

## Project Committee Meeting February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024

## **Old Business**

**OCRF Strategic Planning** – OCRF plans to utilize some of the funds we're holding for them to obtain the services of a marketing communications consultant. OWF will run the recruitment process and work closely with whomever is hired on a marketing communications plan for the Fund with crossover messaging that also supports the Foundation's objectives, particularly around fundraising.

**Coastal Coho Recovery** - ODFW has asked OWF to serve as the fiscal administrator for Federal funds they're seeking to support the recovery of coastal coho.

**The NE Oregon Wildlife Passage Coalition** – OWF has received a \$25K grant from the Olseth Family Foundation with another \$25K pledged in 2024 for crossing mitigation studies along state route 82 and I-84 in NE Oregon.

West Willamette Restoration Partnership (WWRP) OWF will play a fiscal agent/fiscal sponsor role as a member organization of the Partnership. A preproposal to Metro's Nature in Neighborhoods grants program has been submitted for a restoration project in SW Portland's Marquam Woods.

**Urban Ecology Research Consortium (UERC)** OWF is now a member organization and accepting ticket purchases on behalf of UERC for their 21<sup>st</sup> annual symposia at Reed College on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Nehalem River Basin Mitigation Fund Planning** We have received a funding request for a LWD and barrier-removal project on the NF, SF, and main stem of Clear Creek. We have also received an inquiry about underwriting a contractor to conduct outreach to landowners in the upper Nehalem River basin to support the development of a riparian restoration plan for implementation later.

Two Rivers Side Channel and Main Stem Project our grant agreement is signed. We'll invoice PGE for this project sometime later this year in preparation for implementation in 2025.

The Estacada Lake Large Wood Fish Habitat project our grant agreement is signed and we've received the funds from PGE for this project. We anticipate implementation in late summer of this year but that is contingent on receiving all necessary permits and successful clearance of the nesting period for an aerie within the project area.

Klamath Siskiyou Oak Network (KSON), Upper Rogue Oak Initiative (UROI) The Foundation, under an agreement with ODFW, is managing implementation of an 'America the Beautiful' grant award that they received from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation. We are currently developing contractor agreements with each of the partners on this project.

Highway 30 Harborton Frog Crossing Project drafting of the study report and conceptual design is underway. We had thought that the ROW owner for all aspects of this project was ODOT. It was recently discovered that Multnomah County is the ROW owner along Harborton Drive. We've had a preliminary meeting with representatives from the County's roads and stormwater departments. They're making an introduction for us to points of



contact in land use. Tentatively, we don't believe that sidewalk construction or other public use improvements, beyond road widening, will be necessary along Harborton Drive. We also determined that no passage structures will be built under the railroad tracks or Marina Way. Here's the construction cost estimate for modification(s) design, engineering, permitting, and construction along Harborton Drive and installation of a modified box culvert across Highway 30:

Option 2 - NO Sidewalks

		Low	Moderate	High
Estimated Range of Probable Construction Cost	\$	1,396,000	\$ 2,792,000	\$ 4,188,000
Construction Contingency Percentage (30% Max)		30%	30%	30%
Construction Contingency	\$	418,800	\$ 837,600	\$ 1,256,400
Estimated Range of Probable Construction Cost + Contingency	\$	1,814,800	\$ 3,629,600	\$ 5,444,400
Preliminary Engineering / Design / CA/CEI 15%	_	272,200	\$ 544,400	\$ 816,700
Construction Engineering and Inspection 6%	\$	108,900	\$ 217,800	\$ 326,700
Environmental Permitting 8%	\$	145,200	\$ 290,400	\$ 435,600
Legal and Right-of-way 10%	\$	181,500	\$ 363,000	\$ 544,400
TOTAL RANGE OF COSTS (ROUNDED)	\$	2,522,600	\$ 5,045,200	\$ 7,567,800

The cost estimate herein is based on our perception of current conditions at the project location. This estimate reflects our professional opinion of accurate costs at this time and is subject to change as the project design matures. This cost opinion does not include escalation to time of actual construction. Keller Associates has no control over variances in the cost of labor, materials, equipment, services provided by others, contractor's methods of determining prices, competitive bidding or market conditions, practices or bidding strategies. Keller Associates cannot and does not warrant or guarantee that proposals, bids or actual construction costs will not vary from the costs presented herein.

**Oregon Native Trout Challenge** Basalt to Breakers (B2B) has drafted the guidelines for their Oregon Native Trout Challenge and we're meeting with ODFW on February 26<sup>th</sup> to obtain their approval. We anticipate holding a virtual press conference about the Challenge, in conjunction with B2B, sometime in early March

**Five Rivers Subbasin LWD Helicopter Treatment Project** We anticipate approval of our OWEB funding request for this broadscale treatment of Yaquina River tributaries in the mid coast region.

