

Agenda Item Summary

BACKGROUND

Through HB 2538, the 1993 Oregon Legislative Assembly created the seven-member Access and Habitat (A&H) Board. This legislation authorized the A&H Board to review and recommend to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) projects designed to improve wildlife habitat and public hunting access in Oregon. The 2009 Oregon Legislative Assembly reauthorized program funding through December 2019. Project proposals are typically submitted by landowners, corporations, organizations, and agencies. Applications are initially reviewed by A&H Board-appointed Regional Advisory Councils established in six geographic regions of the state. Regional Councils forward proposals to the state A&H Board with recommendations to approve or deny projects. The A&H Board provides the next level of project review and then forwards proposals to the Commission for final consideration and approval to expend A&H Program funds.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The A&H Program provides for public involvement through the Regional Advisory Councils and A&H Board meetings. The meetings are advertised in advance, notices are published on the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) website and in the A&H program's newsletter and agendas which are mailed to interested citizens. There is an opportunity for interested parties to provide public comment during these meetings. The A&H Board most recently met on April 24, 2012 in Lincoln City, Oregon.

ISSUE 1

PROJECT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

ANALYSIS

A summary of the projects recommended for funding by the A&H Board is presented in the staff summary (Attachment 2).

OPTIONS

- Option 1. Approve A&H Board recommendations.
- Option 2. Modify individual project proposals.
- Option 3. Reject individual project proposals.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option 1.

DRAFT MOTION

I move to approve the recommendations of the Access and Habitat Board for project funding.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

June 7, 2012