



Meeting: Conservation &
Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting – Virtual Attendance
Time: Sept. 12th, 2022, 1:00 PM
Pacific Time (US and Canada)

1 *Committee minutes are considered draft until approved by the Advisory Committee.*

2
3 Those attending part all or part of the meeting included:

4
5 Advisory Committee Members

- | | |
|--|---|
| 6 Dr. Karl Wenner (Chair, Klamath Mountains) | 11 Jane Hartline (Willamette Valley) |
| 7 Mauricio Valadrian (Vice-Chair, at-large) | 12 Dr. Sristi Kamal (at-large) |
| 8 Maret Pajutee (East and West Cascades) | 13 Commissioner Mark Labhart |
| 9 Kelly Timchak (Nearshore and Coast Range) | 14 Cailin O'Brien Feeney, Office of Outdoor |
| 10 Mark Stern (at-large) | 15 Recreation |

16
17 ODFW Staff

18 Dr. Charlotte Regula-Whitefield, OCRF Coordinator
19 Sarah Reif, Habitat Division Administrator

20
21 5 Members of the Public

22 Kelyn Baez
23 Ken McCall
24 James Frasier
25 Molly Honea
26 Marc Hudson

27
28 **MEETING**

29 **Welcome**

30 On Monday, Sept 12th, 2022, at 1:00 p.m., Chair Karl Wenner, called the Oregon Conservation and
31 Recreation Advisory Committee (the Committee) meeting to order. This meeting was held online only
32 via the Zoom platform. Warm up - Committee members introduced themselves and shared something
33 recent from their lives.

34
35 **Review and Approve Meeting Minutes**

36 Objective: Review and approve minutes from July 11th, 2022, and August 1st, 2022, meeting.

37
38 *Committee Member Kelly Timchak moved to approve the meeting minutes from July 11th, 2022, with the*
39 *continued authority to correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation. The motion was seconded by*
40 *Committee Member Jane Hartline and the motion passed with seven (7) in favor.*

41
42 *Committee Member Mark Stern moved to approve the meeting minutes from August 1st, 2022, with the*
43 *continued authority to correct spelling, grammar, and punctuation. The motion was seconded by Vice*
44 *Chair Mauricio Valadrian and the motion passed with seven (7) in favor.*

45
46 **Staff and Chair Updates**

47 ODFW/OCRF Staff Charlotte Regula-Whitefield provided updates on several topics including: the next
48 steps from the Drought workshop on August 1st 2022; the August 2022/October 2022 Request for

1 Proposals that is currently open until October 7th 2022; Vacancies on the OCRF Advisory Board including
2 the Columbia Plateau/Northern Basin and Range; and the Salem ODFW HQ in person meeting planning
3 for November 29th 2022.

4
5 *James Frasier provided public comments regarding the Drought Workshop.*

6
7 Chair Karl Wenner provided an update on the OCRF's participation in the Private Forest Accord (PFA)
8 Subcommittee. Chair Wenner announced that OCRF Advisory Board Member Mark Stern has been
9 appointed to the OCRF Advisory Board seat to the PFA subcommittee.

10
11 *All OCRF Advisory Board Members provided support for this appointment.*

12
13 **OCRF Finished Project Summary – Hike it Baby Presentation**

14 Kayla Klein and Jessica Carrillo Alatorre presented on the Hike it Baby Program. Completed project (Bring
15 it Outside) was awarded as part of the OCRF Grant Round 3 funding cycle in January of 2022. This
16 summary included a slideshow of the finished project through pictures and a final report.

17
18 *ODFW Commissioner Labhart asked several clarification questions including how the organization will
19 continue this program moving forward. The Hike it Baby team explained some of their ongoing planning
20 efforts and thanked the OCRF for their contribution to their program.*

21
22 **Special Project Request - Trout Creek Ranch**

23 ODFW/OCRF Staff Charlotte Regula-Whitefield presented a short presentation on a special project
24 request titled "Trout Creek Ranch and Pueblo Mountains Conservation Area." The applicant for this
25 project is the Oregon Desert Land Trust, who acquired lands in the project area in July 2021 and is
26 planning for fish and wildlife habitat restoration and long-term protection of lands in the Trout Creek
27 Mountains Conservation Opportunity Area. Private donors have contributed \$550,000 to the OCRF in
28 restricted private donations to go toward making a payment toward principle on a loan held by Oregon
29 Desert Land Trust that was obtained to purchase properties in the project area. In addition to accessing
30 these private restricted donations, Oregon Desert Land Trust has requested OCRF matching funds (in the
31 amount of \$160,000), as outlined in the OCRF Expenditure Framework.

