

ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

Application for Grant Funds – Open Fields

Access Area Name: Desolation Creek LLC. Access Area

Applicant: Desolation Creek LLC.

(If private nonprofit, attach IRS letter of 501(c)(3) status)

Address: 721 NW 9th Avenue, Suite 200

City/State/Zip: Portland / Oregon / 97850

Phone: (503)467-0829 Email:

Bettina@ecotrustforests.com

Alternate Phone: (503)467-0756 Total

A&H Grant Request (*See evaluation form for payment tables*): \$50,000

Total Match Funding (p. 3): \$1,282,256

Total Project Cost: \$1,332,256

1) Access Area Information *Please complete this information for property that you wish to enroll:*

Location: ODFW Watershed District / WM Unit: John Day Watershed / Desolation WMU

County: Grant

Township/Range/Section T7S, R32E, Sections 1-4, 10-12; T8S,

R32E, Section 6; T8S, R33E, Sections 7-8, 15-18, 20-23, 25-28, 33-36

Latitude: 44 56'9.45" N

Longitude: 118 51'15.34" W

Directions: (Attach a map and provide directions to the location from a major highway).

The project area is located approximately 16 miles South of Ukiah, Oregon. From the junction of Highway 395 and Highway 244, travel 14 miles south. Turn left onto USFS 55 road and then right onto USFS 10 road. Please see the attached map.

Private Land Access: "Welcome to Hunt" unrestricted hunting access: 13,440 acres

"By-Permission" reservations through ODFW:

By-Permission Properties Only: Maximum number of hunters per day: _____

Optional: Maximum number of parties: _____ Maximum party size: _____

Inaccessible Public Land Access (public lands surrounded 100% by private lands): _____ acres

2) Habitat Information – *List all the crop/habitat types included in the access area, and acreage of each. If that habitat type provides food, water, or cover for species listed in Section 4, indicate below if the resource is available on a Permanent (P) or Seasonal (S) basis.*

Crop/Cover/Habitat Type	Acres	Food (P/S)	Water (P/S)	Cover (P/S)
Grasslands / Meadow	556	P	P	P
Ponderosa Pine & Douglas Fir	7,657	P	P	P
Mixed Conifer Forests	4,726	P	P	P
Riparian	499	P	P	P
2				

3) Damage

Would this project alleviate wildlife damage currently occurring on private property: No

If Yes, describe the damage situation (game species involved, crops damaged), and any active measures the landowner has taken to address the damage:

4) Hunting Opportunities *Check all species that you would allow to be hunted. Only select species that use the property during their respective hunting seasons.*

Big Game:

mule deer white-tailed deer elk pronghorn mtn. goat bighorn sheep

Upland Birds:

pheasant chukar forest grouse mtn. quail valley quail
 turkey gray partridge sage grouse

Migratory Game Birds:

ducks geese coot snipe mourning dove band-tailed pigeon

Predators/Other:

coyote cougar bear rabbit/hare ground squirrels

Access Period Start Date: Year Round Access End Date: September 30, 2019

Access Restrictions *List any restrictions on species, sex, or season within the Access Period.*
 N/A

5) Project Partners *List any organizations or government programs that are contributing to this Access Area project. Include habitat improvements (i.e. enrollment in CRP, CREP, WRP) that improve habitat for game species that this project will provide public hunting access to.*

Partner/Program	Activity	Contribution (include in-kind)
Confederate Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation	Desolation Creek Stream Restoration	\$1,000,000
Desolation Creek LLC	Thinning & Tree Removal with Fire Break (Barter Agreement- Tree Material for Contractor Time)	\$250,000
Access & Habitat Program 2016-15	Welcome to Hunt Program	\$32,256 (Annually)
	TOTAL MATCH FUNDING	\$1,282,256

6) Rules and Conditions *Select and list any additional rules, regulations, or restrictions that will be implemented on the access area. These regulations will be included in publications and promotional materials, as appropriate.*

Select from these common rules:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motorized vehicles on designated roads only | <input type="checkbox"/> No overnight camping |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No fires; be careful with cigarettes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Leave all gates as you found them |
| No littering; please pick up any trash | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Report any unlawful activities |

List any additional Access Area rules:

Area Regulations:

- Hunt, fish and enjoy wildlife safely and legally
- Motorized vehicle use limited to open roads as designated on the map
- Camping only in established areas within 200 ft. of open roads
- Limit firewood cutting to down material
- Pack it in, Pack it out- NO LITTERING
- Follow State and Federal fire season restrictions

Grant Agreement Conditions/Notes List any additional conditions or provisions that you would like included in the grant agreement between the grantee and ODFW (if this project proposal is approved). This project proposal would be incorporated into the agreement as Exhibit B and all approved conditions/provisions listed in this document would become legally binding, unless specifically negated in a superseding section of the agreement.

