

## APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS

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

I, [Mike Davis](#) of [Princeton, Oregon](#), hereby make application for financial assistance under the terms and conditions of the Access and Habitat program in the amount [\\$58,500](#).  
The total cost of the project is [\\$61,000](#).

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:

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Applicants whose projects are approved by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will be notified by mail.

# ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

## Application for Grant Funds

1. **Project Title:** [Kueny Ranch Access Area](#)
2. **Applicant:** [Davis Ranches and Farms \(Mike Davis\)](#) Phone: [\(541\) 495-2204](#)  
**Grantee:** Davis Ranches and Farms (Mike Davis) (As will appear on contract/payments)  
*If private nonprofit, attach IRS letter of 501(c) (3) status*  
**Address:** [42970 Kueny Ranch Lane](#)  
**City/State/Zip:** [Princeton, OR 97721](#) **Phone:** [\(541\) 495-2204](#)  
**Email:**
3. **Location:** ODFW Region: [East Region](#)  
Watershed District / Wildlife Management Unit: [Malheur Watershed / Steens WMU](#)  
County: [Harney County](#) Township/Range/Section: [All or portions of the following sections, west of the East Steens Road, T33 S R34 E Sections 10-14,22,23,26,27,33-35; T34S R34E Sections 3,4,9,16,20,21,28,29,32; T35S R33E Sections 15,21,22,28,33; T36S R33E Sections 4,9,16.](#)
4. **Type of Project:**  
Habitat Improvement      Access      Damage
5. **Number of acres of habitat to be improved:** [N/A](#)
6. **Number of acres of access to be provided:** [5,850 acres](#)  
Welcome to Hunt    By Permission    Other
7. **Proposed Start Date:** [08/01/2022](#)
8. **Proposed End Date:** [03/01/2027](#)
9. **Estimated Cost of Project:** [\\$61,000.00](#)
10. **Access and Habitat Fund Request:** [\\$58,500.00](#)
11. **Briefly explain what the project proposes to do:**  

[This project proposes to continue to pay Mike Davis \\$2.00 per acre for “Welcome to Hunt” access on 5,850 acres of private land, annually, in the Steens Mountain Wildlife Management Unit for five years. Total annual landowner payment is \\$58,500 \(\\$11,700/yr. for 5 years\). The project provides access to chukar, quail, mule deer, bighorn sheep, pronghorn, and predators.](#)
12. **Habitat and Landscape:** Describe the habitat and landscape of the project area.

[The Kueny Ranch Access Area is located on the east side of the Steens Mountains and is characterized by steep rimrock, sagebrush steppe, brushy riparian, and rangeland habitat types.](#)

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13. **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.

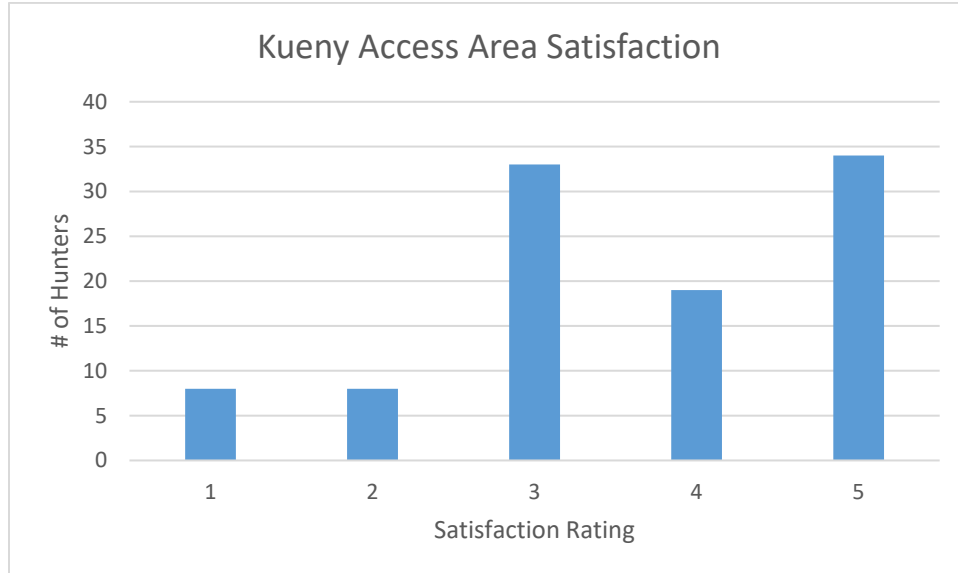
The Kueny Access Area is in the Steens Mountain Wildlife Management Unit in Harney County, Oregon. The ranch is surrounded by BLM land that is very difficult or impossible to access from other locations. Participation in the A&H Program has provided a tremendous benefit to hunters trying to access these public lands. This is one of the most popular areas in Southeast Oregon because of the diverse hunting opportunities it provides. This area has been enrolled in the A&H Access Program since 2007 and is well known by the hunting community.

