

## Summary of Projects Recommended for Access & Habitat Funding

The Access and Habitat (A&H) Board met July 13, 2021 via Zoom to review projects recommended for funding by A&H Regional Councils. A project must receive at least four supporting votes from the Board to be recommended for funding. Below is a brief description of the funding requested, access and habitat benefits provided, and Board vote count. The A&H Board recommends funding the following four projects:

### 2021-24 Bentz Invasive Annual Grass Treatment

- Open Fields Funds: \$131,320
- Cost per Acre: \$67.00
- Cooperator Funds: \$3,000
- Total Project Cost: \$134,320
- Applicant: Linda Bentz
- Location: Malheur River Wildlife Management Unit
- Habitat Acres: 1,960
- Project Duration: October 2021-September 2023
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

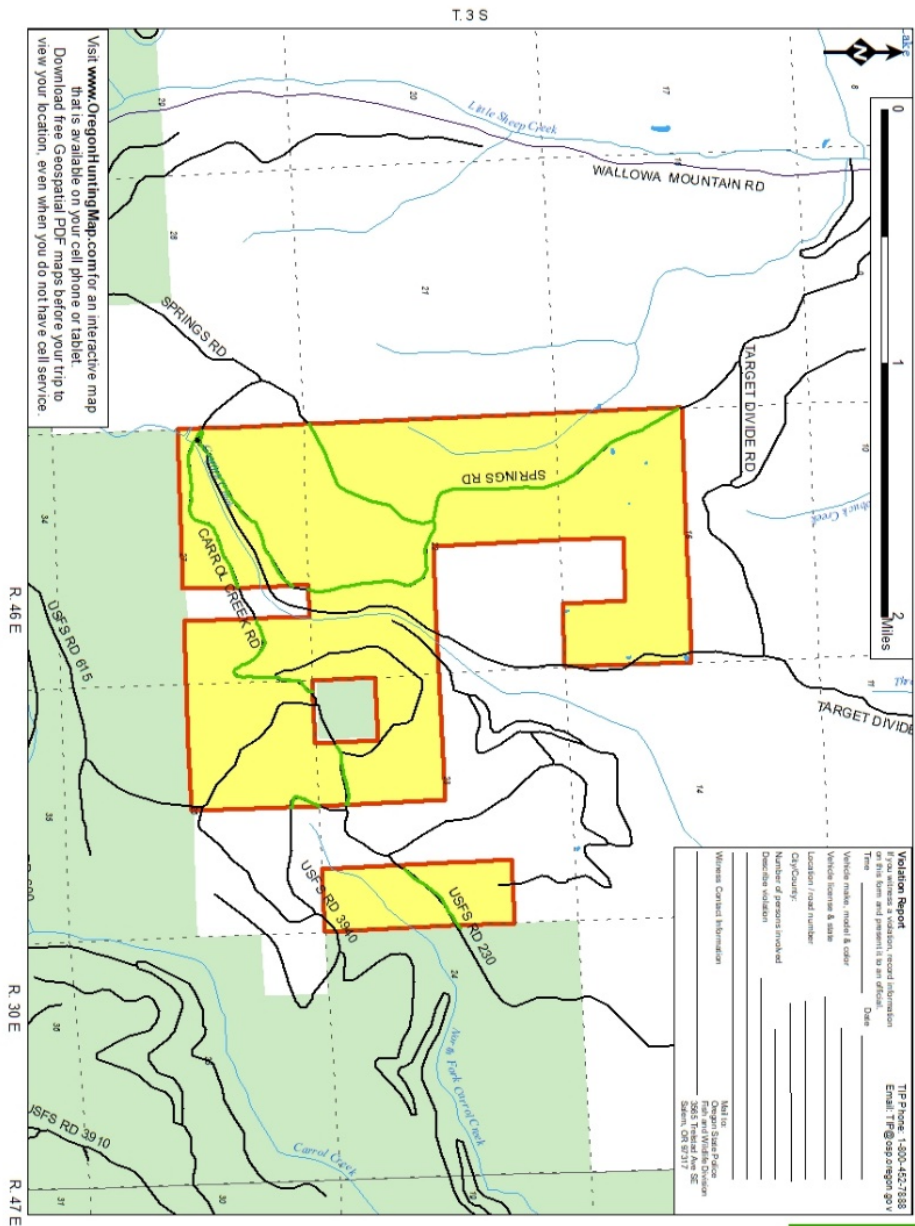
This proposal is to treat 1,960 acres of invasive annual grass on the Bentz Access Area. The Bentz Access Area is enrolled in A&H access through March 1, 2022 and has provided access since 2007. Invasive annual grasses aggressively compete with native forbs, grasses and shrubs and increase fire danger on the landscape. This invasive annual grass treatment project is within ODFW's Sage-grouse Core Area and is part of the Crowley Priority Area for Conservation (PAC).