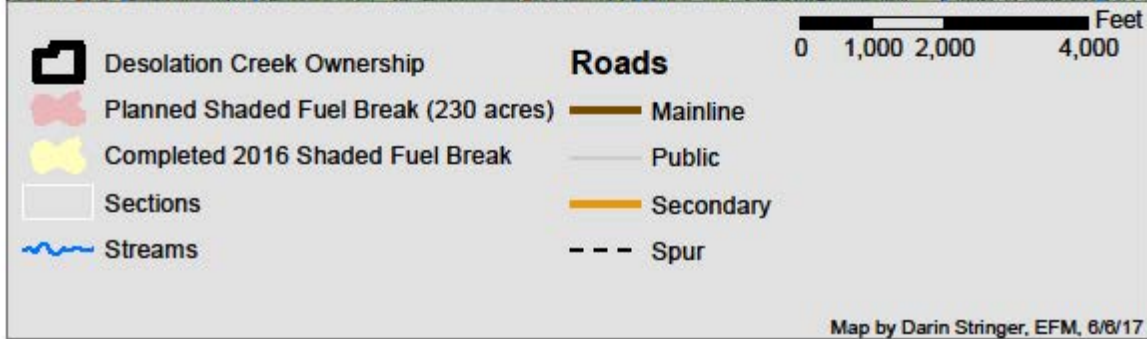
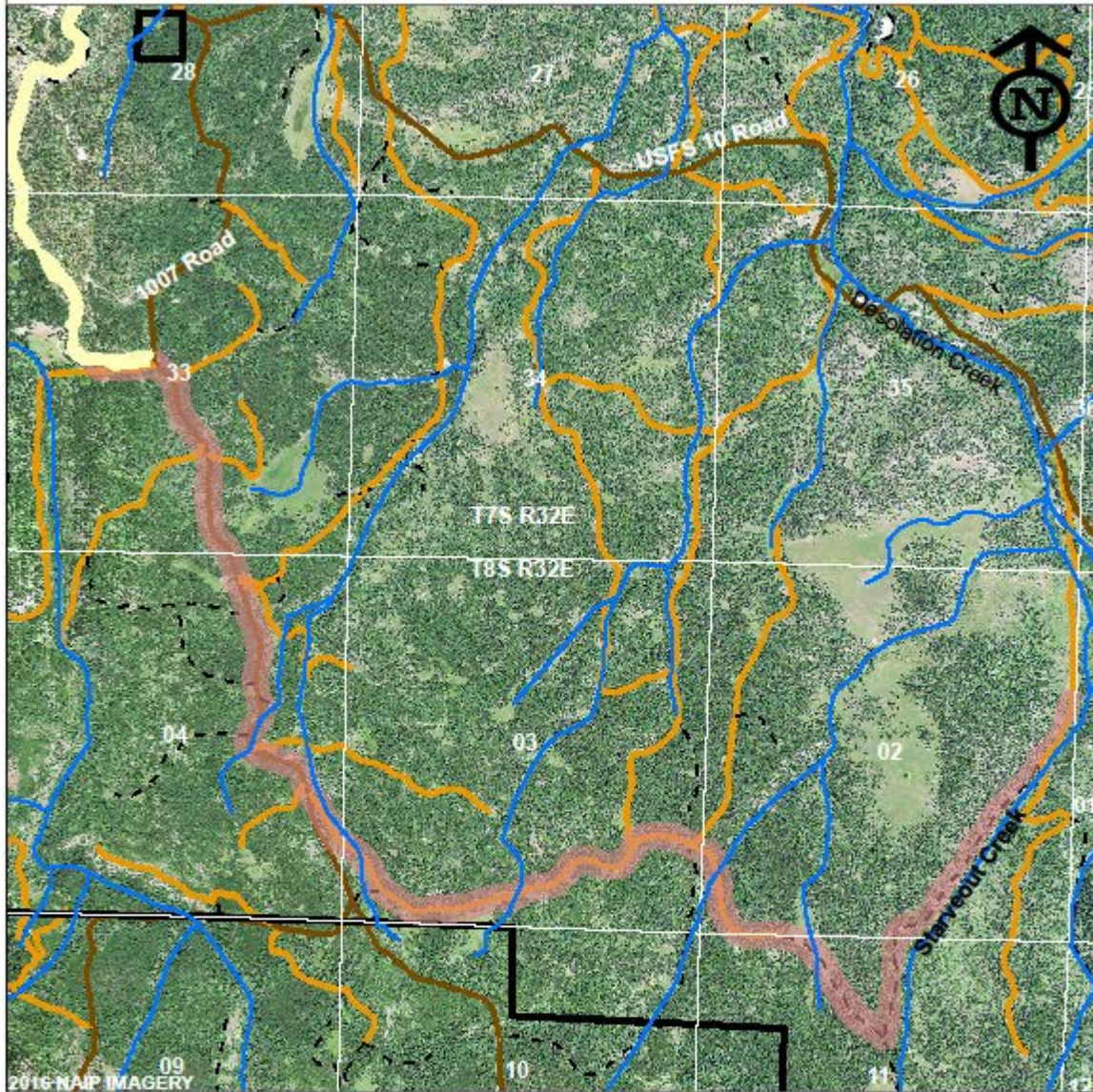
None

