



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Water Resources Commission

**FROM:** Thomas M. Byler, Director

**SUBJECT:** Agenda Item H, November 19, 2020  
Water Resources Commission Meeting

### Water Project Grant and Loan Award Funding Recommendations

#### I. Introduction

This report describes the multi-agency Technical Review Team (TRT) evaluation process, public comments received, and the Department's funding recommendations for the 2020 Water Project Grants and Loans funding cycle. The Commission will be asked to award funding.

#### II. Background

Recommended Action 13.E of the Integrated Water Resources Strategy calls for investing in implementation of water resources projects. In 2013, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 839, establishing the Water Project Grants and Loans funding opportunity, which provides funding for water projects that have economic, social, and environmental public benefits. After adoption of rules in June 2015, the Commission has awarded grants each year (Table 1).

*Table 1 - Number of Grants and Total Funds Awarded to Date*

Year Awarded	Number of Grants	Total Awarded
2016	9	\$8,891,118
2017	4	\$6,282,232
2018	8	\$6,297,755
2019	4	\$2,471,120
Total	25	\$23,942,225

During the 2019 legislative session, \$15 million of Lottery Revenue Bonds for project funding was authorized. In 2020, lottery revenues have been impacted due to the coronavirus and the previously authorized sale of Lottery Revenue Bonds in the spring of 2021 will not occur. Therefore, the anticipated \$15 million in funding will not be available for grants. Currently, there is approximately \$7,991,354 in unobligated funds available for the Commission to award in the 2020 and 2021 funding cycles.

Based on the impact to funding, in August the Commission was asked to decide how to allocate the available funds between the 2020 and 2021 funding cycles. Several options were presented, and the Commission approved Option II, dividing the available funds between the 2020 and 2021 funding cycles with no maximum award set in either year's funding cycle.

The original 2020 application deadline was April 29 but was extended to May 28 to allow applicants more time amidst the coronavirus pandemic. After the application deadline, all applications were reviewed for eligibility and completeness. All applications were determined to be eligible and complete. The Department received twelve complete applications requesting a total of \$18,828,217 in grant funding, with individual grant requests ranging from \$134,240 to \$2,876,174. See Attachment 1 for a list of all complete applications received.

The Department solicited written comments on complete applications during a 60-day public comment period from June 17 through August 17. During this first comment period, the Department received comments from 89 individuals and organizations addressing multiple applications (see Attachment 2).

The Department contacted affected Tribes directly to solicit comments on complete applications where project work would be conducted on lands where the Tribe may have an interest. Affected Tribes were invited to serve as members of the TRT, submit comments for consideration by the TRT, or if later in the process, submit comments for consideration by the Department and Commission. The Department did not receive any comments from Tribes.

### **III. Grant Application Review Process**

#### *TRT Review*

A multi-agency TRT evaluated the applications and developed funding recommendations for the Commission. The TRT consisted of staff from the Departments of Environmental Quality, Fish and Wildlife, Business Development, and Agriculture, as well as Regional Solutions. See Attachment 1 for the TRT project ranking and funding recommendations.

The TRT convened on August 25-26 to discuss the public benefits of each project, consider the public comments, and score each application. Scoring was based on the potential economic, environmental, and social/cultural public benefits described in the applications, and the comments received. The TRT scores applications during the meeting and assesses the outcomes, which affords the TRT members the opportunity to discuss the merits of the project proposals and ensure consistent application of the criteria.

#### *Scoring Criteria*

Between 2019 and 2020, the Department conducted an assessment of the Water Project Grants and Loans and Feasibility Study Grant funding opportunities. Based on assessment findings and feedback, the Department set a minimum score for an application to be recommended for funding. Specifically, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category, demonstrating that moderate public benefits are likely to be achieved. Additionally, in response to input and observations regarding past scoring, the Department increased the incremental range of points available on the scoring scale to more clearly differentiate between the potential negative and positive public benefits.

A maximum score of 72 points is available in each of the three public benefit categories – economic, environmental, and social/cultural – for a total of 216. A proposed project can receive up to 24 additional preference points; up to 12 points for legally protecting water instream and up to 12 points for collaboration (both listed in the “Other” category).

Therefore, the maximum public benefit score is 240 points. See Attachment 3 for applicable rules on public benefit scoring and Attachment 4 for the Department's Scoring Criteria document.

#### *Ranking, Recommendations, and Public Comment*

The Department calculated a combined public benefit score for each project and prepared a draft ranking in order of greatest public benefit. The TRT then reviewed the draft ranking and made a final funding recommendation. See Attachment 5 for all complete applications received and the TRT project ranking, evaluation summaries, and funding recommendations.

The TRT rankings and recommendations were published on the Department's website and distributed on the Water Resources Development Program's listserv for a 30-day public comment period, which took place from September 2 through October 2. During the second comment period, the Department received comments from two individuals and organizations addressing three applications. See Attachment 6 for the public comments received.

The comments provided on the projects consisted of letters supporting the project proposals. Comments were received on 1) the Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration - Group 3 project, 2) the Eastside Lateral Pipeline & Water Conservation Project, and 3) the Lone Pine Irrigation Modernization Project.

#### **IV. 2020 Funding Award Recommendations**

Based on the TRT ranking, public comments, and staff review, the Department recommends funding the top three applications (Table 2). This funding recommendation takes into account the public benefits provided by these applications and statutory provisions to review applications annually. If approved by the Commission, staff will work with recipients to develop grant agreements. Release of grant funds is contingent on applicants obtaining all applicable local, state, and federal permits and regulatory approvals, as well as meeting match fund requirements.

**Table 2 - 2020 Funding Recommendations (grants)**

<i>Project Name</i>	<i>Project Type</i>	<i>Grant Funding Request</i>	<i>Total Cost of Project</i>	<i>Funding Recommendation</i>
<b>Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration - Group 3</b>	Conservation; Flow Restoration & Protection	\$1,200,000	\$5,871,548	\$1,200,000
<b>Eastside Lateral Pipeline &amp; Water Conservation Project</b>	Conservation; Flow Restoration & Protection; Water Infrastructure	\$2,000,000	\$7,654,594	\$2,000,000
<b>Lone Pine Irrigation Modernization Project</b>	Conservation; Flow Restoration & Protection; Water Infrastructure; Other: Habitat Enhancement/ Public Safety	\$1,600,000	\$9,200,259	\$1,600,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$4,800,000</b>	<b>\$22,726,401</b>	<b>\$4,800,000</b>

## **V. Summary**

The funding recommendation includes the applications that demonstrated the greatest public benefits. As recommended, this would result in three grant awards totaling \$4,800,000. With current funding, this would leave approximately \$3,191,354 for the 2021 funding cycle.

## **VI. Alternatives**

The Commission may consider the following alternatives:

1. Adopt the funding recommendation contained in Table 2 of this report to fund three applications for a total award of \$4,800,000.
2. Adopt a modified funding recommendation.
3. Direct the Department to further evaluate the applications and return with a revised recommendation.

## **VII. Recommendation**

The Director recommends Alternative 1, to adopt the staff funding recommendations contained in Table 2 of this report to fund three applications for a total award of \$4,800,000.

### **Attachments:**

1. TRT Ranking and Funding Recommendation
2. Public Comments on Applications
3. Excerpt from Division 93 Rules on Scoring
4. Scoring Criteria Document
5. Application Evaluation Summaries
6. Public Comments Received on the TRT Funding Recommendation

Kim Fritz-Ogren, Manager, Water Resources Development Program  
(503) 986-0873

Becky Williams, Grant Program Coordinator  
(503) 986-0869





# Water Project Grants and Loans Funding Recommendation



## Water Project Grants and Loans – 2020 Funding Cycle

September 2, 2020

The Oregon Water Resources Department is inviting public comment on the Technical Review Team (TRT) application ranking and funding recommendation for the 2020 cycle of Water Project Grants and Loans. After reviewing public comments, the Department will present a funding recommendation for consideration and approval by the Water Resources Commission. The tentative date for the Commission to make its funding decision is November 19-20, 2020.

*Written comments on the TRT application ranking and funding recommendation will be accepted until 5:00pm, October 2, 2020.*

Please submit comments to: Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
503.986.0869  
[WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects@oregon.gov](mailto:WRD_DL_waterprojects@oregon.gov)

### Technical Review Team Ranking - 2020 Funding Cycle

The Department solicited grant and loan applications through May 28, 2020. During that time the Department received 12 complete applications requesting \$18,828,217 in project implementation funds. The Technical Review Team (TRT), a multi-agency technical review team, reviewed, scored, and ranked each application. The TRT scoring criteria was based upon the [Scoring Criteria](#) document. The score and rank is based on the combined public benefit score for the public benefits as described in the project application. An application could score up to 72 points in each of the economic, environmental, and social/cultural public benefit categories. A proposed project could receive up to 24 additional preference points; up to 12 points for legally protecting water instream and up to 12 points for collaboration (these are listed in the "Other" category). There is a maximum public benefit score of 240 points.

Below is the TRT application ranking and funding recommendation for the 2020 funding cycle of Water Project Grants and Loans. The three applications in Table 1 are recommended for funding by the TRT. These represent the projects with the greatest public benefits as evaluated by the TRT. The applications in Table 2 are not recommended for funding at this time. The TRT determined that, as submitted, applications ranked 4 through 12 did not demonstrate or support sufficient public benefits to justify funding at this time consistent with the criteria identified in the [Scoring Criteria](#) document. Additional information from the TRT review will be available in forthcoming application evaluation summaries. That document will be posted online for review when available.

## Water Project Grants and Loans – 2020 Funding Cycle

**Table 1. Applications Recommended for Funding**

TRT Rank	2020 Funding Cycle Application	Funding Request	Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				Total Score
			Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other	
1	Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration - Group 3	\$1,200,000	28	25	16	12	81
2	Eastside Lateral Pipeline & Water Conservation Project	\$2,000,000	19	27	21	12	79
3	Lone Pine Irrigation Modernization Project	\$1,600,000	17	16	11	7	51
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,800,000</b>					

**Table 2. Applications Not Recommended for Funding at this Time**

TRT Rank	2020 Funding Cycle Application	Funding Request	Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown				Total Score
			Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other	
4	Prineville Airport ASR	\$2,876,174	19	6	11	2	38
5	Muddy Creek Water Use & Restoration Project	\$462,913	6	8	8	3	25
6	Highland Ditch Piping Project	\$2,250,000	9	7	5	2	23
7	Currant Creek Storage, Flow Augmentation & Fish Passage	\$2,289,165	7	6	4	3	20
8	Marks Creek Riparian Meadow Restoration	\$134,240	9	5	5	1	20
9	Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project	\$2,687,342	7	3	8	1	19
10	Tri City Water System Improvements	\$1,650,000	10	1	7	0	18
11	Gran Moraine Rainwater Collection & Reuse	\$403,383	9	2	2	0	13
12	Basalt Well Project at the Miller Road Treatment Plant	\$1,275,000	5	1	4	1	11
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$14,028,217</b>					



# Water Project Grants and Loans

## Public Comments Received

### 2020 Funding Cycle Applications

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#### Document Description

The Department received 12 complete applications for the 2020 funding cycle of Water Project Grants and Loans. Public comment on the applications was accepted from June 17, 2020 through August 17, 2020. Administrative rule [OAR 690-093-0090(1)(c)] identifies that the Technical Review Team (TRT) considers comments from applicants and the public. The purpose of this document is to provide the TRT with the comments received during the public comment period. Public comments on 2020 funding applications are in the order and page number listed below.

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# **Multiple Applications**

Public Comment



**WaterWatch of Oregon**  
**Protecting Natural Flows In Oregon Rivers**

August 17, 2020

Water Resources Department  
725 Summer St N.E., Suite "A"  
Salem, OR 97301-1271

Re: Comments, Water Development Loan and Grant Applications before the TRT

Dear Technical Review Committee,

WaterWatch appreciates the opportunity to comment on the SB 839 grant and loan program grant applications prior to review by the Technical Review Team (TRT). As the Department is aware, WaterWatch was integrally involved in the drafting of SB 839 and the associated rules, thus we are intimately familiar with the program's requirements.

While these comments only offer an initial assessment, with a more robust analysis to be offered in response to the TRT's recommendations, we did want to offer the following high level observations in advance of TRT review.

First, as has been the case with previous grant proposal cycles, we were again struck by the number of applications that claim to be providing environmental benefits that result in a "measurable improvement in protected streamflows", "measurable improvements in water quality", and/or "measureable improvement in groundwater levels" that do not do actually accomplish this. SB 839 is very deliberate in its use of the words "measurable" and "protected". See ORS 541.673(3). This language was heavily negotiated.

As to instream flows, measurable means there must be an identifiable amount of streamflow legally protected instream. Groundwater and water quality parameters also require more than simply a statement saying "it will improve water quality" and/or "it will improve groundwater levels".

If public funds are to be used to finance public projects, the state should ensure that the "environmental benefits" claimed are legally protected into the future for the life of the project. This was the intent of the statute. We appreciate that the OWRD has been working hard to ensure that this occurs, but we still have concerns with the applications coming in with vague representations as to environmental benefits. To that end, we urge the TRT to score projects accordingly (i.e. without legal protection of saved water instream, scoring should be zero for this particular public environmental benefit metric).

**WaterWatch of Oregon**  
**Main Office: 213 SW Ash St. Suite 208 Portland, OR 97204**  
**Southern Oregon Office: PO Box 261, Ashland, OR, 97520**

**[www.waterwatch.org](http://www.waterwatch.org)**  
**Main Office: 503.295.4039**  
**S. OR Office: 541.708.0048**

As to streamflow improvements, given the over appropriated state of the majority of Oregon's streams, providing a measurable improvement in protected streamflows can only be achieved through use of the Conserved Water Act (CWA) and/or instream transfers/leases that will legally protect water instream against other users. Less than a handful of the applications under review commit to this critical step. The three districts that do commit to this are:

- Tumalo Irrigation District
- Lone Pine Irrigation District
- East Fork Irrigation District

We support the steps taken by these three irrigation districts to maximize environmental benefits by ensuring legal protection of saved water. We would also note that Tumalo and Lone Pine have committed to putting 100% of the saved water instream, which will help to address longstanding flow problems in the Deschutes basin. We hope these types of projects serve as examples of the types of projects SB 839 should fund into the future.

On the other hand, applications that do not commit to using the Conserved Water Act (CWA) but should so as to achieve quantifiable environmental benefits include:

- Highland Ditch
- Marks Creek
- Muddy Creek

We would urge the OWRD to work with these applicants to encourage them to run their projects through the CWA so as to result in measurable environmental benefits as envisioned by SB 839. Absent use of the CWA, scoring as to streamflow benefits for these projects should be zero.

In addition to these points, we offer the following initial comments to specific projects for consideration in advance of our more robust comments that will follow the TRT assessments:

**East Fork Irrigation District:** We applaud EFID's commitment to put 50% of the saved water instream via the Conserved Water Act. That said, it was unclear to us what proportion of the project was funded by public monies. If greater than 50% of the funding for this project comes from public funds, then we would offer that the whole of the project should be run through the CWA and the percentages of water put instream follow the statutory match provisions.

**City of Scappoose:** The environmental benefits claimed do not meet statutory requirements to gain scoring. That the City will no longer use a surface water source during dry months, does not equate to an improvement to streamflows. To gain scoring for this the City should commit to transferring a portion of their surface water supply instream to legally protect any water instream. The groundwater and water quality claims are similarly lacking in measurable outcomes.

**Young Life:** The Technical Review Team should be made aware that the water right application that would allow for the increase in storage has been protested by WaterWatch. Outstanding issues include water availability, instream flow augmentation, bypass flows, and other issues

identified in the protest. Any grant should be conditioned on a mutually agreed upon settlement agreement that addresses all outstanding issues. Also, it should be noted that SB 839 requires both a minimum of 25% of the stored water be dedicated to instream flows but also that Seasonally Varying Flows (SVF) be protected. The application addresses the 25%, but we did not see mention of the SVF commitment. And finally, the TRT should be made aware that any increase in storage at an existing dam triggers fish passage requirements under Oregon law.

**Fishhawk Lake:** This project notes that it will allow for release of peak and ecological flows, but we did not see a commitment to either setting these flows, or protecting these flows instream as a term or condition of funding. We would suggest that the grant applicants work with ODFW to determine necessary releases and then amend their application to commit to protecting this water instream. Absent that, scoring as to streamflows should be zero. Protecting storage for storage sake is not an environmental benefit under the governing statute, nor are dam safety measures.

**Gran-Moraine Winery:** We would urge the OWRD and the TRT to look into the water right aspects of this application. The application points to existing use of exempt wells and also notes that if they do not receive funding for a rainwater collection system, that they will drill even more exempt wells. They also note that they are one of the biggest groundwater users in the basin (presumably under multiple exempt wells). Exempt wells cannot serve irrigation, except for non-commercial gardens under ½ acre. ORS 537.545. Commercial use under the exempt well statutes does not include irrigation. OAR 690-300-0010(6). A close look is warranted.

**Conclusion:** Again, these serve as initial comments on a subset of the applications before the TRT. We look forward to further review of these, and additional projects we are still assessing, once the TRT scores the projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Priestley", is written on a light blue background.

Kimberley Priestley  
Sr. Policy Analyst

# **Currant Creek Flow Augmentation and Fish Passage Project**

## **Public Comments**





RECEIVED

JUN 15 2020

OWRD

June 10, 2020

Oregon Water Resources Department  
Attn; Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Ste A  
Salem, OR 97301

Re: Young Life Washington Family Ranch Water Project Grant Proposal

Dear Grant Program Coordinator:

The Madras City Council is pleased to give our support to the Young Life proposed water project. It is our understanding the proposed project will include reservoir expansion, flow restoration and habitat improvement for fish and wildlife and a new emergency spillway for Currant Creek Dam as required by OWRD Dam Safety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Richard Ladeby'.

Richard Ladeby, Mayor  
City of Madras

# JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

66 S.E. "D" St., Suite A • Madras, Oregon 97741 • Ph: (541) 475-2449 • FAX: (541) 475-4454



June 10, 2020

Oregon Water Resources Department  
Attn; Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Ste A  
Salem, OR 97301

**Re: Young Life Washington Family Ranch Water Project Grant Proposal**

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

The Jefferson County Board of Commissioners are pleased to give their support to Young Life's proposed water project. It is our understanding the proposed project will include reservoir expansion, flow restoration and habitat improvement for fish and wildlife and a new emergency spillway for Currant Creek Dam as required by OWRD Dam Safety.

Sincerely,

Kelly Simmelink, Chairman

Wayne Fording, Commissioner

Mae Huston, Commissioner

**Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration – Group 3 Project**

Public Comments



## CITY OF BEND

Date: June 9, 2020

710 NW WALL STREET  
PO BOX 431  
BEND, OR 97709  
(541) 388-5505 tel  
Relay Users Dial 7-1-1  
(541) 385-6676 fax  
bendoregon.gov

MAYOR  
Sally Russell

MAYOR PRO TEM  
Bruce Abernethy

CITY COUNCILORS  
Barb Campbell  
Gena Goodman-Campbell  
Justin Livingston  
Bill Moseley  
Chris Piper

CITY MANAGER  
Eric King

Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, Oregon 97301  
(503) 986-0869  
waterprojects@wrd.state.or.us

SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR TUMALO IRRIGATION  
DISTRICT, Allen Lateral / Project Group 3

Dear Becky Williams, OWRD staff and All Funding Partners:

The City of Bend and Tumalo Irrigation District (TID) share a key resource, the high quality water produced within the Tumalo Creek Watershed. Bend joined TID in this watershed, when the Bend Municipal Watershed was created by agreement with the U.S. Forest Service in 1926, for the creation and ongoing management of the Bend Municipal Watershed – a sub-watershed from which the City diverts drinking water from Bridge Creek, a tributary of Tumalo Creek. Bend and TID are committed to the ongoing stewardship of this incredible resource that meets so many needs.

We have seen TID become a leader in voluntary water conservation efforts, beginning with joint efforts as a result of the April 1986 City of Bend—Deschutes County River study that led to elimination of the leaky Columbia Southern diversion high up the Tumalo Watershed. More recently, TID has implemented a series of Bend Feed and Tumalo Feed Canal Piping and conservation projects that have led to conserved water being legally protected instream through Conserved Water Applications 9 and 37. The City supports TID's long term plans of piping the entire district.

We understand this phase of the project will include enclosing the Allen lateral and its sub laterals, along with an approximate 2200-foot portion of the Columbia Southern lateral as well as all associated turnouts and meters to accurately regulate and deliver water to over 500 acres of

farmland. The Project will result in 4.2 cfs of water conservation that will be legally protected instream as an instream water right under a conserved water application. We believe this project is a perfect example of the type of project to be funded through various state and federal programs, whether from OWRD, OWEB or federal funds. We believe TID's projects are models for having economic, environmental and community-social-cultural benefits.

In addition, we want you to know the City has recently signed an Intergovernmental Agreement with TID, to improve communication and coordinate on water management actions that emphasize restoration, reliability and resiliency of our collective critical water supply.

The City looks forward to continuing its cooperative work with TID and furthering the goals for restoring Tumalo Creek streamflow and improving water quality. We thank the state for developing these funding opportunities and acknowledging the community support for this ongoing work.

Should you have any questions on this letter of support, please call.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Eric King', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Eric King,  
City Manager, City of Bend



June 5, 2020

Becky Williams  
Oregon Water Resources Department

RE: Support for Tumalo Irrigation District Allen Lateral/Project Group 3 piping project

Dear Ms. Williams:

The Deschutes River Conservancy strongly supports Tumalo Irrigation District's Allen Lateral/Project Group 3 piping and water conservation project. The mission of the Deschutes River Conservancy is to restore stream flow and improve water quality in the Deschutes River and its tributaries. Restoring flows in Tumalo Creek is one of the DRC's top priorities, particularly as recent analyses indicate that restoring flows in Tumalo Creek not only benefits Tumalo Creek, but is the key to reducing temperatures in the Middle Deschutes and provides key redband trout refugia in summer months in the Middle Deschutes. This project also provides needed benefit in Crescent Creek, a stronghold for the Oregon spotted frog, recently listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

Tumalo Irrigation District (TID) has a strong record of implementing successful piping projects that permanently protect water instream. TID's conservation program, paired with its annual participation in the DRC's instream water leasing program, has significantly increased protected streamflows. In addition to reducing seepage loss in the proposed piping project, the project opens up additional opportunities for on-farm conservation work and instream leasing. This project will provide direct and immediate benefits to water quality and quantity in the Deschutes Basin. We strongly support OWRD funding of this project.

Sincerely,

Kate Fitzpatrick  
Program Director

**Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project**  
Public Comments

**From:** [Stephanie Barbour](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Grant  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 8:46:53 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I have recently become owner of a lakehouse on Fishhawk Lake. It is my dream come true. I cannot believe the beauty and am so grateful for this place. I look forward to giving my son and my family the memories for years to come. Any help towards this matter would be so greatly appreciated.

Stephanie Barbour  
9769 Beach Dr.  
Birkenfeld, OR



**From:** [Alicia Brattin](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on the proposal for money to fix the spillway and fish ladder at Fishhawk Lake.  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 8:09:52 AM

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July 20, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to comment on the proposal for money to fix the spillway and fish ladder at Fishhawk Lake.

I have been going to Fishhawk Lake for several years now, and love the community that has been created there. I see people out on their pontoon boats fishing, swimming, and having fun. The lake is an amazing place, very peaceful and serene. The people that live there have done a wonderful job in making it a special place. When I heard that the dam was in sad shape and in need of some costly repairs, I knew I had to write to tell you how necessary the repairs were..

The residents of the Fishhawk Lake community have created a special place. They take a lot of pride in keeping it up. The Association has worked hard to develop a plan to get the dam repaired so future generations can enjoy it. Recreation like this is uncommon in the immediate area, so it's important that steps be taken to ensure its survival. Approving their request for money to pay for the repairs is important. The dam was built a long time ago, and has aged. New methods for building an improved spillway and fish ladder will really help the fish get up into the lake for everyone to fish on, and then into the river further upstream so they can spawn. And the people living downstream deserve some security in knowing that any floodwaters won't come down and flood out their property. Like I said, the dam is showing its age, and needs repairs so it will continue doing its job. Plus the repairs will help maintain the dam so future generations can use the lake for wonderful recreation.

Recreation and community are really important at Fishhawk Lake, but I fear both of those will disappear unless the dam repairs are made, so I urge you to approve the association's request for financial help for the repairs. Thank you.

Alicia Brattin

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Alicia Brattin  
[abrattin@gmail.com](mailto:abrattin@gmail.com)

Lisa Brown  
71517 Fishhawk Road  
Birkenfeld, OR 97016

August 2, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today to express my support of the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project proposal, which has been submitted for your consideration for the 2020 Water Project Grants and Loans program.

I currently live full time in South Carolina; however I bought a home last year at the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community. When I came to Oregon to visit my best friend 2 summers ago, she took me to the lake to see her childhood vacation home that her parents built & lived in full time from their retirement until their deaths. My husband & I were both so struck by the area that we both said we could see ourselves retiring out there. Then during our next visit out to Oregon the following summer, we stumbled upon a home for sale that we just couldn't pass up.

I knew at the time of purchasing our home about the floods that previously occurred at Fishhawk Lake from stories my best friend had told me. However, I did not really understand the impact until I saw pictures from residents who lived at the lake at the time. I can't imagine how difficult it was to see their homes & their possessions getting destroyed by flood waters, & then having to endure the process of rebuilding.

Although the house we bought is clearly out of harms way from another high water event, my best friend's house is not, nor is the home of an elderly couple who I have grown to care about deeply. The threat of another flood compels me to support projects here at the lake that have the potential to not only maintain a crucial water supply source, but that also enhance public health and safety.

Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating to this community. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the ½ pmf dam safety requirement and addresses two emergency preparedness goals of our community: preventing flooding and improving dam stabilization. Preventing flood waters or a dam collapse can **save lives**, property and communities. It would not only benefit those of us who live at the lake, but also all the people, animals and businesses/farms located downstream.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my letter of support for this project. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the community at Fishhawk Lake. So many of us are eager to work in partnership with you to ensure a long and healthy life for this important watershed and community.

Sincerely,  
*LISA BROWN*

Jon Brown  
71517 Fishhawk Road  
Birkenfeld, OR 97016

August 2, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today to express my support of the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project proposal, which has been submitted for your consideration for the 2020 Water Project Grants and Loans program.

I currently live full time in South Carolina; however I bought a home last year at the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community. When I came to Oregon to visit my wife's best friend 2 summers ago, she took me to the lake to see her childhood vacation home that her parents built & lived in full time from their retirement until their deaths. My wife & I were both so struck by the area that we both said we could see ourselves retiring out there. Then during our next visit out to Oregon the following summer, we stumbled upon a home for sale that we just couldn't pass up.

