

Summary of Projects Recommended for Funding and Board Discussion
Fish Restoration and Enhancement Board
 2009-2011 Biennium – Cycle 5 of 8

The Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Board met May 21, 2010 in Baker City to review 17 projects requesting funding from the R&E Program. A project must receive a majority of Board votes to be recommended for funding; all seven Board members attended the meeting. A summary of each project, funding requested, designation as sport or commercial funding, public comment, and Board discussion points are below. Major issues raised are identified in the Board discussions and any public comment submitted by individuals or groups other than project sponsors are noted. Internal department staff review of each project is provided to the Board and the project sponsor prior to the meeting, and sponsors typically respond to this staff review during their presentation to the Board.

The Board recommends funding the following projects:

Restoration

Project Number:	09-065
Project Title:	Clackamas Hatchery Predator Netting
Project Type:	ODFW Hatchery Maintenance
Sponsor:	ODFW Clackamas Hatchery
Sport/Commercial:	Sport
Enhancement/Restoration:	Restoration
Funds Requested:	\$12,501
Total Project Cost:	\$35,701

Match:	
ODFW	\$13,200
NOAA Fisheries	\$5,000
Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation	\$5,000
Total Match:	\$23,200

Description: The Clackamas Fish hatchery is requesting R&E funding to purchase material and install a bird enclosure for three 80' X 300' asphalt rearing ponds. The fish reared in these ponds include Clackamas River spring Chinook, Sandy River wild spring Chinook, Big Creek coho and South Santiam summer steelhead. The ponds are open and subject to predation by blue herons, mergansers, mink, osprey and Otter. These predators cause an average annual loss of 9 % (125,000 smolts) which has risen up to a high of 17.7% in 2008-2009. Both commercial and sport fisheries are impacted by these losses.

The hatchery staff has employed air cannons, motion sensor lights and noise makers with very little lasting success. During the summer months a seasonal property guard would scare birds away as part of his duties during daylight hours. That provided no protection at night when the majority of predation occurs. Unfortunately, that position was cut due to budgetary shortfalls.

The project will be a high value benefit to the fisheries in the Clackamas, Sandy and lower Columbia Rivers for a relatively small amount of cash investment. If the smolts protected by this project were only valued at \$1/lb the cost would be offset in a single year. The cost to produce Clackamas spring Chinook is many times that and considering that the Sandy river spring Chinook are from wild broodstock their value is even higher.

Board Discussion: Jack Glass commented that he has toured the Salmon River Hatchery and the netting that the Board funded at this location turned out well.

Project Number: 09-209
Project Title: Fox Creek Restoration
Project Type: Habitat
Sponsor: Columbia Soil & Water Conservation District
Sport/Commercial: Commercial
Enhancement/Restoration: Restoration
Funds Requested: \$46,230
Total Project Cost: \$94,990

Match:

NFWF 5 Star Grants Program	\$18,775
OWEB Small Grants	\$9,950
Columbia Soil & Water Conservation District	\$1,600
City of Rainier	\$8,925
Bob Burnham	\$4,460
Friends of Fox Creek	\$1,400
ODFW	\$2,000
Teevin Brothers	\$250
Lower Columbia River Watershed Council	\$1,400
Total Match:	\$48,760

Description: This project would fund the placement of large woody debris in a segment of Fox Creek in a manner which will increase spawning gravel recruitment, provide habitat for juvenile and resident fish and create pool and riffle habitat. The placement will include approximately 100 to 150 large pieces of wood, some with root wads and some without, utilizing existing trees and structures to hold the wood in place eliminating the need to cable or bury for stability. Construction of the project would include community and educational organizations to take advantage of this learning and community involvement opportunity.

Board Discussion: Gary Soderstrom claimed conflict of interest and will abstain. The Board discussed their concerns over the development of footpaths, but they do support the educational aspect and the community involvement. Several generations have become involved from the community over the years.

Project Number: 09-210
Project Title: Munsel Creek Hatchery Chiller Unit
Project Type: STEP Propagation
Sponsor: Florence STEP Chapter
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Restoration
Funds Requested: \$12,317
Total Project Cost: \$15,317

Match:

Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation	\$2,000
ODFW	\$1,000
Total Match:	\$3,000

Description: This project would install a water chilling unit at the STEP Munsel Creek Egg Incubation Facility to slow development of early winter steelhead egg takes in order to have larger groups of eggs to transfer to Willamette Hatchery. This approach will improve overall efficiencies in the Siuslaw winter steelhead brood stock program and allow ODFW hatcheries to pond and rear larger groups of fish.

Board Discussion: The Board asked how the increase in electricity would be covered. The applicant replied the increase would not be an issue financially or structurally. The applicant shared that this system has a built-in heater to ensure that the water does not freeze.

Project Number:	09-211
Project Title:	Sun Creek Selective Fish Passage Facility
Project Type:	Passage
Sponsor:	Oregon Department of Forestry
Sport/Commercial:	Sport
Enhancement/Restoration:	Restoration
Funds Requested:	\$19,700
Total Project Cost:	\$122,341

Match:

USFWS Klamath Falls	\$62,568
ODFW Screens & Passage	\$12,700
Crater Lake National Park Fisheries Program	\$18,948
ODFW Klamath Falls	\$3,425
Oregon Department of Forestry	\$5,000
Total Match:	\$102,641

Description: This project will restore a native fishery to lower Sun Creek by removing non-native brook trout and brown trout and restoring native bull trout, redband trout, and possibly anadromous salmonids. To accomplish this objective, a selective passage facility will be constructed to exclude exotic fish, but allow manual upstream passage of native species.

Board Discussion: The Board asked how many miles this project would restore. The applicant replied approximately 4 miles. The Board asked if there is competition between the redband and bull trout. The applicant replied no. The Board asked how many landowners were currently involved in the project. The applicant replied two landowners. The Board asked why they will use antimycin-A instead of rotenone. The applicant replied that they have antimycin on hand ready to use and there are reports the fish don't notice the rotenone as much as the antimycin.

Project Number: 09-215
Project Title: Roaring River Hatchery Pressure Vessel-Triploid Project
Project Type: Propagation – ODFW
Sponsor: ODFW – Roaring River Hatchery
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Restoration
Funds Requested: \$19,750
Total Project Cost: \$29,750

Match:
 ODFW \$10,000

Description: This project will purchase a pressure vessel used to produce triploid trout that are used in the statewide trout stocking program. The Roaring River Hatchery is a large rainbow trout broodstock and production facility. The program at Roaring River collects almost 10,000,000 green eggs and heat /pressure treats over 8,500,000 eggs for the triploid trout program. The one pressure treatment vessel currently owned by ODFW is shared by four facilities. As a result, during the early part of the Roaring River hatchery spawning season the pressure vessel is still in use at the Oak Springs Hatchery and 2-3 million eggs must be triploided using heat shock rather than pressure shock. The heat shocking method is more complicated, has a lower or less consistent triploiding rate and results in higher egg mortality. Even when the pressure vessel is available, being tied to only one device leads to 15 hour days on many occasions for staff.

Staff at the Roaring River hatchery have worked very hard onsite and have employed the resources of the Oregon Hatchery Research Center to develop a near perfect recipe for making triploid rainbow trout eggs at their hatchery. This protocol must be fine tuned for each specific stock and water source. In this case, they have done all the work to develop a program that is consistent with high triploidy rates and excellent survival (pressure shock dependent). The availability of an additional pressure treatment vessel would be extremely valuable.

The hatchery manager has worked through the Fish Propagation Program Manager and obtained supplemental funding from five of the major triploid egg recipients. The triploid program is a high visibility and high value program in the ODFW fish management tool kit.

Board Discussion: The Board commented that this is a great project, and that all ODFW hatcheries should participate.