7) Background/Additional Information List any relevant background/additional information regarding this project or the applicant.

This Open Fields project is requesting funding for the implementation of a shaded fuel break around the southern half of the Desolation Creek LLC. Access Area. Incorporation of a shaded fuel break is a key management objective prescribed in the 2015 management plan for the Desolation Creek LLC. property. The proposed treatment will help to protect against fire entering/leaving the property from/ onto adjacent USFS lands. While fire can be beneficial, forests on the neighboring public lands are overstocked and prone to burning at high intensity and severity. Such conditions would be lethal to stands on the property, which also are carrying high stand densities and primarily composed of young regenerating forests. Extensive habitat enhancement work has been completed and is ongoing on the Desolation Creek LLC. Property (see Attachment A Access & Habitat Application). A shaded fuel break will protect these investments, including a multi-million dollar restoration effort now underway on Desolation Creek by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The proposed shaded fuel break project is scheduled to initiate in July 2017 with cutting and removal of trees to create an open canopied forest. The trees in this area are small and for the most part do not have value that exceeds the cost of removal. Many trees are too small to cut with a feller-buncher and therefore will need to be masticated. This Open Fields Grant would help to cover a portion of the cost of mastication treatment of these sub-merchantable trees, shrubs and other surface fuels. The mastication is a critical step in reducing these fuels. Mastication costs are \$150/hour and current

estimates are projecting a treatment rate 3 hours/acre for treatment. That breaks down to \$450/acre for treatment, totaling a \$103,500 in project total costs for the 230 acre fuel break. The projected costs associated with the thinning and merchantable tree removal within the 230 acres is estimated at \$250,000. Initial project projections indicate that the project will generate \$10,000 in net revenues from the sale of merchantable logs, but it has also been projected that the project will cost an additional \$10,000 for the treatment of slash piles. Analyzing the costs associated with this project, we would like to request \$50,000 in Open Fields funds to help implement and conduct the proposed treatment.

Exhibit A. Location of Planned Shaded Fuel Break



Desolation Creek LLC Access Area



The Desolation Creek LLC Access Area is a cooperative program between a private landowner and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Access and Habitat Program to maintain public hunting access on private lands and to increase access to public lands. The Desolation Creek LLC Access Area south of Ukiah, OR provides public hunting opportunities for deer, elk, predators, turkey and grouse. All Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Regulations and Seasons Apply.

Access Allowed: In Effect Year Round

Hunting on Private Land is a privilege, not a right. Private land hunting opportunities will remain in the future only if the property and rights of private landowners are respected! Abuse it and you will lose it!

