Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP)

Fish Propagation Project Application

Project Name: Depoe Bay Salmon Enhancement Commission Coho Supplementation Program

New: ☐ **Renewal:** ☒

PART I – APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant: Depoe Bay Salmon Enhancement Commission (SEC)

If an organization, do you have 501.c.3 status? Yes ☒ No ☐

Name of Key Contact: F.C. "Beanie" Robison

Address: P.O. Box 312

City: Depoe Bay **State:** OR **Zip:** 97341

Phone: (541) 961-2499 **Email:** seamate@centurytel.net

Signature: F.C. Robison **Date:** 10/6/21

A goal of STEP is to achieve the recovery and sustainability of Oregon's native stocks of salmon and trout. Through STEP, Oregonians can submit a proposal to ODFW and the Fish and Wildlife Commission to conduct a project consistent with this goal.

The following sections of the STEP Fish Propagation Project Application will ask you to provide the information needed to thoroughly review your proposed project and determine if it is consistent with STEP goals. The review will also determine whether a project is consistent with the Native Fish Conservation Policy (NFCP) and contributes to the broader goals of the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds (OPSW) to restore salmon runs, improve water quality, and achieve healthy watersheds.

As a STEP volunteer, become familiar with these important plans and policies that guide and direct STEP activities. As you complete this application, consider and explain how your proposed project will help STEP to achieve its goals and will contribute to Oregon's efforts to recover native fish and establish healthy watersheds.

PART II – TYPE OF REARING PROJECT AND OBJECTIVE

Fish Species to be Reared: Coho

Intent of Rearing Project (check only one):

Type 1.	Increase fishing and harvest opportunities	☒
Type 2.	Enhance existing natural production	☐
Type 3.	Restore fish to vacant habitat	☐
Type 4.	Develop broodstock	☐

Note: OAR 635-009-0125 defines STEP fish propagation projects as the following:
***Supplementation** – A project involving continued planting to maintain or increase fish abundance where natural production is insufficient to meet management objectives (Type 1 above).*
***Rehabilitation** – A project in which fish are released to rebuild a currently depressed run (Type 2 and 3 above).*
***Broodstock Development** – A project in which reared fish are released and the resulting adults return to a recapture facility to provide an egg source for management program(Type 4 above).*

Project Start Date: 11/01/2021 **Project End Date:** 11/01/2026

Project Duration:

If Type 1 (see above):
5 years ☒

If Type 2,3, or 4 (see above):

Coho salmon	3 years	☐
Chum salmon	4 years	☐
Chinook salmon	5 years	☐
Steelhead	4 years	☐
Trout	4 years	☐

Note: Projects that continue beyond the above-listed time periods must apply for renewal at the end of that time period.

Describe how the proposed project *(please answer all that apply)*:

(a) Addresses ODFW fish management needs as outlined in subbasin fish management, species, recovery or conservation, or other plans *(please cite specific plan, goal, objective, etc)*.

North Depoe Bay Creek is excluded from the ODFW Mid Coast Small Ocean Tributary Streams Management Plan because there isn't fish passage through the City of Depoe Bay Reservoir. North Depoe Bay Creek Reservoir has blocked natural coho migration since the mid-60's. Due to this fish passage constraint, naturally limited spawning habitat below the dam, and reduced summer stream flows from domestic water extraction, the restoration potential for a self-sustaining population of wild coho salmon is very low. The main goals of this STEP project are to foster resource stewardship through public education and community involvement and provide a recreational fishing opportunity.

(b) **Will contribute to fisheries. Identify the fisheries and note any current special regulations such as "adipose fin-clipped only" that would affect the proposed project operation.**

In recent years, the Oregon ocean sport coho fishery allows for the retention of adipose fin-clipped coho salmon in the summer, followed by a non-selective fishery in September. Fish reared through this program are adipose fin-clipped and therefore available for harvest throughout the entire season, generally late-June through September.

(c) **Addresses the factors limiting adequate natural production in the basin *(lack of spawning habitat, poor rearing habitat).* Also, please cite any information that supports that determination.**

North Depoe Bay Creek flows through a very small watershed, which naturally has limited spawning and rearing habitat as well as poor access for fish at the mouth of the creek. Prior to construction of the reservoir, North Depoe Bay Creek supported a small wild coho population, but it is unknown whether this population was self-sustaining or relied on strays from larger coastal drainages.

Nevertheless, restoration projects were completed on North Depoe Bay Creek to improve and increase fish habitat between the reservoir dam and the bay. Early in the development of this program, 1200 conifers from Boise-Cascade were planted by volunteers and members of the SEC throughout the lower North Depoe Bay watershed to recover riparian structure and function. In addition, large wood structures were placed in the stream in 1998 to improve gravel retention for spawning and create rearing pools for juvenile salmon and cutthroat trout. Boulder weirs were also constructed in 2003 to improve fish passage through several culverts.

(d) **Contributes to other STEP, OPSW, and salmon and/or watershed recovery needs *(education, citizen participation, other social benefit, etc).***

The Depoe Bay coho supplementation program embraces the mission of STEP and the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, encouraging community involvement and fostering local stewardship of the watershed. The SEC is part of the City Council and is well supported within the Depoe Bay community, educating local residents and visitors through informational signage, tours of the rearing site, and a community fin-clipping day. The volunteer fin-clipping day attracts a variety of people from local charter boat skippers, who directly benefit from the supplementation program, to youth and adults in the local and regional Oregon coast community.

ODFW biologists and SEC members use this public involvement opportunity to teach volunteers and students about protecting watershed resources and how their choices can support healthy salmon populations for future generations. Numerous stream habitat and riparian improvements have taken place in association with this project, with support from the city and local landowners. In addition, members of the SEC volunteer at a local after-school program teaching kids about salmon and taking them to the North Depoe Bay Reservoir to feed and care for rearing coho.

(e) **Is addressed under an existing Hatchery Genetic Management Plan or Hatchery Management Plan.**

The Depoe Bay SEC coho supplementation program is addressed under the Trask River HGMP. Trask Hatchery spawns and incubates stock 34 coho eggs to the eyed stage before transferring them to the Depoe Bay SEC. Prior to 2008, this program operated under the Salmon River HGMP and received stock 33 coho eggs.

