

APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS

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

I/We, Donald Dryer of Drewsey, Oregon, hereby make application for financial assistance under the terms and conditions of the Access and Habitat program in the amount \$145,250.00. The total cost of the project is \$145,650.00

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: Donald P Dryer

Date: 10-1-2025

Position: Landowner

EXHIBIT D
ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM
Application for Grant Funds

1. Project Title: Pine Creek Ranch Access Project
2. Applicant: Donald Dryer Phone: (541) 589-0409
Grantee: Donald Dryer (as will appear on contract/payments)
If private nonprofit, attach IRS letter of 501(c)(3) status
Address: P.O. Box 107
City/State/Zip: Drewsey, OR 97904
Email: doncathy@fmtcblue.com
3. Location: ODFW Region (see attached map) East
Watershed District / WM Unit: Malheur Watershed / Malheur River Unit - 66
County: Harney Township/Range/Section: See Map
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 12,104 acres By Permission _____
7. Proposed Start Date: August 1, 2026 Proposed End Date: March 1, 2031
8. Estimated Cost of Project: \$145,650
9. Access and Habitat Fund Request: \$145,250
10. Briefly explain what the project proposes to do:
This project proposes to pay Mr. Dryer \$2.40 per acre for 12,104 acres of "Welcome to Hunt" access in the Malheur River Wildlife Management Unit, near Drewsey, OR, from August 1 to March 1 for 5 years.

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.

1. **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 Pine Creek Ranch Access area is composed of diverse wildlife habitats including aspen, fir, pine, juniper, mountain shrubs, and meadows. This is the only access area in the Malheur River Unit north of Highway 20. This access area provides public hunting opportunities for deer, elk, pronghorn, turkeys and predators. Mr. Dryer is an active participant in many NRCS programs and works diligently to conserve wildlife habitat on the ranch.

Damage hunts in the area include 266A1 (Drewsey Valley No. 1 – 88 tags), 266A2 (Drewsey Valley No. 2 – 33 tags) and 266B (N. Malheur River Cow Hunt – 303 tags). Other hunts on the property include 266X (N. Malheur Rvr No. 1 – 413 tags), 266Y (N. Malheur Rvr No. 2 – 413 tags), 166 (Malheur River Buck – 990 tags), 166M (N. Malheur River Muzzleloader – 44 tags), 466A1 (Malheur River Pronghorn – 75 tags), 466A2 (Malheur River Pronghorn No. 2 – 75 tags), and 466R (Malheur River Bow – 55 tags).

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

This project has been enrolled in the A&H program since 2011. Prior to enrollment in the A&H program, the Dryer Family had experience problems with trespass, littering, gates being left open, fences being cut, cross-country vehicle travel, and illegal camping. In addition to being awarded annual access payments for that time period, two cattleguards were also awarded through the A&H program to Mr. Dryer to help remedy issues with hunters leaving gates open.

The Pine Creek Ranch Access Area also received a grant (\$45,000) through the Open Fields Initiative in 2012, used to remove encroaching juniper from an aspen, mountain mahogany, and mountain shrub community.

Three check-in kiosks have been installed on the access area. The access area averages around 90 completed permits returned, annually. As a reminder, returned permits are only a sample of the total use of the area. Not every parcel of the Pine Creek Access Area has a Check-in kiosk. Additionally, hunters may actually be hunting on public land while filling out permits as they enter or exit the area. Average satisfaction as reported on permit cards is 3.74 on a scale of 1 to 5 (5 being excellent).



3. Project Objective(s):

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

Enhance hunter access in the Malheur River Unit.

(b) How will the project benefit wildlife habitat?

N/A

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

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)

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

This project provides access to 12,104 acres of “Welcome to Hunt” land and significantly enhances access to thousands of acres of BLM land and National Forest.

