

## CHAPTER 7.

# Implementation grants

Writing implementation grants is one of the most critical steps in a cross-boundary restoration process. The investments in outreach, education, planning, and mapping become apparent through grant writing. Consider all grant opportunities and timelines, and develop a plan for which partner will be taking the lead on each grant. Discuss the landscape needs, landowner tax lot size(s), priorities for the landscape, and determine which agency is best suited to apply for each grant. Some agency grant programs only focus on larger properties, while other programs offer more flexibility in property size. Priorities for a landscape—whether it be wildlife habitat restoration, forest health, and/or wildfire risk reduction—may also fit better with one grant than another.

Several funding opportunities help facilitate cross-boundary landscape restoration. The guidebook *From Ideas to Actions: A Guide to Funding and Authorities for Collaborative Forestry* is an excellent resource. Refer to this document for more information regarding the following:

1. Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (USFS)
2. Forest Legacy Program (USFS)
3. Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program (USFS)
4. Joint Chiefs Landscape Restoration Partnership (USFS and NRCS)
5. Environmental Quality Incentive Program (NRCS)
6. Conservation Innovation Grants (NRCS)
7. Conservation Stewardship Program (NRCS)
8. Regional Conservation Partnership Program (NRCS)

Other grant opportunities include:

- **State and Private Forest (S&P)** funding for bark beetle mitigation allows ODF to assist

### *Tips for success: Utilize the mapping and assessment protocol to develop a landscape strategy and priority*

Fully utilize the mapping and assessment results (Chapter 5, page 17) to tell the story of the landscape strategy and priority for each grant. Depict the landscape strategy using the maps as a visual for treatment needs, priorities, and to develop cost estimates. This will contribute to very competitive grant proposals.

landowners. These funds are available through the Wildland Urban Interface Grants or Landscape-scale Restoration Competitive Grant Program. For more information see the Council of State Foresters website. ODF can also receive noncompetitive (e.g., Stewardship, Bark Beetle, Conservation Reserve Program) grants for landowner assistance.

- **Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB)** has a variety of grant opportunities for technical assistance, capacity, and restoration. For more information, visit the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board website.
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)** funding can be available through the Pre-disaster Mitigation or the Fire Prevention and Safety Grant Program.
- **National Forest Foundation (NFF)** has on-the-ground conservation programs. NFF supports action-oriented projects that directly enhance the health and well-being of America's national forests and grasslands, and engage the public in stewardship.
- **National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)** has the Resilient Communities Program, designed to prepare for future environmental challenges by enhancing community capacity to plan and implement resiliency projects and improve the

protections afforded by natural ecosystems by investing in green infrastructure and other measures. The program focuses on water quality and quantity declines, forest health concerns, and sea level rise.

Once one grant is secured, it can be used to leverage additional funding. To maximize financial contributions from each agency—be it cash or in-kind or both—be sure to depict the true costs of planning and implementing the project. Include sufficient funding for project management. For example, grant funds could be used to hire a project forester.

For more information on grants, see Resources (page 111).

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***“The timeliness of gaining grant funding is critical. Once you have buy-in from landowners through outreach and education, mapping and assessment, and development of land management plans, it is extremely important for landowners to see results on the ground. Landowners will often spread the word to their neighbors, which can increase the number of landowners involved in the project.”***

Amy Markus, Fremont-Winema National Forest  
Wildlife Biologist

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### ***Tips for success: Understand funding types and strive to obtain a variety of funding sources***

1. **Matching funding:** Some grant sources require a percentage of match funding. Once funding is obtained for a project (e.g., from a state grant), it can be used to match funding for another grant (e.g., a federal grant). In other words, funds from one grant can be used to leverage funds from another.
2. **Direct funding:** Funding that is provided to an organization directly by a governmental entity or intermediate organization. Another term for this is “cash” funding.
3. **Indirect funding:** Funding for administrative costs (e.g., building maintenance). Another term for this is “overhead.”
4. **In-kind funding:** Funding composed of noncash contributions of time, equipment, labor, materials, space, and other elements central to the goals of the project. In-kind funding can often be used as match.

It is a good idea to try to gain funding from multiple sources. Funds from a variety of sources can provide flexibility to meet a variety of needs to accomplish work on the ground. Some landowners may prefer to work with a particular agency or funding source based on the application requirements. For example, some landowners may shy away from funding sources that require heritage surveys or cost-share because those elements can seem difficult to manage.