I knew at the time of purchasing our home about the floods that previously occurred at Fishhawk Lake from stories my wife's best friend had shared. However, I did not really understand the impact until I saw pictures from residents who lived at the lake at the time. I can't imagine how difficult it was to see their homes & their possessions getting destroyed by flood waters, & then having to endure the process of rebuilding.

Although the house we bought is clearly out of harm's way from another high water event, my wife's best friend's house is not, nor is the home of an elderly couple who we have grown to care about deeply. The threat of another flood compels me to support projects here at the lake that have the potential to not only maintain a crucial water supply source, but that also enhance public health and safety.

Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating to this community. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the ½ pmf dam safety requirement and addresses two emergency preparedness goals of our community: preventing flooding and improving dam stabilization. Preventing flood waters or a dam collapse can **save lives**, property and communities. It would not only benefit those of us who live at the lake, but also all the people, animals and businesses/farms located downstream.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my letter of support for this project. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the community at Fishhawk Lake. So many of us are eager to work in partnership with you to ensure a long and healthy life for this important watershed and community.

Sincerely,

*Jon Brown*

**From:** [jeff](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** In support of grant application: Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection  
**Date:** Thursday, July 09, 2020 2:05:44 PM

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As the chair of the Fishhawk Lake Program Solutions committee, I am writing in support of this submission. Due to a situation over the past 6 months, I could not participate in this application or recent planning. This committee led this program for the past six years and was responsible for bringing the foundational research and development forward. In that regards, the importance of this project to the ecological, environmental and community that resides there, will be vital in prolonging and enhancing the natural habitat, its resident fish, its migratory species that pass through and the quality of its water for the Nehalem Watershed. FLRC has created baselines for monitoring help ensure the lake water quality and its capacity, such that protecting the lake water storage quality and capability will ensure its contribution to the watershed and community for many years into the future. To name a few of these protections and the stability it will provide, this project will:

- protect the community located around the lake from floods and protect properties downstream
- protect the critical water supply stored in Fishhawk Lake
- prevent important fish habitat from being lost
- maintain and enhance high quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey.
- enhance fish passage and access to 34.4 miles of fish habitat upstream
- reduce lake fluctuations to improve habitat for Pacific Lamprey larva, and
- protect recreation and scenic values this water supply provides

Your competent review and evaluation of this important project and its subsequent recommendation for funding will be a tremendous contribution for NW Oregon, its communities and all of us, including the wild species.

Stay well, stay safe.

Best regards,

Jeff Busch PMP

**From:** [Fumi Kelleher Carlson](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 05, 2020 4:33:51 PM

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Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

We are members of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community and wanted to write to express my support of the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project proposal, which has been submitted for your consideration for the 2020 Water Project Grants and Loans program.

As relatively new residents to Fishhawk Lake, we are interested in the preservation of the lake, its habitat, and the surrounding homes – for both ourselves and for the surrounding community at large. One of our key interests is the protection of the fish habitat downstream and within the lake itself. We are excited to hear that the new fish ladder design will increase fish passage and benefit endangered fish populations. Protecting the dam through the construction of the new combined spillway and fish ladder also will increase ecosystem resilience to climate change by providing long-term access to stored water in the lake for generations to come.

This project will also mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community.

The community could greatly use the support and financial assistance of the 2020 Water Project Grant and Loan program to make this a reality, and the hope is that our community's new fish ladder will serve as a working example for other communities to learn from.

We appreciate your time, consideration, and all that you do!

Yours,  
Fumi & Zac Carlson  
71901 Northshore Drive

**From:** [Tamera Carter](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Support For Fishhawk Lake Storage and Protection Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 29, 2020 2:52:31 PM

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To whom it may concern, I am a 7 year part time resident at Fishhawk Lake . Today I am writing in support of Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community combined spillway/fish ladder project.

I have come to understand the necessity for this project at the lake, to protect not only the lake but the fish and the residents too. The ability to perform this project with the help of the grant will truly be a life saver for the lake, fish and people. More fish, safe people and wonderful lake to live by and recreate at.

The new fish ladder is an exhilarating project to forecast the benefits as outlined in the grant application. I thank you for your consideration in advance on supporting this grant.

Sincerely Tami Carter, Fishhawk Lake Resident

**From:** [Carolyn Davis](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** FLRC grant application  
**Date:** Thursday, July 09, 2020 3:58:51 PM

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The safety, protection and future of this lake are necessary to protect a variety of species —some endangered —not to mention the Lamprey Eel, the Coho Salmon and more that currently exist in Fishhawk Lake.

This lake hosts a complex natural environment which gives these species a chance to grow and thrive. Without this lake refuge —these species are put at risk and definitely will not be as successful as they are WITH this natural environment . They depend on us. We are their stewards. It is important to protect those that cannot protect themselves. We owe them a chance to continue on this planet so whatever small part we can do to assist their longevity and survival is important.

This grant gives them a “chance” —a chance they will lose if this lake and it’s natural environment are compromised. Please support them. This generous grant will do just that —ensure their future for years to come.

**From:** [Lalena Dolby](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support Water Project Grants & Loans  
**Date:** Monday, July 06, 2020 11:22:59 AM

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Hello Grant Program Coordinator!

I am a member of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community. I am writing today to express my support of the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project proposal, which has been submitted for your consideration for the 2020 Water Project Grants and Loans program.

I grew up in rural Oregon, and have lived through flood events in my home town of Gaston. Annual flooding in our valley often made the small road to our home impassable, stranding us for days at times. There were heart wrenching days when in the face of floods, friends' homes were barricaded with sandbags to hold back the rising water. I've watched families evacuate their properties via rowboat, leaving behind their homes and belongings. I've seen cows, crops and the comforts of a home wash away in an afternoon.

A few years ago, when my partner and I were looking for a home to buy at Fishhawk Lake, I was naturally skeptical of houses sited on the lake itself—too much of a flood risk. We ended up buying a place high on a hill as a result. But the threat of a flood event like those of 1996 and 2007— both of which had catastrophic impacts on people I love — compels me to support projects here at the lake that have the potential to not only maintain a crucial water supply source, but that also enhance public health and safety.

Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating to this community. The combined spillway/fishladder is designed to meet or exceed the ½ pmf dam safety requirement and addresses two emergency preparedness goals of our community: preventing flooding and improving dam stabilization.

Preventing flooding or a dam collapse can **save lives**, property and communities, and not only for those of us here at the lake but for all of the people, animals and livelihoods located downstream.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my letter of support for this project. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the community here at Fishhawk Lake. So many of us are eager to work in partnership with you to ensure a long and healthy life for this important watershed and community.

All the best!  
Laleña Dolby



**From:** [Connie George](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake & Reserve Community, Inc. Application for Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection grant  
**Date:** Monday, August 03, 2020 7:47:18 PM

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Hi,

I am writing again about the above project. I really appreciate the answer in response to my previous email. I just keep thinking about the lake and how important it is to so many people, and I felt moved to write again. It is not only the water supply, fish and natural habitats that are important things about the lake. It is its natural beauty, how precious it is to us and what it brings to our lives.

We moved here from Kansas 5 years ago. I had never been exposed to the PNW and the beauty and magnificence of Oregon and Washington overwhelmed me. We have worked hard all of our lives, and now we have found a place that we love and feel at home in! It has helped us heal from a personal tragedy we suffered three years ago and given us some peace in our life. I cannot explain how it took a move across the country for us to find our home, where we belong.

We want to contribute to the lake, the county and the state. We want to be responsible citizens and take care of the earth, including our little part of it. But we need some help to do that and enable us to pass this beauty on to future generations.

Thank you very much for your consideration. We appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Connie George

**From:** [Connie George](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake & Reserve Community, Inc. Application for Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection grant  
**Date:** Friday, July 03, 2020 1:36:16 PM

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I am writing in support of the grant application listed above. If the dam is not upgraded, the community is at risk of a catastrophic flood event, resulting in loss of the Lake and the water supply it provides. Protecting the dam through construction of the new combined spillway and fish ladder will help to provide long term access to stored water in the lake. Without Fishhawk Lake a fish habitat will be lost and may cause harm to other fish populations. Our project enhances fish passage and provides improved access to many miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam.

Thank you for your consideration.

Connie George

**From:** [G. Hart](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Water Projects  
**Date:** Saturday, June 27, 2020 1:22:08 PM

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Fishhawk Lake is a wonderful example of Oregon residents living peacefully with local flora and fauna to the benefit of all.

Since there are a number of repairs to the dam that are required by law at great cost to the community, I am asking for your support in granting available funds so that the Lake might continue to be a refuge for Oregonians, native plants, and animals, well into the future.

Sincerely, Greg Hart , Oregonian

**From:** [Stacy Holden](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk lake - Grant Application  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 07, 2020 11:30:40 AM

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Who knew 2020 would be like this? I can only imagine that funding is at a premium and the needs are high.

With that said, why Fishhawk Lake? The reasons may seem obvious...but worth mentioning :

- **"The Downstream Effect"** - Fishhawk Creek contains high quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey. The project enhances fish passage and provides improved access to 34.4 miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam, 13.5 miles of which are considered high quality habitat for the threatened Coho Salmon
- **"Helping the Community"** - The combined spillway and fish ladder, when complete, will allow FLRC to pass wet season flows through the lake in a manner that is consistent with the natural Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community Project Presentation Access & Talking Points for OWRD Grant Public Comment Opportunity hydrograph. Because the project increases spillway capacity, it will no longer be necessary to draw-down the lake level in anticipation of storm flows (which is the current practice to protect the dam structure). When water is drawn down in this way, water is passed downstream at a slower rate and peak flows are then stored (or partially stored) in the reservoir. The new combined spillway and fish ladder will allow the reservoir to stay full and pass peak and ecological flows through the reservoir and downstream without risking a catastrophic dam failure. The restored hydrograph and peak flows will improve floodplain function and connectivity downstream of the dam. This will improve fish habitat and riparian habitat.
- **"Safety"** - Public safety is one of the key drivers for this project. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the ½ pmf dam safety requirement. Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community. This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of FLRC, the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream.

Please feel free to contact me personally to discuss any of the above and truly appreciate your consideration if preserving Fishhawk Lake and the surrounding communities.

Thanks so much

--

Stacy Holden  
71778 Northshore  
(503) 701-6686

**From:** [Clarke Isackson](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 3:41:25 PM

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I am speaking for the Fishhawk Lake community, Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community, Inc., and as a two-lot owner of Fishhawk Lake and hoping to provide some input to the request our team has brought to you for funding support of the **Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project**.

I am a two-lot owner at Fishhawk Lake, a new residence for us since we recently moved to beautiful Oregon's thick forest and water-related beauty from the Arizona Sonoran Desert where today it is 119 degrees. I am retired and was a computer systems developer for several major municipalities, lastly for the City of Scottsdale and also a retired Air Force tactical communications commander. While in the Washington Air National Guard and the Air Force Reserves at the 446th Military Airlift Wing of Joint Base Lewis & McChord, my units often coordinated with the Oregon National Guard during their fire drills to provide additional field support experience for my enlistees as well as share inspection results and operational methodologies.

The **Fishhawk Lake community** has struggled for many years to gain owner support and professional assistance to modify the dam and repair its underdrain as well as to pass the latest inspection requirements. In the process, the fish ladder needs modifications to bring it up to current technical standards which allow easier passage of migrating fish species to their spawning grounds up-stream from the lake in Fishhawk Creek.

The community now has many new residents who are more attentive to the delicate natural environment which we are lucky enough to enjoy here. They, like myself, are anxiously desiring the project to be initiated and groundbreaking to occur. For me, the joy of propagating hundreds of rare Rhododendron species from around the world is a dream come true in this beautiful environment.

The folks who live here are avidly enjoying the surroundings, each with their special love of nature, be it photography, hiking, biking, boating, just relaxing in Nature, or, like myself, botanical pursuits. I used to propagate saguaros and yuccas in Arizona, but my favorite botanical, Rhododendrons, are now providing me the joy that this environment is so well suited, being the origin of the American Rhododendron Society (in Portland) and which I am a supporting member, as well as the Rhododendron Species Botanical Garden / Foundation in Federal Way, WA.

Now that the community has legally joined together with a positive, unanimous HOA vote to proceed with the structural changes necessary to meet the State requirements of a safe dam

with positive environmental attributes for our fish to navigate, we (255 lot owners) are financially dedicated to the project at hand. In short, we just passed a unanimous vote to go for the **Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project**. We are united!

\$4.3 Million seems to be the full cost according to our budget professionals, and, of course, anything that can be done to help out our dedicated team financially would be immensely appreciated. We are requesting grants to offset the costs, naturally. Doing whatever we can to make the costs more bearable, especially for some of our more senior citizens would be a Godsend. Reduction of the total outlay of the HOA members would also open more enhancement possibilities in the project.

However, we are prepared to go it alone! We know full well that the dam absolutely requires our attention and we will do what we can to help support those who can no longer afford to carry the personal financial responsibility we all bought into. Obviously, most folks I have spoken to have been prudent in obtaining lines of credit and financing that will help to ease the burden or provide a cushion if need be. I essentially am trying to paint a picture of this neighborhood that is requesting your help to fund our project and illustrate that these folks are serious about getting the project done as safely and efficiently as possible with all the necessary State agencies involved in order to assure the environmental and engineering factors all meet the requirements levied upon a project of this nature.

Our community lives here because of its absolutely special Oregon character; we love the beauty of our special lake and want to keep it and the special waterfowl, birds of prey and fish, as well as protect all the downstream life, human and animal, as well as the plants. In conclusion, I want to thank you for your indulgence, and also to simply let you know that my wife, Alice, and I are extremely happy to make Oregon our final home. Were it not for the lake and the special environment it has created, we would not be here.

Best regards,

Clarke Isackson  
71550 Fishhawk Rd  
Birkenfield, OR 97016

**From:** [Linda Jarvis](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake grant proposal  
**Date:** Monday, July 27, 2020 6:40:02 PM

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Dear grant program coordinator,

I am writing today in show of support of the Fishhawk Lake storage protection project proposal which has been submitted for your consideration for the 2020 water project grants and loans program.

We have been made aware of the desperate need for this project to come to fruition or else jeopardize an entire community of nearly 300 homes and a beautiful ecosystem on land and water that depend on this lake habitat for their existence.

This project has been put off way too long and we are ready now to support it as a community.

This grant would lessen the burden on some families who urgently need financial assistance to accomplish these goals.

I respectfully ask for your consideration in helping us to fund this project through this grant. Your time and energy are greatly appreciated.

Linda Jarvis  
9957 Beach Dr.  
Birkenfield Oregon

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Nancy Jasper](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 11, 2020 5:48:57 PM

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I am writing today to give my support for the water project grant application from Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community for the combined spillway/fish ladder project.

I am a full-time resident of Fishhawk Lake. My husband and I purchased our home in 1995 as a weekend get-a-way, with dreams of retiring there. In 2000, at the age of 50, my husband suffered a stroke which prevented him from working. So, we sold our home in Hillsboro and closed our businesses and realized our dream of retirement. He was disabled, but we had 11 wonderful years before he passed away from cancer in 2011. I have remained at Fishhawk Lake.

Our home is on Lakeview Drive. During the flood of 2007, there was a landslide at the entrance to Lakeview and we live on the cul de sac, so we were unable to drive out when the flooding occurred. A neighbor brought his pontoon boat down Lakeview Drive to my kitchen door so we could load my disabled husband onto the boat and get to safety. That is why I love this community. People take care of people! I believe the work that is proposed in the grant application will help insure we never experience a flood like the one in 2007.

When we purchased our home, our daughter was in junior high. We came almost every weekend, and she brought her friends up. They all love Fishhawk too! Now my daughter is an adult, and has two daughters of her own. They are now 14 and 11. They too love Fishhawk. I dream of one day them bringing their children to this beautiful lake.

The education we have all had, witnessing the salmon spawning in the fall, the new life in the spring with ducks, geese, fawns and the baby salmon filling the lake is something that you can't get just anywhere.

I am passionate in my belief for the necessity of this project to greatly improve the dam integrity and the spillway function which will not only protect the lake and my property, but also properties and fish habitat downstream. Fish habitat within the lake will also greatly improve for breeding and other fish activities.

I ask for my daughter and her children and her children's children, for your consideration in helping to fund this project to protect this slice of heaven I am privileged to call home.

Sincerely,



Nancy Jasper  
10100 Lakeview Drive  
Birkenfeld, OR 97016  
503 755-2626

**From:** [Nancy Jasper](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Support of Fishhawk Lake Grant Proposal  
**Date:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 11:13:49 AM

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Here

It's not just a lake,  
It's a community.  
It's not just a place,  
It's a time zone.

Where salmon are as welcome  
and protected as the fawns that  
graze in the yards – causing looks  
of delight for all ages.

Where rifle shots are distant sounds,  
not a topic of conversation.  
Where tears are shed, rather than money,  
over the building of roads through the forests.

Where bear and elk hide and  
find safety in treed hills  
that surround the lake –  
not shot at, rather, marveled at.

Where cut throat trout are as protected  
as children on their paddle boards.  
Where litter is picked up by the first  
hands that see it.

Where junk and garbage go in a can,  
not the lake – or the mouths of one of  
the six streams that keep it full  
and provide safety spawning waters.

A community representing most every state.  
Most every country, seeming to be drawn by the same American and global principles.  
A place to live, or refuge for a weekend,

with nature.

Wild salmon, rare as a patch of old growth timber,  
fighting for survival –  
just as the community that tries to  
provide what they both want most –  
Cold - deep - water.

When one dries, the other is likely  
to die as well.

B.W. Ingraham  
Community Member  
Fighter for Survival

**From:** [Mike Johnson](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Grant request Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 11:24:11 AM

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## Oregon Water Resources Department

Fishhawk Lake grant request comment

I am a full time resident of Fishhawk Lake. I have owned my cabin since March 2014. I am a current board member, one of two Incident Commanders for our community response team and coordinator of our Community Watch. I am making my comment in my roll as emergency incident command.

My concern and the reason for my comment concerns the health of our 50+ year old dam. The lake is maturing as all bodies of water do over time. The original build plan for the dam included a drop drain as the major control of lake level. For the most part it has worked for that purpose. A 30" conduit was also part of the plan to give greater flexibility in the event of heavy rains overwhelming the drop drain. However after 50 years of experience and research done by good scientific work we realize that the old configuration is inadequate.

We now understand that upgrades and replacement of water passage thru the dam is required. One of the things that helps me stay awake at night is the chance of a water event that overwhelms the ability of the current dam configuration to control a major flow of water down stream which could damage the structure of the dam and alter water quality below the dam. The Mist-Birkenfeld Rural Volunteer Fire Department uses the lake for filling their water tanker. In the event of a major forest fire we need a good supply of readily available water. Even a large house fire could use our 125,000 potable supply quickly.

To sumerize, our request for OWRD grant money combined with member assessments to cover costs for upgrades will enhance the water quality by better regulating normal water flow, ensure that the dam can control high water events, support fire suppression, and enhance water quality for fish and water fowl in the lake and downstream.

Mike Johnson  
71600 Northshore Drive  
Birkenfeld, Oregon 97016  
503 755 0409

**From:** [Wil and Shannon Klein](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment regarding Fishhawk Lake -Water Project Grant Application  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 4:57:40 PM

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To whom it may concern,

We are writing today to give our support for the water project grant application from Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community for the combined spillway and fish ladder project.

We believe strongly in the necessity of this project to ensure the integrity of the dam and spillway that will protect the fish habitat as well as river otters, eagles, and other wild life.

We respectfully ask for your consideration for this vital resource to protect our fish and wildlife.

Thank you

Wilhelm and Shannon Klein  
Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Richard Kroon](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Cc:** [Rick Kroon](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment Submittal - Fishhawk Lake Dam Safety & Fish Passage project  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 8:53:19 PM

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Grant Program Coordinator,

I would like to provide my personal input to you regarding the Fishhawk Lake Dam Safety & Fish Passage project as part of the public comment process. My wife and I have owned a home on Fishhawk Lake since 1997 and our 3 children have grown up enjoying and learning from the lake and it's surroundings. We have observed the annual coho salmon spawning, fished for cutthroat trout and observed the blue heron's, bald eagles, deer, elk, raccoons, beaver and countless other wildlife that thrive in and around the lake. We also lived through the 2007 flood that severely damaged our home and property.

This project, to improve the lake dam and fish passage, is crucial to the survival of the lake and all the fish and wildlife that it supports. Without these significant improvements, Fishhawk Lake will cease to exist and the important fish habitat will be lost, causing environmental harm to important fish populations, especially the threatened coho salmon and culturally important pacific lamprey. The Fishhawk Lake community is not a wealthy community. This is rural northwest Oregon, not a Portland superb or wealthy central Oregon resort. Without this grant, the community cannot fund the necessary improvements. Without the lake, the residents of Fishhawk Lake will lose their homes and the personal life long investments they have made in them. Without Fishhawk Lake, there will simply be no Fishhawk community. Without Fishhawk lake their will be no spawning Coho Salmon. Without Fishhawk Lake, this rural part of Oregon will see a significant negative economic impact.

I urge your support of this grant of the Fishhawk Lake Dam Safety & Fish Passage project. Speaking for the salmon, trout and steelhead that count on the lake for their survival as well as the eagles, hawks, blue heron's and other wildlife that depend upon the lake and its fish to also survive. They need your critical financial support. Also, speaking for the many families like ours who have raised their children on the lake and more importantly, for those who will hopefully be able to raise their families on the Lake in the future, they all depend upon your support at this very critical time.

Sincerely,  
Rick Kroon

71556 Northshore Drive  
Birkenfeld (Fishhawk Lake), OR

**From:** [JJ Lee Kwai](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** In support of OWRD Grant to Fishhawk Lake  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 29, 2020 9:03:41 PM

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Dear Grant Coordinator,

I am writing in support of the grant application from Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community. My family lives here at the lake and we love the strength of community, the fun recreational opportunities all around, and the wonder of wildlife (especially wild salmon), in our neighborhood.

In this increasingly complicated world, it is rare to come across a project opportunity that addresses a truly diverse list of needs. Often there are economic vs environmental vs human interest conflicts. But with our project, we can support/unhinder the natural world and support the socioeconomic health of this community, plus those downstream. The folks here need this lake just as the wild salmon do - it is the water we drink and it is the reason for this community's existence. Taking the important and necessary steps to update our infrastructure to protect property, lives and investments will also improve fish passage and the health of this fishery. It will keep what was once a hallmark of Oregon -the wild salmon run- alive, hopefully thriving. It will also preserve and protect our community's continued existence.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Jennifer Lee Kwai  
Lakeview Drive  
Birkenfeld, OR

**From:** [Max LeeKwai](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** In support of OWRD Grant to Fishhawk Lake  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 04, 2020 9:26:01 AM  
**Attachments:** [SunnyLakeArt.pdf](#)

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Dear Technical Review Team,

Thank you very much for considering Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community for the 2020 cycle of Water Projects Grant & Loans.

My 11-year old daughter Sunny would like to submit her drawing of the lake, attached. I've also shared photos that we took a few weeks ago here at Fishhawk Lake: one shows the lake with a rainbow, and the other shows me with a steelhead that I caught from my paddleboard. This community and lake mean the world to us. Fishhawk Lake and surrounding community is a very unique and special place, one that helps make Oregon special.

Thank you,

Max A. Lee Kwai

Birkenfeld, OR



**From:** [Brett K.Laurila](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Grant Application  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 2:33:04 PM

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Grant Program Coordinator -

This letter is sent to you in support of the Fishhawk Lake Grant request to assist in updating of the Fishhawk lake dam.

Here are just a few points of support:

- With the fish ladder and lake level improvements, each of the fish populations found in the lake, Coho, Lamprey, Steelhead, and Trout, are expected to expand over time, and this in turn will support expanded fisheries-related tourism and recreation, as well as commercial and tribal fisheries, throughout the Nehalem River Basin.
- This project protects a critical water supply stored in Fishhawk Lake and ensures the needs this water supply is meeting will continue to be met in perpetuity.
- Public safety is one of the key drivers for this project. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the 1/2 pmf dam safety requirement. Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community. This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of FLRC, the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream.
- Protecting Fishhawk Lake will promote and protect recreation and scenic values this water supply provides. Because the lake and creek are important habitat for harvestable anadromous fish species such as Steelhead and Cutthroat Trout, protection of the lake and improved fish passage promotes recreation (fishing) in other areas of Fishhawk Creek and the Nehalem River basin, as well.
- The combined spillway/fish ladder design is new and innovative in its design and cost efficiencies. The success of this project is expected to inspire modifications to other dams' spillways and fish ladders.

This is a request from a very under supported area of NW Oregon. I fully support fully funding the grant proposal to update the Fishhawk Lake Dam.

Best Regards,

Brett K. Laurila  
principal / architect

**bkl | a architecture, llc**

5505 se oetkin drive  
oak grove, or 97267

503 233 8991 office

[www.bkl-a.com](http://www.bkl-a.com)

**From:** [caren lindahl](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment regarding Fishhawk Lake - Water Project Grant Application  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 11:21:57 AM

---

Good Morning,

We are writing today to give our support for the water project grant application from Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community for the combined spillway/fish ladder project.

We are passionate in our belief for the necessity of this project to greatly improve the dam integrity and the spillway function which will not only protect the lake, but will also protect properties and fish habitat downstream. Fish habitat within the lake will also greatly improve for breeding and other fish activities.

The new fish ladder design is very exciting! Fish passage will increase and endangered fish populations will benefit exponentially. Once complete, this fish ladder holds great potential as a working example for other communities facing similar concerns.

There are so many other great reasons for this project as stated in the grant application. We respectfully ask for your consideration in helping to fund this project through this grant. Thank you on behalf of the generations to come who will surely benefit from the work we do today.

Sincerely,  
Caren and Scott Lindahl  
Clatsop County Residents

**From:** [NANCY A LOURIS](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Grant Application  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 5:54:32 PM

---

Hello:

I am a homeowner at Fishhawk Lake. I would sincerely appreciate your positive consideration of our grant application for dam improvements and a new fish ladder at Fishhawk Lake.

I have had a home at Fishhawk Lake for 16 years. It has provided my family with an incredible opportunity to leave the pressures of urban life behind. In the process, we have also learned to appreciate our lake and the special qualities it has.

We realize the dam and the fish ladder are in need of major upgrades, at a significant cost. Without the assistance of grants and loans in order to achieve these upgrades, we are at risk of the complete loss of Fishhawk Lake. The lake not only provides the special environment for humans, it also provides a home for important fish habitat for Coho Salmon (currently a threatened species), Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook (all of which are subject to catch and release at the lake), Coastal Cutthroat Trout (catch is limited and strictly enforced), and Pacific Lamprey.