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

<u>Big Game</u>	<u>Upland Bird</u>	<u>Migratory Game Bird</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deer	<input type="checkbox"/> Chukar	<input type="checkbox"/> Ducks
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elk	<input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Quail	<input type="checkbox"/> Geese
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Forest Grouse	<input type="checkbox"/> Mourning Dove
<input type="checkbox"/> Bighorn Sheep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Turkey	<input type="checkbox"/> Band Tailed Pigeon
<input type="checkbox"/> Mountain Goat	<input type="checkbox"/> Gray Partridge	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sage Grouse	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <u>Other:</u> Coyote

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

Although this project is not specific to damage, it is part of the reason for allowing Welcome to Hunt access. As such, increased public access to private land by hunters who draw hunts 266A1 (Drewsey Valley No. 1 – 88 tags), 266A2 (Drewsey Valley No. 2 – 33 tags) and 266B (N. Malheur River Cow Hunt – 303 tags). Other hunts on the property include 266X (N. Malheur Rvr No. 1 – 413 tags), 266Y (N. Malheur Rvr No. 2 – 413 tags), 166 (Malheur River Buck – 990 tags), 166M (N. Malheur River Muzzleloader – 44 tags), 466A1 (Malheur River Pronghorn – 75 tags), 466A2 (Malheur River Pronghorn No. 2 – 75 tags), and 466R (Malheur River Bow – 55 tags).

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

See map. Project is located approximately 25 miles east of Burns, off of Highway 20.

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

ODFW will continue to maintain existing signs and permit boxes. Hunter use and satisfaction will continue to be monitored through access permits.

6. **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

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

(a) Habitat Work Start Date: N/A Habitat Work Completion Date: N/A

(b) Access Agreement Start Date: 8-1-2026 Access Agreement End Date: 3-1-2031

- (c) List major project activities and time schedule for each.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Time (month/year)</u>
<u>Signs and Check-in kiosks maintained</u>	<u>annually</u>
<u>Access allowed</u>	<u>annually Aug. 1 to March 1</u>

8. **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.	Donald Dryer	Access area patrol	\$400
2.			
3.			
4.			
5.			
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.

9. **Project Maintenance and Monitoring:**

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

ODFW will maintain signage and monitor hunter use.

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

Hunter use and satisfaction will be monitored for the life of the project. OSP and ODFW staff will monitor hunter compliance with area regulations throughout the hunting season. Landowner will also monitor for area regulation compliance.

10. Project Budget
(provide as much detail as possible)

<u>Category</u>	<u>A&H Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds¹</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
<u>Administration</u>			
Personnel	\$145,250.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
Benefits @ ___%	_____	_____	_____
Total	\$145,250.00	\$400.00	\$400.00
<u>Access Payment</u>			
\$29,050 / year for 5 years	\$145,250.00	\$400.00	\$145,250
TOTAL COSTS	\$145,250	\$400.00	\$145,650

¹ List detail in funding (section 18).

