

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2011**

Project Details

1. Project title: Canada Goose Agricultural Depredation Control Plan

2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds):

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
3406 Cherry Ave NE
Salem, OR 97303

3. Contact information

- a. Project's primary contact:** Brad Bales
- b. Daytime telephone number/ mobile phone number:** 503-381-7621 (cell)
- c. Email Address:** bradley.d.bales@state.or.us
- d. Project location (if different than organization's address):**

4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.

State agency responsible for the management of the fish and wildlife resources for the citizens of Oregon.

5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?

Public agency

6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Migratory Bird Office

7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).

The NW Oregon / SW Washington Canada Goose Depredation Control Plan was developed by the NW Oregon / SW Washington Goose Depredation Working Group and approved by the Pacific Flyway Council in 1998.

The NW Oregon / SW Washington Canada Goose Depredation Control Plan has been a cooperative effort by landowners, wildlife management and wildlife damage control agencies, and researchers to address the problem of increased goose damage to agricultural crops in the Pacific Northwest. To be most successful, plan activities must be continued for several years to allow development of programs to influence goose use of private lands. The NW Oregon / SW Washington Canada Goose

Depredation Working Group will continue to work toward establishing a long-term program to lessen the economic impact of increased goose use of this region.

8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

The funds will be spent to implement the NW Oregon / SW Washington Canada Goose Depredation Control Plan including research at Oregon State University, personnel to provide assistance to landowners, managing hunting seasons designed to reduce depredation, monitoring goose populations to evaluate success, and enhancing alternative goose foraging areas. Following is a more detailed explanation of the annual operational program needs:

Oregon State University Research: \$100,000 (OSU)

Funding would continue research by Oregon State University looking at goose distribution in N.W. Oregon and preferred field crops for foraging. This can assist land managers in focusing depredation control efforts in the most appropriate areas and assist in developing habitat bases most used by geese.

Direct Landowner Assistance: \$581,000 (Wildlife Services)

This funding will allow additional personnel / equipment from U.S. Department of Agriculture - Wildlife Services (WS) to respond to landowner requests for assistance, and keep geese from damaging important croplands. WS has been unable to respond to all requests for assistance. In addition, assistance is currently not available for the entire time the geese are in the wintering area. (\$422K/OR, \$159K/WA)

Hunting Programs: \$267,000 (States of Oregon and Washington, US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS))

Hunting programs offer the best approach to directly control regional goose populations and assist in keeping geese off of croplands, while conserving declining subspecies of geese. Funding has been used to expand hunting to new areas and provide additional hunting days, by improved funding for hunt season monitoring and operation of hunter check stations. Opportunities exist in to provide additional hunting areas and season days, to assist in further reducing goose damage. (\$145K/OR, \$75K/WA, 47K/USFWS)

Plan monitoring and evaluation: \$25,000 (USFWS)

Accurate information is lacking on the size, distribution, and composition of the Canada goose population in the region. Continuation and enhancement of goose population monitoring efforts is required to assess progress toward plan goals, and evaluate success of the plan in reducing goose damage. This request would provide additional personnel, aerial survey funds, and equipment to provide adequate management information.

Goose forage enhancement, Landowner Programs: \$1,027,000 (USFWS)

The plan places a high priority on reducing goose damage by providing high quality alternative habitat on public lands and private lands, but funding has not been available to address this need. New funding is needed to rehabilitate existing pastures used by geese, establish new pastures and food plots, and restore

wetlands used by geese adjacent to pastures. Other landowner incentive programs would be explored to allow continuation of farming but provide financial incentives for landowners to allow goose use.

Implementation of the plan creates both state and federal jobs related to monitoring hunting seasons and goose populations and brings relief to agricultural operations resulting in improved crop production and profits for landowners throughout western Oregon and Washington. Hunting programs provide assistance to the economy through hunter purchases of field supplies, guns and ammunition.

9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?

Yes

9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

FY 99 – USFWS, \$575,000

FY 00 – USFWS, \$246,000

FY 01 – USFWS, \$270,000

FY 02 – USFWS, \$800,000

Funding Details

10. Amount requested for this project: \$2.0 million in operating expenses

11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000): See information provided in 8.

Oregon State University Research - \$100,000

Direct Landowner Assistance Programs - \$581,000

Hunting Programs – \$267,000

Monitoring and Evaluation - \$25,000

Goose Forage Enhancement/Landowner Programs - \$1,027,000

12. What is the total cost of the project? \$2,250,000 including cost share

13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011?)?

Yes, a working group will set priorities for any funds received.

14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)

Cost share of \$250,000 from Oregon and Washington wildlife agencies.

15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Washington Farm Bureau, Oregon Farm Bureau, Pacific Flyway Council