

PROJECT COMMITTEE  
 Zoom meeting via web  
 June 4, 2020

Committee Members			Staff
Brad Bales	Marcia Hartman	Pat Richardson	Nicole Nordin
Dave Cummings	Davia Palmeri	Bill Shake	Tim Greseth
Blaine Dickason	Gary Pape'	Garth Wyatt	
Susan Foster	Tony Pullen	Brad Staples	

The meeting was called to order at 11:36 am.

In reviewing the minutes from our 3/5/2020 meeting, Marcia noted that the meeting date in the header should be corrected from March 4<sup>th</sup> to March 5<sup>th</sup>.

*Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the March 5, 2020 meeting as written with date correction as noted. Motion carried.*

**PROJECT FUNDS** – we have \$72,918 available in unrestricted funds for general grant making purposes. The Pacific Seafood Enhancement fund has \$18,194 available for qualified projects.

Additional forthcoming revenue from our OCF endowment, for general grant making purposes, totals approximately \$44K and will be deposited into our Columbia State Bank project account at the end of June. Another \$44K from our OCF endowments is expected at the end of December 2020.

**NEW PROJECT FUNDING APPLICATIONS**

**Project 20-09 Camp Creek** - In conjunction with the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, the Foundation is requesting \$10,000 to implement a large wood restoration project on Camp Creek, a Molalla River tributary in Clackamas County. The Molalla River watershed is a high priority for recovering listed populations of winter steelhead and spring Chinook. The funding will pay for an Olympic Resource Management equipment operator and faller to add large wood to a 2-mile section of Camp Creek. Dave Stewart, ODFW stream restoration biologist, will manage the project. Additional funding required for the project (source and amount) is as follows: \$10,000, PGE Salmon Habitat Improvement Fund; \$5,000, Blount Family Foundation; \$4,500, Flyfisher Foundation.

This application meets our match requirements, funding requirements and is supported by ODFW. The Committee voted to allocate the requested funding to the Camp Creek project contingent on all other funding being approved.

*Motion was made and seconded to approve funding, contingent on successful award of all pending funds. Motion carried.*

**Project 20-10 Shade Monitoring** - The North Clackamas Watershed Council is requesting \$5,000 to perform a drone study of stream shading within the Rinearson, Boardman and River Forest watersheds to determine what progress has been made in improving stream shading since the inception of the Shade Our Streams program in 2013. The North Clackamas Watershed Council will share the results of

this study and proposed next steps to area landowners. The application did not include a letter of support from an ODFW biologist.

This application meets our match requirements but does not appear to have ODFW support. The funding request also includes a portion of the executive director's salary, which does not meet our guidelines.

*Motion was made and seconded to table funding pending additional information. Motion carried.*

*Tim will contact the North Clackamas Watershed Council and ask that they review their project with the appropriate ODFW biologist and provide a letter of support. They will also be asked to explain how the previous 2013 shade analysis was used to identify and prioritize projects. Finally, Susan asked how the 2013 survey was done, and if not by drone, how the different survey methods will be compared?*

**Project 20-11 Plotting for Pollinators** - The Coalition for the Deschutes is requesting \$5,000 to implement an initiative to provide pollinator habitat. The Plotting for Pollinator's goals are to bring local farmers and community members together through their support for bees and address locally the steep decline in critical pollinator species.

This application meets our match requirements if other pending funding is approved. While some specific bees are included in the conservation strategy, in general, honeybees are not a wildlife species.

After considerable discussion it was determined that, because the targeted species of this project is largely non-native bees and the scope is small and very localized, the request should not be approved.

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

**Project 20-12 Pilot Oregon Kelp Restoration Project** - The Oregon Kelp Alliance, an informal group of members with interests in healthy kelp beds, is requesting \$5,000 to fund a pilot program to remove purple sea urchins from the Port Orford Reef. The proposed grant request seeks support for a pilot project targeting bull kelp habitat restoration on the southern Oregon coast. This project proposed to remove and cultivate sea urchin exploring the viability of a ecosystem /economic incentive approach to kelp restoration in areas experiencing loss of kelp forest habitat along Oregon's southern coast. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is listed as an alliance member but did not provide a letter of support for this program.

This application does not meet our match requirements, with the only alliance member funding from Oregon Sea Farms but is eligible for support from the **Pacific Seafood Environmental Enhancement Fund**.

*Motion was made and seconded to approve funding, contingent on confirmation of ODFW support and that the OSU Agricultural Foundation will receive and manage the funds. Motion carried. **Funds will be taken from the Pacific Seafood Environmental Enhancement Fund.***

**Project 20-13 Kevin Duckworth Dock River Access** - The Human Access Project is requesting \$5,000 to fund fabrication and installation of ladders to allow swimmers access to the Willamette River off the Kevin Duckworth Dock. While providing access is one of the Foundation's goals, this application is not associated with the enjoyment of our natural resources as it pertains to fish and wildlife, but is primarily aimed at access for outdoor recreation.