Fishhawk Creek, which feeds into Fishhawk Lake, provides high quality spawning and rearing habitat for the above noted species.

If the dam is not repaired and the lake is no longer, a very special place in Oregon will be erased. Not only with the fish habitat be impacted, but so will the downstream flow, and the financial loss to the homeowners will be catastrophic.

Thank you again for your positive consideration.

Regards,

Nancy Louris

503-816-1614

**From:** [grnmajeau1](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Fishhawk Lake storage protection project  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 2:12:09 PM

---

Sirs,

My 14 grandchildren played in the lake for hours; life jackets on. Now their children are spending lots of fun in the same lake.

It's been a big part of our lives for over 21 years!

We are all hoping that the lake will receive the grant that was submitted to you.

Thank you for your help,

Jean Lynch

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

**From:** [C.Sue McCullough](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Application  
**Date:** Saturday, June 27, 2020 6:52:42 PM

---

I am supporting the application of Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community, Inc. to protect the water supply that Fishhawk Lake provides which is an important part of the recreation tourism industry in the State, providing fishing, swimming, boating, economic and aesthetic benefits in both Clatsop and Columbia Counties to state residents and visitors.

It is also a recognized anchor habitat for the endangered Coho Salmon, the culturally significant and state listed sensitive Pacific Lamprey, as well as Steelhead and Coastal Cutthroat Trout. This project implements many state and regional habitat improvement plans that have identified Fishhawk Creek and Lake as anchor habitat for anadromous fish species, especially the endangered Coho Salmon. It is among the top ranked sites for improvement of fish connectivity and habitat improvement because of the likelihood of success in improving species survival and population increases. Protecting the dam through construction of the new combined spillway and fish ladder also will increase ecosystem resilience to climate change by providing long-term access to stored water in the lake in perpetuity.

Public safety is one of the key drivers for this proposed public-private partnership. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the 1/2 pmf dam safety requirement. Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community. This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of FLRC, the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream. Your dam safety officials have identified this project as necessary to complete for several years, ranking the dam as a significant hazard.

This is a small rural community that urgently needs financial assistance to accomplish these goals. We have the will to do it. We need assistance from the State to protect this water supply for generations of Oregonians to come.

I urge your funding of this important project.

Thank you.

Dr. C. Sue McCullough  
71410 Northshore Drive  
Birkenfeld, OR 97016

July 2, 2020

RECEIVED

JUL 06 2020

OWRD

Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Fishhawk Lake Spillway and Fish Ladder

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a full-time resident at Fishhawk Lake so have a vested interest in the new spillway and fish ladder. I realize that the major cost of this project is the responsibility of the residents. However, we would appreciate some help.

The lake is an important byway for both the threatened Coho salmon and Pacific lamprey. The salmon migrate up the river, through the lake, and spawn in the feeder streams. The young salmon spend some years in the lake before heading back to the ocean. Our fishing season is timed so that the salmon of size are no longer in the lake. Therefore, we help provide fishing for people who do not live here as well as being important for the survival of the species.

The current spillway and fish ladder are over 50 years old and not up to current standards. The spillway cannot protect the dam in the event of extra heavy rains. If the dam failed, it would be catastrophic for people living downstream.

Please help us.



Beverly Mohnkern  
71300 Northshore Dr.  
Birkenfeld, OR 97016

Oregon Water Resources Department  
Via Email

As a homeowner on Fishhawk Lake our family is all in on the livelihood of the lake ecosystem. We have spent many seasons over the years at FHL and have gladly become stewards of the lake environment. From watching the Salmon, Steelhead and Cutthroat Trout return to spawn each year. To watching Bald Eagles & Osprey (which the locals call fishhawks) dive and feed off the lake. With before your eyes views of otters, beaver and newborn deer. The lake environment is more than just the water. Nature depends on the lake and the lake gives life to many animals, fish and foliage.

Keeping the dam safe and protecting the dam through construction of the new fish ladder and spillway will better the ecosystem. Fishhawk creek contains high quality spawning and rearing for Summer Chinook, Pacific Lamprey, Winter Steelhead, Coho Salmon, and Coastal Cutthroat Trout. The improved fish ladder greatly improves fish passage and creates improved access to more than 34 miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam. Over 13 miles are considered high quality habitat for the threatened Coho Salmon.

I do not fish, nor do I eat fish. But I do find enjoyment in watching the fish in the morning and early evening as they jump to catch bugs. Plus watching the otter family with new pups playfully passing by. Or watching the beaver add to its lodge (Go Beav's).

This project is important and needed. The community is behind doing the project right. FHL is not a wealthy community but my family will support the project monetarily. Our family and FHL hope that your OWRD Grant will bring our portion to a manageable amount.

Sincerely,

Sally Moore-Williams

**From:** [Dani Mosley](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Grant application  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 8:53:39 PM

---

To whom it may concern,  
I am writing to you in support of Fishhawk Lake's Grant application.

My husband and I purchased a small cabin at Fishhawk Lake in 2009. At that time our kids were ages 9, 15 and 18. We have made amazing memories there as a family and spent much time with neighbors and friends.

We are hoping to upgrade and update our cabin in the next 5 years and are looking to retire there. Fishhawk Lake is a wonderful community. It is very diverse, politically and economically, but we are all neighbors and really family. I have never before experienced such a friendly and helpful group of people. We may have our differences but when it comes down to it, everyone is there to lend a helping hand, be it yard work, fixing a busted pipe or directions to a "secret" trail.

We love the lake and all the nature surrounding it. We've seen bald eagles fly above the lake, otters play around our neighbors dock and salmons migrating up Boxler creek next to our cabin. There just nothing like it.

Please help us keep this piece of paradise, not just for us to enjoy but all the different animal and plant species that call it home.

Your consideration is much appreciated,  
Sincerely,  
Charles and Daniela Mosley  
71860 Northshore Drive  
Birkenfeld, Or

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [Tara Murino-Brault](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 2:17:21 PM

---

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing in support of the grant application for the Fishhawk Lake storage project.

As a frequent visitor to this awesome community, I've observed the richness of the ecosystem here- many species of water fowl, steelhead, salmon, and cutthroat trout, lamprey, otters, beavers, bats, flora specific to a lake environment, to name a few. The lake (made possible by a healthy dam) is a water source for the community and is a benefit to downstream through providing consistent water flow. A dam breach would jeopardize all of this, and damage property and ecosystems below the dam. **This grant funding would serve to support the health of the local ecosystem and maintain water storage, which are important to the environment as well the Fishhawk Lake community.** In large part, residents here are of moderate means unlike many lake communities and would benefit significantly from any financial assistance.

Thank you for your support.

Tara Murino-Brault

**From:** [Britt Alisse Carlson Oase](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment regarding Fishhawk Lake - water project grant application  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 12:13:08 PM

---

Good Afternoon,

I'm writing today to offer my support for the water project grant application for Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community for the combined spillway/fish ladder project.

We are new residents, having just purchased a lot of land in July on the lake. We treasure this lake, the community surrounding it, and the wonderful impact it makes on the area's fish population. Our family looks forward to being supportive members of the association and bought in knowing we would be facing an investment into the infrastructure of the lake. The spillway will protect the lake and the fish habitat, not to mention fish and properties downstream. The fish ladder is a critical component, increasing passage and endangered populations.

We respectfully ask for your support - the project benefits our community, but also the surrounding areas. We are invested in this lake and value it's long-term prosperity. Thank you so very much for your consideration.

With gratitude,

Britt Oase

--

**BRITT CARLSON OASE**

**From:** [Sean Oase](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Public comment regarding Fishhawk Lake - water project grant application  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 4:08:09 PM

---

Good Afternoon,

I'm writing today to offer my support for the water project grant application for Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community for the combined spillway/fish ladder project.

We are new residents, having just purchased a lot of land in July on the lake. We treasure this lake, the community surrounding it, and the wonderful impact it makes on the area's fish population. Our family looks forward to being supportive members of the association and bought in knowing we would be facing an investment into the infrastructure of the lake. The spillway will protect the lake and the fish habitat, not to mention fish and properties downstream. The fish ladder is a critical component, increasing passage and endangered populations.

We respectfully ask for your support - the project benefits our community, but also the surrounding areas. We are invested in this lake and value it's long-term prosperity. Thank you so very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sean Oase

**From:** [Brian Oconnor](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** FLRC Dam Safety and Fish Passage Project  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 08, 2020 11:40:11 AM

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Hello-

We wanted to send our support and personal interest in the critical FLRC Dam Safety and Fish Passage project due to the positive results it will have for the wildlife in and around Fishhawk lake in perpetuity,

Without the support for the FLRC Dam and Fish Passage project, important fish habitat will be lost, causing environmental harm to these fish populations, especially the threatened Coho Salmon and culturally important Pacific Lamprey. The Fishhawk Creek is a high quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey. The impact of this project goes well beyond FLRC as it greatly enhances the fish passage and provides improved access to 34.4 miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam, 13.5 miles of which are considered high quality habitat for the threatened Coho Salmon.

With the fish ladder and lake level improvements, the fish that live in the lake, Coho, Lamprey, Steelhead, and Trout, are expected to expand over time, and this in turn will support expanded fisheries-related tourism and recreation, as well as commercial and tribal fisheries, throughout the Nehalem River Basin.

We hope that you see the entire FLRC community is behind this critical project and is in full support to do what is required to keep Fishhawk lake a thriving, natural habitat for all the wildlife in and around the lake.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
Brian O'Connor/Jacqui Carpenter

**From:** [JULIE ODWYER](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Grant Consideration  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 1:53:33 PM

---

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

I accompanied my parents to Fishhawk Lake while I was home from college. They were entertaining the idea of purchasing a lot adjacent to two of their close friends and were excited to check things out. It was a beautiful serene lake, a dark cloudy day, and not a boat or person to be seen. As we were about to leave the property, we faintly heard music coming from across the lake. Suddenly a small red homemade paddle boat began making its way across the lake to the clubhouse - with a man in a suit paddling slowly and a bride in a white gown standing up in the boat behind him. Little, then, did we imagine a few years down the road we would have similar celebrations and memories made when my husband and I had our honeymoon there (a mini reunion with 25 family members from across the country) at my parents partially completed hand built home and my brother's own wedding taking place at that same clubhouse.

With a small inheritance and their teachers' salaries my parents proceeded to build the home of their retirement dreams. My brother drafted the house plans at my mother's direction, and they began the slow process of building. Their friends, who purchased properties on either side of my folks' land, accompanied them on many a Friday night to the auction in Kelso where they made a game of purchasing everything from sinks, light fixtures, building materials, used appliances and furniture to put their retirement dreams together on a budget. Many of the homes at Fishhawk lake are equally modest with likely similar stories of scrimping and saving to achieve a family vacation home and a legacy to pass on.

Over the course 40 years the fun times are too numerous to mention- fireworks at New Years and the 4th of July over the lake were highlights - birthday parties, as well as the time I ice skated on the frozen lake - all only a small snippet of memory making that has occurred at our parents' lovely cherished lake house. Our son accompanied us to the lake as a newborn - as did his sister - and 31 years later his 9-month-old son last month took his first steps there.

In the blink of an eye, we are beginning to pass the torch to the next generation of family and would dearly love for them to be able to continue to afford the legacy my parents built. To that end, we need to do everything we can to keep costs economical while sustaining the requirements of the State in upgrading the dam and fish ladder. My husband and I just began our own retirement and are now on a fixed income. We need to seek assistance in the form of a grant for the work to move forward at Fishhawk Lake.

To that end, I am asking that you strongly consider providing the grant to the Fishhawk Lake community in order to meet the requirements of the State, so many more generations can enjoy its wildlife, beauty and simple pleasures.

Thank you for your consideration,

Julie O'Dwyer

**From:** [O.O](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Grant application for spillway and fish ladder at Fishhawk Lake  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 5:04:37 PM

---

July 28, 2020

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

In 1983, I started coming to Fishhawk Lake in Birkenfeld as a guest of my future wife, whose parents had built a beautiful small house on the lake over the prior couple of years. The lake house was the love of my in-laws' life, and over the ensuing almost forty years, I have come to appreciate how truly fortunate we are to be able to experience the lake and the quantity of waterfowl, fish and other critters that live in the water and along the lake's banks.

Last fall, I was fortunate enough to see a beaver close-up as it swam along the bank in front of the house and disappeared under our floating dock! As a bird lover, I am always keenly interested in seeing and identifying the many birds and ducks that frequent the lake.

We make several trips to Fishhawk Lake every summer. To sit along the lake in the afternoon and evening as a slight breeze ripples the water is as calming an experience as one could possibly desire.

We support the grant application. To know that the dam will be stabilized and safe once again is paramount. The enhanced quality of life for fish and other aquatic creatures – both in the lake and downstream - as a result of the construction of the spillway/fish ladder will be a shining example for other communities and for all of Oregon.

We urge your assistance in helping to fund this important, unique project.

With much appreciation,

Timothy O'Dwyer

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

**From:** [Pamela Owen](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** In Support of the Fishhawk Lake Spillway and Fish Ladder Project  
**Date:** Tuesday, July 07, 2020 10:51:02 AM

---

Hi -

I am writing to you today in support of the Fishhawk Lake Spillway and Fish Ladder project. The existing dam and fish ladder need the improvements described in the grant. Below are a few of the reasons, I feel the grant application should be supported and the full amount of the grant awarded.

Fishhawk Lake provides an important water supply for the people, wildlife and fish that call this area home. It is an existing reservoir - a readily available water source that will increase the ecosystem's resilience to climate change. The lake is an important habitat for the Pacific Lamprey and the threatened Coho salmon as well as other fish species. Completion of the project will better protect the community around the lake from floods and protect properties downstream from a potential catastrophic dam failure.

Supporting this grant application also means more economic opportunities for the surrounding rural communities. Those that are involved in construction of the project will likely eat in local restaurants, stay in local hotels, buy gas and supplies from local vendors, etc. With the completion of the project, there will likely be more interest in living and working in the area. This, in turn, could also bring more dollars to the surrounding rural communities. If that interest in the area drives up demand for land and homes in the area, this could also potentially increase the tax base.

Fishhawk Lake has a unique opportunity to lead by example. The combined spillway and fish ladder design is new and innovative in its design and cost efficiencies. It's can serve as an example of how to modify other dams and spillways in the Pacific Northwest and potentially all around the country. Those who visit to see the new spillway and fish ladder in action may also "buy local" while they are here.

Oregon is known for being a leader in protecting the environment without devastating the local economy. This project at Fishhawk Lake could be another shiny example of how Oregon gets it right. Additionally, I'm sure you noted in the grant application, there are several local and state agencies already in support of the project.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss this further, please feel free to reach out to me at the contact information below.

Sincerely,

***Pamela L. Owen***  
[Lead\\_Serve\\_Excel@yahoo.com](mailto:Lead_Serve_Excel@yahoo.com)  
503-313-5100

**From:** [SHERRY PLOOR](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Grant Application  
**Date:** Sunday, July 26, 2020 9:35:06 AM

---

Hello,

I would like to ask for a recommendation of support for Fishhawk Lake. This lake is a native Salmon & Steelhead run. We are trying to update our aging and outdated fish ladder and spillway. Without support from grants this project will be impossible. This lake is very important to us and we don't want to see it go away. Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sherry Ploor-Fishhawk Lake property owner



**From:** [Leanne Reed](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project  
**Date:** Thursday, July 02, 2020 11:12:00 AM

---

To whom it may concern:

I'm writing in support of the grant application for the Fishhawk Lake storage project.

As an owner at fishhawk, I've observed the richness of the ecosystem here- many species of water fowl, steelhead, salmon, and cutthroat trout, lamprey, otters, beavers, bats, flora specific to a lake environment, to name a few. The lake (made possible by a healthy dam) is a water source for the community and is a benefit to downstream through providing consistent water flow. A dam breach would jeopardize all of this, and damage property and ecosystems below the dam. This grant funding would serve to support the health of the local ecosystem and maintain water storage, which are important to the environment as well the Fishhawk Lake community. In large part, residents here are of moderate means unlike many lake communities and would benefit significantly from any financial assistance.

Thank you for your support.

Leanne Reed

Lake resident  
10168 Lakeview Dr.  
Birkenfeld, OR 97016

**From:** [Bobby Roberts](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Fishhawk Lake Grant  
**Date:** Monday, July 06, 2020 10:07:02 AM

---

Dear OWRD:

I am writing in support of the grant proposal submission of Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community. I strongly support the vitally important maintenance of a healthy and sustainable habitat for our native fish, lamprey, fresh-water mussels, etc. that inhabit the Fishhawk lake, creek and Nehalem River. The proposal will address significant improvements to migration and survival of the various species through a new and improved fish passage ladder. In addition, the installation of a new spillway will greatly improve the natural flow of Fishhawk Creek through the passage of water and sediment that is more conducive for a healthy fish population.

The new spillway will also remove a potential flooding situation and overflow of the dam that would cause significant property damage downstream with a possible loss of life. The spillway would also eliminate the regular lowing of the lake prior to predicted heavy rainfall which would result in a more stable environment for the subject species.

I could go on and on with the listing of additional benefits, but suffice it to say that I am requesting your favorable approval of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community grant application.

Thanks!

Bobby Roberts  
3017 NE Klickitat St  
Portland OR 97212

**From:** [Tommy Jane Roberts](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Grant Application  
**Date:** Monday, July 20, 2020 1:40:04 PM

---

I am writing this email to let you know that I support the water project grant application submitted by Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community for the spillway/fish ladder project.

This project is needed to improve our dam and spillway in order to protect Fishhawk Lake as well as properties and fish habitat downstream.

I respectfully ask your consideration to provide this grant for Fishhawk Lake.

Sincerely, Tommy Jane Roberts

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Ray Rogers](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk lake grant application letter or support  
**Date:** Monday, August 10, 2020 3:44:47 PM

---

### Fishhawk Lake – Grant Application support

I am writing today as a full-time member of the Fishhawk Community in support of the water project grant application that has been submitted for funding in 2020. My exposure to the community and surrounding area began about 18 months ago and now has become our permanent home.

We are aware of the needs for support from your organization to assist the community in completing the needed update to the spillway/fish ladder and other aspects listed in the grant application. This Grant supports the three major areas of community concern:

Public Safety: Once completed will decrease any possible catastrophic dam failure and major floor concerns and improve emergency preparedness goals of the community along with dam stabilization

Downstream Effect: A must, is to retain and improve the marine habitat. This includes, Coho Salmon, Steelhead, Chinook, Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey. The grant application project will protect the 34 miles of fish habitat downstream for the threatened species.

Community Support: The new combined spillway and fish ladder will allow the reservoir to stay full and pass ecological flows which will improve flood plain function and connectivity downstream of the Dam.

Fishhawk lake community also supports two counties with its property tax structure. We also support nearby towns, Clatskanie and Vernonia.

Supporting this project benefits not only the community but Counties and the State of Oregon with valuable resources needed for the future of the State of Oregon and a great community to live.

Ray and Karen Rogers

--

Ray R Rogers  
503 705 0145 cell  
5603 755 0609 home  
[rayrogers123@gmail.com](mailto:rayrogers123@gmail.com)

**From:** [SCHMELING, JAMES](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** FishHawk Lake Grant Application  
**Date:** Monday, June 29, 2020 11:17:01 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)

---

We purchased a home and lot at Fishhawk lake last year. FishHawk is a beautiful place and the people are great but we do need some assistance. The dam does need to be upgraded or there is a potential that we could lose our most important asset and the reason why people come here, the lake and the important water-supply it provides. Without the assistance I think the financial loss to the individuals that live here as well as the counties that surround the area could be severely affected. Also FishHawk Creek contains high quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey. I'm hoping this important fish habitat will not be lost. Please consider helping us if possible.



**James Schmeling**  
Agency Owner  
T: 360-576-1000  
F: 360-576-1007  
9908 NE Highway 99  
Vancouver, WA 98686



*Call me for the protection you need and the service you want.*

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**One agency, two convenient locations:**

**Vancouver:**

9908 NE Highway 99, Vancouver, WA 98686  
P: (360) 576-1000 F: (360) 576-1007

**Battle Ground:**

1808 SW 9th Ave, Battle Ground, WA 98604  
P: (360) 342-8417 F: (360) 723-5174

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**From:** [gary.scrivens@daimler.com](mailto:gary.scrivens@daimler.com)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Fishhawk Lake project  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 9:08:12 PM

---

To Whom it May Concern,

I have had the pleasure of visiting Fishhawk Lake a number of times this year, and have quickly come to realize the importance of the dam and spillway in maintaining the beautiful reservoir and fish habitat.

The residents of the Lake community take great pride in the maintenance of the area, and provide important economic support to the local businesses, while also providing significant tax revenue for the county.

The following are a few important points regarding the significance of maintaining/upgrading the dam and spillway/fish ladder:

1. Fishhawk Lake is an existing reservoir that provides recreation, including fishing and boating, and aesthetic benefits to the local Fishhawk Lake community and provides important habitat for Pacific Lamprey and threatened Coho Salmon, among other fish species. It would be a loss to the Fish Hawk lake community and our State if it is not maintained.
2. If the dam is not upgraded, The Fishhawk Lake community is at risk of the complete loss of Fishhawk Lake and the important water-supply it provides.
3. The new combined spillway and fish ladder will protect the community located around the lake from floods and protect properties downstream of the dam from a catastrophic dam failure.
4. Without Fishhawk Lake, important fish habitat will be lost, causing environmental harm to important fish populations, especially the threatened Coho Salmon and culturally important Pacific Lamprey.
5. Public safety is one of the key drivers for this project. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the ½ pmf dam safety requirement. Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community. This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of FLRC, the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream.

Thank you,

Gary D. Scrivens  
7700 SE 30th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97202

If you are not the addressee, please inform us immediately that you have received this e-mail by mistake, and delete it. We thank you for your support.

**From:** [Rochelle Scrivens](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake project  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 12, 2020 8:25:57 PM

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To Whom it May Concern,

Although the comments are not written completely by me, they are my opinion, statement and comments. The dam, spillway/fish ladder and lake should be preserved

1. Fishhawk Lake is an existing reservoir that provides recreation, including fishing and boating, and aesthetic benefits to the local Fishhawk Lake community and provides important habitat for Pacific Lamprey and threatened Coho Salmon, among other fish species. It would be a loss to the Fish Hawk lake community and our State if it is not maintained.
2. If the dam is not upgraded, The Fishhawk Lake community is at risk of the complete loss of Fishhawk Lake and the important water-supply it provides.
3. The new combined spillway and fish ladder will protect the community located around the lake from floods and protect properties downstream of the dam from a catastrophic dam failure.
4. Without Fishhawk Lake, important fish habitat will be lost, causing environmental harm to important fish populations, especially the threatened Coho Salmon and culturally important Pacific Lamprey.
5. Public safety is one of the key drivers for this project. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the ½ pmf dam safety requirement. Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community. This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of FLRC, the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream.

Thank you,

Rochelle Scrivens  
7700 SE 30th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97202



From: [Dave S](#)  
To: [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
Subject: Fishhawk Lake Dam Project  
Date: Sunday, June 28, 2020 9:03:44 AM

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Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, Oregon 97301

I am writing to express my support of the Dam Upgrade project, including spillway and fish ladder, at Fishhawk Lake (FLRC). I have been a member of the FLRC for 15 years.

The FLRC is a unique community with numerous individuals who devote countless hours to maintain a high quality water environment. Over its long history, FLRC has been good stewards of the lake and good neighbors to the community.

As with any construction, time can take its toll, and FLRC is now presented an opportunity to upgrade the dam facility. Without the upgrade, we run the risk of losing the economic and ecological benefits that the FLRC community provides to the area.

Among many other things, the dam project will improve safety and fish habitat, both vital to the FLRC and the surrounding area. The project is both needed and timely, and is supported by the FLRC membership.

In sum, I strongly support the project and encourage the provision of needed funding to FLRC for its successful enactment.

Sincerely,  
David Slavit  
[wsuvancoug@gmail.com](mailto:wsuvancoug@gmail.com)

**From:** [Kristin Steele](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Dam Upgrade Support  
**Date:** Thursday, July 02, 2020 9:53:21 AM

---

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

Thank you for considering the grant application to upgrade the dam at Fishhawk Lake.

I'm writing to you today to add my enthusiastic support to this project. I am a newer homeowner in the community at the lake, and its importance and preservation are significant to me and my family.

We are well aware that if the dam is not upgraded, we are at risk of the complete loss of Fishhawk Lake and the important water-supply it provides. Without the Lake, the community of Fishhawk Lake will disappear or be severely diminished, causing significant economic disruption to Columbia and Clatsop Counties. Losing Fishhawk Lake will cause economic harm to rural communities within these counties, who rely on fishing for tourism and on the Fishhawk Lake community for economic support within the county.

Being a part of and supporting these communities is a large priority for our family and so many others at the lake. The new combined spillway and fish ladder will protect the community located around the lake from floods and protect properties downstream of the dam from a catastrophic dam failure.

Of particular concern to us is the environment that the lake is a valuable part of:

- Without Fishhawk Lake, important fish habitat will be lost, causing environmental harm to important fish populations, especially the threatened Coho Salmon and culturally important Pacific Lamprey. Fishhawk Creek contains high-quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey.
- The project enhances fish passage and provides improved access to 34.4 miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam, 13.5 miles of which are considered high quality habitat for the threatened Coho Salmon. The spillway/fish ladder design reduces lake fluctuations, which will greatly improve habitat for Pacific Lamprey larva.
- With the fish ladder and lake level improvements, each of the fish populations found in the lake, Coho, Lamprey, Steelhead, and Trout, are expected to expand over time, and this, in turn, will support expanded fisheries-related tourism and recreation, as well as commercial and tribal fisheries, throughout the Nehalem River Basin.

Your agency's grant support of this project will help ensure positive economic and environmental impact not only for those at the lake but also for the larger region it is a part of and the environment we all hold so dearly. And that impact extends well beyond our generation. Our hope is to be good stewards for the future and its success. Thank you for your time.

Best,  
Kristin Steele  
51552 Northshore Rd.  
Birkenfeld, OR

**From:** [Bob Swaim](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Dam Upgrade Support  
**Date:** Monday, July 13, 2020 12:08:41 PM

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Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

Thank you for considering the grant application to help towards the upgrade of the dam at Fishhawk Lake.

I'm writing to you today to add my enthusiastic support to this project. We are newer homeowners in the community at the lake, and its importance and preservation are significant to me and my family.

