

Coast Range Stewardship Fund

Financial & Technical Assistance for Landowners



Helping you help your land



Revised Spring 2012

Coast Range Stewardship Fund

Do you want help restoring or enhancing your land? The Coast Range Stewardship Fund can pay for restoration of non-federal land within the four stewardship areas of the Siuslaw National Forest.

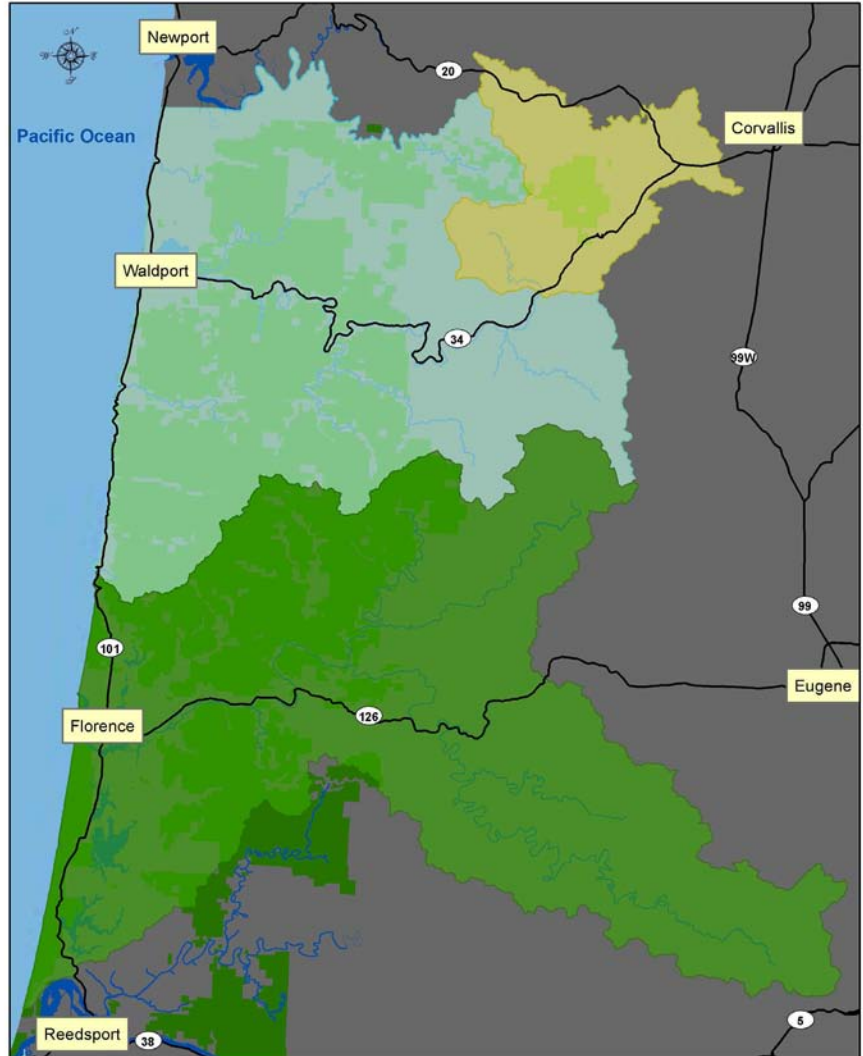
What is the Coast Range Stewardship Fund?

