



Conservation Easement Template INSTRUCTIONS

General Information

If the Board Acquisition Subcommittee recommends that staff proceed with a review of due diligence materials for a proposed fee simple title acquisition, staff will request that the applicant provide a draft conservation easement. OWEB's administrative rules require applicants to use the OWEB Conservation Easement Template ("Template") when drafting a proposed conservation easement to be held by OWEB. The Template is available from OWEB staff or online at: www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/acquisition_grants.shtml

Filling out the Template

Insert information at each yellow highlight. Section 3 should be consistent with the conservation values stated in the grant application; specify acreages where applicable.

OWEB's template contains text, marked with magenta highlight, that must be included in the easement if the project proposes the purchase of land to bring about large-scale restoration. The text requires the grantor of the easement to restore the property in a specified timeframe to conditions agreed upon by the grantor and OWEB. Following are examples of projects for which OWEB requires the magenta-highlighted text.

Example 1: A property contains estuarine wetlands from which tidal flows have been blocked by tidegates and dikes. The wetlands are not functioning in a manner that provides high-quality habitat for the suite of priority species typically associated with estuarine wetlands. The application states that the property is being acquired for the purpose of restoring natural tidal flows to the wetlands. The property would not be an OWEB acquisition priority but for the applicant's intent to restore the property to a properly functioning OWEB priority ecological system.

Example 2: A property contains former Western Oregon wet prairie that has been converted to hayfields. The hayfields are not functioning in a manner that provides high-quality habitat for the suite of priority species typically associated with Western Oregon wet prairie. The application states that the property is being acquired for the purpose of restoring the hayfields to natural hydrologic function and native plant communities. The property would not be an OWEB acquisition priority but for the applicant's intent to restore the property to a properly functioning OWEB priority ecological system.

Delete each magenta highlight if the property is in good ecological condition and thus not primarily being purchased to bring about large-scale restoration.

Leave as-is each gray highlight; the information will be filled in later by OWEB staff.

Requesting Changes to the Template

If you feel that the Template contains language that presents problems for the grantor of the easement, attach a description of the modifications that you are requesting with an explanation of why the modifications are needed.