



Oregon

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Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

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February 19, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

FROM: Lauri Aunan, Grant Program Manager
Sue Greer, Mid-Columbia Regional Program Representative

**SUBJECT: Agenda Item F: OWEB Grant Award Recommendations
Region 6, Mid-Columbia
March 16-17, 2010 OWEB Board Meeting**

I. Introduction

This staff report describes the Mid-Columbia Regional Review Team evaluations and staff recommendations for funding.

II. Background and Summary

Applicants submitted 26 applications for a total request of \$2,806,669. The Mid-Columbia Regional Review Team (RRT) recommended 21 applications. Staff recommend funding 17 applications for a total award of \$1,666,995: \$1,522,297 for Restoration, \$53,665 for Education and Outreach, and 91,033 for Monitoring.

III. Regional Review Team Recommendations

The RRT met in Milton-Freewater in December 2009 to review the applications received in this grant cycle and make recommendations to OWEB staff. All applications were reviewed for merit and given a “do fund” or “no fund” recommendation. The RRT then prioritized the applications recommended for funding.

The RRT recommended funding for 15 Restoration applications; four Education/Outreach applications; one Monitoring application; and one Technical Assistance application.

Staff concur with the RRT-recommended funding conditions for seven Restoration applications (210-6022, 210-6035, 210-6042, 210-6033, 210-6037, 210-6027 and 210-6026), one Education/Outreach application (210-6023) and one Monitoring application (210-6039) recommended by staff for funding. The conditions are described in the Region 6 evaluations for these applications. The RRT also recommended conditions for the one Technical Assistance application, 210-6045. Staff agree with the concerns that led the RRT to recommend these conditions, but as discussed in Section IV of this report, below, staff do not recommend 210-6045 for funding at this time.

The RRT recommended significant budget reductions for Restoration applications 210-6033 and 210-6043. Staff concur with these budget reductions, as described in the evaluations.

IV. Staff Recommendations

Staff recommend funding 12 Restoration applications, four Education/Outreach applications, and one Monitoring application. Staff recommend budget reductions for Restoration application 210-6046 and Monitoring application 210-6039, as described in the Region 6 evaluation for those applications.

Staff do not recommend funding the one Technical Assistance application, 210-6045, recommended by the RRT. As described in the evaluation, the RRT was concerned whether enough community outreach had occurred to ensure that the technical assistance project could succeed and then result in a successful on-the-ground restoration project. The RRT recommended numerous conditions to its funding recommendation. Following the review team evaluation, staff learned additional information that led to the recommendation not to fund the application at this time. Staff have discussed its concerns with the applicant and have encouraged them to resubmit an application that includes a community outreach component to go hand in hand with the technical review of alternatives.

Attachment A shows the applications, funding amounts, conditions (if any), and priority rankings recommended for funding to OWEB staff by the RRT. The table also indicates, by means of shaded entries, the OWEB staff recommendations to the Board. For some applications, the amount shown in the table and the condition is the staff or RRT recommendation rather than the amount requested in the application.

Attachment B shows those applications not recommended for funding at this time by the RRT and OWEB staff.

Staff recommend the Board approve the staff funding recommendation as contained in Attachment A to this report.

Attachments

- A. Applications Recommended for Funding
- B. Applications Not Recommended for Funding

ATTACHMENT A

**Region 6 - Mid Columbia
Restoration Applications Recommended for Funding by the RRT
October 19, 2009 Grant Cycle**

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray

Project #	Project Name	Capital Funds	Non-Capital Funds	Total Amount	Priority
210-6021	John Day Basin Fish Habitat Enhancement Program	139,700		139,700	1
210-6022	Murray and Kennedy Ditch Push Up Dam Elimination^	152,019		152,019	2
210-6035	Fox & Cottonwood Watershed Restoration - Leafy Spurge Control^ EM \$20,328	109,391	215	109,606	3
210-6038	Joliff Barrier and Stream Restoration Project	153,741		153,741	4
210-6042	Dad's Creek Upland Watershed Restoration^	72,106		72,106	5
210-6033	Middle Fork John Day Aspen Restoration^*	200,000		200,000	6
210-6037	Jarvis Ranch Watershed Improvements^	46,177		46,177	7
210-6027	Bologna Creek Restoration^	28,746		28,746	8
210-6044	Mortimore Upland Improvement	41,264		41,264	9
210-6026	Schoolhouse Hill Restoration^	29,535		29,535	10
210-6046	Murtha Ranch Habitat Restoration - Phase I* EM \$13,420	155,629		155,629	11
210-6043	Walla Walla Basin Aquifer Replenishment and Stream Restoration Program (ARSRP)* EM \$76,255	391,524	2,250	393,774	12
210-6024	Sherman County Area Watersheds Upland Erosion Control	28,275		28,275	13
210-6030	Hermiston Irrigation District B4 Ditch Conversion Project	33,602		33,602	14
210-6031	Stanfield Irrigation District - Piping C-Line	46,089		46,089	15
Total Restoration Projects Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT		1,627,798	2,465	1,630,263	
Total Restoration Projects Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board		1,519,832	2,465	1,522,297	

* Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Reduction ^Fund with Conditions

Region 6 - Mid Columbia
Education Applications Recommended for Funding by the RRT
October 19, 2009 Grant Cycle

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray

Project #	Project Name	Total Amount	Priority
210-6034	STELLAR	22,121	1
210-6025	Eastern Oregon Natural Resources Youth Camp	6,000	2
210-6028	Creek Connections: Connecting Kids and Curriculum through Watershed Studies	13,682	3
210-6023	Sherman County Conservation Awareness Program^	11,862	4
Total Education Projects Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT		53,665	
Total Education Projects Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board		53,665	

^Fund with Conditions

Region 6 - Mid Columbia
Monitoring Applications Recommended for Funding by the RRT
October 19, 2009 Grant Cycle

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray

Project #	Project Name	Total Amount	Priority
210-6039	Umatilla TMDL Target Watershed Implementation Study^*	91,033	1
Total Monitoring Projects Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT		91,033	
Total Monitoring Projects Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board		91,033	

* Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Reduction ^Fund with Conditions

Region 6 - Mid Columbia
Technical Assistance Applications Recommended for Funding by the RRT
October 19, 2009 Grant Cycle

Staff Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray

Project #	Project Name	Total Amount	Priority
210-6045	Technical Evaluation of Aquatic Conservation Options at Bates Pond^	25,641	1
Total Technical Assistance Projects Recommended for Funding to Staff by RRT		25,641	
Total Technical Assistance Projects Recommended for Funding by Staff to Board		0	

^Fund with Conditions

Region 6 - Mid Columbia
Restoration Applications NOT Recommended for Funding by the RRT
October 19, 2009 Grant Cycle

Project #	Project Name	Total Amount Requested
210-6032	Rudio Creek Ranch Habitat Restoration Project	360,488
210-6036	Rudio Creek Upland Watershed Improvements	89,942
210-6040	Lower Kayser Fish Ladder	36,176

Region 6 - Mid Columbia
Monitoring Applications Withdrawn by Applicant

Project #	Project Name	Total Amount Requested
210-6029	Umatilla Basin Monitoring of Recharge Groundwater Return Flows	192,665

Region 6 - Mid Columbia
Restoration Applications Withdrawn by Applicant
October 19, 2009 Grant Cycle

Project #	Project Name	Total Amount Requested
210-6041	Ramsey Fish Passage Project	58,130