

Deschutes Special Investment Partnership Immediate Priorities

Name / Location	Lead Organization	Summary	Key Partners	Relevance to Criteria
Whychus Creek & Lake Creek				
Habitat Restoration				
Camp Polk Stream Restoration	UDWC	The project includes 1.7 miles of stream channel restoration at the Camp Polk Meadow Preserve to benefit spawning and rearing for resident and anadromous fish. It includes >200,000 native plants, >30 acres wetlands created, and an increase of 0.5 miles of channel length.	DBLT, DRC, USFS, ODFW, USFWS, Wolfree, TNC, OSU, U of O	The project is 'ready to go', with strong partnerships, excellent match funding and high ecological significance. This is currently the flagship habitat restoration project for the watershed.
Rimrock Ranch Stream Restoration	UDWC	The project will focus on 2 miles of stream channel restoration to improve spawning and rearing habitat for resident and anadromous fish. It will include >100,000 native plants, 25 acres wetlands created and 0.25 mile of new channel created.	DBLT, DRC, USFS, BLM, ODFW, USFWS, Wolfree, TNC, OSU	The project is currently in design, with completion expected Spring 2008 and implementation to begin in early 2009. It has strong partnerships, good match funding, and high ecological significance.
City of Sisters Stream Restoration	UDWC	The project will restore ~1.0 mile of stream channel to improve spawning and rearing habitat for resident and anadromous fish within the City of Sisters UGB. The project will result in Whychus Creek being restored throughout the urban area, resulting in significant benefits to steelhead, redband trout, riparian condition and water quality.	City of Sisters, Landowners, ODFW	The project focuses on one of the critical issues in Sisters - i.e., the urban impacts to the stream. A comprehensive restoration design will catalyze many key projects, with strong public involvement, excellent match funding and important ecological benefits.
Public Land Riparian (near Sisters)	UDWC	The project includes restoration of at least 6 sites (near TSID diversion, Sokol Property, Rd 1605) along Whychus Creek near Sisters. Restoration involves student-run planting and riparian area protection.	USFS, Wolfree, Oregon Trout	Projects are 'ready to go' with students, teachers, Forest Service and other partners standing by. Each project results in incrementally improved riparian habitat upstream of Sisters.
SF Lake Creek Culvert Removal	UDWC	The project focuses on removal of a culvert and obliteration of road to enhance migration and spawning in Lake Creek for chinook, sockeye, bull trout and redband trout. Culvert removal eliminates a significant erosion hazard and creates improved floodplain access for Lake Creek.	DBLT, USFS	The project helps restore an important reach of Lake Creek to benefit resident and anadromous fish. There are excellent partnerships in place and the project represents a 'win-win' for those involved.
Fish Passage / Screening				
Private diversions / passage	UDWC	The project involves developing and implementation fish passage solutions for 6 private diversions on Whychus Creek and Lake Creek.	OWRD, DRC, ODFW, NOAA, USFWS, Landowners	There is already excellent match funding, strong partnerships and a real need to address these problems. Screening and passage are critical to making the reintroduction efforts successful.
TSID Diversion	UDWC	The project includes comprehensive fish passage, screening and channel restoration for the TSID diversion. This diversion is currently on ODFW's 'Top 10' list of diversions in the state to be retrofitted. Improvements will open more than 15 miles of habitat.	TSID, USFS, ODFW, USFWS, NOAA	The project addresses the largest diversion in the watershed. Match funding is in place, there are strong partnerships and the team is ready to start the project.
Flow Restoration				
McKenzie Conservation	DRC	This canal piping project will permanently restore and legally protect 2.4 cfs instream to be held in trust by the State of Oregon.	TSID, OWRD, Landowners	All of the instream flow restoration projects provide critically needed permanent flow restoration. They have strong leverage, excellent partnerships and a track record of success.
Whychus Transfers	DRC	The project will permanently acquire and legally protect 64 acres of water rights, resulting in 2 cfs permanently instream to be held in trust by the State of Oregon.	TSID, City of Sisters, Landowners, OWRD	[see comments above]
TSID Main Canal	DRC	The project includes piping the main canal to restore 6 cfs permanently instream to be held in trust by the State of Oregon.	TSID, USFS, OWRD, Landowners	[see comments above]
Land Conservation				
Whychus Creek Acquisition #1	DBLT	The project will protect 0.75 miles of priority floodplain and provide an opportunity for comprehensive restoration by the UDWC.	UDWC	The site has high ecological significance/potential and is adjacent to another protected reach.
Whychus Creek Acquisition #2	DBLT	The project will protect 1.75 miles of quality stream habitat (both sides of creek) and outstanding uplands. Public access will be included.	TPL, BLM	This project will protect almost 2 miles of stream (both sides) and provide public access to the creek. There is excellent match funding and strong partnerships.
Spring Creek Conservation Easement	DBLT	The project protects critical spring chinook spawning area in Metolius subbasin.	UDWC, ODFW	Studies show lower Lake Creek contains the most productive spring chinook rearing habitat in the Metolius subbasin. This project will protect an undeveloped property with significant stream frontage.
Lake Creek Conservation Easement	DBLT	Protects .5 miles of undeveloped stream habitat on Lake Creek, provides for UDWC enhancement	UDWC	This project will protect nearly all the undeveloped acreage on Spring Creek, an important spring chinook stream.

