

Summary of Projects Recommended for Funding and Board Discussion
Fish Restoration and Enhancement Board
 2009-2011 Biennium – Cycle 6 of 8

The Restoration and Enhancement (R&E) Board met August 13, 2010 in Gold Beach to review 13 projects requesting funding from the R&E Program. A project must receive a majority of Board votes to be recommended for funding; six 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:	09-225
Project Title:	Chetco River Chinook Salmon Coded Wire Tag Study
Project Type:	Propagation - STEP
Sponsor:	Oregon South Coast Fishermen
Sport/Commercial:	Sport
Funds Requested:	\$13,125
Total Project Cost:	\$25,005

Match:
 Oregon South Coast Fishermen \$11, 880

Description: This project would fund installation of 150,000 differentiated coded wire tags (CWT) in three classes of fish over two consecutive brood years. All hatchery supplementation fish in the Chetco River have been fin marked since the 2005 brood year. The CWTs would allow the Oregon South Coast Fishermen to evaluate the survival and upstream movement of acclimated fish and evaluate September vs. October release strategies for non-acclimated fish, as well as upstream stray rates.

Board Discussion: The Board asked who will catch most of the tagged fish. The applicant replied that they are guessing most will be caught commercially. The Board asked how many fish they feel they'll be able to catch. The applicant replied that they should be able to catch at least 1,000.

Project Number: 09-226
Project Title: Irrigon Hatchery 8" Fish Pump
Project Type: Hatchery Maintenance
Sponsor: ODFW Irrigon Hatchery
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Funds Requested: \$ 23,500
Total Project Cost: \$ 43,500

Match:
 ODFW \$ 20,000

Description: This project would fund the purchase of a fish pump which would allow the mechanical transfer of large rainbow trout at Irrigon Hatchery near Hermiston. Irrigon Hatchery has the capability to grow trout faster than most other trout production sites, has low cost production costs, and is presently hampered by the ability to move the large fish it could rear. At present the management strategy is to hold fish back or move them off station before they exceed the size that can be handled by a 6" pump. Larger fish can receive lethal injury when passed through a smaller pipe. Mortalities are often only discovered at the stocking location.

Board Discussion: No Board comments.

Project Number: 09-228
Project Title: Mann Lake Treatment to Remove Invasive Goldfish
Project Type: Miscellaneous
Sponsor: ODFW – Hines
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Funds Requested: \$ 41,947
Total Project Cost: \$128,989

Match:
 ODFW \$ 80,042
 ODFW Salmon and Trout Advisory Committee \$ 2,000
 Oregon Wildlife Heritage Fund \$ 5,000

Description: This project would fund the purchase of rotenone to eradicate introduced goldfish in southeast Oregon's Mann Lake. The lake has experienced a loss of productivity and a decline in habitat due to the presence of the goldfish. Mann Lake now resembles a mud puddle where historically the lake was clear and anglers were able to site fish for schools of cutthroat trout. Additionally, the lake is used heavily by migratory bird species such as white pelicans, common snipe, American avocet, mallards, and killdeer. By eradicating goldfish, ODFW would increase the habitat potential for these migratory bird species and the survival of cutthroat trout in the lake.

Board Discussion: The Board asked what the depth of the lake is. The applicant replied some spots are nine feet deep, but the average is six feet. The Board asked when the lake will be treated. The applicant replied that if things work out as far as funding it will be mid -September. The Board asked if the treatment harms local wildlife. The applicant replied no, stomach acids break the rotenone down. The

Board asked what the latest is for doing the treatment. The applicant replied October 2010 will close the window.

Project Number: 09-231
Project Title: Siletz Falls Trap Structure and Cable Upgrade
Project Type: Miscellaneous
Sponsor: ODFW – Newport
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Funds Requested: \$7,300
Total Project Cost: \$8,500

Match:
ODFW \$1,200

Description: This project would fund safety modifications and upgrades to the trolley structure that provides access to the fish trapping facility at Siletz Falls near Newport. The 2010 yearly cable and hoist inspection report at the facility recommended replacing the trolley cable with 150' of new galvanized cable. The cable is showing considerable wear due to inclement weather and frequent use. The inspection also recommends modifying the trolley structure to provide proper support and function of the cable. This upgrade is very important for the continuation of this important program and for the safety of personnel who use the trolley to cross the Siletz River and access the trap.

