.

**Meeting concluded at 12:37 pm.**

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