



R & E Grant Application 21-23 Biennium

Project #: 21-006

Old McKenzie Hatchery Community Fishing Pond

Project Information

Requested Cycle: 21-1
R&E Project Request: \$19,054
Other Funding: \$20,140
Total Project: \$39,194
Spending Start Date: 6/1/2021
Spending End Date: 12/1/2021
Project Start Date: 6/1/2021
Project End Date: 3/1/2022
Organization: McKenzie River Discovery Center (Tax ID #: 93-1225796)

Fiscal Officer

Name: Wisteria Stuart
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Walterville, OR 97489
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Technical Contact

Name: Jeremy Romer
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Email: jeremy.d.romer@odfw.oregon.gov

Applicant Information

Name: Wisteria Stuart
Address: PO Box 506
Walterville, OR 97489
Telephone: 503-781-6219
Email: wisteria.stuart@mrdiscoverycenter.org

Past Recommended or Completed Projects

This applicant has no previous projects that match criteria.

Authorized Agent

Name: Jeff Ziller
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Authorized Agent

Name: Emma Garner
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Authorized Agent

Name: Jeremy Romer
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Email: jeremy.d.romer@odfw.oregon.gov

Location Information

Where is it?

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

Landowner Information

Name: Lane County
Affiliation: Partner in Project
Address: 3050 N Delta Hwy
Eugene, OR, 97408
Phone: (541) 682-2000

Site Description

Street Address, nearest intersection, or other descriptive location.

Old McKenzie Fish Hatchery County Park, Walterville, OR 97489, USA directly off of Hwy 126 (McKenzie Hwy) across the road from Leaburg Lake.

Directions to the site from the nearest highway junction.

From Springfield Oregon Follow Hwy 126 East for 24.3 miles just past Leaburg Dam and turn left into the parking lot of the Old McKenzie Hatchery.

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.

99 year lease from Lane County for K-12 environmental education (geology/hydrology), McKenzie Drift Boat Evolution museum (boats and guides) and fish stories (fishing/guides/hatchery history)

Dominant Land Use Type:

Forest

Project Location

General Project Location.

County: LANE
ODFW Dist: South Willamette
Sub-basin: 17090004

Specific Project Location.

Latitude	Longitude
44.14253	-122.60987

Project Summary

Project Summary

Please provide a couple sentence summary of the proposal.

The project will reclaim the Old McKenzie Hatchery rearing pond which has filled with sediment and vegetation. It will be cleaned and converted it to a community fishing pond where ODFW can hold angling and education/outreach events. ODFW has water rights and property is owned by Lane County.

Overall Project Goals

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

Provide increased angling and education/outreach opportunities for youth, the McKenzie community, underserved populations, and urban families by creating a safe place and controlled environment for anglers to catch stocked trout.

Utilize the facilities and amenities that already exist and reconnect ODFW to a portion of it's historical legacy in the basin. There is a park with picnic tables, water fountains and ADA accessibility. If weather is poor at an event attendees could peruse the museum and interpretive center

Build on educational information about aquatic ecology and history of fishing on the McKenzie that is already on location. 1)McKenzie Drift Boat evolution and fishing guides 2)K-12 education about the unique geology and hydrology of the basin 3)History of the old ODFW hatchery.

Capitalize on the momentum started by creation of the McKenzie Discovery Center and show our support for a community recently devastated by fire to help draw visitors to the community.

Primary objectives of R&E funding

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

Remove sediment and vegetation from the Old McKenzie Hatchery rearing pond to increase depth, re-work the sloping on the edges for safety and create a community fishing pond.

Screen the upstream intake in Hatchery Creek and replace delivery pipe for the pond that was damaged in the Holiday Farm Fire. ODFW already has water rights.

Install a standpipe at the outflow to allow draining of the pond if necessary and preventing stocked fish from escaping into Leaburg Lake during fishing events.

Repair or reinforce hand railing on wildlife viewing deck, gravel for ADA accessible path, and reinforce path in some places. Ensure safety and ADA accessibility.

Complete project to host angling and/or education/outreach events in June of 2022.

Placing permeable (gas/water) anti-vegetation mats on the bottom of the pond.

