



ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

Regional Advisory Council Project

Proposal Review

ODFW Region / A&H Regional Council: West Region / South Willamette Council

Project Proposal Title: Wendling Travel Management Area

Applicants(s): Brian Wolfer, ODFW; Tally Patton, Weyerhaeuser; Jeremy Norby, Giustina Resources; Cory Hart, Giustina Land and Timber

Date of Council Review: 12/15/14

Type of Project: Access X Habitat Other Damage

Motion: Ray Fiori made a motion to pass and Ed Munson seconded it

<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Vacant	Chair	
Ray Fiori	Landowner Representative	Yes
Nels Jenson	Landowner Representative	Yes
Steve Gilbert	Landowner Representative	Abstained
Tom Zandoli	Hunter Representative	Yes
Ed Munson	Hunter Representative	Yes
Vacant	Hunter Representative	

Disposition of Vote: Vote passed 4 in favor and 1 abstained.

Project Strengths:

- The project has a long history in the A&H program.
- Provides seven day a week access to over 185 square miles of mixed ownership property.
- The Wendling TMA provides access to the deer and elk within the south Willamette valley which has high numbers of deer densities.
- Help reduce the deer and elk brows damage.

Project Concerns:

- Weyerhaeuser fee might have a negative effect.



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber MD., Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife
SPRINGFIELD FIELD OFFICE
3150 Main Street
Springfield, OR 97478
(541) 726-3515
FAX: (541) 726-2505
Internet: www.dfw.state.or.us/

06 November 2014

ODFW – Access and Habitat Program
c/o A&H State Board
3406 Cherry Ave NE
Salem, OR 97303



RE: Wendling TMA 2015 Renewal

Dear A&H Program State Board Members,

I am submitting this letter to voice my support for renewal of the Wendling TMA Project. The A&H Program has funded a dedicated law enforcement presence for the Wendling TMA from 2011 through 2014. Over this time, the project has significantly increased hunter access to private lands in the McKenzie Wildlife Management Unit. Extrapolation of traffic counter data indicates approximately 5,094 vehicle entries into the TMA occurred in 2013 alone. The lowest volume of use occurred in 2012 when fire danger delayed the opening of the TMA but it is estimated that 3,551 vehicle entries occurred in just 21 days.

The dedicated law enforcement presence has been very important to the operation of the TMA. Within the TMA there have only been a couple incidences of vandalism and theft at operation sites. The law enforcement presence has reduced but not eliminated the challenge of hunters driving on closed roads, entering areas closed due to active operations, and entering the TMA during the nightly closure hours. Compliance with the TMA rules is important to both the landowners and law abiding hunters. Many hunters have expressed support of this TMA provided that enforcement is adequate to ensure compliance with the rules.

One positive outcome of this project has been the improved communication and relationship between hunters and the cooperating landowners. The Emerald Valley Chapter (EVC) of the Oregon Hunters Association has held volunteer projects to assist with the installation of kiosks and road markers. They also purchased road markers for the expansion of the TMA that occurred in 2013. The cooperating landowners have staffed gates for the opening day of rifle deer season; handing out maps and talking with the hunters that use the TMA. Weyerhaeuser has conducted regular patrols in the TMA and has taken the time to have face to face communication with the hunters using the area. This project is meeting the A&H mission of fostering partnerships between landowners and hunters.

I encourage you to fund the Wendling TMA 2015 renewal. This project will ensure significant hunter access to high quality hunting on private lands while improving relationships between hunters and landowners. Recent reductions in public access to private lands in the area make this an increasingly valuable project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Wolfer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Brian" and last name "Wolfer" clearly distinguishable.

Brian Wolfer

District Wildlife Biologist

South Willamette Watershed District

APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS

**Access & Habitat Program
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr SE
Salem, OR 97302**

I/We,

Brian Wolfer, ODFW; Tally Patton, Weyerhaeuser; Jeremy Norby, Giustina Resources; Cary Hart, Giustina Land and Timber

of Springfield / Eugene, Oregon, hereby make application for financial assistance under the terms and conditions of the Access and habitat program in the amount of \$ 76,477.

The total cost of the project is \$ 185,227, as shown on page 10.

