

# Grant Application



## Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife **Access and Habitat Program**

Return Application to:  
Your A&H Regional Coordinator

For more information please call:  
Access & Habitat Program Coordinator  
(503) 947-6087

# APPLICATION FOR GRANT FUNDS

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

I/We, Mule Deer Foundation of \_\_\_\_\_, Oregon, hereby make application for financial assistance under the terms and conditions of the Access and Habitat program in the amount \$ 35,720.

The total cost of the project is \$ 60,420

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: MDF developed this project with BLM personnel and required permis

(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:  Digitally signed by Steven R. Belinda  
Date: 2025.12.01 21:50:34 -07'00'

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: Chief Conservation Officer

# ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

## Application for Grant Funds

1. **Project Title:** Upper Molalla Meadows Restoration
2. **Applicant:** Mule Deer Foundation Phone: 801-973-3940  
**Grantee:** Mule Deer Foundation (As will appear on contract/payments)  
*If private nonprofit, attach IRS letter of 501(c) (3) status*  
**Address:** 1785 East 1450 South, Suite 210  
**City/State/Zip:** Clearfield UT 84015 **Phone:** 801-973-3940  
**Email:** rkrapp@muledeer.org
3. **Location:** ODFW Region  
Watershed District / Wildlife Management Unit: Upper Molalla/GMU 16  
County: Clackamas Township/Range/Section: 44.93603, -122.24709
4. **Type of Project:**  
 Habitat Improvement     Access     Damage
5. **Number of acres of habitat to be improved:** \*20 ac
6. **Number of acres of access to be provided:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 Welcome to Hunt     By Permission     Other BLM public lands open to hunt
7. **Proposed Start Date:** 5 / 15 / 26
8. **Proposed End Date:** 7 / 15 / 26
9. **Estimated Cost of Project:** \$ 60,420
10. **Access and Habitat Fund Request:** \$ 35,720
11. **Briefly explain what the project proposes to do:**  
\*Restore wildlife habitats and native riparian plants at key meadow locations  
within the Upper Molalla watershed (\*see attached supplemental info)
12. **Habitat and Landscape:** Describe the habitat and landscape of the project area.  
Meadows being encroached upon by woody plants, conifers. (see attached)
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 encroached headwater mountain meadows, located at (see attached)

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.  
MDF has helped raise \$485K for A&H but not applied to the grant. (see att

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.  
Open to public hunting (see attached)

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

(a) What is the objective of the proposed project?  
Remove encroaching conifers in meadows (see attached)

(b) How will the project benefit wildlife habitat?  
Restore meadow system(s), increase carry capacity for wildlife (see att

(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)*

(e) How will the project benefit public access? If limited access, how many hunters will be permitted? Enhancement on public lands open to hunt

(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? n/a

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

Upper Molalla Watershed ( 44.93488, -122.24608 ) (see attached)

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

BLM and BDF has evaluated and marked the treatment areas (see attached)

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.

BLM partner has the NEPA/CE approval signatures (available upon request)

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

- a. Habitat Work Start Date: 7/1/2026  
Habitat Work Completion Date: 7/15/2026
- b. Access Agreement Start Date:  / /   
Access Agreement End Date:  / /
- c. List major project activities and time schedule for each:

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Time (month/year)</u>
1. Pre-bid meeting	May 15, 2026
2. Contract award	June 1, 2026
3. Contractor start date (anticipated)	July 1, 2026
4. Completion date (no later than)	July 15, 2026
5. _____	_____
6. _____	_____
7. _____	_____

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 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.	Mule Deer Foundation	Chapter Rewards (non-restricted funds)	\$ 11,000
2.	BLM	In-kind (staff & materials) project layout	\$ 9,400
3.			\$
4.			\$
5.			\$
6.			\$
7.			\$

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  
MDF chapter rewards match funding available only through July 17, 2026.