Current Situation/Justification

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

In 1907 the Oregon Fish Commission (now ODFW) opened the hatchery and raised salmon/trout until 1953, when it was replaced by the current Leaburg Hatchery. Because of unique architecture and importance to the McKenzie Valley, the Old McKenzie Fish Hatchery was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1996. The buildings on site were restored and in 2007 Lane County Parks endorsed a plan to expand the facilities to include a museum and an interpretive center. In 2020 the site was spared in the Holiday Farm Fire. We propose to reclaim the old rearing pond and turn it into a community fishing pond. There is currently no money available to complete the objectives listed in this proposal, and those

objectives require funding to bring the project to fruition.

This opportunity was presented to ODFW in Nov 2020 by the Discovery Center, therefore it does not appear on the ODFW community fishing prioritization list. This project is strongly supported by local district ODFW Fish Biologists who believe this is a low-cost, high reward project that will benefit the community and greatly strengthen the local STEP Program.

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.

This project will greatly strengthen our local STEP Program by providing a location to host additional angling and education/outreach events. The buildings provide shelter even when weather isn't conducive to outdoor activity. The site is managed by non-profit 501c3 McKenzie River Discovery Center (formerly Friends of the Old McKenzie Fish Hatchery) via a longterm lease with Lane County Parks who are the public land owners of the 46 acre park. The area is already ADA accessible with many amenities. A feasibility study was conducted for the McKenzie Discovery Center and it was estimated the site could draw 30-50 thousand visitors/yr. The initial goal was to make the Discovery Center an analog to the High Desert Museum in Central Oregon.

Percent benefit split between Commercial and Recreational anglers:

0 % Commercial

100 % Recreational

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

No real benefit to Commercial anglers.

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?

Yes

ODFW 2018 Strategic Plan - Goal#2 - Increase and diversify public use and enjoyment of Oregon's fish and wildlife resources. Goal #3 Expand support for fish, wildlife and their habitats. Fish Division R3 Program - Recruit, Retain and Reactivate. This project does all three.

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

2018 Strategic Plan was developed by a diverse team of ODFW employees from all parts of the state. The plan consists of goals, which are general targets, and objectives, which are specific, measurable, achievable, relevant and time-specific.

Identify any plan or other document that identifies this priority.

ODFW 2018 Strategic Plan - Goal#2 - Increase and diversify public use and enjoyment of Oregon's fish and wildlife resources. Goal #3 Expand support for fish, wildlife and their habitats.

Oregon Administrative Rule 635-500-0266 McKenzie Subbasin Fish Management
Rule 635-500-0120 Objectives of Trout Management -(3)Provide a diversity of trout angling opportunities: (5)Enhance the public awareness of Oregon's trout resources:

2016-2026 McKenzie River Sub-basin Strategic Action Plan for Aquatic and Riparian

Conservation and Restoration. Outcome 3: Enhanced public awareness, understanding and support for watershed conservation and restoration.

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

Yes

The ODFW District Fish Biologist, Jeff Ziller and both STEP Biologists, Emma Garner and Jeremy Romer are highly supportive and engaged in this project.

This project is intended to benefit the following species:

This project will benefit anglers or fishery by providing:

Education/Outreach

Education/Outreach

This project will:

Educate the public about angling opportunities and fisheries in Oregon

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

Teach the public about fish (ecology, life history) and/or fish habitat needs

Teach the public about watershed health and it's relation to the health of fish populations

The main focus of this project is to:

Provide increased angling and education/outreach opportunities for youth, the McKenzie community, underserved populations, and urban families by creating a safe place and controlled environment for anglers to catch stocked trout.

Is this education/outreach associated with ODFW efforts?

Yes

STEP

Angler education

Outdoor skills

This education/outreach effort will target:

Youth (< 18 years old)

Families (Youth and Adult family members/mentors)

New anglers

Underserved populations

School groups

Number of people targeted by this proposal:

100000

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

2

Explain the duration/frequency of the proposed outreach effort.

This community fishing pond will be used for many years subsequent to completion of the project. The location is near a large urban center with lots of traffic traveling Hwy 126. ODFW plans to host multiple events here annually. We also plan to train angler education instructors and other folks to host events at the site. The pond is very close to Leaburg Hatchery (0.5 miles) so stocking trout takes little effort. The main parking lot can accommodate 50 vehicles and the pond size is appropriate for large (youth fishing day) or small (individual class) gatherings. Even if attendees tire of fishing or weather is poor it is likely they will peruse the museum and

interpretive center.

