

August 31, 2006

MEMORANDUM

TO: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

FROM: Roger Wood, Grant Program Manager

**SUBJECT: Agenda Item E: OWEB Grant Award Recommendations
Region 1, North Coast
September 19-20, 2006 OWEB Board Meeting**

I. Introduction

This staff report describes the North Coast Regional Review Team recommendations, special issues, deferred land acquisition grant applications, and staff recommendations for funding.

II. Background

The table attached to the Overview report contains the numbers and types of applications received and of dollar amounts requested. The North Coast Regional Review Team (RRT) met at the new Rockaway Beach Civic Center on July 6, 2006, to review the applications received in this grant cycle. All applications were reviewed for technical merit and a fund/no fund recommendation was made by the RRT. The RRT then prioritized the applications recommended for funding.

III. Regional Review Team Recommendations

The Region 1 RRT recommended five restoration projects totaling \$231,672 for funding. Special conditions were suggested for one of the projects recommended for funding.

The RRT recommended seven technical assistance projects totaling \$121,308 for funding. Special conditions were suggested for two of the projects, one was reduced in amount, and one was increased in amount.

IV. Special Issues

At the time of preparing this report, staff learned that the Green River Large Wood Placement project (207-047) is about to be granted \$30,000 by the U.S. Forest Service Whole Watershed Restoration Partnership program, which was funded by the Board in May 2006. The Restoration table in Attachment A shows the original amount requested of OWEB, but staff will recommend \$30,000 less (\$18,190) if the other grant is awarded.

V. Deferred Acquisitions

Two land acquisition grant applications that have previously been deferred by the Board are updated in this staff report.

A. Tenmile Creek Corridor Easement Project (z206-058)

The McKenzie River Trust submitted an application in April 2005 requesting \$900,000 from OWEB to assist in the purchase of conservation easements on 318 acres in three parcels located in the Tenmile Creek Watershed. The application was deferred for consideration by the Board in September 2005, January 2006, March 2006 and May 2006, pending receipt and review of due diligence materials. At the time of writing this staff report, most of the due diligence materials have been reviewed and approved, but there are unresolved issues related to reserved rights in the conservation easements and the value of the easement on two of the parcels. Staff and the Board Acquisition Subcommittee are interested in recommending funding for this project at the January 2007 Board meeting provided these issues are resolved before December 1, 2006. At this time staff and the Board Subcommittee recommend the Board continue to defer consideration of this application for funding until the remaining due diligence issues are resolved.

B. Svenson Island (z206-259)

The grant application was submitted on October 24, 2005, by the Columbia Land Trust and requests \$120,000 toward acquisition of 253 acres of diked island habitat within the Columbia River Estuary. The Board deferred consideration of this application pending review of due diligence materials at the March 2006 and May 2006 Board meetings. Due diligence materials have not been received, therefore staff recommend the Board continue to defer consideration of this application.

VI. Staff Recommendations for Project Funding

Attachment A shows the proposals, funding amounts, conditions (if any), and priority rankings recommended as “do fund” to OWEB staff by the RRT. The table also indicates, by means of shaded entries, the OWEB staff “do fund” recommendations to the Board. For some “do fund” projects, the amount shown in the table may be the staff funding recommendation rather than the RRT recommendation.

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

Attachments

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

Region 1 – North Coast
Restoration Projects Recommended for Funding by the RRT
April 24, 2006 Grant Cycle

Staff Funding Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray

Project #	Project Name	Non-Capital Funds	Capital Funds	Total Amount	Priority
207-047	Green River Large Wood Placement & Effectiveness Monitoring		48,190	48,190	1
207-045	God's Valley LWD IV		24,737	24,737	2
207-046	Starr Creek Fish Passage**		52,974	52,974	3
207-042	Walker Creek Culverts Replacement		65,821	65,821	4
207-043	Netarts Oyster Restoration		39,950	39,950	5
Total Restoration Projects Recommended for Funding to Staff by the RRT		\$0	\$231,672	\$231,672	
Total Restoration Projects Recommended for Funding by Staff to the Board		\$0	\$231,672	\$231,672	

** Fund with Conditions

Region 1 – North Coast
Technical Assistance Projects Recommended for Funding by the RRT
April 24, 2006 Grant Cycle

Staff Funding Recommendations to the Board are Highlighted in Gray

Project #	Project Name	Total Amount	Priority
207-003	Elk Creek Phase II – Fish Passage Design and Planning □	23,000	1
207-001	Implementation Planning for Priority Stream Restoration Areas	12,133	2
207-005	Munson Creek Fish Passage Engineering and Restoration Planning	5,567	3
207-006	Upper Nehalem Riparian Restoration/Landowner Recruitment **	7,200	4
207-004	Nature Conservancy Conservation Action Plan – Salmon River Watershed	26,353	5
207-002	Limiting Factor Analysis – Knowles, Five Mile & Smith Creek basins *	30,000	6
207-007	North Fork Siuslaw Landowner Outreach **	17,055	7
Total Technical Assistance Projects Recommended for Funding to Staff by the RRT		121,308	
Total Technical Assistance Projects Recommended for Funding by Staff to the Board		104,253	

*Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Reduction ** Fund with Conditions □ Listed Amount Reflects Recommended Increase

**Region 1 – North Coast
Acquisition Projects Receiving a Positive Rating for Ecological Merit by the RRT
and Recommended for Deferral by OWEB Staff**

Project #	Project Name	Amount
z206-058	Tenmile Cr Corridor Easement (4-25-05 Grant Cycle)	900,000
z206-259	Svenson Island Conservation (10-24-05 Grant Cycle)	120,000
Total Acquisition Projects Recommended for Deferral by Staff to the Board		\$1,020,000

Region 1 – North Coast
Restoration Projects Not Recommended for Funding by the RRT and OWEB Staff
April 24, 2006 Grant Cycle

Project #	Project Name	Amount Requested
207-044	Horn Restoration	39,586

Region 1 – North Coast
Technical Assistance Projects Not Recommended for Funding by the RRT and OWEB Staff
April 24, 2006 Grant Cycle

Project #	Project Name	Amount Requested
207-008	Landowner Recruitment to Implement Practices Improving Water Quality and Watershed Health	49,959