22. **Project Maintenance and Monitoring:**

(a) Who will maintain the project and fund long-term maintenance and/or operation if needed?  
BLM manages the lands and will monitor, manage and maintain

(b) What element(s) of the project will be monitored, how often, for how long?  
Meadow areas are part of the BLM (bi-annual) monitoring schedule

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

Project Budget (Provide as much detail as possible)

Totals automatically round to the nearest dollar. Please do not include cents.			
Expense Category	A&H Funds	Cost Share In-Kind/ Cash (Match) <sup>1</sup>	Total Project Cost
<b>ADMINISTRATION: Personnel and benefits @ ___%</b>			
BDF Project Management (staff/admin) (4 field visits)	\$4,720	\$4,200	\$ -
BLM (2) x 6 field trips, prep, QAQC, monitoring)		\$9,400	\$ -
<b>SUBTOTAL (1)</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS<sup>2</sup></b>			
na			\$ -
			\$ -
			\$ -
<b>SUBTOTAL (2)</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>SUPPLIES</b>			
focal tree flagging, monitoring point steel t-posts	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>SUBTOTAL (3)</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>CONTRACT SERVICES (itemize)<sup>3</sup></b>			
Forestry Services (est)	\$ 31,000	\$ 11,000	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>SUBTOTAL (4)</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>EQUIPMENT (itemize)</b>			
na	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>SUBTOTAL (5)</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Access Payment</b>			
na	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	\$ 35,720	\$ 24,700	\$ 60,420
<b>PROJECT TOTALS</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -



*The Mission of the Blacktail Deer Foundation is to ensure the conservation of black-tailed deer and their habitat.*

## BDF Project Briefing Paper

### ***Upper Molalla Meadow Restoration***

BLM Oregon - Cascades Field District

Restoration of wildlife and native riparian plant habitats are planned at key meadow locations within the Upper Molalla watershed within the BLM Cascades Field District. The management activities are aimed at restoring and improving forest resilience and watershed health, including habitat enhancement for black-tailed deer. The meadows are special habitats that include diverse plants and wildlife communities and are of high ecological importance. Changes in land use and disturbance regimes have led to headwater meadows being invaded by invasive species and woody plants (mainly conifers) shading out beneficial grasses, forbs and shrubs for forage.

The project will be implemented through a partnership with Blacktail Deer Foundation (BDF), a subsidiary of the Mule Deer Foundation (MDF). BDF strategic goals align with BLM's goals in this project for effective stewardship of Oregon's wildlife and their habitats, including black-tailed deer. BLM benefits from the partnership with BDF in capacity, experience and knowledge of this work as well as developing future projects. In addition, BDF has the capability to award contracts to projects that may otherwise not be implemented because of BLM's limited capacity in contracting.

***Restoration actions include removal of encroaching conifers and revegetation with native species as needed on five units totaling over 20 acres.*** The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has been the primary partner to the BLM in conservation efforts in the past. BDF, however, now has the capacity to conduct habitat restoration and preservation work in Oregon and would implement the management actions (contracting) of in this project in partnership with the BLM. Mechanical treatment will be done where appropriate with chainsaws by contractor and/or volunteers. Removal of encroaching conifer trees would be done by cutting small trees (less than 16" DBH), and base girdling larger trees (over 16" DBH). Slash will be piled and later burned by BLM Rx fire crews. In locations where non-native invasive species and encroaching woody species are removed native plants may be planted.

Meadow restoration benefits would improve connectivity, enlargement of patch size and improve quality of plant and wildlife habitat in the meadows by removal of non-native invasive species, removal of encroaching woody species, and revegetation with native species. The meadows would be monitored to inform decision making and will refine techniques used for future conservation efforts for similar sites. Restoration would contribute to mutual goals of wildlife habitat conservation and native species diversity for both the BLM and the BDF. This project is scalable, so additional partners for funding will allow implementation of additional acres of treatments.

