



DAN JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND DEVELOPMENT
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUILDING
150 BEAVERCREEK ROAD OREGON CITY, OR 97045

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Gary Schmidt, County Administrator

FROM: DTD - Dan Johnson, Director

DATE: October 25, 2022

RE: Letter of Support to The Freshwater Trust for an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Grant Application and up to \$100,000 County Road Fund contribution to for the Henry Creek at Arlie Mitchell Road Culvert Replacement Project

REQUEST: DTD is requesting the attached Letter of Support be signed by the Chair of the Board of County Commissioners and support a commitment of up to \$100,000 in County Road Fund to assist The Freshwater Trust (TFT) in their pursuit of grant funds for design and construction of the Henry Creek at Arlie Mitchell Road Culvert Replacement Project. The deadline for submission is October 26, 2022.

BACKGROUND: The existing 144-inch-diameter culvert that carries Henry Creek under Arlie Mitchell Road in Rhododendron has been identified as a barrier to passage for aquatic organisms of all species and life stages. A culvert replacement project has been identified as the number 2 priority project in Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) North Willamette Watershed District and ODFW's number 1 priority project is currently nearing completion of construction. The existing metal culvert, while still in good condition, was installed in 1965, shortly after the historic 1964 flood event, which washed out several homes, culverts, and portions of roadways in the Mt. Hood Area.

This section of Henry Creek is known to support native winter steelhead, coho salmon, and cutthroat trout, among other essential aquatic species, thus, replacement of the existing culvert would trigger State of Oregon fish-passage guidelines. As a result, TFT proposes to replace the existing culvert with a modular bridge that is 1.5 times the active channel width resulting in a modular bridge that is approximately 40-feet long. This bridge length also will meet environmental permitting programmatic guidelines.

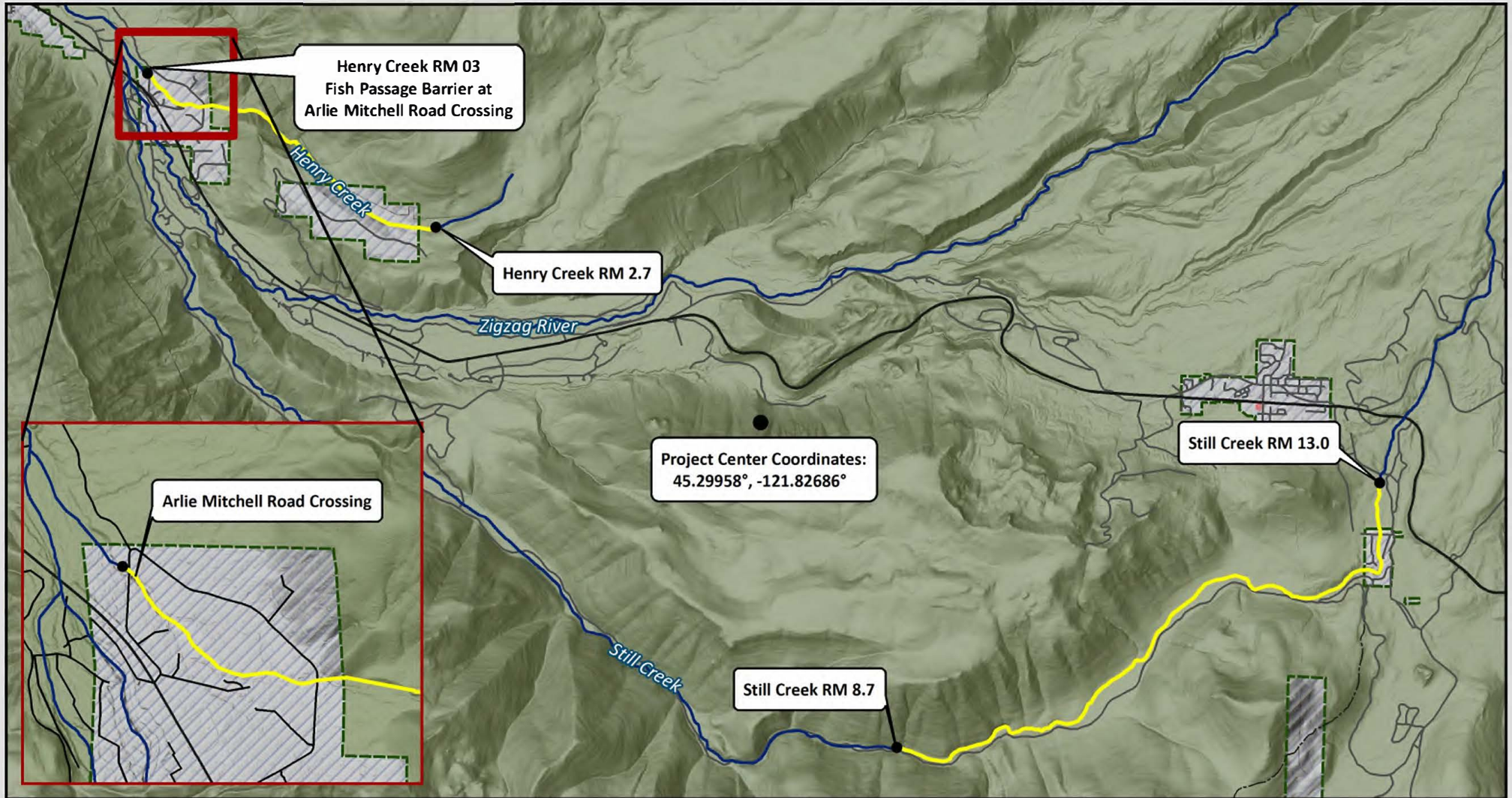
The total estimated project cost is \$1,018,460. TFT has secured \$550,000 in funding from ODFW and a \$49,632 in-kind contribution from the U.S Forest Service. TFT also submitted a \$200,000 grant to the City of Portland, and desires to submit an Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Restoration Grant request of \$169,072. The County's