The needs addressed by this project will ensure the protection and preservation of Fishhawk Lake, which was created and is maintained by the Fishhawk Lake dam. The lake is a reservoir that provide recreation, including fishing and boating, and an important habitat for several species of fish.

We are well aware that if the dam is not upgraded, we are at risk of the complete loss of Fishhawk Lake and the important water-supply it provides. Without the Lake, the community of Fishhawk Lake will disappear or be severely diminished, causing significant economic disruption to Columbia and Clatsop Counties. Losing Fishhawk Lake will cause economic harm to rural communities within these counties, who rely on fishing for tourism and on the Fishhawk Lake community for economic support.

Being a part of and supporting these communities is a large priority for our family and so many others at the lake. The new combined spillway and fish ladder will protect the community located around the lake from floods and protect properties downstream of the dam from a catastrophic dam failure.

Of particular concern to us is the environment that the lake is a valuable part of:

- Without Fishhawk Lake, important fish habitat will be lost, causing environmental harm to important fish populations, especially the threatened Coho Salmon and culturally important Pacific Lamprey. Fishhawk Creek contains high-quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey.
- The project enhances fish passage and provides improved access to 34.4 miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam, 13.5 miles of which are considered high quality habitat for the threatened Coho Salmon. The spillway/fish ladder design reduces lake fluctuations, which will greatly improve habitat for Pacific Lamprey larva.
- With the fish ladder and lake level improvements, each of the fish populations found in the lake, Coho, Lamprey, Steelhead, and Trout, are expected to expand over time, and this, in turn, will support expanded fisheries-related tourism and recreation, as well as commercial and tribal fisheries, throughout the Nehalem River Basin.

Your agency's grant support of this project will help ensure positive economic and environmental impact not only for those at the lake but also for the larger region it is a part of and the environment we all hold so dearly. And that impact extends well beyond our generation.

Our hope is to be good stewards for the future and its success. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Bob & June Swaim  
51552 Northshore Rd.  
Birkenfeld, OR

**From:** [Meg Sydney](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake grant application  
**Date:** Saturday, July 18, 2020 11:11:40 AM

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I am writing in support of Fishhawk Lake's grant application.

I love to visit the Lake and enjoy its many recreational activities. The abundance of wildlife is amazing. This summer alone we have seen, deer, raccoons, otters, rabbits, coyote, many fish, osprey, blue heron, salamanders and much more.

The Lake is a special place for me and my family. I look forward to the next 50 years at the Lake with an improved and safety upgraded spillway and fish ladder.

Thank you for considering the Lake's grant application. I hope you will also find it worthy of funding.

Sincerely,

Meg Williams

**From:** [Skyler Weaver](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection  
**Date:** Friday, July 24, 2020 12:55:26 AM

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Hello,

I do not live at Fishhawk Lake, but I have visited the site a few times with my wife. For years, we have fantasized about living there with our friends living a short boat ride away. Or in retirement our grandchildren can visit us there every summer and bring their friends. It is nice to know that it is there, waiting for us.

Just recently I learned that the dam that creates the lake is at risk during storms and that it needs an upgraded spillway to survive the next 50 years.

I'm writing to mention my vote of support for the grant proposal.

Thank you for listening,  
Skyler

Skyler Weaver, Ph.D. | [skyler@skylerweaver.net](mailto:skyler@skylerweaver.net) | 541.908.1731 | [www.skylerweaver.net](http://www.skylerweaver.net)

**From:** [Reid Williams](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake public comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 05, 2020 8:32:18 AM

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To whom it may concern,

The grant to modernize the Fishhawk Lake dam would be a positive for the local community. The fish ladder work would be great for the local fish runs and would help the native population.

Reid Williams

June, 2020

Oregon Water Resource Department  
Sent via Email

Concerning Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project:

I am writing as a citizen of Oregon in support of the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection grant application. As a resident of Oregon for over 60 years I realize how precious and valuable our natural resources, particularly water, are to the State, its citizens and our visitors.

For a number of reasons I believe the grant application is highly worthy of funding.

Fishhawk Creek contains high quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook, Coastal Cutthroat Trout and Pacific Lamprey. The project enhances fish passage and provides improved access to 34 miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam, over 13 miles of which are considered high quality habitat for the threatened Coho Salmon

Public safety is one of the key drivers for this project. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the ½ pmf dam safety requirement. Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community.

This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community (FLRC), the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and all those located downstream.

The water supply needs addressed by this project is the protection of Fishhawk Lake, which was created and is maintained by the Fishhawk Lake dam. Fishhawk Lake is an existing reservoir that provides recreation, including fishing and boating, and aesthetic benefits to the local Fishhawk Lake community and that provides important habitat for Pacific Lamprey and threatened Coho Salmon, among other fish species. The residents of FLRC will also be contributing a significant amount of money for the Project.

Thank you for your consideration of the Project's grant application.

Sincerely,

Bruce Williams  
Portland, Oregon

20 July 2020

Dear Sir/Madam:

As a frequent visitor to Fishhawk Lake, I would like to provide comment and offer my support for the request for funding of the proposed spillway and fish ladder upgrades at Fishhawk Lake.

My background provides me with some basis for my comments. I completed a Bachelor's degree in Fisheries Science from Oregon State University, and a Master's of Marine Affairs from the University of Washington. My work career consisted of 36 years in fish management for an international fisheries agency, ultimately being responsible for the agency's research program. Currently I chair the Puget Sound Recreational Fisheries Enhancement Fund Oversight Committee, an advisory body to the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The two primary arguments I find most compelling for granting the requested funding are (1) the improved access to a significant amount of spawning habitat for salmonids, particularly the Oregon Coast coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*), which is listed as Threatened under the ESA, and (2) improved flood control for downstream inhabitants and agricultural uses.

You will note that ODFW assesses the habitat upstream of the lake as containing over 13.5 miles of suitable coho salmon habitat. Fish are able to access this area now but under less-than-ideal conditions which entail using an ineffectual fish ladder. This subjects a species which is already at risk to further peril and potential extinction. Inability to access habitat is one of the top reasons for the decline of many salmon runs here in the Pacific Northwest. This should not be allowed to happen at Fishhawk Lake. An improved spillway and fish ladder would improve access and conditions for coho, other salmonids and lamprey which use the reservoir and upstream habitats. This is another strong argument for funding this project.

It was disturbing to read that in a 2018 inspection, the current dam was found to be in an "unsatisfactory and potentially unsafe condition".<sup>1</sup> Failure of the dam would have enormous economic and environmental harm to downstream residents and users of the water resources, not to mention the impacts to fish movements in the river. The fact that the dam was nearly topped in 2007 due to spillway inadequacies, due to a heavy silt load in the reservoir basin, further demonstrates the need for the improved spillway. The FLHA is right to pursue improvements to the facility. They recognize their broader responsibility to their neighbors and local community.

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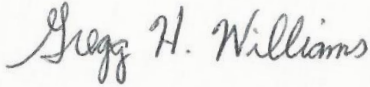
<sup>1</sup> July 16, 2008 letter from K. Mills, OR Water Resources Dept. to FLHA.



The FLHA has broad support for this funding proposal from many important partners, including regional and county agencies, boards, state agencies, and an Oregon State senator. This support should indicate to you the necessity and urgency which this project has within the region, as well as how those affected view its priority.

I support this funding request for the above stated reasons, and ask you to recommend that it be approved.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gregg H. Williams". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper background.

Gregg H Williams  
[linkedin.com/in/gregghwilliams](https://www.linkedin.com/in/gregghwilliams)

RECEIVED

JUL 27 2020

OWRD

## **Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Grant**

As a resident of Fishhawk lake I am asking you to please approve the 2.6 million grant to improve our dam and fish ladder.

If the Fishhawk dam is not upgraded the lake and the important water-supply it provides could disappear causing significant economic disruption to Columbia and Clatsop Counties. Losing Fishhawk Lake will cause economic harm to rural communities within these counties, who rely on fishing for tourism and on the Fishhawk Lake community for economic support within the county.

The new combined spillway and fish ladder will protect the community located around the lake from floods and protect properties downstream of the dam from a catastrophic dam failure.

This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of FLRC, the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream.

I thank you in advance for your support for this important project.

Gerald Cohn



10268 Field Crest Dr. Birkenfeld, Or 97016

[jerry@cohnfamily.org](mailto:jerry@cohnfamily.org)

503-308-6972

Dear Grant Program Coordinator:

I am supporting the application of Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community, Inc. to protect the water supply that Fishhawk Lake provides which is an important part of the recreation tourism industry in the State, providing fishing, swimming, boating, economic and aesthetic benefits in both Clatsop and Columbia Counties to state residents and visitors.

It is also a recognized anchor habitat for the endangered Coho Salmon, the culturally significant and state listed sensitive Pacific Lamprey, as well as Steelhead and Coastal Cutthroat Trout. This project implements many state and regional habitat improvement plans that have identified Fishhawk Creek and Lake as anchor habitat for anadromous fish species, especially the endangered Coho Salmon. It is among the top ranked sites for improvement of fish connectivity and habitat improvement because of the likelihood of success in improving species survival and population increases. Protecting the dam through construction of the new combined spillway and fish ladder also will increase ecosystem resilience to climate change by providing long-term access to stored water in the lake in perpetuity.

Public safety is one of the key drivers for this proposed public-private partnership. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the 1/2 pmf dam safety requirement. Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community. This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of FLRC, the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream. Your dam safety officials have identified this project as necessary to complete for several years, ranking the dam as a significant hazard.

This is a small rural community that urgently needs financial assistance to accomplish these goals. We have the will to do it. We need assistance from the State to protect this water supply for generations of Oregonians to come.

I urge your funding of this important project.

Thank you.

*Stephen Lieb M.D.*  
*Ellen Lieb*  
*10072 Lakeview Drive*  
*Burkenfeld, OR 97012*

RECEIVED

JUL 23 2020

OWRD

AUGUST 1, 2020

RECEIVED

AUG 10 2020

GREETINGS,

I AM TAKING THIS OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON <sup>OWRD</sup> POSSIBLE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE NEW COMBINED SPILLWAY AND FISH LADDER PROJECT AT FISHHAWK LAKE.

THERE ARE SERIOUS ISSUES TO CONSIDER; ENVIRONMENTAL, PUBLIC SAFETY, ECONOMIC ISSUES FOR PROPERTY OWNERS INCLUDING CLATSOP AND COLUMBIA COUNTYS, OTHER ISSUES TO CONSIDER ARE TRIBAL, COMMERCIAL AND THE RECREATIONAL FISHERIES,

MY FOCUS OF SUPPORT IS ON THE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES.

WITHOUT THE UPGRADE OF THE SPILLWAY AND FISH LADDER IMPORTANT FISH HABITAT WILL BE LOST.

THE IMPROVEMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO EXPAND OVER TIME EACH OF THE FOWID SPECIES, COHO SALMON, STEELHEAD, CHINOOK, CUTTHROAT TROUT, AND PACIFIC LAMPREY.

FISHHAWK CREEK CONTAINS HIGH QUALITY SPAWNING AND REARING HABITAT, THE PROJECT

WILL ENHANCE FISH PASSAGE AND PROVIDE IMPROVED ACCESS TO 34.4 MILES OF HABITAT UPSTREAM, 13.5 MILES WHICH ARE CONSIDERED HIGH QUALITY HABITAT FOR ENDANGERED COHO SALMON.

RECEIVED

AUG 10 2020

THE PROJECT WILL IMPROVE FLOOD PLAIN FUNCTION AND CONNECTIVITY DOWNSTREAM, WHICH WILL IMPROVE FISH AND RIPARIAN HABITAT,

THIS WILL ALL INCREASE RESILIENCE OF THE ECOSYSTEM TO CLIMATE CHANGE BY PROVIDING LONG TERM ACCESS TO STORED WATER IN THE LAKE.

THE COMMUNITY OF FISHHAWK LAKE IS IN SUPPORT OF THE PROJECT WITH AN EXCELLENT TEAM OF EXPERTS IN PLACE, READY TO MOVE FORWARD.

DESPITE THE FACT FISHHAWK LAKE IS MAN MADE, NATURE HAS ADAPTED.

AS HUMANS WE ARE AN INTEGRATED PART OF THIS ECOSYSTEM. IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO DO OUR PART, TO PARTNER WITH NATURE HELP MAINTAIN STABILITY, HEALTH,

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AUG 10 2020

OWRD

BALANCE, WHOLENESS FOR ALL.

I HOPE YOU WILL SERIOUSLY CONSIDER  
SUPPORTING THIS PROJECT.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

SINCERELY,

Mare Smith

9864 BEACH DR.

BIRKENHEAD, OR.

97016

July 21, 2020

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JUL 23 2020

OWRD

Dear Grant Program Coordinator:

I am a member of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community.

I am writing in support of the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project proposal which has been submitted for your consideration during the 2020 Water Project Grants and Loans program.

Having grown up in Columbia County (the Scappoose area) in the 50's and 60's, I first heard about Fishhawk in the early 1970's. We would drive from Scappoose on the Scappoose-Vernonia Hwy and stop at the Mist General Store. Inside, was an elderly gentleman, probably in his 80's making the best tasting Hamburgers ever! Of course, both are gone now, but that was always a special treat on the way to Fishhawk! The 5-6 mile drive from the main highway to the lake was so beautiful (AND STILL IS), lovely green pastures with happy cattle, a lumber mill just off the road, country homes here and there and then just approaching the lake — it was always WOW! There's the Lake!

Three girlfriends and I purchased a lot along the lake front at the East end near Fishhawk Creek. All of the families have enjoyed

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JUL 23 2020

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picnicing and boating on the lake, over years or just simply having a relaxing day at the lake taking in the outstanding view and listening to the sounds of nature.

If the dam is not upgraded, we are at risk of the complete loss of Fishhawk Lake and the important water-supply it provides. Without the lake, the extremely important fish habitat for Pacific Lamprey, Coho Salmon, Winter Steelhead, Summer Chinook, and Coastal Cutthroat Trout would be lost.

This small rural community urgently needs financial assistance to accomplish the goal of upgrading the combined spillway and fish ladder that will protect the community at the lake and properties downstream from a catastrophic dam failure.

Thank you for your consideration for the 2020 Water Project Grants and Loans Program.

Dolores Findley  
LOT 8

Fishhawk Lake — Columbia County



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5 0 2020

OWRD

Fishhawk is a  
little hidden  
gem.

Come visit!

- Rachel J.

I Love  
Fishhawk

Lake

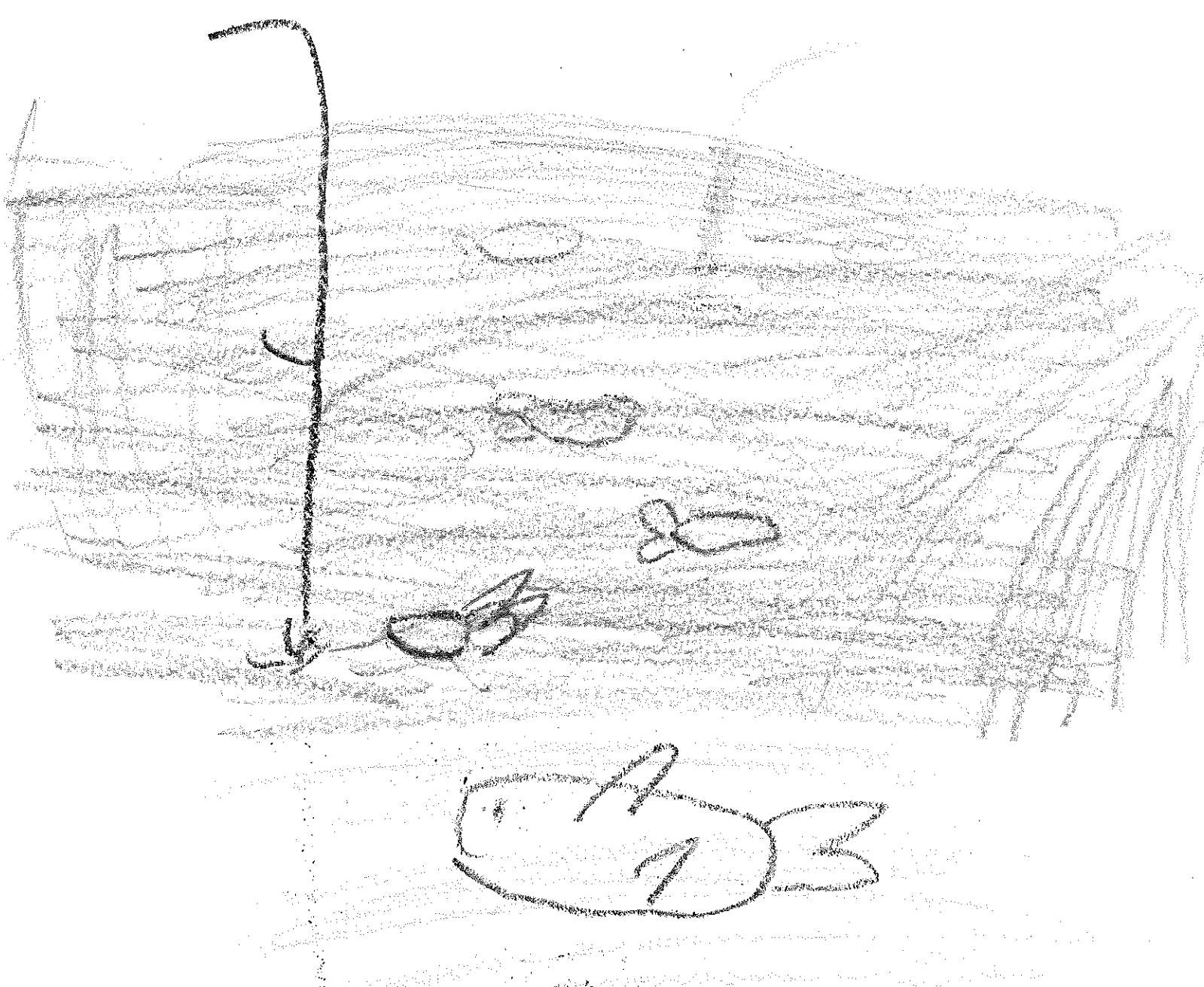


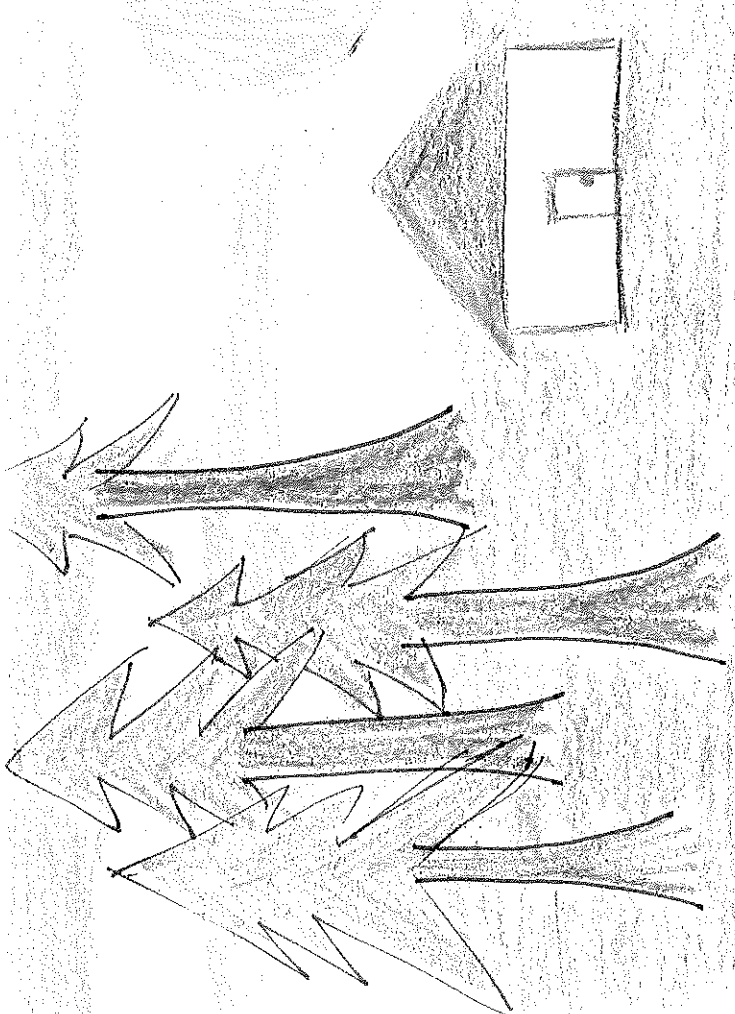
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JUL 24 2020

My name is Benjamin and my grandma lives at fishhawk lake and I get to visit her every once in a while. What I like about fishhawk lake is that there are a lot of birds to look at, and there are so many things to do, like swimming in the summer if it is hot enough, you can go fishing and just come to play. I think that you should give the grant so that they can improve the fish ladder because it means more fish to catch, which means more fishing!!!!

OWRD



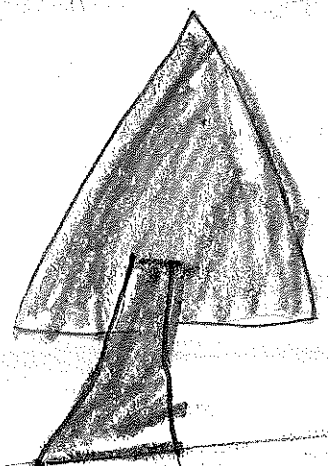
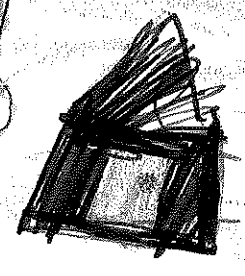
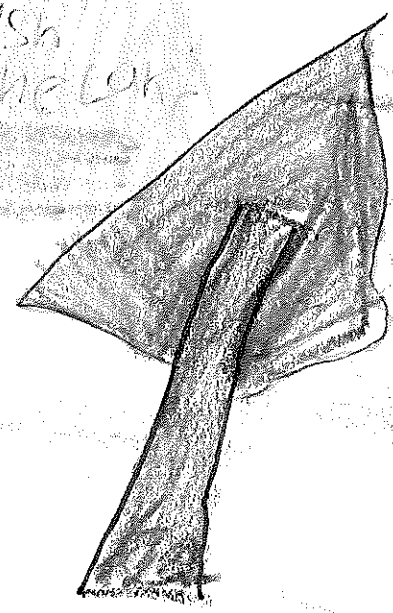
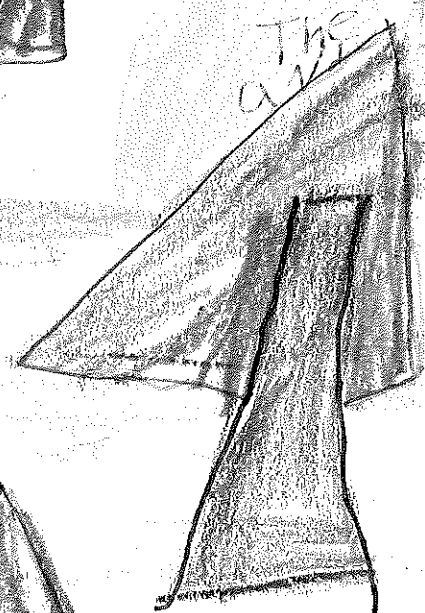
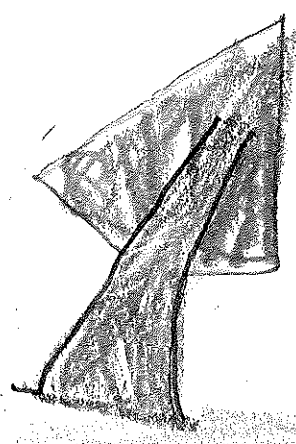


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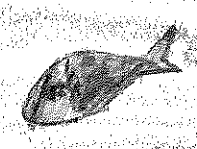
AUG 06 2020

OWRD

Save  
The Fish  
and  
The Lake



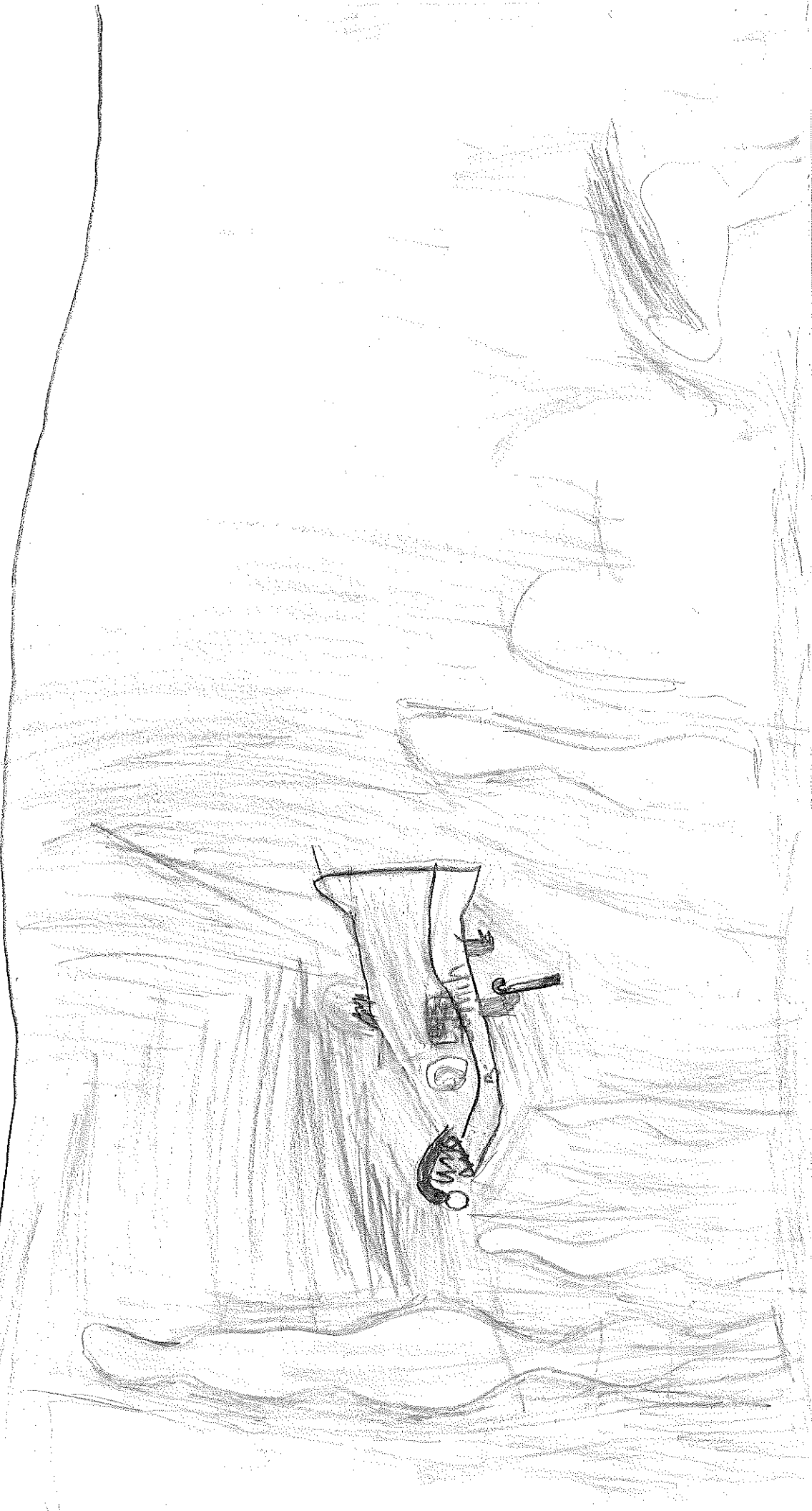
Save The Lake Save The Fish!





