| Proj # | Project Title | Lead Organization | Ecoregion | Requested Funds | Project Goal Statement |
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| 1 | A geochemical approach to tracking White Sturgeon habitat use within the lower Columbia River. | Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife | Willamette Valley | $24,975 | This project will evaluate historical and contemporary movement patterns of sublegal and legal-sized White Sturgeon (70 –140 cm FL) in the lower Columbia River, including connectivity with the Willamette River and Pacific Ocean, using pectoral fin spine microchemistry. Results will improve population assessments and management of this strategy species by reducing uncertainty in stock structure, survey availability, and habitat connectivity across freshwater, estuarine, and marine environments. |
| 2 | Antelope Creek RM 4.3 Riparian Restoration Project | Jackson Soil & Water Conservation District | Klamath Mountains | $25,000 | The goal of the Antelope Creek RM 4.3 Riparian Restoration Project is to restore approximately 44 acres of riparian forest along Antelope Creek and its tributaries by removing invasive species, restoring native riparian vegetation through a process-based Release & Recruit approach, and installing livestock exclusion fencing to protect riparian habitat. These actions will improve water quality, increase resilience to drought and wildfire, and protect approximately 2 miles of salmonid-bearing stream habitat, benefiting Oregon Conservation Strategy species including Coho salmon and steelhead. |
| 3 | Assessing the Social Landscape of Wolves and Wolf Management in Oregon | Oregon State University | Statewide: 9 ecoregions | $24,402 | Wolf recovery remains highly contentious in Oregon, where management actions are perceived different across various social, economic, and cultural contexts. Although wolf populations are closely monitored, representative data on public attitudes, risk perceptions, and trust in management are limited. This project will produce actionable, regionally-representative social data to strengthen the effectiveness, legitimacy, and public support of wolf management through a statewide survey conducted with agencies, Tribes, and stakeholder groups. |
| 4 | Audible Bats Project Wrap Up | Oregon State University | Blue Mts; Columbia Plateau; E Cascades; Klamath Mts; N Basin & Range | $25,000 | Data collected through this program will be used by management agencies to inform decision making for two OCS/SWAP: spotted bats and pallid bats. The project will improve the validity and statistical strength of the crucial bat data currently being collected by the Northwest Bat Hub and its agency partners, leveraging both previously collected data and ongoing field efforts. Novel analyses will provide key insights into distribution and habitat use of these elusive bats. The Audible Bats Project will also continue to provide an avenue for community education and engagement in bat ecology and conservation. |
| 5 | Aves Compartidas: Engaging Underserved Youth in Bilingual Wildlife Education and Habitat Stewardship | Ecology in Classrooms & Outdoors | Willamette Valley | $20,150 | This project will engage students from 5 elementary schools in the Willamette Watershed in hands-on wildlife education and habitat stewardship, restoring and enhancing approximately 6 acres of habitats within schoolyards and nearby natural areas. Through pollinator garden installation, invasive species mitigation, restoration, and enhancement, the project will support Oregon Conservation Strategy Species, including the Monarch Butterfly, Western Bumble Bee, Chipping Sparrow, Common Nighthawk, and Grasshopper Sparrow, amongst others. Furthermore, by centering Spanish-speaking and Latine students from low-income communities, this project expands equitable access to wildlife-associated recreation and education while building stewardship capacity among youth who have historically faced barriers to participating in such opportunities. |

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| 6 | Baker County Sage-Grouse Population Augmentation through Translocation | Oregon State University | Blue Mountains; Northern Basin & Range | $23,700 | The overarching goal of this project is to stabilize and enhance the Baker sage-grouse population by increasing local recruitment, retention of breeding females, and increase genetic diversity.<br>The primary project objective is:<br>Increase realized recruitment and stabilize lek attendance trajectories in the Baker PAC by increasing the number of breeding females that successfully recruit locally within 1–2 years post-release.<br>Secondary objectives include reducing post-release dispersal, documenting survival during the early post-release hazard window, and evaluating subsequent reproductive participation of translocated females. |
| 7 | Baseline Monitoring of Western Ridged Mussel Distribution and Population in the Upper Deschutes River | Sunriver Nature Center & Observatory | East Cascades | $24,800 | This project will conduct baseline surveys of western ridged mussel (Gonidea angulata) populations within an eight-mile reach of the Upper Deschutes River in Central Oregon. The primary goal is to establish defensible distribution, density, and habitat data to address critical information gaps. The project will directly benefit the western ridged mussel, an Oregon Conservation Strategy Species, by supporting informed management, long-term monitoring, and potential Endangered Species Act listing decisions. Results will directly inform the evaluation of conservation need and public awareness of an important yet often overlooked component of the fresh water ecosystem. |
| 8 | Beaver Coexistence & Inclusive Recreation via Community Partnerships, Education, & Infrastructure Solutions | Marys River Watershed Council | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | This project supports the development of a long-term solution to flooding on the ADA accessible multimodal path at Corvallis' Bald Hill Natural Area caused by beavers damming Mulkey Creek, a tributary to Oak Creek within the Marys River Watershed, and will engage numerous partners and the greater community to maintain an extensive beaver dam and pond complex while keeping the path open for all. Supporting the beaver complex in turn benefits the aquatic and wetland system it contains, providing habitat for western pond turtles (documented occupation), coastal cutthroat trout and other native fish species, and the many bird and insect species found here. This project will have a substantial impact on the human community by keeping a beloved path accessible to all users, engaging them in the solutions process, and providing up-close observations of beaver-constructed habitat. |
| 9 | Bilingual Environmental Learning for Youth | Verde | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | In North and Northeast Portland and Gresham, Verde's Club Aves and Club Naturalista programs provide culturally responsive environmental education and safe access to nature for low-income and BIPOC youth in grades K–8.<br>The primary goal is to foster healthy development, environmental literacy, and long-term stewardship by building meaningful, identity-affirming connections to local natural areas. |

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| 10 | Boost Dispersed Recreation and Education in the Tillamook State Forest | STATE FORESTS TRUSTS OF OREGON | Coast Range | $25,000 | This project utilizes upgraded signage and marketing to achieve enhanced dispersal, educational and recreation outcomes in the Tillamook State Forest.<br><br>This project aligns with OCRF recreation goals:<br>• Increase opportunities to expand the number and diversity of Oregons' outdoor users;<br>• Provide educational materials and opportunities for responsible recreation and increased environmental literacy;<br>• Enhance organizational capacity to support responsible recreation opportunities;<br>• Enhance dispersed recreation in sensitive habitats of the Oregon Coast Range. |
| 11 | Building ecological inquiry and climate connection into the ODFW - Fish Eggs to Fry classroom program | Freshwaters Illustrated | Coast Range; Willamette Valley; West Cascades | $17,500 | Our goal is to lift the learning potential of the ODFW Fish Eggs to Fry program for young learners (grades 2-4) through 5 key inquiry themes designed to offer a basis for salmon and steelhead learning, and ecological and climate literacy. These inquiry themes work directly from the contents/elements of the Fish Eggs to Fry classroom tank kits, that are placed in hundreds of classrooms around the state every year. Our general inquiry questions are:<br><br>-What's in this tank?<br>-Where do salmon eggs come from?<br>-Where does cold water come from?<br>-Where does clean gravel come from?<br>-Why do salmon need our help?<br><br>These questions provide the opportunity to give young students their first glimpses into how healthy ecosystems support salmon, and in turn, why salmon currently need conservation help through hatcheries, restoration, and classroom programs like Fish Eggs to Fry. |
| 12 | Building Turtle Homes, Building Futures: Youth Restore Tualatin Wetlands | The Wetlands Conservancy | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | This project will restore and enhance approximately 40 acres of native turtle habitat at Nyberg wetlands by removing invasive red-eared slider populations and installing habitat structures, directly benefiting Oregon Conservation Strategy Species Western Pond Turtles. In partnership with Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District and turtle experts, the project will engage Cascade Education Corps and other youth workforce development crews in hands-on conservation fieldwork, creating pathways to environmental careers while securing critical urban wetland habitat for imperiled native species. |

