



PROJECT COMMITTEE

In person and teleconference meeting

March 5, 2020

Attendees:	By Phone:		Staff
Dave Cummings	Brad Bales	Davia Palmeri	Tim Greseth
Marcia Hartman	Carl Burnham	Bill Shake	Nicole Nordin
Brad Staples	Susan Foster	Lori Steele	Pam Simser

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 am.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes from the November 14, 2019, meeting as written and submitted. Motion carried.

PROJECT FUNDS – \$74,240 in unrestricted funds available for general grant making purposes.

\$1.3 million in undistributed earnings were transferred from OCF to the Schwab Investment Fund, which will reduce future OCF grant dividends; 2020 OCF dividends are now anticipated to be \$44,412 in June and the same amount in December.

Dave estimated the committee would have \$30,000 in unrestricted funds per quarter for grantmaking in 2020.

NEW PROJECT FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Project 20-01 Oliver Elementary Nature Playground

Depave is requesting \$5,000 in funding support to develop and implement a de-pave and re-greening project at Oliver Elementary School in the Centennial School District. The requested funds will be used to purchase native plants and nature play structures. Total project budget is \$96,092

This application meets our match requirement, funding guidelines: their request is for supplies and equipment, and includes a letter of support, although it was addressed to East Multnomah County SWCD. The application does not address a OCS species or habitat.

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

This project has merit, but does not fit within the Foundation areas of interest.

Project 20-02 Vesper Sparrow Migration Study

Klamath Bird Observatory (KBO) is requesting \$5,000 in funding support for a project that will expand ongoing Oregon vesper sparrow research with a tangible conservation focus. KBO proposes to discover new information about the migratory routes and overwintering preferences of this imperiled species. They will use nanotags, attached to 10 vesper sparrows at KBO’s Rogue Basin study site, to track their non-breeding season movements. Total project budget is \$10,000.

This application meets our match requirements, funding guidelines, addresses an OCS species or habitat: Oregon vesper sparrow, and includes a letter of support from Steve Niemela, ODFW Rogue District Wildlife Biologist; Bob Altman, retired bird researcher; and Jeanine Moy, Director of the Vesper Meadow Education Program

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

Project 20-03 Raptor Ridge Exhibit Expansion

Wildlife Safari is requesting \$5,000 in funding support for a project that to expand their newly created "Raptor Ridge" exhibit in their free admission area called Safari Village. The current structure houses a great horned owl, bald eagle, and a red-tailed hawk. This project would add an additional enclosure to house an American badger. Total budget is \$99,646.

This application meets our match requirements, funding guidelines (but doesn't specify how our funds will be used), and includes a letter of support from Bill Cannaday, ODFW Douglas District Wildlife Habitat Biologist. The application does not addresses an OCS species or habitat.

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

This project has merit, but does not fit within the Foundation areas of interest.

Project 20-04 Bonneville Hatchery Host Site Internet Access

This project will be funded by ODFW monies that OWF manages on their behalf. The funds are derived, by agreement with the Department, from sales at Spruce Gifts & Provisions. Although the Department has already approved the funding for this project, under our agreement requests are subject to a review by OWF's Project committee. The Department is requesting \$3,600 to provide internet access for volunteer hosts at two different locations on the Hatchery grounds for the next two years.

Motion was made and seconded to approve funding. Motion carried. Funding will be taken from restricted "Hatchery" funds.

Project 20-05 Wolverine of the Wallowas

TLP Media, an Oregon Wildlife Foundation sponsored project, is requesting \$5,000 in funding support to produce a short film on the continuing search for wolverine in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. This survey is being conducted by contractors employed by the Foundation but under the direction of Audrey Magoun; one of the world's foremost experts on wolverine. The goal is to create an inspiring film that supports and brings attention to the research and helps guide conservation efforts and management of this charismatic species. The total budget is \$36,598

This application meets our match requirements, funding guidelines, and addresses OCS strategy species: wolverine. The application does not include letters of support.