(f) Is consistent with the goals of the Hatchery Management Policy and the NFCP *(please answer all that apply)*:

a. *Fosters and sustains opportunities for sport, commercial, and tribal fishers consistent with the conservation of naturally produced native fish.*
This program attempts to strengthen the local ocean sport fishery and is consistent with the Native Fish Conservation Policy by posing very little risk to native populations. North Depoe Bay Creek does not support wild coho, so fish produced through this program do not genetically interact with native stocks or compete with them for rearing and spawning resources. Small numbers of unmarked coho have been observed spawning in South Depoe Bay Creek, but these fish are believed to be returns from naturally spawning fish from this program. Reared coho interact with resident coastal cuttroat trout in North Depoe Bay Creek and reservoir, but their small numbers are unlikely to cause negative effects and likely benefit the cutthroat population as a food source.

b. *Contributes toward the sustainability of naturally produced native fish through the responsible use of hatcheries and hatchery-produced fish.*
This program is a great example of responsible use of hatchery fish, even though it doesn't contribute towards sustainability of naturally produced native fish. Prior to entering the ocean and upon returning to North Depoe Bay Creek, coho from this program are isolated from all native salmonid populations other than local cutthroat trout. After entering the ocean, impacts due to resource competition and interactions with wild fish are likely low because of the small size of this program.

c. *Maintains genetic resources of native fish spawned or reared in captivity.*
This program uses Trask Hatchery stock 34 coho, which has been domesticated for many years. No native coho are spawned or reared in captivity for this program, but the Trask River Hatchery is planning to use 100% wild brood for the next three years to improve their hatchery stock. Depoe Bay will not receive eggs from wild brood during this process, but hatchery brood spawned in 2024 for the Depoe Bay program will have benefited from the wild integration.

d. *Minimizes adverse ecological impacts to watersheds caused by hatchery facilities and operations.*
This small program uses only two hatchboxes, avoiding the adverse ecological impacts associated with larger facilities, such as infrastructure development, reduced water quality and water extraction.

PART III – LOCATION OF REARING PROJECT OR FACILITY

County: Lincoln
Basin or Watershed: Ocean Tributary
Stream: North Depoe Bay Creek
and one of the following:
Road address 555 NE Collins Street
River or stream mile Stream Mile 0.64
Legal (Township/Range/Section) T9S R11W Section 5
UTM coordinate _____

****Please include a map showing the project location within the watershed****.*

Other salmon, steelhead and/or trout species present in basin:

Species	Run	Hatchery or Naturally Produced?	State or Federally Listed?
Coastal Cutthroat	Resident	Natural	

List all other propagation programs in the basin or watershed:

Species	Responsible Agency or Organization	Number Released	Program Objective

If other propagation programs exist, what is the relationship of the proposed project to these other programs?
No other propagation programs exist.

PART IV – OPERATION

Please explain the proposed operation including the following *(where applicable)* or attach a copy of the existing Hatchery Genetic Management Plan (HGMP) or Hatchery Management Plan (HMP):

(a) Source of broodstock.
Trask Hatchery stock 34H is used for this program, and broodstock are collected at the hatchery during the annual fall adult coho collection operation. Stock 34H is derived from Trask River wild coho first propagated in 1906. Adults are collected in the Gold Creek trap, but may also be collected in the main Trask River trap during extreme low water years.

(b) Number of eggs needed.
20,000

(c) Number of broodstock (males and females) needed.
12 Males, 12 Females

(d) Mating procedures.
Matrix spawned in a 10:10 ratio at Trask River Hatchery

(e) Number of fry needed.
Approximately 18,000

(f) Number of fingerling needed.
Approximately 17,000

(g) Number of pre-smolt needed.
Approximately 16,000

(h) Number of smolt needed.
15,000

(i) Anticipated or historical losses at each stage.
Over the past 10 years, egg losses have ranged from 5.4-26.5% with a mean of 15.3%, and total fry losses haved ranged from 1.4-34.4% with a mean of 12.5%. However, actual fry losses are lower than these estimates because fish escape the net pen. We think there were a substantial number of escapees from the 2020 brood year (34.4% loss), so the net pen will be repaired prior to receiving eggs in November 2021. There is some avian and fish predation while coho rear in the reservoir after fin-clipping. The number of fish migrating out of the reservoir is generously estimated at 12,000 each year, based on previous population estimates.

(j) Anticipated or historical number of adult returns resulting from rearing project.
Routine spawning surveys are not completed in North Depoe Bay Creek, but there have been as many as twenty returning adults documented in a season.

(k) How returning adults will be collected.
Returning adults are not collected, because there is not a good location for a trap. However, returning fish are confined to limited habitat below the dam.

(l) Disposition of collected adults.
NA

(m) Other projects that may receive eggs or reared fish from this project.
NA

Release Program (summarize proposed fish releases):

Number Released	Date of Release	Size (fish/lb) or Stage	% Marked	Release Location
12000	03/2022	smolt	100	North Depoe Bay Creek
12000	03/2023	smolt	100	North Depoe Bay Creek
12000	03/2024	smolt	100	North Depoe Bay Creek
12000	03/2025	smolt	100	North Depoe Bay Creek

(n) If fish are marked, please describe the type of mark and the reason for marking.

Fish are marked with an adipose fin-clip so they can be differentiated from naturally produced fish and retained as part of the selective ocean sport fishery.

PART V – FACILITY INFORMATION

Please describe - or provide attachments that describe - the facility including:

(a) Design – include a diagram or sketch that shows structures, water diversions, water distribution system, settling ponds, fish ladders, adult traps, etc.

Refer to appendices A and B for diagrams of the rearing facility and reservoir spillway, respectively. The Salmon Enhancement Commission receives 20,000 eyed coho eggs from the Trask River Hatchery in late November or early December. Eggs are incubated in two STEP hatchboxes until fry are buttoned-up (Appendix C). In March, fry are transported in five gallon buckets from the hatchboxes to a net pen in North Depoe Bay Reservoir (Appendix D). Fry are reared in the net pen to a size of approximately 300 fish/lb. In July, fish are adipose fin-clipped and released into the reservoir (Appendix E). Fish migrate to the ocean volitionally the following spring (Appendix F).

(b) Water supply - identify source, quantity available, quantity needed, and provide existing water quality and temperature (daily, weekly, monthly) data.

Water is supplied by the City of Depoe Bay before it enters the water treatment facility. North Depoe Bay Reservoir is 66 feet wide by 370 feet long and averages about 15 feet deep, storing 2.8 million gallons of water. Water is gravity fed from the reservoir to the hatchoxes and water treatment facility. Hatchboxes are plumbed into the main water supply line (Appendix A). Water is diverted from the supply pipe into the hatchboxes through a series of pipes and valves that regulate flow velocity to approximately 12 gallons per minute to each hatchbox.

Water temperature, turbidity and pH are measured at the City of Depoe Bay water treatment facility. During hatchbox operation (winter and early spring), temperatures range from the low 40's and 50's with an average turbidity of 2.4

NTU and pH of 6. During net pen rearing (late spring and summer), temperatures range from the upper 50's to lower 60's.

(c) Incubation, rearing, and/or broodstock holding facilities - dimensions, capacity, water required, etc.

Eggs are incubated in two stainless steel STEP hatchboxes (32" x 48"; Appendix C). The water requirement for each of the two hatchboxes is approximately 12 gallons per minute. Water then flows through a settling tank to remove fine sedimentsbefore returning to the creek (Appendix C). Fry are reared in the reservoir using a 12 x 12 x 10 foot net pen with 3/8 inch mesh that is suspended from the floating docks (Appendix D). After fin-clipping is complete, fingerlings are released into the reservoir, which averages 66 feet wide by 370 feet long and about 15 feet deep. The reservoir stores approximately 2.8 million gallons of water.

(d) Adult trapping, holding and handling facilities.

NA

(e) Water treatment (if applicable) and discharge process. Please also note whether a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination (NPDES) Permit is required.

There is no water treatment associated with this project and no NPDES permit is required.

(f) Known existing or potential disease issues or considerations.