I/We understand that if this project is approved for funding by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, before we receive project funds we will be required to:

- Sign a Grant Agreement containing the terms and conditions upon which funds will be released including submission of necessary permits;
- Obtain landowner and maintenance agreements if needed;
- Sign a certification to comply with state, federal and local regulations if needed;
- Submit a completion report to the Board on project performance.

I/We understand that if this application results in an access grant, ODFW will publicize my/our property via printed documents and internet for the purpose of helping hunters locate private lands that may be open to hunting. I/We will cooperate with ODFW to post signs indicating public hunting access at the project location.

I certify that either:

- ☐ I am the sole landowner of the Property where the Access and Habitat Project will occur
- ☐ I am an authorized representative of the landowner of the Property where the Access and Habitat project will occur.
- ☐ I am leasing the Property from the landowner and the lease allows me to enter into this agreement.
- ☒ I have the legal authority to enter into a grant agreement for this Access and Habitat project because:

(fill in details – for example: the project is on three parcels; one is owned by me, one is owned by my wife, and one is owned by our family farm business).

Grantee Signature: _____ Date: _____

Position: _____

ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

Application for Grant Funds

1. Project Title: Wendling Travel Management Area
2. Applicant: Brian Wolfer, ODFW Springfield Phone: (541) 726-3515 xt 25
Grantee: _____ **(as will appear on contract/payments)**
If private nonprofit, attach IRS letter of 501(c)(3) status
Address: 3150 E Main St
City/State/Zip: Springfield, OR 97478 Phone: (541) 726-3515 xt 25
Email: brian.h.wolfer@state.or.us
Signature: _____ Date: _____
3. Location: ODFW Region (see attached map) NW
Watershed District / WM Unit: South Willamette / McKenzie (19)
County Lane, Linn Township/Range/Section various sections T 15S, 16S, 17S R 2W, 1W, 1E, 2E, 3E
4. Type of Project (check):
Habitat Improvement _____ Access XX Damage _____
Other (specify) _____
5. Number of Acres of Habitat to be Improved: _____
6. Number of Acres of Access to be Provided:
Welcome to Hunt approx. 118,000 By Permission _____
7. Proposed Start Date: July 1, 2015 Proposed End Date: Nov 30, 2019
8. Estimated Cost of Project: _____
9. Access and Habitat Fund Request: _____
10. Briefly explain what the project proposes to do:

This project will continue the operation of the Wendling TMA. The Wendling TMA has been in operation since 2011 and has experienced a high volume of use. Currently, the TMA is in effect from the beginning of early archery season through the end of general rifle deer season. Beginning in year 2 (2016) of this grant period the TMA period of operation would shift to the beginning of general rifle deer season through Nov. 30 except when closed due to fire danger or for timber management purposes. Vehicle use is restricted to designated open roads.

Note: Filing of this application does not guarantee acceptance of the proposal nor any portion thereof. Applicants whose projects are approved by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will be notified by mail.

11. Background: Describe the project area and explain the wildlife habitat and/or access challenge or opportunity this project will address. Address how current management actions benefit public access and/or wildlife and their habitat needs.

The Wendling area, north and east of Springfield, is home to what may be the highest black-tailed deer density in the South Willamette Watershed District. The majority of the forest land in this area is in private ownership with Weyerhaeuser, Giustina Land and Timber, and Giustina Resources being the primary landowners. There are isolated parcels of BLM ownership but many of these are landlocked with no public easements through the neighboring private lands. Hunter access policies vary between the landowners. Prior to the implementation of the TMA in 2011, there had been some 7 day per week access allowed during the general rifle deer and general rifle elk seasons on parts of the Giustina Land and Timber and Giustina Resources property. The majority of the area (approximately 80%) had been open to hunting access on weekends only or with very limited walk-in only access in the late afternoon (after 4:00 or 5:00 PM) during the week. Beginning in 2011, the implementation of the TMA expanded access to 7 days per week to 135 sq miles with an expansion to 185 sq miles in 2013.

The TMA was developed in part because hunter behavior had become a problem in this area. Hunters wanting to enter areas on foot would sometimes block roads to prevent vehicles from driving on spur roads. This violated the rules of the private landowners and created a potential safety hazard if emergency vehicle entry was needed. This also caused heated disputes between hunters. There were instances of these disputes requiring law enforcement response. The TMA should reduce the disputes between hunters by providing clear rules.

