



R & E Grant Application

Project #:

Metolius Pond - Aerator

Project Information

Requested Cycle: 25-4
R&E Project Request: \$0
Other Funding: \$0
Total Project: \$0
Spending Start Date: 8/1/2026
Spending End Date: 8/30/2027
Project Start Date: 8/1/2026
Project End Date: 8/30/2027
Organization: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Applicant Information

Name: Jennifer Luke
Address: 61374 Parrell Road
Bend, OR 97702
Telephone: 541-388-6350 x225
Email: jennifer.a.luke@odfw.oregon.gov

Past Recommended or Completed Projects

Number	Name	Status
17-016	Youth Angling and Acclimation Pond Phase 2	Approved

Authorized Agent

Name: Gerald George
Address: 61374 Parrell Rd.
Bend, OR 97702
Telephone: 541-388-6049
Email: Gerald.J.George@ODFW.Oregon.Gov

Location Information

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.

Metolius Pond, Old Fish Hatchery Rd, Camp Sherman, OR

Directions to the site from the nearest highway junction.

From Sisters drive approx. 9 miles NW on US-20/OR 126 and Turn Right (look for the Camp Sherman / Metolius River Recreation Area sign)

- Veer Left at fork and head to Camp Sherman (2.5 mi) on USFS 1420
- Turn Right onto Old Fish Hatchery Lane, go to end road
- Look for ODFW Metolius Pond Sign, stay left and park in gravel parking lot (next to RV/host site). Walk short distance to pond.

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

Full 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.

The 15 acre property is owned by the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife. It has been open to the public for fishing since 2016.

Dominant Land Use Type:

Forest
Wetland
Rural residential

Project Location

General Project Location.

County: Jefferson
Town/City: Camp Sherman
ODFW Dist: Upper Deschutes
Stream/Lake/Estuary Name: Metolius Pond
Sub-basin: Metolius River
Tributary of: Upper Deschutes River

Specific Project Location.

Latitude	Longitude
121.3872	44.2740

Project Summary

Project Summary

Please provide a couple sentence summary of the proposal.

n 2016, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, with R&E funding support, converted a former hatchery into a youth fishing pond. The pond is heavily used by families and school groups. We are requesting an aerator to improve water quality, reduce algae growth, and maintain a healthy fishing environment.

Overall Project Goals

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

The Metolius Pond provides accessible fishing opportunities for youth and disabled anglers. Increasing weed and algae growth has reduced fishing quality despite non-toxic treatments and manual removal efforts. Installing an aerator may improve water quality by increasing oxygen levels, reducing algae growth, and creating a healthier, more sustainable fishing environment.

Primary objectives of R&E funding

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

R&E funds will be used to purchase and install a solar-powered aerator at Metolius Pond by 2027. The aerator will improve water quality, reduce algae growth, and enhance fishing access and experience for youth and disabled anglers using the pond.

Current Situation/Justification

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

Metolius Pond was developed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to provide an easily accessible fishing opportunity for youth and disabled anglers. The site includes a fishing pond, parking area, RV host site, and restroom facilities, and it is regularly used by families, school groups, and community programs.

In recent years, excessive weed and algae growth have negatively impacted water quality and reduced fishing access and enjoyment. ODFW and volunteers have attempted several non-toxic management methods, including pond dye applications, beneficial bacteria treatments, and manual weed and algae removal. While these efforts have provided temporary relief, they have not solved the long-term problem.

Funding is needed to purchase and install a solar-powered aerator to improve water circulation and oxygen levels within the pond. Increased oxygen supports beneficial bacteria that consume excess nutrients and helps bind phosphorus to sediments, making nutrients less available for algae growth. The aerator will help create a healthier aquatic environment, improve fishing conditions, reduce maintenance needs, and ensure the pond remains a sustainable and enjoyable resource for youth and disabled anglers.

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.

Metolius Pond provides an important, easily accessible fishing opportunity for youth, families, school groups, and disabled anglers. The pond is regularly used for recreational fishing, educational programs, and youth angling events, helping introduce new anglers to fishing in a

safe and accessible environment.

Excessive algae and weed growth have reduced water quality, limited shoreline access, and negatively affected the overall fishing experience. Installing a solar-powered aerator will improve water circulation and oxygen levels, helping reduce algae growth and maintain healthier pond conditions for fish and anglers.