No disease issues identified. The main cause of mortality is fungal infection of eggs, which varies with water temperature.

(g) Process for disease monitoring.

Careful observation of mortalities for disease symptoms (see Part VI.a).

(h) Anticipated facility operation and maintenance costs.

Fish food costs approximately $250 per year. Maintenance costs average $150 per year and are raised by the SEC or donated by the community.

Documents attached that demonstrate legal access to the site or property rights:

Lease(s)	☐	**Access agreement**	☒
Option(s)	☐	**Water right**	☐
Easement	☐	**Other written authorization**	☒

Attach a written statement from the appropriate local planning authorities of the county or jurisdiction within which the proposed facility is located stating whether the proposed operation is in compliance with all local comprehensive land-use and/or estuary plans.

Note: It is the responsibility of the project sponsor to obtain all water rights, access agreements, easements, use permits or any other permits needed to undertake the project.

PART VI – PROJECT MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Please explain how this project will be monitored and evaluated and by whom (volunteer, ODFW, or other) including:

(a) Monitoring for disease.
Mortalities are reported to the ODFW STEP biologist. If specific disease symptoms or 'non-typical' behavior is observed, samples are sent to the ODFW pathology lab. Periodically, fish samples were taken and examined by pathology either before fry are released in the reservoir or before smolts are liberated. No disease or parasite problems have been identified to date. Mortality is usually quite low during incubation, but it can rise quickly due to fungal infection. The severity of fungal infection increases with warmer water temperatures. Mortality is less than 5% during net pen rearing, and no specific disease symptoms have been observed or detected through pathology tests. Pre-smolt mortality within the reservoir is rarely observed and is mainly due to predation.

(b) Monitoring of juvenile survival and/or distribution (if applicable).
Egg to fry survival is estimated when fry are transferred to the net pens, which typically occurs in late February or early March. Survival from fry to parr stage is calculated when fish are marked and released into the net pen in late June or early July. In the past the number of smolts exiting the reservoir were monitored using a smolt trap, but trapping site difficulties led to high mortality. Smolt trapping no longer occurs, but an average of 12,000 out-migrating smolts is estimated based on results from previous smolt trapping activities.

(c) Monitoring of adult returns to this or other collection facilities (if applicable).
NA

(d) Monitoring of adult returns to natural spawning areas (if applicable).
Informal spawning surveys have been conducted in North Depoe Bay Creek and South Depoe Bay Creek by volunteers. Small numbers of non-adipose fin-clipped fish have been observed spawning in South Depoe Bay Creek, but these are believed to be returns of juvenile fish produced by naturally spawning fish from the program.

(e) Contribution to sport or commercial fisheries (if applicable).
There are several charter boats that work out of Depoe Bay and count on these fish for their business. Local sport fishermen also believe very strongly in the contribution that these fish make to catch each year.

(f) Estimated monitoring costs.
$0

If this is a project renewal, please identify or provide a summary of past monitoring information including:

(a) Results of disease monitoring (please attach appropriate reports).
NA

(b) Results of any surveys (juvenile, adult trapping, spawning, creel, etc).

Volunteers helped complete hand seine surveys in North and South Depoe Bay creeks in the late 2000's. Juvenile coho and resident coastal cutthroat were found in both streams.

(c) Reports, management plans, technical documents, or journal articles that reference the project.
NA

Please identify any potential social consequences resulting from project returns and how those will be monitored or evaluated.
There have been no reports or incidences of illegal activity or harassment of the hatchboxes, net pen or adult spawning coho. About two-thirds of the upper North Depoe Bay Creek basin is owned by the City of Depoe Bay and fenced to protect water resources. Public access is not allowed.

PART VII – OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Please attach additional documents or provide information that details the project history, how the project may have evolved from the original design, or any changes/improvements that have been made to the operation.

The Depoe Bay Salmon Enhancement Commission coho supplementation program has been operating since 1982 and is one of the original STEP propagation programs in Oregon. Depoe Bay remains a small community, and residents as well as families of the local fishing community are proud of the program and have a long-term vested interest in its success. Initial program goals were focused on increased production, with the SEC releasing as many as 100,000 smolts out of North Depoe Bay Reservoir. However, SEC members and volunteers realize that there are natural limitations to coho production within the watershed, as well as other guiding principles and policies that have been adopted by the agency since that time. As a result, program focus has shifted towards community education and outreach, which fosters watershed stewardship within this community.

