R & E Grant Application 21-23 Biennium

Project #: 21-036

St. Louis Fishing Ponds Pump Replacement

Project Information

Requested Cycle:	21-4
R&E Project Request:	$150,000
Other Funding:	$51,520
Total Project:	$201,520
Spending Start Date:	7/1/2021
Spending End Date:	6/30/2023
Project Start Date:	7/1/2022
Project End Date:	6/30/2023
Organization:	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Applicant Information

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

Past Recommended or Completed Projects

This applicant has no previous projects that match criteria.

Authorized Agent

Name:	Ben Walczak
Address:	17330 Se Evelyn St Clackamas, OR 97015
Telephone:	971-673-6011
Email:	ben.walczak@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.

1300 Tesch Lane, Gervais, OR 97026

Directions to the site from the nearest highway junction.

Follow I-5 S to OR-219 N/Hillsboro-Silverton Hwy NE in Woodburn. Take exit 271 from I-5 S 33 min (31.6 mi)

Continue on OR-219 N/Hillsboro-Silverton Hwy NE. Take Arbor Grove Rd NE and Manning Rd NE to Tesch Ln NE

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.

This is an ODFW property which currently provides full public access for fishing, hunting and dog training.

Dominant Land Use Type:

Public Park

Project Location

General Project Location.

County:	Marion
Town/City:	St. Louis
ODFW Dist:	North Willamette Watershed
Stream/Lake/Estuary Name:	St. Louis Ponds

Specific Project Location.

Latitude	Longitude
45.113998	-122.932153

Project Summary

Project Summary

Please provide a couple sentence summary of the proposal.

The 50-year-old pump at ODFW's St. Louis Fishing Ponds needs to be replaced. This pump provides irrigation to the 7 public fishing ponds during the summer and fall. The replacement pump ensures that the appropriate water levels will be maintained to provide for fish health, ecological services, and angling opportunities.

Overall Project Goals

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

The primary goal of this project is to ensure the long-term viability of the St. Louis Ponds through a water pump replacement. The pump is needed to fill the ponds and in turn provide for ongoing angling and wildlife viewing opportunities as well as education and outreach events.

Primary objectives of R&E funding

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

The objective of this request is to procure, install, and operate a new water pump by June 2023 at the St. Louis Ponds. The pump will fill the public fishing ponds at an appropriate rate during the annual dry season.

Current Situation/Justification

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

The primary water pump needed to maintain water levels at the St. Louis Fishing Ponds has failed because of its age (over 50 years) and extended use. Without a functional pump, the ponds are at risk of drying up and jeopardizing fish health, angling opportunity and other ecological services.

The St. Louis Fishing Ponds are one of the most important and popular interior fishing destinations in the west region due to year-round angling, easy access and proximity to the Portland and Salem metropolitan areas. This site is one of ODFW's primary locations for Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation (R3) as well as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) efforts. The site was identified as a primary location for these efforts due to its unique ability to serve local populations with diverse communities and underrepresented groups.

Furthermore, past improvements made by the Recreation and Enhancement Fund to this property will not be fully realized without a pump replacement. There have been over $300,000 in total project costs invested here over the past two decades. These investments include an ADA accessible path, ADA accessible floating docks, ADA accessible stationary fishing platforms and the development of a Site Plan for future use.

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 help maintain angling opportunity at a very important and extremely popular fishing location in the northern Willamette valley. The site is popular with a diverse section of anglers and serves multiple communities. There are many fishing events held here annually, including family events targeting new anglers and events partnered with retirement communities reactivating senior anglers. The space also serves as an outdoor classroom and is used by visiting schools and youth groups. This helps meet ODFW goals for Recruitment Retention and Reactivation as well as Diversity Equity and Inclusion. It is estimated that during free fishing weekends and when trout have been recently stocked, the site serves over 200 members of the public daily. The St. Louis Fishing Ponds are open year-round with both stocked trout and warmwater fish available to catch. This allows for angling 365 days per year just a short drive

from the I-5 corridor. In addition, these ponds support waterfowl, and a variety of amphibians. Without a functional pump to maintain water levels, the existence of these ponds and the services they provide are at risk.

Percent benefit split between Commercial and Recreational anglers:

0 % Commercial
100 % Recreational

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

The St Louis Fishing ponds were designed to serve recreational anglers.

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 public park supports implementation of the ODFW Strategic Plan and current Fish Division priorities by addressing Recruitment, Retention and Reactivation as well as Diversity Equity and Inclusion through its year-round angling opportunity and convenient location in proximity to both Portland and Salem.

