



# R & E Grant Application 23-25 Biennium

Project #: 23-016

## *St. Paul Ponds Security & Sustainability Project*

### ***Project Information***

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**Requested Cycle:** 23-1  
**R&E Project Request:** \$23,000  
**Other Funding:** \$2,800  
**Total Project:** \$25,800  
**Spending Start Date:** 7/1/2023  
**Spending End Date:** 6/30/2025  
**Project Start Date:** 7/1/2023  
**Project End Date:** 6/30/2025  
**Organization:** Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

### ***Applicant Information***

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**Name:** Kevin Stertz  
**Address:** 17330 SE Evelyn Street  
Clackamas, OR 97015  
**Telephone:** 971-673-6044  
**Email:** kevin.a.stertz@odfw.oregon.gov

### ***Past Recommended or Completed Projects***

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This applicant has no previous projects that match criteria.

### ***Authorized Agent***

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**Name:** Bryce Hansen  
**Address:** 4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE  
Salem, OR 97302  
**Telephone:** 9716007480  
**Email:** bryce.p.hansen@odfw.oregon.gov

### ***Authorized Agent***

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**Name:** Charles Barr  
**Address:** 17330 SE Evelyn St  
Clackamas, OR 97015  
**Telephone:** 971-673-6081  
**Email:** Charles.M.Barr@odfw.oregon.gov

## **Location Information**

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### **Where is it?**

The project will occur on public land owned or managed by the applicant

### **Site Description**

*Street Address, nearest intersection, or other descriptive location.*

17126 River Rd. NE, St. Paul OR, 97137

*Directions to the site from the nearest highway junction.*

The St. Paul Ponds are located approximately 2.9 miles south of St. Paul OR. via the junction of Hwy 219 NE and River Rd. NE.

*Following project completion, public anglers will be allowed the following level of access to the project site:*

No access

*Please describe what leases, easements, agreements are in place to ensure angler access to the project site, and what is the length of each agreement.*

N/A

*Dominant Land Use Type:*

Wetland

### **Project Location**

*General Project Location.*

**County:** Marion  
**Town/City:** St. Paul  
**ODFW Dist:** NWWD  
**Stream/Lake/Estuary Name:** St. Paul Ponds

*Specific Project Location.*

Latitude	Longitude
45.168	-122.993

## **Project Summary**

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### **Project Summary**

*Please provide a couple sentence summary of the proposal.*

The proposed project will install a steel forestry style gate (see photo 3) at the entrance of the property to prevent unauthorized access to the facility and acquire a mowing deck for our tractor to sustain the ponds and access to them.

### **Overall Project Goals**

*Describe the primary goals or outcomes of the entire project, including elements not requesting funding from R&E.*

Secure and protect the warmwater fish facility so that current operations can be sustained and

eventually expanded thus allowing for continued and increased stocking of largemouth bass and channel catfish into popular and ecologically appropriate Willamette Valley Ponds.

Primary objectives of R&E funding

*Please describe the measurable objectives for the R&E portion of the funding request.*

Measurable objectives:

- 1) Install a new high security gate at the facility entrance
- 2) Purchase and install a new mowing deck for use with the current tractor

Current Situation/Justification

*Please describe the current situation and explain why this funding is needed.*

Currently, the entrance to the facility has a metal fence locked with chain link and a padlock (see photo 1), which leaves the area vulnerable to unauthorized access. A new robust gate will improve overall security of the facility. We have a tractor and trailer but need a mowing deck to keep the ponds accessible and free of summer fire risk created by tall grasses.

Recreation and Commercial Benefit

*This project will provide benefits to:*

Recreational fisheries

*Explain how this project will contribute to current (and/or potential) fishing opportunities, access, or fisheries management.*

Fish reared at the St. Paul Warmwater Fish Hatchery will be stocked into popular public ponds in the Willamette Valley which will increase angling opportunity and boost natural production in these highly visited and often depleted locations. This project helps ensure the security and long term sustainability of the St. Paul facility.

*Percent benefit split between Commercial and Recreational anglers:*

- 0 % Commercial
- 100 % Recreational

*Please explain, or justify, how the percentage split was determined:*

Fish reared at the facility will be stocked inland at ponds that are closed systems.