### 2021-25 Divide Ridge Access Area

- A&H Funds: \$17,280, (\$3,456 a year)
- Cost Per Acre: \$2.40
- Cooperator Funds: \$3,500
- Total Project Cost: \$20,780
- Applicants: Jerry & Karen Carlson, Dan & Joyce Gover
- Location: Imnaha Wildlife Management Unit
- Access Acres: 1,440 Welcome to Hunt
- Access Duration: August 2021 - July 2026
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

This project will continue to pay \$2.40/acre for "Welcome to Hunt" access on 1,440 acres of private land in the Imnaha unit for a period of 5 years to hunt big game, predators, and upland game birds. There are two landowners, Jerry and Karen Carlson with 290 acres and Dan and Joyce Gover with 1,150 acres. Continuing this partnership will also improve access to adjacent US Forest Service lands.

In addition to the A&H project, the department has cooperatively completed the installation of wildlife friendly fencing, forage seedings, noxious weed control projects and multiple spring developments to help improve range conditions for wildlife throughout the access area.



## Divide Ridge Access Area

The Divide Ridge Access Area is a cooperative program between private landowners and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Access and Habitat Program to maintain public hunting access on private lands and to increase access to public lands. The Divide Ridge Access Area is 9 miles east of Joseph, OR provides public hunting opportunities for deer, elk, peewees, valley quail, turkey and grouse. All Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Regulations and Seasons Apply.

### Access Allowed: In Effect Year Round

Hunting on Private Land is a privilege, and a right. Private land hunting opportunities will remain in the future only if the property and rights of private landowners are respected. Advise it and you will lose it.

#### Area Regulations:

- Motorized vehicles only on open roads
- No fitting, please pick up trash
- Report any unlawful activities
- Respect landowner rights and needs
- Leave all gates as you found them

- Access Area Boundary
- Open Access Road
- USFS Land
- Private Land



\*This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for or sold under legal, engineering, or accounting purposes. Users of this information should review or consult primary data and information sources to ascertain the validity of the information. revised 7/2021

## **2021-26 Mark Mackenzie Medusahead Control and Waterhole Renovation**

- Open Fields Funds: \$25,400
- Cost per Acre: \$97.50
- Cooperator Funds: \$5,800
- Total Project Cost: \$31,200
- Applicant: Mark Mackenzie
- Location: Owyhee Wildlife Management Unit
- Habitat Acres: 320
- Project Duration: October 2021-September 2023
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

This habitat project proposes to control invasive medusahead rye on 320 acres and remove silt from four waterholes on a property currently enrolled in an A&H access project through March 2026. Medusahead rye is an invasive annual grass with limited forage quality and aggressively competes with native forbs, grasses and shrubs on the landscape. Four waterholes will also be restored. Silt, that has filled in overtime and rendered the waterholes dry, will be removed. Work will be conducted within the original footprint of the waterhole and will not exceed the original depth.

This project is within ODFW's Sage-grouse Core Area and is part of the Cow Lakes Priority Area for Conservation (PAC). Invasive annual grass continues to be one of the major threats to sagebrush steppe ecosystems in the Great Basin.

## **2021-27 Wannie Mackenzie Rangeland Restoration Project**

- Open Fields Funds: \$20,480
- Cost per Acre: \$32.00
- Cooperator Funds: \$53,000
- Total Project Cost: \$73,480
- Applicant: Duncan "Wannie" Mackenzie
- Location: Owyhee Wildlife Management Unit
- Habitat Acres: 640
- Project Duration: October 2021-September 2023
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

This habitat project proposes to control 640 acres of invasive medusahead rye and cheatgrass on 640 acres and then seed the project area to perennial bunchgrass on a property currently enrolled in an A&H access project through March 2026. The landowner will employ the local Rural Fire Protection Agency to conduct a controlled burn on the property to reduce thatch layers in the project area to ensure successful control efforts. A seed mix with perennial bunchgrasses will be purchased and seeded by the landowner either via rangeland drill, ATV or aerially.

This project is within ODFW's Sage-grouse Core Area and is part of the Cow Lakes Priority Area for Conservation (PAC). Invasive annual grass continues to be one of the major threats to sagebrush steppe ecosystems in the Great Basin.