

August 21, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

FROM: Lauri Aunan, Grant Program Manager
Mark Grenbemer, Southwest Oregon Regional Program Representative

**SUBJECT: Agenda Item L: OWEB Grant Award Recommendations
Region 2, Southwest Oregon
September 15-16, 2009 OWEB Board Meeting**

I. Introduction

This staff report describes the Southwest Oregon Regional Review Team recommendations and staff recommendations for funding.

II. Background and Summary

Applicants submitted 41 applications for a total request of nearly \$4.7 million. The Southwest Oregon Regional Review Team (RRT) recommended 27 applications for about \$3.4 million: \$3.2 million for Restoration and \$152,848 for Technical Assistance. Staff recommend nine applications for a total award of \$1,411,097: \$1,335,151 for Restoration and \$75,946 for Technical Assistance.

III. Regional Review Team Recommendations

The Southwest Oregon RRT met in Bandon on June 18, 2009, to review the applications received in this grant cycle. All applications were reviewed for technical merit and given a “do fund” or “no fund” recommendation. The RRT then prioritized the applications recommended for funding.

The RRT recommended full funding of more than \$1 million for 210-2032, Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge, Ni-les'tun Restoration, subject to conditions discussed below. Phases 1 and 2 of this project would restore over 400 acres of tidal and freshwater marsh, and riparian habitat. The project as a whole has already received more than \$8 million in federal stimulus funds. The RRT felt it was a very important project, but noted they would prefer that projects this large (\$1 million) go through a separate OWEB process outside of the regular grant cycle, because of the amount of funding these types of projects request when placed in competition with smaller dollar projects. As noted in section IV below, staff recommend full funding for this project, to be provided through a staged award (similar to how the Board has awarded previous “big-ticket” projects), which provides partial funding in September and the remainder of the funding in March 2010. This allows this important project to be fully funded.

One of the RRT-recommended conditions for this application involved OWEB following up on the proposed effectiveness monitoring totaling more than \$100,000. The RRT felt that effectiveness monitoring was an important component of the project, but had questions about what should be funded.

Staff worked with the project applicant and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to confirm that Phase 1 of the project is underway and is expected to be completed in fall of 2009. Extensive planning has occurred for Phase 2, for which OWEB funding is requested, and it is expected that Phase 2 will be started and completed during 2010. OWEB's monitoring staff also followed up on the effectiveness monitoring questions and determined that only part of the request should be funded now.

As a result, staff recommend that application 210-2032 be funded at a reduced level of \$979,265 with the following conditions:

1. For effectiveness monitoring, fund only the vegetation and tidal hydrology monitoring components; do not fund the fish monitoring activities. Staff recommend the applicant work with OWEB to submit a monitoring application for other parameters of interest, including fish monitoring, for the October 2009 monitoring application cycle. Effectiveness monitoring funding is reduced to \$85,900.
2. For the reasons described in the Overview report, staff recommend an award of \$500,000 at this time, with the remaining \$479,265 reserved from 2009-2011 *capital* funds for the Board to award in March 2010. Staff will request the applicant report to the Board on the progress made to implement the project before Board action on the reserved funding.
3. The applicant and USFWS must hold regular project management meetings including OWEB, to track progress and status of implementation of this complex project.

IV. Staff Recommendations

A. Capital Applications

- *Restoration.* Region 2 received 28 Restoration applications and no Acquisition applications. Due to limited capital funding, staff recommend funding six of the 21 Restoration applications recommended by the RRT for a total of \$1,355,151.

B. Non-Capital Applications

- *Technical Assistance.* Region 2 received 13 Technical Assistance applications. Due to limited non-capital funding, staff recommend funding three of the six Technical Assistance applications recommended by the RRT for a total of \$75,946.

Attachment A shows the applications, funding amounts, conditions (if any), and priority rankings recommended for funding to OWEB staff by the RRT. The table also indicates, by means of shaded entries, the OWEB staff recommendations to the Board. For some applications, the amount shown in the table is the staff or RRT funding recommendation rather than the amount requested in the application.

Attachment B shows those applications not recommended for funding at this time by the RRT or OWEB staff.

Staff recommend the Board approve the staff funding recommendation as contained in Attachment A to this report.

