

Summary of Projects Recommended for Funding

The Access and Habitat (A&H) Board met in Burns on October 21, 2014 to review one project requesting funding from the A&H Program. A project must receive at least four supporting votes to be recommended for funding; seven Board members attended the meeting. A brief description of the project, 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 project:

#2014-13 Hancock Forest Management Access Program

- A&H Funds: \$123,929
- Cooperator Funds: \$227,358
- Total Project Cost: \$351,287
- Applicant: Hancock Forest Management and ODFW East Region
- Location: Sled Springs WMU (21% public lands)
Catherine Creek WMU (24% public lands)
Starkey WMU (67% public lands)
Ukiah WMU (35% public lands)
Mt. Emily WMU (44% public lands)
- Access Acres: 292,000
- Access Duration: 2 years: April 2015 – March 2017
- Cooperators: Hancock Forest Management, ODFW Enterprise District
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

The proposed project would provide dedicated ODFW patrol on 169,500 acres of private timberland in northeast Oregon for two years. This land is owned by Hancock Forest Management (Hancock) and motor vehicle use is managed cooperatively by Hancock and ODFW through several Travel Management Area (TMA) agreements, including Noregaard, Shamrock, Whisky Creek, Little Catherine Creek, and Meacham. The ODFW employee funded through this grant would maintain signs and gates and patrol the areas for road closure violations, resource damage, and wildlife violations.

In return for the dedicated patrol, Hancock will allow continued public hunting access to 292,000 acres. These lands are extremely popular hunting grounds, providing high quality deer, elk, bear, forest grouse, and turkey hunting. This project has evolved through time but has been in place in cooperation with different landowners since 1974.