14. **Past A&H History:** Describe any past Access & Habitat project, especially if the proposed project deals with continuation or amendment to a past project.

This property has been enrolled in the Access and Habitat program since 2007.

15. **Hunter Use Data:** New Projects: Must give estimates of expected usage and how usage will be assessed. Old Projects: Use Access Area Permit data, vehicle or pedestrian counts, hunter interviews, etc.

Hunter use data has been collected using two Check-in/Check-out kiosks. Hunter satisfaction of the Kueny Access Area averages 3.80 on a scale of 1 to 5 (1=Not Satisfied 5=Very Satisfied).



16. **Project Objective(s):**

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

This project would continue to provide open public access on 10,452 acres of private and public land in the Steens Mountain WMU.

(b) How will the project benefit wildlife habitat?

N/A

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

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

(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)

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

This project would be open on a “Welcome to Hunt” basis. The project area provides hunting opportunities for a variety of wildlife species, including mule deer, pronghorn, bighorn sheep, chukar, California quail, coyotes, rabbits, bobcats, and cougars. The project will provide Welcome to Hunt access to 5,850 acres of private land and improve access to 4,282 acres of BLM lands.

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

Big Game

- Deer

Upland Bird

- Chukar

Migratory Game Bird

- Ducks

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- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elk                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Quail            | <input type="checkbox"/> Geese                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bear                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Valley Quail   | <input type="checkbox"/> American Coot                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cougar        | <input type="checkbox"/> Pheasants                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Wilsons Snipe                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pronghorn     | <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Grouse             | <input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove                   |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Bighorn Sheep | <input type="checkbox"/> Turkey                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Band Tailed Pigeon              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Goat            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gray Partridge |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Sage Grouse               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Other:</u> Coyote |

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

N/A

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

Located on East Steens Rd (Co. 201), north of Fields, OR. Please see attached map.

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

Maps will be generated by ODFW to describe hunt area, rules and regulations and hunt periods. ODFW staff will provide access area signs and assist landowner with posting. General access provisions will apply including: No camping, No ATV's on Ranch Property, Access only on Designated Road, No Fires, No Littering, and Leave Gates As You Found Them.

19. **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.

N/A

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

a. Habitat Work Start Date:

Habitat Work Completion Date:

b. Access Agreement Start Date: 08/01/2022

Access Agreement End Date: 03/01/2027

c. List major project activities and time schedule for each:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Time (month/year)</u>
Sign maintenance	Summer 2022-27
Hunter Access and Hunter Use Monitoring	Seasonally 2022-27

21. **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

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awards. Costs listed here must be included in "Other Funds" column of the Project Budget (Section 20).

Participant	Activity	Cost
1. Mike Davis	Patrol, litter removal	\$2500.00

Have any conditions been placed on the funds listed above which may affect the completion of the project? If so, identify and explain.  YES  NO

**22. Project Maintenance and Monitoring:**

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

ODFW will maintain permit boxes and signage. Landowner will allow access annually

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

Hunter use, satisfaction, and harvest rates will be monitored by ODFW. Check-in stations will be monitored monthly during the hunting seasons to collect and resupply "A&H Access Area Daily Permits" and area maps. OSP will assist with hunter patrols when available. Landowner and OSP will monitor area regulation compliance.

**23. Project Budget Narrative:** (Provide details, describe in-kind funding, provide narratives here of non-itemized entries in your worksheet.)

<u>Category</u>	<u>A&amp;H Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds<sup>1</sup></u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
<u>Administration</u> L/O In-kind	_____	<u>\$2,500</u>	<u>\$2,500</u>
<u>Access Payment</u> \$11,700.00/year for 5 years	<u>\$58,500.00</u>	_____	<u>\$58,500.00</u>
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b><u>\$58,500.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,500</u></b>	<b><u>\$61,000.00</u></b>

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PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Access Year	Payment	Request for Funds Submitted:
August 1, 2022 – March 1, 2023	\$11,700.00	No earlier than August 1, 2022
August 1, 2023 – March 1, 2024	\$11,700.00	No earlier than August 1, 2023
August 1, 2024 – March 1, 2025	\$11,700.00	No earlier than August 1, 2024
August 1, 2025 – March 1, 2026	\$11,700.00	No earlier than August 1, 2025
August 1, 2026 – March 1, 2027 (10% withheld until receipt of completion report)	\$5,850.00	No earlier than August 1, 2026
Final Payment	\$5,850.00	No earlier than March 1, 2027