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| 13 | Building Watershed-Scale Capacity for Beaver Modified Habitat in Eastern Oregon | Inquiring Systems, Inc. | Blue Mountains; Columbia Plateau; East Cascades; Northern Basin & Range | $23,848 | The goal of this project is to strengthen watershed-scale planning capacity among eastern Oregon conservation practitioners through shared learning and applied use of the Beaver Strongholds Framework as a working, multi-disciplinary framework. Through targeted training and field-based application, practitioners will build confidence in assessing existing beaver occupancy and prioritizing restoration investments that support long-term beaver persistence and population expansion. Improved planning for beaver-created and beaver-modified habitats supports Oregon Conservation Strategy and State Wildlife Action Plan priorities for aquatic, riparian, and wetland Strategy Habitats that benefit multiple Strategy Species. |
| 14 | Bullfrog Winter Ecology Monitoring to Support OSF Recovery | Oregon State University-Cascades | East Cascades | $24,996 | This project will use VHF telemetry to determine overwintering habitat area, spring reemergence timing, and early season movement pathways of invasive American bullfrogs within the Little Deschutes River Conservation Opportunity Area (COA ID 132) and Upper Deschutes River Conservation Opportunity Area (COA ID 129). Findings will directly inform targeted winter and spring bullfrog suppression strategies in occupied Oregon Spotted Frog subbasins, supporting the US Fish and Wildlife Service OSF Recovery Plan priority to manage bullfrogs near OSF habitat (Recovery Action 2.1) and advancing the Oregon Conservation Strategy priority to address invasive species. |
| 15 | Casting Connections: Advancing R3 Strategies and Public Engagement in Portland Metro Schools | I'm Hooked inc | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | The goal of Casting Connections in Portland Metro Schools is to expand equitable access to recreational fishing and conservation education for high school students in the Portland metropolitan area, primarily within Multnomah County. By establishing school-based fishing clubs, providing mentorship, and offering hands-on angling experiences, the project will increase youth participation in fishing, strengthen environmental stewardship, and support long-term R3 outcomes. By introducing students to responsible fishing practices and aquatic ecosystems, the project benefits Oregon's freshwater fish species and urban fisheries within the Willamette Valley ecoregion. |
| 16 | Characterizing Movements and Habit of Adult White Sturgeon in the Lower Willamette River | Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife | Willamette Valley | $24,997 | This project aims to quantify and characterize adult White Sturgeon (Acipenser transmontanus) movement in the lower Willamette River and Multnomah Channel. Detection data collected using acoustic telemetry will be analyzed to determine movement types, which will be modeled to determine habitat use and behavior and paired with larger study that covers movement of White Sturgeon in the lower Columbia River. |
| 17 | Collaborations from Land to Sea | Cape Perpetua Collaborative/ Discover Your Northwest | Coast Range; Nearshore | $20,000 | This project will continue to protect 2700 square miles of land and sea spaces in the Cape Perpetua Region specifically 55.5 square miles of ocean no-take designated zones, protected areas, and enhanced feeding environments for many strategy species including fish, mammal, bird, and plant/algae species through community engagement and events, research, education, and hands on restoration. |

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| 18 | Columbia River Conservation and Education Project (Oregon) | Columbia Riverkeeper | East Cascades | $25,000 | The Project will offer free, high-quality, and field-based environmental education to Hood River and Wasco County K-12 students at the Nichols Natural Area located along the Columbia River and near the confluence of the Hood and Columbia rivers, and in-classroom visits for schools unable to travel. As part of the programming, the project will encourage Columbia River recreation (fishing, birding, nature viewing, swimming etc.) and introduce students to the value of conservation. The project will also promote diversity, equity, and inclusion by: (1) offering the programming at no cost; (2) providing the option for programming in Spanish, English, or both; (3) engaging diverse school districts (example: Hood River County School District is 42% Latine); and (4) offering to pay transportation costs (i.e., school buses) if the cost of transportation is a barrier for a school's engagement. |
| 19 | Community Engaged Watershed Restoration to Benefit Imperiled Species in an Urban Watershed | Friends of Tryon Creek | Willamette Valley | $24,945 | This project will restore 15 acres of riparian habitat within Tryon Creek State Natural Area (PWCA Region 7), a critical corridor near the Lower Willamette River Floodplain COA, by removing invasive species and planting 4,000 native trees and shrubs to improve habitat connectivity, canopy cover, and stream health for Pileated Woodpecker, Western Grey Squirrel, Western Brook Lamprey & Coho Salmon. This project will also conduct community science monitoring to support climate change and water quality data, uplifting Oregon Conservation Strategy Species including A Caddisfly, California Myotis, and Western Pearlshell Mussel. The project will engage volunteers and Green Leader workforce interns in hands-on restoration and monitoring to build long-term community stewardship, supporting a total of 17 Oregon Conservation Strategy Species and 5 Key Conservation Issues. |
| 20 | Community Engagement in Conservation and Stewardship | Friends of Otter Rock Marine Reserve | Nearshore | $20,000 | The project will<br>° launch the third year of Rocky Shores Training for volunteers and seasonal workers,<br>° reach over 10,000 visitors to the Devil's Punchbowl with interpretive stories that elevate visitor and resident appreciation of the local ecosystem and encourage stewardship,<br>° expand our communication capabilities using paid staff that will reduce the reliance on volunteer board members, and<br>° strengthen partnerships with CTSI, NGOs, and agencies focused on kelp bed restoration and maintenance |

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| 21 | Community Science Beaver Sign Surveys to inform restoration and conservation on Two National Forests | Think Wild | Blue Mountains; East Cascades | $23,738 | Research on beavers contributed to recent policy changes in Oregon (HB 3464 and HB 3932) that removed their designation as predators and link their presence to measurable water quality outcomes. However, ecological data and coordinated monitoring have not kept pace, limiting the ability of agencies and partners to prioritize restoration and management actions effectively.<br>This project addresses these gaps by generating large-scale, research-grade data on beaver occupancy, habitat use, and dam-building activity through standardized community science surveys. While no restoration funds are requested, the project strengthens existing and future restoration efforts by providing consistent, landscape-scale information that helps align restoration planning, monitoring, and habitat assessment to support biodiversity, informed wildlife management, and community stewardship. |
| 22 | Connecting Community to Watersheds: Youth Monitoring on the Umpqua National Forest | Pacific Rivers | West Cascades | $12,569 | To provide training and stewardship opportunities to low income and tribal students, who snorkel streams collecting steelhead and coho salmon counts that contribute to a long-term monitoring dataset that informs restoration and conservation programs on National Forest Land. The project is designed not only to increase access to outdoor spaces, but to expand who participates in the science, stewardship, and decision-making that sustain Oregon's rivers and recreation opportunities over time. |
| 23 | Connecting People to Indigenous Knowledge in Bird Conservation | Environment for the Americas | Northern Basin & Range | $24,961 | Environment for the Americas, in partnership with the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Klamath Bird Observatory, and Bird City Oregon, will strengthen the connection between Indigenous communities and bird conservation by centering Indigenous knowledge in the 2027 World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) campaign. This project will develop culturally relevant, community-led programming in Yachats, Eugene, Portland, Ashland-Medford, and central Willamette Valley, fostering respect for Indigenous stewardship and raising broad public awareness of traditional ecological wisdom. A dedicated intern will drive outreach, bilingual facilitation, and partnership-building to support five WMBD events statewide, inspiring inclusive engagement and empowering diverse audiences to protect all 58 bird species identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy. |
| 24 | Connecting the Luckiamute State Natural Areas - Trail planning at Luckiamute Confluence Preserve | Greenbelt Land Trust (GLT) | Willamette Valley | $24,952 | This project will implement trail planning at GLT's permanently protected 103-acre Luckiamute Confluence, situated adjacent to the Luckiamute/Willamette rivers and between the two OPRD Luckiamute State Natural Areas (LSNAs) in Polk County. In the context of ongoing floodplain forest restoration and connectivity to the existing LSNA trails, the recreation plan will address trail siting, types of recreational uses and engage with subject matter experts for thoughtful analysis to ensure we maximize the recreational user experience while also minimizing the impacts of recreation and infrastructure maintenance on the property's flowing water/riparian habitats and species such as spring chinook, winter steelhead, Pacific lamprey, coastal cutthroat trout, western bluebird, western pond turtle, willow flycatcher and yellow breasted chat. |