The Wendling area experiences a high level of browse damage to tree seedlings. Both deer and elk contribute to the browse damage with deer being the greatest contributor. Although the landowners utilize browse deterrents such as vexar tubing; hunting is the primary tool for population and damage control. Hunting has had limited effectiveness in alleviating the damage. The weekend only hunting areas receive a very large volume of hunters with a high volume of vehicle use. The high level of vehicle disturbance and high density of roads appears to result in the deer seeking hiding cover early in the morning, often before daylight. This results in a decreased hunter success rate. An example of seedling damage is shown in photo #2.

12. Past A&H History: (Describe any past Access & Habitat project, especially if the proposed project deals with the same objectives.)

This area is within the Willamette Private Timberlands Law Enforcement Project and was included in the Wendling TMA project since 2011. Enforcing TMAs can be time intensive. Without an enforcement officer assigned specifically to the TMA, this project would reduce the enforcement available through the Willamette Private Timberlands Law Enforcement Project or regular patrols to other private landowners in the area. Hunter compliance with the TMA rules would likely decrease without enforcement. One primary complaint of Travel Management Areas is that they only work if all hunters are following the rules.

Vehicle counts were conducted at eight access points on the opening morning of the TMA in 2011, 2013, and 2014. Traffic counters have been deployed on two access points each year for the duration of the TMA. These two vehicle counting methods provides a means to estimate hunter vehicle use of the TMA.

In 2011, it is estimated that 4,597 vehicle use days occurred during the 35 days the TMA was in operation the first year. In 2012 the opening of the TMA was delayed due to extreme fire danger. Consequently, the TMA was only open to hunters for 21 days with an estimated 3,551 vehicle use days. In 2013 the TMA was open for 37 days with an estimated 5094 vehicle use days.

This project has been successful in fostering a partnership between landowners and hunters. During the first four years of the Wendling TMA, Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) purchased and donated road markers for the TMA at a cost of \$2,363. Additionally, OHA members have contributed over 300 hours of labor plus vehicle expenses towards the installation of kiosks and road markers for the TMA.

13. Project Objective(s):

(a) What is the objective of the proposed project?

- 1.) Increase hunter access and success.
- 2.) Reduce deer and elk browse damage to tree seedlings.
- 3.) Reduce vandalism and theft of forest equipment and products.
- 4.) Manage hunter vehicle use to ensure safety, avoid conflicts with timber management, and increase hunter success.
- 5.) Improve relationship and communication between hunters and the landowners.
- 6.) Reduce wear and tear of private forest roads.

(b) How will the project benefit wildlife habitat?

(c) Select species that will benefit from habitat improvements:

Big Game

- ☐ Deer
- ☐ Elk
- ☐ Bear
- ☐ Cougar

Upland Bird

- ☐ Chukar
- ☐ Mountain Quail
- ☐ Valley Quail
- ☐ Pheasants

Migratory Game Bird

- ☐ Ducks
- ☐ Geese
- ☐ American Coot
- ☐ Wilsons Snipe

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| ☐ Pronghorn | ☐ Forest Grouse | ☐ Mourning Dove |
| ☐ Bighorn Sheep | ☐ Turkey | ☐ Band Tailed Pigeon |
| ☐ Mountain Goat | ☐ Gray Partridge | |
| | ☐ Sage Grouse | |

(d) **Length of time benefits provided** <3yr____ 3-6yr ____ >6yr____

Examples of Project Benefit Duration

Noxious weed.....2yrs	Forage planting.....5yrs	Aspen fencing.....10yrs
Range fertilization...2yrs	Forest thinning.....5yrs	Aspen plant/fence.....10yrs
Rx Fire-grassland.....2yrs	Aspen (conifer removal)....5yrs	Road closure.....10yrs
Rx Fire-forested.....3yrs	Juniper removal.....7yrs	Road decommission...10yrs
Fence Removal.....10yrs	Water Dev./Enhancement..10yrs	

(Source: Blue Mountains Elk Initiative Project Evaluation Criteria)