Area Regulations:

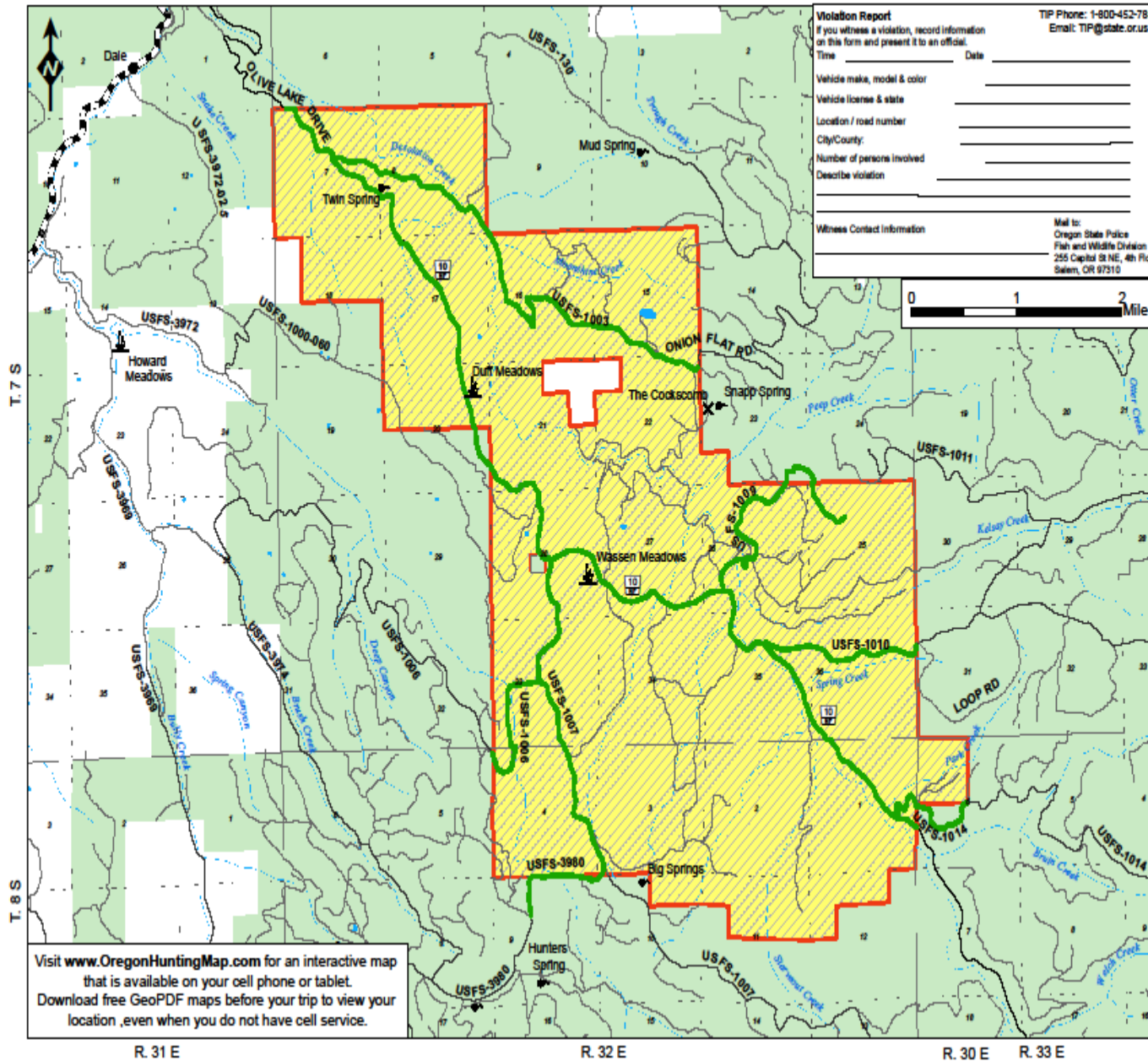
- Motorized vehicles only on open roads
- No antler hunting from motorized vehicles
- No littering, please pick up trash
- Report any unlawful activities
- Respect landowner rights and needs
- Leave all gates as you found them
- No camping within 50 feet of any water and camping only in established areas within 200 feet of open roads
- No portable showers or toilets within 50 feet of any water
- No dumping of greywater
- No unattended campers, tent sites or camp sites for more than 24 hours
- Limit firewood cutting to down material only
- Follow all state and federal laws regarding open fires and the fire season laws

- Access Area Boundary
- Open Access Road
- USFS Land
- Private Land



*This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for, legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

created 7/2015



Violation Report
If you witness a violation, record information on this form and present it to an official.