32
33 Discharging the loan earlier will allow the Land Trust and its partners to implement habitat restoration
34 actions with their existing funds sooner than originally called for in their five-year acquisition and
35 restoration plan. The restoration efforts on the property of interest will advance several local and
36 regional conservation plans including the Oregon Sage Grouse Action Plan, the Recovery Plan for
37 Lahontan Cutthroat Trout, the Southern Oregon-Northeastern California Working Wet Meadows
38 Initiative, and the Oregon Conservation Strategy and Audubon Important Bird Areas. Some of the
39 activities that will occur include removal of old fencing, restoration of native grasses, forbs, shrubs, and
40 trees in floodplains, grasslands, and sagebrush, and decommissioning of old buildings.

41
42 *Chair Karl Wenner led a discussion on the special project. The chair stated that the OCRF Subcommittee
43 on Special Projects met on September 2nd 2022 to review the proposal, and unanimously agreed to bring
44 it forward for full Advisory Board consideration. ODFW Commissioner Labhart and a member of the
45 public Marc Hudson brought up questions about public access, including hunting and fishing, on the
46 property. Chair Karl Wenner described his understanding of the property access and ODFW Habitat
47 Administrator Sarah Reif also provided comments on the importance of this land from a conservation
48 and habitat perspective.*

1
2 *Following extensive discussion. Vice Chair Mauricio Valadrian moved to recommend the special project*
3 *for funding. The motion was seconded by Committee Member and the motion passed with seven (7) in*
4 *favor.*

5
6 **OCRF Project Reporting Updates**

7 ODFW/OCRF Staff Charlotte Regula-Whitefield presented overview of the status of OCRF grants and
8 their associated paperwork. In addition, staff provided updates on the development of a new proposal
9 submission system and proposed amendments to the OCRF Expenditure Framework regarding timelines
10 for projects, contracting processes, and payment processes for awarded projects.

11
12 *Committee Member Kelly Timchak moved to approve the amendments to the current version (dated*
13 *December 2021) of the OCRF Expenditure Framework to include the text as presented by staff. The*
14 *motion was seconded by Committee Member Jane Hartline and the motion passed with six (6) in favor.*
15 *One (1) member absent.*

16
17 **Public Comment**

18 Public was invited to comment on agenda items or strategic priorities for the OCRF.

19
20 *No further public comment was provided at the meeting.*

21
22 **OCRF Funding Updates**

23 ODFW/OCRF Staff Charlotte Regula-Whitefield presented overview of the status of OCRF funds including
24 restricted and unrestricted donations and unallocated funds.

25
26 *Chair Karl Wenner asked that staff continue to provide funding updates at the start of each OCRF*
27 *Advisory meeting moving forward. The Advisory Board members agreed to continue to explore and*
28 *discuss spending plans for unallocated funds at the November 29th 2022 in person board meeting.*

29
30 **OCRF Monitoring and Evaluation**

31 Chair Karl Wenner led a discussion on long term goals for program and project level monitoring and
32 evaluation. In the current OCRF Expenditure Framework the board has allocated 5% of the Funds budget
33 for program monitoring and evaluation. ODFW/OCRF Staff Charlotte Regula-Whitefield presented
34 overview Agency process of solicitation of an outside contractor to conduct the process and timeline for
35 work, which will take several months to accomplish an open public contracting process.

36
37 *The Advisory Board members agreed to continue to explore and discuss what the scope of work will be*
38 *and the timeline for completion at the November 29th 2022 in person board meeting.*

39
40 **Chair Karl Wenner adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.**