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| 25 | Coyote Creek Boating Access Project | Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | ODFW proposes upgrading an existing day-use area with an ADA-accessible paddle craft launch, featuring a new path, parking lot, vault toilet, dock, PFD-loaning station, and signage. This project provides safe, inclusive access to the outdoors along the Coyote Creek corridor, Fern Ridge Reservoir, and Fern Ridge Wildlife Area within the West Eugene Area Conservation Opportunity Area (COA). This will provide excellent wildlife-viewing opportunities as Fern Ridge Wildlife Area is widely-known as one of Oregon's birding hotspots. Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that can be appreciated by visitors include purple martin, willow flycatcher, western meadowlark, western bluebird, chipping sparrow, and yellow-breasted chat. |
| 26 | Crooked River Watershed Restoration Ecology Field Study | Crooked River Watershed Council | Blue Mountains | $24,735 | The goal of this project is to introduce 27–36 students from Portland, rural Central Oregon, and the Warm Springs Reservation to restoration ecology through at least 3 hands-on "Job Shadow & Volunteer" field trips at active riparian sites along the Crooked River. By working directly with restoration professionals on tasks like site mapping willow planting, exclusionary fencing and Beaver Dam Analogue installation, participants will gain practical skills that foster environmental stewardship and create clear pathways toward conservation careers. This immersive strategy gets young people outside and directly improves habitat for key strategy species, including ESA-listed Bull and Redband trout, by restoring critical watershed health and climate resilience. |
| 27 | Crumb Clean Educational Toolkit for Responsible Recreation on the Oregon Coast | American Bird Conservancy | Coast Range; Nearshore | $24,150 | This project will hire a conservation fellow to design an educational toolkit for communicating Crumb Clean messaging to recreational visitors of Oregon’s beaches and Coast Range forests. The fellow will work with state and federal recreation area managers to identify the appropriate toolkit materials and create at least 10 products, such as signs, hands-on activities, or activity books. This will contribute to the educational component of a Crumb Clean Campaign that seeks to reduce human trash and food scraps in recreation areas that cause increases in nest predator densities of two Strategy Species, the Marbled Murrelet and Western Snowy Plover. |
| 28 | Deathball Mountain | McKenzie Trail Volunteers | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | During this phase of the Deathball Project, approximately 35 miles of mountain bike trails will be designed with a focus on all skill levels, and access for adaptive mountain bike (aMTB) and eMTB use. The overall goal of the project is to create outdoor recreation opportunities for historically under-served communities, including adaptive MTB athletes, and to decrease pressure on over-visited trails and sites in the area. |
| 29 | Development and implementation of health charts to rapidly assess gray whale health for improved management | Oregon State University | Nearshore | $24,565 | This project will use a unique dataset of gray whale body condition spanning 40 years to develop a standardized health chart for researchers and managers to rapidly diagnose the health status of this State Endangered, Strategy Species. This project will also provide educational content accessible to all Oregonians by updating our IndividuWhale.com website with a new webpage describing this health chart and updating the health status of individual whales. We also will host a virtual “Fat Whale Week” to promote gray whale conservation and education through several engaging, social media and webpage posts that celebrate how gray whales must increase their body condition every summer to stay healthy. |

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| 30 | Días del Salmón | Necanicum Watershed Council | Coast Range | $25,000 | Días del Salmón will increase access to outdoor recreation and conservation education for Latinx children and families in Clatsop County, who make up approximately 10% of the local population. The project will engage Spanish-speaking families through bilingual, culturally responsive, and family-centered outdoor recreation activities that reduce barriers to participation. Through place-based experiences that follow the connection from forests and streams to the Necanicum River, estuary, and ocean, participants will learn how land and water systems support salmon and community well-being. Activities such as guided nature walks, beach soccer days, fishing events, Necanicum estuary water-quality monitoring, and Eggs to Fry (Huevos a Pecezuelos) release celebrations will provide education on coho salmon habitat, watershed health, and water quality. |
| 31 | Disston Pathway Access Protection and Safety Improvements | Row River Fire Response \| Row River Valley Community Partnership | Willamette Valley; West Cascades | $20,000 | The project will protect a 4-mile rural non-motorized pathway located within the Row River watershed in the Disston area east of Cottage Grove, Oregon, by preventing unauthorized vehicle access through targeted access control measures. This work will improve pedestrian and cyclist safety while reducing soil disturbance, dumping, and erosion, resulting in improved riparian function and water quality that benefit Oregon Conservation Strategy Species associated with riparian and forest-edge habitats. The project will also support long-term community stewardship of this 4-mile pathway as a safe and reliable access corridor within the watershed. |
| 32 | Dive into Science — Oregon | Oregon Kelp Alliance, The Ocean Foundation (fiscal agent) | Nearshore | $25,000 | Dive into Science - Oregon will provide SCUBA diving training, ocean-based field trips, and hands-on marine science education to 10-15 members and staff of the Coquille Indian Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians. This training will take place largely in the Coos Bay and Port Orford Areas. This program will provide Tribal participants with the kind of hands-on experience and knowledge needed to develop Tribally-led marine stewardship as well as developing a pool of highly trained local divers available to participate in kelp forest restoration and stewardship activities, thereby benefiting Strategy species such as bull kelp, sunflower sea stars, and abalone. |
| 33 | Effects of fire age on Lewis's Woodpecker (Melanerpes lewis) reproduction | Cal Poly Humboldt | East Cascades | $24,937 | This project will address a key knowledge gap about breeding success of Lewis's Woodpecker (Melanerpes lewis), an Oregon Conservation Strategy Species. We will specifically examine how reproductive output is associated with fire age and post-fire forest structure in 6 fires in east Cascades across one or two field seasons. This project will engage volunteers in bird watching for community science on public lands, support graduate student research, facilitate training and work experience for undergraduates from underrepresented groups, and produce multiple presentations and manuscripts/reports. |