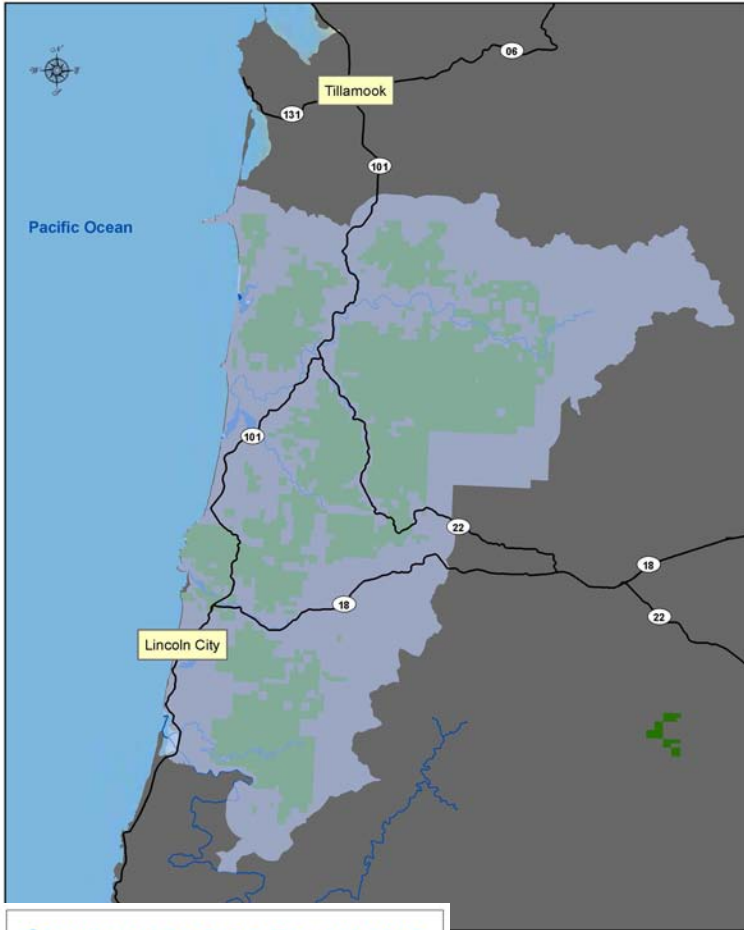
The Coast Range Stewardship Fund offers landowners and managers an accessible funding source to help improve and restore fish and wildlife habitat on private and other non-federal lands when it benefits resources on the Siuslaw National Forest. The Fund has been created with receipts from stewardship contracts on the Siuslaw National Forest. Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation & Development, Inc., a regional non-profit organization, manages the Fund as a grant program.

A Track-record of Success

Over the past ten years, stewardship contracts in the Siuslaw National Forest have resulted in improving forest health and wildlife habitat on more than 2,000 acres, yielding more than 25 million board feet of plantation trees to local mills. The funds retained from the timber harvest have led to more than \$2 million spent on additional restoration projects on both public and private lands.

The Coast Range Stewardship Fund has invested over \$1 million in more than 50 non-federal land restoration projects, and





has leveraged an additional \$1.5 million for this work. These projects have restored endangered fish and wildlife habitat, improved water quality and built relationships between rural landowners and the managers of neighboring public land.

Stewardship efforts in the Siuslaw were awarded the 2010 Two Chiefs' Partnership Award, presented annually by the U.S. Forest Service and the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to recognize exemplary partnership efforts promoting conservation and forest stewardship.

What can the Fund be used for?

Projects may be located on private, state, county, city, tribal or federal land within the Alsea, Hebo, Marys Peak, and Siuslaw Stewardship areas. They must restore or enhance water quality or fish or wildlife habitat and directly benefit natural resources on the Siuslaw National Forest.

Projects on non-federal land that are most likely to receive funding from the Stewardship Fund include, but are not limited to:

- Opening additional fish passage
- In-stream habitat improvement
- Riparian planting, fencing and release
- Noxious weed eradication or control
- Wildlife habitat improvement
- Culvert repair or replacement
- Tidal and freshwater restoration
- Road drainage and decommissioning
- Stream bank repair and protection
- Clean-up of dumpsites

Multi-year project funding may be available.

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The following guidelines summarize criteria used to determine if projects benefit National Forest resources. For more information and complete guidelines, visit www.cascadepacificstewardship.org.

Terrestrial projects

Proposals for most types of projects should be located within 1 ½ miles of Siuslaw National Forest lands. Types of projects that will be considered include (but are not limited to) development of late-successional forest habitat; dune restoration; creation or maintenance of upland meadows or other early and mid-seral habitats for rare or unique species or elk forage; and habitat improvements for neotropical migratory birds or for rare or unique species.