*This project has been identified as an ODFW priority for:*

Basin/regional

*Does this project directly support implementation of the ODFW Strategic Plan and/or current Fish Division priorities?*

Yes

This project directly supports the ODFW Strategic Plan: Goal 2 - Increase and diversify public use and enjoyment of Oregon's fish and wildlife resources. Stocking warmwater fish can promote an increase in opportunity for the diversity of our customers and provides opportunity for all of our state's population.

*Please briefly explain when this was identified as a priority and what process or workgroup was used to identified this as an ODFW priority.*

The ODFW Strategic Plan was identified as a priority in 2015 and finalized in 2018 through an extensive process involving our Directors Office, Executive Leadership Team, and Resource Management Team.

*Identify any plan or other document that identifies this priority.*

Is this project part of an approved Salmon-Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) activity?  
No

This project is intended to benefit the following species:  
Largemouth Bass  
Other Species  
Channel Catfish

This project will benefit anglers or fishery by providing:  
Angling Opportunity

Angling Opportunity

This project will:  
Improve the opportunity for anglers to catch fish (better stocked fish, trapping)  
Provide new opportunity for anglers to catch fish (new pond, more fish to stock more areas, new species)  
Enhance natural production of fish stocks to levels that allow for recreational fishing opportunities  
Restore a degraded fishery

**Project Description**

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Schedule

Activity	Date	RE Funding
Installation of a high security gate	June, 2025	No
Purchase of mower deck for tractor	June, 2025	No

Permits

Permit	Secured?	Date Expected
No permits are needed for this project.	No	

Project Design and Description

Please describe in detail the methods or approach that will be used to achieve the project objectives.  
ODFW will assist with the design and completion of this project. The engineering department will be consulted on selection and installation of an appropriate gate.

Engineering

Does the project involve capital improvement, engineering, site grading or other construction?  
No  
On ODFW land or managed by ODFW staff

Project Management and Maintenance

What is the life expectancy of R&E funded construction, structures, equipment, supplies, data or fishery?  
We expect the security gate to function for approximately 50 years and the mowing deck for 500 to 1000 mowing hours.  
Who is responsible for long term management, maintenance, and oversight of the project beyond what is funded by R&E.

The North Willamette Watershed District (NWWD) and The Warmwater & Recreational Gamefish Management Program. NWWD staff will be on site for repairs and operations management on a weekly basis.

*Will the project require ongoing maintenance?*

Yes

Basic maintenance (debris removal and lubrication) will be needed for the entrance gate. Basic maintenance of the mowing deck (cleaning, debris removal, and lubrication) will also be needed.

*Is there a plan to collect baseline data and to conduct monitoring efforts to measure the effectiveness of the project?*

No

***Project Funding***

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*Funding*

*Have you applied for OWEB funding for this project?*

No

*Has this proposal, or similar proposal for this project location, previously been denied by OWEB or other funding source?*

No

Other Funding Source	Type	Secured	Dollar Value	Comments
ODFW staff time	In-Kind	Secured	2800	North Willamette Watershed District Staff will contribute time in kind towards project completion
		Total	2800	

## Budget

Item	Unit Number	Unit Cost	In-kind or non-cash contributions	Funding from other sources	R&E Funds	Total Costs
<b>PROJECT MANAGEMENT</b>						
ODFW (Charles Barr - technical assistance and project oversight)	40	40.00	1600	0	0	1600
		SUBTOTAL	1600	0	0	1600
<b>IN-HOUSE PERSONNEL</b>						
ODFW (Kevin Stertz - project implementation)	40	30.00	1200	0	0	1200
		SUBTOTAL	1200	0	0	1200
<b>CONTRACTED SERVICES</b>						
Security Gate	0	0.00	0	0	20000	20000
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	20000	20000
<b>TRAVEL</b>						
N/A	0	0.00	0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
<b>SUPPLIES/MATERIALS</b>						
N/A	0	0.00	0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
<b>EDUCATION/OUTREACH</b>						
N/A	0	0.00	0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
<b>EQUIPMENT</b>						
John Deere Mowing Deck RC2060	0	0.00	0	0	3000	3000
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	3000	3000
<b>FISCAL ADMINISTRATION</b>						
N/A	0	0.00	0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
		BUDGET TOTAL	2800	0	23000	25800

## ***Internal Review Results***

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**Review Score:** 1.6 out of 3

(0 = Do Not Fund, 1 = Strengthen Proposal, 2 = Recommend, 3 = Strongly Recommend)

### **Summary of Review Team Comments**

Review team would like to see the budget split out to show the cost of the roof and the gate as separate line items in the budget.

