



## BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

# AGENDA REQUEST & STAFF REPORT

**MEETING DATE:** December 13, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Oregon State Weed Board Grant Application for Deschutes County Noxious Weed Project

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

Move to authorize the submittal of an application for an Oregon State Weed Board Grant for Deschutes County.

**BACKGROUND AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS:**

The Natural Resources Department seeks Board authorization to apply for a State Weed Board Grant for the purpose of producing outreach material, updating the noxious weed trailer, and to survey and treat key noxious weed species within Deschutes County. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) work together to administer the ODA Noxious Weed Grant Program Lottery funded grant program. The project would utilize partners on the Deschutes County Noxious Weed Board to develop outreach material and generate a unified message that could be distributed throughout the County. Partners would also collaborate on surveys and treatment for key A rated species like Hoary Alyssum and Orange Hawkweed.

Partners include: the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the USDA Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the City of Bend, the Deschutes Soil and Water Conservation District, Bend Park and Recreation District and Black Butte Ranch.

If granted, the funds would be used for new trailer upgrades such as a bulletin board, new audio/video equipment, aquatic and terrestrial invasive species models and presses, printable material and short videos to display at outreach events. In addition, posters, brochures and audio PSA messaging would be developed for distribution through media channels. The Deschutes County Noxious Weed board would collaborate on surveys and work with landowners to treat high priority species.

The grant cycle would be for approximately 18 months ending on April 30, 2025. A State Weed Board grant has not been applied for since 2014, and our partners have requested to increase efforts towards combating noxious weeds in Deschutes County. The awarded

funding would be the first phase in those efforts.

**BUDGET IMPACTS:**

If approved, the application could result in a grant award of \$30,780. \$12,000 would be used for outreach material and trailer upgrades. \$15,000 would be used for landowner noxious weed treatments. Administrative or indirect costs would be \$3,780.

The minimum 25% match would be provided through the Natural Resource Noxious Weed Financial Assistance Agreement (\$15,000) and funding allocated for consultation and surveys (\$15,000) for a total of a cash match of \$30,000.

The cash match is from the Natural Resource Department 326 Fund.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Kevin Moriarty, County Forester