Riparian and wetland projects

Riparian projects throughout the stewardship areas that contribute to a demonstrated increase in aquatic species biodiversity, help restore natural stream function and serve to attenuate flooding are all encouraged. Tidal wetland dike removal and tide channel restoration are high priorities for funding. Riparian projects throughout the basin should benefit water quality (reducing temperature and sediment), stream habitat (over time) and nutrient contribution. Common riparian projects include planting native trees, shrubs and wetland plants.

“This stewardship project speeds the succession of native flora, ensuring the area will function naturally in the future.”

—Local contractor and project sponsor

Water quality projects

Projects that reduce point and non-point sources of pollution are eligible for funding. These include upgrades to road and trail drainages, road decommissioning, improvements to sanitation facilities at undeveloped sites, and cleanup of dumpsites that contribute harmful materials to the watershed. Projects must demonstrate improvement to water quality. Mitigation work mandated by law cannot be funded.



In-stream & fish passage enhancement projects

In-stream projects that have a substantial potential to make measurable differences in the quality and quantity of fish spawning, rearing and thermal refuge habitats are a high priority for funding. Common in-stream projects include large wood enhancement and culvert replacements. Projects in sub-watersheds containing National Forest lands are a higher priority than projects in sub-watersheds with no National Forest lands.

Invasive weed control projects

Project priority and potential benefit to National Forest lands for invasive plant projects depend on the weed species and site-specific resource impacts. Priorities are based on necessity, importance and overall site improvement.

To help determine what weed projects will be funded, refer to the invasive plant guidelines and list in “Wyden Guidelines March 06” found at www.cascadepacificstewardship.org/fund.html.

Project Management

Stewardship funding can be used for most project management activities. These include pre-implementation coordination and preparation activities required to make the project happen on-the-ground; on-site management of implementation activities; post-implementation process monitoring, and dissemination of project results. Some reporting, field evaluation and follow-up inspection activities are an integral part of project implementation and may be paid for with stewardship funds as part of project management.

Pre-implementation

Pre-implementation activities paid for with stewardship funds must be in direct support of on-the-ground implementation of the project and may include:

- Coordination with landowners, organizations, contractors or agencies involved in the project.
- Pre-work meetings with contractors or cooperators.
- Travel to meetings associated with the project.

Implementation

Implementation activities paid for with stewardship funds must be in direct support of on-the-ground implementation of the project and may include:

- On-the-ground work or supervision of project work.
- Administration of contracts.
- Inspection and acceptance of work.
- Coordination of landowners, volunteers, other groups or agencies involved in project activities.
- Travel to project sites.

Post-implementation

Post implementation activities funded with retained receipts are limited to legal reporting requirements for



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any permits or activities associated with on-the-ground implementation and accomplishment reporting required for stewardship retained receipts.

What can't the Fund be used for?

Ineligible project activities for Coast Range Stewardship funding include the following.

- Planning: This includes project design, biological assessments and environmental impact statements. Generally, only on-the-ground activity is eligible for funding through the Coast Range Stewardship Fund.
- Monitoring and inventory: In general, stewardship funds cannot be used for project monitoring and inventory work. These activities should be included in stewardship project proposals, but must be identified as in-kind work or paid for through other matching fund sources.
- Education.

- Equipment purchases in excess of \$500.
- Indirect costs (such as rent and overhead). Match funding sources can pay for indirect costs.

Who can apply?

Private landowners and for-profit businesses can submit proposals with a local government or non-profit sponsor. Eligible sponsors include local, state and federal government entities and non-profit corporations. Local sponsors include (but are not limited to): Benton County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD), Lincoln SWCD, Siuslaw SWCD, Tillamook Estuary Partnership, Alsea Watershed Council (WC), Marys River WC, MidCoast Watersheds Council, Nestucca-Neskowin WC, Salmon-Drift WC, and Siuslaw WC (see contact information on back cover).

How much match funding is encouraged?

A partial in-kind or cash match for Stewardship funding is encouraged, but not required. Cash can be matched from other grant sources, such as the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). In-kind contributions from the Siuslaw National Forest are allowed but ineligible as match.

How do I apply?