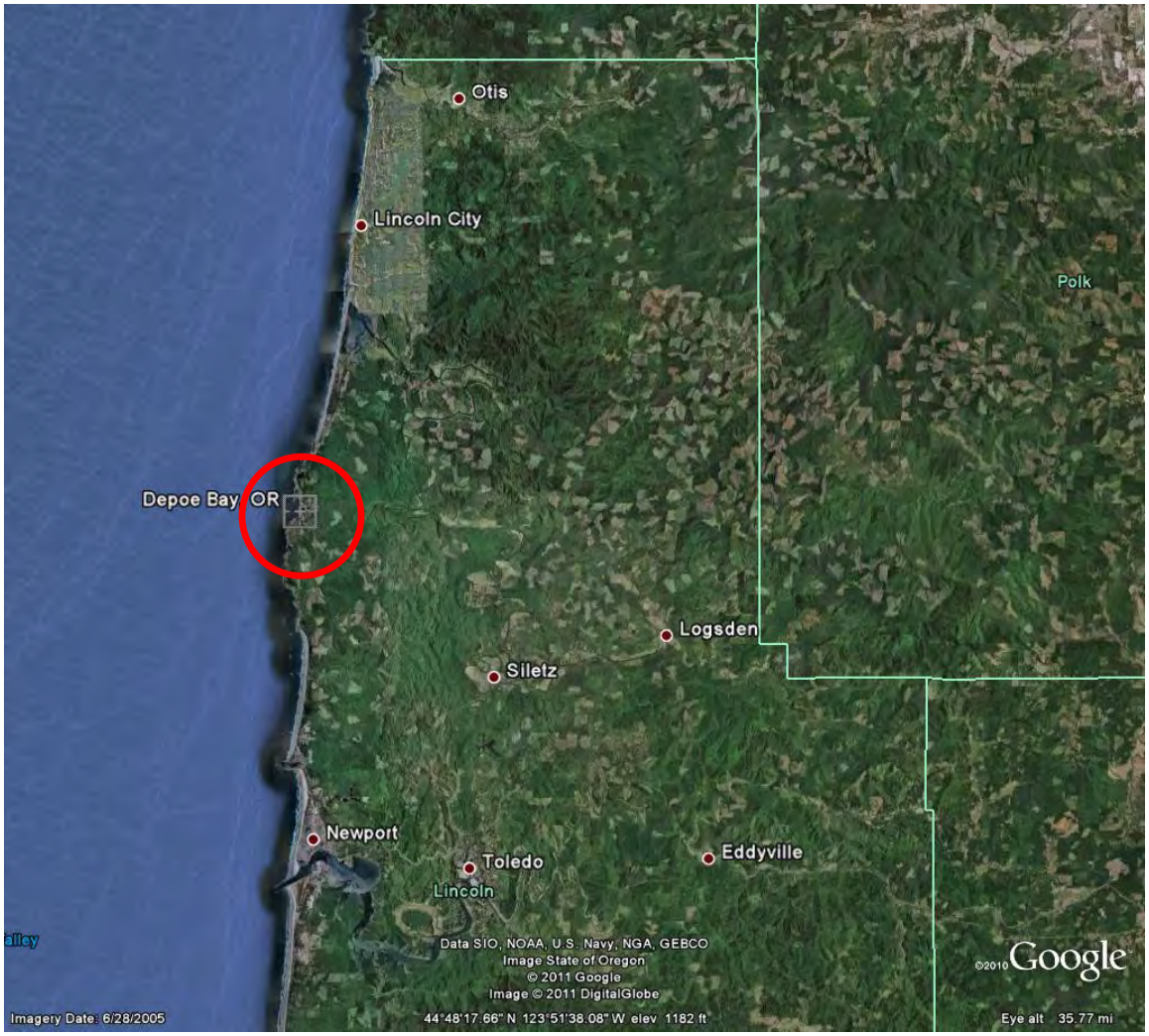
ODFW USE ONLY

Reviewer	Name	Date	Approve[1]	Do Not Approve[1]
STEP Biologist	Christine Clapp	10/6/2021	✓	
District Fish Biologist				
Watershed Manager				
Regional Supervisor				
Fish Propagation				
Engineering				
Conservation & Recovery				
STEP Coordinator				
Fish Division Administrator				
F & W Commission[2]				

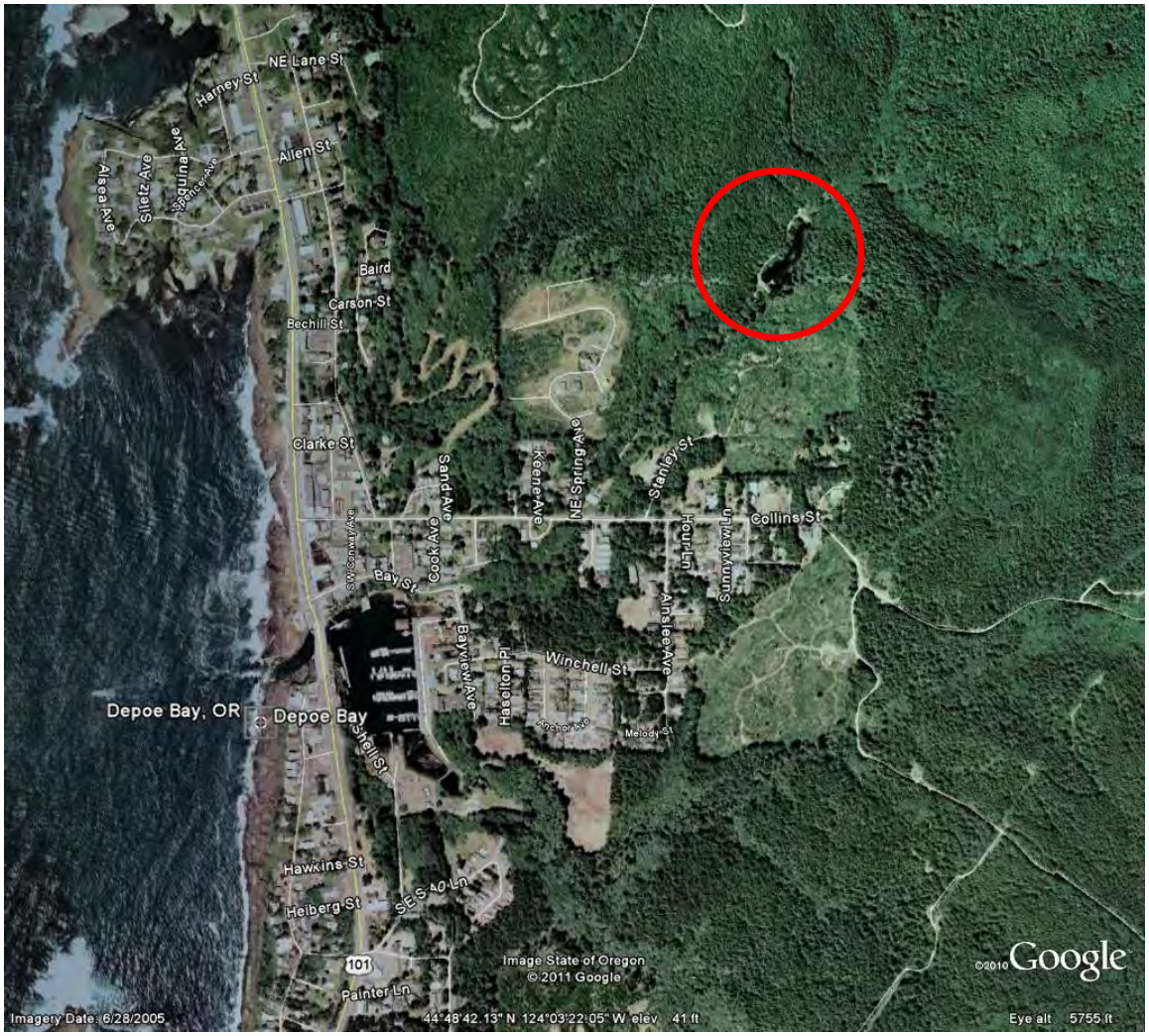
[1] Please attach any comments that explain your position or will aid the project review.
[2] Projects that release more than 100,000 fish must be approved by the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