(e) **How will the project benefit public access? If limited access, how many hunters will be permitted?**

The land with in this project area holds a high density deer population and is known for producing trophy size elk. Access to this area is desired by a large number of hunters. Until 2011, the majority of land in this project (approximately 80%) had been open to hunting on weekends only which led to hunter crowding on the weekends and on the smaller parcels of land that allowed 7 day a week access. The Wendling TMA has tripled the number of days available for hunting over much of the project area. This increase in access days allows hunters to spread out their trips and reduce crowding on any given day. Additionally, the high open road density will allow hunters to get close to animals with only moderate physical effort and should increase hunter success.

ODFW staff intends to propose a date shift for the Wendling TMA beginning in 2016. If adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission, the period of operation would shift to later in the year from the beginning of Western Rifle Deer Season through November 30. Fire danger has resulted in very limited access during the early portion of General Bow Season. Landowners would allow access during the early portion of archery season at their own discretion. Extending the operation period through November 30 would expand access to include the controlled muzzleloader deer and elk hunts (100M and 200M1), the youth deer hunt (619T), portions of the Mill Creek doe hunt (619A), and a portion of the late period of General Bow Deer Season.

In 2013, Weyerhaeuser implemented a fee permit system for portions of their ownership. This project will continue to keep their portion of the project area open to free access during the period of operation.

(f) Select species for which public access will provided:

Big Game

- ☒ Deer
- ☒ Elk
- ☒ Bear
- ☒ Cougar
- ☐ Pronghorn
- ☐ Bighorn Sheep
- ☐ Mountain Goat

Upland Bird

- ☐ Chukar
- ☒ Mountain Quail
- ☒ Valley Quail
- ☐ Pheasants
- ☒ Forest Grouse
- ☐ Turkey
- ☐ Gray Partridge
- ☐ Sage Grouse

Migratory Game Bird

- ☐ Ducks
- ☐ Geese
- ☐ American Coot
- ☐ Wilsons Snipe
- ☐ Mourning Dove
- ☐ Band Tailed Pigeon
- ☒ Other: Coyote

(g) If damage related, how will the project alleviate/eliminate the problem?

The use of hunters to alleviate damage has been limited largely as a result of the limited number of access days and vehicle disturbance. During the TMA period access is allowed 7 days a week as opposed to the historic 2 days a week in the majority of the area. Vehicle travel is allowed on designated open roads only. The open roads are generally designated so that they are less than 2 miles apart. This ensures the hunting conditions are not so physically demanding that hunter success is negatively affected. It also ensures that successful hunters usually will not need to pack an animal more than a mile to reach an open road.

14. Project Location: (Attach a map and provide description of the location and how to get there from a major highway.)

Refer to the attached map for project location. The project encompasses approximately 180 square miles northeast of Springfield. The project is roughly bounded by the Calapooia Mainline on the north, Marcola Road on the west, Hwy 126 on the south, and extends east to Mt Hagan. There are 10 access points into the TMA.

15. Procedure: Specifically describe how the project will be conducted--use separate page for additional information, drawings or pictures.

In early August, ODFW staff, OSP, and OHA volunteers will check all existing road markers and install new road markers as necessary. Due to the size of the TMA, traveling the open roads and checking for damaged or missing markers requires at least 60 hours of personnel time.

During the TMA period, traffic counters will be installed at multiple access points to monitor and quantify public use. Additionally, map dispensers will be installed at each of the entry point kiosks. ODFW staff will visit the entry points twice per week to replenish map supplies and to check traffic counter data.

For 2015, an OSP retiree will be hired to patrol the TMA beginning the week prior to the opening of archery season. This OSP retiree will continue through the last day of the general

rifle deer season. It is estimated the OSP retiree will work 40 hours in August, 100 hours in September, 168 hours in October, and 40 hours in November.

For 2016 through 2019, an OSP retiree will be hired to patrol the TMA beginning the week prior to the opening of Western Rifle Deer Season. This OSP retiree will continue through November 30. It is estimated the OSP retiree will work 40 hours in August (required training), 40 hours in September, 168 hours in October, and 168 hours in November.