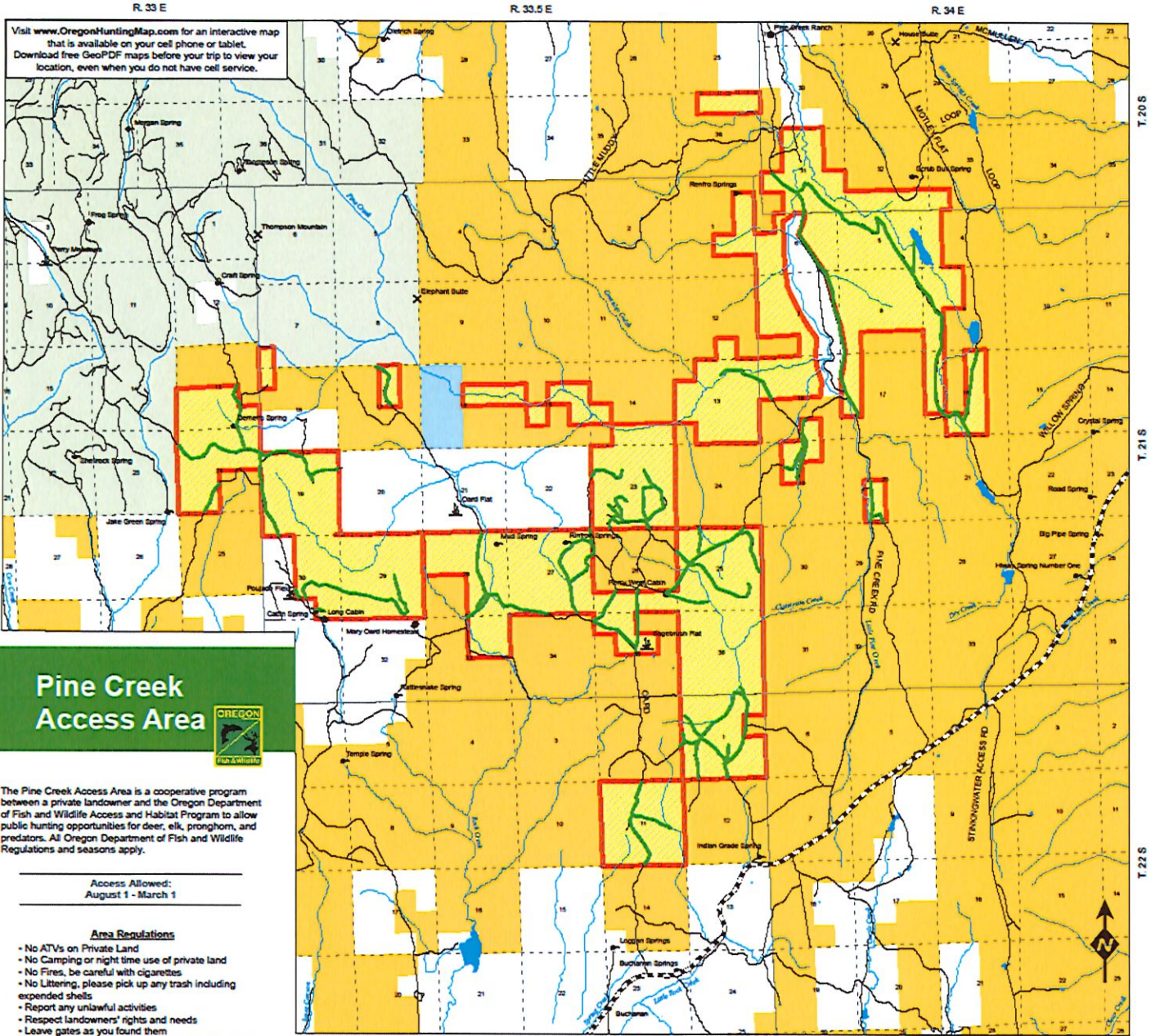
² Provide amounts and cost per unit.

³ Attach subcontractor estimates.

⁴ Individual pieces of equipment costing over \$100.00.

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

Access Year	Payment	Request for Funds Submitted:
August 1, 2026 – March 1, 2027	\$29,050	No earlier than August 1, 2026
August 1, 2027 – March 1, 2028	\$29,050	No earlier than August 1, 2027
August 1, 2028 – March 1, 2029	\$29,050	No earlier than August 1, 2028
August 1, 2029 – March 1, 2030	\$29,050	No earlier than August 1, 2029
August 1, 2030 – March 1, 2031 (10% withheld until receipt of completion report)	\$14,525	No earlier than August 1, 2030
Final Payment	\$14,525	No earlier than March 1, 2031



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.

Pine Creek Access Area



The Pine Creek Access Area is a cooperative program between a private landowner and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Access and Habitat Program to allow public hunting opportunities for deer, elk, pronghorn, and predators. All Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Regulations and seasons apply.