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
Screen intake and repair/install pipe for inflow into community fishing pond	August, 2021	Yes
Construct and repair standpipe and outflow outlets for draining pond	August, 2021	Yes
Remove sediment from old rearing pond - pond must be completely dry to start, weather dependent. Late July or August. *KEY TASK	July, 2021	Yes
Repair and improve ADA path and fishing platform and access trail to pond perimeter.	July, 2021	Yes
Hold first community fishing event	June 2022	No
Placing permeable (gas/water) anti-vegetation mats on the bottom of the pond.	September 2021	Yes

Permits

Permit	Secured?	Date Expected
DSL/USACE request for wetland determination - may be non jurisdictional ie.exempt. Already submitted	No	Feb 2021
SHPO - don't need because site was assessed during National Registry for Historic Places process. see attachments.	No	N/A
DEQ - no need for abatement pond for fish events because we aren't holding them there long term. Put and take fishery.	No	N/A
99 year lease for property	Yes	March 2020

Project Design and Description

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

Sediment will be removed in the summer when the pond is completely dry using backhoe, small dozer and dump truck. At this time the outflow boxes/stand pipe will be repaired and the new screen and intake will be installed (all 6" piping).ODFW screen shop in The Dalles provided information for screening system. We have quotes for intake and inflow plumbing installation, cement repair and standpipe outflow, sediment removal, ADA trail maintenance/fishing platform minor repairs, We have already contacted sub-contractors to complete work. The pond mats are gas/water permeable, hydrolytic material on frames, easily installed and similar to those used at Sunnyside Pond (South Santiam Basin).

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?

Lease is signed for 99 yrs and project lifespan is expected to be comparable. After initial reclamation of the pond, the intake screen and outflow would need cleaned on occasion.

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

The Old McKenzie Hatchery/McKenzie Discovery Center has an on-site caretaker, paid maintenance employee, and established group of community members committed to long-term

restoration and success of this property (Friends of the Old McKenzie Hatchery). Lane county also sends crews to clean up on occasion. This is a large, collective community project, and ODFW STEP Program and the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network have the ability recruit and organize volunteers. ODFW will organize and host annual fishing events at the pond along with education and outreach events. Leaburg Hatchery is half mile away so getting fish on short notice is easy. This is a GREAT opportunity to participate in a larger community project.

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?

Not necessary

Project Funding

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
Donation - Bob Peek and family - 200 hrs of labor \$25/hr	Other	Secured	5000	Remove vegetation surrounding pond, lay pipe and remove hazard trees after Holiday Farm Fire.
McKenzie River Discovery Center - commitment letter	In-Kind	Secured	8600	Administrative oversight on location, volunteer hours, office supplies
ODFW Contribution	In-Kind	Secured	3540	Jeff, Jeremy, Emma 88.5/hr x 40 hours
Upper Willamette Stewardship Network - volunteer commitment	Other	Pending	3000	120 hrs labor \$25/hr, work crew two wednesdays in summer
		Total	20140	

Budget

Item	Unit Number	Unit Cost	In-kind or non-cash contributions	Funding from other sources	R&E Funds	Total Costs
PROJECT MANAGEMENT						
Wisteria Stuart - McKenzie River Discovery Center	0	0.00	3500	0	0	3500
		SUBTOTAL	3500	0	0	3500
IN-HOUSE PERSONNEL						
ODFW Jeff Ziller, Jeremy Romer, Emma Garner	40	88.50	3540	0	0	3540
		SUBTOTAL	3540	0	0	3540
CONTRACTED SERVICES						
Sediment Removal From Pond - whole job	0	0.00	0	0	9000	9000
L500 Pump Rite Screen and adapter kit	1	2180.00	0	0	2180	2180
Bob Peek and Family Site prep - 200 hrs tot	200	25.00	5000	0	0	5000
McKenzie River Discovery Center - 10 people, 18 hr ea	180	25.00	4500	0	0	4500
Upper Willamette Stewardship Network - 10-15 people	120	25.00	3000	0	0	3000
		SUBTOTAL	12500	0	11180	23680
TRAVEL						
			0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS						
LakeMat Pro - XL Pond Mats (12'x24')	8	359.00	0	0	2872	2872
HD Fowler - 6 inch pipe and valves for inflow	0	0.00	0	0	4537	4537
4x4's for ADA access/trail - Jerry's	10	14.98	0	0	150	150
McKenzie River Discovery Center - Office supplies	0	0.00	600	0	0	600
Gravel for ADA access/trail - Riverbend - Delivered	15	0.00	0	0	315	315
		SUBTOTAL	600	0	7874	8474
EDUCATION/OUTREACH						
			0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT						
			0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
FISCAL ADMINISTRATION						
			0	0	0	0
		SUBTOTAL	0	0	0	0
		BUDGET TOTAL	20140	0	19054	39194

