



R & E Grant Application 17-19 Biennium

Project #: 17-069

South Fork Smith/Halfway Cr. Instream Restoration

Project Information

Requested Cycle: 17-7
R&E Project Request: \$32,000
Other Funding: \$714,265
Total Project: \$746,265
Spending Start Date: 2/1/2019
Spending End Date: 6/30/2019
Project Start Date: 2/1/2019
Project End Date: 11/1/2020
Organization: Smith River Watershed Council (Tax ID #: 82-0539434)

Applicant Information

Name: Colin Meister
Address: PO Box #114
Reedsport, OR 97467
Telephone: 541-271-2223
Email: meister.smithriver@gmail.com

Past Recommended or Completed Projects

This applicant has no previous projects that match criteria.

Authorized Agent

Name: Brian Jenkins
Address: PO Box #114
Reedsport, OR 97467
Telephone: 541-271-2223
Telephone 2: 541-294-6843
Email: jenkins.smithriver@gmail.com

Location Information

Where is it?

The project will occur on public land owned or managed by another party

Landowner Information

Name: Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District
Address: 1300 Airport Lane
North Bend, Oregon, 97459
Phone: 5417560100
Fax: 5417514303
Email: BLM_OR_CB_Mail@blm.gov

Site Description

Street Address, nearest intersection, or other descriptive location.

The project area is located in the upper Smith River, 10 miles to the north of Elkton, Oregon and 15 miles west of Springfield, Oregon.

Directions to the site from the nearest highway junction.

Heading west from Elkton, Oregon on highway 38, turn right onto Paradise Creek Rd. Turn right at turn around mile 3, taking the next right turn 1 mile later. Stay right for 0.5 miles to Halfway Creek Rd.

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

Limited 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.

All site locations are on BLM lands and will be accessible to anglers year round, outside of extreme fire danger. Most sites have road access.

Dominant Land Use Type:

Forest

Project Location

General Project Location.

County: Douglas
Town/City: Elkton
ODFW Dist: Umpqua
Stream/Lake/Estuary Name: South Smith River
Sub-basin: Big Creek
Tributary of: Smith River

Specific Project Location.

Latitude

Longitude

Project Summary

Project Summary

Please provide a couple sentence summary of the proposal.

This project seeks to improve instream habitat conditions degraded by past land use practices. SRWC, ODFW and two BLM Districts have worked collaboratively to design log and boulder structures to slow water velocities, increase sediment deposition, trap large wood and contribute to recovery of aquatic populations.

Overall Project Goals

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

This project aims to provide an increased trajectory for the restoration of ecological processes historically present in this system but now degraded by past human use practices.

The addition of large wood will slow water velocities and trap substrates, increasing complex habitat and improving water quality through increased sub-surface flow.

The desired results include an increase in aquatic productivity, population stability, and habitat resiliency.

Primary objectives of R&E funding

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

Treat simplified aquatic habitats in South Fork Smith River and Halfway Creek by placing 1127 logs and 2440 boulders across 8.5 miles of stream.

Increase substrate deposition

Increase depth of substrate beds

Decrease peak summer water temperatures through increased sub-surface flow

Increase habitat complexity

Increase quality/quantity of summer rearing habitat

Increase quality/quantity of winter refuge/rearing habitat

Increase habitat productivity

Decrease percentage of bedrock substrate through deposition

Decrease width to depth ratio

Contribute to the recovery of ESA listed Oregon Coastal Coho Salmon

Provide fine sand deposits to increase lamprey rearing habitat

Current Situation/Justification

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

This project seeks to restore a variety of ecological processes limited by current conditions.

Historical and more recent land use practices have greatly impacted the natural function of these streams. This project seeks maximize ecological uplift by providing a trajectory for the rehabilitating stream processes. It is important to remember that our coastal streams have been engineered to transport old growth timber from their headwaters down to their estuaries where the timber could be processed. Natural rehabilitation of these systems would take 100's of years at a minimum due to the high degree of human alteration. These impacts have led to bedrock dominant systems lacking substrates, high peak summer temperatures due to decreased sub-surface flow, a lack of large wood recruitment, and a limited production of anadromous trout, salmon, lamprey, and other aquatic species. Current anadromous production is reduced for all species present in the South Fork Smith River and Halfway Creek. Funding will be used to mitigate these issues, increasing anadromous species production and improving overall habitat and stream function in these systems. Without instream restoration, these systems would take 100s of years to recover.