### **Specific Review Team Comments**

Cannot adequately evaluate budget and adequacy of proposed roof and gate without some further detail and illustrations.

It would be helpful to know how the new gate would be better than the current one that has failed at keeping people out.

Sounds like some necessary improvements overall. Benefits to anglers indirectly from stocking of fish elsewhere.

Budget is very general (lumps gate and roof together)

Mower deck for tractor is fine; reasonable. Application should include some drawings of gate and roof proposals, in order to justify cost, applicability, security, etc.

Investigate and address the alternative funding questions and emphasize the priority of this proposal.

### **Specific Review Team Questions**

*Is there a way to just improve the current gate and potentially add a cellular trail camera to help keep people out?*

We have added signs, trail cameras and a very heavy duty chain and reinforced padlock to the current chain link gate, but those improvements still leave the gate vulnerable to being rammed down by a vehicle and/or having the lock or chain cut. A steel forestry style gate (see photo 3) would help reduce this vulnerability by decreasing accessibility to the lock while providing the strength needed to prevent a vehicle from busting through the gate. We intend to use the existing gate in conjunction with a new heavy duty forestry style gate installed in front of it. In addition to the physical security created, this should also provide sufficient visual impact, deterring would be thieves and making the site overall less appealing to attempted unauthorized access.

*Are there any bass clubs that benefit from stockings from the ponds that have been asked to help fund this project?*

We very recently partnered with the Oregon Bass and Panfish Club on a habitat improvement project at a commonly stocked area lake. They provided extensive in-kind support with many volunteer labor hours. Although we have a very positive relationship with this fishing organization, they do not currently have funds available to contribute for this project.

*Is there currently a security problem? Are you currently experiencing unauthorized use, or is the gate intended to prevent that from starting? Was the damage to the gate caused by illegal entry/vandalism or something else? Knowing this could help better understand the need and for consideration of design (i.e., will a new design be adequate?).*

Unfortunately, hatchery facilities and unstaffed properties managed by ODFW have recently been experiencing an increase in unauthorized access and theft which is a disturbing trend. Last

spring (2022) the St. Paul facility was broken into and robbed. Access was obtained by cutting the chain securing the gate. Another incident about 5 years ago involved the gate being rammed down by a vehicle (see photo 2). A high security logging gate could have prevented these incidents and will thwart future attempts. The current gate is inadequate and vulnerable to continued security breaches. It can be rammed down by a vehicle and or the chains cut through relatively easy. A more secure steel forestry style gate would better prevent vehicles from being able to drive through and/or cut though the locking mechanism.



## ***Additional Files***

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Budget Information

Maps

Photos

[Photo 1](#)

*Photo of existing gate*

[Photo 2](#)

*Photo of existing gate rammed down*

[Photo 3](#)

*Proposed steel gate design*

[Photo 4](#)

*Proposed steel gate dimensions*

[Photo 5](#)

*RC2060 mowing deck*

Design Information

Management Plans and Supporting Documents

[ODFW Strategic Plan](#)

*PDF of ODFW Strategic Plan*

Permits and Reviews

Partnerships

Public Comment

Administrative Documents

[Signed Signature Authorization Page](#)

*Signed Signature Authorization Page*

## ***Completion Report***

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### *Objectives and Accomplishments*

Measurable objectives:

- 1) Install a new high security gate at the facility entrance
- 2) Purchase and install a new mowing deck for use with the current tractor

Did you meet the objective? Yes

The new gate was installed on site and is working very well to prevent unauthorized entry. The mower deck was also purchased, and is helping to keep the blackberries and other vegetation cut back away from the ponds and the outbuildings.

### *Comments*

Purchasing the pre-fabricated gate saved funding for the project.

*Grantee agreed to forfeit all remaining funds.*