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 project was identified as a priority in May of 2022 when it became apparent that the old water pump had failed and was no longer operable, thus jeporidzing this tremendous resource for the agency and region alike. This detemination was made by the North Willamette Watershed.

Identify any plan or other document that identifies this priority.

The St. Louis Ponds provide year-round angling opportunity for a wide variety of fish, in addition to wildlife viewing and hunting, thus specifically addressing the ODFW Strategic Plan Goal 2.

ODFW Strategic Plan, Goal 2: “Increase and diversify public use and enjoyment of Oregon’s fish and wildlife resources”
https://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/strategic_vision/docs/2018_Strategy_plan.pdf

The 25-year Recreational Angling Enhancement Plan calls for increasing angling participation and for reduction in barriers to fishing participation. This project helps maintain an important existing ADA angling site.

25-Year Angling Enhancement Plan:
https://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/fishing/docs/25_Year_Recreational_Angling_Enhancement%20Plan.pdf

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 Fish Species
Chanel Catfish, Bluegill, Sunfish
Rainbow Trout

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)
Enhance natural production of fish stocks to levels that allow for recreational fishing opportunities

Project Description

Schedule

Activity	Date	RE Funding
Remove old pump and tail shaft	July 2022	No
Install temporary test pump	August 2022	No
Procure new pump	January 2023	Yes
Install new pump	March 2023	Yes
Opperate new pump and ensure adequate functionality	April 2023	Yes

Permits

Permit	Secured?	Date Expected
No permits needed. There is a valid water right for the well.	No	

Project Design and Description

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

Funding will be used to purchase and install a new pump, pipe, valves, screen boxes and other components. A contractor will be hired to remove the old pump, install a temporary test pump and then install the new pump system and connect to the existing electrical panel.

Engineering

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

Yes
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?

With proper maintenance and more efficient modern technology, we expect the replacement pump to last at least 50 years. The pump will remain onsite and secured behind a fenced area. There are ODFW volunteer hosts at this site that will help operate, maintain, and protect the new infrastructure.

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

On site ODFW volunteer hosts help manage the St. Louis Ponds. With oversight from the District fish biologist, the hosts will maintain and operate the pump annually. The District fish biologist will ensure that inspection occurs annually. Maintenance costs and repairs will be incurred by the Community Fisheries Budget of the North Willamette Watershed as supported.

Will the project require ongoing maintenance?

Yes

Routine annual maintenance and inspection of the pump will be necessary to ensure its long term use.

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
North Willamette Watershed Administration Budget (ODFW)	In-Kind	Secured	2,500	Reflects the applicant's time as project manager
		Total	2,500	

Budget

Item	Unit Number	Unit Cost	In-kind or non-cash contributions	Funding from other sources	R&E Funds	Total Costs
PROJECT MANAGEMENT						
ODFW (Charles Barr - technical assistance and project oversight	40	38		1,520		1,520
ODFW Engineers	16					
		SUBTOTAL		1,520		1,520
IN-HOUSE PERSONNEL						
ODFW - St. Louis Ponds Volunteer Host	16					
		SUBTOTAL				
CONTRACTED SERVICES						
New pump system purchase		75,000			75,000	75,000
New pump system purchase (OCRF Match)		50,000		50,000		50,000
New pump system installation and wiring		75,000			75,000	75,000
		SUBTOTAL		50,000	150,000	200,000
TRAVEL						
		SUBTOTAL				
SUPPLIES/MATERIALS						
		SUBTOTAL				
EDUCATION/OUTREACH						
		SUBTOTAL				
EQUIPMENT						
		SUBTOTAL				
FISCAL ADMINISTRATION						
		SUBTOTAL				
		BUDGET TOTAL	0	51,520	150,000	201,520

Internal Review Results

Review Score: 2.5 out of 3

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

Summary of Review Team Comments

Internal review board recommended that the project move forward for review by the R&E Board. The big concerns of the IRT were centered around the need for the "test" pump." Internal review team believes the test pump is actually a temporary pump that has been mis-identified in the application, if so, the application should state that to alleviate confusion. Funds already spent for the test pump and installation of the test pump are not eligible as those components of the project have already happened, those line items need to be removed from the budget.

Are there any opportunities for additional match funding from any of the other groups that use the St. Louis Pond complex? Match funding will make this project more attractive.

Specific Review Team Comments

Age of pump >50 years...failing. St. Louis Ponds support ADA, DEI, R3, and other major goals/objectives of the Strategic Plan.