Recreation and Commercial Benefit

This project will provide benefits to:

- Recreational fisheries
- Commercial fisheries

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

Current anadromous production is reduced for all species present in the South Fork Smith River and Halfway Creek. Fall Chinook salmon production is currently limited by lack of spawning gravels and complex food producing habitats. Increasing available spawning habitat through the deposition of spawning gravels and providing more productive rearing habitat through structure complexity and floodplain connectivity can contribute to increased recruitment. Low over winter survival is currently the greatest limiting factor for Coho and Steelhead production in much of coastal Oregon according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Simplified habitats and lack of floodplain connectivity have greatly reduced the availability of winter refuge and slow water habitats available to salmonids during high winter flow events. Summer rearing of Coho and Steelhead is currently limited by the lack of large complex pools. Many of these reaches lack of suitable substrates for spawning, juvenile rearing, macro-invertebrate production, channel complexity and thermal mitigation. By mitigating these issues essential to anadromous salmonid recruitment, commercial and recreational fisheries will be supplemented by greater stocks.

Percent benefit split between Commercial and Recreational anglers:

- 50 % Commercial
- 50 % Recreational

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

Determination of proportional benefit between commercial and recreational fisher's remains equal as an increase in anadromous salmonid populations benefit both fisheries equally. Anadromy of salmonids between their natal streams and the Pacific Ocean supplements both fisheries and provides ample opportunity for recreational and commercial fishers alike.

This project has been identified as an ODFW priority for:

- Local/watershed
- Basin/regional
- Statewide

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

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

Identify any plan or other document that identifies this priority.

Oregon Coho Recovery Plan (2007)

ODFW's Coastal Multispecies Conservation and Management Plan (2014)

Smith River Watershed Council Action Plan (2016)

BLM Western Oregon Aquatic Restoration Strategy (2015)

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

No

This project is intended to benefit the following species:

Fall Chinook Salmon

Coho Salmon

Lamprey

Winter Steelhead

Cutthroat Trout

Rainbow Trout

This project will benefit anglers or fishery by providing:

Angling Opportunity

Habitat Enhancements

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

Habitat Enhancements

The primary purpose of this project is to improve/increase:

In water structure, complexity, and habitat

Flow and/or connectivity

Water quality

Project Description

Schedule

Activity	Date	RE Funding
Pre-Project Monitoring	2/2019	No

Permit Aquisition	8/2018	No
Material Acquisition and Staging	2/2019	Yes
Bid Solicitation	2/2019	No
Contracting	4/2019	No
Instream Placements	7/2019	No
Project Inspection	10/2019	No
Post-Project Monitoring	11/2020	No

Permits

Permit	Secured?	Date Expected
NEPA	Yes	
DSL/ACOE Fill/Removal permitted through BLM Programmatic ARBO II	Yes	
OR DEQ 401 Water Quality Certification permitted through BLM Programmatic	Yes	
Land Use Permit - Douglas County Planning Department	No	2/1/2019

Project Design and Description

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

SRWC, ODFW and two BLM Districts have worked collaboratively to design log and boulder structures to slow water velocities, increase sediment deposition, trap large wood and contribute to recovery of aquatic populations. We will use logs and boulders of length and size based on standards within the ODFW Guide to Placement of Wood, Boulders and Gravel for Habitat Restoration (2010) and the Aquatic Restoration Biological Opinion (ARBO II- 2013). Boulders will be used at some sites to ballast logs to reduce the risk of structural failure during peak winter flows. Standing riparian trees and natural pinch points will be used to further anchor materials in place. Structures are designed to simulate deposits from natural debris flows. Structures are expected to move or shift slightly during high flows but not leave the system.

Large wood:

Number of structures: 18

Average number of logs per structure: 8

Average length of logs per structure (feet): 40

Average diameter of logs per structure (feet): 2.5

Combination log/boulder:

Number of structures: 101

Average number of logs per structure: 10

Average length of logs per structure (feet): 45

Average diameter of logs per structure (feet): 2.5

Average number of boulders per structure: 20

Average size of boulders per structure (cubic feet): 33.75

Average measurement of boulders per structure (feet): 675

Average Boulder size is 1-1.5 cubic yards.

For an average boulder of 1.25 cubic yards:

1.25 x 27 cubic feet per cubic yard = 33.75 cubic feet

33.75 cubic feet x 20 boulders = 675 cubic feet per structure

or 25 cubic yards

Log only structures placed previously by the BLM in both creeks have shown a high degree of mobility. Boulders will be used to ballast logs in the high energy mainstem reaches.

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?

Benefits will accrue over-time. These sites will collect smaller woody debris and substrates. During high water events these structures can trap debris and aggrade the stream-bed. Increased deposition of substrates and more complex habitat can form around these structures. Ideally, the impacts of these sites will provide benefit for generations.

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

All long-term site maintenance and oversight will be conducted by Smith River Watershed Council. Monitoring of the project area over consecutive years will determine if site structures require alterations or material additions. Site monitoring post high energy events will assist in determining the longevity of placements and their ability to trap debris. If further site maintenance is warranted, payment for repairs and additional structures will come through the form of additional grants.

