

Summary of Project Recommended for Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund Wildlife Passage Funding

The Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) Advisory Committee met on July 7, 2026, to review a wildlife crossing project to recommend for funding to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. A brief description of the funding requested, and benefits are provided in this summary document. The OCRF Advisory Committee recommends funding the following project:

Trans Pacific Parkway Wildlife Crossing

- OCRF Requested Funds: \$3,900,000
- Total Project Cost: \$3,900,000
- Applicant: Paul Slater, Coos County Public Works
- Location: Trans Pacific Parkway, Coos Bay North Spit
- Project Duration: September 2026 to April 2028

This project will result in improved wildlife connectivity and reduced vehicle-related mortality on the Trans Pacific Parkway (TPP), a roadway running from US 101 along the Coos Bay North Spit northwest of North Bend, Oregon in Coos County. The TPP is classed as a Major Collector roadway, funneling local traffic and freight between US 101 and recreational opportunities and shipping terminals, primarily for lumber, on the spit. Freight traffic in particular is significant along the roadway, with trucks passing on average every six minutes, 24/7, year-round.

Given the existing traffic volumes and future roadway usage along the TPP, Coos County has contracted an engineering firm, David Evans and Associates, for a complete road rehabilitation effort. As part of this process, Coos County is partnering with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to include the construction of wildlife crossing structures. Funding would be used to construct three new culvert crossings, targeting the state- and federally-threatened Coastal Pacific Marten (a Species of Greatest Conservation Need) and replace an existing stream culvert with a larger structure able to accommodate dry passage for wildlife, with enough overhead clearance to be used by larger species, including deer. These crossings will be accompanied by directional/barrier walls to help prevent wildlife from accessing the roadway and help direct wildlife to the crossing structures. The project area falls within the Coos Bay Conservation Opportunity Area (ID #43) and Priority Wildlife Connectivity Area CR-R35. Primary project partners include ODFW and USFWS, with additional support from OWF, USFS, and BLM.

All funding will be used to contract with engineering and construction firms to design, permit, and construct the wildlife crossings and directional/barrier walls.

ODFW staff review found this project met all requirements of the Wildlife Crossing Lottery Revenue Bond project criteria (see Attachment 3). The project was unanimously approved by the OCRF Advisory Committee members present for voting at the July 7th meeting.



Figure 1: Project site crossing location