Internal Review Results

Review Score: 1.3 out of 3

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

Summary of Review Team Comments

While the review team is supportive of this community fishing development project, the team did not feel that this project was far enough along in development to consider funding this cycle and recommends either delaying consideration until all concerns are addressed, or conditioning an award on addressing the concerns. There are too many critical questions, such as the water right, that have not been addressed and likely won't be before the R&E meeting. Scores included four 2s, five 1s, and one 0.

Specific Review Team Comments

Since the water rights are assigned to ODFW, their potential use, validation, or transfer must be worked through ODFW engineering (Ryan McCormick) before moving forward. While working through that process there are steps that will need to be taken before this can be considered as a future use. Some things that need to be addressed include whether this right has been adequately maintained over time, whether a change of use or transfer would be needed and if altering the depth of the pond is allowable.

Fish screening and passage needs to be addressed.

- o Is the intake screened? Is it gravity fed or pumped?
- o Has fish passage and the potential trigger ben reviewed for the work on Hatchery Creek?

Structures older than 45 years could be considered historic and require additional review and approval prior to any alteration. In this case, this site has already been put on the National Register of Historic Places, which puts this project in a much higher level of scrutiny. The team suggests not funding this project until the project proponents have verified this project has been vetted through the proper SHPO consultation to perform these alterations. There is no budget item allocated for cultural/archaeological monitoring.

Please describe more about the anticipate use and management of the pond:

- o One of the attachments identifies it as a Fly Fishing Pond. Is the plan to only allow fly-fishing or all methods?
- o While this is identified as a county property, it sounds as if use of this pond will be limited to groups or events and not open to the public. Please clearly describe if this will be open to the public or for some other limited or restricted amount of use (e.g. event only, youth/disabled). If the use will be restricted to groups or events, it may not be appropriate to use angler dollars for this as there may not be much direct benefit to the general angling public.
- o There are several missing responses in the education/outreach section. What is the expected number of users and average amount of time that each attendee will participate?
- o Where will the fish stocked in this pond come from? State hatchery production levels are currently spoken for. Will state fish be reallocated from other ponds or purchased from a private source?

The details of this proposal are lacking, it does not seem that the design is far enough along to consider for funding. Designs will likely be needed for pipes, valves, and ADA path. What sort of site plans, drawings, or engineering has occurred already, or when will they be completed? What is the likelihood that the associated facilities will be developed? The amount seems low for dredging, please validate how that number was developed.

This was not identified as a priority during statewide planning effort as it is a new opportunity with

momentum. However, it sounds like a good proposal and good opportunity with a large amount of community support that would provide educational and angling opportunity for at least some groups.

Specific Review Team Questions

This is a great concept, and the fishing pond would be a great feature of the overall center.

o *What is the status of the conceptual McKenzie Discovery Center?*

o *Is there long-term commitment to sponsor/staff/maintain this center and pond?*

o This is a great concept, and the fishing pond would be a great feature of the overall center. We agree that it will be a great feature which will complement the overall Discovery Center. However, it is also an amazing stand-alone project that will greatly benefit the community, increase opportunities for anglers, provide a place for education and outreach, and help to strengthen many ODFW programs in line with all of the programs and plans already mentioned in the proposal.