It is estimated the OSP retiree will work 308 hours the first year of the contract and 416 hours each year for the final four years of the contract. The total hours worked over the five year contract is expected to be 1,972 hours. The rate for the retiree will be \$36.78 / hr for the first year and is expected to increase by 2% per biennium.

When the TMA is in operation, Weyerhaeuser staff will patrol on their ownership three days per week. Patrols will be conducted by their security and regular staff. Violations and problems will be reported to the OSP retiree. These patrols will cost Weyerhaeuser \$6,000 per year.

From late August through the close of general rifle deer season, Weyerhaeuser will use their Hunter / Access hotline and web site to disseminate information. The hotline and website will provide information regarding fire danger, timber harvest, or other timber management activities that may require the landowners to temporarily restrict access to portion of the TMA. Giustina Land and Timber and Giustina Resources will advise Weyerhaeuser of operation activities on their lands that need to be included on the hotline.

Prior to and following the annual period of operation, the landowners, ODFW, and OSP will meet to discuss operation details of the TMA.

For the time periods the TMA is not in effect, each landowner will manage access to their property as they see fit.

16. **Permits: Have all of the appropriate permits been secured or applied for? (Examples: Water Resources Department for water rights, Division of State Lands for fill-removal or wetlands projects).**

No permits are required. The TMA has been adopted by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission; however, shifting the TMA period of operation in the second year of the grant period would require adoption by the Commission.

17. **Scheduling: What is the estimated project schedule?**

- (a) **Habitat Work Start Date:** _____ **Habitat Work Completion Date:** _____
- (b) **Access Agreement Start Date:** 7/01/15 **Access Agreement End Date:** 11/30/19
- (c) **List major project activities and time schedule for each.**

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Time (month/year)</u>
Check road markers / signs	August – September annually
Enforcement patrols	September – November annually
Update Hunter Access Hotline	August – November annually
Install and operate traffic counters	September – November annually

18. **Participation and Funding: Will other organizations or individuals participate in the project? If so, list and describe participation, and attach letters of commitment or verification of grant awards. Costs listed here must be included in “Other Funds” column of the Project Budget (Section 20).**

	<u>Participant</u>	<u>Activity</u>	<u>Cost</u>
1.	Weyerhaeuser	Administrative, Hunter hotline, security,	\$37,500
2.	Giustina Land & Timber	Administrative assistance.	\$2,500
3.	Giustina Resources	Administrative assistance.	\$2,500
4.	ODFW	Map dispensers, signs, open gates, admin.	\$19,625
5.	Oregon Hunters Association	Volunteers to check signs and Rd markers	\$2,000
6.			
7.			
8.			
9.			
10.			

Have any conditions been placed on the funds listed above which may affect the completion of the project? If so, identify and explain.

No conditions on funding.

19. **Project Maintenance and Monitoring:**

- (a) **Who will maintain the project and fund long-term maintenance and/or operation if needed?**

The South Willamette Watershed District of ODFW will maintain this project by repairing kiosks as necessary, replacing damaged or missing road markers, and supplying TMA maps as necessary. To date, 550 fiberglass road markers have been placed in the TMA to designate open roads. Each year some are broken, vandalized, or are missing. Additionally, spare markers are used to designate

temporary detours around active forest operations. This application includes a request for funding to purchase an additional 100 road markers that can be used to replace existing markers as needed.

The participating landowners will monitor their lands and roads; making repairs as they deem necessary.

Oregon State Police will conduct normal patrols in the area following the conclusion of the project.

(b) What element(s) of the project will be monitored, how often, for how long?

The project will be monitored to assess the amount of hunter use through the installation of vehicle counters on select access points. We plan to monitor use as long as the TMA remains in existence.

