



R & E Grant Application 13 Biennium

Project #:
13-078

Coastal Wild Coho Fisheries--Creel Surveys 2014

Project Information

R&E Project Request: \$97,410.00
Match Funding: \$30,800.00
Total Project: \$128,210.00
Start Date: 8/1/2014
End Date: 2/15/2015
Project Email: michael.e.gray@state.or.us
Project Biennium: 13 Biennium
Organization: ODFW-multiple coastal districts

Applicant Information

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Past Recommended or Completed Projects

Number	Name	Status
09-173	Butterfield Lake Angler Access Enhancement	Completed
09-279	Coos-Coquille-Tenmile Fish District Equipment	Completed
11-008	Coos Fall Chinook and Coho Monitoring Project	Approved
11-007	Coastal Wild Coho Fisheries--creel surveys	Completed
11-099	Coastal Wild Coho Fisheries--creel surveys 2012	Completed
13-012	Coastal Wild Coho Fisheries--Creel Surveys 2013	Approved

Project Summary

This project is NOT part of ODFW's 25 Year Angling Plan.

Activity Type: Monitoring

Summary: This project is for multiple creel surveys on wild coho salmon fisheries along the Oregon Coast in 2014, from the Nehalem to the Floras/New River system. ODFW is proposing wild coho fisheries in basins that meet biological requirements/approval of the Oregon F&W Commission and NOAA Fisheries. If required, these fisheries will be managed on individual basin quotas and monitored with creel sampling, with harvest impact rates allowable under A-13 of the PFMC

Salmon Plan.

Objectives: (1) Monitor angler effort and harvest of wild coho through creel surveys in selected coastal basins, in order to keep harvest under established quotas and allow for spawning escapement;
(2) Allow increased angling/harvest opportunity in coastal estuaries and lakes, providing increased recreation and economic benefit to Oregon Coast communities.

Fishery Benefits: In-basin recreational fisheries would be established, allowing for angling/harvest opportunities on wild coho salmon. These fish are caught in either targeted fisheries, or incidental to Chinook fisheries in Oregon coastal estuaries. Creel sampling allows ODFW to monitor the effort and harvest in-season, and keep the impact rate within allowable levels. Proposed in-basin harvest is also carried to PFMC negotiations by ODFW representatives, where ocean and terminal fishery allocations are established for the season.

Watershed Benefits: Monitoring the fisheries helps to provide the angling/harvest opportunities, while allowing population escapement levels that provide adult fish to seed basin habitats. Public awareness and resource advocacy for habitat protection and restoration is likely to increase if anglers benefit from healthy and abundant fish populations. Hatchery coho production along the Oregon Coast has been significantly reduced, toward allowing conservative harvest on wild coho populations that meet criteria for recovery and sustainability.

Current Situation: Coastal river basins were closed to the harvest of wild coho salmon from 1994 through 1998, followed by recent quota fisheries in select basins in 2009 through 2013. There are few hatchery coho programs remaining on the Oregon Coast, so harvest of hatchery coho is very limited. The Oregon Coast ESU is listed as Threatened under the Federal ESA, however select populations are robust enough in recent years to provide harvest under a "Fisheries Management and Evaluation Plan" (FMEP) approved by NOAA in 2009. As of this writing, ODFW's analysis of candidate basins for fall 2014 fisheries is not yet established, however funding cycle timing requires application at this time. Potential candidate basins are Nehalem, Tillamook, Nestucca, Siletz, Yaquina, Beaver Creek, Alsea, Siuslaw, Umpqua, Tenmile, Coos, Coquille, and Floras/New Rivers basins. Several basins were approved in 2013 for fixed season management, with no quota or creel sampling, but with a conservative season length and bag limit. Multiple fisheries are again likely to be proposed for fixed season management, however forecast analysis is not far enough along to determine the proposals as yet. The proposal will be further developed/solidified in late April/early May. Commission approval is typically scheduled for their June meeting, and then the proposal is submitted to NOAA by July 1st. NOAA approval is usually forthcoming in August. Creel projects typically run 2.5 to 3 months in length. Many of the fisheries run from Sept. 15th to the end of November, or until a quota is attained. Basins may have one or two creel samplers covering the open fishery area. Open areas are typically in tidewater, keeping the fisheries low in the basin away from spawning areas. Creel samplers conduct pressure counts (effort) and conduct interviews with

anglers to solicit information on individual angler effort, harvest success, and biological information/tagged snouts/scales from harvested fish. Surveyors use handheld data loggers (PDA's) in the field for recording data; this allows for rapid downloading of daily creel data and facilitates transfer to ODFW's Biometrician for analysis and in-season quota monitoring. District staff have also been trained for in-season data analysis and quota monitoring.