**Deer Creek Willow Planting Project** implementation of this project is planned for this spring. There is a possibility, because of a scheduling challenge on the part of the partner doing the planting, that we'll need to bump the project start date to next winter.

**Big Elk & Sugar Bowl Creeks LWD Project** this is a partnership between ODFW and OWF to treat reaches of Big Elk and Sugar Bowl creeks on land owned and managed by Pacific Forest Trust (PFT). OWF funding will purchase some of the trees and pay for equipment rental and operator expenses. ODFW will manage the project and design the structures.

Forest Park Red-legged Frog Pond Habitat Development OWF team members visited the Newton wetland site which is along the Newton Road (fire lane) trail in Forest Park. Conducting the tour was Kevin Foster (retired geotechnical engineer), Jim Holley (wildlife biologist, and Rob Lee (a nightly team captain with the Harborton Frog Shuttle project). This is an effort to identify areas within Forest Park for the development of pond habitat that would supplement Harborton wetland; potentially diverting a portion of red-legged frogs from that migration and shoring up local population numbers. There will be some regulatory and permitting hurdles, but the project concept has support within Portland Parks & Recreation – the landowner and manager.

**Foster Creek** OWF is the conservation easement holder for the Foster Creek property. The current owners will remain as such until either OWF or another organization assumes ownership of the property. For OWF to own and manage the property, we will need to find an organization to hold the easement. The current owners will, as a condition of our agreement, make a ~ \$275K endowment gift to cover maintenance and legal defense



expenses. We haven't yet requested the funds pending settlement of the ownership question.

**Haek Estate - Umpqua River frontage** the roof of the manufactured home on the property was tarped to prevent additional water damage to the interior of the home. Additional projects to be accomplished as weather conditions improve include landscape clearing, demolition and removal of a derelict outbuilding, fence repair/replacement, and entry gate replacement.

Fly Creek Ranch Conservation Easement - Phil Nance approached the Foundation and asked us to hold a conservation easement on his family's ranch property which is located due west of Grandview (Lake Billy Chinook) at the head of Fly Creek canyon. This is one of a handful of privately owned properties in this area that is part of the <a href="Metolius Mule Deer">Metolius Mule Deer</a> Winter Range. Fly Creek Canyon is also a migration corridor for animals moving from the winter range area to the foothills of the Cascades.

## **New Business**

**Portland Ecofilm Festival** Alan Lacy's (Reel Earth Films) feature about our wolverine monitoring project in the Wallowas was selected by the festival and will be screened, among other conservation films, at the Hollywood Theater on Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. The screening begins at 7:30pm

**OCF Creative Heights Grant Program** – The Creative Heights initiative aims to increase Oregon's cultural visibility and vitality while supporting unique opportunities for Oregonians to experience innovative arts and culture. Up to \$1 million in projects will be funded annually with grants from \$10,000 to \$100,000 per project. This program, begun in 2014, has funded the work of 109 artists over the last decade. <a href="https://oregoncf.org/grants-and-scholarships/grants/creative-heights/">https://oregoncf.org/grants-and-scholarships/grants/creative-heights/</a> for more information.

OCF is referring interested artists whose projects have a wildlife conservation or environmental component to OWF for fiscal sponsorship consideration. This year, we've fielded two separate inquiries so far; one that connects kids and families to web-based animation of plants and animals accessed via QR codes on posts along a Forest Park trail, and another that's a multi-disciplinary project combining field recordings with original music and poetry to educate and inspire Oregonians about threatened bird species in our region through live performance.

Bonneville Fish Hatchery Master Site Plan Development ODFW is considering a joint proposal from OWF, Greenworks P.C., and Sea Reach Ltd., to develop a master site plan for Bonneville Fish Hatchery – this would include improvements to wayfinding, visitor's center, and interpretive signage, among other potential changes to the facilities and grounds. With more than 500k visits annually, Bonneville has untapped potential as a location from which to learn about a myriad of conservation topics. The **Sturgeon Interpretive Center's** needed updates will be pursued outside this effort as a separate initiative.

**Metolius Winter Range Property Acquisition** an effort is underway to purchase 3 properties totaling 300 acres from Sage and Lynn Dorsey. The Dorsey's themselves purchased these properties from the Kitchens family in collaboration with the Terrestrial Working Group (TWG) of which OWF is a member. An effort is underway



to raise the funds needed to acquire the properties from the Dorsey's with eventual ownership by the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs. OWF is the applicant for funding from the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation as well as ODFW's Access & Habitat program. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has already committed \$30K to our acquisition campaign.

As a reminder, the Metolius Winter Range area is critical overwintering habitat for mule deer and elk that has, over time, become more fragmented through the subdivision and sale of large privately held parcels. The TWG is endeavoring to consolidate as many of these small acreage holdings as possible with adjoining PGE or public lands.