Attachments

- A. Applications Recommended for Funding
- B. Applications Not Recommended for Funding

Region 2 - Southwest Oregon
Technical Assistance Projects Recommended for Funding by the RRT
April 20, 2009 Grant Cycle

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray			
Project #	Project Name	Total Amount	Priority
210-2010	Gold Ray Dam Removal Sediment Management Plan	46,141	1
210-2023	Coos Watershed South Slough and Coast Streams Action Planning	20,125	2
210-2006	Pleasant Creek Habitat Restoration	9,680	3
210-2035	Knapp-Kamph New River Habitat Improvement Plan*^	15,205	4
210-2018	White-Deer Creek Habitat and Channel Enhancement Design*	39,197	5
210-2007	Jackson Creek Fish Passage Design at Hanley Road	22,500	6
Total Technical Assistance Projects Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT		\$152,848	
Total Technical Assistance Projects Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board		\$75,946	

*Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Reduction ^Fund with Conditions

Region 2 - Southwest Oregon
Restoration Projects Recommended for Funding by the RRT
April 20, 2009 Grant Cycle

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray					
Project #	Project Name	Capital Funds	Non-Capital Funds	Total Amount	Priority
210-2040	Upper Dean Creek Instream Restoration Phase II*	90,660		90,660	1
210-2000	Little Butte Creek Meander Restoration Project	350,000		350,000	2
210-2024	Willanch Creek Fish Passage & Habitat Improvements	105,504		105,504	3
210-2037	Charlotte and Luder Creeks Instream Restoration*	163,003		163,003	4
210-2032	Bandon Marsh NWR, NI-les'tun Unit Restoration *^# Effectiveness Monitoring \$85,900	500,000		500,000	5
210-2039	Hall Ranch Stream Restoration^	125,984		125,984	6
210-2036	Fate and Days Creeks Stream Restoration	77,897		77,897	7
210-2025	Williams River Watershed Habitat Improvement Phase I*^	143,189	400	143,589	8
210-2021	Coquille Elk Creek 2009 Instream Restoration*	149,533		149,533	9
210-2016	Sucker Creek Channel and Floodplain Restoration - Phase 2*	211,665		211,665	10
210-2027	North Slough Creek Riparian Restoration Project*	59,382		59,382	11
210-2003	Big Creek Fish Passage and Sediment Abatement*	297,904		297,904	12
210-2022	Coos Watershed Riparian Maintenance Project^	71,055		71,055	13
210-2009	Medford-Cearley Riparian Restoration*^	163,290		163,290	14
210-2001	Russell Creek Habitat Restoration*	41,474		41,474	15
210-2038	Morgan Creek Stream Restoration*	77,283		77,283	16
210-2029	Andrews Creek Habitat Improvement	38,840		38,840	17
210-2008	Ashland Creek Ponds Riparian Restoration*^	41,725		41,725	18
210-2030	Billy Creek Habitat Restoration*	95,670		95,670	19
210-2002	South Tenmile Lake Fish Passage*	200,101		200,101	20
210-2004	Swanson Sediment Abatement #2*	197,885		197,885	21
Total Restoration Projects Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT		\$3,222,044	\$400	\$3,222,444	
Total Restoration Projects Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board		\$1,335,151	\$0	\$1,335,151	

* Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Reduction ^Fund with Conditions

#Total amount is \$979,265 staged award with \$500,000 recommended now and \$479,265 to be awarded in March 2010

Region 2 - Southwest Oregon
Technical Assistance Projects NOT Recommended for Funding by the RRT
April 20, 2009 Grant Cycle

Project #	Project name	Total Amount Requested
210-2005	Applegate Sustainable Aggregate Project	49,993
210-2011	Eagle Point Lagoon Riparian Improvement	34,986
210-2012	Beaver Habitat and Policy Development	10,835
210-2013	Main Stem Williams Creek Restoration Analysis	18,723
210-2015	Elk Creek Beaver Habitat Survey	11,240
210-2017	East Fork Illinois River: Reach-scale Analysis & Restoration Design	50,000
210-2034	Redlick Creek Culvert Replacement	49,540

Region 2 - Southwest Oregon
Restoration Projects NOT Recommended for Funding by the RRT
April 20, 2009 Grant Cycle

Project #	Project name	Total Amount Requested
210-2014	Bioswale Wetland Filtration and Stream Restoration	30,456
210-2019	Coquille Catching Creek Riparian 2009	84,771
210-2020	Coquille East Fork Riparian 2009	31,353
210-2026	Ross Slough Riparian Restoration Project	29,856
210-2028	Cox Creek Habitat Improvement	62,850
210-2031	West Sutherlin Cook Creek Restoration	168,573
210-2033	Lobster Creek Fish Habitat Restoration	65,595