

### Summary of Projects Recommended for Access & Habitat Program Funding

The Access and Habitat (A&H) Board met October 15, 2018 in Boardman, Oregon to review projects recommended for funding by the Regional Councils (Councils). A project must receive at least four supporting votes from the Council or Board to be recommended for funding. All projects received letters of support from the local District Wildlife Biologist. A brief description of the funding requested, access and habitat benefits provided, as well as Council and Board votes follows.

The A&H Board recommends funding the following two projects:

#### **#2018-15 Central Oregon TMA Enforcement**

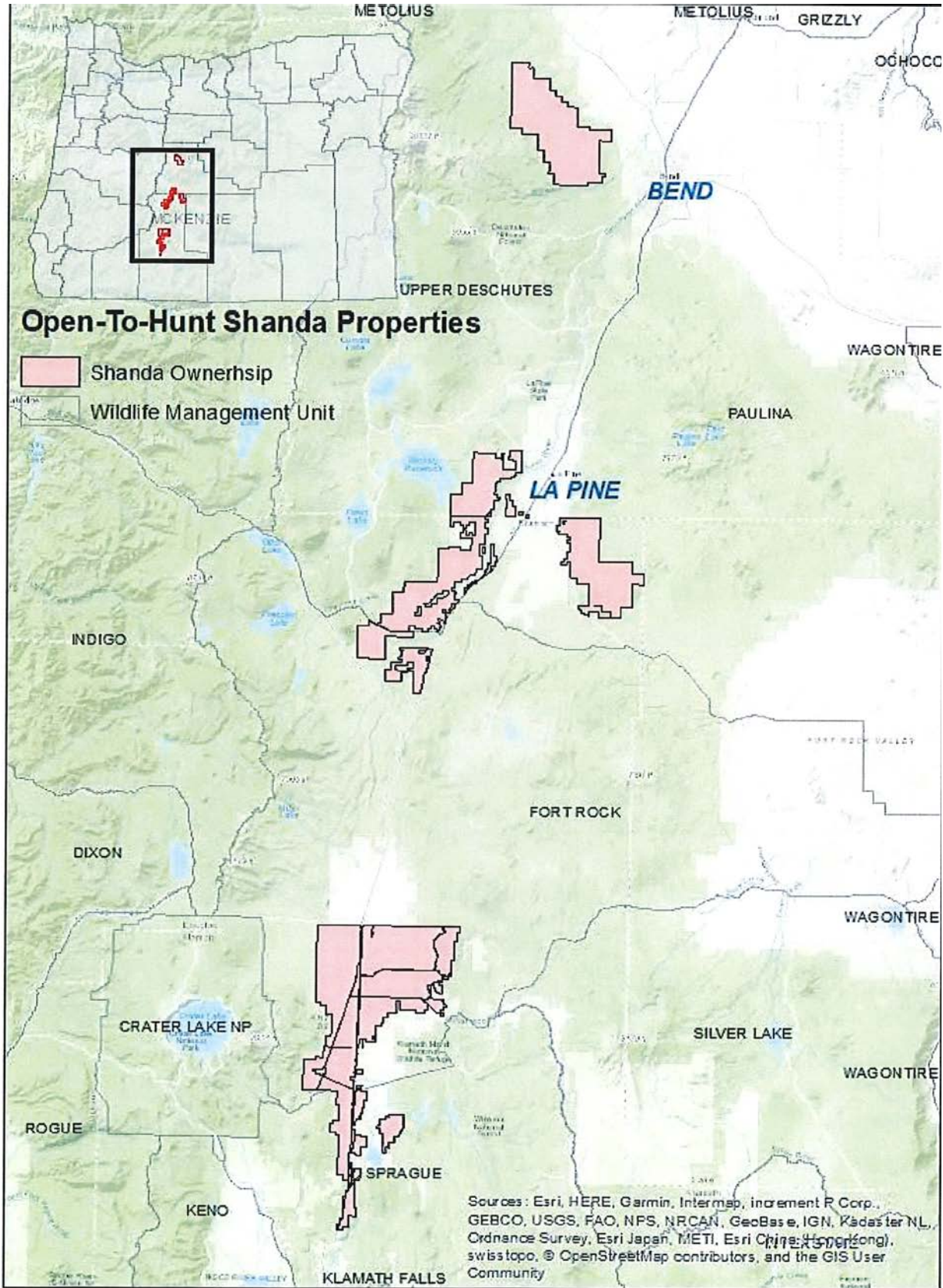
This project proposes to purchase high-quality, trail cameras and informational signs for deployment in several Central Oregon Travel Management Areas (TMAs) with chronic illegal motorized vehicle use on closed roads.