20. Project Budget

(provide as much detail as possible)

<u>Category</u>	<u>A&H Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u> ¹	<u>Total Cost</u>
<u>Administration</u>			
ODFW Personnel	_____	\$19,625	\$19,625
40 hrs/yr SFWB			
60 hr/yr NRS1			
60 hr/yr NRS2			
Weyerheausen	_____	\$37,500	\$37,500
GL&T Personnel	_____	\$2,500	\$2,500
GR Personnel	_____	\$2,500	\$2,500
Totals	_____	\$46,625	\$46,625
<u>Construction Materials</u> ²			
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
<u>Supplies</u>			
Road markers	\$1,245	_____	\$1,245
(100 @ \$10.95ea			
+ shipping)			
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
<u>Contract Services</u> ³			
(itemize)			
OSP Trooper (1 st yr)			
\$36.78hr X 348hrs	\$12,800	_____	\$12,800
OSP Trooper (yr 2-5)			
\$36.78hr x 416hrs			
+ 2% biennial adj.	\$62,432	_____	\$64,432
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
<u>Equipment</u> ⁴			
(itemize)			
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
<u>Access Payment</u>			
_____	0	0	0

TOTAL COSTS	<u>\$76,477</u>	<u>\$108,750</u>	<u>\$185,227</u>
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¹ List detail in funding (section 18).
² Provide amounts and cost per unit.
³ Attach subcontractor estimates.
⁴ Individual pieces of equipment costing over \$100.00.

Form Updated 2/18/14

Photo #1. Example kiosk installed at Steele Mainline



Photo #2. Seedling damage. The square blocks of tall trees in the center of the clear cuts were protected by fencing showing the tree growth that would have occurred outside the fence in the absence of browse damage.



Form Updated 2/18/14

Photo #3. Volunteer labor provided by OHA in 2011



Photo #4. Installation of road markers in 2011, OHA volunteer



Access and Habitat Program Project Evaluation Form



Program Objective: The Access and Habitat Program's motto, "Landowners & Hunters Together for Wildlife," conveys the program's basic mission to foster partnerships between landowners and hunters for the benefit of the wildlife they value. The program also seeks to recognize and encourage the important contributions made by landowners to the state's wildlife resource.

Project Name: Wendling TMA

Project #: _____

	Access Acres	Habitat Acres	Habitat Category:	2	Total Score:	17
"Welcome" Private	110,960		(range: 1-6; see flow chart on page 4. Not applicable to access-only projects)		Total Possible:	36
By-Permission Private	0					
Inaccessible Public*	7,040					
Accessible Public*	0					

Instructions:

Complete these sections

Project Type	General Criteria	Access Criteria	Habitat	Criteria
Access Only	X	X		
Habitat Only	X			X
Access & Habitat	X	X		X

Mark 1 point in the corresponding "Project Score" box for EACH criterion that is met. Example: for question 2, if partnerships include 4 sports groups, award points for the first 2 criteria. Do not mark more than 1 point per box. Point schedule is designed to weigh access-only and habitat-only projects equally.

Definitions:

Inaccessible Public*: Access will be provided through private land to public land that is completely landlocked (surrounded) by private land, legally precluding public hunting access. Total area includes only public land within the boundary of private ownership.

Accessible Public*: Access through private land will improve accessibility to public land. Public land may be extremely difficult to access otherwise, but is not legally surrounded by private land. Total area includes only public land that is closer (in linear distance) to the landowner's access point(s) than any other public access point.

*** Access to public land MUST be provided on a "Welcome to Hunt" basis**

General Criteria

(mark a "1" in the "Project Score" box for EACH criterion that is met)

1. *Habitat Condition*

Score 1 point only if the property contains the resource in sufficient abundance/quality to support target species referenced in questions 11, 15, 16 and 19 (during at least one season of the year). For habitat projects, use the predicted future condition. Justify your score.

Project
Score

Food:	1
Water:	1
Cover:	1

2. *Partnerships*

Partners contributing financial or in-kind support:

1 or more Sports groups.....	1
3 or more Sports groups.....	
Educational programs / non-governmental organizations.....	
Other government agencies or ODFW programs (i.e. OWEB, R&E).....	

