



R & E Grant Application 13 Biennium

Project #:
13-111

McKenzie Watershed Education and Outreach

Project Information

R&E Project Request: \$4,715.00
Match Funding: \$5,400.00
Total Project: \$10,115.00
Start Date: 9/15/2015
End Date: 6/30/2015
Project Email: education@mckenziawc.org
Project Biennium: 13 Biennium
Organization: McKenzie Watershed Alliance (Tax ID #: 87-0690144)

Fiscal Officer

Name: Amanda Wilson
Address: PO Box 70166
Springfield, OR 97475
Telephone: 458-201-8150
Email: administration@mckenziawc.org

Applicant Information

Name: Jennifer Weber
Email: education@mckenziawc.org

Past Recommended or Completed Projects

Number	Name	Status
13-043	McKenzie Watershed Council Education and Outreach	Approved

Project Summary

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

Activity Type: Miscellaneous (Restoration)

Summary: The MWC works in collaboration with a variety of agencies, schools, organizations and private landowners to conduct a range of watershed enhancement and monitoring activities in the McKenzie River Watershed. Many projects involve an educational component done in partnership with local school districts. Educational projects focus on assisting with implementation, maintenance and monitoring of restoration projects (riparian, in-stream) while providing field science and natural history based lessons for participating students. This application seeks funds to purchase plant materials used in field-based education projects focused in the

lower McKenzie River watershed.

Objectives:

The McKenzie Watershed Council Education and Outreach program seeks to engage the public and school children through direct involvement in watershed restoration and monitoring activities. The program seeks to achieve three primary objectives; 1) increase awareness and understanding of native fish and wildlife and their habitats, 2) increase awareness and understanding of local cooperative restoration and enhancement action, 3) increase understanding of scientific processes used for assessing and monitoring natural systems and restoration projects. The program engages middle and high school students from the Springfield, Mohawk and McKenzie School Districts and well as a range of volunteers from the local community through activities such as native tree and shrub plantings, invasive weed control, water quality monitoring, stream surveys and fish sampling. The MWC is requesting funding for the following materials in support of its Education and Outreach program and stated objectives.

-Native trees and shrubs (\$3,850)

As part of its Education and Outreach Program, the Council engages students and community members in riparian restoration and enhancement project at a variety of sites throughout the McKenzie Watershed. Plant materials purchased would include native riparian species such as willow, red alder, cottonwood, big leaf maple, serviceberry, red osier dogwood, snowberry, and more. The total quantity of plants included in this request was calculated using the anticipated number of planting days (15) and multiplying that by the average number of plants students installed per outing (60), and an additional estimated two community planting events (100 plants/each) resulting in the total request for 1,100 plants

-Visipore mats (\$665) and landscape staples (\$200)

The success of native plant restoration and establishment is greatly influenced by the plant's ability to out-compete other surrounding non-native vegetation. Mats and mulch are used by the Council when planting is accomplished. The choice between whether to use mulch or mats is decided by the location of the planting area, ie. floodway, floodplain, low terrace, etc. In areas where we anticipate inundation, we use visipore mats with landscape staples and in areas that are less likely to be inundated we use mulch. Mulch is typically donated by local utility line crews and dumped at local project sites. Funding is requested to be able apply weed matting to approximately 75% of total plantings.

-Project management (\$5400 OWEB Match funding)

Project management costs represented in the budget reflect partial personnel costs associated with a projected 15 days of education and outreach events including students and volunteer. Personnel expenses are funded through OWEB Education Outreach match funds listed in the project budget.

Fishery Benefits:

The Council's Restoration program is designed to provide direct benefits to native fish populations through improved riparian function, enhanced in-stream conditions, and habitat connections (culverts). The MWC Education and Outreach

program is directly tied to the Restoration program and in many ways is vital for the success of many of the small and moderate sized projects, particularly riparian enhancement projects. Students and volunteers often provide critical assistance with project implementation and maintenance, stretching limited grant funding. In multiple cases, student teams have been the only source of maintenance assistance available and have greatly contributed to project success. The benefits to fisheries of the overall program include; the direct enhancement and restoration of off-channel riparian habitat, which will provide critical refuge and habitat for native fish and enhanced riparian areas, which will provide long-term sources of large woody debris to aquatic habitats, inputs of leaves and small detritus critical for the aquatic food web, enhanced shading and filtration of nutrients, and flood and drought mitigation.

Field lessons include fish presence/absence surveys which in many cases introduce native fish to participating students. Surveys include; cylindrical mesh traps (minnow traps), snorkel surveys and occasionally redd surveys. The direct involvement of youth and volunteers in these activities creates awareness and support for the aquatic resources and potential recruitment of future anglers. On occasion, student survey results are shared with local resource and land managers in order to appropriately protect fish habitat and/or address potential habitat improvement opportunities. This local habitat work provides a direct benefit to fish resources and thereby to the sport and commercial fisheries.