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| 34 | Engaging Community Scientists and Adventurers in Locating Black Swift Nest Sites | Portland State University | Coast Range; West Cascades | $24,957 | Our project will mobilize community scientists and adventurers to generate actionable conservation knowledge about Black Swifts, a Species of Greatest Conservation Need, whose breeding habitat is limited to waterfalls that meet specific environmental conditions, including reliable late season water flow. Through the project, we will identify and rank the suitability of dozens to hundreds of potential Black Swift breeding locations by gathering spatial data on known waterfall locations, participants' experiences of individual site conditions, and field survey data collected by birders and off-trail waterfall enthusiasts. The resulting geodatabase of high-likelihood nesting sites will provide a foundation for future monitoring, climate adaptation planning, and proactive protection of some of Oregon's most vulnerable aquatic-terrestrial interfaces. |
| 35 | Expanding Equitable Outdoor Access at Cascades Raptor Center | Cascades Raptor Center | Willamette Valley | $6,462 | The South Hill Accessibility Project will improve safe, equitable outdoor access at Cascades Raptor Center in Lane County, Oregon, by installing ADA-compliant safety railings along the walkways that serve high-traffic visitor areas. The primary goal is to remove physical barriers that limit access for people experiencing disabilities, seniors, and families, enabling broader participation in wildlife viewing, conservation education, and nature-based recreation. By enhancing inclusive access to a site that supports public engagement with native raptors and their habitats, this project advances Oregon Conservation Strategy priorities by connecting more Oregonians to wildlife while promoting responsible, low-impact recreation. |
| 36 | Expansion of the Wolverine Tracking Project into Central and Eastern Oregon | Cascadia Wild | Blue Mountains; East Cascades; West Cascades | $21,750 | The community science–based Wolverine Tracking Project engages volunteers in collecting critical data on rare carnivores and is expanding from the Mt. Hood region into Central Oregon. Now in its 26th year, the project advances Oregon's Conservation Strategies by monitoring five of the state's rarest carnivores (Sierra Nevada red fox, wolverine, fisher, Pacific marten and wolves) while fostering meaningful connections between people, wildlife, and the outdoors. Support from the OCRF will strengthen conservation outcomes, broaden public participation, and reduce long-standing barriers to outdoor access. Together, this work benefits Oregon's wildlife, public lands, and the people who depend on and care for them. |
| 37 | Exploring Caves and Conservation: Perception research and education to promote bat conservation | Oregon State University | Klamath Mountains | $25,000 | This project will gather and characterize important insight into perceptions of bats, bat conservation issues, White Nose Syndrome (WNS), and intention to engage with bat conservation related behaviors through a series of surveys with cave visitors Oregon Caves National Monument. This data can be used to inform communication, education, outreach, and management strategies aimed at promoting conservation of bat species, eight of which are listed in the State Wildlife Action Plan. We also include opportunities for added engagement through a series of survey-informed webinars and raffles for bat conservation related items for survey participation and seminar attendance (i.e., bat boxes, books about bats). |

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| 38 | Floodplain Analysis to Enable Beaver-Driven Wetland Expansion at the Parker–Mendenhall Creek Confluence | Project Beaver (an assumed business name of The Beaver Coalition) | Klamath Mountains | $24,900 | The goal of this project is to complete a FEMA-compliant floodplain analysis that enables the restoration of over two acres of beaver-managed wetland habitat at the confluence of Parker and Mendenhall Creeks near Cave Junction, Oregon. By defining base flood elevations and floodplain extents, this project removes a key regulatory barrier to restoring natural floodplain function and increasing drought-resilient habitat for Oregon Conservation Strategy species. The project directly supports habitat restoration and aquatic ecosystem resilience in a water-limited region. |
| 39 | From Seeds to Silverspots: Priority Plant Materials for Coastal Grassland Restoration | Institute for Applied Ecology | Coast Range | $25,000 | The goal of this project is to increase the availability of genetically and ecologically appropriate native seed for use in coastal restoration to improve recovery efforts for the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly. High quality native seed will improve landscape resiliency, benefit wildlife habitat, and improve the recreation experience on the Oregon coast. Coastal partners and land managers will benefit from a coordinated plant materials effort. |
| 40 | Gen Z Stewards: Building the Next Generation of Public Land Advocates | Dirty Freehub | Statewide: 9 ecoregions | $25,000 | This project will engage young adults (ages 18–26) in peer-led stewardship activities on public lands across Oregon by hiring & supporting a Gen Z Program Coordinator to design & implement youth-centered participation pathways. Using gravel cycling as an accessible entry point, Dirty Freehub will pilot Gen Z–led Ride-to-Steward events that combine responsible recreation education with hands-on conservation actions such as invasive species removal, trail corridor maintenance & habitat awareness. The project strengthens long-term stewardship capacity to support Oregon Conservation Strategy priorities by reducing recreation-related impacts to riparian, forest & high-desert ecosystems that benefit salmonids, birds, amphibians & other wildlife. Gen Z storytelling & documentation may be incorporated to reinforce peer learning, shared stewardship norms & responsible recreation practices. |
| 41 | Get Ready! Stay Ready! Program | Black Affinity Group | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | The Get Ready! Stay Ready! program will serve 40–50 Black teens ages 10–18 over a one-year period in Portland and nearby natural areas, with the primary goal of preparing young Black men for life readiness while increasing equitable access to Oregon's outdoor spaces. Through culturally responsive mentorship, leadership development, and outdoor-based learning experiences, the project will strengthen youth connection to nature and build long-term stewardship values. By engaging historically excluded youth in Oregon's landscapes and conservation-focused activities, the project supports inclusive outcomes that benefit the multitude of species that rely on healthy, well-stewarded ecosystems. |
| 42 | Hot on the trail: quantifying wildlife responses to human disturbance and forest fuels treatments | The Nature Conservancy | East Cascades | $24,967 | The goal of this collaborative project is to incorporate core habitat and connectivity into forest planning to prioritize large-scale projects that restore forest resilience to wildfire and climate change and promote biodiversity conservation while minimizing tradeoffs with recreation at landscape scales. To do this, we seek to determine how avoidance of humans due to roads and recreation may be disproportionately affecting wildlife in the context of forest thinning and prescribed fire treatments in the Deschutes National Forest (DNF). We seek to deploy camera traps and acoustic recording units in treated and untreated areas deemed important for wildlife habitat connectivity in the context of high recreation locations and a forest restoration project area currently closed to the public. |

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| 43 | Impacts of juniper management on Oregon Pinyon Jay populations | Oregon Institute of Technology | East Cascades | $24,952 | Our goal is to quantify the impacts of active and planned juniper treatment on Pinyon Jay populations and habitat in Deschutes County, Oregon in terms of seasonal occupancy and nesting. This will inform planning and implementation of local juniper treatment actions which has been identified as a priority for resource managers in BLM, USFS, USFWS, and ODFW in Oregon and by the PIJA Western Working Group and Conservation Agreement and Strategy for the conservation and management of PIJA throughout their range where juniper removal is a common management practive. This project will also inform the 2028 ESA Status Review of PIJA, which is being co-authored by Claudia Funari from the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office of the USFWS in Bend, OR. |
| 44 | Inclusive Conservation & Recreation | Belong Art Community | Willamette Valley; West Cascades | $20,000 | This project will provide full support for five neurodiverse and racially diverse individuals to spend two nights and three days camping at Timothy Lake in the Mt. Hood National Forest. These individuals will document the recreational accessibility of the south campgrounds and day use areas using photography, videography and audio interview to create a podcast and printed record of their discoveries. Then provide detailed information available using the web and podcasts for visitors and campground managers to encourage visitors of all ages and abilities to enjoy the outdoors to the fullest extent. The participants will be supported by caregivers to meet their daily needs, a landscape architect to advise on access, and a biologist to educate on the flora, fauna and ecology surrounding the lake. |
| 45 | Investigating Nesting Ecology of Northwestern Pond Turtle in the Mosier Population | ODFW Mid-Columbia Wildlife District | East Cascades | $7,000 | This project will help define nesting habitat and nesting limitations for Northwestern pond turtles at 5 ponds in the Mosier population. The project will engage partners on the data collection side of this project including 8 private landowners, Friends of the Gorge, and the USFS (Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area). It will also lead to recommendations for management actions for these partners to help enhance NWPT nesting habitat in the area. |
| 46 | Lake Ewauna Wellness - Interpretive/Wayfinding Signage | Sky Lakes Foundation | East Cascades | $25,000 | Because visitors arrive with a wide range of interests and abilities, from first-time park users to experienced naturalists, wayfinding and interpretive elements should be clear, welcoming, and layered. Our goal is to help newcomers feel oriented and included while offering deeper content for returning visitors, connecting wildlife, habitats, recreation, learning, and the shared goals of community wellness and reflection. |
| 47 | Lewis's Woodpecker: Winter ecology and migratory connectivity of a Conservation Strategy Species | Klamath Bird Observatory | Klamath Mountains | $24,999 | We have four goals: 1) deploy Motus tags on Lewis's Woodpeckers wintering in the Rogue Valley to better understand local and migratory movements, 2) examine within- and between-year winter site fidelity of tagged birds, 3) measure acorn abundance and relate to site fidelity metrics, 4) disseminate results to land manager partners and the public with a Manager's Summary report and online content, and 5) contribute to education and outdoor equity by engaging community scientists, participating in field classroom visits, and leading bilingual bird walks. This study will take place at the Rogue River Preserve managed by Southern Oregon Land Conservancy. Novel data collected during this project will contribute to better understanding Lewis's Woodpecker ecology, and to developing appropriate conservation actions towards a long-term goal of stabilizing and increasing the species's population. |

