Summary of Projects Recommended for
Access & Habitat Funding, June 7, 2019

The Access and Habitat (A&H) Board met April 9, 2019 in The Dalles, Oregon to review projects recommended for funding by a Regional Council (Council). A project must receive at least four supporting votes from the Board to be recommended for funding. All projects received letters of support from the local District Wildlife Biologist. A brief description of the funding requested, access and habitat benefits provided, as well as Council and Board votes follows.

The A&H Board recommends funding the following two projects:

2019-01, 02, 03, 04 Lawen Access Area – 4 Applicants
This project that has been in the A&H program since 2005. The project is located in the Steens Mtn. WMU east of Burns. The Lawen Access Area consists of intermingled properties owned by four landowners adjacent to the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. This project provides hunter access to these private lands on a “Welcome to Hunt” basis for waterfowl, upland bird, mule deer, pronghorn, and predator hunting. The applicants are paid $2.00 per acre for the access. The access period will be August 1st to March 10th for 3 years, fall of 2019 to spring 2022. The Lawen Access Area provides good pheasant hunting opportunity; when water levels are up during wet years the waterfowl hunting can be truly exceptional. The Lawen Access Area borders the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge but provides better habitat as the Access Area does not suffer from carp issues. The cooperators contribution to the project is maintaining gates and signs for the duration of the project.

Lawen Access Area
- A&H Funds: $24,756 ($8,252/year)
- Cooperator Contribution: $900
- Total Project Cost: $25,656
- Location: Steens Mtn. WMU
- Access Acres: 4,086
- Project Period: August 1 to March 10
- Project Duration: Three years: August 1, 2019 to March 10, 2022
- Applicants: Betty Opie, Ross Opie, John Temple, and Vern Brown
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 7; No: 0
Glass Hill Access Area – Rice

The Rice Access Project would provide continued public hunting access to 1,231 acres of private land within the Glass Hill Access Area. Access would be provided on a By Permission basis during the access period of April 1 – January 31, for three years. The landowner would be paid $1.80 per acre ($2,215) for each year of enrollment. The cooperator contribution to the project will primarily be maintaining gates, posting signs and removing litter.

Dr. Rice’s property- known as the Glass Hill Conservancy- provides important year-round wildlife habitat for upland game birds and big game species alike.

The Glass Hill Access Area was formally created in 2008. Three private landowners - Dr. Joel Rice, Irwin Smutz, and Lawrence “Spark” Smutz - along with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife’s (Department) Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area collectively make up the 4,500 acre access area. This project provides opportunities to hunt mule deer, white-tailed deer, elk, bear, cougar, coyote, turkey, waterfowl, pheasant, Hungarian partridge, California quail, and blue and ruffed grouse in the Starkey Wildlife Management Unit.

**Rice Access Area**

- A&H Funds: $6,648 ($2,216/year)
- Cooperator Funds: $1,500 ($500/year)
- Total project funds: $8,148
- Applicant: Dr. Joel Rice
- Location: Starkey WMU
- Access Acres: 1,231 By Permission
- Project Period: August 1 to January 31
- Project Duration: 3 years: August 1, 2019 to January 31, 2022
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 7; No: 0
The Glass Hill Access Area is a cooperative program between several private landowners and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Access and Habitat Program to maintain public hunting access on private lands and increase access to public and private lands. The Glass Hill Access Area is south of La Grande, OR, and includes public hunting opportunities for deer, elk, predators, Hungarian partridge, pheasant, turkey, and quail. All Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Regulations apply.

**Access Allowed:**
April 1 - January 31

**Access Permission:**
Zone A is welcome to hunt; however, you are responsible for knowing property boundaries. Do Not Trespass on surrounding private lands. Hunters must obtain permission prior to hunting in Zone B. Permission can be obtained by contacting the La Grande CDFW field office by phone at (541) 906-1838, between 8 AM and 5 PM Monday - Friday. Reservations will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis. Hunters who make reservations to hunt during a particular week are ineligible to hunt the area the following week. Landowners reserve the right to refuse permission and close areas due to normal ranch operations.

**Hunting or Private Land:** In a package, not a light. Private land hunting opportunities will remain in the future only if the property and rights of private landowners are respected. Anyone found hunting on private land is subject to prosecution.

**Area Regulations:**
- Hunting access by permission only in Zone B
- No camping or night-time use of private land
- No fires, be careful with cigarettes
- No littering, pick up any trash
- Respect private property owners
- Leave trails as you found them

*The product for informational purposes only and may not have been prepared, or not subject to Title 47, Oregon Administrative Rules. Users of this information should verify the accuracy of all information. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife reserves the right to close areas due to safety and management concerns. It is unlawful to trespass on private and public land without permission, or to cut trees, hunt, fish, or engage in any other prohibited activity. Failure to comply may result in prosecution and penalties. Contact the Landowner and CDFW for more information.*