



PROGRESS REPORT #4: February 8 – 21, 2023

1. TASKS ACCOMPLISHED DURING PREVIOUS TWO WEEKS

- Devin is installing a web cam so we can monitor habitat.
- Presented short reports about project to Community Meeting on 2/11 and to CMCA Board on 2/13.
- Completed preliminary easement analysis of properties.
- Worked with appraisers to provide required documents.
- Site walk with Mike Patterson/ Rapid Habitat Assessment site visit.
- Completed instructions for an assessment of habitat in the Cape Meares Community Forest and in the Subject Property using a crowd-sourcing app called iNaturalist. Volunteers will use the app to document site habitat and to provide a rich description of the forest and property. The instructions/template will be distributed via MeWe and on the CMCA website.
- Sponsored a meeting between federal and state grantors (USDA Community Forest Program, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board) to understand grantor deed requirements.
- Completed consolidated mailing list for all Cape Meares community and property owners.
- Research continues on grant opportunities best suited for this project.
- Obtained Forest Management Plan exemplars and a plan estimation tool from NCLC. Prospective plans are required by some grantors.
- Completed and mailed CMCA yearly newsletter, with Watershed project updates, to over 350 Cape Meares residents and property owners.

2. RESULTS OF KEY MEETINGS HELD WITH PARTNERS OR PROSPECTIVE PARTNERS

- Discussion with John Wros of The Conservation Fund (CF) about options for working with them. TCF is potentially willing to work with CMCA/ Wildlife Refuge as a bridge buyer, if necessary. Next meetings with CF and Refuge being scheduled.
- NCLC / CMCA weekly meetings continue.

- Discussion with Nancy Webster at North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection. We gained a deeper understanding of challenges they face and continue to face. They are willing to provide a letter of support. An early March meeting is planned.
- Due to the discussion between the USDA Community Forest Program and OR Watershed Enhancement Board about deed conflicts, we contacted Tillamook County to explore the timing and process for splitting the subject property into two conveyable parcels which would ameliorate the deed conflict language between the USDA CFP and OWEB Land Acquisition Grant program deed language. We need to determine whether this will be done and need to approach seller and attorney about this. If we pursue this approach, one deed would be assigned for CFP funding and the second for the OWEB funding. If this is not possible, then we will need to choose which funding that we will pursue. We are also discussing this issue with NCLC as they did this with their Rainforest Reserve funding.
- Discussion with the Oregon Community Foundation – we learned that the funding cycle is beginning and our timing to submit the community profile is good.
- Discussion with Allison Asbjornsen and Phillip Johnson from Oregon Shores Conservation Coalition about support. They would write a letter of support.
- Discussion with Peter Dalke at Oregon Solutions about the Oregon Coast Trail.
- Discussion with Chris Laity, Tillamook County Public Works, who Discussion with potential Forest Management Plan Consultants.
- Scheduled meetings to discuss next steps, potential fee proposals and partnerships for a prospectus Forest Management plan, as needed for grants.
- Discussion with Jenna Berman/ ODOT Active Transportation Liaison. No funding for the Land Acquisition project is available from ODOT. Not on Oregon Coast Bike Trail.
- Met with Chris Laity at Tillamook County Public Works regarding funding for the project. Land acquisition funding is not available from the County Public Works or from mitigation funds from the Bay Ocean Road replacement Project. Potentially can provide a letter of support. Recommended that we pursue TLT funding for aspects of our project.
- Discussion with Seth Miller/ Oregon Parks Forever. No funding available for land acquisition, potential small grants after acquisition for better access and experience, trail improvements, etc. if property is owned by Oregon Parks and/ or OCT Trail route is located on property.
- Discussion with Connie Soper/ Oregon Coast Trails regarding Pacific Coast Trail. Can provide a letter of support, advocate for project, promote. Scheduled a site visit/ walk in early March.
- Discussion with OR SHPO and cultural site resources. Submitted a SHPO Application to determine if any cultural resources are present on site.

3. **NEXT STEPS**

- Kick-off meeting with NCLC regarding USDA Community Forest Program Grant Proposal
- March 4 Community Update on ZOOM (see website for details)
- Development of an initial forest management plan framework for grantmaking and other purposes.

4. **CHALLENGES**

- Timeframe for raising funds

5. **UPCOMING DEADLINES**

- March 8 Due Diligence deadline

6. **TASKS FOR WHICH LEADS NEED ASSISTANCE**

- Technical writers
- Document birds, salamanders, plant life, etc. on property

7. **FINANCES**

- We project the main needs for pre-purchase funds are for down payment (paid), appraisals, attorney fees, grant research and assessments (habitat, etc.).
- As of 2/13 we have received contributions from 30 people designated for this project totaling \$68,381 and have spent \$42,000. Our goal is to raise \$100,000.