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| 48 | Making it RAIN in the Rogue River Watershed | Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG) | Coast Range; Klamath Mountains | $24,928 | Over the next three years, RAIN will engage Rogue River rafting and fishing guides through targeted outreach and trainings. These efforts will provide species identification training, enabling partners to report new sightings of targeted invasive species and to map observations for future removal efforts through a RAIN iNaturalist group. Participating guides will also have opportunities to assist with on-the-ground control efforts by engaging in RAIN River Partner Workdays. |
| 49 | Managing and Protecting Wild Salmon Through Real-Time AI Monitoring | Wild Salmon Center | Klamath Mountains; Willamette Valley | $25,000 | WSC and the SV collaborative will develop and test computer-vision models for automated species counting of salmon and other Oregon Conservation Strategy Species, including coho, chum, and Chinook Salmon, steelhead, redband trout, Pacific Lamprey, Lost River and Shortnose suckers and other fish, such as invasive species migrating through dam fishways and weirs. These efforts, which will include a partnership with ODFW, PacifiCorp, Tribes and local Watershed Councils, will provide tools and training data to support ongoing refinement and application of computer-vision AI in population monitoring, providing timely and accurate estimates of fish passage to support sustainable fisheries, and Oregon Conservation Strategy Key Conservation issues including fish passage, climate change, land use changes, invasive species, and population recovery for Oregon Conservation Species and other fish. |
| 50 | Mapping bull kelp and monitoring wildlife populations with ROV technology | Oregon Coast Aquarium | Nearshore | $20,000 | This project will use ROV technology to map targeted areas inside and outside Oregon's marine reserves, gathering data on Oregon Conservation Strategy species including bull kelp (Nereocystis luetkeana), sunflower sea stars (Pycnopodia helianthoides), and various species of rockfish. We will also collect data on juvenile rockfish populations, providing information that benefits recreational harvest. Research findings will be communicated to the public through the Aquarium's Mission Engagement department through onsite and outreach educational programs to increase ocean literacy. |
| 51 | Maupin Osprey Cam | Maupin Area Chamber Endowment | East Cascades | $1,860 | This project will engage the public in viewing wildlife, mainly osprey, using a camera and weather station to live stream a beloved local osprey pair and other animals that live in and near the Deschutes River. The live stream will be hosted on the Maupin Area Chamber's website: MaupinOregon.com, so that the public can access the live video anytime, anywhere. |
| 52 | McKenzie River Discovery Center Invasive Plant Removal Project | McKenzie River Discovery Center | Willamette Valley; West Cascades | $25,000 | The project will restore 5-acres of land (wetland and riparian) in partnership with County Parks, MRDC volunteers, and Cascade Family Fly-fishers by removing invasive plants, resulting in the benefit of spawning and rearing habitat for coastal cutthroat trout and Western Brook Lamprey in Hatchery Creek. We currently utilize the Northwest Youth Corps (NWYC) to remove invasive English Ivy from trees which will benefit the trees, White-breasted nuthatches, bats (unknown species), and many other native species. Additionally, ODFW's Conservation Program staff will be out to do a site evaluation for potential bat telemetry, which would inform us (and ODFW) as to what bat species we have on site.<br>We will continue invasive species removal (cutting, hand-removal and pesticide applications) after initial work is performed utilizing NWYC and other volunteer groups. |

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| 53 | Monument LTPBR Riparian Fencing | Trout Unlimited | East Cascades | $25,000 | Trout Unlimited will partner with the Bureau of Land Management and the local Klamath-Rogue TU Chapter to protect two Low-Tech Process-Based Restoration projects by installing 1.5 miles of wildlife-friendly riparian fencing around .75 miles of riparian habitat. The riparian fencing will protect critically important wetland habitat that would be vulnerable to annual grazing. |
| 54 | Northwest Youth Corps - Maintaining Habitat Through Scotch Broom Removal at the Oregon Dunes | Northwest Youth Corps (NYC) | Coast Range | $18,748 | The project will restore approximately 10 acres of land at the Oregon Day Use Area, and Honeyman State Park in partnership with the Oregon Dunes Restoration Collaborative by removing invasive Scotch Broom. This protects rearing habitat for western snowy plover (Anarhynchus nivosus nivosus)- listed as a threatened species by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - as well as Endangered Species Act-listed pink sand verbena, seashore bluegrass, and sand fescue. The approximately 100,000 people who recreate at these areas yearly will enjoy better views and hiking activities, and will return, which in turn, benefits local coastal economies. Activities will be carried out by local young adults, ages 19-26, who will develop basic career skills, receive technical trainings, earn money and an AmeriCorps Education Award good for college tuition, loans, trade schools, or outdoor certificates. |
| 55 | NW Steelheaders Community Fishing Program | Association of Northwest Steelheaders | Coast Range; Willamette Valley; West Cascades | $24,730 | Primary Goal: Increase equitable access to recreational fishing for underserved, minority, and low-income communities across Oregon. |
| 56 | People of Color Outdoors Environmental Education Program for Children | People of Color Outdoors | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | Deliver 9 weeks of environmental education. Engage up to 25 underserved BIPOC children weekly. Focus is Oregon ecosystems & conservation challenges. We hike & paddle for 6 weeks. Through outdoor exploration, daily guest instructors, & youth-led teaching, the program builds stewardship, expands access to nature-based recreation (paddling, birding, habitat observation), develops 7+ youth leaders ages 8-10 as environmental educators through an optional, rigorous student teacher program requiring family collaboration at home between sessions. Student teachers create complete lessons & present to peers, build public speaking & leadership skills. Our proven six-year leadership pipeline has produced multiple youth who progressed from Guardians to student teachers. Guardians are future advocates for Oregon Conservation Strategy priorities. Our program closes equity gaps in outdoor access. |

