

Stimulus Investment Opportunities - Conservation

SENATE WILDFIRE REDUCTION AND RECOVERY COMMITTEE



OREGON
WATERSHED
ENHANCEMENT BOARD

Why Conservation in Stimulus?

Well-paying jobs in rural communities

- 15-24 jobs from every \$1 million in conservation investments
- \$.90 stays in communities

Outdoor jobs – easier to implement with social distancing

Organizations already doing this work - easy to infuse funds

Funds for federal lands and to forests, farms/ranches, local non-profits, state government

Examples:

Grants for treatment and thinning

Investments in restoration

Funding for private farm/ranch conservation improvements

Congressional Conversations...

- 💧 *21st Century Conservation Corps for Our Health and Our Jobs Act* - Senator Wyden

Important to note...

- In most cases, increased funding is needed for programs
- \$\$ may or may not pass through state agencies
- In most cases, eliminate state match requirements
- Ensure funding for planning, technical assistance, capacity, and engineering design
- Reduce paperwork and reporting requirements
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State Perspective on Investment Opportunities

Natural Resource Conservation Service

- *Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)*
- *Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)*

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (National Marine Fisheries Service)

- *Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund (PCSRF)*

US Fish and Wildlife Service

- *Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund*

US Forest Service

- *Cooperative Forestry Assistance (CFDA 10.664)*
- *State and Private Forest Cooperative Fire Assistance (CFDA 10.698)*
- *Good Neighbor Authority (CFDA 10.691)*

Federal Emergency Management Administration

- *Fire Management Assistance Grant (CFDA 97.046)*

What's Next?

Coordination with federal agencies on existing funds

Shovel-ready projects

Increased funding for existing programs

Big picture vision... longer term