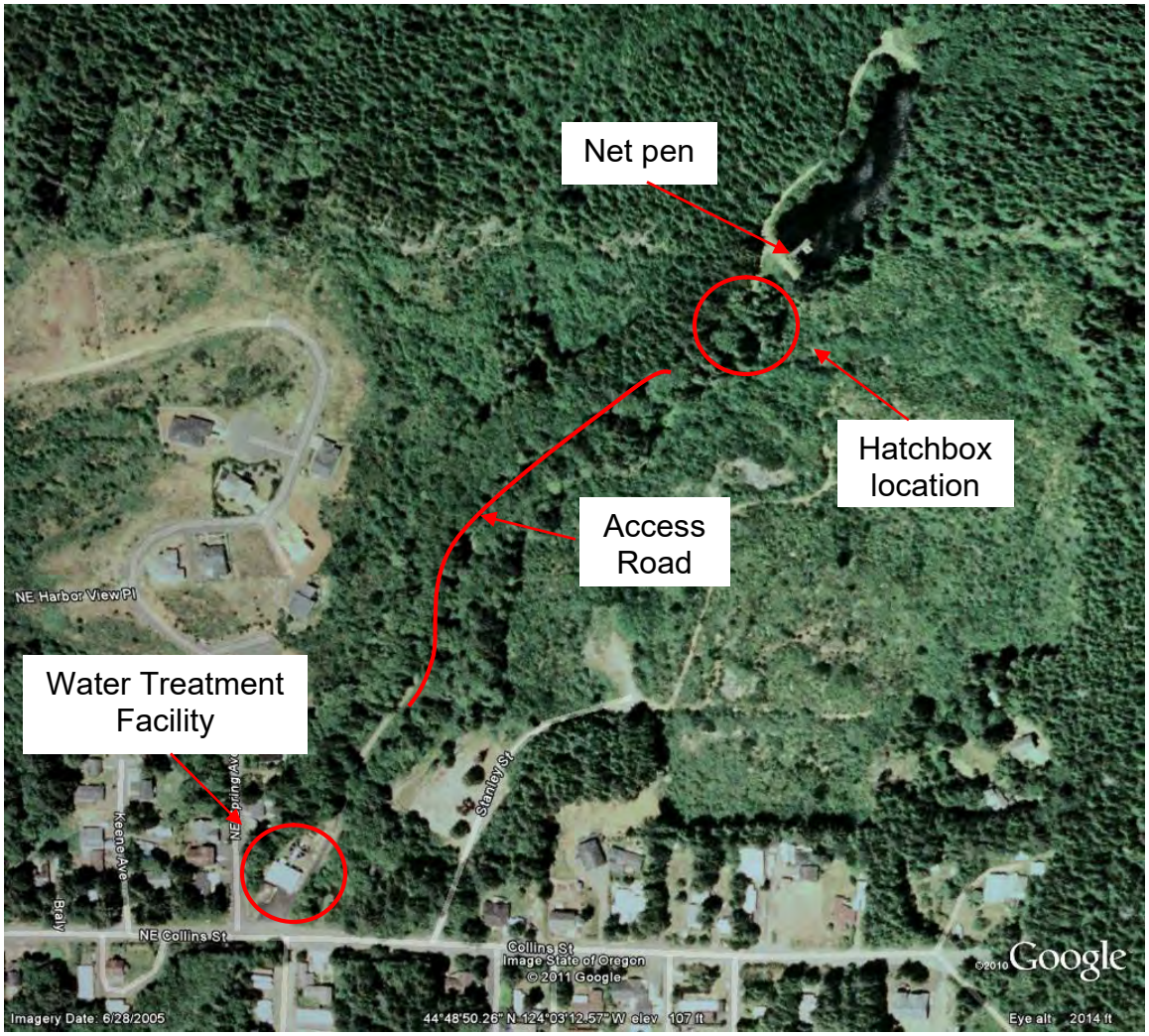
Depoe Bay Salmon Enhancement Commission STEP Coho Program

Site Location



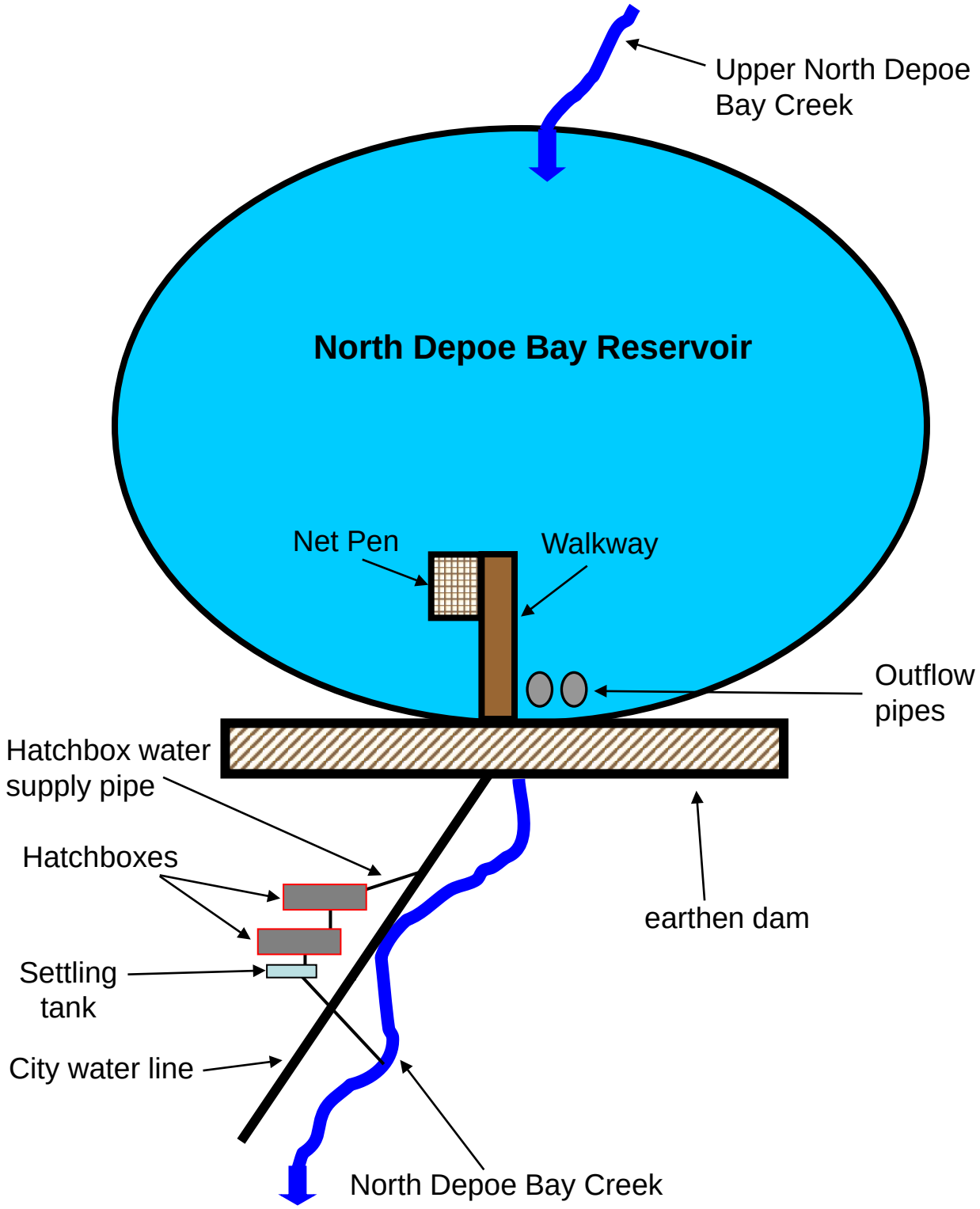
North Depoe Bay Reservoir




Net pen
Hatchbox location
Access Road
Water Treatment Facility
NE Harbor View Pl
NE Spring Ave
Keene Ave
Bay
NE Collins St
Stanley St
Collins St
Image State of Oregon
© 2011 Google
©2010 Google
Imagery Date: 6/28/2005
44°48'50.26" N 124°03'12.57" W elev 107 ft
Eye alt 2014 ft

