



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

February 3, 2014

The Honorable Senator Richard Devlin, Co-Chair
The Honorable Representative Peter Buckley, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Ways and Means
900 Court Street NE
H-178 State Capitol
Salem, OR 97301-4048

Parks and Recreation Department

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Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request:

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) requests approval to submit a \$15,000 grant application to U.S Fish and Wildlife Service.

Agency Action:

The grant fits within OPRD's mission that includes protecting outstanding cultural, historic and recreational sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations. The Department's Stewardship Division focuses on ecosystem-based approaches that protect the integrity of the natural environment and promote ecosystems that favor biodiversity, reduce ecological fragmentation, and promote native species.

This grant program, known as the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund (CESCF) (Section 6 of the Endangered Species Act), focuses on invertebrates in Oregon. The CESCF Section 6 offers landowners and managers an accessible funding source to help improve and restore habitat on private and non-federal land.

If the grant is awarded, OPRD plans to restore coastal prairie habitat on approximately two acres of degraded habitat located on property within Carl G. Washburne State Park. Less than one percent of Oregon's coastal prairie remains. Its decline is attributed to fire suppression, the establishment of invasive species, and development for home sites and grazing. Consequently, populations of prairie dependent species such as the threatened Oregon silver spot butterfly (OSB) have become small. There are only four populations of the OSB. This grant will enhance habitat for Oregon silverspot butterfly by greatly improving coastal prairie habitat in areas where it historically occurred.

The Coast Range Stewardship Fund Grant Funds are federal funds. A 25% match (landowner or partner share of costs) is required. Matching funds may be either in-kind or cash. Matching funds for this grant will come from matching staff time to the grant. Grant activities will be accomplished with existing staff.

The Department was notified of this competitive opportunity on January 15, 2015. The deadline for applications is February 21, 2014.

Action Requested:

OPRD requests approval to submit a \$15,000 grant application to the US Fish and Wildlife Service in the amount of \$15,000.

Legislation Affected:

None.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lisa Vanlaanen".

Lisa Vanlaanen, Interim Director

Cc Linda Gilbert
Lisa Pearson