3. <i>Matching Funds</i>	Total matching funds (monetary and in-kind)	Project Score
	> 1% matching funds.....	1
	> 25% matching funds.....	1
	> 50% matching funds.....	1
4. <i>Damage</i>	Project would mitigate current damage to private property:	
	Wildlife damage occurring on private property.....	1
	Landowner participates in ODFW damage control programs.....	1
General Total		9
<i>General Possible</i>		<i>12</i>

Access Criteria - Applies to **private land** access that would be provided under the proposed project.
(mark a "1" in the "Project Score" box for EACH criterion that is met)

5. <i>Public Land</i>	Project located in Wildlife Management Unit with <50% public land.....	
6. <i>Private access</i>	Private land access type:	
	Project would provide access to private land.....	1
	Private land access would be on a "Welcome to Hunt" basis.....	1
7. <i>Public access</i>	Access through private lands would:	
	improve access to public land.....	1
	provide access to otherwise inaccessible public land.....	1
8. <i>Special Access</i>	Project would provide special youth or disabled hunter access opportunities.....	1
9. <i>Species Permitted</i>	Species groups include big game, waterfowl, upland birds, turkey, and predators/varmints.	
	2+ species groups available and permitted.....	1
	4+ species groups available and permitted.....	
10. <i>Under-rep. Species*</i>	Project provides access to under-represented species in the watershed.....	
11. <i>Harvest Restriction</i>	Landowner would not restrict sex or species permitted for lawful harvest.....	1
12. <i>Season Restriction</i>	Landowner would not restrict access to any hunting season(s).....	
13. <i>Dispersion</i>	Property would provide access to animals pushed off of publicly accessible land during hunting season.....	1
Access Total		8
<i>Access Possible</i>		<i>12</i>
Payment Fee Total		

* lists of under-represented species will be created by A&H state coordinator and approved by A&H Board

Habitat Criteria (mark a "1" in the "Project Score" box for EACH criterion that is met)

Project
Score

14. Department Priorities	Project is located within target area and will benefit target species identified in any of these Department programs: Mule Deer Initiative, Sage Grouse Initiative, Black-tailed Deer Plan Implementation.....																
15. Location importance:	Applies to species that the habitat work will benefit. Question structured to equally weigh big game and game bird projects - score "1" if either item in each bracket is true: { Area populations < 90% of management objective (deer and elk)..... or: Project will increase wintering populations of upland birds/waterfowl..... { Area populations < 75% of management objective (deer and elk)..... or: Project will increase breeding populations of upland birds/waterfowl.....																
16. Conservation Strategy	Project addresses Oregon Conservation Strategy (OCS) concerns: Project action benefits Strategy Habitat or Strategy Species..... [above] AND action occurs in Conservation Opportunity Area (COA).....																
17. Critical Habitat	Applies to the specific GAME habitat that the project will maintain or enhance. Use accompanying flow chart and definitions to determine habitat category. Definitions are slightly amended from OAR Division 415 to be game-specific. Project meets requirements of Habitat Categories 1-4..... Project meets requirements of Habitat Categories 1-2.....	1 1															
18. Habitat Connectivity	Project will help facilitate local animal movement (fence removal, etc.)..... Project will help establish or maintain a wildlife habitat corridor or otherwise reduce fragmentation on landscape level..... <u>Description of habitat connectivity benefit (required):</u>																
19. Habitat Impact	Describes the predicted impact that the project will have on the habitat. Habitat work must benefit game species. Project will increase the habitat quantity/quality >25% per unit treated..... Project will increase the habitat quantity/quality >50% per unit treated..... <u>Description of habitat impact:</u>																
20. Population Impact	Describes the predicted impact that habitat improvements (excluding external variables such as weather, etc.) will have on game species on the project site. Provide estimates for all targeted species. Local abundance of at least one targeted game species should increase >25%..... <u>Estimated Abundance</u> <table border="0" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Species</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Pre-treatment</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Post-treatment</th> </tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </table>	Species	Pre-treatment	Post-treatment													Habitat Total <i>Habitat Possible</i> Grand Total <i>Total Possible</i> 12 17 36
Species	Pre-treatment	Post-treatment															
21. Miscellaneous	Describe other project details that may help with prioritization or fee assessment (i.e. current market value of similar hunting leases in the vicinity)..... NO POINTS																

