OCRF 2025-09 Family Fish Camp 2026

Spring 2025 OCRF Project Proposal

Association of Northwest Steelheaders

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FollowUp Form

Introduction

Project Title*

Insert the full project name assigned by ODFW, including the unique code before the Project Title that was given in the agreement.

(Example) **OCRF XXXX-XX_ ProjectTitle**

OCRF 2025-09 Family Fish Camp 2026

Upon completion of the project, please complete this Final Report document and submit it before the Project Expiration Date on the Project Agreements. The information you provide will be used for accountability and reporting and displayed to the general public. Please be as clear and concise as possible and avoid jargon or acronyms.

Project Location

Provide the nearest city and the county where project work will be completed, if multiple locations will be used provide them as a bulleted list.

Corbett, Oregon

Anticipated Impact Measurement Unit*

Other (please explain below)

Anticipated Impact Measurement Unit - Other

If you selected other above, please explain here.

Number of families participating and the quality of their experience, building fishing skills, conservation awareness, and lasting connections to community and the outdoors.

Anticipated Impact Value

(from the original application)

30

Anticipated Impact Value 2*

(from original application) Enter the anticipated miles, acres, volunteers engaged, etc.

40

Actual Impact Value*

Enter the ACTUAL impact value, after completion of the project.

15

Actual Impact Value 2*

Enter a second ACTUAL impact value, after completion of the project, if original application had two. Otherwise, use this question to further explain actual impact value of the project.

Regarding our secondary impact value, 37 volunteers participated in the event.

Oregon Conservation Strategy Species*

List the Oregon Conservation Strategy Species and Oregon Conservation Strategy Opportunity Areas that the Project benefited.

Family Fish Camp was conducted within the Lower Sandy River Conservation Opportunity Area (COA 057), a priority conservation landscape identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy. Through hands-on fishing instruction, aquatic ecology education, and stewardship messaging, the project increased public awareness and support for the conservation of Strategy Species including Chinook salmon, Coho salmon, steelhead, coastal cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey. The program fostered connections between youth, families, and the Sandy River ecosystem while advancing long-term conservation objectives for native fish and riparian habitats within the Lower Sandy River watershed.

Final Report Questions

Project Statement*

Briefly describe what the project accomplished and the problem(s) it addressed. Make a clear and concise statement; avoid jargon and acronyms.

Family Fish Camp connected youth and families from underserved communities with opportunities to learn fishing, outdoor skills, and environmental stewardship in a supportive and welcoming setting. The program addressed barriers to outdoor participation, including limited access to fishing equipment, instruction, and nature-based recreation opportunities. Through hands-on experiences, participants gained new skills, built confidence in recreating in the outdoors, and developed a stronger connection to Oregon's natural resources and the importance of conserving fish and wildlife for future generations.

Summary of Goals*

Describe how project goals, objectives, and/or milestones were completed. Discuss any measurable and achieved benefits (# of volunteers engaged, acreage restored, retrofits,
planning documents created, research results, etc.).

Family Fish Camp successfully met its goals of increasing access to fishing, outdoor recreation, and conservation education for youth and families, with a particular focus on engaging underserved communities and people of color. The program provided participants with hands-on fishing instruction, outdoor skills training, and education about native fish, aquatic habitats, and stewardship of natural resources. The camp served approximately 55 youth and family members and was supported by 28 volunteers who assisted with instruction, mentoring, event logistics, and participant support. Participants received opportunities to learn basic fishing techniques, outdoor and on water safety practices, fish identification, ethical angling practices, and the importance of protecting fish habitat and water quality. The project reduced barriers to participation by providing equipment, instruction, and a welcoming environment for individuals who may not otherwise have access to fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities. As a result, participants gained confidence in outdoor settings, developed new skills, and increased their understanding of Oregon's fish and wildlife resources. Family Fish Camp also strengthened connections between participants and the Lower Sandy River ecosystem, fostering long-term stewardship values and encouraging continued involvement in fishing, conservation, and outdoor recreation. The project achieved its primary objectives of expanding outdoor access, increasing conservation awareness, and cultivating the next generation of anglers and conservation advocates.