Access Allowed:
August 1 - March 1

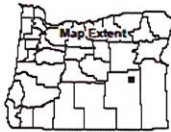
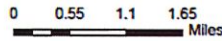
Area Regulations

- No ATVs on Private Land
- No Camping or night time use of private land
- No Fires, be careful with cigarettes
- No Littering, please pick up any trash including expended shells
- Report any unlawful activities
- Respect landowners' rights and needs
- Leave gates as you found them
- Vehicle Travel only on roads mapped and posted as open access road

Hunting on private lands 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!



*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 consult a professional to determine the reliability of the information. ©2012 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Revised 10/2012



The green reflector (dot) system of posting open roads is used in this area. There will generally be no posting of closed roads or areas.

- Access Area Boundary
- Open Roads
- USFS Land
- BLM Land
- State Land
- Private Land

<p>Violation Report If you witness a violation, record information on this form and present it to an official.</p> <p>Time _____ Date _____</p> <p>Vehicle make, model & color _____</p> <p>Vehicle license & state _____</p> <p>Location / road number _____</p> <p>City/County: _____</p> <p>Number of persons involved _____</p> <p>Describe violation _____</p> <p>Witness Contact information _____</p>	<p>TIP Phone: 1-800-452-7888 Email: TIP@state.or.us</p> <p>Mail to: Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division 205 Capitol St NE, 4th Floor Salem, OR 97310</p>
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Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

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

September 8, 2025

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

Dear Access and Habitat Board:

The purpose of this letter is to express support for the Pine Creek Access Area. This access area provides a quality hunting experience close to the communities of Hines and Burns. Habitat types on the project area include mixed conifer forest, aspen, juniper, mahogany, mountain brush, and meadows. The project provides hunting opportunities for deer, elk, antelope, small game, and upland birds. This is the only access area in the North Malheur River Unit and enhances access to public lands. Big game hunters who utilize this area often find success. Additionally, the Pine Creek Access Area is a valuable tool in alleviating damage caused by cow elk that come into the agricultural properties around this area. Having this access area provides the department with an ability to align elk numbers with management objectives.

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

Sincerely,

Lee Foster
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Harney District

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: Pine Creek Ranch Access Area **Project #:** _____

	Access Acres	Habitat Acres	Habitat Category: 	Total Score: 16
"Welcome" Private	12,104		(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*	0			

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:	Browse and meadows
Water:	Springs and creeks
Cover:	Brush, trees, topography

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			
0			
1			

3. Matching Funds	Total matching funds (monetary and in-kind) > 1% matching funds..... > 25% matching funds..... > 50% matching funds.....	Project Score		Access Fee Assessment	
		1	0	n/a	n/a
		1	0	n/a	n/a
		0			
		0			
4. Damage	Project would mitigate current damage to private property: Wildlife damage occurring on private property..... Landowner participates in ODFW damage control programs.....	1			
		1			
General Total		7	4	0	0
<i>General Possible</i>		<i>12</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>5</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. 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..... Private land access would be on a "Welcome to Hunt" basis.....	1			
		1			
7. Public access	Access through private lands would: improve access to public land..... provide access to otherwise inaccessible public land.....	1			
		0			
8. Special Access	Project would provide special youth or disabled hunter access opportunities.....	1	1	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..... 4+ species groups available and permitted.....	1	1	n/a	n/a
		1	1	n/a	n/a
10. Under-rep. Species*	Project provides access to under-represented species in the watershed.....	0	0	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		9	6	0	0
<i>Access Possible</i>		<i>12</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>7</i>
Payment Fee Total			10	n/a	n/a