BYCONNOR





**From:** [Claire Turpel Chase](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Support for the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection project  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 12:21:23 PM

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Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

Fishhawk Lake provides an existing reservoir that stores water, an increasingly urgent need as we prepare for the future. Inclusive of the lake, the Nehalem River watershed contains high-quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho salmon, winter steelhead, summer Chinook, coastal cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey. In addition to providing critical habitat to these threatened and important fish species, Fishhawk Lake also provides habitat for numerous other aquatic species. Simply put: the lake greatly contributes to the quality of life for all people and animals in the region. These benefits were created and are maintained by the Fishhawk Lake dam.

But the dam is at risk and if not repaired urgently, we risk complete loss of Fishhawk Lake, its essential water reserve, and critical habitat. Without the lake, Columbia and Clatsop Counties would experience significant water supply depletion, ecosystem damage, economic disruption, and even a degradation of the region's quality of life.

The Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection project, by providing a new combined spillway and fish ladder as part of the dam repair, is critically important for many reasons:

1. Providing critical water storage by ensuring that the water supply needs will continue to be met in perpetuity. This will increase ecosystem resilience to climate change by providing long-term access to stored water in the lake.
2. Passing wet season flows through the lake in a manner consistent with natural streamflows, and improving the floodplain function and connectivity downstream of the dam. Because the project increases spillway capacity, it will no longer be necessary to draw-down the lake level in anticipation of storm events, which is the current practice to protect the dam structure.
3. Protecting the community located around the lake from floods and protecting downstream properties from a catastrophic flood event. This will also prevent total dam collapse which would be an economic crisis for the lake community, downstream property owners, and the region.
4. Enhancing fish passage by improving access to 34.4 miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam, 13.5 miles of which are considered high-quality habitat for threatened Coho salmon.
5. Reducing lake fluctuations, which will greatly improve habitat for Pacific Lamprey larva.

The goals of this project directly align with the vision and mission of the Oregon Water Resources Department. Therefore, we urge the Department to fund the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection project. By funding this project, the OWRD will directly support long-term water supply and sustainability goals that are important to all Oregonians.

Thank you,



Claire Turpel Chase

--

Claire Turpel Chase

503-548-8998

[claire.turpel@gmail.com](mailto:claire.turpel@gmail.com)

**From:** [Isabel Mosley](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Support for Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 12:39:01 PM

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Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

I am writing to you today as a member of the Fishhawk Lake community to show my support for the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project. My family has been a part of the Fishhawk Lake community for about 10 years now and in that time I have seen how important this lake is. Not only for recreation and aesthetic purposes, but also environmental purposes as well. Growing up in this community and being so close to a vibrant forest and aquatic ecosystem has shaped who I am today as an environmentalist and advocate for environmental sustainability and conservation. Fishhawk Lake has become an important habitat for Coho Salmon and other species of fish (We've even seen otters playing in the lake!) and the loss of this lake would be a very big blow to the populations of these fish species. The improvements that would come with the Storage Protection Project are expected to increase fish populations, including the Coho Salmon, and would support a small rural community in need.

My family and I hope you consider this project for the protection of the environment and the residents of this community.

Thank you so much!  
Isabel Mosley

**From:** [Perry Williams](#)  
**To:** [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: support for Lake grant application  
**Date:** Friday, August 14, 2020 12:16:20 PM

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>

> I write in support of the grant application by Fishhawk Lake. The Lake is an important recreation facility and has been enjoyed by many Oregonians for over 50 years now.

> The Lake is a key water way for salmon, trout and other fish that are increasingly endangered. Improving the fish ladder and emergency spill way will help protect this valuable resource for current and future generations. In addition, preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream.

>

> Thank you for your consideration,

>

> Perry Williams

> August, 2020

August 11, 2020

### **Attention Grant Program Coordinator**

One of my most memorable trips to Fishhawk Lake was the day my parents were pouring the foundation to their soon to be vacation home. An unforgettable day for me as I was nine months pregnant with my first son who was born a day later. Labor surely helped along, by the winding bumpy drive there and back.

My folks took my sons up to the lake often where they learned how to build, fish, boat, swim, play cards and appreciate quiet living within nature. Nieces and nephews enjoyed the same experiences.

Riding on Grandpas lap while he mowed the lawn on his riding lawnmower was always big entertainment.

When the children were older the paddleboat was in constant use. And the children loved to watch the fish at the hatchery, traveling up the fish ladder, along with the fall salmon runs on the tributaries into the lake. The lake trips were full of educational experiences.

They were thrilled to see so much wildlife; deer, beaver, osprey, blue heron, geese, ducks and even a couple of loons. Catching salamanders, crawdads and watching the neighbor reel in few good-sized salmon off their dock provided fun for hours.

Over the years we spent many birthdays and celebrations at the lake house, along with picnics, entertaining my colleagues and friends. And my parents doing the same with their teacher friends and church members.

Since then many more homes have been built as well as many more wonderful memories. My eldest son who arrived after the bumpy ride, went on to become a Lawyer, and will celebrate his 39th birthday there at the end of this month. Time flies!

The lake has become a special get-away for my children, and Granddogs who spend hours chasing balls, swimming and long walks. The mountain air at Fishhawk provides the perfect place for humans and dogs alike to escape the fast pace of city life.

My father who built the lake house, was very active in helping the lake stay afloat, so to speak until my mother became ill and all his attention turned to her. He dedicated many long hours over the years to insure the sustainability of the lake. It was a different time back then, but the upkeep and correct direction today of the lake, is every bit as important as it was back then.

Today my sister, her husband and I share, in the transition of what will become of our lake house's future for our children and possibly future generations.

It is important to follow the guidelines and requirements provided by the State, in moving Fishhawk Lake forward with upgrades to the Dam and Fish ladder, and to do so in the most economical and fiscally responsible way.

I therefore ask you to consider providing the grant to the Fishhawk Lake community so that the upgrades can take place without further delays, and additional costs incurred.

Sincerely,

Mary M Vandehey  
5223 SW 174<sup>th</sup> Terrace  
Beaverton, Oregon 97078  
(71608 North Shore Drive, Fishhawk Lake).

17 August 2020

Oregon Water Resources Department  
Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Ms. Becky Williams,

On 2 September 2015, hydraulic fluid spilled in Fishhawk Lake that also affected Fishhawk Creek. This fluid came from the dredge equipment. A board member and an employee, that were present that day, did not contact DEQ to report the incident. Travis Graham, who was later informed of the incident reported the spill. One result was a \$1500.00 fine against the homeowners association for the delay in filing the report. Travis Graham was Director of Operations at the time of this incident. Some community members believe that the eventual termination of his employment on 24 January 2017, was initially triggered by the action he took in response to this event. Amanda Graham was allegedly terminated from her administrative employment position with the FLRC via email at 10:45 pm on 10 August 2017. She filed suit against the homeowners association and won her case. What is of additional interest here is that the same board member previously mentioned would, less than three years later, resign from the board of trustees following a written outcry from several members petitioning for his recall, along with that of three other board members allegedly associated with the irregularities of draining Fishhawk Lake in 2019. It is yet to be determined if the final disposition of this case may result in criminal as well as civil action against key participants associated with the homeowners association. In July 2020, three out of four board members would resign before they could be removed by a vote of community members.

Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community, located in the town of Birkenfeld, is twenty miles away from the nearest post office that is located in the town of Clatskanie. At first pass, after initially walking or driving around the community, it seems that too many future members become so mesmerized, and subsequently hypnotized, by the view of the lake and the surrounding homes that they purchase a lot or home without either taking the governing documents seriously, or considering the future possibilities and implications regarding what can potentially go wrong with their investment. It can be argued that it is difficult to determine whether some members ignore the documentation or simply do not understand the significance of the detailed information. There are part time and full time residents who are mortgage holders at Fishhawk Lake. Some part time residents lead full enough lives that they have neither the time nor the energy to frequently monitor events at the lake community. Some members want, and actually do trust the leadership represented by the board of trustees. Some members count on the board vote to make the best decisions to protect their interests, regardless of the outcomes of some of the decisions. Those members most likely to not regularly monitor changes would be the part time residents even when an alarming amount of information is shared with them via email. Monitoring the communications and meetings became far more challenging following the draining of the lake for repairs in August 2019. The irregularities of that incident resulted in new and myriad concerns from then to the present time that will go far beyond the drafting and submission of this letter.

The homeowners association, the FLRC, has a troubling history and a questionable reputation that too many residents from locations as far away as Vernonia and Scappoose, consider to be negative. One resident, who owns land off of Hwy 47 east of the lake community being discussed here, told a perspective resident that the lake community was “clannish”. It was later determined that what he meant was that there are cliques in the community not unlike some groups formed in high school. Some

FLRC members eventually learned to stop telling people that they live at Fishhawk Lake and claim residency in the town of Birkenfeld instead. Within the community of Fishhawk Lake are two primary dynamics. Upon close observation there appears to be what can only be described as a societal class hierarchy, with the pinnacle of the heap represented by members who have homes within full view of the lake, coupled with living in the community full time. The further away from the lake that a member lives, and the less time spent in the community, the lower they are in the structure. Not all members who live at Fishhawk Lake are enamoured with this artificially created body of water. Some members simply sought homes bordering the forest for solitude, peace, and quiet outside of the cities they left behind, and have never been in or on the lake for exercise or recreation. The second dynamic is primarily two sizable groups that when it came to voting on some issues recently, seem split almost roughly down the middle. This separation has been and continues to be the framework in which duelling sides for dominance on issues to progress forward too often result in divisiveness and discord in a stressful and alarming way during pre-Covid19, in person physical membership meetings. In fact , the first Zoom meeting scheduled by the board of trustees for the FLRC occurred because, *“the format of our December 14th, 2019 monthly meeting is being changed out of an abundance of caution. Due to a recent perceived threat of violence, and to preclude any associated risk to the community at large, we are taking the following steps to insure that the meeting takes place in a manner that will include the entire community.”*

However, oddly enough, there is a very small long term membership core faction that seems to be, and some members claim have been, exerting a specific kind of pressure for continued control on the community at large whether all the members are aware of this intervention or not. Those members most likely to recognize this description are full time, long term residents for which these details described here are inescapable for those who can't help but pay attention.

The membership landscape has shifted a bit in the past few years with there being increasingly more residents who are too new to the community to recognize some troubling irregularities. This potentially opportunistic trajectory is primarily fully, and completely dependant on the continued existence of Fishhawk Lake and thus the dam, as the key piece of infrastructure upon which everything else depends. This is not to say that repairs and modifications do not need to be performed. This is not to say that if handled with greater mindfulness and care than previously demonstrated, a positive environmental impact is possible through member participation in the FLRC. What is being alluded to here is that for some members only care about the environmental impact activity, and the claims of the safety as primary goal for lake residents and downstream neighbors, is what must be communicated for multiple grant considerations, to achieve the ultimate goal of dramatically increasing the property values in the community.

It has been unkindly said that if members can no longer afford to live at Fishhawk Lake they should leave. Several members have claimed exactly that and are already gone; households like the Kleen's, and the Copeland's, are among others who have already sold their homes. At the time of the writing of this comments submission, other members are planning their exit from a community that they have projected that, even when the work on the dam is complete, more assessments are possible as new issues arise within the community. These members have surmised that their dues will continue to increase. In the year 2013, the community experienced an eighteen percent dues increase. Far more recently the community experienced a forty percent dues increase. That was before the lake draining resulted in myriad, completely unanticipated costs; especially legal expenses.

The distribution of grant funding for the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection project would be an egregious action to take given the attitudes described here by some community members, coupled with

the environmentally unfriendly member and guest behaviors that have been, and continue to be demonstrated over time. At the time that the lake bed was empty, with the exception of randomly arrayed pools of water, the area described as the east end dig-out received physical attention to accomplish the desired task. Some members of the community claim that this particular aspect of the initiated lake project was not voted on by the membership, and that the size of the cost to fund the work required a membership vote. In addition, a letter was distributed to several members that describes what should have been considered before altering the landscape by digging out any of it. This letter that provides details, with images, explains the difference between digging out that area of the lake bed, and what would actually occur naturally to achieve a similar goal. The following paragraph is an excerpt from an “open letter to the community” with the date of 24 May 2020 from an anonymous author.

*“The bank was crumbled into the water and much of it scooped up and trucked away. Such rapid bank destruction causes thick particles to change the water. In laymen’s terms: a proper water bank has material that has been “sorted” by the water overtime and deposited there in a specific order. When that structure is broken, a cloud of unsorted, thick debris goes into the rest of the waterway. This cloud deposits too fast throughout the lake mucking up other areas of habitat. Such a cloud then clogs things like pumps and drains for other water users. It also introduces a sudden surge in nutrients which could lead to eutrophication and the lake could look like pea soup by the end of the summer.”*

A particularly persistent community member behavior is leaving food out for outdoor felines and continuously stocked bird feeders. In an issue of the online FLRC newsletter *Fishhawk Currents* an insert with imagery cautions members not to feed the other forms of life that reside in the community. In addition to other details listed in the insert, the newsletter bluntly and specifically states that, “Fed wildlife is DEAD wildlife. If you care don’t feed!” There seems to be broad based lack of understanding regarding the significance of this recommendation.

In other environmental concerns, landowner and downstream neighbor Blossom Teele claims that her family was not contacted regarding the draining of the lake that began on 12 August 2019. Her dogs were being swept down creek before she realized that the water level had increased by four feet without rainfall. That was when she assumed that something was going on at the FLRC. Mrs. Teele calls lake treatments and some possibly toxic additional activities that she believes are emanating from the lake community, poison coming from this homeowners association. She said her children were repeatedly finding dead fish. Another downstream neighbor, Troy Horton, allegedly filed suit against this homeowners association in 2008 in Clatsop county regarding issues related to the 2007 flood that he claims could have been prevented by lowering the lake to prevent the incident. The claim he made has been a standard preventative practice that is mentioned in the OWRD grant application currently under consideration for several years since then. In the OWRD grant request, concern for “over topping” the dam, or the possibility of a catastrophic dam failure, is repeated mentioned. Another downstream neighbor, Nick Berg allegedly, physically, visited the office of the FLRC in the past to complain in person about environmental practices of the FLRC that were affecting his land and possibly his horses. The Horton and Graham legal cases are supposed to be accessible public records.

It is too late for the former residents who are not as economically well heeled as some of their fellow members, to benefit from the potential approval of the requested grant funding received from this organization, or any other for which the community has already applied or will apply. These were members (and there may be more) who needed this sort of intervention the most. The seeming concern for the neighbors downstream of the FLRC, as well as focusing attention on middle, and especially low



income members referenced in the OWRD grant application submission is disingenuous. It is inarguable, once many of the details are known, that a small core membership of the FLRC is primarily fearful of a reduction of their property values above all other concerns. In years past it has been verbally circulated within the community that, should the dam be irreparably damaged or destroyed during an extreme weather event, replacement of the dam would not be permitted by state agencies. It is argued in this comments submission that the ultimate goal of some members of the FLRC is to maintain and hopefully increase their property values. Environmental concerns are not shared by all members of this community. This comments submission is not about the potential validity of the project currently under review. The principal concern is the distribution of grant funding to an organization/community that has, and continues to be contentious, and divisive to a new height of volatility among the community members. It is strongly suggested that the FLRC go through other channels to secure conventional banking loan funding. Thank you for reading this letter.

Sincerely,  
N. N. Bey  
P. O. Box 7  
Scappoose, OR 97056

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

We are the Gunbergs – David and Linda. We moved to Oregon after living in Colorado for 30 years. We had been considering many options of what our transition into retirement might be and then we visited Fishhawk Lake. My brother and sister-in-law brought us to their vacation home for a weekend visit, and there was no longer any discussion needed. We had made our decision.

Many conversations at community gatherings, neighborhood parties, during an introduction to new residents or just meeting someone out for a walk, center around, “What brought you to Fishhawk Lake?” There are as many answers to that question as there are folks whom you ask. The most common comment, however, is that they are here because of the beauty of the lake.

When we moved here 14 years ago to be full-time residents, we knew about the dam, the fish ladder, the “glory hole” and the dredge. We had reliable water and wastewater treatment. We lived in a very rural setting, but we had everything we needed. I am slightly embarrassed to admit that we took these necessities for granted. We were busy getting settled, figuring out the lay of the land and meeting our neighbors. And then – the flood of December, 2007, happened. It was then that we realized that there was more to living at Fishhawk Lake than the beauty, the surrounding environment, the easy trip to visit the ocean or to enjoy an event in Portland. With great leadership from many of our dedicated community members – on the Board of Trustees, on various committees, and those with related careers who generously shared their expertise – we recovered from that event. As new community members, we started to realize that this dam, fish ladder and spillway was more important than we had ever known.

There are so many, many reasons why we know that our community would be a very good choice to be a recipient of this available grant money. Our work to protect the lake in partnership with protecting the surrounding environment (in its many forms) is at the top of the list. The list is long, but the highlights for us are the continued support of the fish species which travel here to spawn, the integrity of the dam, the new design plans for the spillway to help protect our community from another flood event.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to advocate for the Fishhawk Lake community and those that surround us – upstream neighboring Fishhawk Creek and down stream in the Nahalem River Valley. We appreciate your consideration of our application.

Sincerely, Linda and David Gunberg

71614 Fishhawk Road

Dear Grant program coordinator.

We are writing this letter in support of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community grant application for the combined spillway/fish ladder project. My family has owned property on Fishhawk lake since 2002. Having been through the flood of 2007, we saw firsthand the devastation that followed the flood. One could only imagine how much more damage would happen if the dam failed.

Fishhawk lake has always been a special place to my family. We all love it here and call it our favorite place on earth. Not only does it serve as a recreational area, it also serves as a habitat for Pacific Lamprey and threatened Coho Salmon, among other fish species.

We are a small community of people, many of whom are retired and on limited income, so this grant is desperately needed to make the dam viable.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my letter of support for this project. Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the community here at Fishhawk Lake. Mike Perkins – 503-784-7285. Gail Kohler Perkins – 503-720-3954. Rob Kangas and Lynn Kohler – 503-762-1235. So many of us are eager to work in partnership with you to ensure a long and healthy life for this important watershed and community.

John Marler  
10464 NW Forest View Way  
Portland, Oregon 97229

August 17, 2020

Oregon Water Resources Development Program  
Attn: Grant Coordinator

I am writing in support of the grant application from Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community.

The Community has made a commitment to upgrading its dam for safety and enhancing its fish ladder to improve the habitat for Coho Salmon and other important species; and protecting this water supply for generations that follow. It will be an expensive project. Help from the state is needed to get this done.

The Fishhawk Lake Community is an important tax base for both Clatsop and Columbia Counties. Completing the dam project will mitigate the risk of a catastrophic dam failure and ensure the community continues to contribute to the economic health of the region.

Fishhawk Lake is an important part of fish migration and a refuge for waterfowl. The project to improve dam safety, improve fish passage and improve the overall habitat will pay dividends for decades to follow.

The Fishhawk Lake Community is focused on being a great partner in respecting and protecting this previous environment.

Your help in the form a grant will be most appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Marler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "M".

## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Patrick McGillivary <pmcgillivary@live.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 1:19 PM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** OWRD Grant application Fishhawk Lake

As an owner and former Board Of Directors member I am very supportive of enhancement of endangered Coho Salmon and the water quality that is necessary to support native species in Fishhawk Lake... We here at the lake are stewards along with counties, state and federal agencies and land owners above and below Fishhawk Lake...

We here at Fishhawk Lake are asking for grant support from OWRD in particular to enhance many facets within the quality spectrum of our lake... Our new proposed dam spillway, fish ladder and repaired underdrain will help significantly control lake levels, water temperatures and not only fish passage, but also the enhancement of the endangered Lamprey Eel...

My wife and I have been owners here at the lake for over four years and during that time I have volunteered over 3,000 hours to my community through the Board of Directors, Buildings and Grounds and Legal... During these years I have come to a realization that it takes many contributions to make things happen, and through agencies, owners, county, state, federal and private dollars we all will help protect these valuable resources that all of us are stewards of...

I am asking for the support of OWRD and the grant review committee... Thank you...

Patrick McGillivary  
9702 Beach Drive  
Birkenfeld, Or. 97016

## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Jeremy Vandehey <jeremy.vandehey@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 2:07 PM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project Grant Application

August 17, 2020

Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project Grant Application

Dear Grant Program Coordinator:

I am writing to support the grant application submitted by Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community, Inc. to protect the water supply that Fishhawk Lake provides. Fishhawk Lake is not only an important part of the recreation tourism industry in Clatsop and Columbia Counties, it also provides critical habitat for Oregon's native wildlife including endangered Coho Salmon, the culturally significant and state listed sensitive Pacific Lamprey, as well as Steelhead and Coastal Cutthroat Trout.

I've been visiting Fishhawk Lake my entire life after my grandparents built their retirement home there the year I was born. I've grown up watching countless wildlife including owls, bald eagles, ducks, geese, and blue herons. Last December I spent time watching hundreds of salmon make their way up the streams that feed Fishhawk Lake.

While the idea of a lake community may conjure an image of wealth - that's not the case with Fishhawk Lake. It is a small rural community that urgently needs financial assistance to accomplish these goals. Many residents live year round on fixed incomes. My grandparents were retired teachers, who built their Fishhawk home themselves on nights and weekends. The grant will provide financial support for much needed dam improvements. Without the improvements, the future of the lake as a critical habitat will be threatened.

This project will implement many state and regional habitat improvement plans that have identified Fishhawk Creek and Lake as anchor habitat for anadromous fish species, especially the endangered Coho Salmon. It is among the top ranked sites for improvement of fish connectivity and habitat improvement because of the likelihood of success in improving species survival and population increases. Protecting the dam through construction of the new combined spillway and fish ladder also will increase ecosystem resilience to climate change by providing long-term access to stored water in the lake in perpetuity.

Public safety is one of the key drivers for this proposed public-private partnership. The combined spillway/fish ladder is designed to meet or exceed the 1/2 pmf dam safety requirement. Once constructed, this project will mitigate the current risk for a catastrophic dam failure and a repeat of the 2007 flood event, which was devastating for the local community. This project also addresses two emergency preparedness goals of FLRC, the prevention of flooding and improved dam stabilization. Preventing flooding or a dam collapse saves lives and property for the community living at the lake and for those located downstream. Your dam safety officials have identified this project as necessary to complete for several years, ranking the dam as a significant hazard.

I urge your funding of this important project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jeremy Vandehey

## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Stephanie Vandehey <stephanietripp09@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 2:14 PM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project Grant Application

August 17, 2020

Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, Oregon 97301

Re: Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project Grant Application

Dear Grant Program Coordinator:

I am writing to support the grant application submitted by Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community, Inc. to protect the water supply that Fishhawk Lake provides. Fishhawk Lake is not only an important part of the recreation tourism industry in Clatsop and Columbia Counties, it also provides critical habitat for Oregon's native wildlife including endangered Coho Salmon, the culturally significant and state listed sensitive Pacific Lamprey, as well as Steelhead and Coastal Cutthroat Trout.

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I urge your funding of this important project.

Thank you.

Stephanie Vandehey

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Stephanie (Tripp) Vandehey  
c. 971.285.1693



## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Josh Partee <info@joshpartee.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 12:04 PM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Cc:** Shaina Zeiger  
**Subject:** Support for Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project

Good afternoon,

Our family is writing you today to voice our support for the water project grant application from Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community for the combined spillway/fish ladder project.

Fishhawk Lake has become a touchstone for many friends new and old. Everyone arriving from the more urban surrounding areas are immediately put at ease as they are put in touch with the natural rhythms of the forest and lake. Having a familiar place in nature to return to over the years truly strengthens our relationship with our environment and waterways. These relationships beget stewards, that will always have the best interest of our natural resources at heart.

But why this project in particular? You might have to visit to understand, but because this community has such a rich diversity of young and old, black, white, and brown members that are always so present when here; the energy around having a common watery living room makes us one giant family. And our families, specifically those in my generation, still working and raising kids, have the responsibility to repair and protect our lakes' spillway and fish ladder. Not only for the generations of young kids and the retired folks living right here, but to the surrounding communities of Columbia and Clatsop Counties who would be severely affected by a dam failure. So many animals are of course also relying on our voices and actions to preserve this amazing habitat.

So please do consider helping us get this done :) Thank you so much for your time. If you have questions or need any additional info, please don't hesitate to call. I'd love to tell you more about why this place is so vital and special.

Thanks and stay safe & healthy,  
Josh, Shaina, Arlo, and Ezra Partee

JOSH PARTEE / ARCHITECTURAL PHOTOGRAPHER  
503-481-4645 / [www.joshpartee.com](http://www.joshpartee.com)

### COVID-19

I'm taking threat and spread of COVID-19 very seriously, and am taking proactive and precautionary measures to guard against contraction and spread of the virus. I will generally be working from home and my office space will be closed. However, I will be fully available, and in communication with project team members. Shooting on project sites will continue where appropriate, with protective gear. Thank you for your patience and cooperation as we all work through this together.



## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Charles Mosley <mosl5903@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 9:29 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Support for Fishhawk Lake

To whom it may concern

I have been a part of the Fishhawk community for over 10 years. I grew up coming to the lake with my parents and can only hope to be able to bring my children there one day.