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

**Project 20-14 Yaquina Tidal Wetland Restoration** - The Midcoast Watersheds Council is requesting \$5,000 for a project to address the limiting factor of estuary habitat for the recovery of federally listed Oregon Coast coho salmon. This project will restore a 55-acre tidal wetland site along the Yaquina River. Just over 67% of the estuary's vegetated tidal wetland habitat has been lost to dikes and associated activities.

This application meets our match requirements, funding requirements, is in a priority habitat and is supported by the **Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission**.

This project is also eligible for funding from the **Pacific Seafood Environmental Enhancement Fund**.

*Motion was made and seconded to approve funding. Motion carried. **Funds will be taken from the Pacific Seafood Environmental Enhancement Fund.***

#### **OLD BUSINESS** -

**North Fork Reservoir:** The logs needed for the project have been staged nearby; PGE donated the logs and OWF paid for their mobilization. Permitting for the project is complete. Power lines near the project site need to be flagged so the front loader can avoid them when moving logs into position.

**NEW BUSINESS** - All members can "pitch" any good projects they might know of. Dave will be contacting each Committee member to learn more about their interests and field project ideas. One potential project could be improvements to the Sollie Smith Boat Ramp on the Wilson River.

Brad Staples reached out to Chris Kern/ODFW regarding potential fish hatchery projects.

The Clackamas Hatchery Intake Project- the pipeline was completed but the Department has run into some technical difficulties. Garth will talk with Dave at a later time about this potential project partnership.

Davia reported that the Oregon Connectivity Assessment and Mapping Project (OCAMP) is one of the Department's highest priorities. OCAMP is a multi-year, collaborative effort to analyze and map statewide wildlife habitat connectivity for up to 60 species. OCAMP aims to link landscapes for wildlife by identifying current wildlife habitat connectivity throughout the state for a wide diversity of species. The maps and models produced for OCAMP will aid in statewide planning and prioritization efforts to maintain functional habitat connectivity; help direct on-the-ground efforts for acquisition, restoration, and conservation of habitat for fish and wildlife; inform long-term planning documents for managed lands; guide granting efforts; inform land use development, including expansion of urban growth boundaries, permitting for renewable energy development, and development of sensitive habitats; and aid in mitigating transportation issues, such as identifying areas where wildlife passage structures could best reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions.

Funding is mostly secured; PSU has started working on birds and mammals. Also have a list of reptiles and amphibians that have not yet been funded. Looking at Federal funds, but will need a non-federal match.

**Volunteers for Project Management team-** It would be important for the Foundation to be more than just a "funder", but also provide full project management. From RFP, solicit, review and select contractors, review contracts, etc. Garth and Brad Staples would like to serve on this team.

**Watch for Wildlife license plate voucher campaign** – per the requirements of this specialty plate program, the Foundation must sell 3,000 license plate vouchers for its proposed "watch for wildlife" plate to get it approved and into production. So far, we've sold 1,106 vouchers. This campaign was

launched without a budget; operated by staff with in-kind support from Irwin Hodson and the services of a few volunteers. To get it “over the hump” it’s time to consider some advertising in conjunction with a major push for earned media in the larger metro areas of Oregon. Recently Tim applied for a Community Cares grant from The Oregonian that includes cost-share advertising in the Sunday edition, digital ad impressions on their Oregon Live news site and a “social media handshake” post to their Facebook page. Our share of the cost would be ~\$1,600/month. The grant would require signing a 1-year contract but it includes a 30-day cancellation clause. Tim is proposing that we work with The Oregonian for six months; the first three would be advertising in support of the Oregon Conservation & Recreation Fund (OCRF). The OCRF Advisory Committee has already agreed that our share of the cost for these ads can be paid out of monies already collected in the Fund. Tim would like to fund the Watch for Wildlife ads from funds already raised from the sale of vouchers. We fully expect that we’ll raise a lot more money through voucher sales than will be required to produce the first run of plates. Given that, the risk associated with spending a small amount of the funds raised to-date is very small. Nonetheless, these are restricted funds so Tim is looking for permission from the Project Committee to expend them in this way. Members of the Project Committee weren’t comfortable making this decision and recommended that the Board be consulted and tasked with determining whether the proposed use of voucher funds was appropriate. It was also suggested that there were unrestricted sources of funds that could be used.

**OTHER BUSINESS** - Tim shared that the Foundation will hold a virtual fundraising event on Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7 pm. Our planned event is an hour-long live program broadcast on our YouTube channel. Misty Marquam, our auctioneer for what was previously an in-person event, will lead the paddle raise, draw our raffle winners, and auction off two packaged experiences.

We are also exploring a second gift store location in downtown Hood River. We’ve met with the building owner and are working through the details of a lease agreement and the improvements that will need to be made to make the space “sales ready.”

Meeting concluded at 1:07 pm.

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## **2020 MEETING SCHEDULE**

### **ALL THURSDAYS, 11:30-1PM, (ZOOM FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE)**



- ⌘ September 10
- ⌘ December 3