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

Access and Habitat Project Evaluation - Appendix

Under-represented Species

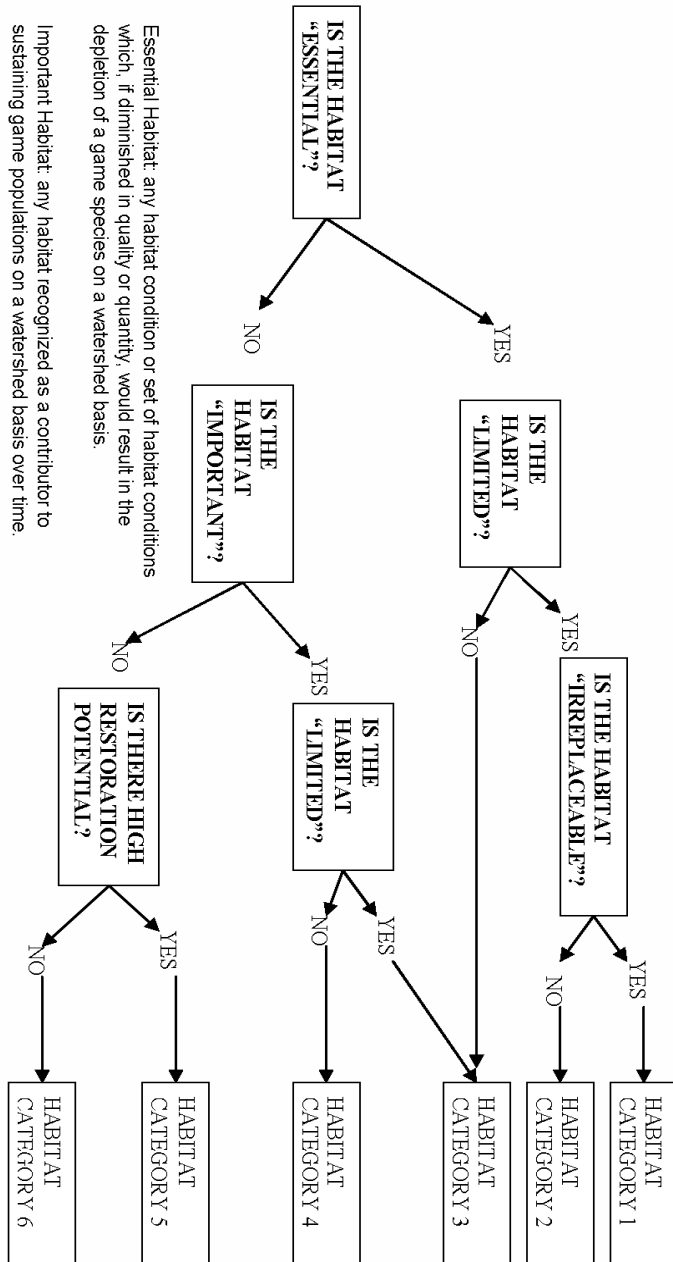
Definition: game species that exist in the watershed district in huntable numbers, but that the general public does not have reasonable hunting access to (via public land, current A&H properties, etc.)

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

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.

A&H Habitat Category Flow Chart



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.



ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

Regional Advisory Council Project Proposal Review

ODFW Region / A&H Regional Council:

Project Proposal Title: PINE CREEK ACCESS AREA RENEWAL 2025

Applicants(s): DON DOMBY

Date of Council Review: 12/10/2025

Type of Project: Access X Habitat _____ Other (specify) _____

Motion:

<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Vote</u>
NICK MILLER	Chairman	2 nd YES
Jon REPOWEN	Landowner Representative	3 rd YES
VACANT	Landowner Representative	
ERIKA FITZPATRICK	Landowner Representative	
KYLE WIELAND	Hunter Representative	YES 1 st
JERRY ELLIOT	Hunter Representative	
KIPP DOMBY	Hunter Representative	YES 4 th

Disposition of Vote: ~~MOTION~~ MOTION TO APPROVE PROJECT BY all council members in attendance

Project Strengths:

- > LOTS OF USE / VARIABLE intact habitats
- > Damage alleviated by use of hunters

Project Concerns:

- > None
- >