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| 57 | Pollinator Habitat for Oregon Wine | Pollinator Partnership | Columbia Plateau; Willamette Valley | $24,528 | This project will help continue the excellent work that is being conducted in Oregon by LIVE members who are installing pollinator habitat on their vineyards. This funding will provide 3 Oregon producers with plant material and technical assistance to enhance 1,000 acres of working land, restore a total of 10 acres and 24,000 square feet of on-farm pollinator habitat, and increase public engagement, awareness, education, and recreation with the central focus on critical pollinator issues. This project will provide essential coverage for Oregon Conservation Strategy Species: Fender's blue butterfly, Franklin's bumble bee, Great spangled fritillary, Leona's little blue butterfly, Mardon skipper butterfly, Monarch butterfly, OR silverspot butterfly, and Western bumble bee. This project also addresses the ODFW's strategy spotlight on pollinators. |
| 58 | Preserving a Healthy Habitat Through Interpretive Trail Signage at Mosier Plateau | Friends of the Columbia Gorge | East Cascades | $25,000 | This project will improve conservation outcomes and visitor experiences at Mosier Plateau in Wasco County by installing 8–10 inclusive, multilingual interpretive signs and a trailhead kiosk within the Wasco Oaks Conservation Opportunity Area. The signage will guide responsible recreation, reduce habitat impacts, and educate visitors. The educational themes include Oregon white oak systems, Oregon Conservation Strategy Species, as well as cultural learnings of First Peoples' life ways, while reinforcing ongoing stewardship work led by Friends' Land Stewards—such as invasive species removal, native plant seed propagation, trail maintenance, and community science bird monitoring of the Western Bluebird. Together, signage and stewardship will protect sensitive habitats and foster long-term conservation ethics in the Columbia River Gorge. |
| 59 | Project PLAY (Pontential, Learning and Access for Youth) | Oregon Adaptive Sports | East Cascades | $15,000 | Oregon Adaptive Sports will deliver a year of inclusive adaptive sports programs for youth with disabilities, providing 200 youth with disabilities at least 1,000 outdoor recreation experiences through adaptive alpine skiing, Nordic skiing, cycling, and paddling from 10/01/2026 to 09/30/2027. The primary goal is to remove barriers to outdoor access while building lifelong connections to Oregon's natural landscapes, including through naturalist supported paddling days on the Cascade Lakes and Nordic skiing and snowshoeing at Mt Bachelor and Hoodoo Ski Areas that promote environmental understanding and responsible recreation. |
| 60 | Promoting Equity and Inclusion through Friends Internship Program | Friends of Buford Park and Mt. Pisgah (FBP) | Willamette Valley | $24,966 | The project will empower young individuals from marginalized groups to engage in landscape-scale conservation initiatives through FBP's dynamic internship program by lowering financial barriers for selected participants. Interns will directly participate in conservation initiatives including habitat restoration, improving habitat connectivity, improving and maintaining recreational trails, and growing native plants for seed collection at our 2-acre nursery. |
| 61 | Propagation and Distribution of Coastal Plants for Restoration and Habitat Enhancement | Tillamook Estuaries Partnership | Coast Range | $25,000 | This project will distribute 2,500 trees and shrubs and 1,000 forbs to restore 2 miles of riparian zone and 14 acres of wetlands, meadows, and upland forest on the Oregon Coast. These plants will create over-wintering habitat for coastal salmonids, retain stream buffers, and lower aquatic temperatures. |

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| 62 | Reconnecting Heroes to Oregon's Natural Landscapes | Warrior Impact | East Cascades; Klamath Mountains; West Cascades | $20,000 | Warrior Impact will provide 4–6 multi-day Outdoor Immersion experiences across Oregon to support over 60 veterans and first responders experiencing trauma-related mental health challenges. The project will use guided outdoor recreation, peer-supported healing practices, and nature-based therapeutic programming to reduce isolation, strengthen emotional resilience, and increase access to Oregon's natural landscapes. Participants will develop long-term wellness practices while building deeper connections to outdoor recreation and community service. |
| 63 | Restoration of critical watershed habitat in the Klamath Mountains using traditional ecological knowledge | Maqlaqs Gaa'tkni | Klamath Mountains | $25,000 | This project will restore wildlife habitat, promote forest health, and mitigate drought on 10 acres that have been documented by ODFW as habitat for Pacific Fisher and Cutthroat Trout in the Klamath Mountains by thinning congested Ponderosa Pine and mixed conifer stands that surround year-round streams, resulting in improved riparian processes and resilience of key hydrologic and wildlife corridors.<br><br>Maqlaqs Gaat'kni will partner with the Klamath Tribes, the original stewards of the land, with a focus on employing youth tribal members interested in gaining valuable skills and the transmission of traditional ecological knowledge. |
| 64 | Restoring Opportunities for Youth and Elders to Connect with Clatsop and Cathlamet Ecosystems | Confederated Lower Chinook Tribes & Bands (Chinook Indian Nation) | Coast Range; Nearshore | $25,000 | With a goal to revitalize cultural lifeways, traditional stewardship, and important species, the project develops place-based education and multiple annual opportunities for Chinook Indian Nation youth and elders to engage in fishing, shellfish harvesting, native food and plant gathering, and habitat restoration. Activities center on the 1851 Tansy Point treaty grounds and extend further within the ancestral Clatsop and Cathlamet territories, which underlie the first eight numerically listed Conservation Opportunity Areas in the Coast Range Ecoregion, and parts of the Nearshore Ecoregion. These Indigenous concerns and approaches also benefit Oregon Conservation Strategy Species including Fall and Spring Chinook Salmon, Chum and Coho Salmon, Summer and Winter Steelhead, Coastal Cutthroat and Rainbow Trout, Pacific Lamprey, Western Brook and River Lamprey, Native Eelgrass, and Surf Grass. |

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| 65 | Restoring Salmon Populations in North Clackamas Watersheds by Removing Toxic Tire Dust (6PPD-q) | North Clackamas Watersheds Council | Willamette Valley | $24,840 | The Council will identify high-priority projects to reduce salmonid mortality (especially Coho) from 6PPD-quinone in the Lower Willamette, critical habitat for the Clackamas Fish Population. 6PPD-q, a recently-identified chemical in road runoff, is invariably lethal to Coho and toxic to Chinook & Steelhead/Rainbow Trout. Unaddressed 6PPD-q is a threat to multimillion-dollar investments in habitat restoration. We will:<br>• Complete a stormwater analysis that targets outfalls with most 6PPD-q impact on salmonids<br>• 6PPD-q testing at identified priority outfalls<br>• Develop initial designs & cost estimates for high priority treatment projects<br>• Collaborate with agencies to incorporate projects into agency plans<br><br>The project will reduce mortality of ESA-listed LCR & Upper Willamette salmonids, including Strategy Species salmonids, Pacific lamprey & Flowing Water Strategy Habitats in the LWRF. |
| 66 | Revival of the Maklaks | Maqlaqs Paddle | East Cascades; Klamath Mountains; Northern Basin & Range | $25,000 | This project will expand culturally grounded paddling and rafting programs across the Klamath Basin—including Fort Klamath, Chiloquin, Sprague River, Beatty, Klamath Falls, and the Upper Klamath River—to increase equitable access to outdoor recreation and strengthen community stewardship of key Strategy Habitats. Working in partnership with Páah Áama Paddle Club, The Stronghold, and Honor the Treaty of 1864, the project will provide family rafting, youth fishing lessons, and tailored paddling experiences that deepen cultural connection to water and wildlife. These activities will benefit Oregon Conservation Strategy Species such as the Oregon spotted frog, western pond turtle, migratory waterfowl, and culturally significant native fish including C'waam and Koptu by fostering awareness, stewardship, and community science engagement. |
| 67 | Roots & Recovery | L-APS, INC. | Blue Mountains; Columbia Plateau | $25,000 | The goal of Roots & Recovery is to support adults in recovery in Morrow and Umatilla Counties as they spend time outdoors and feel comfortable in public spaces. The project encourages participation through guided activities such as fishing, short nature walks, wildlife watching, and outdoor art days at local lakes and parks. These activities build respect for fish, wildlife, and shared outdoor spaces through safe, responsible recreation. |
| 68 | Rural Family Nature Connection & Inclusive Outdoor Learning Project | The Backyard Nature Academy | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | Project Goal:<br>The goal of the Rural Family Nature Connection & Inclusive Outdoor Learning Project is to increase equitable access to outdoor recreation and nature-based learning for children and families in the rural community of Veneta, Oregon by providing inclusive, guided outdoor programs that support physical activity, emotional wellbeing, and meaningful connections to the natural world for approximately 600 participants annually. |