- A&H Funds: \$6,304
- Cooperator Funds: \$3,677
- Total project funds: \$9,981
- Applicant: Shanda Asset Management
- Location: Upper Deschutes and Paulina Wildlife Management Units
- Access Acres : 196,000 Welcome to Hunt
- Access Duration: Life span of the cameras, anticipate ~ five years
- Cooperators: Oregon State Police, Shanda Asset Management, ODFW Bend
- Council Vote: Yes: 4; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0

The cameras will help Oregon State Police (OSP) Fish and Wildlife Troopers obtain license plates numbers and develop cases, ultimately leading to more enforcement actions directed at violators of road closure regulations. Additionally, lack of public awareness that the timberland is private property compounds the issue. The majority of users (both hunter and non-hunter) do not realize they are on private property and access is a privilege. Informational signs would be posted at key access points into the properties to help educate users. The project area is on property owned by Shanda Asset Management, and is located entirely within either the Tumalo Winter Range Closure northwest of Bend, or the year-round Timbers and Spring Butte Cooperative TMAs southeast of La Pine. High road densities, proximity to population centers, and being adjacent to public land lead to high amounts of motor vehicle use on closed roads.

The Tumalo block is crucial winter range for mule deer in Central Oregon, where rapid development and human population growth have permanently altered the majority of quality winter habitat. Curtailing the amount of illegal winter traffic and off-road use is a priority for the Department, Shanda, and OSP.

Maintaining a good working relationship with Shanda is a high priority for the Department; they allow free unlimited hunter access to approximately 196,000 acres of their property in Central Oregon. Shanda has a great working relationship with the Department and the local community. They have worked with the Department in recent years to improve habitat and hunting opportunity. Shanda has also partnered with the Department in recent years to allow special access to select local youth, veterans, and disabled hunters on a separate piece of their property west of La Pine that provides an excellent elk hunting opportunity.



### #2018-17 C2 Ranch Habitat Improvement

This project would improve wildlife habitat and provide a limited amount of public hunting. Habitat improvement would consist of removing invasive Himalayan blackberry from pastureland, mowing wedgeleaf ceanothus (buckbrush) to promote new growth, seeding new pasture for wildlife forage, and fertilizing. Hunting would consist of six unguided adult archery deer hunts, each for three days, and guided youth hunts consisting of 10 deer hunts and 12 spring turkey hunts, each for one day, each year for two seasons (2019 and 2020).

