



R & E Grant Application 13-15 Biennium

Project #:
13-013

Beck-Kiwanis Pond Warmwater Fishery Rehabilitation

Project Information

R&E Project Request: \$20,044.31
Match Funding: \$4,500.00
Total Project: \$24,544.31
Start Date: 7/1/2013
End Date: 6/15/2015
Project Email: raymond.a.perkins@state.or.us
Project Biennium: 13-15 Biennium
Organization: ODFW - Ontario Field Office

Applicant Information

Name: R Perkins
Address: 3814 Clark Blvd
Ontario, OR 97914
Telephone: 541-889-6975 x25
Fax: 541-889-8133
Email: raymond.a.perkins@odfw.oregon.gov

Past Recommended or Completed Projects

This applicant has no previous projects that match criteria.

Project Summary

This project is NOT part of ODFW's 25 Year Angling Plan.

Activity Type: Miscellaneous (Restoration)
Summary: Remove carp and re-establish the warm water fisheries that were present prior to the illegal introduction.
Objectives: Objective 1 would be to remove the carp. Objective 2 re-establish warmwater fish species and the fishery. Objective 3 Provide educational signs around the pond to explain the project, biological cost of invasive species, and the historical use of the pond.
Fishery Benefits: Prior to the illegal introduction the ponds supported populations of bluegill, largemouth bass, and channel catfish. ODFW manages the ponds under the basic yield option of the Warmwater Fish Plan. These ponds are located inside a city park inside the city limits of Ontario; they are the only 'urban' fisheries in the Malheur Fish District. Restoration of the warmwater fisheries would be popular with the angling youth of Ontario. The local

Boys and Girls Club of Ontario has expressed a desire to hold a youth angling event at this location.

Watershed Benefits: The pond has experienced a decline in productivity associated with the illegal introduction of carp. Prior to the introduction of carp, anglers could sight fish for bluegill especially during the summer spawning season. Now the large pond is constantly turbid with bottom sediments churned up by the carp. It is expected that after carp are removed from the pond water quality would return to pre-introduction conditions.

Current Situation: There are two ponds totaling about 10 surface acres. The ponds are located within Beck-Kiwanis Park, which is located inside the city limits of Ontario. The department acquired the two ponds in the late 1970s. The City of Ontario acquired land on three sides (east, west, and south) of the ponds to for a city park.

The water source for the ponds is 99 percent groundwater. There is a small amount of surface runoff from the parks sprinkler system. There is no surface water inflow or outflow.

Historically the ponds supported populations of largemouth bass, bluegills, and channel catfish. The ponds do not support trout because the water warms quickly in the spring and soon exceeds trout capabilities. The fishery was popular with the youth of the area, as well as, a few adults that would angle for the bluegills. In the early 2000's carp were illegally introduced into the ponds. Since the illegal introduction the abundance of largemouth bass, bluegill and channel catfish have declined to the point that they no longer support a fishery. Inventory in 2010 and 2011 indicates that there might only be a few pairs of adult bass and bluegill left in the ponds.

There has been a noticeable change in water quality as well. Prior to the illegal introduction of carp the ponds were relatively clear with abundant amounts of filamentous algae. Post carp introduction the turbidity in the ponds has increased and the filamentous algae has declined.

The pond supports many kinds of wildlife. Currently it supports about 35 domestic white geese and about a dozen domestic ducks. These are very popular with schools and the retired community, as many will come out on a year round basis and feed them. During the spring, summer, and fall the bull rushes around the perimeter support vociferous populations of blackbirds. About a dozen of coots also inhabit the ponds. An occasional muskrat has been seen swimming in the pond as well.

The popularity of domestic geese and ducks will require protecting them from the treatment project. Several alternatives might be available. We could capture and remove the domestic waterfowl. We could then release the domestic waterfowl into the Snake River, but wildlife managers in this area do not support this alternative. Since these birds are domestic, the owner (City of Ontario) could allow other persons to come in and remove the animals. The City of Ontario has already tried this to reduce the numbers and few if any were removed. We could look for a private landowner with a pond that would allow us to capture and move them to

their pond. The most likely resolution is to build pens on site, bait the birds into the pens lock them up until the treatment project is completed and then release them back to the ponds.

This project proposes to apply liquid rotenone to remove all fish from the ponds. After successful removal of carp from the ponds, the ponds will be restocked with largemouth bass, bluegill, and channel catfish to re-establish the fishery. With the removal of the carp from the ponds, the water quality should also be expected to improve.

Alternatives:**Alternative 1**

Mechanical removal revolves around the use of nets and/or electrofishing to remove as many undesirable fish as possible. These methods do not usually result in eradication of the undesirable fish. We would have to repeat the mechanical removals periodically into the future. Mechanical removal methods are labor and cost intensive. Another complicating factor is much of the perimeter of these ponds supports robust patches of bull rush, in places several feet deep. Mechanical remove cannot remove fish from these patches.

I also have concerns with setting unattended nets for long periods (overnight) in an urban setting. Numerous pets run lose during the day and are expected to run lose at night as well. On long hot summer days, children will use the ponds to cool-off.

Alternative 2

Draining both ponds would be very difficult. The ponds are located within an urban environment with no outlet. The main water source is ground water. Pumping would have to be constant and water would have to be pumped long distances even to get water to a city drain.