**Estimated Project Total = \$60,000**

Ryan Krapp, Conservation Coordinator  
Blacktail Deer Foundation / Mule Deer Foundation  
[rkrapp@muledeer.org](mailto:rkrapp@muledeer.org) (458) 212-9112

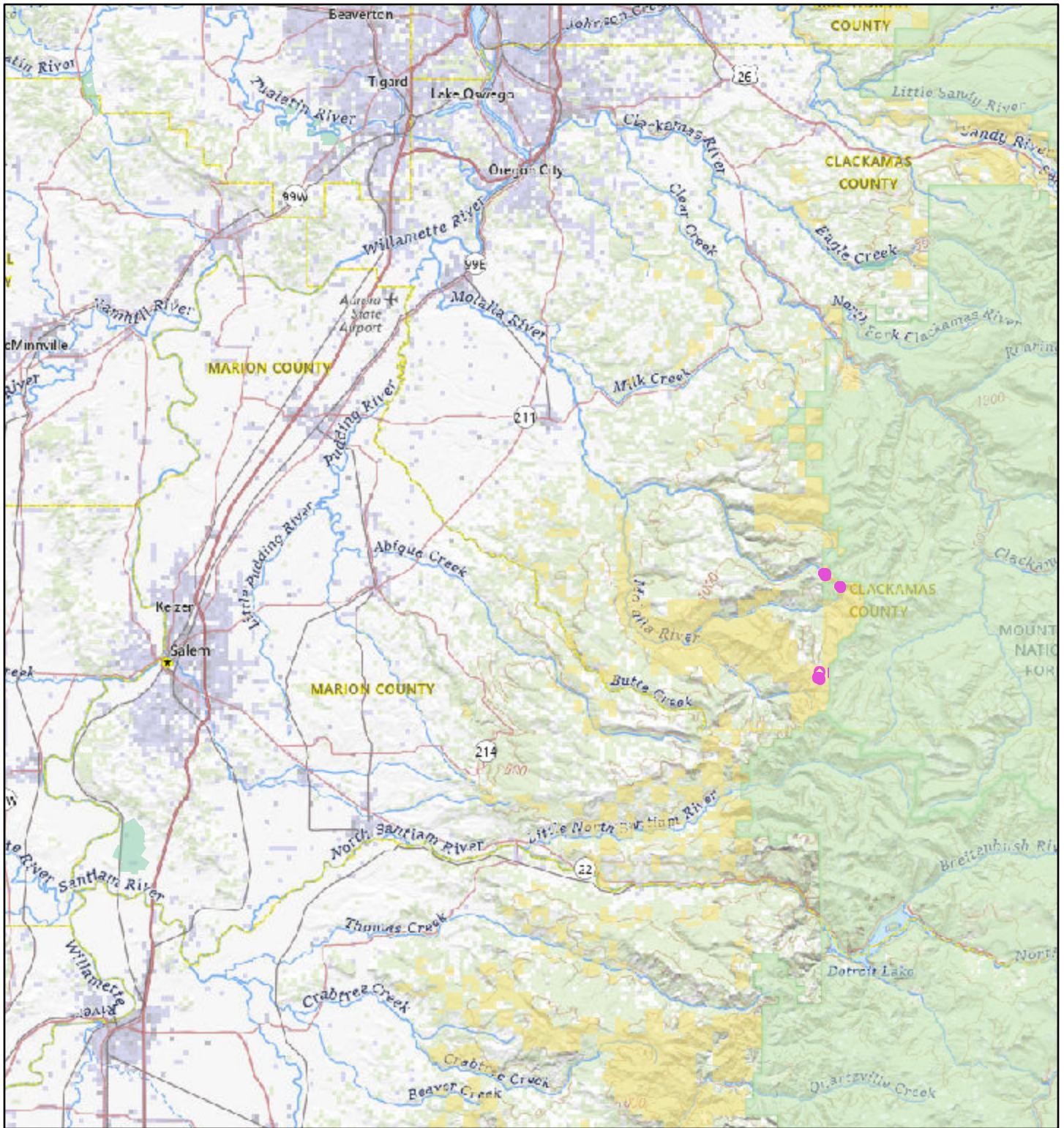


Fig 1. Example of untreated unit on left and previously treated (thinned) area on right now allowing sunlight reaching the ground spurring on shrub and forb (forage) growth.