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| 69 | Salmon, Streams, and Stewardship: Education & Outreach in Curry County | Curry Soil and Water Conservation District | Coast Range; Nearshore | $25,000 | This project will engage grades 5th-12th in all three Curry County school districts, including Port Orford, Gold Beach, and Brookings, in hands-on watershed education and habitat restoration within coastal streams and riparian areas. Through Salmon Watch field trips, riparian planting and invasive species removal, internships for high school and college students, and a high school career speaker series, our project will improve riparian habitat conditions, increase environmental literacy, and foster long-term stewardship benefiting Oregon Conservation Strategy Species Coho salmon, Chinook salmon, and Steelhead. |
| 70 | Selection of Foraging Habitat and Nest-sites by Bombus occidentalis in Northeast Oregon | Wallowa Resources | Blue Mountains | $14,351 | The project will document selection of nest sites and foraging habitat by B. occidentalis on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. Knowledge gained will inform efforts to protect federally listed bumble bees in managed forests of Northeast Oregon. The project will engage partnerships from a diversity of stakeholders including the US Forest Service, Wallowa Resources, US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Xerces Society, and community volunteers. |
| 71 | Shoreline Stewards: Enhancing Nearshore Wildlife Education and Responsible Recreation | Oregon State University | Nearshore | $25,000 | The project will deliver on site, bilingual wildlife safe recreation education along the central Oregon coast, focusing on high use sites in Lincoln County, to increase public understanding of nearshore species and reduce unintentional disturbance to wildlife and intertidal habitats. Through roving interpretation, micro lessons, and science based materials, the project will promote safe viewing and stranding practices for marine mammals and responsible tide pool etiquette benefiting intertidal species such as ochre sea stars, mussels, and sea urchins. By engaging more than 1,500 coastal visitors with practical, stewardship oriented guidance, the project will strengthen responsible recreation behaviors and support the conservation priorities outlined in Oregon's Nearshore Strategy. |
| 72 | South Fork John Day Monitoring Strategy | South Fork John Day Watershed Council | Blue Mountains | $25,000 | The South Fork John Day Watershed is home to Steelhead, Redband Trout, Chinook Salmon, Rocky Mountain Big Horn Sheep, and Pacific marten all incorporated into the Blue Mountain Ecoregion and the South Fork John Day Conservation Opportunity Area. Water Quantity and Quality are one of the Key Conservation issues for the Blue Mountain Ecoregion.<br><br>Our Goal is to create a comprehensive cross boundary monitoring strategy in which we build on past monitoring data to strengthen existing datasets, fill data gaps, and assess impacts from restoration and conservation projects, as well as establishing baseline conditions against which future changes can be measured. |

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| 73 | Southern Resident Killer Whale Monitoring | Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition | Nearshore | $25,000 | The project goals are to:<br>1) document the location and behaviors of Southern Resident Killer Whales, a strategy species, along the Oregon Coast for a second season (2025-2026 was the first season; 2026-2027 will be the second season);<br>2) train community volunteers to conduct observations of individual killer whales and document data regarding their location and behaviors, both from the Oregon coastline and the open ocean; and<br>3) fill a data gap identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy -- although data exists for Southern Resident Killer Whales in Canada, Washington, and California, no such data currently exists for Oregon. This will inform management actions for recovery plans by both ODFW and NOAA. |
| 74 | Student-Led Monitoring of Nonnative Smallmouth Bass to Support Native Fish Conservation | Oregon Dept. Fish and Wildlife | Columbia Plateau | $24,942 | This project will engage 6th–8th grade students from Condon Grade School in hands-on fisheries science by monitoring smallmouth bass, a nonnative piscivorous predator, in the Lower Mainstem John Day River near Thirtymile Creek, an Oregon Conservation Strategy Opportunity Area. Working alongside ODFW biologists, students will capture, PIT-tag, and collect biological data to address a critical information gap on smallmouth bass and their impacts on threatened Mid-Columbia River steelhead, an Oregon Conservation Strategy Species. The project builds conservation stewardship in a rural community while generating data that inform management decisions. |
| 75 | Summer of Oregon State Parks 2026 | Environment Oregon Research & Policy Center | Blue Mountains; Coast Range; Columbia Plateau; East Cascades; Nearshore; Northern Basin & Range | $25,000 | This project will educate rural Oregonians in partnership with local libraries, community centers and businesses. The project will also engage rural Oregonians in volunteer service activities such as trail maintenance, invasive removal, native planting or trash pickup in partnership with local organizations and the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department. The project will also engage rural Oregonians in recreational and educational activities in partnership with the Oregon Parks & Recreation Department. The project will educate Oregonians throughout the state — and Americans across the country — through online content documenting these parks and communities, the people engaged and the ecoregions, watersheds and habitats they share with myriad other species. |
| 76 | Sustaining Coastal Stewardship and Community Science in the Netarts Bay Watershed | Friends of Netarts Bay Watershed, Estuary, Beach and Sea | Coast Range; Nearshore | $25,000 | WEBS' project strengthens conservation education, stewardship, and community science in the Netarts Bay watershed and Cape Lookout Management Unit through free, hands-on volunteer and learning opportunities. The project builds on existing programs—park stewardship, marine debris monitoring, habitat restoration, and expert-led educational events—to protect coastal and estuarine habitats, support native vegetation, reduce habitat degradation, and promote responsible recreation. By engaging these students, Tribal partners, volunteers, and underserved community members (rural Oregonians), the project fosters inclusive, place-based stewardship and benefits estuary-focused species of conservation concern associated with eelgrass, dungeness crab, olympia oysters, little neck clams, seastars, and more. |

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| 77 | Taking Action to Save the Imperiled Mazama Newt | Oregon Zoo | Klamath Mountains | $24,940 | This project will restore a .6-acre pond on Crater Lake's Wizard Island, an isolated site for the future release of captive-bred Mazama newts. Mazama newts are endemic to Crater Lake and listed as a Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the State Wildlife Action Plan. Technicians will restore the pond by removing invasive crayfish and rainbow trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) to survey and describe the pond's biological community. Simultaneously, the zoo will develop a Mazama Newt Natural History Report from data collected about the newts living at the zoo. The team will engage Oregonians by 1) sharing the results during the park's inaugural Fall for the Newt! festival in October 2026, a free event for rural Klamath and Jackson County residents and 2) executing an outreach campaign on the zoo's social media channel and website, reaching millions of followers. |
| 78 | Track Trails - Three locations | Oregon Parks Forever | Columbia Plateau; Klamath Mountains; Willamette Valley; West Cascades | $25,000 | Track Trails seeks $25,000 from the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund to expand and enhance its nature-based scavenger hunt program for young children and families across Oregon. Track Trails blends outdoor play, wildlife observation, and place-based learning into self-guided experiences that encourage children to explore local habitats, recognize native species, and develop early conservation values.<br><br>With OCRF support, Track Trails will:<br>• Develop new wildlife-focused trail experiences aligned with Oregon's State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP).<br>• Expand programming to underserved and historically excluded communities.<br>• Increase accessibility for families with mobility challenges.<br>• Create new recreational opportunities that inspire stewardship of Oregon's natural landscapes. |
| 79 | Tracks Through Time: Pronghorn and Mule Deer Education Program | NatureConnect Central Oregon | Blue Mountains; East Cascades; Northern Basin & Range | $24,578 | Tracks Through Time will provide a 2-day education program to approximately 940 students in Deschutes, Jefferson, Crook, and Lake Counties, focused on the natural histories of Pronghorn Antelope and Mule Deer. The program will bridge ecological teachings with the oral history and cultural traditions of local Indigenous tribes. Students will gain a better understanding of the environmental impacts and conservation efforts impacting Mule Deer and Pronghorn Antelope, and a stronger awareness of the role that Indigenous communities have played since Time Immemorial as caretakers of these lands. |
| 80 | Turning up the Heat on Invasive Grasses: Improving restoration effectiveness in the Eastern Columbia Gorge | Columbia Land Trust | East Cascades | $25,000 | The project will test a degraded grassland restoration protocol in a 1-acre study area outside Mosier, Oregon through burning, seeding, and herbicide application trials. This approach builds on the work of the United States Forest Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, The Nature Conservancy, Montana State University, The Understory Institute, and Institute for Applied Ecology. Oregon Conservation Strategy species that will benefit from the project and affiliated restoration decisions made by other land managers include insectivorous birds requiring healthy grassland habitat for foraging, namely Lewis's woodpecker, grasshopper sparrow, and olive-sided flycatcher. |

