

### *Final Completion Summary*

1) This project is located along Pine Hollow Creek, a steelhead bearing tributary to Rock Creek, which flows directly to the John Day River. The project is located within Wheeler County, approximately 17 miles east of Mitchell, Oregon. 2) There were two small culverts on the upper reaches of Pine Hollow that were undersized and did not meet fish passage criteria. Pine Hollow being a listed steelhead stream; it was imperative to provide full access to the available upstream habitat for spawning and rearing. 3) This project replaced two undersized culverts on the upper portion of Pine Hollow with appropriately sized plate arch culverts. The new culverts are large enough to provide fish passage during low and high flows. 4) Project partners include USFWS Partners Program, Antone Ranch (Alscott Antone Ranch LLC), ODFW, and Wheeler SWCD.

### *Background*

Pine Hollow is currently open to grazing which has caused several issues in the riparian corridor including decreased riparian vegetation, shading, and accelerated erosion in certain areas. Cattle have had historic access to the Pine Hollow drainage. This has led to degraded conditions in high pressure areas causing heavy browse, increased nutrient loading, and increased sediment inputs. In addition, there were several priority barriers listed on Pine Hollow as it is a steelhead bearing stream and passage was limited throughout the stream system.

This current condition led to a previous Technical Assistance grant (220-6009) for designing fish passage solutions on Pine Hollow and Shingle Creek. This project focuses on fixing two undersized culverts on Pine Hollow Creek in the upper portions of the watershed. Fixing these culverts will improve fish passage on 0.59 miles of listed steelhead habitat in Pine Hollow Creek. Previous work has corrected a large fish passage barrier downstream of this location (218-6010) with future work planned to correct the remaining barriers in the system over the next few years.

### *Work Done*

This project replaced two undersized culverts with 8'10" wide, 6'1" high pipe culvert. The upper culvert was 28' in length and 10-gauge thickness and the lower culvert was 20' in length and 7-gauge thickness. In addition, 43.64 acres of Pine Hollow was enrolled in the CREP program to exclude livestock access and restore the functions of the riparian corridor. Included in the CREP program will be 12,027 feet of livestock exclusion fencing, 20 acres of Brush Management, and 1260 trees and shrubs riparian plantings installed and caged.

### *Changes from Proposed*

The Wheeler Soil and Water Conservation District had undergone several staffing transitions in the last couple of years, resulting in new staff taking the lead on projects with minimal

involvement in the planning process of the grant application being awarded. In the grant application, it wasn't recognized that the proposed CREP buffer wasn't the same buffer that the CREP Technician had previously planned for. The District had to request a modification to change the CREP buffer that was proposed in the application to a different location that the CREP Technician had already planned.

*Public Awareness or Education*

Project will be included in the in displays presented at the Wheeler SWCD's annual meeting, and at the Wheeler County Fair and Rodeo.

*Lessons Learned*

One of the biggest lessons learned is when inheriting projects as a new staff always look back at what was included in the grant application. If the current CREP Technician would have looked through the grant application sooner there wouldn't have had to be a modification requested and the original project layout would have made more sense as the culverts would have been protected. The original layout will be included in a future project.

*Recommendations*

One recommendation that I would make is to not have landowners take on too much work all at once as all restoration projects have strict timelines that have to be completed within a specific timeframe.

*Aquatic Habitat*

Wheeler SWCD has read the Oregon Aquatic Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Guide and all project components are within compliance.

*Special Conditions*

Special Conditions for this project are fulfilled within the uploads section.

<i>Funding Sources</i>				
Source	Identifier	Cash	Inkind Type	Inkind
Antone Ranch		\$0.00	Materials	\$11,997.00
Farm Service Agency		\$60,221.25		\$0.00
ODFW		\$0.00	Materials	\$10,400.00
OWEB	221-6013-19035	\$40,982.00		\$0.00

<i>Totals</i>
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OWEB Amount	Non OWEB Cash	Inkind Total	Non OWEB Amount	OWEB Match	Total Project Cost
\$40,982.00	\$60,221.25	\$22,397.00	\$82,618.25	202.0%	\$123,600.25

<i>Uploaded Files</i>		
Image Type	File Name	Description
Exhibit B	19035_Conditions.pdf	
Photo Point	P4287890.JPG	Showing middle culvert on pine hollow to be replaced. Photo was taken upstream, facing downstream.
Photo Point	P9289387.JPG	Overview of new bottomless culvert on middle Pine Hollow. Showing culvert being stabilized by being embedded into creek bottom and has large boulders for protection. Photo was taken upstream, facing downstream.
Photo Point	P4287892.JPG	Photo was taken from downstream, facing upstream. Overview of the middle culvert on the East side.
Photo Point	P9289391.JPG	Photo was taken from downstream, facing upstream. Showing new middle Pine Hollow bottomless culvert. Culvert is surrounded by large boulders to assist in protection and stabilization.
Photo Point	P4287896.JPG	Overview of upper culvert. Photo was taken downstream, facing upstream.
Photo Point	P9289404.JPG	Showing new bottomless culvert on upper Pine Hollow. Culvert is protected and stabilized by large rock and embedded into creek bottom. Photo was taken upstream, looking downstream.
Photo Point	P4287897.JPG	Showing congested upper culvert providing limited fish passage. Photo taken upstream, looking downstream.
Photo Point	P9289407.JPG	Overview of new bottomless culvert on upper Pine Hollow. Culvert is stabilized and protected by large boulders. Photo was taken downstream, facing upstream.
Map	Photo Point Map.pdf	Photo Point Map