Project Number: 09-217
Project Title: Pitcher Ranch Passage and Screening Design
Project Type: Passage
Sponsor: Lake County Resources Initiative
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Restoration
Funds Requested: \$12,600
Total Project Cost: \$37,540
Match:
 OWEB \$24,940

Description: This project would fund an engineered design of passage improvement structures at four gravity diversion points on Buck Creek near Silver Lake. This project complements passage efforts being made by the Forest Service upstream of the Pitcher Ranch. Once the construction phases on both the forest and private land are complete, this project will benefit recreational fisheries by improving connectivity of redband trout in Buck Creek; allowing fish to access the improved habitat on approximately 22 miles of both public and private lands. In addition, this project will also involve survey and design work to address fish entrapment into irrigation canals, avoiding entrapment will improve redband trout abundance in Buck Creek.

Board Discussion: The Board asked about the lack of landowner match listed on the application. The applicant replied that the landowner will be donating a significant amount of time from start to finish by completing a lot of the work themselves. The Board asked if this was private land. The applicant replied yes, but upstream is publicly owned. The Board asked what species are in the creek. The applicant replied its exclusively native redband trout with some brook trout. The Board asked if the OWEB funding has been secured. The applicant replied that funding is still pending; if the project is denied by OWEB the project will not go forward.

The Board discussed that the watersheds in the Great Basin are very different than the ones on the west side of Oregon in that the rivers flow down into the basin and don't connect to the ocean, but rather into marshes or sloughs where the water eventually sinks into the ground or evaporates.

Project Number:	09-222
Project Title:	South Fork Klaskanine Hatchery Diversion Repairs
Project Type:	Passage Maintenance
Sponsor:	Clatsop County Fisheries
Sport/Commercial:	Commercial
Enhancement/Restoration:	Restoration
Funds Requested:	\$26,865
Total Project Cost:	\$137,624

Match:	
FEMA	\$105,575
Clatsop County Fisheries	\$5,184
Total Match:	\$110,759

Description: This project will fund the repair of the in-water structures to provide adequate water flow for the hatchery and proper fish passage in the river. This project will be conducted at Clatsop County's South Fork of the Klaskanine River Hatchery, which is used for the production of Select Area Bright fall Chinook and coho salmon. In the wake of the December 2007 flood event, the newly completed dam removal project and new water diversion site for the hatchery endured a major flood that left most of the diversion project destroyed by the high water event. Many of the newly designed rock weir structures were knocked out or rearranged.

Board Discussion: The Board asked if there are any problems with the screens. The applicant replied that the screen issues were resolved last year.

Enhancement

Project Number: 09-207
Project Title: Adair Pond Water Control Structure
Project Type: Miscellaneous
Sponsor: ODFW – Corvallis
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Enhancement
Funds Requested: \$15,621
Total Project Cost: \$33,917

Match:
ODFW \$18,296

Description: This project will replace a failing water control structure at Adair Pond, which is located an ODFW office several miles north of Corvallis. The standpipe is not structurally sound and allows water levels to decline significantly during the spring, summer, and early fall affecting the quality of the fishery and angling access. The project will also provide an opportunity to improve warmwater fish habitat and eradicate invasive species such as bullfrogs.

Board Discussion: The Board commented that this is a project with excellent public education value that is located in a high traffic area.

Project Number: 09-208
Project Title: Charleston Marina Fish Cleaning Station Roof
Project Type: Miscellaneous
Sponsor: Oregon International Port of Coos Bay
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Enhancement
Funds Requested: \$14,000
Total Project Cost: \$15,750

Match:
Bay Area Sportsmen's Association \$500
Oregon International Port of Coos Bay \$1,250
Total Match: \$1,750

Description: This project will construct a roof for the Charleston Marina fish cleaning station. The fish cleaning station is located at a heavily used boat ramp in Charleston. Currently, the fish cleaning station is not covered and seagulls and wind can be a problem when people are utilizing the station.

Board Discussion: The Board asked what was included in the Port's in-kind portion of the budget. The applicant replied staff time and project coordination. The Board asked if there was a boat launch charge. The applicant replied yes, the fees are \$5 per launch or \$50 for a year. The Board shared concern over the difference between the estimate provided and the funds requested.

The applicant replied if there were remaining funds after the project was complete they would possibly use it at other facilities or return the balance to the Board. The Board asked how stable the station was. The applicant replied it is creosote with a concrete foundation and repairs have been made as needed so it is in good condition. The Board asked if the design will withstand high winds. The applicant replied that is the reason an engineer was hired for the design. The Board asked where the waste goes after it's been taken from the cleaning station. The applicant replied that they have a permit to dispose of 500 pounds of waste per day into the bay.

Project Number: 09-213
Project Title: Grande Ronde River Greenway Acquisition
Project Type: Access
Sponsor: City of La Grande
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Enhancement
Funds Requested: \$50,000
Total Project Cost: \$140,000

Match:
Blue Mountain Habitat Fund \$20,000
OPRD Land & Water Conservation Fund \$70,000
Total Match: \$90,000

Description: This project will assist in acquiring 4.8 acres located between property owned by the City of La Grande to the west and the City of Island City to the east connecting a 2 mile corridor along the Grande Ronde River. Future development includes a bicycle/pedestrian trail along the south side of the river that will connect the City of La Grande Riverside Park on the west to the future City of Island City day use park around 12 acre pond on the east. Other future development activities include creating urban fishing access to the river and pond and stream restoration projects in cooperation with the Grande Ronde Model Watershed.

Board Discussion: The Board discussed their concerns that this is not the last parcel to purchase, and the other funds haven't been secured.

Project Number: 09-219
Project Title: North Powder Pond Fishing Access Improvement
Project Type: Access
Sponsor: ODFW – La Grande Office
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Enhancement
Funds Requested: \$14,700
Total Project Cost: \$18,300

Match:
ODFW \$3,600

Description: The North Powder Pond is a heavily used fishing pond in the Baker Valley. Formerly a gravel pit, the pond is now owned and operated by ODFW. Approximately 4,000 legal-sized rainbow trout are currently stocked in April and May.

The access road to the pond is in disrepair and not in a condition suitable for the level of public use it receives. The proposed project will bring the access road up to a standard commensurate with the level of use it receives. The project includes surfacing approximately 1,500 feet of the road with 1.5 inch minus gravel and another 1,700 feet with base rock (6 inch) and surface gravel.

Board Discussion: The Board asked about access to the pond. The applicant responded that there is public access all around the pond.

Project Number: 09-220
Project Title: Burns Pond Improvement Project
Project Type: Miscellaneous
Sponsor: ODFW – Hines Office
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Enhancement
Funds Requested: \$22,000
Total Project Cost: \$34,500

Match:
ODFW \$12,500

Description: This project would connect the east and west ponds of Burns Pond to provide expanded fishing opportunities for the public. The east pond would be deepened 12 to 15 feet to support a put-and-take trout fishery. A channel between the two ponds would be constructed to allow continual water flow from the west pond. The west pond water source is supported by a subsurface spring which maintains water levels throughout the year. A foot bridge will be constructed to allow traffic between the ponds. Shrubs and vegetation will be planted on the periphery of disturbed areas to improve wildlife habitat and nesting.

Board Discussion: The Board commented that this is a good project with tangible benefits to the community.

Project Number: 09-221
Project Title: TumTum River Trout Habitat Project
Project Type: Habitat
Sponsor: Mary's River Watershed Council
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Enhancement
Funds Requested: \$17,355
Total Project Cost: \$85,569

Match:
OWEB \$61,364
Private landowners \$3,850
USFWS Partners \$3,000
Total Match: \$68,214

Description: This project will initiate a subbasin effort to address key limiting factors – high summer temperatures and the lack of floodplain channel connectivity. R&E funds are requested for the enhancement of floodplain connectivity to provide off-channel winter refugia and rearing habitat for cutthroat trout. Graded rock riffles will be

constructed to aggrade the channel and extend the area and duration of floodplain interaction during normal winter flows into four historic side channel meanders.

Board Discussion: The Board commented that this project has good match and is a long-term approach to creating habitat in the watershed.