

## Agenda Item Summary

### BACKGROUND

Created in 1994 by the Oregon Legislative Assembly, the seven-member Access & Habitat Board (Board) reviews project proposals that improve wildlife habitat and/or enhance public hunting access in Oregon. Project applications submitted by landowners, corporations, organizations, and agencies are initially reviewed by Board-appointed Regional Councils (Councils) established in six geographic regions of the state. Regional Councils forward proposals to the Board with recommendations to approve or deny projects. The Board provides the next level of project review and then forwards proposals to the Commission for final consideration and approval to expend Access & Habitat Program (A&H Program) funds.

Funding for the A&H Program, over \$2.7 million per biennium, is from three primary sources;

- \$4 from each hunting and combination license sold (approximately \$1.7 million per biennium)
- Proceeds from the annual Big Game Auction and Raffle tags (\$1.0 million per biennium)
- Biennial allocation of approximately \$40,000 from the Green Forage and Deer Enhancement and Restoration programs

The A&H Program dedicated account balance was \$1,225,833 at the end of August 2018. A&H program funds deposited in the dedicated account can be expended only for access and habitat activities. During the 2015-2017 biennium, A&H projects provided hunters access to over 4.5 million acres of private land and improved 13,254 acres of habitat for wildlife.

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The A&H Program provides for public involvement at Council and Board meetings. Council and Board meetings are advertised by press release and on the webpage. Meeting materials are posted on the website. Members of the public may review the documents and provide comments. Interested parties may attend or call in to provide public comment during these meetings. The Board most recently met in Boardman on October 16, 2018.

### Issue 1

### ACCESS & HABITAT PROJECT FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

### ANALYSIS

A summary of the projects recommended for funding by the A&H Board is presented in the staff summary (Attachment 2).

### OPTIONS

- Option 1. Approve A&H Board recommendation for project funding  
 Option 2. Reject individual project funding proposals

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Approve the two projects recommended for funding by the A&H Board

DRAFT MOTION

I move to approve funding for the two projects recommended by the Access & Habitat Board.

EFFECTIVE DATE

December 7, 21018