As a healthcare provider on the frontlines of this pandemic, Fishhawk has served as my quarantine location for many weeks while working with the public and trying to keep my loved ones safe at the same time. I feel I grew even closer with the lake during those weeks and made me more passionate for trying to preserve it. It really is a glorious little oasis for those of us who live in the city and to see it struggle right now is tough. If you can consider the grant application it would truly change the lives of many. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Dr. Charles A. Mosley

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

We are writing in support of Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community's application to protect the water supply at Fishhawk Lake. We are relatively new owners at Fishhawk Lake and purchased our house two years ago. Even in this short time, we have come to appreciate the uniqueness of this community and the lake. Without increasing the capacity of the spillway, there is significant risk of another flood or even the collapse of the dam, which would be devastating to the community and its downstream neighbors. We urge you to fund the grant for this important project to protect this vital natural resource.

Sincerely,  
David and Angela Whitlock

Dear Oregon Water Resources Department,

Our dam at Fishhawk Lake is very old and we wish to fix it. We have many concerns about the dam and we think that if there were to be a flood, the dam could collapse and bring the lake down with it, leaving a large mud pit. With your support, this won't happen because the dam will be strong and capable enough to withstand a flood. Our lake has a fun community and we mostly meet on the water. We want to keep doing that. If there was a flood and the lake would disappear, so would the community. It's not just us who thinks that we need to repair the dam, a lot of the community cares about the fact that we have a lake and would be saddened to see the lake disappear. We would all be very grateful if you could provide us with the funds to fix our dam.

Thanks,  
Amelia and Serena Whitlock (ages 14 and 11)

**TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD**

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**From:** Dolores Shore <doloresmaeshore@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 10:13 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Re: Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community Grant

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

Fishhawk Lake has allowed me to spend wonderful times with my children, grandchildren and great granddaughter after the passing of my husband in April.

Losing a loved one during the pandemic has been so difficult and being able to restore balance at the lake has helped me get through the process. So, I am writing to express my support of the grant application of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community combined spillway/fish ladder project.

My husband was an avid fisherman and enjoyed the outdoors. I am excited that there are people willing to support this vital community and the surrounding areas. I am hoping you also see the value of the project and will approve the grant to assist with funding.

Sincerely,

Dolores Shore

## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** FishHawk Lake <tomlisafishhawklake@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 10:29 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community Grant

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

We are writing today in support of the grant application of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community, Inc. combined spillway/fish ladder project. In the summer of 2019 we found the perfect summer home at Fishhawk Lake and have become active community members. We enjoy the view of the water while sipping morning coffee and sharing this idyllic setting with a deer and her fawn.

We believe that it is past time to upgrade the dam with an effective spillway and improved fish ladder that will allow the lake to remain full, help the fish migration and benefit the lake ecosystem. We seek to improve our safety with the integrity of the dam so we can share the lake with our family for generations to come. The impacts of this project will be far reaching beyond our small community. Our lake brings significant tourism and economic benefits to the area and will be a great example for other communities.

We feel passionately that the lake is the life blood of our community, for us, and the watershed wildlife. We ask that you consider approval of the grant to assist our community stay whole.

Tom and Lisa Lloyd

**TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD**

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**From:** Pam Shore <pam.shore@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 11:24 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Grant

Grant Program Coordinator,

We have just spent our first long weekend at Fishhawk Lake with family. It is an impressive community that has a healthy balance of family fun and ecosystem support.

We understand that you are considering a grant application for a critical spillway and fish ladder project planned by the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community. We are writing in support of this application and hope your organization can see the value of approving the grant.

We are looking forward to spending many more vacations in this peaceful location!

Dan and Pam Shore

**From:** Kevin McKeegan <kmckeegan2008@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 3:50 PM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Fishhawk Lake Combined Fish Ladder and Spillway

To the Oregon Water Resources Development Program Grant Program Manager:

I write to express my strong support for the grant application submitted by the Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community for construction of a new combined Fish Ladder and Spillway on Fishhawk Lake dam.

The installation of this upgraded infrastructure is critical to the long-term safety of the dam and the protection of habitat for a variety of fish species including especially threatened Coho Salmon, Pacific Lamprey, and several trout species. If the dam spillway is not upgraded, there is significant risk that it could be overtopped in a "record" high rainfall event, the probability of which may be increasing due to climate change, leading to dam failure with severe economic and ecological damage, and even potential loss of life.

In contrast, protecting Fishhawk Lake will enhance important habitat for harvestable anadromous fish species such as Steelhead and Cutthroat Trout, thus promoting recreational fishing in Fishhawk Creek and the Nehalem River basin along with the outstanding recreation and scenic opportunities of the lake itself. It will also protect the water supply for the community of approximately 250 homes in and around Fishhawk Lake. Clearly, losing the Lake would cause this community to fail depriving Columbia and Clatsop Counties of a significant source of economic activity.

The community at Fishhawk Lake is committed to the preservation and protection of the important ecosystem and the natural beauty of the entire Fishhawk Creek and Nehalem River watershed. We (FLRC) have invested significant time and money toward this end and are united in our resolve to do what is needed to protect this resource in perpetuity. However, the necessary dam and fish ladder improvements are very expensive and the community needs help. The benefits of this project will accrue to many current and future Oregonians as they will carry forward for decades. Thus, this is a good investment of public resources and in the future of water resources in northwest Oregon, and I urge that the Board approve the FLRC application. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,  
Kevin D. McKeegan (and Grace M. McKeegan)  
71690 Northshore Drive  
Birkenfeld, OR. 97016



## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** jeriholt4320 <jeriholt4320@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 6:30 PM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Support for Fish Hawk Lake projects

Fish Hawk Lake called us over 15 years ago...literally. We never planned to buy a house on a lake. But we were looking for lakes to canoe on. Hmmm, so how did this happen? Maybe a grand combination of circumstances - you know being in the right place at the right time.

But, let me back up a bit. My husband Tony's mom grew up on a lake in Minnesota. It was Lake La Hommedieu in Alexandria, Minnesota. There were four kids in the family and her mom and dad struggled to provide for the family. Their father took care of the lake property of wealthy families who lived in the Twin Cities. They lived on fish from the lake. Their mom was very caring and industrious. Their home had no indoor plumbing or central heat. But the kids had fun, helped haul water from the outdoor pump to the house and loved swimming and playing in the water. And Barb grew up with a special love of loons...the state bird of Minnesota!

It was in June of 2004, after being with Barb when she died in May, that we were looking for lakes to canoe on. We'd been up to the beautiful mountain lakes on Mount Hood and had had a good time until I tried to go for a swim...and I froze! I'd always prided myself on swimming in all sorts of lakes in Minnesota, even the cold northern lakes. But this was different, this was bone chilling water from mountain run offs. So we thought we would look for lakes in lower elevations.

The day we drove out to a lake we'd never heard of, but saw the name in an ad, turned out to be a day of destiny. We found the lake and pulled up to a reader board to get the lay of the land. A fellow pulled up next to us in a pick up truck and asked if we were looking to buy a house on the lake? We said no, just looking to canoe. But he was persistent and said are you sure you don't want to look at my house, I'm right on the water and I'm thinking of putting it on the market tomorrow. Well, we fell in love with that house and the beauty of Fish Hawk Lake. When he said the water was warm enough in the summer to swim for several months...that did it.

On the eve of going back to Minnesora for my mother-in-law's celebration of life in July, our offer was accepted. And we knew Barb was celebrating with us and would have loved to have this new lake in the family.

The weekend in October when we took possession we knew she was right there with us as we spotted two Canadian loons out on the lake. We heard the loons call and warble that day and thought Barb had truly been the angel encouraging us Minnesota lake people to become Oregon lake people.

And if it's hard to believe how important she was to our buying our Fish Hawk lake home, we never, I mean never, saw another loon during the next 15 years on the lake.

So starting with special circumstances we felt like the luckiest people to own property on Fish Hawk Lake. We truly cherished the beauty of every season at the lake. When our grandchildren were young they learned to swim, fish, kayak and canoe on this lake. We loved the easy friendships with our neighbors and a few short years after we bought our place my husband's sister and husband moved from Colorado to become full time

residents at Fish Hawk Lake. Sharing the joy of being near extended family and sharing the joy of the lake with them made our time at the lake an unforgettable gift.

My husband died in June of 2018. And in October of 2019 I sold our home at the lake. Tony and I had a special love affair with this beautiful lake. We gardened our hearts out, both on our property and in the community garden. Tony could grow anything, anywhere and he worked hard to thwart those cute deers who ate our produce and our flowers. We had so many wonderful times with our four kids, grandkids, and lots of Minnesota relatives and Oregon friends who came out to share our lake home and the happiness that only a lake can bring...

Fish Hawk Lake deserves the needed improvements and protections to secure a long future in the beautiful foothills of the coastal range.

Thank you for this opportunity to share my story.

Jeri Holt

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

**From:** Dawn Lloyd <dawn@dlloyd.net>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 8:39 PM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Fishhawk lake Reserve and Community Grant Application

Good evening. I write today in support of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community Grant Application. Please see my letter below.

Grant Program Coordinator,

Fishhawk Lake has provided our family a place to enjoy the outdoors and teach our child about Oregon's beautiful natural environment in a safe and welcoming place. She has seen her first frog, fish, and deer at the lake, as well as had her first boat ride and first chance to wade in our crisp Oregon waters. We hope she can continue to grow and learn how precious nature is for the heart and soul on our continued visits to our Fishhawk home away from home.

On behalf of our family and the other families we have come to know and love on our visits, we are writing to you today to express our support for the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community grant application made to help fund the combined spillway/fish ladder project. The community at the lake is unanimous in its support for the project which protects a critical water supply and ensures that the needs this water supply is meeting will continue to be met in perpetuity.

We are increasingly concerned with the safety of the area, particularly the flooding potential- *especially* the downstream impacts- if this work is not performed. The loss of home and livelihood for those downstream would be catastrophic, especially when compounded with the trying times of global pandemic in which we find ourselves- repercussions of which will ripple for years to come. We believe the current plan is critical to the life of the lake and its surrounding communities.

The Lloyd family looks forward to spending quality time at Fishhawk Lake for generations to come. We hope you will approve the grant so that we and countless other families can continue enjoying and relying upon this critical ecosystem and economic benefits.

Sincerely,

Darren & Dawn (and baby Christine) Lloyd

## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Andrew Chase <andrewchase1859@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 6:00 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Support fo Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

Fishhawk Lake provides an existing reservoir that stores water, an increasingly urgent need as we prepare for the future. Inclusive of the lake, the Nehalem River watershed contains high-quality spawning and rearing habitat for Coho salmon, winter steelhead, summer Chinook, coastal cutthroat trout, and Pacific lamprey. In addition to providing critical habitat to these threatened and important fish species, Fishhawk Lake also provides habitat for numerous other aquatic species. Simply put: the lake greatly contributes to the quality of life for all people and animals in the region. These benefits were created and are maintained by the Fishhawk Lake dam.

But the dam is at risk and if not repaired urgently, we risk complete loss of Fishhawk Lake, its essential water reserve, and critical habitat. Without the lake, Columbia and Clatsop Counties would experience significant water supply depletion, ecosystem damage, economic disruption, and even a degradation of the region's quality of life.

The Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection project, by providing a new combined spillway and fish ladder as part of the dam repair, is critically important for many reasons:

1. Providing critical water storage by ensuring that the water supply needs will continue to be met in perpetuity. This will increase ecosystem resilience to climate change by providing long-term access to stored water in the lake.
2. Passing wet season flows through the lake in a manner consistent with natural streamflows, and improving the floodplain function and connectivity downstream of the dam. Because the project increases spillway capacity, it will no longer be necessary to draw-down the lake level in anticipation of storm events, which is the current practice to protect the dam structure.
3. Protecting the community located around the lake from floods and protecting downstream properties from a catastrophic flood event. This will also prevent total dam collapse which would be an economic crisis for the lake community, downstream property owners, and the region.
4. Enhancing fish passage by improving access to 34.4 miles of fish habitat upstream of the dam, 13.5 miles of which are considered high-quality habitat for threatened Coho salmon.
5. Reducing lake fluctuations, which will greatly improve habitat for Pacific Lamprey larva.

The goals of this project directly align with the vision and mission of the Oregon Water Resources Department. Therefore, we urge the Department to fund the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection project. By funding this project, the OWRD will directly support long-term water supply and sustainability goals that are important to all Oregonians.

Best wishes,

Andrew Chase  
541.280.6965

## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Caren Lindahl <carenlindahl@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 16, 2020 7:35 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Public comment re: Fishhawk Lake grant application  
**Attachments:** Video.MOV

Good Morning,

We want to give our support to Fishhawk Lake's application for this grant funding.

The lake is such an important example of the passion to create habitat for so many kinds of wildlife. I won't go into the specifics as you already know those.

I want to speak a little about the wonderful educational moments that happen at the lake. For me, it's about the generations to come who must learn about the magical world beneath the water so that they can continue on with protecting the lake and the fish long after we have passed.

I have attached some pictures and a wonderful video that we took on Christmas Day 2019 of the salmon spawning. This was one of the creeks that feeds the lake. We amassed quite a group of all ages and the children and young adults were so still and focused on the fish as my husband quietly explained what the fish were doing and why. The kids asked questions and it was such a teachable moment that brought tears to my eyes to see the kids so excited. A few adults said that they had never seen the fish spawning before and then we all stood and watched for a few minutes in silence.

I know you are busy so I won't go on and on. I just wanted to share this one experience that was so meaningful to us.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this grant application.

Sincerely,  
Caren Lindahl  
71472 Northshore Dr.  
Birkenfeld, OR





## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Sue Mohnkern <sue971@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, August 14, 2020 3:45 PM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Support for the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection grant

To whom it may concern,

We would like to express our wholehearted support of the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection grant and project, for a myriad of reasons. We have been owners here for a number of years, and since our retirement have been able to fulfill our dream to be full time residents. The peace and beauty of the lake are enjoyed not only by the human residents, but also many, many native animals and plants. Bald eagles, river otters, Coho salmon and steelhead trout, Pacific lamprey, newts and salamanders, barred owls, great herons, ospreys, Canada geese, many, many different kinds of ducks and birds as well as many others make this special place their home.

We are a small community of average, hard-working Americans who look out for each other, and wish to be good stewards of this lake not only for ourselves, but for the larger community around us in Clatsop and Columbia counties. This project is necessary to strengthen and harden old infrastructure, protect against possible breaching of the dam, and improve access to the lake and upstream Fishhawk Creek for young salmon, trout and lamprey.

We sincerely hope that you will consider the many merits of this project and grant application, and award your support. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at 503-341-0121, or by responding to this email.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sue Mohnkern and Bob Bevan  
71290 Northshore Dr.  
Birkenfeld, OR 97016

## TEAGUE Nicholas F \* WRD

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**From:** Jacqui Carpenter <carpenterjacqui@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 17, 2020 11:20 AM  
**To:** WRD\_DL\_waterprojects  
**Subject:** Please help us save Fishhawk lake!  
**Attachments:** IMG\_2338.jpg; IMG\_2339.jpg

Dear Grant Program Coordinator,

It's Fall 2017. We've just purchased our home at Fishhawk lake and we are taking one of our first walks around the lake. We are enjoying the beautiful scenery and the sweet smells it has to offer. We hear the little stream coming down one side of the road into a bigger mouth and flowing into the lake. We stop to listen and watch. We were mesmerized as we saw 2 big salmon working their way out of the lake and up the stream. They pushed through several feet and then hung out on the side in a little pool for a bit before pushing up a few more feet only to be swept back in the small side pool. We watched in amazement as they continued to work their way up the stream. Wow! I felt like we were watching the animal planet!

Our now 11 year old, (8 at that time) spends countless hours naming all of the salamanders and baby ducks around our deck. When we first came to the lake, we asked the kids what they thought. The older 2 said it was great! Kiki yelled from the back seat..."I LOVE IT!" Animals are her life. She wanted to move there that day.

We love watching the salmon swim upstream to spawn. Watching the fish jump in the early morning and evening. Watching the salamanders swim (or rather bob and glide). Watching the mommy duck take care of her baby ducklings as daddy duck steers away the danger. Watching the geese fly in unison. Watching the bald eagle stand perched on the corner tree at the top of northeast corner of the lake. We've not seen the otters this year but Kiki keeps a lookout and is sure they will make their way back!

We are proud owners and members of the Fishhawk Lake Reserve and Community. Not only do we love and enjoy all its nature has to offer, we also understand this lake provides an important part of the recreation tourism industry in the state, providing fishing, swimming, boating, economic and aesthetic benefits in both Clatsop and Columbia Counties.

Fishhawk lake is recognized as an anchor habitat for the endangered Coho Salmon, the culturally significant and state listed sensitive Pacific Lamprey, as well as Steelhead and Coastal Cutthroat Trout.

It is our understanding that the construction of the new combined spillway and fish ladder will increase the ecosystem resilience to climate change. Also, this new construction is needed for public safety and will mitigate the risk for dam failure.

We as members of this small rural community support the Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection Project proposal which has been submitted for your consideration for the Water Project Grant and Loans Program. We need assistance from the State to protect this water supply for generations of Oregonians to come! We are supporting it, we are asking you to partner with us and please support this important project with us!

Thank you for taking time to read this letter.

Kind Regards,

Jacqui Carpenter

PS Attached is a picture that Kiki drew just for you!!!



## Excerpt from Division 93 Rules on Scoring Water Project Grants and Loans

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### OAR 690-093-0090

#### Scoring and Ranking; funding decisions

- (1) The primary elements in the process of scoring and ranking of applications include the following:
  - (a) Initial review for completeness by the Department;
  - (b) Public comment;
  - (c) The Technical Review Team conducts the initial scoring and ranking for the projects, considers comments from applicants and the public and makes loan and grant funding recommendations to the Commission; and
  - (d) The Commission determines the final scoring and ranking of projects, provides for additional public comment, and makes the final decision regarding which projects are awarded loans or grants from the account.
- (2) The Technical Review Team scoring methodology shall rank applications based upon the public benefits of the project and additional considerations set forth in ORS 541.677 subsection (1)(b), (1)(d) and (1)(e). The Technical Review Team shall use a score sheet provided by the Department. Each of the three public benefit categories shall be given equal importance in the evaluation and will have scoring sublevels including but not limited to the following:
  - (a) The evaluation of economic benefits for a project based on the changes in economic conditions expected to result from the project related to:
    - (A) Job creation or retention;
    - (B) Increases in economic activity;
    - (C) Increases in efficiency or innovation;
    - (D) Enhancement of infrastructure, farmland, public resource lands, industrial lands, commercial lands or lands having other key uses;
    - (E) Enhanced economic value associated with tourism or recreational or commercial fishing, with fisheries involving native fish of cultural significance to Indian tribes or with other economic values resulting from restoring or protecting water in-stream; and
    - (F) Increases in irrigated land for agriculture.
  - (b) The evaluation of environmental benefits for a project based on the changes in environmental conditions expected to result from the project related to:
    - (A) A measurable improvement in protected streamflows that:
      - (i) Supports the natural hydrograph;
      - (ii) Improves floodplain function;
      - (iii) Supports state or federally listed sensitive, threatened or endangered fish species;
      - (iv) Supports native fish species of cultural importance to Indian tribes; or
      - (v) Supports riparian habitat important for wildlife;
    - (B) A measurable improvement in groundwater levels that enhances environmental conditions in groundwater restricted areas or other areas;
    - (C) A measurable improvement in the quality of surface water or groundwater;
    - (D) Water conservation;
    - (E) Increased ecosystem resiliency to climate change impacts; and
    - (F) Improvements that address one or more limiting ecological factors in the project watershed.
  - (c) The evaluation of the social or cultural benefits for a project based on the changes in social or cultural conditions expected to result from the project related to:
    - (A) The promotion of public health and safety and of local food systems;
    - (B) A measurable improvement in conditions for members of minority or low-income communities, economically distressed rural communities, tribal communities or other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes;
    - (C) The promotion of recreation and scenic values;

- (D) Contribution to the body of scientific data publicly available in this state;
  - (E) The promotion of state or local priorities, including but not limited to the restoration and protection of native fish species of cultural significance to Indian tribes; and
  - (F) The promotion of collaborative basin planning efforts, including but not limited to efforts under the state Integrated Water Resources Strategy.
- (3) Scoring sublevels shall have a numeric point scale that accounts for positive and negative effects of the project. Sublevel scores shall be summed to a public benefit category level. The Department shall set a minimum score for the application to proceed.
  - (4) The Technical Review Team will use the total score from the score sheet provided by the Department to rank all applications and make loan and grant funding recommendations to the Commission.
  - (5) The Commission shall determine the final scoring and ranking of projects and make the final decision regarding which projects are awarded loans or grants from the account based on criteria in OAR 690-093-0100.
  - (6) The Department shall document the ranking of all applications and make the application ranking publicly available after the funding decisions by the Commission have been published.

# WATER PROJECT GRANTS AND LOANS



New center pivot in Wallowa County

# SCORING CRITERIA



Piping in Deschutes County

OREGON



WATER RESOURCES  
DEPARTMENT



Instream water transfer in Klamath County

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# Scoring Criteria – Water Project Grants and Loans

## Document Purpose

The scoring criteria for applications to the Water Projects Grants and Loans funding opportunity are based solely on the public benefits a project is likely to achieve. This document provides an overview of each of the public benefits, describes how the Technical Review Team (TRT) will score the public benefits, and provides recommendations for what information an application should include.

## Overview of Application Scoring

Projects funded are those which are likely to achieve the greatest public benefits. The change in conditions anticipated to result in public benefits must be described and explained in the project application. When evaluating an application, the TRT examines public benefits in three categories: economic, environmental, and social/cultural. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category. As discussed below, this is a competitive funding opportunity where projects are ranked according to public benefits, therefore achieving a minimum score does not guarantee funding.

Projects funded are those which are likely to achieve the greatest public benefits.

When applicants describe the project's public benefits in their application, they should include a description of the conditions prior to and following project implementation, and clearly demonstrate the extent to which the project is expected to result in a change in conditions that will provide a public benefit. When possible, applicants should quantify the project's public benefits. The TRT will only consider public benefits derived from the tasks and project scope contained within the application and the likelihood of achieving those benefits. Public benefits related to future phases (beyond the scope of the proposed project) or unrelated activities will not be scored and should not be included in the application. Likewise public benefits related to past activities will not be considered.

Each category contains six specific public benefits for a total of 18 possible public benefits project must provide some benefit in each of the three categories in order to be eligible for funding. Each of the three public benefit categories is given equal importance in the evaluation. Projects do not need to score in all six benefits within a category but must provide benefit in each of the three categories.

## Overview of Application Review Process

After receiving an application, the Oregon Water Resources Department reviews the application to ensure it is complete. Complete applications are posted online for a 60-day public comment period. Next, the TRT, a panel of inter-agency representatives, evaluates the applications based on the economic, environmental and social/cultural public benefits the project would achieve, and reviews the public comments. The TRT develops a project ranking and funding recommendation, which is posted for a 30-day public comment period. Finally, the Department presents the ranking, public comments, and funding recommendation to the Water Resources Commission for a funding decision. Loans will undergo an additional separate financial review.

When making a funding decision, the Water Resources Commission (Commission) considers: 1) the public benefits as evaluated by the TRT; 2) public comments received on the TRT ranking; and 3) funding projects of diverse sizes, types and geographic locations. As outlined in statute, the Commission also considers three preferences: 1) a preference for partnerships and collaborative projects; 2) a preference for projects that provide a measurable improvement in protected streamflow, if a project proposes to divert water; and 3) a

preference for projects that provide a measurable increased efficiency of water use, if a project proposes to increase efficiency.

## Contact

If you have any questions, please contact us at [WRD DL waterprojects@oregon.gov](mailto:WRD_DL_waterprojects@oregon.gov) or at 503-986-0869.

## Scale Used in Evaluation of Public Benefits

Each of the public benefits will be scored according to the scale described below.

### Exceptional public benefit: 12 points (pts)

- The project is likely to achieve benefits of an exceptionally high standard or quality.
- The outcomes are very significant, measurable, and represent a key or critical advancement.
- The application includes supporting information and evidence describing the anticipated change in conditions as a result of the project.
- The application includes all necessary information to document a high likelihood of success to achieve the public benefit.

### High public benefit: 6 points

- The project is likely to achieve public benefits meeting a high standard of quality.
- The outcomes are significant or represent an important advancement.
- The application includes supporting information and evidence describing the anticipated change in conditions as a result of the project.
- The application includes sufficient information to achieve the anticipated public benefit.

### Medium public benefit: 3 points

- The project is likely to achieve moderate public benefit.
- The outcomes are likely to achieve an improvement in conditions.
- The application includes supporting information and evidence describing the anticipated change in conditions as a result of the project.

### Minor public benefit: 1 point

- The project may achieve minor public benefits.
- The claims of public benefits are unsupported or unquantified.

### No benefit: 0 points

- The project is not likely to achieve a public benefit.
- No positive or negative impact related to the public benefit. No change.

### Minor negative impact or detriment: -1 point

- The project may have a minor negative effect or impact to this category.

### Medium negative impact or detriment: -3 points

- The project is likely to cause moderate harm and have a negative impact to this category.



## Category 1. Economic benefits

The evaluation of economic benefits of a project is based on the change in economic conditions expected to result from the project as demonstrated in the application.

### 1a. Does the project create or retain jobs?

Job creation means the project would result in new jobs. Retention means the project would prevent the loss of jobs. Job creation and retention benefits may include direct effects within the organization that owns or operates the project, or it may include indirect effects on retail customers or consumers of the project. Temporary jobs resulting from the project will not receive as high of a score as permanent jobs.

**Application tip:** Quantify the number and identify the type of jobs to be created or retained as a result of the project. Describe the value of the increase or retention of jobs to the local economy.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> increases in the creation or retention of permanent jobs which provide key or critical benefit in the geographic area or employment sector
High: 6 pts	Increases in the creation or retention of permanent jobs which provide an important benefit in the geographic area or employment sector
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> increase in the creation or retention of permanent jobs, or seasonal jobs important to the geographic area or employment sector
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> increase in jobs, temporary jobs, or job retention, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	The project is not likely to achieve new jobs or impact job retention
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential for <i>minor job losses</i>
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> job losses or a decrease in jobs is likely

### 1b. Does the project increase economic activity?

Economic activity is associated with the production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services. Such economic activity could occur within one or more entities/businesses and includes an increase in production, gross sales, or net revenue compared to the year preceding project completion. It also includes but is not limited to the arrival of new firms, renewed contracts, and increased orders.

