



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
May 2, 2024

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Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby 2024 Project Grant Funds Available

The 2024 Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby Steering Committee is pleased to announce the Derby has grant funds available for fishery enhancement projects in the Umpqua River Basin. Over the past 32 years, due to the generosity of our many supporters, the Umpqua Derby has raised \$2 million for over 400 fishery enhancement, restoration, and educational projects in the Umpqua Basin. These funds are matched with other donations to support hundreds of fishery and educational projects throughout Douglas County.

In 2023, Umpqua Derby Projects included:

- Casting for Recovery (Angling Licenses to Breast Cancer Survivors)
- Fly Fishing Veterans (Fishing Tags for all who have served to help manage PTSD, etc.)
- Elk Creek Watershed (Jack and Hardscrabble Creek Restoration)
- Gardiner-Reedsport-Winchester Bay STEP (Maintenance equipment for 5 acres of S.T.E.P Lake)
- Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (Yellow Creek Gravel Augmentation and Fish Eggs to Fry Project)
- OSU Extension Service (Rebuild of two fisheries stations at the Glide Education Forest)
- Smith River Watershed Council (Improve fish species by increasing passage into Crane Creek and W. Fork Smith River habitat improvement on Spencer Creek)
- ODFW North Umpqua Spring Chinook Hatchery Program (Brood Collection)
- Derby Video Camera and Fish Count Project (24/7/365 Live Streaming & Up-To-Date Counts)

The application forms are available by calling Douglas Timber Operators, (541) 672-0757. Following is a partial list of the grant qualification guidelines:

- Projects on private lands will have priority funding.
- Project ability to achieve success in a variety of management objectives.
- Projects which are cost-shared by the applicant (funds or contributed goods and services).
- Projects completed by June 30, 2025 (applicants may reapply in succeeding years).
- Projects that improve or restore habitat and/or improve fish passage will have priority over other projects.
- Projects which benefit wild populations of salmon, steelhead and trout will have priority (not to the exclusion) over other fish species.

All project applications must be postmarked by Friday, May 31, 2024.
2024 Derby Project Grant Awards will be announced by July 1, 2024.

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