Fig 2. Meadow thinning was conducted in 2017 to create diverse habitats and forage areas benefiting wildlife including elk and black-tailed deer. Additional conifers are planned to be removed to further open up traditional montane meadows that had been planted to trees after timber harvest 40+ years prior.

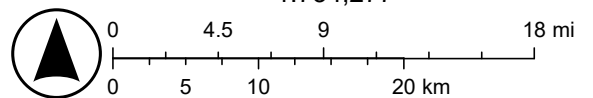
# Upper Molalla Meadows Project Area - Location



5/10/2024

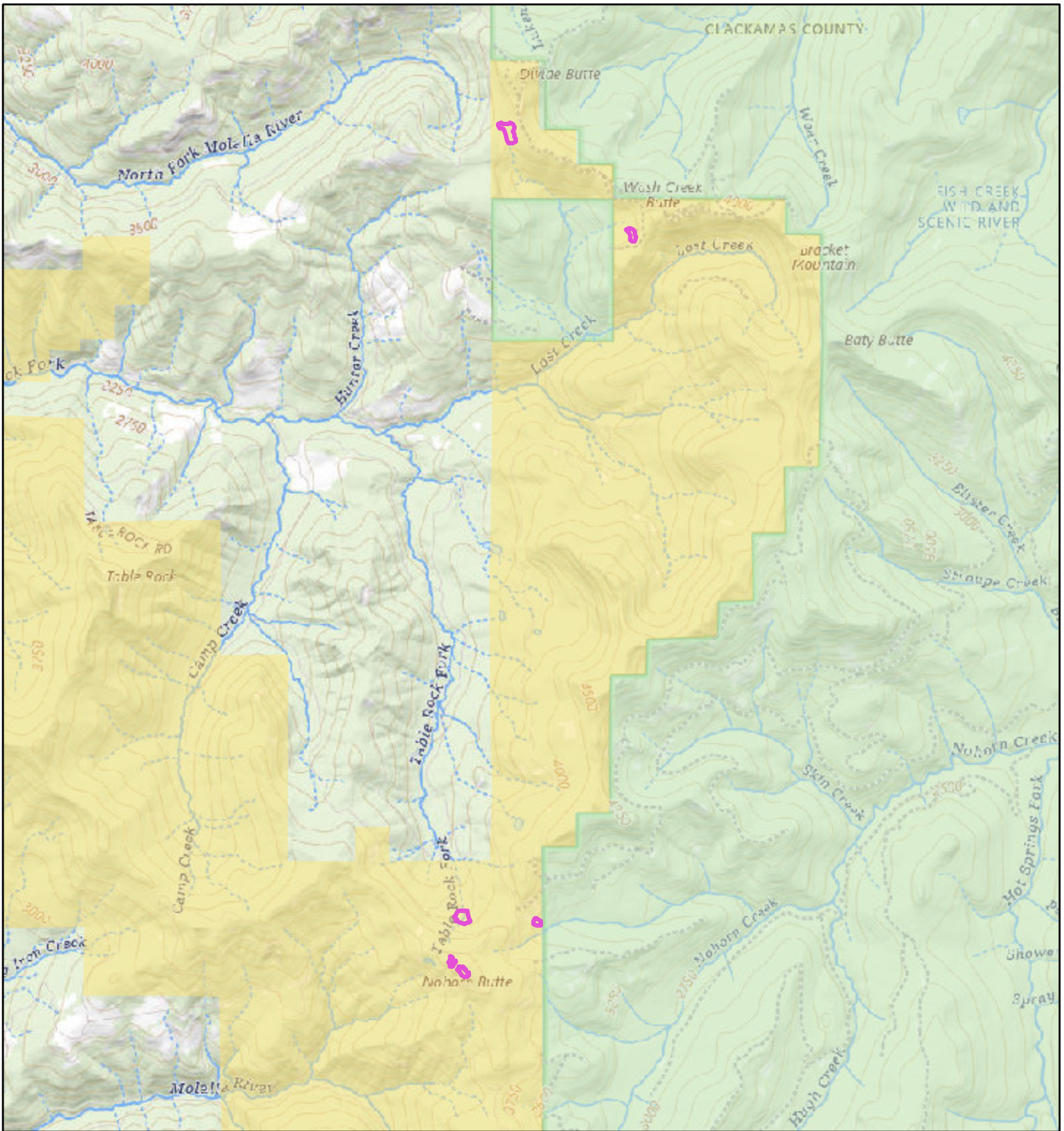
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- Upper Molalla Meadows (2024)
- Department of Defense
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Forest Service
- Bureau of Reclamation
- National Park Service



USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3DEP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line data; USFS Road data; Natural Earth Data; U.S.

# Upper Molalla Meadows Project Area Overview



5/10/2024

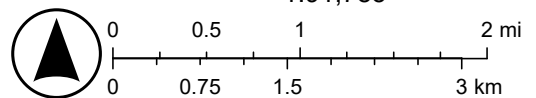
 Upper Molalla Meadows (2024)

Federal Lands

 Bureau of Land Management

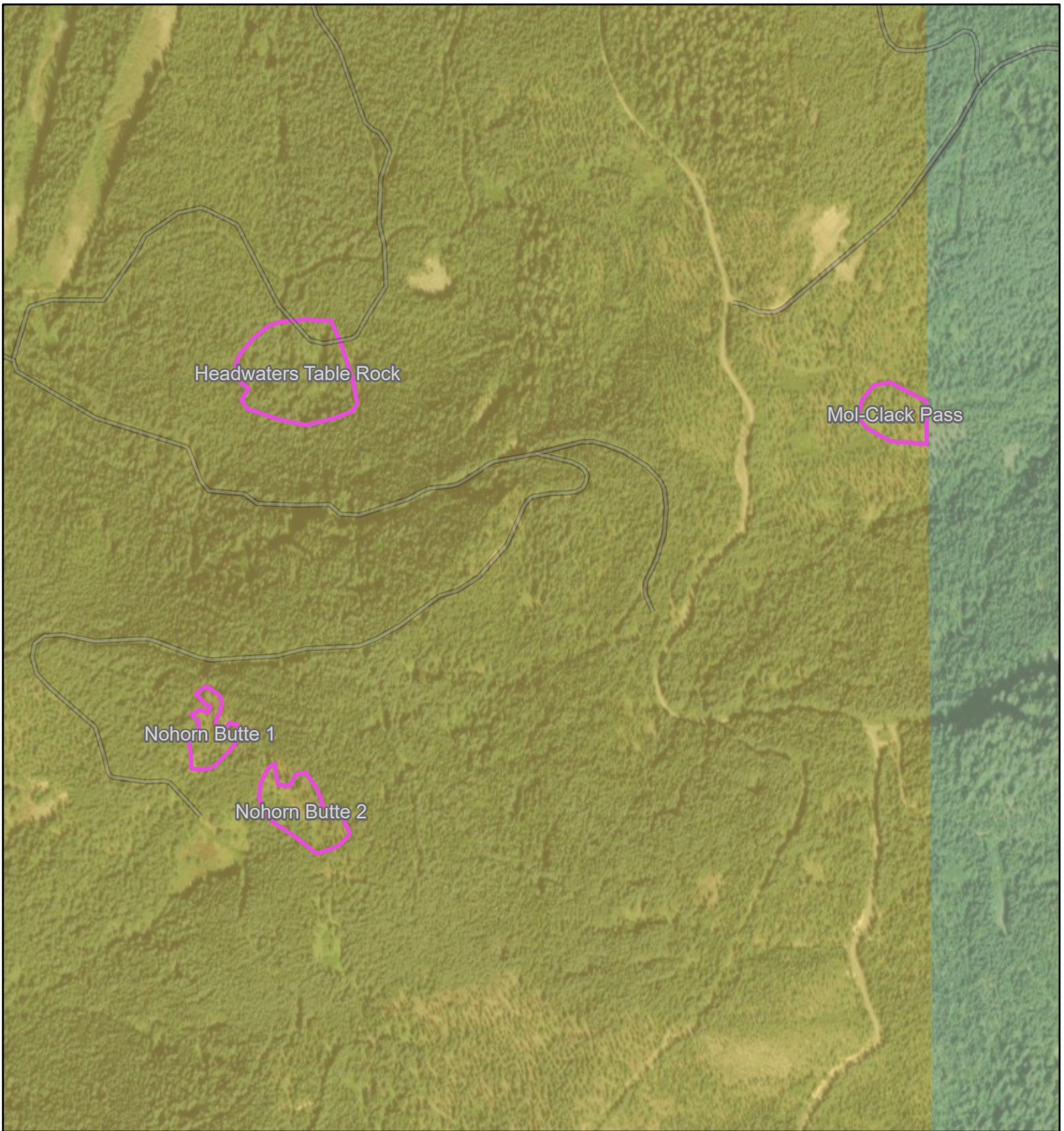
 Forest Service

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USGS The National Map: National Boundaries Dataset, 3DEP Elevation Program, Geographic Names Information System, National Hydrography Dataset, National Land Cover Database, National Structures Dataset, and National Transportation Dataset; USGS Global Ecosystems; U.S. Census Bureau TIGER/Line data; USFS Road data; Natural Earth Data; U.S.

# Upper Molalla Meadows (South Units) aerial



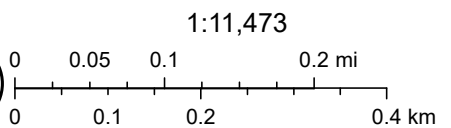
5/10/2024

-  Upper Molalla Meadows (2024)
- Federal Lands**
  -  Bureau of Land Management
  -  Forest Service
- World Imagery**

Low Resolution 15m Imagery  
High Resolution 60cm Imagery  
High Resolution 30cm Imagery

