

PFA Advisory Committee

Staff Report

Meeting Type: Virtual

Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2026

The purpose of this report is to inform the Private Forest Accord Advisory Committee (AC) and the public about recent developments in the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) PFA Grant Program and ongoing staff efforts.

Agenda item: 4. Major Amendment Request

Presenter: ODFW Staff, Andy Spyрка, Private Forest Accord Grant Coordinator.

Topics Covered:

The Conyers Creek Habitat Diversification and Enhancement project was funded in 2024 for a total of \$572,242.00. The proposed amendment does not increase the funding amount, it is a Scope of Work Change amendment request.

The project team has adjusted the scope of work to address significant site changes, particularly the loss of floodplain area between Conyers Creek and the historic Roaring Creek channel due to severe winter erosion. These modifications prioritize habitat benefits and flood resiliency while balancing landowner concerns and regulatory requirements. Key changes include the elimination of the Roaring Creek side channel reconnection and upland wetland enhancement. Resources have also been redirected from a standalone willow nursery to focus on high priority plantings and bank revegetation in construction disturbed areas.

To maximize environmental impact with the remaining resources, the design now incorporates additional log structures and Beaver Dam Analogs (BDAs) to create stream pinchpoints, decrease water power, and encourage floodplain inundation. Large wood additions have been increased in upper reaches and side channels to improve juvenile salmonid habitat, providing essential shade and protection from predators. In addition, bank stabilization efforts have been refined through bank laybacks and the installation of complex log structures that protrude into the stream, which the Grantee states will reduce erosion, increase gravel retention, and improve overall water quality.

Please review the following attachments, especially Attachment 05, as it has more detail.

- *Reference Attachment 05: Major Amendment Request Form*
- *Reference Attachment 06: Original Application_ Conyers Creek Habitat Diversification and Enhancement project*

Agenda item: 5. 2025/'26 Grant Review Cycle Debrief

Presenter: Chair

Topics Covered:

The 2025/'26 Grant Review Cycle Debrief provides An opportunity for the Advisory Committee to reflect on the recent evaluation process and identify areas for growth. Members are encouraged to evaluate the efficiency of the review timeline, the clarity of scoring criteria, and overall communication throughout the cycle, along with any revisions to the application.

Please come prepared to share specific lessons learned and actionable recommendations for process improvements during our discussion at the upcoming May 12 meeting. This feedback is essential for refining our approach and ensuring the continued success of the PFA Grant program in future solicitations.

Some possible points of discussion to consider may include:

- Efficiency of the application and review timeline
- Clarity and effectiveness of current scoring criteria
- Communication flow between staff and committee members
- Strategies for streamlining the evaluation process
- Identifying gaps in applicant documentation or data
- Actionable recommendations for the 2026 solicitation
- Lessons learned from specific project types or unique cases
- Consistency in applying program standards across all reviews

Agenda item: 6. Land Transaction Guidance Document Review

Presenter: ODFW Staff, Andy Spyrka, Private Forest Accord Grant Coordinator.

Topics Covered:

Following the Advisory Committee (AC) discussions in 2025 and their subsequent request, ODFW staff spent the last year gathering public feedback on the latest draft of the Land Transaction Guidance Document. During the meeting, ODFW staff will go over updates proposed in this near-final draft. The AC should review the attached document beforehand and bring any notes or action items you may have to the meeting. With these updates, ODFW is ready to include Land Transactions as an eligible project type for the 2026 PFA Open Grant Solicitation, which allows the program to meet its full legislative intent.

Some primary high-level updates in the document include:

- Oregon Department of Justice revisions
- Incorporation of public comments such as
 - Enhanced clarity of language & requirements
 - Clarified appraisal requirements to match State standards

- Clarified pre-agreement costs
- Revised “Other Costs” & “Indirect Costs” that don’t align with standard practice
- Added “Land Match”
- Revised Management Plan to Draft until closing is final
- Process revisions to align with state standards for other acquisition-based grant programs

Please note that any tracked changes in the document without an associated comment are the direct result of our public comment and engagement process.

- *Reference Attachment 07: Land Transaction Guidance Document*