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

Project 20-06 Sagebrush-obligate Songbird Study

Oregon State University is requesting \$5,000 in funding support for a project that will support more efficient monitoring of songbird nests over 2,493 square miles (6,458 kilometers) of sagebrush steppe in eastern Oregon. Funding from the Foundation will be used to hire a temporary research assistant. Total budget is \$64,021

This application meets our match requirements, funding guidelines, and addresses an OCS species or habitat: sagebrush steppe, Brewer's sparrow, sage grouse, sagebrush sparrow. The application does not include letters of support.

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

Project 20-07 Impact of Juniper Removal Study

Oregon State University is requesting \$10,000 in funding support for a project to comprehensively assess the impact of removing juniper from aspen, riparian, and sagebrush habitat on Steens Mountain. This study began in 2019 and planned for the six year duration of this BLM juniper removal effort. The bulk of the funding for this research is coming from the BLM but their budget allocation has been delayed until later this year. This funding request is meant to “bridge” the interim period and ensure continuity in this important study. Our funds would be used to hire a summer field technician cover the costs of a rental vehicle. Total budget is \$332,075.

This application meets our match requirements, funding guidelines, addresses an OCS species or habitat: aspen, riparian, sagebrush, and juniper woodlands; Brewer’s sparrow, common nighthawk, ferruginous hawk, grasshopper sparrow, sage grouse, loggerhead shrike, long-billed curlew, northern goshawk, sagebrush sparrow, Swainson’s hawk, western bluebird, western meadowlark, willow flycatcher, and yellow-breasted chat, and includes letters of support from: Jonathan Dinkins, OSU Asst. Professor and Dan Rotell, BLM Andrew/Steens Resource Area Field Manager

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

Project 20-08 Greater Williams Prairie Restoration

Oregon Wildlife Foundation staff, in partnership with the Ochoco National Forest is requesting \$10,000 for the Greater Williams Prairie Restoration project. Funds this year will be used to support pre-commercial and commercial thinning in the upland portions of the restoration area. Staff will use OWF funding as a match challenge to attract additional contributions totaling \$50K or more over the next 2-3 years of the project. Total budget, over the 5 years of the project is \$1,445,500.

This application meets our match requirements, funding guidelines, and addresses an OCS species or habitat: multiple habitat types and species. The application does not include letters of support.

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

OLD BUSINESS -

18-13 North Fork Reservoir - completed consulting agreement with McBain & Associates to prepare the Clackamas River Project Mitigation and Enhancement Fund application, develop conceptual designs and project management; all accomplished within budget. The grant from PGE was awarded to the Foundation for this project.

Executed an agreement with PGE, and invoiced them, for the award, \$525,878, for the project.

Executed agreement with McBain & Associates for engineering designs and project management.

Received Aquatic Contracting’s draft construction proposal and are evaluating it.

McBain is moving forward with hydraulic modeling of the proposed structures to ensure they will withstand normal high water. BLM has agreed to take out the in-water work permits. Aquatic Contracting has received the ODOT permits to work off the roadway. PGE biologists have provided a

map showing chinook and coho redds in the project area, and anticipate expansion of the spawning further even from the streambank.

NEW BUSINESS -

Identifying Project Opportunities- Dave encouraged everyone to think of what projects they'd like to see worked on in Oregon, then how OWF can get involved.

Seeking Volunteers for the Project Management Team - Asked all committee members to consider serving on this important team. While no one volunteered, please consider how you can help.

The first project that will need help is the weir removal at Eagle Fern Park.

Meeting concluded at 12:44 pm.

2020 MEETING SCHEDULE

ALL THURSDAYS, 11:30-1PM, MOSS ADAMS (12 FLOOR AT THE FOX TOWER)

You're welcome to bring your own lunch

⌘ June 4 ⌘ September 10 ⌘ December 3