TIP Phone: 1-800-452-7888
Email: TIP@state.or.us

Time _____ Date _____

Vehicle make, model & color _____

Vehicle license & state _____

Location / road number _____

City/County _____

Number of persons involved _____

Describe violation _____

Witness Contact Information _____

Mail to:
Oregon State Police
Fish and Wildlife Division
255 Capitol St NE, 4th Floor
Salem, OR 97310

Visit www.OregonHuntingMap.com for an interactive map that is available on your cell phone or tablet. Download free GeoPDF maps before your trip to view your location, even when you do not have cell service.

**OPEN FIELDS
APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS**

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

I/We, Desolation Creek LLC, of Portland, Oregon, hereby make application for financial assistance under the terms and conditions of the Access and Habitat Program in the amount of \$50,000.

The total cost of the project is \$1,332,256, as shown on page 2.

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 this hunting opportunity on the internet and through paper media for the purpose of helping hunters locate private lands open to hunting.

Signature: Bethna V. Hagen

Date: May 19, 2017

Position: Chief Executive Officer



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

License Services
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE
Salem, OR 97302
503-947-6101
Fax: 503-947-6117
www.dfw.state.or.us



May 19, 2017

Access & Habitat Board
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

Dear Access & Habitat Board Members:

I am writing this letter in support of the Desolation Creek LLC. Open Fields Grant Application. The Department has been working closely with the leadership of Desolation Creek LLC. and its parent organization, Ecotrust Forest Management, since the property was purchased in 2015. Since obtaining ownership of the property, the Desolation Creek LLC. Staff have worked diligently to improve both fish and wildlife habitats throughout the entire 13,440 acres. Just a few examples of the habitat work that is being conducted include the implementation of an aggressive noxious weed control program, prescribed grazing and timber management plans that have strong emphasis on fish and wildlife resources, wet meadow enhancement and restoration, restoration activities/efforts to restore important riparian habitats along Desolation Creek and the active participation in the Access & Habitat Program via a "Welcome to Hunt" program on all 13,440 acres.

I firmly believe that this project will continue the positive enhancements that the Desolation Creek LLC. Staff have implemented on the ground. The fisheries and wildlife benefits associated with this project, and all of the prior and current activities being implemented, will benefit the resources for many years to come. The benefits from these habitat improvement projects will continue to benefit the hundreds of public hunters and recreationist that choose to utilize this access area.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions regarding this application. Thank You!

Sincerely,

Ryan Torland
Grant District Wildlife Biologist
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

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: Desolation Creek LLC Open Fields **Project #:** 2017-14

	Access Acres	Habitat Acres	Habitat Category:	4	Total Score:	24
"Welcome" Private	13,440		(range: 1-6; see flow chart on page 4. Not applicable to access-only projects)		Total Possible:	36
By-Permission Private						
Inaccessible Public*	0					
Accessible Public*						

Instructions:

Project Type	Complete these sections			
	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.

Food:	Excellent browse and forage species
Water:	Several perennial streams and springs
Cover:	Timber and heavy shrub component, several deep canyons

Project Score	Access Fee Assessment		
	Private Land	Inacc. Public	Acc. Public
1	1	n/a	n/a
1	1	n/a	n/a
1	1	n/a	n/a

2. Partnerships

Partners contributing financial or in-kind support:

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

0	1	n/a	n/a
0			
1			
1			

		Access Fee Assessment			
		Project Score			
3. Matching Funds	Total matching funds (monetary and in-kind)				
	> 1% matching funds.....	1			
	> 25% matching funds.....	1	1	n/a	n/a
	> 50% matching funds.....	1			
4. Damage	Project would mitigate current damage to private property:				
	Wildlife damage occurring on private property.....	0			
	Landowner participates in ODFW damage control programs.....	0			
General Total		8	5	0	0
<i>General Possible</i>		12	5	5	5

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. Public Land	Project located in Wildlife Management Unit with <50% public land.....	0	0	n/a	n/a
6. Private access	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. Public access	Access through private lands would:				
	improve access to public land.....	1			
	provide access to otherwise inaccessible public land.....	1			
8. Special Access	Project would provide special youth or disabled hunter access opportunities.....	0	0	n/a	n/a
9. Species Permitted	Species groups include big game, waterfowl, upland birds, turkey, and predators/varmints.				
	2+ species groups available and permitted.....	1	1	n/a	n/a
	4+ species groups available and permitted.....	1	1	n/a	n/a
10. Under-rep. Species*	Project provides access to under-represented species in the watershed.....	1	1	n/a	n/a
11. Harvest Restriction	Landowner would not restrict sex or species permitted for lawful harvest.....	1	1	n/a	n/a
12. Season Restriction	Landowner would not restrict access to any hunting season(s).....	1	1	n/a	n/a
13. Dispersion	Property would provide access to animals pushed off of publicly accessible land during hunting season.....	1	1	n/a	
Access Total		10	6	0	0
<i>Access Possible</i>		12	8	8	7
Payment Fee Total			11	n/a	n/a