**Application tip:** Include information citing economic development plans or other economic activity which would be made possible or supported by the proposed project. If the proposed project protects or maintains current economic activity, demonstrate the degree to which economic activity would decline if the proposed project were not completed and why.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional (five or more years)</i> increase in long-term economic activity of vital, or key importance are likely to occur
High: 6 pts	Increases in long-term economic activity with the potential to support future activity important to the area/sector
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate (one to four years)</i> increase in economic activity
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor, short-term (less than one year)</i> increase in economic activity, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Increased economic activity <i>not likely</i> to occur
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential for <i>minor losses or decreases</i> in economic activity
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate losses or decreases</i> in economic activity are likely

### 1c. Does the project increase efficiency or innovation?

Increase in efficiency means the project would make improvements in performance or functionality resulting in less effort or waste. Increase in innovation means that new, creative solutions and ideas would be implemented. Examples of increases in efficiency and innovation include water system efficiencies such as system redundancy (back-up, inter-ties), eliminating leakage, innovative production techniques, energy savings (e.g., the energy required to move, treat, or heat water), and time savings.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> increase in efficiency and innovation
High: 6 pts	<i>High</i> Increases in efficiency or innovation
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> increases in performance
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> increases <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Increased efficiency or innovation not likely
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential for <i>minor decreases</i> in efficiency or innovation
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate decreases</i> in efficiency or innovation are likely

### 1d. Does the project enhance infrastructure, farmland, public resource lands, industrial lands, commercial lands or lands having other key uses?

Enhancement of infrastructure, including municipal infrastructure, farmland, public resource lands, industrial lands, commercial lands and other lands means that the value, effectiveness, or reliability of such infrastructure or lands would increase as a result of project implementation. This includes an increase in the re-sale or rental value of the land or improvements, including: maintained, repaired, or upgraded infrastructure; maintained or buffered riparian areas; and maintained or improved soils.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> enhancements of infrastructure or land
High: 6 pts	<i>High</i> quality of enhancements to infrastructure or land
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> enhancements
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> enhancements, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Enhancements <i>not likely</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential that infrastructure or lands will be <i>degraded or removed</i> from productive uses (minor negative change)
Medium detriment:-3 pts	Infrastructure or lands that are <i>degraded or removed</i> from productive uses (moderate negative change)

### 1e. Does the project enhance the economic value associated with: tourism, recreation, fishing (recreational or commercial), fisheries involving native fish of cultural significance to Indian tribes, or other economic values resulting from restoring or protecting water instream?

Examples of enhancement of these economic values include increases in: daily park fees, tour guide revenues, boat or gear rentals, fishing licenses, or hospitality and lodging.



Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> increased value of tourism, recreation, fishing, fisheries involving native fish of cultural significance to Indian tribes, or other economic values resulting from restoring or protecting water instream are likely
High: 6 pts	A <i>high</i> quality of increased value is likely
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> increased value
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> increased value, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Enhanced values <i>not likely</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential for <i>minor decreases</i> in the economic value of tourism, recreation, fishing, fisheries involving native fish of cultural significance to Indian tribes, or other economic values resulting from restoring or protecting water instream
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate decreases</i> in the economic value of tourism, recreation, fishing, fisheries involving native fish of cultural significance to Indian tribes, or other economic values resulting from restoring or protecting water instream

**1f. Does the project result in increases in irrigated land for agriculture? (which may include increasing irrigated acres, agricultural economic value, or productivity of irrigated land)**

Increases in irrigated land for agriculture mean that the numbers of acres (acreage) to be irrigated after project completion would be greater than what could previously be irrigated, or that the agricultural economic value or productivity of current irrigated land would increase. Acreage can include lands that were never historically in production or lands that were historically in production but were taken out of production as a result of insufficient water supply.

**Application tip:** Highlight the amount of land currently in production in the area, identify the quantity of additional acreage to be irrigated, and calculate the percentage increase in irrigated acreage that would result from the project. Cite scientific articles, reports, or studies and estimate the percentage increase in irrigated crop's economic value or productivity.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> increase in irrigated acreage, or agricultural economic value or productivity
High: 6 pts	<i>High</i> increase in irrigated acreage, or agricultural economic value or productivity
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> increase in irrigated acreage or agricultural economic value or productivity
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> increase, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Increased irrigated land or increased value or productivity <i>not likely</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential for <i>minor decreases</i> in agricultural economic value or productivity or irrigated land for agriculture
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate decreases</i> irrigated land for agriculture or agricultural economic value or productivity are likely

**Category 2. Environmental benefits**

The evaluation of the environmental benefits of a project is based on the change in environmental conditions expected to result from the project as demonstrated in the application.

## 2a. Does the project result in measurable improvements in protected streamflows?

Protected streamflow means water that remains in or is released into the natural channel and is legally protected by the State in order to achieve one or more of the following:

- (A) Supports the natural hydrograph;
- (B) Improves floodplain function;
- (C) Supports state- or federally-listed sensitive, threatened or endangered fish species;
- (D) Supports native fish species of cultural importance to Indian tribes; **or**
- (E) Supports riparian habitat important for wildlife.

**Application tip:** To score in this category an application **must** describe the legal means by which water would be protected by the State, as well as the quality, timing, duration, or other value this streamflow would contribute. The application must also describe how the legally protected water will achieve (A) through (E) listed above (e.g., how water transferred instream through the Allocation of Conserved Water will support, enhance, or improve riparian habitat for wildlife and the extent to which that water will achieve that benefit).

Identifying which water rights will be protected instream, in situations where the project involves multiple water rights, will provide clarifying information for the evaluation.

Exceptional: 12 pts	Project water (or equivalent volume) is legally protected instream by the State and streamflow supports <i>exceptional</i> achievement in <b>each criteria</b> (A) through (E)
High: 6 pts	Project water (or equivalent volume) is legally protected instream by the State and streamflow supports achievements of a <i>high quality</i> in a combination of criteria (A) through (E)
Medium: 3 pts	Project water (or equivalent volume) is legally protected instream by the State and streamflow supports <i>moderate</i> achievement in a combination of (A) through (E)
Minor: 1 pt	Project water (or equivalent volume) is legally protected instream by the State and streamflow supports <i>minor</i> achievement in a combination of (A) through (E), <b>OR</b> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Improvements in protected streamflow <i>unlikely, OR streamflow would not be legally protected by the State</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential <i>minor decreases</i> to protected streamflow
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate decreases</i> protected streamflow (e.g., proposes to reverse an instream lease)

## 2b. Does the project result in water conservation?

Water conservation is reducing water use to achieve the same outcomes by modifying the technology or method of diverting, transporting, applying, or recovering water.

**Application tip:** Identify the quantity of water reduction, by comparing what water would be needed to accomplish the task after project completion with what was previously used to achieve the same task.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>40 percent or more</i> reduction in water use to achieve the same outcomes
High: 6 pts	<i>21-40 percent</i> reduction in water use to achieve the same outcomes
Medium: 3 pts	<i>11-20 percent</i> reduction
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor (&lt;10 percent)</i> reduction, <b>OR</b> claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Water conservation <i>not likely</i>

Minor detriment: -1 pt	<i>Potential for additional water used to achieve the same outcomes (e.g., sacrificing water efficiency for energy/pumping efficiency)</i>
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Additional water used to achieve the same outcomes (e.g., sacrificing water efficiency for energy/pumping efficiency)</i>

**2c. Does the project result in measurable improvements in groundwater levels that enhance environmental conditions in groundwater restricted areas or other areas?**

Measurable improvements in groundwater levels mean that groundwater declines would be reduced or eliminated and/or groundwater levels would increase. Stabilization or improvements in groundwater levels could come from aquifer storage and recovery, artificial recharge projects, natural recharge, or discontinued / reduced groundwater use.

**Application tip:** *Cite and use quantitative measurements to indicate current levels, and method and frequency that improvements would be measured. If applicable, indicate if these improvements would occur in groundwater restricted area.*

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional improvements in groundwater levels</i>
High: 6 pts	<i>High quality of improvements</i>
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate improvements</i>
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor improvement to groundwater levels, OR benefit claims are unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	<i>Improved groundwater levels not likely</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	<i>Potential for minor groundwater declines</i>
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate groundwater declines are likely</i>

**2d. Does the project result in measurable improvements in the quality of surface water or groundwater?**

Water quality parameters include but are not limited to: temperature, dissolved oxygen, contaminated sediments, toxic substances, bacteria, or nutrients. Improvements could result from a higher quality of water discharged to surface water or injected into groundwater, from increased flow, from treatment or filtration of water already in the environment, or removal of a known contaminant.

**Application tip:** *Any improvement must be measurable or quantifiable. One must be able to measure or determine the change in quality before and after project implementation. Cite and use currently available baseline water quality data. Include a water quality monitoring proposal for the post project completion period.*

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional, measurable improvements in water quality</i>
High: 6 pts	<i>High quality of measurable improvements</i>
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate, measurable improvements</i>
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor improvements, OR benefit claims are unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	<i>Improved water quality not likely</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	<i>Potential minor negative impacts to water quality</i>
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate negative impacts to water quality are likely</i>

## 2e. Does the project increase ecosystem resiliency to climate change impacts?

Ecosystem resiliency to climate change means increasing the ecosystems ability to adapt to changes in climate or positively respond to the impacts of climate change. This includes: increasing streamflow during critical months, increasing natural storage (e.g., wetlands, upland meadows), decreasing water temperature during critical months, protecting or enhancing cold-water habitat, restoring floodplain connectivity and backwater habitats, restoring stream buffers, decreasing coastal erosion and inundation, or decreasing risk of drought, fire occurrence (not fire response), plant disease, or invasive species outbreak. This public benefit is centered on ecosystem resilience, not community resilience. Improvements to a community’s resilience to climate change should be addressed in the social/cultural benefit category.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> improvements in multiple areas in ecosystem resiliency to climate change
High: 6 pts	<i>High</i> quality improvements in ecosystem resiliency to climate change
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> improvements
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> improvements, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Improvements in ecosystem resiliency to climate change <i>not likely</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	<i>Minor decreases</i> in ecosystem resiliency to climate change may occur
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Moderate decreases</i> in ecosystem resiliency to climate change are expected

## 2f. Does the project result in improvements that address one or more limiting ecological factors in the project watershed?

A limiting ecological factor is an environmental condition that limits the growth, abundance, or distribution of an organism or a population of organisms in the project watershed. Cite the limiting ecological factor(s) in your application and how the project may result in improvements

Examples of limiting factors may include, but are not limited to: barriers to fish passage, lack of high quality habitat for sensitive, threatened and endangered species, low water quality, or low streamflow. .

**Application tip:** *To score in this category an application must include citation of public reports, peer reviewed scientific studies, or other substantiating documentation from a state or federal agency to verify the limiting ecological factor’s presence in the watershed.*

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> progress towards removing limiting ecological factors or making improvements which address multiple limiting ecological factors
High: 6 pts	Important progress making improvements of a <i>high</i> quality which address limiting ecological factors
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> progress which address some limiting ecological factors
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> progress, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	<i>Not likely</i> to address limiting ecological factors in the project watershed <i>OR</i> <i>documentation verifying limiting ecological factor not included</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	<i>Potential minor worsening of some</i> limiting ecological factors in the project watershed
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Exacerbates</i> limiting ecological factors in the project watershed

### Category 3. Social or Cultural benefits

The evaluation of the social/cultural benefits of a project is based on the change in social or cultural conditions expected to result from the project as demonstrated in the application.

#### 3a. Does the project promote public health, public safety, and local food systems?

This public benefit includes: protection of drinking water sources, repair of septic systems/field, maintenance and repair of other water infrastructure, treatment and protection of drinking water itself, improved emergency response and advisory systems (e.g., WARN network, fish consumption advisories, water contact advisories, etc.), improved or protected water quality for human consumption and human contact (e.g., removal or prevention of toxics, contaminants of concern, bacteria), and the promotion of self-reliant and resilient food networks that connect food producers and food consumers in the same geographic region.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> promotion of public health, public safety or local food systems vital to the community
High: 6 pts	<i>High</i> quality of promotion of public health, public safety or local food systems
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> promotion
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> promotion of public health, public safety or local food systems, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Promotion of public health, public safety or local food systems <i>not likely</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential for <i>minor negative impact</i> to public health, public safety, or local food systems
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Degrades</i> public health, public safety or local food systems

#### 3b. Does the project result in measurable improvements in conditions for Oregon’s environmental justice communities (e.g., minority or low-income communities, economically distressed rural communities, tribal communities, or other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes)?

Environmental justice communities in Oregon are minority or low-income communities, economically distressed rural communities, tribal communities, or other communities traditionally underrepresented in public processes. Engagement could include outreach efforts to listen and involve environmental justice communities, solicit feedback on conditions in need of improvement, or communicate project description and anticipated outcomes.

**Application tip:** Identify which of those communities would benefit from the project and quantify these benefits. Demonstrate that project-siting decisions have been examined and approved by affected landowners and affected environmental justice communities.

Exceptional: 12 pts	<i>Exceptional</i> measurable improvements in conditions for environmental justice communities, <u>and</u> environmental justice communities were engaged in the process of developing projects
High: 6 pts	Improvements are of a <i>high</i> quality <u>and</u> environmental justice communities were consulted or provided meaningful opportunity to engage
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> improvements and environmental justice communities were provided meaningful opportunity to engage
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> improvements, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Improved conditions <i>not likely</i>

Minor detriment: -1 pt	Likely to result in <i>minor detriment</i> in conditions for environmental justice communities
Medium detriment: -3 pts	<i>Worse conditions</i> for environmental justice communities are likely

### 3c. Does the project promote recreation and scenic values?

Recreation and scenic values include recreational fishing, motorized boating, non-motorized boating, and other forms of water-based recreation, swimming, fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, sightseeing, hiking, photography, and aesthetic values. To promote those values means the project would improve the quality of or access to the examples identified.

**Application tip:** Evidence to support this benefit can be provided in the form of qualitative information, which may include interviews, professional opinion, or surveys.

Exceptional: 12 pts	Exceptional promotion of recreation or scenic values, improving access and quality
High: 6 pts	<i>High quality of</i> promotion, improving access and quality
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> promotion, improving access or quality
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> promotion, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Benefit to recreation and scenic values <i>not likely</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Potential to detract from recreation and scenic values (minor detraction)
Medium detriment: -3 pts	Moderate detractions from recreation and scenic values

### 3d. Does this project contribute to the body of scientific data publicly available in this state?

Contributing to the body of scientific data means collecting new scientific information *and* making it available to the public. For example, data could be collected from water quality or habitat monitoring; groundwater studies or other investigations; new stream gages; or new monitoring wells. Contributions could also come from conducting a Seasonally Varying Flow analysis. Collection of scientific data is not sufficient to achieve this public benefit---the data must be made publicly available.

**Application tip:** Describe the equipment and/or methods that would be used and whether the data would be made available to the public. Note how the new data supplies information of particular significance to the project area that is not already required or monitored.

Exceptional: 12 pts	Exceptional contributions of new data to the body of scientific data publicly available in the state
High: 6 pts	High quality of data contributions
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> contributions
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> contributions, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	Contributions are unlikely or would occur regardless of the project
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Not applicable
Medium detriment: -3 pts	Not applicable

### 3e. Does this project promote state or local priorities, including but not limited to the restoration and protection of native fish species of cultural significance to Indian tribes?

A state or local priority is one that is identified in a plan, strategy, or study such as Oregon’s Integrated Water Resources Strategy, a place-based integrated water resources plan, the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds, state and local water quality plans, species and habitat conservation or recovery plans/strategies, forestry plans, regional solutions priorities, local economic development plans, state or local hazard mitigation plans, etc. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife maintains a list of native fish species:

<http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/crp/freshwater.asp>.

Exceptional: 12 pts	Exceptional role supporting a state and local priority
High: 6 pts	<i>High</i> quality role in supporting a state or local priority
Medium: 3 pts	<i>Moderate</i> role
Minor: 1 pt	<i>Minor</i> role, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	No promotion of state or local priorities
Minor detriment: -1 pt	May be counter to state or local priorities
Medium detriment: -3 pts	Runs counter to state or local priorities

### 3f. Does this project promote collaborative basin planning efforts, including but not limited to efforts under the state Integrated Water Resources Strategy?

Collaborative basin planning efforts incorporate public processes that are transparent and inclusive of diverse interests.

**Application tip:** *Demonstration of a collaborative planning effort may include publicly noticed meetings, posting agendas and decisions so they were publicly available, the inclusion of multiple types of water users represented in the process (e.g., instream interests, agricultural, municipal, domestic and industrial users), evidence that the project is supported by the community, and evidence that the project was identified in a Place-Based Integrated Water Resources Plan or another collaboratively developed strategic plan.*

Exceptional: 12 pts	Project was identified in a collaboratively developed plan that is supported by all basin interests and where the public had meaningful opportunities to engage
High: 6 pts	Project was identified by a collaborative group that includes representation of multiple interests, where the public had meaningful opportunities to provide input
Medium: 3 pts	The project promotes the goals of a collaborative basin planning effort
Minor: 1 pt	An effort was made to engage and elicit input from the public, <i>OR</i> benefit claims are <i>unsupported or unquantified</i>
No benefit: 0 pts	<i>No change/impact</i>
Minor detriment: -1 pt	Stakeholders with differing perspectives and/or the public (as appropriate) were <i>not consulted</i> about the project and did not have opportunities to provide input
Medium detriment: -3 pts	Stakeholders with differing perspectives and/or the public (as appropriate) were <i>excluded</i> during project development





# Water Project Grants and Loans Applications

## Evaluation Summaries – 2020 Funding Cycle



September 24, 2020

### Background

In 2013, the Oregon Legislature passed Senate Bill 839, establishing the Water Supply Development Account to provide grants and loans for water projects that have economic, environmental and social/cultural benefits. The 2020 application deadline was May 28, 2020. The Department received 12 complete applications requesting a total of \$18,828,217 in grant funding.

### Document Description

The following are evaluation summaries for complete grant applications received for the 2020 Water Project Grants and Loans funding cycle. The multi-agency Technical Review Team (TRT) provided comments on each application, scored applications based on the criteria identified within the [Scoring Criteria document](#), and made a funding recommendation for the Water Resources Commission (Commission) based on that evaluation and available funds. The following evaluation summaries highlight TRT comments gathered by the Department during the application evaluation process, and are prepared for the Commission's consideration and review. Applicants are encouraged to contact the Grant Program Coordinator to request a review meeting and receive additional evaluation feedback. The evaluation summaries are listed in order of the TRT ranking.

The evaluation summary includes a combined public benefit score, which the TRT used to rank proposed projects. A table is also provided that shows a breakdown of the application score by category. An application could score up to 72 points in each of the economic, environmental, and social/cultural public benefit categories. A proposed project could receive up to 24 additional preference points; up to 12 points for legally protecting water instream and up to 12 points for collaboration (these are listed in the "Other" category). There is a maximum public benefit score of 240 points.

### Next Steps

**The Department is soliciting public comment on the TRT ranking and funding recommendation through 5:00 pm on October 2, 2020.** Information on how to submit a public comment is available [here](#). Public comments submitted on the TRT ranking and funding recommendation will be presented to the Commission who will make a funding decision. The tentative date for the Commission to make its funding decision is November 19-20, 2020.

### More Information

If you have questions please contact Grant Program Coordinator, Becky Williams, at 503.986.0869 or [WRD\\_DL\\_waterprojects@oregon.gov](mailto:WRD_DL_waterprojects@oregon.gov).



**2020 Applications**

**Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration - Group 3.....3**

**Eastside Lateral Pipeline and Water Conservation Project .....4**

**Lone Pine Irrigation District Irrigation Modernization Project.....5**

**Prineville Airport Area Aquifer – Dedicated ASR Well #1 and #2 .....6**

**Muddy Creek Water Use and Restoration Project .....7**

**Highland Ditch Piping Project.....8**

**Currant Creek Flow Augmentation and Fish Passage Project.....9**

**Marks Creek Riparian Meadow Restoration .....10**

**Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection.....11**

**Tri City Water System Improvements Project .....12**

**Gran Moraine Winery – Rainwater Collection, Use and Reuse .....13**

**Basalt Well Project at the Miller Road Treatment Plant.....14**

# Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration - Group 3

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Tumalo Irrigation District

**County:** Deschutes

**Funding Requested:** \$1,200,000 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$5,871,548

**Project Summary:** The proposed project would enclose open, porous irrigation canals into a closed piping system resulting in water conservation, improvements to water delivery reliability and efficiencies, energy conservation, and improvements to public safety. The project work proposes to enclose the Tumalo Irrigation District's Allen Lateral, as well as its sub-lateral and conserve approximately 4.2 cfs of water, which has been previously lost to seepage and evaporation. The conserved water would benefit Endangered Species Act and native fish species and is anticipated to contribute to improved surface water temperatures in the basin. The conserved water would be legally protected instream through the Allocation of Conserved Water.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 81**

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
28	25	16	12

**Economic:** The proposed project outcomes anticipate that jobs would be retained and created, ranging from short-term construction jobs to longer-term agricultural related jobs. Energy and operational savings are likely as a result of improved infrastructure and implementation of efficiency upgrades. Crop productivity is anticipated to improve as a result of a more reliable water supply. Additional details to substantiate the claims of improvements to the recreational industry, as a result of the legal protection of water conserved, would improve the application.

**Environmental:** The project proposes to legally protect 100 percent of the conserved water instream. The project will improve biologically important flows in Tumalo Creek, which is a key tributary to the Middle Deschutes River. The addition of high-quality cold water will likely improve streamflow temperatures in Tumalo Creek. The current streamflow conditions and the anticipated improvements in ecosystem resiliency through downstream impacts are clearly demonstrated.

**Social/Cultural:** The project is a result of highly collaborative basin planning efforts. Outcomes of the proposed project include eliminating the public safety risks associated with open canals in highly used recreation areas. The application could be improved with supporting information regarding efforts to engage traditionally underserved and underrepresented communities and to provide them an opportunity for meaningful input.

**Summary:** Throughout the application current conditions and the anticipated public benefits were thoroughly described and detailed, which provided the review team with a clear understanding of the likely change in conditions. The proposed project outcomes were evaluated as likely to achieve high to moderate public benefits in all public benefit categories.

# Eastside Lateral Pipeline and Water Conservation Project

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** East Fork Irrigation District

**County:** Hood River County

**Funding Requested:** \$2,000,000 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$7,654,594

**Project Summary:** The project proposes to replace 6 miles of open irrigation canals with HDPE pipe and eliminate 14 end spills that currently lose an estimated 6 cfs on the Eastside Lateral Canal within the East Fork Irrigation District in the Hood River Basin. The project anticipates increasing summer stream flows for threatened salmon and steelhead, and increasing long-term irrigation water reliability. The anticipated benefits of eliminating end spills and piping the open canal would leave this water in the river, providing a positive impact on spawning and rearing habitat for Endangered Species Act listed spring Chinook, Coho and winter steelhead. The project proposes to legally protect 50 percent of the conserved water instream through the Allocation of Conserved Water. Additionally, an anticipated project outcome is the ability to deliver water more efficiently to increase reliability and the resiliency of local agriculture in a changing climate.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 79**

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
19	27	21	12

**Economic:** The application clearly described the anticipated job creation associated with construction activities. Additionally, the project's impact to the retention of jobs important to the area and the economic impact was well described and quantified. The project proposes to improve operational efficiency in terms of time, labor, and energy related to maintenance. The application provided a clear explanation of how this project improves efficiency due to eliminating end spills which currently must be monitored, requiring daily adjustment of diversion to maintain sufficient delivery. Conservation of water resulting from infrastructure upgrades are likely to produce a significant effect on the long-term viability of farmland.

**Environmental:** The project proposes to legally protect 50 percent of the conserved water instream. The review team noted that a greater percentage of conserved water protected may be required based on the criteria of the Allocation of Conserved Water program and recommends the applicant fully understand all applicable criteria. The application quantifies the anticipated impact of conserved water at low-flow periods which serves to demonstrate the potential impact of protected water, in addition to illustrating the relative importance for fish. The elimination of end spills would be likely to improve water quality by reducing turbidity and lowering temperatures. The proposed project outcomes anticipate increased streamflows promoting ecosystem resiliency.

**Social/Cultural:** The application was strengthened by describing the collaboration with tribes and other community groups to meet watershed goals identified in multiple plans. The project proposes to improve the scenic value of farmland and irrigated agriculture. The application would be improved by showing how the project directly results in measureable improvements for environmental justice communities.

**Summary:** The project proposal included well documented current conditions and the anticipated public benefits likely to occur as a result of the project. The public had opportunity to provide input and engage on the proposal and the project was identified by a collaborative basin planning group as a priority. The proposed project outcomes were determined to achieve public benefits meeting a high standard of quality in all categories.

# Lone Pine Irrigation District Irrigation Modernization Project

TRT Recommendation: Recommended for Funding

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Lone Pine Irrigation District

**County:** Crook, Deschutes, and Jefferson

**Funding Requested:** \$1,600,000 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$9,200,259

**Project Summary:** This Project proposes to pipe and pressurize the currently open canal system, and construct a new river crossing for the delivery system. The proposal seeks to address the watershed problems and resource concerns such as water loss in District conveyance systems, water delivery and operation inefficiencies, instream flow for fish, and improved public safety. The piped and pressurized system would eliminate evaporation losses and seepage losses from the open unlined canals. The project proposes to conserve 3.7 cfs and legally protect the conserved water instream.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 51**

### Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown

Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
17	16	11	7

**Economic:** The application provided information on job creation that was specific and supported by data. The project outcomes anticipate improvements in water, energy, and operation and maintenance efficiency related to the proposed infrastructure. The project is also likely to enhance farmland by allowing for pressurized delivery, more efficient irrigation use and improvements to public safety by eliminating dangerous canals. The application would be strengthened by additional detail to support claims of improved economic activity and crop productivity as a result of this project.

**Environmental:** The project proposes to legally protect 100 percent of conserved water instream. Eliminating end spills will reduce contamination from irrigation runoff and increasing water instream is likely to achieve an important improvement in water quality for a river that is temperature impaired. The project will result in delivery of irrigation water on demand with piping, leading to improved irrigation efficiency. The application would be improved by more clearly explaining the connection of this project to the anticipated improvements in ecosystem resiliency.

**Social/Cultural:** The project promotes public safety by reducing the risk of injury or drowning in canals, promotes local food systems by ensuring a reliable water supply for irrigation, and promotes the local priority of improving streamflow in the Deschutes River. The review team noted that it was unclear what changes would result to underserved communities or if environmental justice communities were consulted or engaged in project planning.

**Summary:** The proposed project is ready to be implemented and has demonstrated feasibility. The application provided clear information and details regarding the critical public benefits most likely to be achieved. The evaluation indicated that a consistent moderate level of public benefits would be likely in each category as a result of the proposed project.