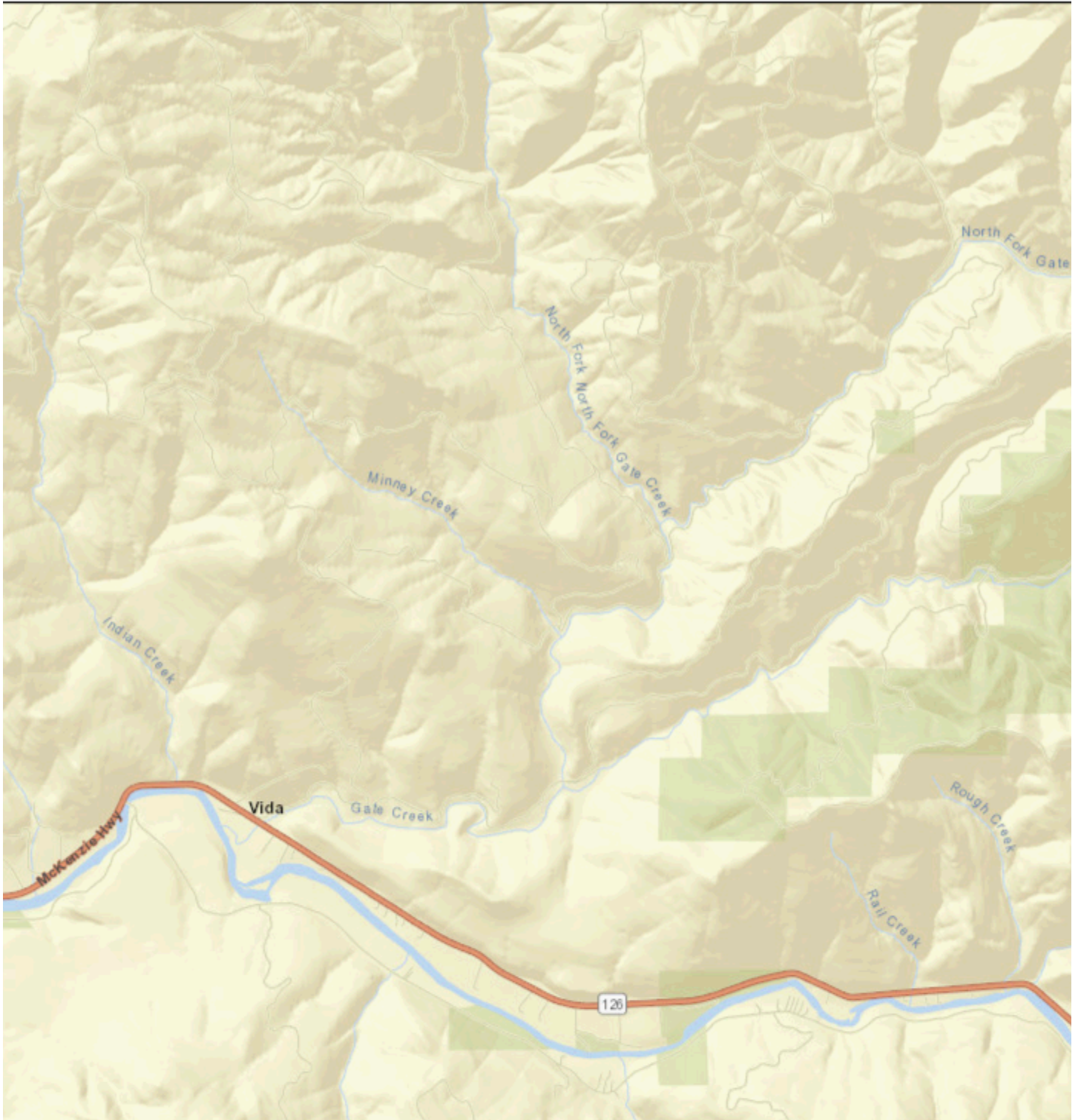
o *What is the status of the conceptual McKenzie Discovery Center?*

While the McKenzie Discovery Center is not funded by this request, it is part of the bigger picture. Understanding how the two will fit together is an excellent way to visualize the full potential of this space and highlight the importance of funding the angling pond. We are currently \$2M into an \$18.5M Capital Campaign. To date we have secured a long-term lease with Lane County for exclusive use and management of the Old McKenzie Fish Hatchery Park valued at \$1.4M with unanimous support of Lane County Commissioners and Lane County Park and invested \$338,000 in the initial phase of concept designs for the facility, site plan, organizational development and on-site improvements. We have another \$95,000 in hand. To complete the project – which will become the economic and cultural centerpiece of the entire river corridor - just as the Old McKenzie River Hatchery was when it was an operating facility.

o *Is there long-term commitment to sponsor/staff/maintain this center and pond?*

Yes. Wisteria Stuart was hired as Executive Director of the McKenzie River Discovery Center with funding from the MJ Murdock Charitable Trust who provided a three-year grant for \$243,500 to support the position for the next three years starting in September 2020. The grounds around the fishing pond would be maintained by the private nonprofit McKenzie River Discovery Center. The pond would continue to be utilized and cared for by the Upper Willamette Stewardship Network, Lane County and the McKenzie Community.