Watershed Benefits:

The McKenzie Watershed Council Education and Outreach program provides both direct and indirect benefits to the McKenzie River watershed. The program is designed around student and public participation in active restoration projects such as riparian enhancement projects. Students and volunteers contribute to improved riparian function through the control of invasive plants and establishment of native plant communities. The program also provides indirect watershed benefits through increased public awareness of watershed features, functions and management which in turn will potentially increase public support for actions which conserve or enhance their watershed. The McKenzie River basin is a matrix of landownership, with high concentration of private lands in certain areas such as the lower reaches of the river and in select tributaries like the Mohawk River and Camp Creek.

Outreach

actions which highlight restoration projects are also intended to increase private landowner willingness to participate in voluntary enhancement actions. Without widespread support and participation from private landowners, watershed enhancement projects are often limited to public lands and a small percentage of private lands. Providing adequate equipment and supplies for volunteers and students enhances their experiences and contributes to the implementation of quality enhancement actions and outreach results.

Current Situation:

The Education and Outreach program has continued to grow over the last few years. The need for planting material used by students and community members has increased more than the Council has funding to accommodate. Education and Outreach riparian projects will primarily take place at two sites in 2015. Site one, the Berggren Watershed Conservation Area (BWCA), is a 92-acre property along the north bank of the McKenzie River at USGS River Mile 19 owned by the McKenzie River Trust. The site includes a 32-acre demonstration farm and 60-acres of floodplain managed for its conservation values. Riparian restoration efforts have been completed or are planned for over approximately 35 acres of the floodplain section of the property. Of this total, students have assisted with implementation and maintenance on over 10 acres. Student work in 2015 will focus on an additional 2-4 acres of planting and maintenance. The BWCA property provides habitat for a host of native fish including Oregon chub, spring Chinook salmon and rainbow trout.

The second planned project site is a privately-owned property along the southern bank of the McKenzie River at approximate USGS River Mile 28. The 35-acre property is owned by Jeff and Liz Dehne, whose family has owned the property for nearly 100 years. The site is primarily used as pasture and unmanaged floodplain. In 2013, the McKenzie River Trust purchased a conservation easement from the Dehne's with the intent of preserving the floodplain and farm land from encroaching development. The Dehne property provides habitat for a native fish and wildlife including spring Chinook salmon, rainbow trout and a herd of Roosevelt elk, which use the site as an access point to the McKenzie River. The 2015 student project is the first restoration and enhancement effort at the Dehne property.

- Alternatives:** Alternatives identified for this proposal include propagation of plants through cuttings, continued use of limited stock left over from other projects, continuing to seek donations from local native plant nurseries, continuing to repair equipment and materials as necessary in order to maintain basic services, and continuing to seek funding to make needed purchases.
- Designer:** Planting designs will be completed by the MWC Education Coordinator and Projects Coordinator as necessary.
- Methods:**
- Obtain bids if necessary
 - Purchase equipment and materials
 - Submit Project Completion Report
- Inspector:** ODFW and MWC staff.
- Funding Elements:** Purchase materials identified in this application, including plant stock, weed matting, and landscape staples, acquire donated mulch.

Partners: Yes

Additional partners include the Springfield Public Schools (SPS), the McKenzie River Trust (MRT) and Jeff and Liz Dehne. The MWC has partnered with the SPS's Water and Energy Learning Lab (WELL) Project for over 10 years. Cooperative educational efforts have included water quality monitoring, stream habitat monitoring and riparian enhancement projects. The WELL Project is run by a certified SPS teacher who's job description is primarily dedicated to the development and oversight of the various student watershed-focused teams and programs throughout the district. The WELL Project will continue to provide student oversight, transportation, monitoring materials and other field equipment.

The MRT and Dehne family will provide access to their respective properties and assist will maintenance duties such as mowing over time.

Existing Plan: Yes

These materials will be used in support of the MWC's guiding goals and objectives outlined in the 2002 publication, the McKenzie River Watershed Conservation Strategy. While our education projects occur throughout the watershed, the focus area of this application is the lower McKenzie River. The target project area is cited in the Conservation Strategy a priority area for riparian and floodplain restoration.

Affected Contacted: Yes

Affected Supportive: Yes

Affected Comments: Both the McKenzie River Trust and the private landowners, Jeff and Liz Dehne, are aware and supportive of the student projects. Both have signed cooperative agreements with the MWC. The cooperative agreements outline the respective scope of work at each site as well as each parties roles and responsibilities. Student monitoring and restoration projects have been taking place at the BWCA site since 2011, while 2014 marks the beginning of a planned long-term project at the Dehne property. In addition, the Dehne site is directly downstream from an ODFW-owned fishing access point to the McKenzie River along Deerhorn Road (approximate road mile 4). The potential exists to expand the student project at the Dehne site onto the neighboring ODFW property over the next several school years.

Project Schedule/Participants/Funding

Activity	Date	Participants
Obtain bids if necessary	2/1/2015	Council Staff
Purchase materials	2/15/2015	Council Staff
Complete planting/use of purchased materials	3/31/2015	Council Staff, Students and Community members
Completion Reporting	6/15/2015	Council Staff

**Affected
Species:**

Bull Trout
Chinook Salmon
Pacific Lamprey
Rainbow Trout

Project Permits

This project has no permits.