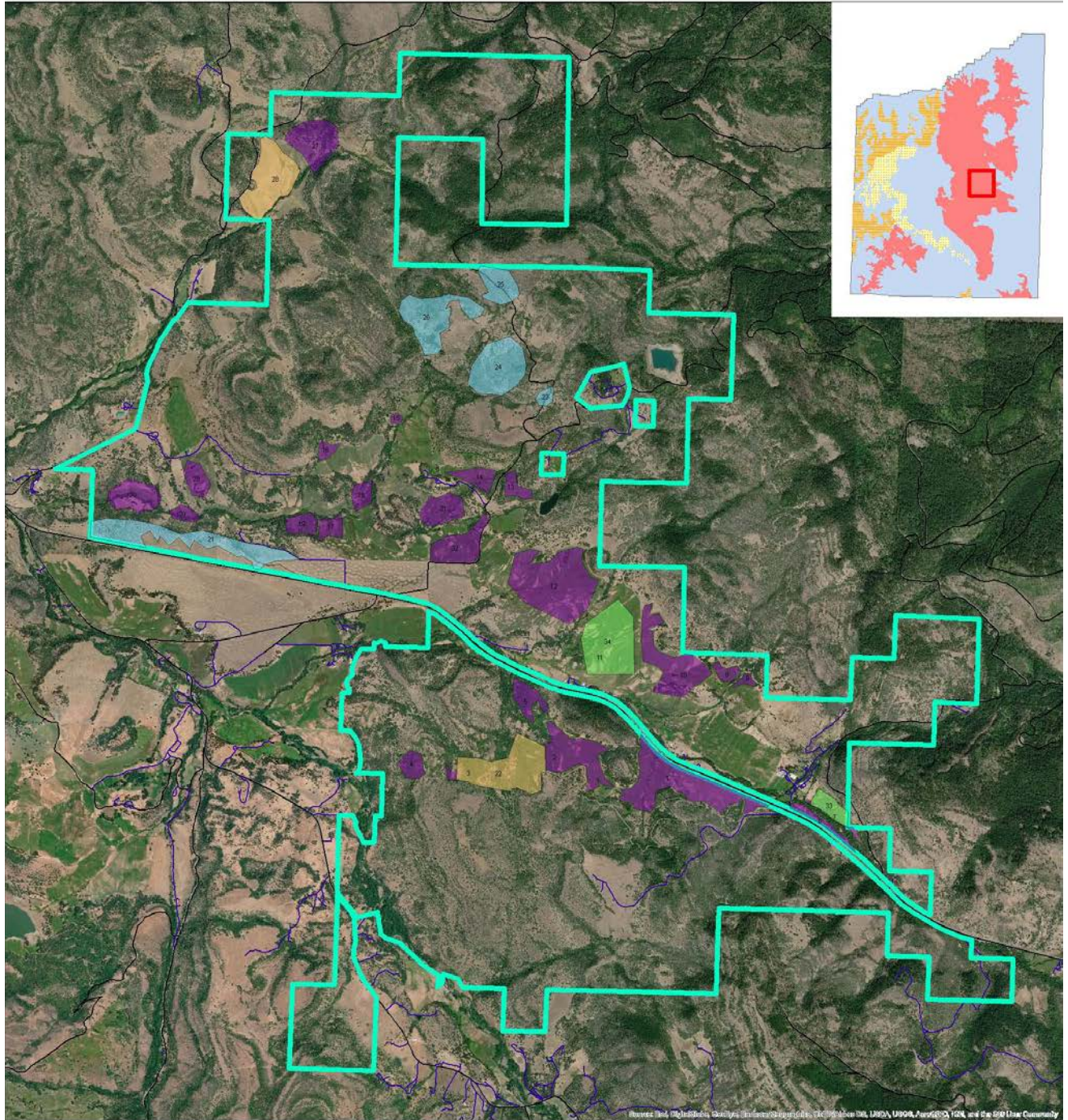
- A&H Funds: \$20,280
- Cooperator Funds: \$217,311
- Total project funds: \$237,591
- Applicant: Shawn Jones, C2 Ranch Manager
- Location: Rogue WMU
- Access Acres : 9,500 by permission
- Project Duration: 1/05/2019 to 1/05/2021
- Cooperators: C2 Ranch, Rogue Valley Chapter of Oregon Hunter Association, ODFW Central Point
- Council Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0
- Board Vote: Yes: 6; No: 0









If this project is approved, C2 will use their equipment to mow 100 acres of buckbrush. Buckbrush will be cut to a height of about 2 feet to encourage re-sprouting. C2 will also cut and spray 400 acres of blackberry. Herbicide will be applied to blackberries with an ATV and tractor tank sprayers in August-September when herbicide is most effective. Fertilizer will be applied to at least 50 acres and 38 acres of pasture will be broadcast seeded to improve forage. Hunters will be selected for access through a lottery system conducted out of the ODFW Central Point Office.

This is a continuation of a project that started in 2007. During the duration of the project, about 260 acres of buckbrush have been cut and 1,400 acres of blackberry treatment have taken place for forage improvement.



Jackson County, OR 



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|---|--|
|  Blackberry  |  Especially Sensitive |
|  Buckbrush   |  Sensitive            |
|  Fertilizing |  Other                |
|  Seeding     |  |
|  C2 Boundary |  |

## Target Project Areas C2 Cattle Company