Project Map



Additional Files

Budget Information

[HD Fowler Pipe Quote](#)

[Intake Screen Quote](#)

[Parazoo Trucking Quote](#)

[Weed Mat Quote](#)

Inflow Piping - 2 Options

L500 Pump Rite Screen

Sediment Removal Quote

XL Weed Mat Pro

Maps

[Project Map](#)

Map image of project location

Photos

[Site maps and current photos](#)

Site maps and current photos

Design Information

Management Plans and Supporting Documents

[Reply to Internal Review Team Comments](#)

Responses to full review team comments - please read

Permits and Reviews

[DSL Wetland Determination](#)

[National Register of Historic Places](#)

[ODFW Water Right](#)

[Water Right Explanation](#)

No state permit required

Verification Old McKenzie Hatchery

ODFW Water Right Hatchery (Drift) Creek

approval Lane County Watermaster

Partnerships

[Bob Peek and Family Letter of Commitment](#)

[Lease Lane County to McK Discovery Center](#)

[McKenzie River Community Development Center LOC](#)

[McKenzie River Discovery Center](#)

[Upper Willamette Stewardship Network LOC](#)

Donation 200 hours of volunteer time

99 year lease agreement

Donation of volunteer time

Letter of Commitment

UWSN volunteer time Letter of Commitment

Public Comment

[Bob Bumstead - Letter of Support](#)

[Cascade Family Flyfishers Letter of Support](#)

[Late Bloomers Garden Club Letter of Support](#)

[McKenzie FlyFishers Letter of Support](#)

[Northwest Youth Corps Letter of Support](#)

Letter of Support

Cascade Family Flyfishers Letter of Support

Donate native plant knowledge and remove invasives

Donation of time and angling knowledge later

NWYC letter of support

Administrative Documents

[MRDC Authorization Letter](#)

[MRDC Fed IRS 501c3 certification](#)

Wisteria Signed Authorization Letter

501c3 and name change from Friends to MRDC

Completion Report

Objectives and Accomplishments

Remove sediment and vegetation from the Old McKenzie Hatchery rearing pond to increase depth, re-work the sloping on the edges for safety and create a community fishing pond.

Did you meet the objective? Yes

John Parazoo - a local contractor completed the job and we are very happy with the outcome. He deepened the entire pond more than a foot and sloped the edges. The pond has been watered up and we are planning on holding events there this spring.

Screen the upstream intake in Hatchery Creek and replace delivery pipe for the pond that was damaged in the Holiday Farm Fire. ODFW already has water rights.

Did you meet the objective? Yes

Yes, the L500 Pump Rite screen and adapter kit has been installed and water is flowing through the pipes and filled the pond. No fish have been viewed in the pond yet (filled for a couple of months) so the screen is working great.

Install a standpipe at the outflow to allow draining of the pond if necessary and preventing stocked fish from escaping into Leaburg Lake during fishing events.

Did you meet the objective? Yes

Yes. This project actually required some concrete work by a local contractor who donated part of his time.

Repair or reinforce hand railing on wildlife viewing deck, gravel for ADA accessible path, and reinforce path in some places. Ensure safety and ADA accessibility.

Did you meet the objective? Yes

Yes. The viewing deck is ready for use. We are still working on portions of the gravel path to meet ADA standards but the ground is wet this spring and we keep adding gravel as it sinks into the mud in certain spots.

Complete project to host angling and/or education/outreach events in June of 2022.

Did you meet the objective? No

Not yet. Because of the emergency departure of our previous Executive Director (Wisteria Stewart), the dates for coordinating the fishing events were pushed back. We will be holding our first event this spring in May or June 2023.

Placing permeable (gas/water) anti-vegetation mats on the bottom of the pond.

Did you meet the objective? Yes

The mats were installed prior to filling the pond and seem to be working great. No vegetation is visible where the mats were installed.

Comments

We purchased all of the materials prior to December 2021 and the items listed above still went a little over budget (no worries). Thank goodness we are not purchasing those items now! Thank you for your assistance with this project. Because we received this and a couple of other grants showing strong community support, we were able to leverage an additional grant for \$1 million dollars to help with continued development of the McKenzie River Discovery Center!

Grantee agreed to forfeit all remaining funds.