Lessons Learned*

Describe lessons learned and challenges faced during the grant performance period. Examples being delays, contractual issues, permitting, funding, changes to the project Scope of Work or amendments, etc.

Family Fish Camp was successfully implemented during the grant performance period, and project goals were achieved without significant changes to the approved scope of work. One of the primary challenges was recruiting and retaining participants from underserved communities and communities of color, which required additional outreach and relationship-building efforts with community partners. These efforts reinforced the importance of establishing trusted community connections well in advance of program delivery.

Weather conditions, in this case a hotter than expected day, required flexibility in scheduling and activity planning to ensure participant safety and a positive experience. Staff and volunteers adapted programming as needed while maintaining the project's educational and recreational objectives.

The project also highlighted the importance of providing certain outdoor equipment, transportation assistance, and culturally welcoming programming to reduce barriers to participation.

Additional feedback indicated high demand for lower cost fishing licenses to align with caried income levels.

Key lessons learned include the value of partnering with community organizations to expand outreach, the importance of maintaining a strong volunteer base to support program delivery, and the effectiveness of combining recreational fishing instruction with conservation education to foster long-term interest in outdoor recreation and stewardship.

Next Steps*

Describe any next steps for the project, if any.

Building on the success of Family Fish Camp, future efforts will focus on expanding participation opportunities for youth and families from underserved communities and communities of color.

Association of Northwest Steelheaders(ANWS) will continue to foster relationships with the community organizations, schools, and cultural groups who supported Family Fish Camp to increase awareness of fishing and outdoor recreation opportunities.

Future Family Fish Camp programs will incorporate lessons learned from this project to enhance outreach, participant support, and volunteer engagement. AWNS will also explore opportunities to offer additional fishing, conservation, and outdoor skills programs throughout the year to help participants continue building their knowledge and confidence in outdoor settings. The project team will seek additional funding and partnerships to sustain and expand programming, increase access to equipment and instruction, and further promote stewardship of Oregon's fish, wildlife, and aquatic habitats. These efforts will help create lasting connections between participants and Oregon's natural resources while supporting the next generation of anglers, outdoor enthusiasts, and conservation advocates.

The Association of Northwest Steelheaders will continue engaging Family Fish Camp participants by connecting families with additional fishing, outdoor recreation, and conservation opportunities throughout the year. Participants will be invited to attend youth fishing events, family fishing outings, educational workshops, habitat restoration projects, and community events hosted by the organization and its partners. The Association will maintain communication with participating families through email, social media, and community partner networks to share information about upcoming programs, free fishing opportunities, and outdoor education resources.

Efforts will be made to provide welcoming and accessible pathways for continued participation, including opportunities for families to borrow equipment, learn new skills, and connect with experienced volunteer mentors. By fostering ongoing relationships and creating opportunities for repeated engagement, the Association of Northwest Steelheaders aims to help participants build lifelong connections to fishing, outdoor recreation, and conservation. These continued experiences will support the development of future anglers, conservation advocates, and stewards of Oregon’s fish and wildlife resources.

We encourage you to review our video recap and newsletter story:

https://nwsteelheaders.org/fishing-learning-belonging-family-fish-camp-2026/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JJ5gzUGfC1I&t=19s

Attachments

Include all project data collected, such as surveys, reports, PDF maps, photo monitoring and planning documents. Upload any color photographs of the Project area(s) before and after the Project completion taken at the pre-set photo points as one document.

Optional Document URL

If documents are stored in an accessible location such as Dropbox, you may enter the url here.

Attachment 1

Attachment 2

Attachment 3

Attachment 4

Attachment 5

Attachment 6

Attachment 7

Attachment 8

Attachment 9

Attachment 10

Certification

Drafts of final reports for review may be submitted to ODFW.OCRF@odfw.oregon.gov

Certifying Statement*

I certify that the above and attached information is true and accurate.

Yes

Applicant Authorized Representative Name*

James Adkins

Authorized Representative Title*

Executive Director

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

No files were uploaded