

## Summary of Projects Recommended for Funding

The Access and Habitat (A&H) Board met in Prineville on October 15, 2013 to review projects requesting funding from the A&H Program. A project must receive at least four supporting votes to be recommended for funding. A brief description of the projects, funding requested, access and habitat benefits provided, and Board and Council votes are listed below. If major issues were raised they are discussed below.

The Board recommends funding the following projects:

### #2013-10 Columbia Plateau Cooperative Habitat Initiative

- A&H Funds: \$90,000 (\$30,000 per year)
- Cooperator Funds: \$570,000 (\$190,000 per year)
- Total Project Cost: \$660,000 (\$220,000 per year)
- Applicant: Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District
- Location: Heppner WMU (34% public)  
Columbia Basin WMU (5% public)
- Habitat Acres: 5,000
- Cooperators: ODFW, Morrow SWCD, Farm Service Agency, private landowners
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0

The Columbia Plateau Cooperative Habitat Initiative will be used to increase and expand on the effectiveness of the previously A&H funded ODFW/SWCD Habitat Technician position. This three-year project is intended to help address the habitat related decline of mule deer and upland game birds in the Heppner area of the Heppner and Columbia Basin WMUs. Funds will be used for supplies and materials for the Habitat Technician to implement habitat improvement projects and to hire a seasonal employee to help as needed for fall and spring planting seasons.

Over the last six years the position has directly improved a total of 10,000 acres in three counties by spraying, disking, burning and seeding. This project has experienced great acceptance by private landowners and cooperating agencies.

## #2013-11 Rogue Meadows Enhancement

- A&H Funds: \$16,000 (\$4,000 per year)
- Cooperator Funds: \$23,420 (\$5,855 per year)
- Total Project Cost: \$39,420 (\$9,855 per year)
- Applicant: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Location: Rogue WMU (57% public)
- Habitat Acres: 102
- Cooperators: ODFW, OHA-Rogue Valley Chapter, Rancheria Ranch
- Council Vote: Yes: 5; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 4; No: 1

Over the course of the next four years, the Rogue Meadows Enhancement Project will improve elk forage on four parcels of private meadows totaling 102 acres. Deer, turkeys and other wildlife will also benefit from this project. ODFW personal will fertilize these meadows in the spring to increase forage production and protein content of the forage during pre-calving period to increase elk productivity and survival of both cows and calves. Two of the parcels are open to hunting and two parcels are not but these are surrounded by public lands.

One board member voted no due to the high cost of the fertilizer.