- Alternatives:** Alternatives under consideration include: (1) not allowing wild coho fisheries; (2) developing alternative methods for limiting harvest via "fixed-season" regulations (i.e. season length, angling areas, restricted bag limits, etc.), but without conducting creel sampling. (3) a mix of fisheries, including those with creel/quotas and those with fixed seasons--this is what occurred in 2013. Alternative 1 does not allow for angling/harvest opportunity that is available on robust populations. Alternatives 2 and 3 are under consideration and may be included in the proposal to the F&W Commission and NOAA Fisheries. It is unknown at this time how many of the candidate populations may be considered for fixed-season management. Some basin fisheries may be proposed to operate creel sampling and fixed-season management, in order to validate/calibrate the fixed-season methodology. For this reason, this application should be considered as the maximum funding request for this project, however needed funding may be reduced by any basin fisheries where fixed-season management without creel is approved.
- Designer:** Creel surveys are designed by ODFW District staff, in conjunction with ODFW's Biometrician. The fishery proposals are developed by ODFW's PFMC representatives, Fish Division staff and administrators, and District/Region staff.
- Methods:** The creel surveys are based on standard methodologies, tailored to the specifics of each basin/population. Methods and regulations are also adapted based on experience with lessons learned in 2009-2013. Creel samplers conduct pressure counts within open fishery areas, to monitor overall angling effort. Anglers are interviewed to gather information on individual effort and catch. Biological information is collected from harvested fish. Information collected by creel samplers is downloaded from PDA devices daily and coordinated with District staff and Biometrician weekly for summarization and progress toward quota attainment. Fisheries can be closed in a timely manner as quotas are reached.
- Inspector:** ODFW Biometrician, District field staff, and Fish Division Administrators. Also NOAA Fisheries.
- Funding Elements:** R&E funds will be used to:(1) hire creel samplers to conduct angler creel in required basins; (2) provide vehicles and mileage/maintenance for samplers; (3) provide equipment needed to conduct creel surveys (e.g. PDA's, raingear, uniform, sampling knives, etc.). PDA's and field gear purchased by previous R&E grants or other matching sources will be re-used, if still serviceable. Since the determination of viable fisheries is not complete until Commission (June) and NOAA (August) approval, some requested funding may not be necessary, depending on the number of fisheries/creel surveys

established. For 2013, with a number of approved fixed season fisheries, less than \$49,000 of \$100,000 granted by R&E Board were used. Unfortunately, with the timing of funding cycles, application must be made at this time, before candidate fishery and Commission/NOAA approvals are determined. Numbers in the request and total budget are estimated and rounded, due to the need to refine the funding need as approvals are gained this summer.

Partners: No

Existing Plan: Yes

The Oregon Coast Coho Conservation Plan describes: "Targeted, conservative harvest on healthy, naturally-produced coho populations will be considered when total impacts of all fisheries is within the allowable impact rate defined by the revised Harvest Management Matrix in A-13...Expanded in-river fisheries (in bays, rivers, or lakes) on healthy, naturally-produced coastal coho populations are anticipated due to continued recovery of these populations and constraints on ocean harvest."

Viable candidate populations for fisheries in 2014 will meet requirements of the "Oregon Coastal Rivers" FMEP approved by NOAA in 2009.

Affected Contacted: Yes

Affected Supportive: Yes

Affected Comments: Salmon anglers, OSP, and local communities are extremely supportive of these fishery opportunities for wild coho. ODFW Districts receive many positive comments on these fisheries from anglers and business communities. Although NOAA Fisheries staff have not been given the 2014 "yet-to-be-developed" fishery proposal, they have provided positive feedback on ODFW's management of wild coho fisheries that occurred in 2009-2012, and the 2013 proposal.

Project Schedule/Participants/Funding

Activity	Date	Participants
Conduct modeling/forecasting to determine candidate populations for fisheries	5/10/2014	ODFW
Develop Commission proposal for fisheries approval	5/15/2014	ODFW
Wild coho fisheries and creel surveys complete	12/31/2014	ODFW
Develop 2013 Report and 2014 Proposal for NOAA	7/1/2014	ODFW
Fisheries open and most creels begin	9/15/2014	ODFW
Present proposal for F&W Commission approval	6/6/2014	ODFW

Affected Species: Coho Salmon

Project Permits

Name	Issued By	Secured?	Date Secured	Date Expected
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Commission Approval	OR F&W Commission	No	1/1/0001	6/6/2014
NOAA approval	NOAA Fisheries Service	No	1/1/0001	8/15/2014

Project Monitoring

This project has no monitoring.