Project Monitoring

This project has no monitoring.

Project Maintenance

This project has no maintenance plans.

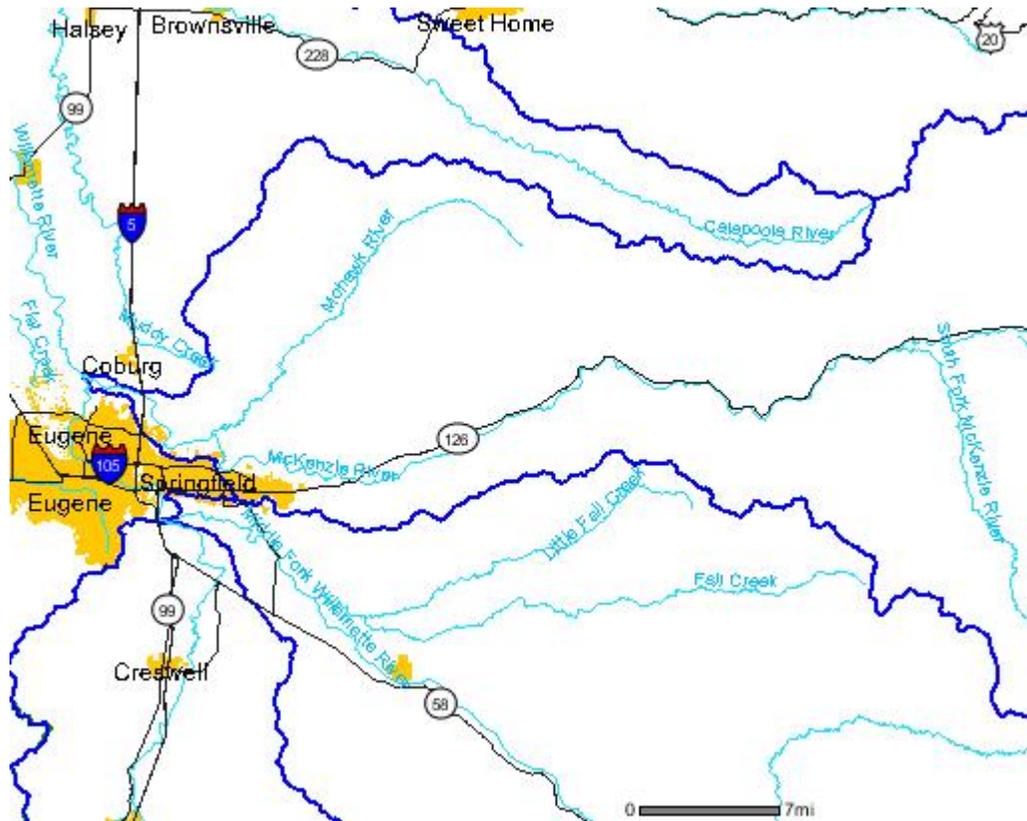
Project Match Funding

Funding Source	Cash	In-Kind	Other	Description	Total	Secured?	Conditions?	Comments
R&E Request	\$4,715.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$4,715.00	No	No	
OWEB	\$5,400.00	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$5,400.00	Yes	No	
				Total Match Funding:	\$10,115.00			

Project Budget

Item	Item Type	Units	Unit Cost	R&E Funds	Match Funds	Total
Project management	Personnel	120	\$45.00	\$0.00	\$5,400.00	\$5,400.00
Landscape staples	Supplies/Materials /Services	4000	\$0.05	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Native shrubs and plants	Supplies/Materials /Services	1100	\$3.50	\$3,850.00	\$0.00	\$3,850.00
Visipore mats	Supplies/Materials /Services	700	\$0.95	\$665.00	\$0.00	\$665.00
					Total Budget:	\$10,115.00

Project Map



Additional Files

Click a link to view that particular file.

[IRS Determination Letter](#)

[Signature Authorization Page](#)

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: **AUG 04 2014**

MCKENZIE WATERSHED ALLIANCE
PO BOX 70166
SPRINGFIELD, OR 97477

Employer Identification Number:
87-0690144
DLN:
17053190352004
Contact Person:
CUSTOMER SERVICE ID# 31954
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
September 30
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)9vi
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
May 15, 2013
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Addendum Applies:
Yes

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. We determined that you are a public charity under the Code section(s) listed in the heading of this letter.

For important information about your responsibilities as a tax-exempt organization, go to www.irs.gov/charities. Enter "4221-PC" in the search bar to view Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, which describes your recordkeeping, reporting, and disclosure requirements.

Sincerely,



Director, Exempt Organizations

Letter 947

MCKENZIE WATERSHED ALLIANCE

ADDENDUM

Based on the information submitted with your application, we approved your request for reinstatement under Revenue Procedure 2014-11. Your effective date of exemption, as shown in the heading of this letter, is retroactive to the date of revocation.

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 Title: McKenzie Watershed Education and Outreach

Applicant: McKenzie Watershed Alliance

Date: 11/7/2014

Fiscal Officer: 

Date: 11/7/14