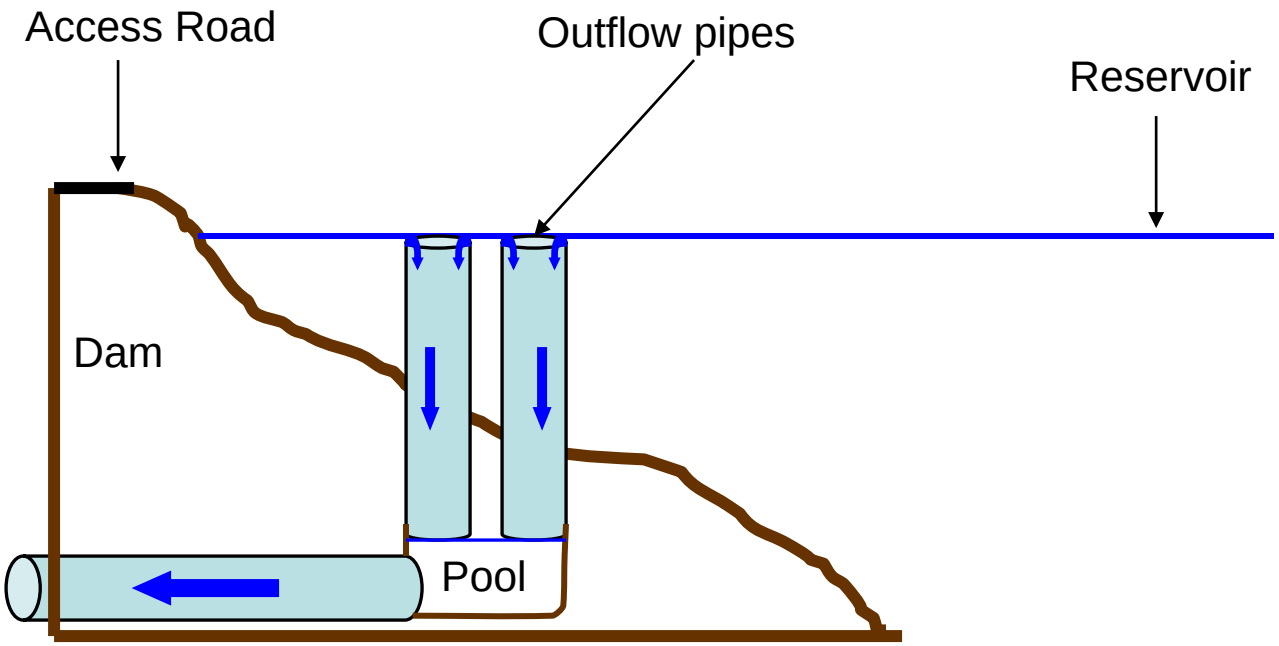
Appendix A

Depoe Bay Salmon Enhancement Commission Rearing Facility
(Aerial view – not drawn to scale)

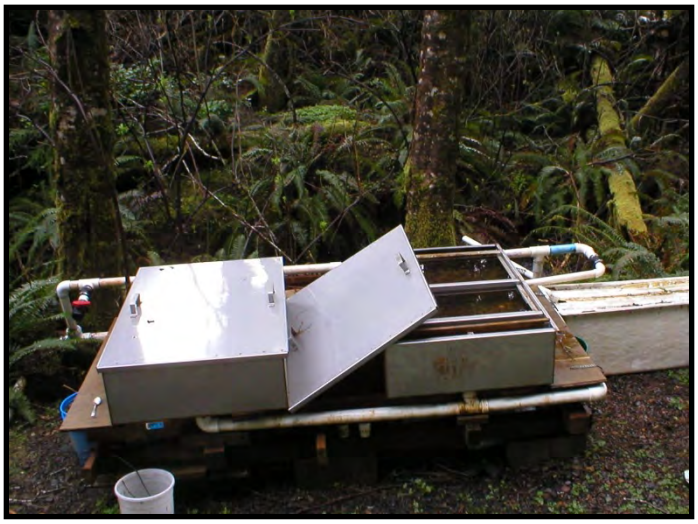


Appendix B

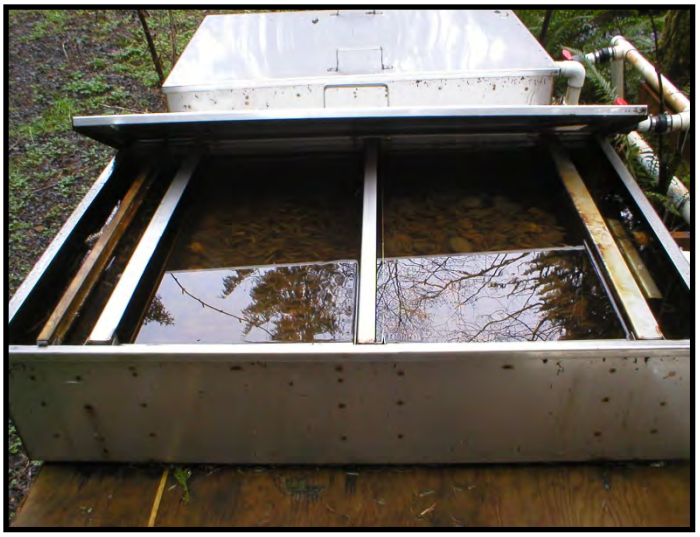
North Depoe Bay Reservoir Outlet
(Cross section – not drawn to scale)



Appendix C



STEP hatchboxes at North Depoe Bay Creek.



Hatchbox with coho fry and gravel substrate.

Settling tank for water discharged from the hatchboxes.

Appendix D

North Depoe Bay Reservoir net pen on fin-clipping day.

Access walkway is on the right and floating docks on either side of the net pen are shown on the left.

Fin clipping day with the net pen shown on the left.

Appendix E

Salmon Enhancement Commission members and community volunteers at the coho fin-clipping day.

Salmon Enhancement Commission member teaching youth volunteers at the coho fin-clipping day.

Volunteers releasing adipose fin-clipped coho into North Depoe Bay Reservoir via the “fish chute”.

Appendix F

North Depoe Bay Reservoir outflow pipes as viewed from the dam.

Reservoir outflow into North Depoe Bay Creek.

City of Depoe Bay main water extraction pipe.

Water supply pipe for hatchboxes, plumbed into main pipe.

North Depoe Bay Reservoir as viewed from the dam.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program

ACCESS AGREEMENT

This Agreement is entered into on this 30th day of September 2021, by and between the City of Depoe Bay, hereinafter called **Grantor** and the State of Oregon, acting by and through its Department of Fish and Wildlife, hereinafter called **Department**.

Whereas Grantor owns certain real property described in the attached Exhibit A and,

Whereas the Department wishes to authorize a Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) project at a project site which is located on that property described in the attached Exhibit A. The STEP program is described at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/STEP/.

In consideration for this agreement, grantor shall be allowed to receive the benefits of the STEP project in exchange for the access conferred by this agreement.

Terms and Conditions of this Agreement

1. Grantor herein grants the Department and its representatives access to the project site, which is located on that property described in Exhibit A for the purposes of operating a STEP project.
2. Grantor reserves the right to use the property described in Exhibit A for any and all purposes which do not preclude, restrict, or interfere with the purpose of this Agreement. With prior notice, the Department will agree to access adjustments to accommodate the primary uses of the land (e.g. residential, farm use).
3. This Agreement is for the term of five (5) years beginning on the 1st day of November, 2021 and ending on the 1st day of November, 2026 or until such time as the STEP project is terminated by the Department, whichever occurs first. If the project is terminated prior to the expiration date, access for the Department and its representatives will remain in effect for as long as fish or eggs under artificial propagation remain on the project site. The Department will inform the City of Depoe Bay of its plan for removing fish, eggs, and all improvements at the time the project is cancelled.
4. Either party may terminate this Agreement by providing written notice 120 days in advance to the other party. Upon termination, all rights and obligations of the Department to use the City of Depoe Bay property will cease. If the project is terminated, access for the Department and its representatives will remain in effect for as long as fish or eggs under artificial propagation remain on the project site. The Department will inform the City of Depoe Bay of its plan for removing fish, eggs, and all improvements at the time the project is cancelled.
5. The primary Department contact for the STEP project will be Christine Clapp, Mid Coast STEP biologist, (541) 961-6386.