Board Discussion: No Board comments.

Project Number: 09-232
Project Title: South Coast Fall Chinook Spawning Surveys
Project Type: Monitoring
Sponsor: ODFW – Gold Beach
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Funds Requested: \$15,368
Total Project Cost: \$ 24,188

Match:
ODFW \$4,200
Oregon South Coast Fishermen \$3,500
South Coast Watershed Council \$1,120

Description: This project would fund one seasonal worker to conduct standard fall Chinook carcass surveys and supplemental scale collection on the Chetco and Winchuck Rivers near Brookings. These carcass surveys will allow the South Coast District to continue a data set that extends from 1971 and the surveys are utilized to develop fall Chinook forecasts that are used to set seasons for the Chetco fall Chinook terminal and river fisheries. Fall Chinook spawning ground surveys are the only tool to monitor escapement for the Chetco and Winchuck Rivers.

Board Discussion: The Board asked how this project fit with project 09-225 (Chetco River Chinook Salmon Coded Wire Tag Study). The applicant replied there wouldn't be any short term benefits- they

are all long term. The applicant shared that this request will be stopgap measure. The applicant shared that the information gathered from the surveys will assist with opening the fishery to benefit commercial and recreational anglers.

Richard Heap, STAC Committee member, shared that this project is vital and will allow volunteers to work directly with the Department to coordinate efforts.

Project Number: 09-233
Project Title: Tenmile Lakes Coho Creel Survey
Project Type: Miscellaneous
Sponsor: ODFW – Charleston
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Funds Requested: \$19,135
Total Project Cost: \$41,766

Match:
ODFW \$8,295
Eel/ Tenmile STEP Volunteers \$14,336

Description: This project would fund the implementation of a statistical creel of Tenmile Lakes near Coos Bay to monitor harvest of unmarked coho this year during a proposed fishery. Due to the ESA listing of coastal coho, fisheries must occur under criteria outlined in a Fishery Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (FMEP), Amendment 13 of the Pacific Fisheries Management Council (PFMC), and through authorization by NOAA Fisheries. The data collected from this creel is mandatory for in-season assessment of catch relative to harvest quota established for the Tenmile Lakes, annual reviews of the fishery, and consistency with Amendment 13.

Board Discussion: The Board asked when the Coquille and Siletz will open this year. The applicant replied September 1st. The Board asked if the survey will be conducted on a yearly basis. The applicant replied they will try for a while to get some good numbers. ODFW is looking for ways to stretch out the season. The Board complemented the applicant in the amount of detail in application.

Project Number: 09-234
Project Title: Big Creek Hatchery Valve Replacement
Project Type: Hatchery Maintenance
Sponsor: ODFW Big Creek Hatchery
Sport/Commercial: Commercial
Funds Requested: \$ 4,500
Total Project Cost: \$ 7,324

Match:
ODFW \$ 2,824

Description: This project would fund repairs of two leaking valves at Big Creek Hatchery near Astoria. The hatchery has two 24” valves that supply water from Big Creek to the raceways. Both valves are leaking, and one valve is leaking about 1000 gallons per minute. The valve repair will return needed water to Big Creek and maintain passage for fish. This function would be required by NOAA Fisheries

standards if the intake and passage structure were modernized. During late summer, the hatchery can de-water approximately ¼ of a mile of Big Creek between the intake structure and the hatchery. By recovering the lost water from the leaking valves, the hatchery may be able to keep water flowing through the creek year round, and the condition of de-watering a portion of stream channel is contrary to ODFW policy.

Board Discussion: The Board asked how long the canal gates last. The applicant replied quite a while, the current ones are more than likely the originals put in place decades ago.

Enhancement

Project Number: 09-196
Project Title: Loren's Pond Enhancement Project Phase 1
Project Type: Access
Sponsor: Tillamook Bay Watershed Council
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Enhancement/Restoration: Enhancement
Funds Requested: \$23,825
Total Project Cost: \$29,275

Match:
ODFW \$5,450

Description: This project will implement the design phase of the Loren's Pond Restoration and Enhancement project. Of the 12 water bodies stocked in Tillamook County, most have limited bank angling due to either access limitations or private property. Loren's Pond has the capability to provide good angling access, but failure to fully develop and maintain the site has allowed invasive blackberry to overtake the banks further restricting access. In addition, the lack of adequate restroom facilities and unrestricted vehicle use has turned this site into more of a "party" area than family fishing destination. Improvements to access, aesthetics, and amenities at this location would greatly increase recreational fishing opportunities for the beginner and family oriented groups. With the proposed improvements this site would also provide a great location for free fishing events and other angler education programs throughout the year.