Project Maintenance

This project has no maintenance plans.

Project Match Funding

Funding Source	Cash	In-Kind	Other	Description	Total	Secured?	Conditions?	Comments
R&E Request	\$97,410.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	EBA Creel Samplers, vehicles, equipment for multiple creel projects	\$97,410.00	No	Yes	Forecasting and selection of candidate fisheries has not yet been completed; subject to Commission and NOAA approval;
ODFW District contributions	\$0.00	\$23,500.00	\$0.00	Oversight/supervision; creel design; data analysis/transfer; fishery mgmt; some vehicle mileage	\$23,500.00	Yes	No	
ODFW Fish Division Staff	\$0.00	\$4,800.00	\$0.00	Blometrician analysis and creel setup/design; in-season quota management;	\$4,800.00	No	No	
ODFW Ocean Salmon Management Staff	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	Data collected by port samplers and coordinated with Districts and Biometrician	\$2,500.00	No	No	
				Total Match Funding:	\$128,210.00			

Project Budget

Item	Item Type	Units	Unit Cost	R&E Funds	Match Funds	Total
Field Gear-Coos	Equipment	2	\$300.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
Field Gear-N. Coast	Equipment	5	\$300.00	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Field Gear-Umpqua	Equipment	1	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
PDA data loggers and software	Equipment	2	\$1,500.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00
vehicle maintenance-Coos	Equipment	5	\$120.00	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
vehicle maintenance-N. Coast	Equipment	13	\$120.00	\$1,560.00	\$0.00	\$1,560.00
vehicle maintenance-Umpqua	Equipment	3	\$120.00	\$360.00	\$0.00	\$360.00
vehicle mileage--N. Coast	Equipment	13	\$480.00	\$6,240.00	\$0.00	\$6,240.00
vehicle mileage-Coos	Equipment	5	\$500.00	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00
vehicle mileage-Umpqua	Equipment	3	\$550.00	\$1,650.00	\$0.00	\$1,650.00
Vehicle rental-N. Coast	Equipment	13	\$350.00	\$4,550.00	\$0.00	\$4,550.00
Vehicle rental-Umpqua	Equipment	3	\$350.00	\$1,050.00	\$0.00	\$1,050.00
District Biologists and vehicles--South Coast	Personnel	2	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
District Biologists and vehicles-Mid-Coast	Personnel	2	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
District Biologists-Coos	Personnel	3	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
EBA Creel Sampler-Umpqua-incl OPE	Personnel	3	\$3,500.00	\$10,500.00	\$0.00	\$10,500.00
EBA Creel Samplers-Coos incl OPE	Personnel	5	\$3,500.00	\$17,500.00	\$0.00	\$17,500.00
EBA Creel Samplers-N. Coast incl. OPE	Personnel	13	\$3,500.00	\$45,500.00	\$0.00	\$45,500.00
North Coast District Biologists	Personnel	3	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Ocean Salmon Port Samplers-data collection/coord.	Personnel	1	\$2,500.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
ODFW Biometrician	Personnel	4	\$1,200.00	\$0.00	\$4,800.00	\$4,800.00
Umpqua District Biologists	Personnel	3	\$1,500.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
					Total Budget:	\$128,210.00

Project Map



Additional Files

Click a link to view that particular file.

[Coastal Map](#)

[map](#)

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[Signature Authorization Page](#)

Signature Authorization Page

I hereby make an application for financial assistance under the terms and conditions of the R&E Program as described in my project application.

I understand that if my project is approved for funding, the following will apply:

- All project sponsors must sign a grant agreement containing the terms and conditions on which funding will be released.
- Project expenses which occur before the grant agreement is signed or after the expiration date will not be paid by the R&E Program.
- Copies of all necessary permits must be submitted to the R&E Program.
- Project sponsors must certify compliance with local, state, and federal regulations and laws.
- Landowner, monitoring and maintenance agreements must be submitted to the R&E Program.
- Regular progress reports may be required, and at the end of each project a Completion Report must be submitted.
- Educational products resulting from projects are public domain.
- All information submitted to either party under this application is subject to the federal Freedom of Information Act.

Project: Coastal Wild Coho Fisheries - Creel Surveys 2014

Applicant:  (for five coastal fish districts)

Date: 4/2/14 MIKE GRAY

Regional Manager 

Date: 4-2-14 