Agreement Binding

This Agreement is binding on and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors or assigns.

Grantor:

CITY of DEPOE BAY
KATHY SHORT MAYOR
Kathy Short
NAME(S)

Date 10·6·2021

Department:

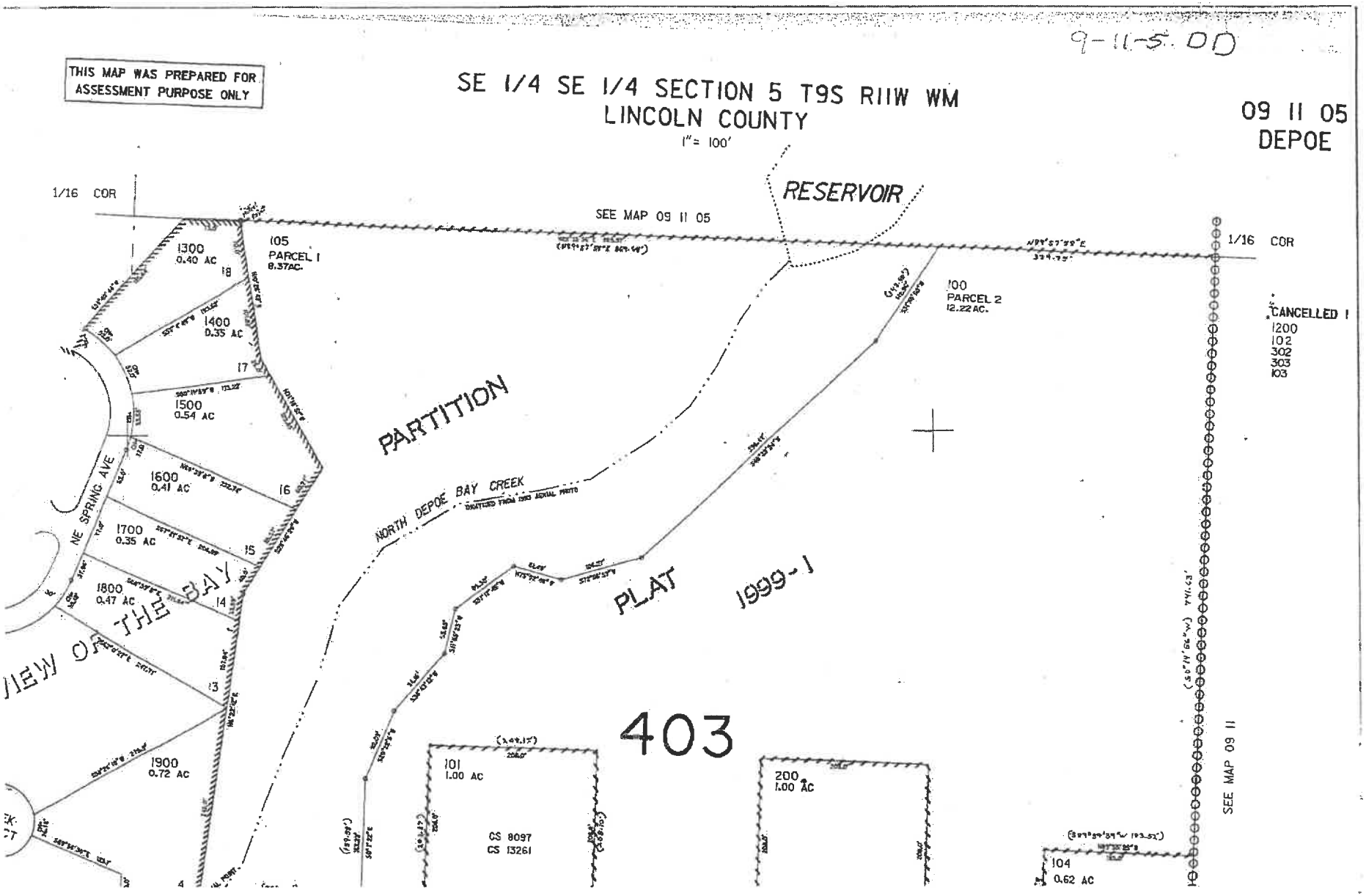
Christine Clapp
NAME

Mid Coast STEP Biologist
POSITION

Date 10/6/2021

Attachment: Exhibit A – Property Description

Exhibit A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THIS MAP WAS PREPARED FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSE ONLY
SE 1/4 SE 1/4 SECTION 5 T9S R11W WM
LINCOLN COUNTY
1"= 100'
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DEPOE
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SEE MAP 09 11 05
RESERVOIR
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105
PARCEL 1
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PARCEL 2
12.22 AC.
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302
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1400
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1600
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1700
0.35 AC
1800
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17
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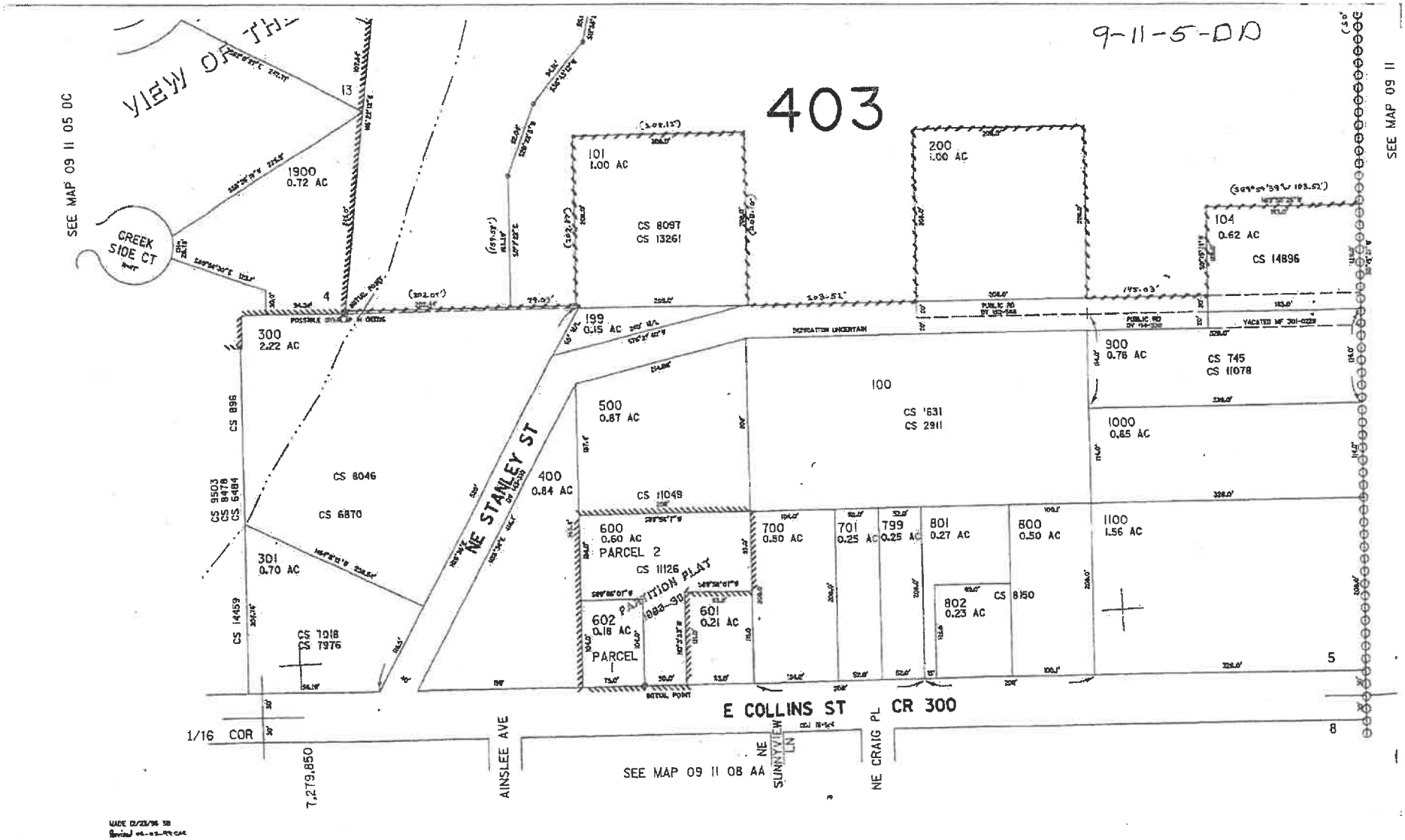
13
PARTITION
PLAT 1999-1
NORTH DEPOE BAY CREEK
NE SPRING AVE
403
101
1.00 AC
CS 8097
CS 13261
200
1.00 AC
104
0.62 AC
SEE MAP 09 11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403
SEE MAP 09 11 05 DC
SEE MAP 09 11
VIEW OF TH
CREEK SIDE CT
1900 0.72 AC
101 1.00 AC
CS 8097
CS 13261
200 1.00 AC
104 0.62 AC
CS 14896
300 2.22 AC
199 0.15 AC
900 0.78 AC
CS 745
CS 11078
100
CS 1631
CS 2911
500 0.87 AC
1000 0.85 AC
CS 896
CS 8046
CS 6870
CS 9503
CS 8478
CS 6484
400 0.84 AC
CS 11049
NE STANLEY ST
600 0.60 AC
PARCEL 2
CS 11126
700 0.50 AC
701 0.25 AC
799 0.25 AC
801 0.27 AC
800 0.50 AC
1100 1.56 AC
PARTITION PLAT 083-90
602 0.18 AC
PARCEL 1
601 0.21 AC
802 0.23 AC
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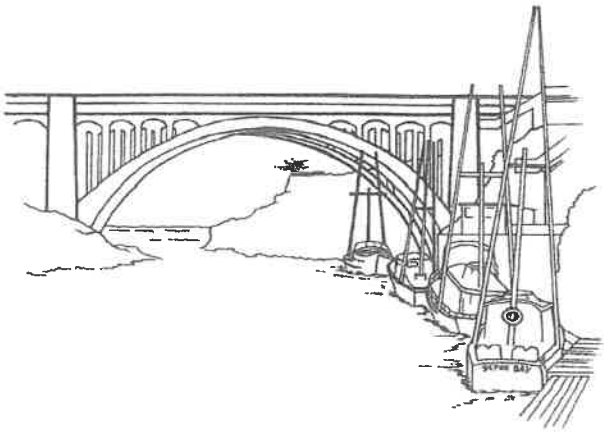
CITY of DEPOE BAY

Post Office Box 8 + Depoe Bay, Oregon 97341
Phone (541) 765-2361 + Fax (541) 765-2129
TDD# 1-800-735-2900



September 15, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Depoe Bay S.T.E.P. Renewal 2021

The Depoe Bay Salmon Commission is dedicated to continuing the S.T.E.P salmon hatchery on North Depoe Bay Creek. This Depoe Bay program has widespread community support and a committed volunteer workforce. It integrates education, economics and socialization that are woven in the fabric of Depoe Bay. The importance of small streams like North Depoe Bay Creek in the network of rivers and tributaries that are essential to a healthy, sustainable salmon population is a well known fact. For these reasons the program should be continued.