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## 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:** Kueny Access Area

**Project #:** \_\_\_\_\_

	Access Acres	Habitat Acres	Habitat Category:	0	Total Score:	12
"Welcome" Private	6,170		(range: 1-6; see flow chart on page 4. Not applicable to access-only projects)		Total Possible:	36
By-Permission Private	0					
Inaccessible Public*	0					
Accessible Public*	4,282					

**Instructions:**

Project Type	Complete these sections			
	General Criteria	Access Criteria	Habitat	Criteria
Access Only	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		
Habitat Only	<b>X</b>			<b>X</b>
Access & Habitat	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>

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:	Shrubs, grass, forbs, adjacent ag
Water:	Various seeps, springs, and creeks
Cover:	Brushy draws, rims

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

**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	0	n/a	0
0			
0			
0			



3. <i>Matching Funds</i>	Total matching funds (monetary and in-kind) > 1% matching funds..... > 25% matching funds..... > 50% matching funds.....	Score	Assessment		
		0			
0		0	n/a	0	
0					

4. <i>Damage</i>	Project would mitigate current damage to private property: Wildlife damage occurring on private property..... Landowner participates in ODFW damage control programs.....	Score	Assessment		
		0			
1					

<b>General Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<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. <i>Public Land</i>	Project located in Wildlife Management Unit with <50% public land.....	0	0	n/a	0
6. <i>Private access</i>	Private land access type: Project would provide access to private land..... Private land access would be on a "Welcome to Hunt" basis.....	1			
		1			
7. <i>Public access</i>	Access through <b>private</b> lands would: improve access to public land..... provide access to otherwise inaccessible public land.....	1			
		0			
8. <i>Special Access</i>	Project would provide special youth or disabled hunter access opportunities.....	0	0	n/a	0
9. <i>Species Permitted</i>	Species groups include big game, waterfowl, upland birds, turkey, and predators/varmints. 2+ species groups available and permitted..... 4+ species groups available and permitted.....	1	1	n/a	1
		1	1	n/a	1
10. <i>Under-rep. Species*</i>	Project provides access to under-represented species in the watershed.....	0	0	n/a	0
11. <i>Harvest Restriction</i>	Landowner would not restrict sex or species permitted for lawful harvest.....	1	1	n/a	1
12. <i>Season Restriction</i>	Landowner would not restrict access to any hunting season(s).....	1	1	n/a	1
13. <i>Dispersion</i>	Property would provide access to animals pushed off of publicly accessible land during hunting season.....	1	1	n/a	
<b>Access Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<i>Access Possible</i>		12	8	8	7
<b>Payment Fee Total</b>			<b>8</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>7</b>

\* 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)..... 0  
or:  
Project will increase wintering populations of upland birds/waterfowl.....

{ Area populations < 75% of management objective (deer and elk)..... 0  
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..... 0  
 [above] AND action occurs in Conservation Opportunity Area (COA)..... 0

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..... 0  
 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..... 0  
 Project will increase the habitat quantity/quality >50% per unit treated..... 0

Description of habitat impact:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Species	Estimated Abundance			
	Pre-treatment	Post-treatment		
			<b>Habitat Total</b>	<b>0</b>
			<i>Habitat Possible</i>	<i>12</i>
			<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>12</b>
			<i>Total Possible</i>	<i>36</i>