The application assumes knowledge of the ponds and why a pump is needed for this location. It isn't clear at all to someone not familiar with this location why a pump is the only solution. It's easy, but is the correct solution to the problem.

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The budget needs to be refined. Costs seem to be best guesses.

Very important project to maintain one of the most popular pond fisheries in the Willamette Valley.

Appreciated the discussion of the importance/use of the site.

Project supports previous R&E investments at the site.

Test Comment

Specific Review Team Questions

Part of the grant is for removal of the old pump and installation of a test pump. According to the work order this has already been done. Why are R&E funds being requested for something already completed? That should be shown as match. If looking for reimbursement, is that allowed?

> We will adjust the budget by removing the $50,000 line item as these services (removal of old pump, diagnosis and installation of a temporary test pump) have been rendered and reimbursement is not allowed for this grant.

Entirely R&E funded; no match. Other uses of the area are listed as wildlife viewing, dog training, education and outreach, hunting. Are there other match opportunities from these user groups? The Work Order describes that removal of old pump and install of test pump have already occurred. Are

those costs already paid for? (subtract $50,000?)

We are seeking award of $50,000 in grant funds from the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) for match. Please see the above response regarding removal of the line item for services already completed associated with this project.

RAWA funding?
Why would the ponds dry without a pump?
Is there a water right for the ponds?
What other options were considered for keeping the ponds watered?

The availability of funds from the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA) for this project is unknown at this time.

The ponds are artifical and will dry up without a pump because they have no natural consistent feeding source, such as a stream or spring. Without a pump, the ponds will dry from evaporation during the high heat of the summer months when there is little to no rainfall. These ponds were developed during the upgrading of US highway I-5. They served as borrow pits. ODOT removed material from this area to support and fill the nearby highway development. Since their creation, the ponds have been filled with pumped well water when rainfall was insufficient to compensate for evaporation. We have a valid water right for this well.

Trucking in water during low rainfall months was considered as an alternative option, but quickly deemed too expensive and inefficient.

Why is it so expensive for the removal and diagnosis of the old pump? Why do we need a temporary test pump, that seems like an unnecessary and expensive step?

This item has been adjusted (removed) from the budget. Please see the response below regarding the need for a temporary test pump. Ultimately, the rented test pump will help identify an efficient and environmentally friendly long term solution.

What is the purpose of the test pump vs just installing a new pump? Are there questions about the necessary specifications for the new pump, or is that a stopgap to keep the system operational until the new pump can be purchased and installed

The test pump has been removed as a budget item from this grant application. It serves primarily as a stopgap measure before a permanent solution can be procured. It can therefore also be referred to as a "temporary pump". However, one of the goals of this project is to install a new energy efficient pump. Thus, the test pump is also serving to evaluate the needed minimum specifications of the new pump.

It isn't entirely clear why there needs to be a $30,000 test pump purchased and installed before purchasing and installing the permanent pump. That is a lot of money on a test pump and what would happen to that pump once the new pump is purchased? Would it still be used or would it just be put into storage or something?

Please see the above response. The test/temporary pump is currently being rented and will be returned once a permanent pump is procured.

Test Question

Test Answer

Additional Files

Budget Information

Maps

St. Louis Ponds Map

Photos

Overhead Ponds

Ponds Photo

Design Information

ODFW Engineering Work Order

Management Plans and Supporting Documents

25 year recreational angling enhancement plan

ODFW Strategic Plan

Signature Authorization Page

St. Louis Ponds Historical Establishment — *Agreement with ODOT on the development in 1972*

Permits and Reviews

Partnerships

Public Comment

Letter of Support — *Letter of Support from Oregon Bass & Panfish Club*

Administrative Documents

Completion Report

Objectives and Accomplishments

The objective of this request is to procure, install, and operate a new water pump by June 2023 at the St. Louis Ponds. The pump will fill the public fishing ponds at an appropriate rate during the annual dry season.

Did you meet the objective? Yes

A new motor and Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) electrical pannel were installed. Some of the existing pump (head and bowl) was repaired which resulted in siginificant cost savings. Overall this project succesfully met its objectives. We now have a functioning and efficient water pump at St. Louis ponds to fill the ponds, maintain water levels, and support quality fishing opportunity.

Comments

This project resulted in a solution that is durable and expected to last many more years. The solution and project were cost effictive during implimentation, which resulted in savings for the R&E program. Further the solution will result in electrical efficiency via the VFD which will provide long term cost savings for the agency. Lastly, the new system is easy to use and maintain by our volunteer hosts on site.

Grantee agreed to forfeit all remaining funds.