The Depoe Bay program has been in continuous operation since 1981, which is hearty evidence of the viability of the program. Those persons involved today are as enthusiastic and dedicated as the founders of the program who faced and overcame obstacles over the years. Despite bears, landslides, human encroachment and other issues, the program has continued strong. The Depoe Bay Salmon Enhancement Commission works with landowners and the city to resolve and understand land use and development issues, which has increased awareness of habitat protection issues in a positive manner.

The Depoe Bay Salmon Enhancement Commission was established by the City which has been an unwavering supporter of the program. More than 70 people have served on the commission over the years, with the youngest member at 13 years of age. The town's youth demonstrate their interest by participating in stream enhancement, fin-clipping and educational activities. Community support is evident in the City Council's ongoing support. Local businesses have stored our fish food in their freezers. The annual fin-clipping has become a social and educational event in Depoe Bay, with local residents and visitors alike participating.

The S.T.E.P. program and its salmon rearing activities are part of what makes Depoe Bay a unique and special place. Being able to continue to work on, and pass along, the idea of renewing such an important resource is invaluable. The creeks and salmon are the thread that links the land with the ocean and are a distinctive part of Depoe Bay's fishing history and its future.

Sincerely,

Frederick C Robison
DBSEC Chairman

NEIGHBORS FOR KIDS

www.neighborsforkids.org 541-765-8990

Neighbors For Kids
P. O. Box 942
634 SE Hwy 101
Depoe Bay, OR 97341
541-765-8990

September 16, 2021

Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) – Mid Coast District
Att: Christine Clapp
810 SW Alder St. - Unit C
Newport, OR. 97365

Re: Letter of Support

Dear ODFW – STEP staff,

This letter is being written in support of Neighbors For Kids' community partnership with the Salmon & Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) and the City of Depoe Bay's Salmon Enhancement Program. NFK staff have taken youth on local field trips and for hands-on enrichment classes and projects for many years at the salmon hatchery located off Collins Street in Depoe Bay, Oregon. Youth in grades K-12 who attend the Kids Zone after school program and summer camp continue to be engaged and interested in this important work.

These fun educational experiences are a unique opportunity for youth to learn about ocean literacy, marine biology and environmental stewardship. We greatly value this partnership because together we are helping to develop the next generation of community members who will keep our fisheries alive and thriving.

We look forward to continued collaboration with ODFW's - STEP, the City of Depoe Bay and volunteers from the community. Feel free to contact Toby at 541-961-7985 or by e-mail at director@neighborsforkids.org if you have any questions or need additional information.

Best Regards,

Toby J. Winn
Executive Director