



Prospectus of Proposed Project

Project Information - Give a descriptive name that consists of the name of the creek, landowner's name, and 3-5 word description of the kind of project.

Title: Catherine Creek-M37 Stream and Fish Habitat Restoration

Prime Sponsor: Union Soil And Water Conservation District

Support Sponsor(s):

Technical Contact - List the main contact for the project.

Name: Craig Schellsmidt

Organization: Union Soil and Water Conservation District

Phone: 541-963-1313

Email: unionswcd@hotmail.com

Landowner(s) and Agencies - List all landowners and agencies involved.

Name: Trudy Yeargain, Yeargain Family Trust LLC

Phone: 541-562-5473

Email:

Address: 66926 Miller Lane, Union, OR 97883

Name: John Hefner, Lessee

Phone: 541-910-7078

Email:

Address: 67151 Miller Lane, Union, OR 97883

Name: Bureau of Reclamation

Phone: 541-963-1313

Email: ddyke@usbr.gov

Address: 10507 N. McAlister Rd., La Grande, OR 97850

Name: Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation

Phone: 541-969-3142

Email: allenchilds@ctuir.org

Address: 10507 N. McAlister Rd., La Grande, OR 97850

Name: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Phone: 541-963-2138

Email: vance.r.mcgowan@state.or.us

Address: 107 20th, La Grande, OR 97850

Landowner Participation - Has the landowner been contacted? Are they supportive of the project? Are they contributing to the project?

The landowner and lessee have signed a project Access Agreement. The are contributing

with project design consultation/approval and monitoring/maintenance, but not monetarily. The landowner has agreed to enroll riparian land between fence boundaries into CREP after final construction implementation.

Site Location

Stream Name: Catherine Creek of the Grande Ronde

River Mile: 37

Tributary To: Grande Ronde River

GPS Coord LAT (optional): 45 12' 55" N

GPS Coord LONG (optional): 117 54' 14" W

Limiting Factors and Existing Conditions

Generally, Catherine Creek within the project reach, is in poor to fair condition with stream segments exhibiting excess slope (due to channelization), lack of sinuosity, and poor streambank stability. Streambank erosion is prominent in individual segments with vertical actively eroding streambanks which contribute excessive sediment to Catherine Creek. The project reach is heavily grazed and contributes to: straightened, channelized reaches resulting in sinuosity loss; channel incision and head cutting in localized reaches; high channel width/depth ratios; and high summer temperatures.

Species Affected

Threatened Snake River ESA Summer Steelhead, Spring/Summer Chinook, Bull Trout.

Project Objectives - State which habitat parameters (watershed and fisheries) are being addressed and how this project will affect those parameters. Be as specific as possible, quantify where appropriate.

- The overall project goal is to restore fish habitat within the natural character and function of Catherine Creek while protecting and maintaining the utility and economic viability of a working ranch.
- Water quality, fish habitat, and wetland/riparian habitat restoration are key objectives for this multi-year/partner project.

Proposed Actions

- Construction/activation of approximately 2,200 feet of restoration channel meanders along Catherine Creek (existing channel length is approximately 4,000 feet).
- Trap and haul (salvage) of fish, amphibians, and reptiles from existing stream reaches prior to channel diversions and restoration channel activation.
- Diversion of existing channelized stream reaches into restoration channels.
- Reclamation of existing channelized stream segments.
- Construction/contouring of floodplain ponds and enhancement of backwater habitats where restoration channels cross abandoned channels.

- In stream placement of rock grade control structures (cross vanes) and large wood complexes.
- Planting and seeding of restoration channels (primarily CREP program).
- Construction of approximately 0.75 miles of conservation easement boundary fences (primarily CREP program).

Identify Major Issues - Briefly describe any issues to implementation and approach to issue resolution.

At this time no major issues have been identified. The project partnership has addressed all issues so far.

Roles and Responsibilities

- USWCD - project sponsor, coordination and contracting, landowner agreements, funding.
- BOR - pre and final design, assessment surveys/modeling/analysis, construction oversight.
- ODFW/CTUIR - design review, permitting and consultation, construction oversight.

Permits and Consultation

<i>Permit Name</i>	<i>Applicable</i>	<i>Complete</i>	<i>If not, when do you expect to complete?</i>
ESA Section 7 - USFWS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CTUIR by September, 2011
ESA Section 7 - NMFS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CTUIR by September, 2011
COE/DSL Permit	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CTUIR by October, 2011
Cultural Resources Sec. 106	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	BOR by October, 2011

Metrics

Miles/Acres/Feet to be Restored: 0.75 miles (both sides) Catherine Creek, ~ 30 acres

Project Schedule

Start: May, 2010

Design: 30% Design - June, 2011, Final Design - August, 2011

Permitting/Consultation: October, 2011

Construction: Phase I: off channel October/November, 2011; Phase II: in channel July, 2012

Monitoring: June, 2010 (baseline) - June, 2027

Relation to Subbasin Plan

☒ Grande Ronde Subbasin Plan

☐ Imnaha Subbasin Plan

Project addresses the Plan with habitat restoration and protection for healthy ecosystems management supporting aquatic resources and native species, enhances floodplain connectivity and in stream structural diversity and complexity, enhances riparian habitat conditions, and reduces streambank erosion and sediment loads.

Proposed Project Relation to other Projects - Is the project part of a multi-phase effort, is this work tying to previous work in the watershed/stream

The project will complement completed and ongoing fish habitat enhancement activities in the Catherine Creek watershed as well as provide an opportunity for a demonstration project illustrating techniques and benefits associated with re-activation of historic channel meanders.

Benefits

- Extend ~0.75 miles of Summer Steelhead, Spring/Summer Chinook, and Bull Trout spawning and rearing habitat to be protected with conservation easement.
- Increase stream length and associated sinuosity, decreased slope/width depth ratio, increased habitat complexity including large pools and large wood.
- Create diverse habitat types availability (riffles, runs, pools, and glides) and enhanced riparian and wetland habitat.
- Promote improved water quality trends over time with increased width, depth ratios, riparian community development, and channel morphology restoration.

Monitoring Plan

- Stream channel morphology (profile, x-sections, pebble counts)
- Habitat Survey (2010 baseline, future repeat)
- Water Quality (temperature): temperature probe array at upstream and downstream project reaches (minimum).
- Photo points will be established in 2011 to provide comparative progress of riparian vegetation, channel conditions, and habitat complexity.

Preliminary Cost Estimate

Total: \$332,125.00

Requested GRMW Funding:

Requested BiOp Funding: \$128,800.00