Access and Habitat Project Evaluation - Appendix

Under-represented Species

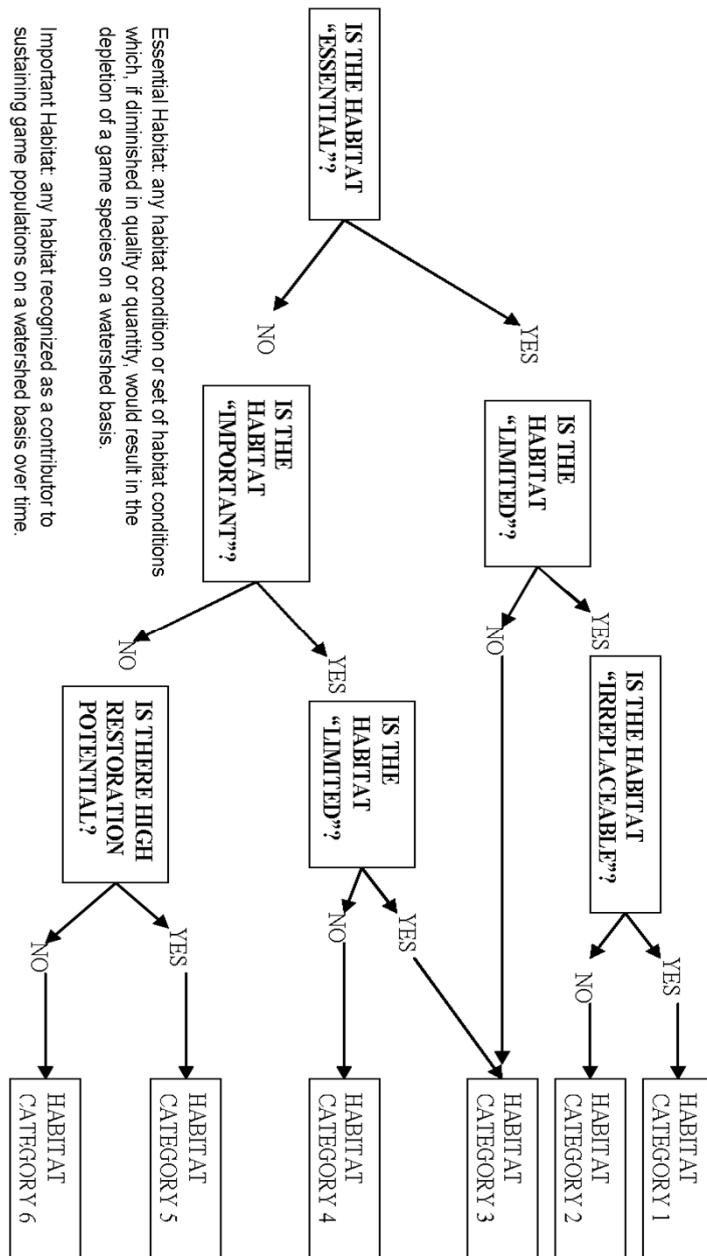
Definition: game species that exist in the watershed district in huntable numbers, but that the general public does not have reasonable hunting access to (via public land, current A&H properties, etc.)

Watershed	Species
Malheur	pheasant, waterfowl, turkey
South Willamette	waterfowl, turkey, valley quail
North Coast	predators, waterfowl
Grande Ronde	upland game birds
Rogue	dove, waterfowl

Watershed	Species
Deschutes	waterfowl, valley quail, chukar, dove
John Day	upland game birds
Umpqua	waterfowl, dove, turkey
Klamath	waterfowl, quail
North Willamette	waterfowl

A&H Habitat Category Flow Chart

Note: These definitions have been amended from OAR Division 415 to be game-specific and applied on a watershed basis. Habitat Category designations made on this Evaluation Form are for Access & Habitat Program use only, and do not have any legal implications associated with OAR 415.



Essential Habitat: any habitat condition or set of habitat conditions which, if diminished in quality or quantity, would result in the depletion of a game species on a watershed basis.

Important Habitat: any habitat recognized as a contributor to sustaining game populations on a watershed basis over time.

Limited Habitat: an amount of habitat insufficient or barely sufficient to sustain game populations on a watershed basis over time.

Irreplaceable Habitat: successful in-kind habitat mitigation to replace lost habitat quantity and/or quality is not feasible within an acceptable period of time or locations, or involves an unacceptable level of risk or uncertainty, depending on the habitat under consideration and the game populations that are affected. "Acceptable", for the purpose of this definition, means in a reasonable time frame to benefit the affected game species.