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Lower Crooked River & McKay Creek				
Habitat Restoration				
Lower Crooked River - City of Prineville Restoration	CRWC	This project will improve habitat on 3 miles of the Lower Crooked River through the City of Prineville Urban Growth Boundary. The project will involve removing or lowering levees, constructing off-channel habitat for fish rearing and flood refugia, bank stabilization to reduce erosion, and riparian afforestation.	Crook County Parks and Recreation District, City of Prineville, Mayberry Development, USFWS	This is a high profile project with strong partnerships, good ecological benefits and excellent leverage.
Middle McKay (McKay Creek Bridge to Allen Creek)	CRWC	This project will restore floodplain connectivity and instream habitat structure, and conduct riparian afforestation between the McKay Creek Road Bridge and Allen Creek. The project will provide rearing and spawning habitat for anadromous and resident fish in a reach of permanently restored streamflow. The project will also overlap with a conservation easement being pursued by the Deschutes Basin Land Trust.	Landowners (Santucci, Dill, Seamus, Parga), DRC, USFWS, DBLT	There is strong synergy between this project and others (flow restoration, land conservation). It has high ecological significance and great leverage.
Lower Crooked River - Prineville Valley Restoration	CRWC	This project will promote strategic reach level restoration for the approximately 16 mile reach (including Butler Ranch, Alves Ranch, Estridge Ranch, and Tognoli Ranch) between the City of Prineville urban growth boundary and the Lone Pine Bridge. A design must first be completed by the SIP partnership.	12 private landowners, NRCS, ODFW, USFWS	This is a critical step toward large scale restoration on the Crooked River. Given the scope of the restoration need, this design phase is a wise investment. There are excellent partnerships and good leverage.
Fish Passage / Screening				
Opal Springs Passage and Screening	CRWC	The Opal Springs Dam is a 25 foot fish passage barrier at river mile 1 on the Crooked River. The barrier blocks upstream migration to the 132 miles of upstream habitat on the Crooked River. Designs for a fish ladder to provide passage over the dam have already been completed, and studies of the effects on downstream passage have shown downstream passage mortality to be minimal.	Deschutes Valley Water District, USFWS, ODFW, CTWS, BOR, SWCD	The project provides critically important passage into the Crooked River. It is fundamental to successful reintroduction and well supported by local partners.
NUID Pump Screening	CRWC	This project will reconfigure NUID's Crooked River Pump Station to minimize entrapment or injury to fish and to allow NUID to return up to 75 cfs in-stream to a critical low water reach. The project will facilitate anadromous migration from the lower canyons of the Crooked River to spawning habitat upstream.	North Unit Irrigation District, Pelton Fund, ODFW	The project provides important protecting for migrating fish low in the Crooked River system. There are excellent partnerships, existing match, and the project is "ready to go".
Crooked River Central Irrigation District Passage	CRWC	This project will replace the existing dam with an inflatable Obermeyer weir and a pool and chute fishway. The project will provide permanent up and downstream passage for migrating anadromous and resident fish, opening approximately 43 miles of habitat.	Crooked River Central Irrigation Owners, Pelton Fund, ODFW, BOR, USFWS, PGE	The project protects fish while retaining irrigation capacity - there is strong ecological significance as the project will open passage to McKay Creek, Ochoco Creek, and the Bowman Tailrace of the Crooked River. There is good leverage and excellent partnerships in place.
People's Irrigation District Passage	CRWC	This project will construct a natural fishway over the 7 foot concrete dam and install fish screens. The project will provide permanent up and downstream fish passage for migrating anadromous and resident fish, and reduce entrainment in the People's canal. The project will open approximately 7 miles of habitat.	People's Irrigation District Owners, Pelton Fund, NRCS, USFWS, ODFW	The project protects fish while retaining irrigation capacity - the natural fishway design will improve existing rearing habitat while simultaneously providing passage. There is strong ecological significance, good leverage, and excellent partnerships in place.
Stearns Dam Removal Project	CRWC	This project will provide passage into the Bowman Tailrace fishery - a fishery renowned for its excellent habitat and productivity. The project make the existing 5 foot structure passable to up and downstream migrating fish, opening approximately 13 miles of habitat.	Owners, BLM, Pelton Fund, ODFW	The project will play an important part of successful steelhead reintroduction in the lower Crooked River. Match funding is in place, NEPA is close to completion, and the partnership is ready to move forward.
McKay Private Diversions & Passage Projects	CRWC	Four diversion structures on McKay Creek are no longer used or will no longer be needed after the DRC completes the McKay Creek Water Rights Switch Project. This project will work with four landowners to either remove the diversions entirely or construct a series of engineered pools to proved passage over the diversion.	Landowners, DRC, USFWS	The projects are an important part of steelhead reintroduction on McKay Creek. They have excellent leverage and strong partnerships.
Flow Restoration				
McKay Creek Exchange	DRC	The project will use an innovated exchange of water rights to permanently restore and legally protect up to 7 cfs instream in McKay Creek	Ochoco Irrigation District, Landowners, CRWC, OWRD, NRCS, DBLT	The project addresses flow restoration, one of the most important issues in McKay Creek. It is innovative, ecologically important and well supported.
NUID Canal Lining	DRC	This irrigation conservation project will annually restore and legally protect up to 14.5 cfs instream in the Crooked River.	North Unit Irrigation District, Pelton Fund, OWRD	The project will result in a significant instream flow benefit. There are excellent partners, leverage and ecological benefits.
Land Conservation				
McKay Creek Conservation Easement #1	DBLT	This permanent conservation easement will protect 1.5 miles of priority McKay habitat and provide opportunities for habitat restoration by the CRWC.	CRWC, DRC	McKay Creek, the top priority stream for steelhead reintroduction, is threatened by rapid development. This project will reverse the parcelization trend by combining two large properties into one ownership. Strong partnership component.
McKay Creek Conservation Easement #2	DBLT	This permanent conservation easement will protect 1.5 miles of priority McKay habitat and provide opportunities for habitat restoration by the CRWC.	CRWC, DRC	Protects a key reach of McKay Creek from possible destination resort development. Strong potential for restoring instream flow as part of the project.