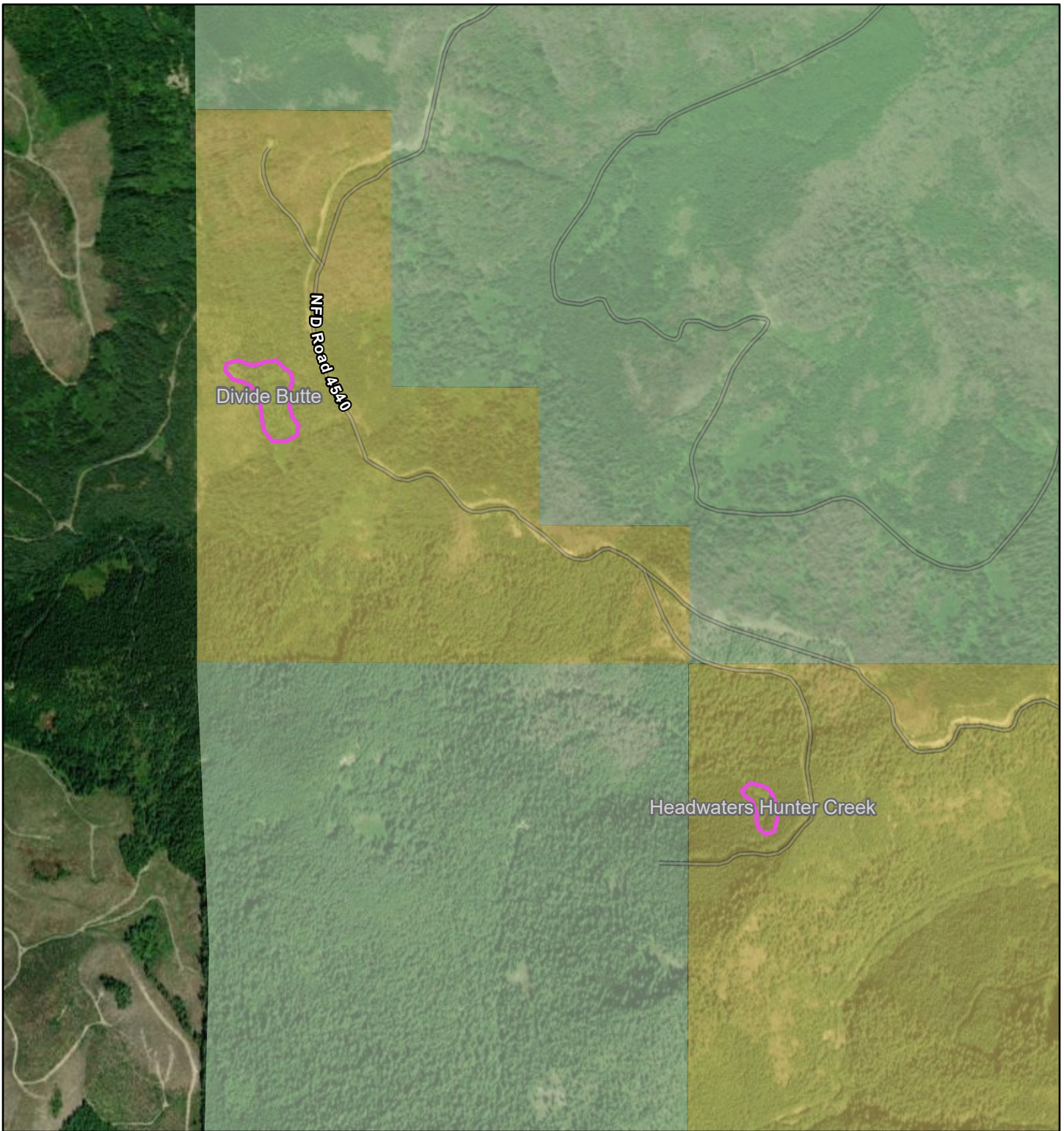
### Citations

2.4m Resolution Metadata




Esri Community Maps Contributors, Oregon Metro, Oregon State Parks, State of Oregon GEO, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS, Maxar


# Upper Molalla Meadows (North Units) aerial




5/10/2024

 Upper Molalla Meadows (2024)

Federal Lands

 Bureau of Land Management

 Forest Service

 World Imagery

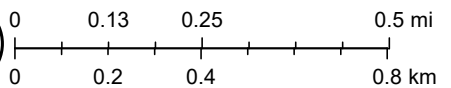
Low Resolution 15m Imagery

High Resolution 60cm Imagery

High Resolution 30cm Imagery

Citations

4.8m Resolution Metadata



1:22,946

Maxar, Oregon Metro, Oregon State Parks, State of Oregon GEO, Esri, TomTom, Garmin, SafeGraph, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Bureau of Land Management, EPA, NPS, US Census Bureau, USDA, USFWS



# ACCESS & HABITAT PROGRAM

## Regional Advisory Council

### Project Proposal Review

**ODFW Region / A&H Regional Council:** West Region / Northwest Regional Council

**Project Proposal Title:** Upper Molalla Meadows Restoration

**Applicants(s):** Mule Deer Foundation, Ryan Krapp

**Date of Council Review:** December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025

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

**Motion:** Roy made a motion to approve the project, Ken seconded.

<u>Council Member</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Scott Marlega	Chairman	Yea
Brad Redding	Landowner Representative	Yea
Joe Moade	Landowner Representative	Yea
Travis Bower	Landowner Representative	Yea
Ken McCall	Hunter Representative	Yea
Adam Stebbins	Hunter Representative	Yea
Roy Elicker	Hunter Representative	Yea

**Disposition of Vote:** Project Approved 7:0

#### **Project Strengths:**

- MDF and BLM cash and in-kind match is ~ 40% of the project cost
- Applicants have plans for long-term monitoring to evaluate success
- Glad to have a habitat project in the NW Region and glad to get a blacktail specific project

#### **Project Concerns:**

- Concerns on cost, high cost per acre but do understand contracting uncertainty
- Maybe only partially fund to encourage them to get additional funds - \$5-10k?