Improved water quality will increase the usability of the pond throughout the fishing season and help sustain recreational fishing opportunities for the public. The project will also reduce ongoing maintenance efforts currently required to manually remove weeds and algae. Based on current use and public feedback, the aerator is expected to improve angler satisfaction, increase participation in youth and family fishing activities, and support ODFW's long-term fisheries management and angler recruitment goals.

Percent benefit split between Commercial and Recreational anglers:

0 % Commercial

100 % Recreational

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

This project will provide direct benefits to recreational anglers by improving water quality, fishing access, and the overall angling experience at Metolius Pond. The pond is managed specifically for youth, families, school groups, and disabled anglers and does not support commercial fishing activities. Therefore, the project benefits are considered 100% recreational and 0% commercial.

This project has been identified as an ODFW priority for:

Local/watershed

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

Unknown

Yes. This project supports ODFW's goals of providing accessible recreational fishing opportunities, recruiting and retaining anglers, and maintaining healthy aquatic habitats. Improving water quality at Metolius Pond will enhance fishing access and long-term sustainability for youth, families, school groups, and disabled anglers.

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

This project supports ODFW's goals of providing accessible recreational fishing opportunities, recruiting and retaining anglers, and maintaining healthy aquatic habitats. Improving water quality at Metolius Pond will enhance fishing access and long-term sustainability for youth, families, school groups, and disabled anglers.

Identify any plan or other document that identifies this priority.

25 year strategic plan

Is this project part of an approved Salmon-Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) activity?

Yes

Yes. The construction of Metolius Pond was approved by the Salmon-Trout Enhancement Advisory Committee in 2014. Currently, STEP biologist Jen Luke oversees the pond and works with local fishing clubs that utilize the pond and property for youth fishing clinics and educational angling activities.

This project is intended to benefit the following species:

Rainbow Trout

This project will benefit anglers or fishery by providing:

- Angling Opportunity
- Education/Outreach

Angling Opportunity

This project will:

Improve the opportunity for anglers to catch fish (better stocked fish, trapping)

Education/Outreach

This project will:

Teach the public about fishing basics, fishing gear, fishing techniques, and/or fishing etiquette

The main focus of this project is to:

Support established education program

Is this education/outreach associated with ODFW efforts?

Yes

STEP

Angler education

ODFW facility

This education/outreach effort will target:

Youth (< 18 years old)

Families (Youth and Adult family members/mentors)

New anglers

Current anglers

Underserved populations

School groups

Number of people targeted by this proposal:

1000

Estimate the average amount of time that each attendee will participate in the proposed effort.

6

Explain the duration/frequency of the proposed outreach effort.

Will the developed materials be available for use by other organizations or the public(i.e curriculum, teaching techniques, educational strategies, materials)?

No

Project Description

Schedule

Activity	Date	RE Funding
		No

Permits

Permit	Secured?	Date Expected

	No	
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Project Design and Description

Please describe in detail the methods or approach that will be used to achieve the project objectives.

Engineering

Does the project involve capital improvement, engineering, site grading or other construction?

No

Project Management and Maintenance

What is the life expectancy of R&E funded construction, structures, equipment, supplies, data or fishery?

Who is responsible for long term management, maintenance, and oversight of the project beyond what is funded by R&E.

Will the project require ongoing maintenance?

No

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

No

Project Funding

Funding

Have you applied for OWEB funding for this project?

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

Other Funding Source	Type	Secured	Dollar Value	Comments
		Total	0	

Budget

Item	Unit Number	Unit Cost	In-kind or non-cash contributions	Funding from other sources	R&E Funds	Total Costs
PROJECT MANAGEMENT						
		SUBTOTAL				
IN-HOUSE PERSONNEL						
		SUBTOTAL				
CONTRACTED SERVICES						
		SUBTOTAL				
TRAVEL						
		SUBTOTAL				
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS						
		SUBTOTAL				
EDUCATION/OUTREACH						
		SUBTOTAL				
EQUIPMENT						
		SUBTOTAL				
FISCAL ADMINISTRATION						
		SUBTOTAL				
		BUDGET TOTAL	0	0	0	0

Additional Files

Budget Information

Maps

Photos

Design Information

Management Plans and Supporting Documents

Permits and Reviews

Partnerships

Public Comment

Administrative Documents

Completion Report

A completion report has not been submitted for this project.