

ECONOMIC SOLUTIONS TO FISH PASSAGE FOR FOREST LANDOWNERS

2015 OFRI FISH PASSAGE & HABITAT WORKSHOP

Lucas Hunt

Stewardship Forester

Polk Soil & Water Conservation District

Mission: To promote conservation and the wise use of natural resources in Polk County.



October 29th, 2015

POLK SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

What Do We Do?



- Help LOs identify goals and objectives for their property
- Create maps and provide assistance with resource inventories
- Assist with development of management plans
- Identify sources of assistance *that work for landowners*
- Connect LOs with other agencies who may be able to assist them
- Write grants to obtain funds for implementation

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Small Grant Program



- Competitive grant program that awards funds for on-the-ground restoration projects
- Projects must benefit water quality, water quantity, as well as fish & wildlife
- Up to \$10k, funds awarded quarterly
- 2 year completion window
- 25% match from LO and partners
- Fund work and restoration, not always capital (culvert material or bridge)
- e.g. Clark, Skid Creek, Confluence LWD

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Restoration Grant Program



- Highly competitive grant program for on-the-ground restoration projects
- Regional level review and competition (Willamette Valley)
- Projects must demonstrate why here, why now, and connect impacts to downstream
- No limit, funds awarded biannually
- Multi year completion window
- 25% match, the more the better
- e.g. Villwack Ford, Arboretum ELJs

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Technical Assistance Grant Program

- Highly competitive grant program for planning and design of large scale restoration projects
- Regional level review and competition (Willamette Valley)
- Projects must demonstrate why here, why now, and connect impacts to downstream
- No limit, funds awarded biannually
- Multi year completion window, often 3
- 25% match, the more the better
- Projects approved for TA grants are often a shoe in for OWEB restoration grant applications

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

USDI Fish & Wildlife Service

Partners for Wildlife Program



- LO signs 10-15 year contract with FWS
- FWS helps LO with wildlife management and restoration activities on property
 - Instream/Riparian/Wetlands/Upland
 - Plantings, feed plots, veg mgt
 - Prescribed burning
- LO often responsible for some maintenance
- Multi year completion window
- Can bring equipment and cash to project
 - Fellers, herbicide applicators
 - Dozer, mowers, skid steer, excavator

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

Fish Screening and Passage Program

- \$75k limit, annual funding
- Applicant must be agricultural water users, state agencies, municipal water suppliers, irrigation districts, commercial industries
- Often 60/40 cost share, with ODFW bringing in equipment and technical assistance to bear
- e.g. Mercer Plunge Pool

Restoration and Enhancement Program

- \$100k limit, quarterly funding
- Applicant must be public or private nonprofit, government agency or STEP organization
- Projects must benefit recreational and/or commercial fisheries
- Creating new fishing opportunities, supporting salmonid fisheries, supporting diversified species fisheries

POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

USDA Natural Resource Cons. Service

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)

- Voluntary land retirement program administered by FSA
- Financial incentives to enhance and protect water quality for drinking by filtering runoff, stabilizing streambanks and shading stream channels
- 10 to 15 year commitment to keep land out of agricultural production



POTENTIAL FUNDING SOURCES

USDA NRCS

Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- Voluntary program with NRCS
- Contracts up to 10 years in length
- Implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns on agricultural or private forestland
- Thinning, veg mgt, planting sensitive areas, slash mgt
- Also other initiatives:
 - Soil health
 - Organic growers



THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, CONCERNS?

Lucas Hunt

Stewardship Forester

www.polkswcd.org

Polk Soil & Water Conservation District

503-623-9680 x104

580 Main Street, Suite A

Dallas Oregon



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