

## Project Notes

### February 16, 2023

#### Project Committee Budget

The Project Committee Grantmaking budget is \$100,000 per year, or ~\$25,000 per quarter. Current unrestricted project funds available are \$75,170.

#### Project 23–02 NCLC Shangrila Invasive Species Removal Project

North Coast Land Conservancy is requesting \$5,000 in funding support for the Shangrila invasive Species Removal Project. OWF funding will be used for weekly English ivy control work for 12 weeks. Land trust and watershed council staff and volunteers will spend one afternoon each week manually removing ivy from large old Sitka spruce growing in the forested wetland. This effort will improve habitat health and biodiversity and will also aid in having a regular presence at the site to monitor planting establishment that is scheduled to take place mid-March as part of an OWEB funded small grant project.

- Meets our match requirements
- It is unclear from the application if this meets our funding guidelines
- Addresses an OCS habitat
- Includes a letter of support from the National Park Service

#### Project 23–03 Wheeler SWCD Butte Creek Riparian Planting Project

Wheeler SWCD is requesting \$4,974 to cover the costs for: 1) planting crew services to oversee a trained volunteer crew over four days of staging and implementation; 2) additional fencing/caging materials to protect donated riparian plants from wildlife browse; 3) mileage reimbursement for the planting crew leads. 4) Wheeler SWCD project management time for planning planting implementation and completion reporting.

- Meets our match requirements
- Partially meets our funding guidelines. Staff recommend excluding the SWCD's project planning and management time.
- Does not explicitly address an OCS habitat or species
- Includes letters of support from Think Wild/Beaver Works

#### Project 23–04 Think Wild Beaver Monitoring Project

Think Wild/Beaver Works is requesting \$5,000 for materials, travel costs, hired contractor, and software needed to design and establish a framework and platform for trail camera monitoring of beavers. We will utilize the experience of our staff and volunteers as well as the expertise of an outside contractor to create our methodology. We will also purchase a laptop computer and necessary software to use for data collection and analysis. Finally, travel costs will be incurred through visits to monitoring sites throughout the project.

- Does not meet our match requirements
- Does not meet our funding guidelines
- Addresses an OCS habitat – wetlands. Beaver is considered a keystone species
- Includes a letter of support from a wildlife biologist

### **Project 23–05 OWF UWIN Portland 2023-24 Field Season**

Oregon Wildlife Foundation staff are requesting \$4,010 in funding support for UWIN Portland's 2023-24 field season. Funding will be used for equipment, supplies, fuel, and Coordinator time.

- Meets our match requirements
- Meets our funding guidelines
- Does not address an OCS strategy species or habitat but contributes to a better understanding of urban wildlife management.

### **Project 23–06 OWF Wildlife Passage for Coastal Marten in Oregon**

Oregon Wildlife Foundation staff are requesting \$50,000 in funding support from the Watch for Wildlife Fund for a project to determine the feasibility and cost of modifying road culverts on Highway 101 to provide safe passage for coastal marten in areas demonstrating high vehicle-related mortality. This funding combined with a grant awarded to the USFWS is enough to initiate an RFP process to hire a firm to conduct the necessary study.

- Meets our match requirements
- Meets our funding guidelines
- Addresses an OCS strategy species; Humboldt (coastal) marten
- OWF is a partner in this effort

### **Project 23–07 B2S Highway 20 Wildlife Passage Project**

Oregon Wildlife Foundation staff are requesting \$50,000 in funding support from the Watch for Wildlife Fund for a project to secure a contractor to produce a corridor assessment and conceptual design for wildlife crossings along Highway 20, between Bend and Suttle Lake, Oregon.

- Does not meet our match requirements (yet)
- Meets our funding guidelines
- Addresses an OCS priority, habitat connectivity
- OWF is a partner in this effort.

## **New Business**

### **OWF Project Map Demonstration**

This is a map application that can be viewed at: <http://owf-env-eb.eba-3rpuw23a.us-west-2.elasticbeanstalk.com/> Our Board member, Bryce Gartrell, asked if we would be interested in an interactive map to highlight OWF project investments. The Gartrell Group uses geospatial technology to improve locational know-how, streamline workflows and practices for its clients. The company has made an extraordinary commitment and gift to the Foundation in the form of this map, layers, and the database that drives the display of information about 40+ years of project history.

### **23–01 Estacada Lake Habitat Project**

The Foundation is contracting with McBain & Associates to complete the work described in the scope of work for this project that was provided separately. The PGE Clackamas Mitigation Fund is now open for proposals with a deadline of May 1<sup>st</sup>, at 5 pm.

### **Foundation Fund Guide**

This guide describes the various Funds that OWF can draw on to support projects. Both unrestricted and restricted sources are described.

## Old Business

### **Fishhawk Lake Grantmaking**

We determined that we shouldn't do anything until we've seen a strategic action plan (SAP) for the basin. That has now been released and is available for your review in the Project committee area of our website. With that list of priority projects in hand, we now need to decide how to make the best use of the mitigation funds we're managing for the Nehalem River basin.

ODFW personnel have suggested we use our dollars to cover fisheries planning and engineering design expenses for the highest priority projects within the basin.

Alternatively, we could invest the funds we have for long-term appreciation and distribute earnings based on a spending policy yet to be determined, far into the future.

A middle ground would invest a portion of the funds in a handful of priority projects now and the balance of the funds as a quasi-endowment for capital appreciation and earnings distributions on a longer term basis.

### **Community Member Nominating Process**

Welcome Joe Miller, our newest Project committee member! Our charter, silent on the process of community member nomination and selection, is being revised to include those processes.

### **Collawash Confluence (Two Rivers) Project**

USFS – Mt. Hood Forest has a pot of fire recovery funds and is interested in working with us on this project. We are early in our conversation with them, but they are looking for a local partner to work with. OWF would need to bring match to the table, as much as 25% of the project cost, but the balance would be covered by funds USFS already has. More information to follow.

### **Fiscal Sponsorship, Port Blakely Forestland Habitat Conservation Plan**

Port Blakely's US Forestry operation approached the Foundation in November of last year regarding our interest in serving as the fiscal sponsor of funds they're voluntarily setting aside for watershed restoration as part of a Habitat Conservation Agreement that they have developed for their Clackamas basin forestlands. There has been no additional communication from them as of now.

### **Da Yang Seafood Environmental Enhancement Fund**

A proposal to establish a new Fund is being assessed by the Department of Environmental Quality. If an agreement with DEQ can be reached, this Fund will receive a total of \$84K in separate contributions of \$42K each over the next six months.

### **America the Beautiful Grant to the Klamath Siskiyou Oak Network (KSON)**

OWF will provide fiscal administration services for a grant award to the Klamath Siskiyou Oak Network (KSON) from the new America the Beautiful (AtB) Grant Program. KSON is a consortium of organizations, including Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture, working to conserve, protect, and restore oak woodlands in SW Oregon. AtB is a pot of Federal funds administered by the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation (NFWF). Pacific Birds and OWF are sharing administrative responsibilities for this grant. At this time, we do not yet have a contract with ODFW, the recipient of the funding award.