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| 81 | Understanding Temperature and Aquatic Habitat in Lower Abernethy Creek | Greater Oregon City Watershed Council | Willamette Valley | $24,672 | This project will work with 5-10 students from the Jane Goodall Institute Roots and Shoots and Environmental Middle School, 5-10 Stream~N~Team youth to study stream temperature and to engage them in science-based restoration solutions happening in their communities, with the goal of fostering future leaders in watershed health and conservation. The data and reports produced by professional and youth scientists will assess current water quality and habitat conditions, identify cold water seeps and desired future conditions to inform the Lower Abernethy Large Wood project design and other conservation efforts, helping us to meet our shared goal of understanding the suitability of aquatic ecosystems in Lower Abernethy for salmonids and Pacific Lamprey. |
| 82 | Uplifting Anthony Creek for Native Trout and Beaver: Effectiveness Monitoring | Powder Basin Watershed Council | Blue Mountains | $19,462 | The goal of the project is improve aquatic habitat and passage for Bull Trout and redband trout, reconnect Anthony Creek with its historic floodplain, restore 78 acres of riparian/floodplain habitats,<br>and encourage beaver recolonization along 1.5 miles of Anthony Creek. We also want to engage local/regional youth in project implementation, specifically construction of beaver dam analogs to provide an opportunity for them to directly engage within the watersheds where they live. Effectiveness Monitoring will document project outcomes and provide adaptive management feedback to the PBWC and project partners. |
| 83 | Water safety and water stewardship in Oregon | WaterStrong | Coast Range; Willamette Valley; West Cascades | $25,000 | This project will deliver essential water safety education and water stewardship training to low income and underserved individuals across four Oregon counties: (Multnomah, Washington, Clackamas and Hood River), preventing drownings while fostering environmental stewardship of Oregon's waterways. Through hands-on education at rivers, lakes, and swimming pools where families naturally recreate, participants will gain survival swimming skills, First Aid CPR certification, and water quality monitoring knowledge, directly contributing to the health of Oregon Conservation Strategy habitats including riparian corridors, wetlands, and freshwater aquatic systems that support native fish species including Chinook salmon, steelhead trout, and Pacific lamprey. |
| 84 | Watershed Community Stewardship | Upper Deschutes Watershed Council | East Cascades | $25,000 | Watershed Community Stewardship will engage 100 community members and 400 students in hands-on education and stewardship to restore 1,200 native riparian and wetland plants to three priority restoration project sites on Whychus Creek, the Little Deschutes River, and the Deschutes River. Riparian and wetland habitat restoration will benefit reintroduced steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) and the Oregon spotted frog (Rana pretiosa) and participating students and community members will develop new watershed knowledge and stewardship skills that will empower them to be informed stewards for our public lands and natural places. By becoming engaged in hands-on stream stewardship activities that improve habitat for native species, participants will learn more sustainable ways to recreate in our watershed responsibly and protect habitat for fish and wildlife for current and future generations. |

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| 85 | Westwind Camp Scholarship Program | Westwind Stewardship Group | Coast Range | $20,000 | Westwind seeks to engage and expand the number and diversity of Oregon's outdoor users and inspire them to be stewards of the environment and their communities. This project aims to provide financial aid for approximately 240 low-income children and families throughout the state to participate in summer camp programming with the Westwind Stewardship Group on the Central Oregon Coast. Programs provide access to outdoor activities like hiking, kayaking, canoeing, and introduce traditionally underserved Oregonians to wildlife-associated recreation. |
| 86 | Wildlife Watch: Community Science Workshops | High Desert Museum | Blue Mountains; East Cascades | $24,792 | The Museum's project will engage 24 individuals from rural communities across Central Oregon in wildlife-associated recreation that supports monitoring efforts critical to State Wildlife Action Plan issues, such as land use and climate change, and species, including the recently added North American porcupine. Through hands-on outdoor experiences and the use of trail cameras, participants will collect and upload wildlife observations to iNaturalist, contributing valuable data that enhances understanding of wildlife distribution in our region. By combining immersive outdoor recreation activities with meaningful opportunities to participate in community science, the program will deepen participants' connection to the natural world and inspire long-term involvement in conservation efforts, helping ensure all Oregonians can actively support and enjoy the state's natural resources. |
| 87 | Willamette River Exploration Paddle Program | Willamette Riverkeeper | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | The goal of the Willamette River Exploration Paddle Program is to expand equitable access to wildlife-associated recreation on the Willamette River while building conservation awareness and stewardship within the river corridor. Through free, guided paddling experiences that provide all necessary equipment and instruction, the project connects diverse community members to place-based education focused on freshwater aquatic, riparian, and floodplain habitats, and introduces participants to river-dependent species, including birds, freshwater mussels, and fish. By reducing barriers to river access and increasing conservation literacy, the project supports long-term conservation outcomes aligned with the Oregon Conservation Strategy. |
| 88 | WWBWC Outreach and Education | Walla Walla Basin Watershed Foundation | Blue Mountains; Columbia Plateau | $25,000 | WWBWC will partner with agency staff, the Milton-Freewater Unified School District, and CTUIR to offer a suite of hands-on watershed education programs and volunteer tree planting events in Umatilla County and the Walla Walla Basin that provide some 500 diverse public school students, youth, and adults with experiences that get them outside and learning about the importance of healthy habitat and the benefits of restoration efforts for fish and wildlife including Chinook salmon, Steelhead, and Coho Salmon as well as Bull trout, Martin, Stonefly, Pileated Woodpecker, and the Western Bumble Bee. In addition to the ecological benefits of planting native trees in riparian areas, the programs as a whole inspire a sense of stewardship and are an exciting way for students to build critical STEM skills. |
| 89 | YMCA Elk Trail Camp Access | Rogue Valley Family YMCA | Klamath Mountains | $25,000 | The project will provide ADA access to a 10-acre parcel of land for youth and families to experience the outdoors in a riparian watershed habitat with Elk Creek and Rogue River close by, temperate coniferous forests with Douglas-fir and other native trees. and meadows providing habitat diversity for wildlife. |

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| 90 | Youth Land Stewards Educational Program (YLSEP) | Willamette Resources and Educational Network | Willamette Valley | $25,000 | YLSEP is designed to inspire stewardship of our local habitats, introduce students to different careers in conservation, help students build a foundation of ecological knowledge in preparation for Outdoor School, and empower elementary teachers in integrated science education. We will reach 280-350 students (12-15 classes) through this project, helping them develop a connection with and greater appreciation for the West Eugene Wetlands, a Conservation Opportunity Area that includes 2 key habitats (wetland and oak) as identified by ODFW. This program fosters the development of conservation-minded Oregonians who are aware of Strategy Species, like the Western Pond Turtle and Acorn Woodpecker, in the areas where they live and recreate and who can make more informed decisions to reduce harmful impacts. |