Access & Habitat Program

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

Salem, OR

June 12, 2020

Travis Schultz
Access & Habitat Program Coordinator
Oregon Open Fields Update

Issue #1
Approval of Board Recommended Projects

Issue #2
Appointment of Hunter Representatives to the Access and Habitat State Board
Oregon Open Fields

• The federal Farm Bill funds the Voluntary Public Access-Habitat Incentive Program (VPA-HIP)
• Grant funds are for 3 years
• Access is the priority and all projects must include an access component
• Up to 25% of the grant can be used for habitat improvement
Oregon Open Fields

- NRCS awarded ODFW a grant in excess of $2.8M
- Maintain 454,000+ acres of access
- Add 170,000 acres
- 3,400+ acres of habitat improvement
- Hire and support 2 seasonal employees
- Target lands in wetland reserve program
A&H Project Approvals
(Issue #1)

Project 1: Willamette Private Lands Travel Management Area
Project 2: Weyerhaeuser Access Area
Project 3: North Coast Travel Management Area
Project 4: Linn Forest Protective Association Forest Deputy
Project 5: Aspen Valley Ranch Habitat
Willamette Private Lands Enforcement

- A&H Funds: $75,628
- Cost Per Acre: ~$0.16
- Cooperator Funds: $59,468
- Total Project Cost: $135,095
- Applicant: ODFW
- Location: Benton, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Polk, Marion, and Yamhill Counties
- Access Acres: 472,423 private on a “Welcome to Hunt” basis
- Access Duration: 1 Year: March 2020 - April 2021
- Cooperators: Avery Family Forest, Freres Timber Inc., Seneca Jones, Starker Forests, Weyerhaeuser Company, Cascade Timber
- Council Vote: Yes: 4; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0
Weyerhaeuser Access Area

- A&H Funds: $414,780, ($82,956 per year)
- Cost per Acre: $0.90
- Cooperator Funds: $1,025,000 ($205,000 per year)
- Total Project Cost: $1,439,780 ($287,956 per year)
- Applicant: Weyerhaeuser Company
- Location: Trask, Stott Mtn., Alsea, and Siuslaw Wildlife Management Units
- Access Acres: 92,173 on a “Welcome to Hunt” basis
- Project Duration: August 2020 - July 2025
- Council Vote Yes: 4; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
North Coast Travel Management Area

- A&H Funds: $191,240 (first year of five year project)
- Cost Per Acre: ~$0.40
- Cooperator Funds: $94,300 (first year of five year project)
- Total Project Cost: $285,540 (first year of five year project)
- Applicant: ODFW on behalf of cooperating landowners
- Location: Saddle Mountain, Scappoose, Wilson and Trask WMUs
- Access Acres: 473,539 private on a “Welcome to Hunt” basis
- Access Duration: August 2020 - December 2024
- Council Vote: Yes: 4; No: 0; Abstain: 1
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0
Linn Forest Protective Assoc.  
Forest Deputy Program

• A&H Funds: $120,000 ($24,000 per year)
• Cost Per Acre: ~$0.06
• Cooperator Funds: $4,145,695 ($829,139 per Year)
• Total Project Cost: $4,265,695 ($853,139 per Year)
• Applicant: LFPA Law Enforcement Committee Chair
• Location: Linn County
• Access Acres: 389,500 private on a “Welcome to Hunt” basis
• Access Duration: July 2020 - June 2025
• Cooperators: Linn Forest Protective Association Members
• Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
• Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0
Aspen Valley Ranch Habitat Project

- A&H Funds: $143,600 (Open Fields)
- Habitat Cost Per Acre: $58.04
- Cooperator Funds: $144,900
- Total Project Cost: $288,500
- Applicant: Jim Wood, Aspen Valley Ranch
- Location: Maury Wildlife Management Unit
- Access Acres: 8,000 private on a “By Permission” basis
- Access Duration: July 2020 - March 2023
- Habitat Acres: 2,474
- Cooperators: Aspen Valley Ranch, NRCS, ODFW Mule Deer Initiative
- Council Vote: Yes: 4; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 5; No: 1
Aspen Valley Ranch Habitat Project
Staff Recommendation:

Approve funding for the Access and Habitat Board recommended projects
Two vacancies on the Access & Habitat State Board
# A&H Board Member Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Appointed Through Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chair</td>
<td>Craig Ely</td>
<td>La Grande</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>March 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Landowner Representative</td>
<td>William Bronson</td>
<td>Eugene</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>March 2023</td>
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<td>Landowner Representative</td>
<td>John Breese</td>
<td>Prineville</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>August 2021</td>
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<td>Amy Patrick</td>
<td>Sublimity</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>January 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter Representative</td>
<td>Dave Stefvater</td>
<td>Ontario</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>December 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter Representative</td>
<td>Candis Yow</td>
<td>La Pine</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>June 2020</td>
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Hunter Representative Applicants

- **Candis Yow**
  - Current Hunter Representative on the A&H Board. Hunts in several western states and is an active member of the NRA, RMEF, MDF, OHA and NWTF. Assisted in starting and continuing the Ladies Hunting Camp.

- **Harry “Hank” Smith**
  - Lifelong hunter, former Air Force intelligence officer and diplomat, and runs the Mountyn Company making custom maps for use in the outdoors.

- **James Reiss**
  - Current Hunter Representative on the Deschutes/Klamath A&H Regional Council. Master Hunter and a member of OHA and RMEF.
Hunter Representative Applicants (Continued)

- **Louis “Lou” Milani**
  - A life long hunter who owned a guide service in California, past member of SCI and DU.

- **Michael O’Casey**
  - A life long hunter and current field representative for the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, is a member of RMEF, OHA, TAO, BHA and TWS.
Hunter Representative Applicants
(Continued)

• Morgan Olson
  – Hunted throughout the west and internationally, current Chair for the Northeast A&H Regional Council, also president of Union/Wallowa OHA chapter and Conservation/Habitat Director for BHA.

• William Palmer
  – Lifelong Oregonian, a more recent inductee to hunting, has membership in DU, RMEF, PF, TU, and Western Rivers Conservancy.
Questions?