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?
Yes
OWEB application number: 218-2027
R&E money is needed as matching funds.

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

[{"source":"Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District","type":"In-Kind","secured":"Secured","dollarValue":123900,"comments":"BLM trees donated for instream placement"}, {"source":"Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District","type":"In-Kind","secured":"Secured","dollarValue":11000,"comments":"Alders cut for excavator corridors will be cut and placed instream"}, {"source":"Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District","type":"In-Kind","secured":"Secured","dollarValue":7000,"comments":"BLM Biologist Staff Time"}, {"source":"Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District","type":"In-Kind","secured":"Secured","dollarValue":1605,"comments":"BLM mileage (20 trips @ 150 mi x \$0.535)"}, {"source":"Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District","type":"Cash","secured":"Secured","dollarValue":50000,"comments":"Cash contribution from Fisheries Department"}, {"source":"Douglas County Timber Operators, Umpqua Fish

Enhancement Derby", "type": "Cash", "secured": "Pending", "dollarValue": 5190, "comments": "Grant funds will be pursued in 2019"}, {"source": "Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife", "type": "In-Kind", "secured": "Secured", "dollarValue": 12000, "comments": "30 days of project management"}, {"source": "Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife", "type": "In-Kind", "secured": "Secured", "dollarValue": 1926, "comments": "ODFW Mileage: 16 trips at approximately 100 miles each"}, {"source": "Resource Advisory Committee - Southwest Oregon", "type": "Cash", "secured": "Secured", "dollarValue": 20000, "comments": "\$20,000 Approved for 2015 cycle"}, {"source": "Bureau of Land Management - Roseburg District", "type": "In-Kind", "secured": "Pending", "dollarValue": 14000, "comments": "40 trees 24-36\" dbh @ \$350 per tree"}, {"source": "Bureau of Land Management - Roseburg District", "type": "In-Kind", "secured": "Pending", "dollarValue": 12800, "comments": "Alders in access corridors"}, {"source": "Bureau of Land Management - Roseburg District", "type": "In-Kind", "secured": "Pending", "dollarValue": 1284, "comments": "Mileage"}, {"source": "Bureau of Land Management - Roseburg District", "type": "In-Kind", "secured": "Pending", "dollarValue": 7000, "comments": "Staff Time"}, {"source": "Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board", "type": "Cash", "secured": "Secured", "dollarValue": 478560, "comments": "Secured grant from 2018 cycle"}]

Other Funding Source	Type	Secured	Dollar Value	Comments
Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District	In-Kind	Secured	123900	BLM trees donated for instream placement
Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District	In-Kind	Secured	11000	Alders cut for excavator corridors will be cut and placed instream
Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District	In-Kind	Secured	7000	BLM Biologist Staff Time
Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District	In-Kind	Secured	1605	BLM mileage (20 trips @ 150 mi x \$0.535)
Bureau of Land Management - Coos Bay District	Cash	Secured	50000	Cash contribution from Fisheries Department
Douglas County Timber Operators, Umpqua Fish Enhancement Derby	Cash	Pending	5190	Grant funds will be pursued in 2019
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	In-Kind	Secured	12000	30 days of project management
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	In-Kind	Secured	1926	ODFW Mileage: 16 trips at approximately 100 miles each
Resource Advisory Committee - Southwest Oregon	Cash	Secured	20000	\$20,000 Approved for 2015 cycle
Bureau of Land Management - Roseburg District	In-Kind	Pending	14000	40 trees 24-36\" dbh @ \$350 per tree
Bureau of Land Management - Roseburg District	In-Kind	Pending	12800	Alders in access corridors
Bureau of Land Management - Roseburg District	In-Kind	Pending	1284	Mileage
Bureau of Land Management - Roseburg District	In-Kind	Pending	7000	Staff Time
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	Cash	Secured	478560	Secured grant from 2018 cycle
		Total	746265	

Budget

Item	Unit Number	Unit Cost	In-kind or non-cash contributions	Funding from other sources	R&E Funds	Total Costs
PROJECT MANAGEMENT						
Executive Director Brian Jenkins	600	30.00	0	18000	0	18000
		SUBTOTAL	0	18000	0	18000
IN-HOUSE PERSONNEL						
			0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTED SERVICES						
Excavator Mobilization	1	3000.00	0	3000	0	3000
Excavator Site Placement	119	1000.00	0	87000	0	87000
Felling, Bucking and Decking of donated and purchased Trees	757	60.00	0	45420	0	45420
Hauling and staging of logs	1127	50.00	0	56350	0	56350
Boulder Hauling and Staging	2440	35.00	0	53400	32000	85400
Coos District BLM Fisheries Biologist	20	350.00	7000	0	0	7000
ODFW Habitat Biologist	300	40.00	12000	0	0	12000
Roseburg District BLM Fisheries Biologist	20	350.00	7000	0	0	7000
		SUBTOTAL	26000	245170	32000	303170
TRAVEL						
Roseburg District BLM Mileage	2400	0.54	1284	0	0	1284
Coos District BLM Mileage	3000	0.54	1605	0	0	1605
SRWC Mileage (80 miles per day, 60 days)	4800	0.54	0	2568	0	2568
ODFW Mileage	3600	0.54	1926	0	0	1926
		SUBTOTAL	4815	2568	0	7383
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS						
Coos District BLM Donated Trees (24-36" dbh) 2 40' or one 50' log each	354	350.00	123900	0	0	123900
Roseburg District BLM Donated Trees (24-36" dbh) 2 40' logs or one 50' log each	40	350.00	14000	0	0	14000
Purchase Trees (24-36" dbh) 2 40' logs or one 50' log each	363	350.00	0	127050	0	127050
Boulders 1.0 to 1.5 Cubic yards	2440	35.00	0	85400	0	85400
Alders in access corridors Coos District BLM	110	100.00	11000	0	0	11000
Alders in access corridors Roseburg District BLM	128	100.00	12800	0	0	12800
County land use permit	1	165.00	0	165	0	165
		SUBTOTAL	161700	212615	0	374315
EDUCATION/OUTREACH						
			0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT						
			0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
FISCAL ADMINISTRATION						
Indirect Costs	0	433963.00	0	43397	0	43397
		SUBTOTAL	0	43397	0	43397
		BUDGET TOTAL	192515	521750	32000	746265

Internal Review Results

Review Score: 0.8 out of 3

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

Summary of Review Team Comments

The review team was not very supportive of this project as proposed. While it may have merit as a watershed restoration project, the application currently does not clearly demonstrate the need for the project, population benefits of the project, the priority of the project, or a strong connection to angler benefits. Without more information it would be hard to demonstrate this proposal is consistent with current program priorities. Scores included three 0s, five 1s, and one 2.

Specific Review Team Comments

While this may be a worthwhile restoration project it is likely not consistent with guidance from the RE board for projects that directly and tangibly benefit fish populations in a way that will benefit anglers. Applicant may want to discuss this guidance with the RE Coordinator, then clearly articulate the benefits in the application.

It does not appear there is a need for R&E funding. The total of the project budget is equal to the other funding table, without any contributions from R&E. It looks like this request is to provide additional funding to a fully funded project. If there was an error on the budget, the applicant needs to correct it and explain why R&E funds are necessary and what would happen if R&E were not to fund the request.

The application does not specify timing of the boulder hauling and staging, other than presumably in the grant work window. Should specify when this will occur, and also specify the source of the boulders. Are there any concerns with getting the material and getting it in before June 30, 2019?

it is understood that these projects are field fit but the minimal designs are vague. Will any of the proposed LWM and Boulder placements span the channel or be placed at an elevation that will check water up? Concern is that we do not want to implement sill log structures, and from the vague design plans, its difficult to determine if this is the case. If so, ODFW Fish Passage Program needs to evaluate the designs for fish passage.

R&E funds used for boulder hauling and staging. What guarantees do we have that the rock will ever make it in the water?

Does appear to be a well planned, large scale, habitat project that will provide some benefits for fish in that basin. However, the benefits of the project are overstated. This will not provide new opportunities or restore degraded fisheries, but will enhance habitat which can help improve fish populations.

Specific Review Team Questions

No plans to monitor the project? That doesn't match with other statements in the application. Why is there no discussion or funding allocated for post-treatment Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting? How will the project gage success without monitoring?

Post-treatment monitoring and reporting will be conducted for two years. Monitoring reports will be submitted yearly with photopoints and a write-up.

Additional Files

Budget Information

Maps

[Halfway Creek Map](#)

[South Fork Smith complete project map](#)

[Vicinity Map](#)

Photos

[Halfway Creek Photopoints 1-10](#)

Photopoints of sites 1-10 (Halfway Cr.)

[South Fork Smithf Photopoints 1-10](#)

Photopoints of sites 1-10 (South Fork Smith)

Design Information

[Halfway Cr. Design Drawings](#)

Designs for placements on Halfway Cr

[Project Material List](#)

Log and Boulder counts for all site

[South Fork Smith Design Drawings](#)

Designs for placements on BLM lands

[South Fork Smith Design Drawings Seneca Jones](#)

Designs for placements on Private Timber lands

Management Plans and Supporting Documents

Permits and Reviews

Partnerships

Public Comment

[BLM Letter of support](#)

Coos District BLM Letter of Support and Inkind Donations

[ODFW Letter of support](#)

Eric Himmelreich Project Management and support letter

Administrative Documents

[501c3 Verification](#)

IRS Letter

[Signature Page](#)

Completion Report

A completion report has not been submitted for this project.