* 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..... 0

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..... 1

{ Area populations < 75% of management objective (deer and elk).....
or:
} Project will increase breeding populations of upland birds/waterfowl..... 0

16. Conservation Strategy Project addresses Oregon Conservation Strategy (OCS) concerns:
 Project action benefits Strategy Habitat or Strategy Species..... 1
 [above] **AND** action occurs in Conservation Opportunity Area (COA)..... 1

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..... 1
 Project meets requirements of Habitat Categories 1-2..... 0

18. Habitat Connectivity Project will help facilitate local animal movement (fence removal, etc.)..... 0
 Project will help establish or maintain a wildlife habitat corridor or otherwise reduce fragmentation on landscape level..... 0

Description of habitat connectivity benefit (required):

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..... 1
 Project will increase the habitat quantity/quality >50% per unit treated..... 1

Description of habitat impact:

 Implementation of a shaded fuel break will ultimately aid in the protection of numerous wildlife habitat improvement projects by preventing the spread of potential wildfire.

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%..... 0

<u>Estimated Abundance</u>			
Species	Pre-treatment	Post-treatment	
Mule Deer			Habitat Total <i>Habitat Possible</i>
Upland Bird			
			Grand Total <i>Total Possible</i>
			6
			12
			24
			36

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**

Population Impact- Protecting valuable wildlife habitats from potential catastrophic wildlife could potentially increase game populations by more than 25% across the available habitat over the course of time.

Access and Habitat Project Evaluation - Appendix

Under-represented Species

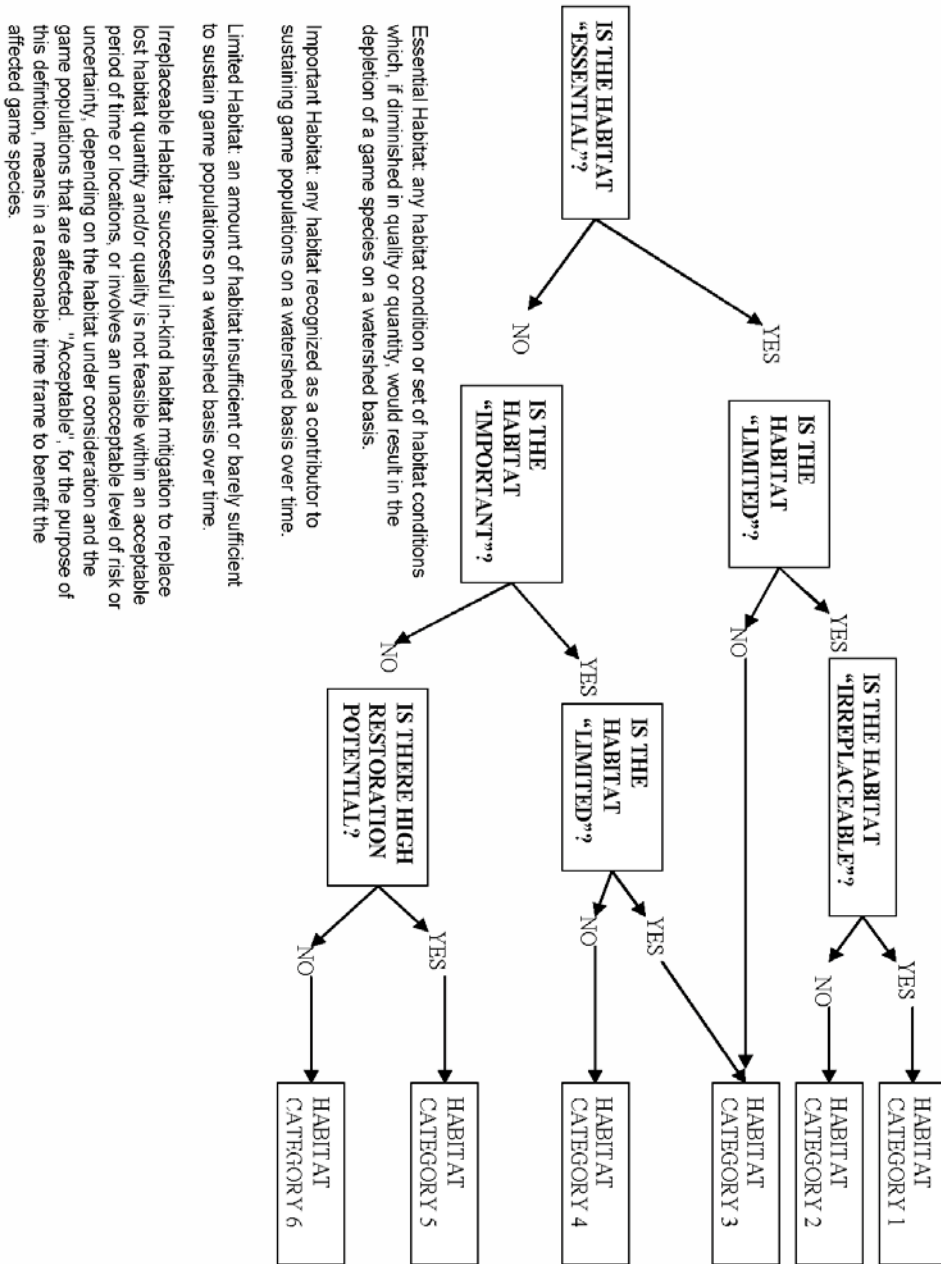
Definition: game species that exist in the watershed district in huntable numbers, but that the general public does not have reasonable hunting access to (via public land, current A&H properties, etc.)

