

Summary of Projects Recommended for Funding

The Access and Habitat (A&H) Board met in Lincoln City on April 24, 2012 to review projects requesting funding from the A&H Program. A project must receive at least four supporting votes to be recommended for funding; all seven Board members attended the meeting. A brief description of the projects, funding requested, access and habitat benefits provided, and Board and Council votes are listed below. If major issues were raised they are discussed below.

The Board recommends funding the following projects:

#2012-02 Lincoln County Forest Protection Project

- A&H Funds: \$150,000
- Cooperator Funds: \$576,750
- Total Project Cost: \$726,750
- Applicant: Lincoln County Solid Waste District
- Location: Alsea (42% public) and Stott Mtn. (22% public) WMU's
- Access Acres: 308,510
- Access Duration: 5 years: July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2017
- Cooperators: Lincoln County Solid Waste District, Association of Concerned Landowners, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office.
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

The proposed project would provide continued law enforcement presence on private timberlands in Lincoln County. The project has been in place since 1994 and provides landowners additional security presence to keep their lands open to public hunters. A deputy sheriff would patrol lands enrolled in the Stott Mountain/North Alsea Travel Management Area and other timberlands in Lincoln County that provide public hunting opportunities. The deputy will enforce all violations but will focus his efforts on garbage dumping and vandalism offenses, and coordinate with Oregon State Police officers in the area (including retired officers dedicated to private lands) who focus on enforcing game violations.

The deputy would patrol year-round, beginning July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017. The A&H Program would contribute approximately 20% of the cost for the deputy position; the Lincoln County Solid Waste District, Association of Concerned Landowners, and Lincoln County Sheriff's Office would pay the remaining 80%.

#2012-05 C2 Ranch Habitat Improvement Project

- A&H Funds: \$24,000
- Cooperator Funds: \$272,400
- Total Project Cost: \$296,400
- Applicant: Dave Picanso
- Location: Rogue WMU (57% public land)
- Habitat Acres: 1,860
- Access Acres: 9,500
- Access Duration: 2 seasons: 2012/13 and 2013/14 (deer and turkey)
- Cooperators: C2 Ranch, Oregon Hunters Association – Rogue Valley Chapter, ODFW Rogue Watershed District
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

The proposed project would improve big game and turkey habitat on 1,860 acres of private land by removing blackberry, cutting back decadent brush fields, and fertilizing pasture. The 9,500 acre cattle ranch is located in the Cascade foothills northeast of Medford, provides prime winter range for black-tailed deer, and supports good populations of elk and turkeys.

In return for the habitat work, the landowners would allow limited hunting access to the entire 9,500 acre ranch for two seasons, 2012/13 and 2013/14. Hunts include 6 adult archery deer hunts (2 days each), 28 guided youth deer hunts, and 10 guided youth spring turkey hunts. Youth hunts are for one day. Hunters will be selected by random draw. A&H would partially fund blackberry cutting, herbicide treatment, and brush cutting; cooperator funds would pay for the remaining costs of those activities, and for fertilizing.

#2012-06 Territorial Youth Deer Hunt

- A&H Funds: \$7,944
- Cooperator Funds: \$3,996
- Total Project Cost: \$11,940
- Applicant: Giustina Resources
- Location: Siuslaw WMU (40% public land)
- Access Acres: 4,477
- Access Duration: 3 years: 2013-2015
- Cooperators: Giustina Resources, Seneca Jones Timber Company, ODFW Umpqua Watershed District
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

This project would allow access for 13 youth deer hunters per year through the controlled hunt process to each hunt black-tailed deer during weekends in November. Youth hunters and accompanying adults would be granted access to 4,477 acres of very productive industrial timberland, providing a quality buck hunting experience with few other hunters in the area.

A&H funds would be used for security, permits, and hunting access; cooperator funds would be used for security and administration. The proposed project is a continuation of an A&H project that was first approved in 2008.

#2012-07 Sutherlin Access Project

- A&H Funds: \$2,715
- Cooperator Funds: \$15,000
- Total Project Cost: \$17,715
- Applicant: Tash Shaheed (Weyerhaeuser Company)
- Location: Indigo WMU (68% public land)
- Access Acres: 89,600
- Access Duration: 3 years: 2014-2016
- Cooperators: Weyerhaeuser Company, ODFW Umpqua Watershed District
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

This project would provide access for approximately 40 hunters per year to hunt antlerless elk on almost 90,000 acres of industrial timberland. Hunters would be selected through two controlled hunt draws for the area, one of which is a youth-only hunt. Hunters would be provided with keys, permits, and maps for the project area. Closing the area to unauthorized traffic improves hunter success and satisfaction for those who draw a tag.

A&H funds would be used for signs, keys, locks, permits, and maps; cooperator funds would be used for security, map creation, and administration. The proposed project is a continuation of an A&H project that began in 2008.

#2012-08 New River Access Area

- A&H Funds: \$49,500
- Cooperator Funds: \$93,700
- Total Project Cost: \$143,200
- Applicant: Landowners: Mike Knapp, Jim Kamph, Rick McKenzie, Alan Haga
- Location: Sixes WMU (29% public land)
- Habitat Acres: 1,800
- Access Acres: 4,780 (private), 500 (public)
- Access Duration: 2 seasons: 2012/13, 2013/14
- Cooperators: Landowners, ODFW Rogue Watershed District
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

The proposed project would provide access to 4,780 acres of private land and 500 acres of land-locked public land for waterfowl hunting. The landowners would be compensated with fertilizer for 1,800 acres of pasture fields that provide forage for a large population of Aleutian Canada geese. The combination of increased hunting pressure and fertilizer would help the landowners mitigate the damage that these birds cause annually. The New River Aleutian Goose Project has been enrolled in the A&H Program since 2006.

The project area would be open during the 2012/13 and 2013/14 hunting seasons. Kamph, Knapp, and Haga properties would provide access to 6 hunters per day on Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays throughout the waterfowl season. McKenzie lands would provide access to 10 hunters per day on Saturdays and Sundays throughout the waterfowl season. All properties would be open daily for the South Coast goose zone season, late February - March 10. The project has been very popular with hunters, supporting an estimated 513 hunter-days during the 2011/12 waterfowl season.