anticipated contribution would be \$24,878.00 (in-kind) and \$24,878.00 (cash), with a not-to-exceed amount of \$100,000 total.

While this project is not at the top of the County's culvert replacement priority list, given that this culvert is approximately 57 years old, and given the flashy nature of the high-gradient rivers and streams in the Mt. Hood area, this is an excellent opportunity to replace an aging, perched culvert with a larger, open-bottom bridge structure. This new structure would allow natural stream processes to take place and accommodate a higher capacity of creek flows without over topping the roadway.



If all grant fund requests are approved, TFT would manage the grants, solicit bids for construction, and coordinate construction of the project. As part of our in-kind match, DTD would provide review of plans and specifications, perform right-of-way services, review construction submittals, and inspect the project's construction. A separate Intergovernmental Agreement between the County and TFT would be required to confirm these roles and responsibilities, and DTD staff would request approval of the agreement by the Board at a future Business Meeting.

Upper Sandy - Zigzag River Tributaries Restoration Project



— Project Reach
— River Centerline

Land Ownership

 U.S. Forest Service
 Private Non-Industrial Owner



0 0.75 1.5 3 Miles





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October 25, 2022

Mark McCollister
Habitat Restoration Director
The Freshwater Trust
700 SW Taylor Street, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97205

Subject: Clackamas County support of OWEB funding request for the Henry Creek Culvert Replacement Project

To: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board

Dear Grant Reviewers,

Clackamas County would like to express our sincere support of the Freshwater Trust grant application, which would supplement existing funding of the Henry Creek Culvert Replacement Project, located near Rhododendron, Oregon. Clackamas County considers this project to be very significant in terms of its importance to improving fish passage within Clackamas County. The existing corrugated metal culvert proposed for removal is perched, and acts as a barrier to aquatic organisms of all species and life stages.

The installation of a modular bridge will result in a greater structure life expectancy and allow for natural stream processes to occur along Henry Creek. Additionally, the precast concrete bridge option will increase the speed of on-site construction and minimize inconvenience to those within the community that use Arlie Mitchell Road.

This project includes collaboration among The Freshwater Trust, Clackamas County, ODFW, the US Forest Service and the City of Portland. As a partner on this project, Clackamas County is committed to meeting our agreed to budgetary obligations, and we will assume maintenance responsibilities upon completion of construction.

Thank you for your consideration of this project and favorable funding determination, which will significantly assist in achieving increased community resilience and enhanced habitat for aquatic species including Endangered Species Act listed salmon and steelhead.

Sincerely,

Tootie Smith, Chair
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners