

# **APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM OREGON HOUSE DELEGATION FISCAL YEAR 2010**

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: FEBRUARY 13, 2009**

**PLEASE NOTE: As required by the House Appropriations Committee, all requests will be made public on the requesting Member's website.**

1. Project Title:

**Columbia Slough Section 1135 Restoration Project**

2. Organization Name and address:

**City of Portland,  
1220 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Ave,  
Portland, OR 97204**

3. Primary Contact name, phone number, mobile phone number, fax number and email:

**Daniel Bates  
Director, Government Relations  
503.823.3013 (office)  
503-823-3014 (fax)  
[Dan.Bates@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:Dan.Bates@ci.portland.or.us)**

**Vicki Cram  
Ball Janik LLP  
202-638-3307 (office)  
202-783-6947 (fax)  
[vcram@dc.bjllpc.com](mailto:vcram@dc.bjllpc.com)**

4. Project Location Address (if different from Organization):

**NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, north of NE Columbia Boulevard, Portland, Oregon**

5. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities, and whether it is a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity:

**The City of Portland is an Oregon municipal corporation. The Bureau of Environmental Services operates sanitary sewer and stormwater utilities, administers watershed restoration projects, enforces City environmental protection regulations, and regulates the sanitary sewer and stormwater impacts of new development.**

6. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (please keep to 500 words or less.)

**The City seeks \$1.8 million in funding under section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act to complete the final phase of a joint project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to restore habitat and improve water quality on the Columbia Slough. The final phase consists of a major culvert replacement where NE 33<sup>rd</sup> Avenue crosses the Slough. This culvert, which is too small and too high in the waterway, is a major barrier to flow in the Columbia Slough. Replacing this culvert with a bridge will improve water quality and allow emergent wetland habitat to re-establish itself seasonally.**

7. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?

**The City of Portland signed a Project Cost-Sharing Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in September 2001, under section 1135, to implement this \$5 million project on the Columbia Slough. To date \$2.1 million in federal funds and \$1.1 million in local funds has been spent to acquire land, replace four culverts with bridges, protect and restore nine acres of unique wooded wetland habitat, and restore seven miles of the channel.**

- 7a. If yes, please provide fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

**WRDA Section 1135 Expenditures**

<b>Prior to FY 2003</b>	<b>\$ 660,000</b>
<b>FY 2003</b>	<b>483,100</b>
<b>FY 2004</b>	<b>252,700</b>
<b>FY 2005</b>	<b>176,800</b>
<b>FY 2006</b>	<b>316,600</b>
<b>FY 2007</b>	<b>207,800</b>
<b>FY 2008</b>	<b>26,000</b>
<b>FY 2009 (though January 2009)</b>	<b><u>44,000</u></b>
<b>TOTAL - Section 1135</b>	<b>\$2,167,000</b>

8. Federal agency and account from which funds are requested (Please be specific –e.g. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account):

**Energy and Water: Corps of Engineers: Section 1135**

9. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

**The requested federal funding satisfies the terms of a cooperative agreement between the Army Corps, the City and local stakeholders to restore the health and vitality of the Columbia Slough. These partners committed to a multi-year program to repair the hydrologic and ecosystem damage caused by dikes and levees that were constructed beginning in 1918. The City, in partnership with the Army Corps, local**

**drainage districts, property owners and the local watershed council has completed the first two phases of restoration work.**

**The Columbia Slough waterway is located in the former floodplain of the Columbia and Willamette Rivers along the northern boundary of the City of Portland. The Slough begins at Fairview Lake and meanders 19 miles to the Willamette River at Kelley Point Park. The associated watershed comprises roughly 32,700 acres and includes about 30 miles of secondary waterways and major surface water features such as Fairview Creek, Fairview Lake, and Smith and Bybee Lakes.**

**The Slough and its associated watershed provide critical habitat. The Slough provides a ribbon of habitat connectivity within the floodplain for a wide variety of wildlife. The Lower Slough is connected directly to the Willamette/Columbia River system, providing refuge for salmonids. Endangered coho and Chinook salmon use the Lower Slough for refuge in fall, winter, and spring.**

**The watershed is on the Pacific Flyway and other migratory bird pathways. The Slough provides a vital corridor for wildlife movement between the Columbia River Gorge, Sandy River Delta, and Blue Lake in the east, to Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area, Forest Park, Sauvie Island, Vancouver Lake, and Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge to the west. A recent 1-day survey found that the Slough watershed hosted 171 species of birds. Ducks, geese, swans, and raptors winter in the region, and neotropical migrant shorebirds and songbirds stop over in spring and fall. Many neotropical migrant songbirds and migrant waterfowl remain throughout the summer to nest. The watershed hosts a number of state and federally listed species during the breeding season.**

**This project enables the further economic development of the Columbia-South Shore area of the City of Portland. Columbia-South Shore is home to more than 2,000 businesses that employ 60,000 people in industrial, warehousing, transportation, hotel and restaurant and other commercial activities. The Section 1135 project will help mitigate the environmental impacts on the Columbia Slough caused by these commercial activities.**

**This project will create construction jobs to remove the existing culvert and construct a bridge. Once completed, the project will improve recreational use on the Slough, resulting in a potential increase in the number of water recreation businesses that provide recreational equipment and services. We estimate 12-20 seasonal recreation and resource restoration jobs will be generated as a result of this project.**

10. Have you requested funding for this project from other Members of Congress?  
If so, who?

**Yes. Congressman Blumenauer, Senator Wyden and Senator Merkley**

11. Funding Details:

- a. Total project cost (all funding sources and all years):

**\$5,000,000**

b. Amount being requested for this project in Fiscal Year 2010:

**\$1,800,000**

**Note: A 2001 project cost-sharing agreement with the Army Corps assigned 75% of the \$5,000,000 restoration budget to the WRDA Section 1135 Program. This FY 2010 federal funding request represents the outstanding federal commitment.**

c. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please provide specific dollar amount or percentage.)

**City of Portland            \$1,253,000**

**NOTE: This figure represents the total City contribution to date, including donated land.**

d. Do you expect to request federal funding in future years for this project?

**NO**

e. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project in FY 2010. (e.g. salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

<b>Design</b>	<b>\$ 135,000</b>
<b>Permitting/Disposal</b>	<b>180,000</b>
<b>Construction</b>	<b><u>1,485,000</u></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,800,000</b>

f. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project:

**Audubon Society of Portland, Columbia Corridor Association, Multnomah County Drainage District No. 1 and Columbia Slough Watershed Council**

g. Is this project scalable? (i.e. if partial funding is awarded, will the organization be able to use the funds in FY 2010?):

**YES**