Written project proposals are solicited each summer, evaluated each fall, and awards are given early the following year. Copies of the application, eligibility requirements, and other information are available at www.cascadepacificstewardship.org.

Prior to project development, the sponsor must consult with a Forest Service specialist to ensure the project meets basic criteria (see back cover for Forest Service contact list). The project must also receive the endorsement of the stewardship group representing the area in which the project is located.

What are Stewardship Groups?

The Stewardship Groups are a collection of individuals and organizations from the local area that are working with the Siuslaw National Forest to promote forest resource restoration and enhancement that meets the needs of local communities.

The Alsea, Hebo, Marys Peak and Siuslaw Stewardship Groups help plan, evaluate and monitor stewardship projects on public and private lands. The Groups also help evaluate and prioritize proposals for future funding with stewardship funds. They meet monthly and also attend field trips to project locations to monitor the ecological and economic impacts of the projects.

How can I join a Stewardship Group meeting?

Anyone can join, and everyone is welcome.

- The Alsea Stewardship Group meets 6:00-8:00pm on the third Monday of the month at various locations in the Alsea watershed.*
- The Hebo Stewardship Group meets 6:00-8:00pm on the second Thursday of the month at various locations in the stewardship area.*
- The Marys Peak Stewardship Group meets 6:00-8:00 pm on the third Thursday of the month at the Siuslaw National Forest Headquarters in Corvallis.*

- The Siuslaw Stewardship Group meets 1:00- 3:00pm on the first Thursday of the month at the Siuslaw Watershed Council Office in Mapleton.*

**Meeting dates and times occasionally change. Contact Cascade Pacific RC&D or the Siuslaw National Forest for the most current information on meeting dates and locations.*

“Stewardship helps us connect the dots along this line of stream and it helps the community learn more about restoration efforts in the area.”

—Landowner and Wyden project sponsor



Who can help?

Forest Service **- Stewardship Information**

www.fs.usda.gov/goto/siuslaw/stewardship-groups

Central Coast Ranger District
Operations Staff or District Ranger
(541) 563-8400

Hebo Ranger District
Operations Staff or District Ranger
(503) 392-5100

Siuslaw National Forest Headquarters
Natural Resources Staff
(541) 750-7000

Grants & Contracts
Cascade Pacific RC&D
(541) 967-5925 ext 4
stewardship@cascadepacific.org
www.cascadepacificstewardship.org

Watershed Councils
Network of Oregon Watersheds
(541) 682-8365
oregonwatersheds.org

Alsea Watershed Council
(541) 528-3390
www.alseawatershedcouncil.org

Marys River Watershed Council
(541) 758-7597
www.mrwc.net

MidCoast Watersheds Council
(541) 265-9195
www.midcoastwatershedscouncil.org

Nestucca-Neskowin Watershed Council
(503) 965-2200
www.oregoncoast.com/nnwc

Salmon-Drift Watershed Council
(541) 996-3161
www.salmondrift.org

Siuslaw Watershed Council
(541) 268-3044
www.siuslaw.org

Other Partners
Benton Soil & Water Conserv. Dist.
(541) 753-7208
www.bentonswcd.org

Lincoln Co. Soil & Water Conserv. Dist.
(541) 265-2631
www.lincolnswcd.org

Siuslaw Soil & Water Conserv. Dist.
(541) 997-1272
www.siuswcd.com

City of Corvallis Public Works
(541) 766-6916

Lincoln Co. Public Works
(541) 265-5747

Natural Resources Conservation Service
(541) 265-2631 (Newport)
or (541) 967-5925 (Tangent)
<http://www.or.nrcs.usda.gov/>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
(541) 867-4741
<http://www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/FieldOffices/Newport>

Confederated Tribes of Siletz
Natural Resource Mgr.
(541) 444-8232

Integrated Resource Management
(541) 929-3408
www.irmforestry.com

Oregon Wild
(541) 344-0675
www.oregonwild.org

Siuslaw Institute
(541) 964-5901
siwash@pioneer.net

Tillamook Estuary Partnership
(503) 322-2222
www.tbnep.org