Board Discussion: The Board asked how far the pond is from Tillamook. The applicant replied approximately four miles. The Board stated it appeared that the design work is close to be completed. The applicant replied there are still issues regarding slope, ADA accessibility, and issues relating to being located in a floodplain. The Board asked if there would be access to the island. The applicant replied they will either construct a bridge with fill or use a culvert with fill; the chosen option will need to withstand flooding. The Board asked why the City of Tillamook isn't contributing more to the project. The applicant replied that it's been very difficult locating match funds for the design phase of the project but in-kind work was possible later.

Project Number: 09-227
Project Title: Long Tom River Cutthroat Migration Study
Project Type: Research

Sponsor: Long Tom Watershed Council
Sport/Commercial: Sport
Funds Requested: \$ 29,945
Total Project Cost: \$ 52,095

Match:
Meyer Memorial Trust \$ 7,500
ODFW \$ 9,050
Bureau of Land Management \$ 1,600
US Army Corps of Engineers \$ 4,000

Description: This project would fund the investigation of the life history diversity and seasonal migration characteristics of fluvial and resident cutthroat trout in the lower Long Tom River near Eugene. This information is currently unknown and will be invaluable for making informed decisions for the management and restoration of an important recreational fishery. Cutthroat will be collected at sites throughout Bear, Ferguson, & Rattlesnake Creeks as well as in the lower mainstem Long Tom River and fitted with half-duplex passive integrated tags. Tag reader sites will be set up at the mouths of these three major spawning tributaries, and in the Long Tom River below Monroe.

Board Discussion: The Board asked what the duration of the project will be. The applicant replied they'd like to keep running the project as long as they can with 3 to 4 years being the minimum. The Board asked if there were any permits required. The applicant replied no. The Board asked if funding had been obtained from OWEB. The applicant replied no, OWEB tends to focus on endangered species. The question was asked if there was value in studying cutthroat trout. The applicant replied yes, it's critical to obtain the baseline information while the species is still healthy. OSU is also conducting some research and the applicant shared that this research will support the region's work. The Board discussed that the results of this study could benefit other areas. The Board commented that a lot of work is being conducted on private land. The applicant replied that the equipment isn't vandalized or stolen as much as it would be on public land. The Board commented on the detail in the budget section was well done and that they appreciated the sponsor's attention to detail.

Project Number: 09-235
Project Title: Clatsop County Fisheries and Sandy Coho Fish Food
Project Type: Propagation
Sponsor: ODFW – Cascade Hatchery
Sport/Commercial: Commercial
Funds Requested: \$20,000
Total Project Cost: \$161,255

Match:
ODFW \$141,255

Description: This project would provide funding to purchase fish food to be used at Cascade Hatchery near Cascade Locks. Commercial and sport fisheries would both benefit from this project. The fish reared for the Select Area Fisheries Enhancement (SAFE) program provide tremendous benefit to

Oregon commercial fisheries. The funding levels at the Mitchell Act hatcheries have been below required levels for several years and have resulted in reduction in other production and elimination of personnel from the program. At present the production mandated by US v Oregon judicial decree take precedence over other production. In the absence of supplemental funding, SAFE coho production may be reduced or eliminated.

Cascade Hatchery produces 4,342,000 fish annually. Currently, 1,700,000 fish are raised to meet Oregon's tribal obligation under U.S. vs. Oregon and 1,582,000 fish are transferred to Oxbow Hatchery. Of those numbers, 725,000 are released at Bonneville Hatchery for future brood and sport fisheries, and 825,000 are transferred to Clatsop County Fisheries to support commercial troll fisheries in the ocean and commercial gill net fisheries in Young's Bay. Additionally, these fish support the sport fisheries in the ocean and at Buoy 10 in the Columbia River.

Board Discussion: The Board commented that funds from the Mitchell Act should be covering this expense.