# Prineville Airport Area Aquifer – Dedicated ASR Well #1 and #2

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** City of Prineville

**County:** Crook

**Funding Requested:** \$2,876,174 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,834,900

**Project Summary:** The proposed project is to construct two dedicated Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) wells, and 1660 feet of new conveyance piping to connect the wells to the City's system, which is part of the City's larger overall ASR program. The proposed ASR wells are to be located near the Crook County Airport within the Lower Crooked River Basin. These dedicated ASR wells would play a key role in the City's overall ASR Program by allowing the annual storage of an additional 260 million gallons of water that will be used to meet the City's growing peak summertime water demands, and in turn is expected to encourage economic development in the region and ease peak demand stress on existing water sources. Without the City's development of a new source of water the summertime demand could exceed the City's available capacity by 2025.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 38**

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>				
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other	
19	6	11	2	

**Economic:** An outcome of the proposed project is an enhancement to the City's water infrastructure by providing additional water storage capability. The application describes the ability to attract business development as an important anticipated outcome of the increased water supply. The application could be improved with supporting information to document the water demand for future business development. The application could be improved with considering improvements in system efficiency as a result of this project.

**Environmental:** The project is anticipated to legally protect water instream which is released from the Prineville reservoir through the application of mitigation credits. The review team noted that the legal protection of water would not be expected to produce an overall change in conditions that supports, enhances, or improves an overall instream benefit. The project is anticipated to result in greater out-of-stream water use, and the review team also commented that the application could be improved with considering the potential for water conservation measures. Potential loss of injected water to the aquifer system may help stabilize groundwater declines. The application could be improved by describing the measurable improvements to groundwater and surface water quality as a result of this project.

**Social/Cultural:** Anticipated benefits to public health as a result of this project include resiliency and redundancy of the water system for emergency preparedness. Groundwater-level data collected as part of the project could be useful for broader understanding of the aquifer system. The application provided documentation of support from multiple groups of diverse interests. The application would be improved by engaging underserved and underrepresented members of the community, and detailing how the project would improve conditions for members of these communities.

**Summary:** The application provided clear information and details regarding the high likelihood of economic public benefits as a result of the proposed project. While moderate social/cultural public benefits may be achieved, the review team's evaluation assessed minor environmental public benefits as a result of the proposed project. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.

# Muddy Creek Water Use and Restoration Project

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Lake County Watershed

**County:** Lake

**Funding Requested:** \$462,913 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$816,154

**Project Summary:** The goal of the Muddy Creek Water Use and Restoration Project includes maintaining the water right permit for irrigation at the Shine Brother's Ranch by addressing fish passage and habitat restoration for Goose Lake red band trout, a state listed species of concern. A 75-foot rock ramp roughened channel fish passage would be constructed at the spillway of the reservoir to restore 1.5 miles of stream channel habitat. The planned improvements would expand fish spawning and rearing habitat by 6 miles, resulting in compliance with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife requirements, combined with streambank stabilization efforts, riparian improvement actions, and is anticipated to sustain the working landscape on the cattle ranch for years to come.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 25**

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
6	8	8	3

**Economic:** The project is anticipated to produce improvements to infrastructure and farmland, and enhance public resource lands with restoring creek and fish habitat. While the application provided a clear explanation of construction activities likely to result in short-term job creation, additional information is needed to explain benefits the project provides for long-term benefits to jobs and economic activity for the public. The application would be improved with additional detail in how the proposed project might enhance the economic value of the campground associated with tourism, recreation, and fishing.

**Environmental:** A strength of the proposed project is the likely restoration of riparian habitat and improvement of watershed connectivity by creating fish passage. The project is anticipated to improve water quality and to address other limiting ecological factors. Information about current water quality in the creek, and a proposal for quantifying the anticipated changes which may occur due to riparian restoration work, would have improved the proposal. The limited ecological factors in the watershed are clearly described and additional information about Muddy Creek would have clarified its relationship to the watershed. Exploring opportunities for water conservation or protection would strengthen the proposal.

**Social/Cultural:** The project retains scenic and recreational value of the area, and promotes local food systems by ensuring that pastures for grazing of livestock can continue to be irrigated. The application was strengthened by providing evidence of cooperative work between community groups, the local government, and private land owners. The application could be strengthened by providing more information on how the project benefits underserved communities. The proposal could be improved with a description of the methods for sharing data and project outcomes beyond those collected and monitored as requirements of the project work.

**Summary:** The application provided sufficient information to demonstrate the likely achievement of moderate environmental and social/cultural benefits. Additional details would further serve to explain the current conditions and quantify the extent of the potential enhancements. Based on the information provided, the review team anticipates the achievement of minor economic public benefits as a result of the proposed project. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.

# Highland Ditch Piping Project

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Badger Improvement District

**County:** Wasco

**Funding Requested:** \$2,250,000 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,000,000

**Project Summary:** This proposed project would pipe roughly 14,000 feet of the irrigation ditch with a 30-inch PVC or HDPE pipe. The current open ditch is in steep terrain, and surrounded by the Badger Creek Wilderness Area in the Mt. Hood National Forest. The ditch is difficult to access and repair, and is subject to possible washout due to debris filling the ditch. As this ditch is the main supply of irrigation water to farmers in the area, a ditch failure would threaten the economic stability of agriculture in the area. Additionally, installing a pipe would help prevent washouts which negatively affect fish habitat in Badger Creek due to large amounts of dirt and debris filling the creek. The project proposes to conserve water by improving the overall efficiency of Badger Improvement District's irrigation system and eliminating leaching and seepage in the existing ditch. The project proposes to legally protect up to 0.5 cfs of the conserved water in Badger Creek through Allocation of Conserved Water.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 23**

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
9	7	5	2

**Economic:** The project is likely to maintain a more reliable water supply leading to supporting agricultural jobs, but the application did not provide sufficient information on how the project would improve economic activity. Additional information for potential irrigation efficiencies to support innovative system improvements would have strengthened the proposed project. The application would be strengthened with updated engineering designs and cost analysis.

**Environmental:** The project proposes to legally protect 50 percent of the conserved water instream benefitting water-limited Badger Creek. The review team noted that a greater percentage of water protected may be required based on criteria of the Allocation of Conserved Water program and recommends the applicant fully understand all applicable criteria. Reduced sedimentation and stream temperatures are possible benefits of the project. Including an evaluation of the natural springs discharge potential into Badger Creek instead of the existing pipeline may further describe project outcomes. Additional detail about the flow benefits to Badger Creek would have strengthened this section.

**Social/Cultural:** An improvement to public health and safety is an anticipated outcome of the proposed project based on the potential for failure of the ditch in steep terrain. As a low income area, the application would be improved with supporting details to describe the potential benefits of improved conditions which may result from the proposed project. Additional information to describe how this project promotes state and local priorities would improve the project proposal. Generally, the review team noted that the application would be improved with more information and evidence to support engagement and improved conditions with underrepresented communities.

**Summary:** The application provided sufficient information to demonstrate the likely achievement of moderate economic and environmental benefits. Additional details would further serve to explain the current conditions and quantify the extent of the anticipated outcomes. Based on the information provided, the review team anticipates the achievement of minor social/cultural public benefits as a result of the proposed project. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.



# Currant Creek Flow Augmentation and Fish Passage Project

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Young Life

**County:** Wasco and Jefferson

**Funding Requested:** \$2,289,165 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,250,705

**Project Summary:** The proposed project would reconstruct the Currant Creek dam's spillway using a labyrinth weir design to safely pass a catastrophic flood event and raise the existing dam by 6.5 feet resulting in an additional 434 acre-feet of storage capacity. The project would provide increased stream flow at key times through a Seasonally Varying Flow prescription and an instream flow augmentation of approximately 108.5 acre-feet of legally protected water, as well as construct a new fish passage channel around the falls on Muddy Creek. The project seeks to increase water supply reliability for Young Life operations, improve streamflow and habitat conditions for fish and wildlife in Currant and Muddy Creeks, including opening 11 miles of instream habitat for threatened steelhead within the John Day River system. Completion of the proposed project would promote the safety and future viability of the Young Life operations, open up much needed high-quality habitat for anadromous species, and provide a pathway for improving instream conditions through increased dam release rates during key periods.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 20**

### Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown

Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
7	6	4	3

**Economic:** The application provided a generous amount of information on the economic benefits of the project to the Young Life operations; however, benefits to the general public were not well supported. The project proposes to increase reservoir storage and likely result in an improvement to its infrastructure. The application would be improved by clearly explaining the need for additional water supply to sustain or improve the current economic conditions.

**Environmental:** Anticipated environmental benefits resulting from this project include addressing fish passage, legal protection of water instream through the 25 percent instream requirement, and an improved dam release schedule as determined by the Seasonally Varying Flow requirement. The application would be strengthened by describing how this proposed project might ensure that cattle are restricted from the riparian areas. Information describing plans to measure released and legally protected water downstream would help quantify potential outcomes. The project would be strengthened by including information of how environmental benefits associated with water quality will be measured.

**Social/Cultural:** The application describes the contribution of operations to the community, though additional detail would clarify the change anticipated as a result of this project. The review team noted that the anticipated benefits would primarily be to the private landowner and the benefits the general public are less clear. The application would be strengthened with additional detail explaining how underrepresented environmental justice communities were engaged and the benefits as a result of the proposed project.

**Summary:** The application provided sufficient information to explain the likely achievement of moderate economic benefits. Additional details would further serve to explain the current conditions and the connection of the proposed project in achieving public benefits. Based on the information provided the review team anticipates the achievement of minor environmental and social/cultural public benefits as a result of the proposed project. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.



# Marks Creek Riparian Meadow Restoration

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Crooked River Watershed Council

**County:** Crook

**Funding Requested:** \$134,240 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$416,066

**Project Summary:** The proposed project is located on Marks Creek which is a tributary to Ochoco Creek upstream of the Ochoco Reservoir. The project proposes to meet water needs, ecological needs, and Crook County economic needs by installing fish screens at points of diversion which currently have no fish screening, and create irrigation improvements by converting open ditches to a closed piping system. The project anticipates benefits to resident red band trout by improving habitat access and instream conditions.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 20**

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
9	5	5	1

**Economic:** The application proposes that the project will result in job retention and increased economic activity. The review team appreciated information detailing an intention to use local contractors for project work. The application would be strengthened by providing greater detail on how more efficient irrigation and improved farmland on the property creates wider reaching economic benefits for the public.

**Environmental:** The proposed project is likely to contribute to ecosystem resiliency from improved fish passage and wetland restoration. The application proposes that water quality benefits will result from enrollment in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP); however, because the enrollment and activities associated with CREP was not included in the tasks list, it was uncertain to the review team if those activities and anticipated benefits would be a result of this project. A more detailed explanation of how the project would achieve the claimed environmental benefits would have strengthened the application.

**Social/Cultural:** Benefits to supporting local food systems are anticipated as a result of the proposed project. Additionally, public safety may be improved as a result of modifications to the culvert under Highway 26.. The review team noted that very little information was included in the application to describe current conditions and how the expected benefits are a result of the proposed project.

**Summary:** The application provided information to explain the likely achievement of moderate economic benefits as a result of the proposed project. Based on the information provided, minor environmental and social/cultural public benefits are anticipated as a result of the proposed project. Including clear information and additional details would explain the current conditions and quantify or demonstrate the likelihood of public benefits. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.

# Fishhawk Lake Storage Protection

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Fishhawk Lake Reserve & Community, Inc.

**County:** Clatsop

**Funding Requested:** \$2,687,342 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$3,583,123

**Project Summary:** The project proposes to construct a new combined spillway and fish ladder on the west side of Fishhawk Lake dam. The combined spillway and fish ladder is designed to protect the long-term integrity of the dam structure and to provide for the continued storage of water in Fishhawk Lake. The improvements would reduce the risk for properties downstream of the dam from a catastrophic dam failure. The proposal anticipates that the spillway and fish ladder design will promote and improve fish habitat in Fishhawk Lake, reduce the fluctuation of lake levels, allow for cooler water temperatures in the lake, and improve downstream habitat by restoring peak and ecological flows.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 19**

### Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown

<b>Economic</b>	<b>Environmental</b>	<b>Social/Cultural</b>	<b>Other</b>
7	3	8	1

**Economic:** The project proposes to improve the dam and spillway at Fishhawk Lake, reducing the risk for dam failure and improving the dam infrastructure. The project proposal does not provide information to support job creation beyond temporary construction jobs and limited positions at Fishhawk Lake. Because access to the lake appears to be restricted to residents, with no public access allowed and short term rentals are prohibited, the benefit to the public other than property owners is not clearly described. The review team observed that economic benefits claimed in the application appear to primarily provide a benefit to the private landowners who have access to the lake.

**Environmental:** The application proposes that improving the spillway would provide for more consistent lake levels and more consistent releases, while improving the fish ladder structure would help with fish migration. The review team observed that water releases from the lake are not managed for fish and wildlife. The project proposal would be improved by providing data on temperature impacts caused by this impoundment, and addressing the impacts of sediment accumulation and dredging on native species that utilize the lake for spawning and rearing. The review team noted that claims that juvenile fish “may be injured or killed when swept over it at high flows” are unsupported.

**Social/Cultural:** Improvements to the dam and spillway are likely to benefit public health and safety due to the potential for dam failure. Many public comments were received in support of the project by the Fishhawk Lake community. The project would be strengthened by greater collaboration and a focus on how the project can provide social/cultural benefits to the general public and downstream communities. The proposal would be improved by describing engagement and potential improvements in conditions that would result from this project for environmental justice communities.

**Summary:** The proposed project demonstrates the likely achievement of moderate economic and social/cultural benefits primarily associated with the potential for dam failure. Benefits to the environment were considered minor as a result of the proposed project. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.

# Tri City Water System Improvements Project

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Tri City Water and Sanitary Authority

**County:** Douglas

**Funding Requested:** \$1,650,000 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$2,200,000

**Project Summary:** The project proposes to construct a new 500,000 gallon water storage tank and 2,600 feet of a new 8-inch water supply pipeline that would address known deficiencies to protect the substantially low-income community. The anticipated benefits of improving the water supply infrastructure to the Tri City community would ensure that it could continue to grow and thrive into the future and improve public health and safety, and enable economic and community growth. The project proposes to install a comprehensive data-driven water leak reduction and water conservation program that aims to reduce water losses by over 50% over the next five years. Economic development would be enabled by removing the risk of a development moratorium that would enable up to 100 residential homes to be developed without risk of fire losses.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 18**

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
10	1	7	0

**Economic:** The application proposes to improve infrastructure, creating redundancy in the water delivery system using innovative and efficient technologies. The application proposes that the project will provide the resources necessary to increase home building in the area which would provide short-term construction jobs and possibly long-term residential growth. The application would be strengthened by providing evidence for long-term job creation and benefits to economic activity.

**Environmental:** Water conservation through infrastructure improvements are proposed as a result of this project. The project as proposed would achieve few environmental benefits. This section was largely incomplete and the proposed environmental benefits included in the application were generally unsupported. Additional research and collaborative efforts may identify opportunities to achieve environmental public benefits are recommended.

**Social/Cultural:** The application provided a clear explanation of potential social benefits for minority communities as a result of the project. The proposal to restructure water rates is likely to provide important assistance to low-income residents. The application proposes to provide a more stable water supply system which would improve public health and safety, especially related to fire protection. The project would be strengthened by more public engagement to encourage conservation.

**Summary:** The proposed project demonstrates the likely achievement of moderate economic and social/cultural benefits. Benefits to the environment were considered minor as a result of the proposed project. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.

# Gran Moraine Winery – Rainwater Collection, Use and Reuse

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** Gran Moraine Winery

**County:** Yamhill

**Funding Requested:** \$403,383 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$539,633

**Project Summary:** The project proposes to collect rainwater through a series of storage tanks and pumps, treat the rainwater with existing water treatment infrastructure, add a reverse osmosis treatment system, if needed, and reuse the process water with an agricultural partner. The project anticipates collecting 150,000 gallons of rainwater annually for domestic and irrigation purposes, to offset the need for trucking in water and to reduce the operation's carbon footprint.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 13**

<u>Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown</u>			
Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
9	2	2	0

**Economic:** The application describes an innovative infrastructure enhancement that would result in more efficient water use from a source other than surface water or groundwater. Public benefits related to job creation or retention, economic activity, recreation and tourism, and irrigation were not well described or supported. The review team observed the potential for a broader collaboration with other local wineries to investigate shared opportunities. The review team noted that the application would be improved with greater preparation and by including thorough descriptions and supporting details.

**Environmental:** The application as submitted lacked information to support the proposed environmental benefits. Additional explanation to support and quantify the anticipated reductions in groundwater use as a result of the project, benefits to ecosystem resiliency, influent and effluent treatment, and system maintenance would strengthen the application. The project would be strengthened by proposing conservation measures to reduce water use.

**Social/Cultural:** The social/cultural benefits proposed by the application were lacking supporting information. Information to describe and support the potential for scenic benefits to be improved and how data would be made publicly available would have improved the application.

**Summary:** The proposed project is likely to achieve moderate economic benefits. As described in the application, minor environmental and social/cultural benefits are anticipated. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.

# Basalt Well Project at the Miller Road Treatment Plant

TRT Recommendation: Not Recommended for Funding at this time

## Project Information (adapted from application)

**Applicant Name:** City of Scappoose

**County:** Columbia

**Funding Requested:** \$1,275,000 Grant

**Total Project Cost:** \$1,700,000

**Project Summary:** The objective of the Basalt Well Project is to provide the City of Scappoose with a source of groundwater that will diversify the City's water supply. The project proposes to construct a basalt well at the City's existing water treatment plant site to provide a much needed additional water supply. The location selected reduces the impact on, and interference with, the City's existing alluvial wells. Water from the basalt well would be conveyed directly to the existing treatment plant before being delivered to City customers. The project would allow the City to rely on an a more dependable groundwater source and move away from using its existing surface water source, which has experienced declining flows in the summer months when demands are highest.

## Technical Review Team Score and Comments

**Combined Public Benefit Score: 11**

### Public Benefit Category Score Breakdown

Economic	Environmental	Social/Cultural	Other
5	1	4	1

**Economic:** The application would have been improved by providing detail on what type of jobs would be created with an explanation of whether these were permanent or temporary jobs. Additional information regarding the type of businesses interested and the extent of interest, or whether a commitment had been reached, would have documented the likelihood of development and increased economic activity. The review team noted that the information regarding current water demands, future water demands, and how this project will provide solutions for both could be clarified.

**Environmental:** The application indicates that the City will be moving away from reliance on their surface water source, but does not provide specific values for reduction of use. As the City is not officially protecting water instream, the likelihood of the reduction in surface water use is not a guaranteed result of this project. Groundwater levels are likely to decline as a result of this project and the likelihood of the proposed project to meet the described need was not supported. Additional research and testing would provide valuable information to provide more robust estimates of groundwater availability and well production rates, which would strengthen the project proposal.

**Social/Cultural:** The project will result in redundancy of the City's drinking water supply with the potential to improve drinking water quality. The application would be improved by providing better examples of specific social/cultural benefits and by improving collaboration with community groups. The benefits to recreation and scenic values are not supported, and the review team observed these are not a direct result of the implementation of the project.

**Summary:** The review team observed that additional work to determine the feasibility of the project, secure permits and regulatory approvals, and determine how this project addresses the current and future needs of the City would improve the likelihood of achieving public benefits and provide supporting evidence. The proposed project is likely to achieve minor public benefits in the three public benefit categories. To be funded, projects must achieve a minimum score of seven in each category indicating that more than minor public benefits are likely to be achieved.



# Water Project Grants and Loans

## Public Comments Received

### 2020 Funding Recommendations

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#### Document Description

After the Technical Review Team ranks projects based on their public benefits, the Commission is required by statute to provide an additional public comment opportunity. The TRT ranking and recommendations were published on the Department's website and distributed on the Water Resources Development Program's listserv for a 30-day public comment period which took place September 2 through October 2, 2020. The Department received comments from four individuals and organizations on three applications. Public comments on the 2020 TRT funding recommendation are in the order and page number listed below. The Department carefully reviewed the comments to determine if new information was provided. The Department provides further discussion regarding the public comments in the Staff Report.

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Farmer's Conservation Alliance / Eastside Lateral Pipeline & Water Conservation Project	5
Farmer's Conservation Alliance / Lone Pine Irrigation Modernization Project	6

September 14, 2020

Grant Program Coordinator  
Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer St. NW, Ste A  
Salem, OR 97301



Subject: Support for Tumalo Irrigation District’s Grant Application for Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration – Group 3

Ms. Williams,

This letter expresses Famers Conservation Alliance’s (FCA’s) support for the Tumalo Irrigation District’s (TID’s) proposed Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration—Group 3 Project. The proposed project, which will be located in Deschutes County, will replace TID’s Allen lateral and sublateral with a buried, pressurized pipeline. This aging section of TID’s system conveyance system currently consists of earthen ditches that lose water to seepage and evaporation. Replacing these open ditches with buried pressurized pipelines will benefit fish and wildlife while improving water supply reliability for TID’s patrons.

The proposed project will restore 4.2 cubic feet of water per second (CFS) instream to benefit water quality, fish habitat, and aquatic species, including the Oregon spotted frog. Piping and pressurizing this lateral and sublateral will correspondingly benefit TID’s patrons. It will improve the District’s ability to manage and deliver water and reduce patrons’ need to pump water, conserving energy.

TID has demonstrated a commitment to modernizing its infrastructure and improving water supplies for both agriculture and the environment, and this project will build on the District’s past successes. TID has the opportunity to access up to \$25 million in federal funding to invest in infrastructure modernization, and the proposed project will help to invest that federal funding on the ground in Oregon.

FCA is a non-profit organization focused on water management solutions that benefit the environment, agriculture, and community. The proposed project aligns with FCA’s goals, and FCA fully supports TID’s application for funding through the Oregon Water Resources Department’s Water Project Grants and Loans Program.

Sincerely,

Julie O’Shea  
Chief Executive Officer  
Farmers Conservation Alliance





## CITY OF BEND

September 15, 2020

Oregon Water Resources Department  
Grant Program Coordinator  
725 Summer Street NE, Suite A  
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Letter of Support, Tumalo Irrigation District Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration – Group 3

Dear Grant Program Coordinator:

The City of Bend (City) is writing in support of the Tumalo Irrigation District's (TID) application for Oregon Water Resources Department Water Project Grant funding for its Deschutes Basin Flow Restoration – Group 3 project.

The City supports TID's efforts to conserve water and increase flows in Tumalo Creek through projects such as piping its distribution system of open canals. More than half of the City's annual water supply comes from the Tumalo Creek watershed, making a healthy and sustainable Tumalo Creek of great interest to the City. Projects like this one will help increase low summer flows and provide much-needed cold water to the creek and the Deschutes River, benefiting fish habitat and supporting ecological and recreational values.

TID's water conservation projects are also contributing significantly to the broader flow restoration efforts underway in the Deschutes Basin. The City continues to work collaboratively with TID and the Deschutes Basin Water Collaborative to improve instream flows and water quality in Tumalo Creek as well as in the Middle and Upper Deschutes River.

Should you have any questions regarding this letter of support, please contact me at [pgriffiths@bendoregon.gov](mailto:pgriffiths@bendoregon.gov)

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MAYOR  
Sally Russell

MAYOR PRO TEM  
Bruce Abernethy

#### CITY COUNCILORS

Barb Campbell  
Gena Goodman-Campbell  
Justin Livingston  
Bill Moseley  
Chris Piper

CITY MANAGER  
Eric King



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'E' followed by 'K' and 'I'.

Eric King  
City Manager, City of Bend



September 14, 2020

Becky Williams  
Grant Program Coordinator  
Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer St. NW, Ste A  
Salem, OR 97301

Subject: Support for East Fork Irrigation District's Grant Application for the Eastside Lateral Pipeline and Water Conservation Project

Ms. Williams,

This letter expresses Farmers Conservation Alliance's (FCA's) support for East Fork Irrigation District's (EFID's or District's) proposed Eastside Lateral Pipeline and Water Conservation Project. The proposed project, located in Hood River County, would pipe 6 miles of EFID's Eastside Lateral and eliminate end spills from EFID's conveyance system. Piping this lateral and eliminating these end spills would help the District to save water while reducing the potential for contaminants to enter the East Fork Hood River and its tributaries.

The proposed project would increase and legally protect streamflow in the East Fork Hood River to benefit four federally listed, threatened fish species including Lower Columbia River coho and Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, and Hood River bull trout. Correspondingly, it would eliminate end spills that can carry poor quality water from the District's system back to natural waterways, helping to improve water quality in the river and its tributaries. Piping this section of the District's conveyance system would also help the District to better manage, deliver, and save water, improving water delivery reliability and increasing climate change resiliency for high-value agricultural producers.

Agriculture in EFID supports a thriving rural economy, and streamflow in the East Fork Hood River supports an important riparian and aquatic ecosystem. The proposed project would support both systems and help to maintain strong, resilient communities in Hood River County. FCA is a non-profit organization focused on water management solutions that benefit the environment, agriculture, and community. The proposed project directly aligns with FCA's goals, and FCA fully supports this application for funding through the Oregon Water Resources Department's Water Project Grants and Loans Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Julie O'Shea".

Julie O'Shea  
Chief Executive Officer  
Farmers Conservation Alliance

September 14, 2020

Becky Williams  
Grant Program Coordinator  
Oregon Water Resources Department  
725 Summer St. NW, Ste A  
Salem, OR 97301



Subject: Support for Lone Pine Irrigation District’s Grant Application for the Lone Pine Irrigation Modernization Project

Ms. Williams,

This letter expresses Famers Conservation Alliance’s (FCA’s) support for Lone Pine Irrigation District’s (LPID’s) proposed Lone Pine Irrigation Modernization Project. The proposed project, which would be located in Deschutes and Jefferson Counties, would modernize LPID’s century-old water conveyance system. LPID’s aging open canals currently lose water to seepage and evaporation. Piping these canals would benefit fish and wildlife while improving water supply reliability for farmers and ranchers.

The proposed project would, benefit water quality, fish habitat, and aquatic species, including the threatened Oregon spotted frog. Piping and pressurizing the District’s conveyance system would also benefit farmers and ranchers in the district. A piped and pressurized system would allow farmers and ranchers to use more efficient irrigation practices, such as sprinkler irrigation, and remove costly pumps, conserving water while realizing energy savings.

LPID has been working with local partners to modernize its system for over 15 years. The proposed project would move the District closer to its vision of a fully modern conveyance system, helping to support agricultural economies in rural Oregon.

FCA is a non-profit organization focused on water management solutions that benefit the environment, agriculture, and community. The proposed project aligns with FCA’s goals, and FCA fully supports LPID’s application for funding through the Oregon Water Resources Department.

Sincerely,

Julie O’Shea  
Chief Executive Officer  
Farmers Conservation Alliance