Designer: Malheur Watershed District

Methods: July 2013 -- survey pond
August 2013 -- purchase project supplies
October 2013 -- just prior to treatment pen as many domestic geese and ducks as possible
October 2013 -- chemically treat pond
May/June 2014 -- survey pond post-treatment
May/Jun 2014 -- release bass and bluegill and catfish into pond
Oct/Nov 2014 -- release of bass and bluegill into pond

Inspector: Malheur Watershed District

Funding Elements: Purchase of Rotenone
Purchase of fencing to keep domestic geese out of the pond during treatemnt
Purchase bass and bluegill for release into the pond

Partners: Yes

City of Ontario, help with public notification

Existing Plan: No

Affected Contacted: Yes

Affected Supportive: Yes

Affected Comments: This pond is part of the City of Ontario city park, Beck-Kiwanis City Park. Preliminary talks with the recreation department of the City of Ontario have been positive. ODFW will sign the park providing information to public about the project. Over the spring and summer the district may be asked to give a presentation to City of Ontario city council. If neccessary the district may hold a public meeting to get project inforamtion out to the public.

Project Schedule/Participants/Funding

This project has no Schedule/Participants/Funding.

Affected Species: Warmwater

Project Permits

Name	Issued By	Secured?	Date Secured	Date Expected
Statewide NPDES	Oregon DEQ	No	1/1/0001	1/1/0001

Project Monitoring

This project has no monitoring.

Project Maintenance

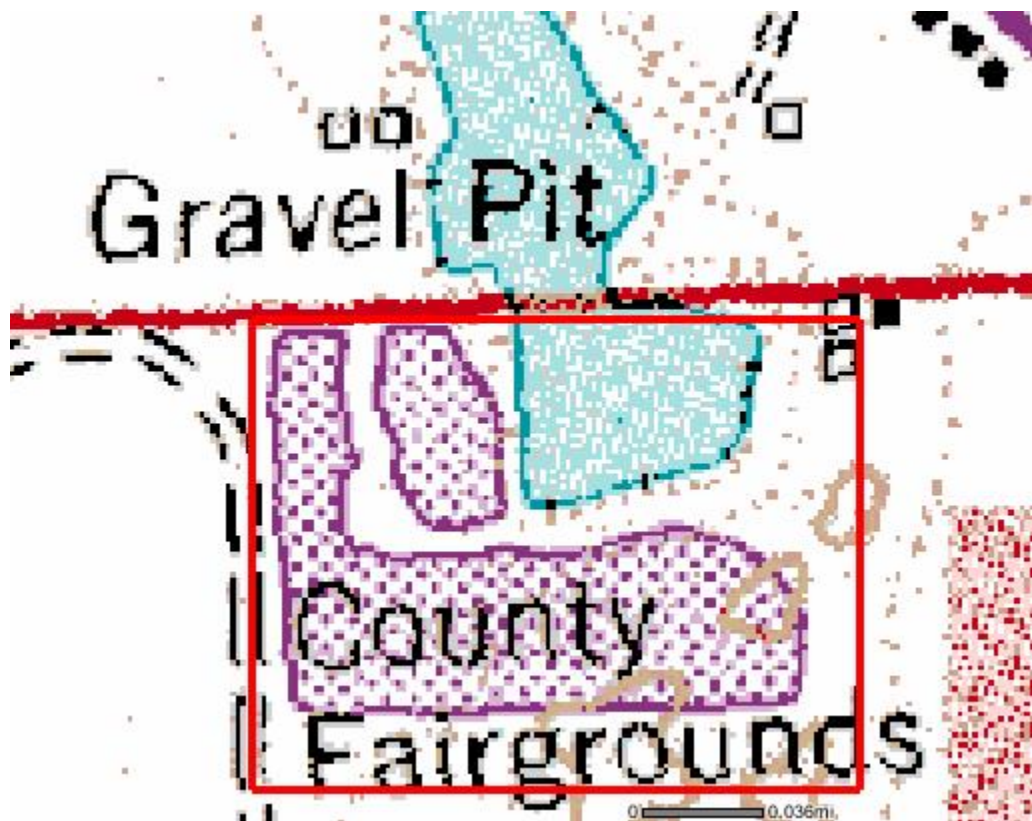
This project has no maintenance plans.

Project Match Funding

Funding Source	Cash	In-Kind	Other	Description	Total	Secured?	Conditions?	Comments
R&E Request	\$20,044.31	\$0.00	\$0.00		\$20,044.31	No	No	
ODFW inkind	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$0.00		\$4,500.00	No	No	ODFW inkind
				Total Match Funding:	\$24,544.31			

Project Budget

Item	Item Type	Units	Unit Cost	R&E Funds	Match Funds	Total
ODFW inkind	Personnel	150	\$30.00	\$0.00	\$4,500.00	\$4,500.00
Liquid Rotenone	Supplies/Materials /Services	110	\$72.73	\$8,000.30	\$0.00	\$8,000.30
Pond Fencing	Supplies/Materials /Services	1	\$7,100.00	\$7,100.00	\$0.00	\$7,100.00
Safty Supplies	Supplies/Materials /Services	3	\$166.67	\$500.01	\$0.00	\$500.01
waterfowl net pen	Supplies/Materials /Services	2	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
Per diem	Travel	28	\$123.00	\$3,444.00	\$0.00	\$3,444.00
					Total Budget:	\$24,544.31



Additional Files

Click a link to view that particular file.

[Beck-Kiwanis Pd Treatment Authorization Pg 2-5-13](#)

[City of Ontario letter of support 02052013](#)

[steifvater letter of support 01102013](#)