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.



Payment Tables

Table 1: Proposed Per-acre Access Payment

Total Score:	Private Welcome to Hunt (\$/acre)	Private By- Permission (\$/acre)	Inaccessible public land (\$/acre)	Accessible public land (\$/acre)
	100%	60%	40%	20%
1-3:	\$0.60	\$0.36	\$0.24	\$0.12
4-6:	\$1.20	\$0.72	\$0.48	\$0.24
7-9:	\$1.80	\$1.08	\$0.72	\$0.36
10-11:	\$2.40	\$1.44	\$0.96	\$0.48
12-13:	\$3.00	\$1.80	\$1.20	\$0.60

Table 2: Proposed Total Access Payment Calculator

Access Type	Score	\$/Acre	Acres	Payment
Private Welcome	11	\$2.40	13,440	\$32,256.00
Private Permission	11	\$1.44	0	\$0.00
Inaccessible Public	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Accessible Public	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Total Payment:				\$32,256.00



ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

Regional Advisory Council Project Proposal Review

ODFW Region / A&H Regional Council: East Region / Northeast Council

Project Proposal Title: Desolation Creek LLC Open Fields 2017-14

Applicants(s): Desolation Creek LLC

Date of Council Review: June 13, 2017

Type of Project: Access _____ **Habitat** X **Other Damage** _____

Motion: John Groupe made a motion to approve the project as proposed. Larry Snyder seconded the motion.

<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Morgan Olson	Chairman	Yes
Vicki McClaran	Landowner Representative	Yes
Joseph Patnode	Landowner Representative	Absent
Larry Snyder	Landowner Representative	Yes
Tim Campbell	Hunter Representative	Yes
Vacant	Hunter Representative	Absent
John Groupe	Hunter Representative	Yes

Disposition of Vote: Motion passed 5:0

Project Strengths:

- This project area is a high priority for the Grant Wildlife District as it provides access to a substantial portion of private land in the Desolation WMU. In addition to the large acreage, the area has demonstrated that there is a strong desire for hunters to use property. Hunter use data from 2015, indicated that the property is not only heavily used but that the majority of users were very satisfied with their experience, giving a ranking of 4.06 on a scale of 1-5, with 5 being the highest.
- The project will protect important fish and wildlife habitats from potentially catastrophic wildfire(s) ensuring that maximum benefits are achieved from already completed and future habitat improvement projects.
- The applicant is continually working to improve wildlife habitat conditions and forest health on a landscape level basis. Habitat improvements will lead to increasing upland game bird and big game populations.

Project Concerns:

- None