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

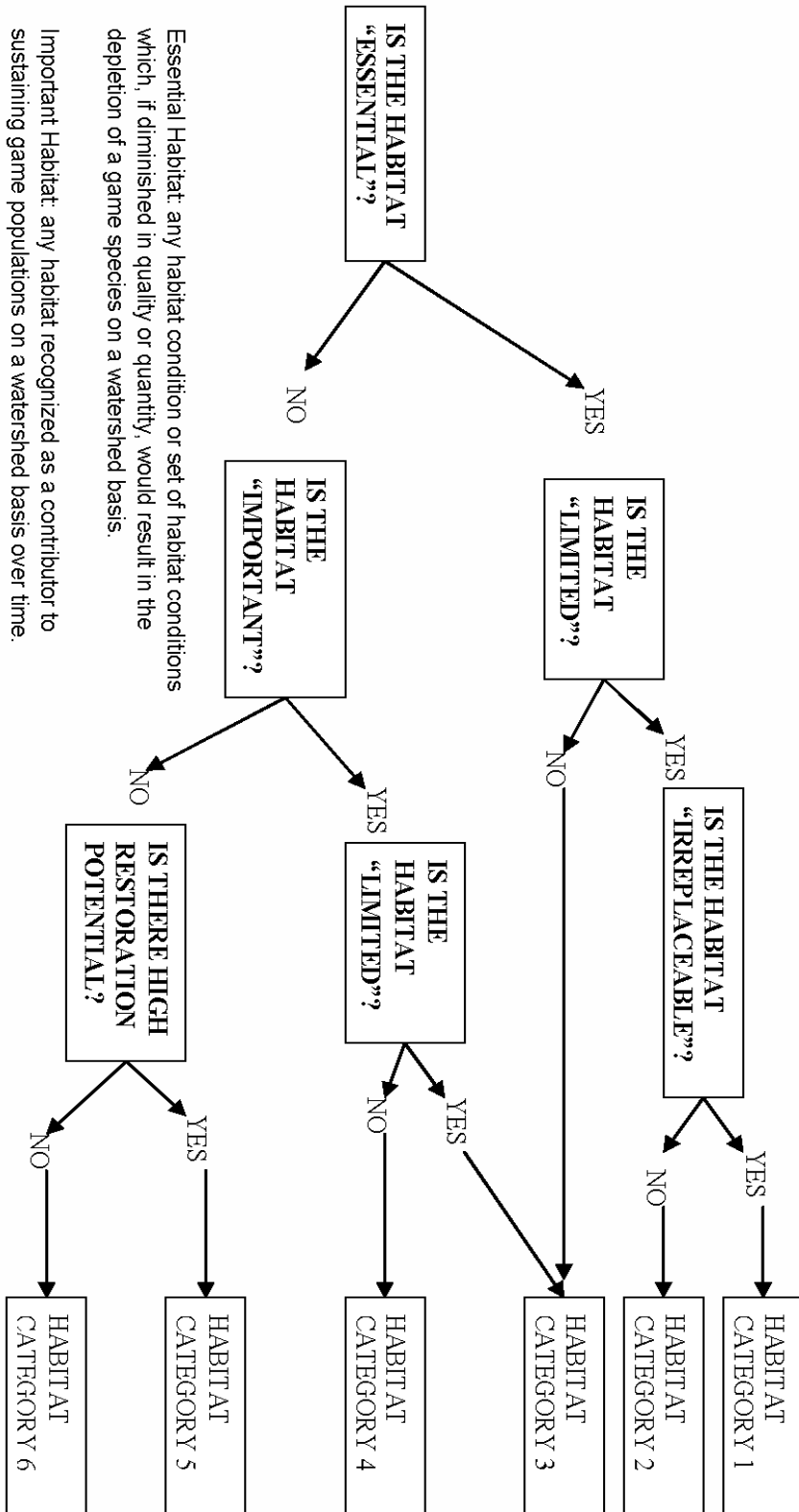
**Definition:** game species that exist in the watershed district in huntable numbers, but that the general public does not have reasonable hunting access to (via public land, current A&H properties, etc.)

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.

**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	8	\$1.80	6,170	\$11,106.00
Private Permission	8	\$1.08	0	\$0.00
Inaccessible Public	n/a	n/a	0	n/a
Accessible Public	7	\$0.36	4,282	\$1,541.52
<b>Total Payment:</b>				<b>\$12,647.52</b>



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

Hines District Office  
Malheur Watershed District  
237 Hwy 20 South  
PO Box 8  
Hines, Oregon 97738  
(541) 573-6582  
FAX (541) 573-5306

January 24, 2022



Access & Habitat Program

RE: Kueny Access Areas

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to provide support for the renewal of the Kueny Access Areas. This project allows year-round "Welcome to Hunt" access on 5,850 acres of private land as well as access through the property to 4,000+ acres of public land along the east face of Steens Mountain.

The Kueny Access Areas continues to be very popular with hunters. In addition to deer, antelope, and bighorn sheep hunting opportunities, the Kueny Access provides over 100 days of upland bird hunting opportunity annually.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your time and cooperation,

Rod Klus  
Harney District Wildlife Biologist



# ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

## Regional Advisory Council Project Proposal Review

**ODFW Region / A&H Regional Council:** East Region / Malheur Watershed Council

**Project Proposal Title:** Kueny Access Area

**Applicants(s):** Mike Davis

**Date of Council Review:** 03-09-2022

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

**Motion:** Kyle made the motion that the project be approved as written. Andrew seconded the motion.

<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Nick Miller	Chairman	Yes
Kyle Wieland	Hunter Representative	Yes
Andrew Shields	Hunter Representative	Yes
Vacant	Hunter Representative	
Jon Reponen	Landowner Representative	Yes
Vacant	Landowner Representative	
Vacant	Landowner Representative	

**Disposition of Vote:** 4:0

**Project Strengths:** Provides great access to adjacent public land that is otherwise difficult to access. Project experiences a high level of use by bird hunters, a 100+ day season.

**Project Concerns:** One member of the council stated that they would like to see year-round access.