

# Upper Deschutes Conservation Fund Technical Committee (UDCFTC) Report

## Composition

The Upper Deschutes Technical Committee is comprised of employees from the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Service (ODFW), the United States Forest Service (USFS), and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

USFWS: Claudia Funari, Jennifer O-Reilly

USFS: Lauri Turner, Jason Grizner

USGS: Chris Pearl

ODFW: Kalysta Adkins

## Meetings

The UDCFTC began meeting in the summer of 2021 and have met regularly in the winter and fall seasons each year. Meetings for the UDCFTC in 2021, 2022, and 2023:

2021 – July, November, December,

2022 – January, February, and November

2023 – January, February, March

- Planned: June, October, November

## Projects Funded

Two projects have been funded by the UDCFTC in the last two years with the same two projects being recommended for continued funding in 2023 (Table 1). The first project, which focused on predatory bullfrog removal in the Little Deschutes River, was funded in the fall of 2021 for work in winter 2021 and throughout 2022. Removal of predatory bullfrogs at concentrated areas near breeding sites is designed to relieve predation pressure on all life stages of OSF and hopefully increase survival of individuals that to increase population numbers. As stated above, the UDCFTC recommended continuation of this work due to it highly successful results removing bullfrogs from populations areas along the Little Deschutes and indications that Oregon spotted frog are responding positively (more egg masses) at some of those breeding sites; work in 2023 will include additional areas of bullfrog removal and Oregon spotted frog egg mass surveys at associated bullfrog removal sites.

The second project focused on predatory fish removal, mostly brown bullhead (a non-native fish) in Crane Prairie Reservoir in the summer 2022. This project also funded stomach content analysis to investigate intensity of predation at breeding sites in Crane Prairie. Removal of predatory fish at concentrated areas near breeding sites is designed to relieve predation pressure on all life stages of OSF

and increase survival of individuals that to increase population numbers. As stated above, the UDCFTC recommended continuation of this work in 2023 due to it highly successful results removing brown bullhead at Crane Prairie; work in 2023 will include trapping of bass and trout for stomach content analysis to help determine their predation threat to Oregon spotted frogs.

Projects expected to be funded in 2023 and 2024 will likely involve invasive vegetation treatments (reed canary grass, etc) within the Upper and Little Deschutes Oregon spotted frog breeding habitats. The Little Deschutes Bullfrog Removal and Crane Prairie Reservoir Predatory Fish Removal projects are expected to be funded for multiple years.

Table 1 Summary of Project Funding by the Upper Deschutes Conservation Fund

Project Name	Location	Year Funded	Grant Purpose	Amount Funded	Entity Funded	Partners	OSF population/site supported	HUC 8 Sub-basin
Predatory Fish Removal (bullhead)	Crane Prairie	2022	For genetics work on samples collected	\$33,424.00	OSU Sponsored programs	USGS, ODFW, OSU	Crane Prairie	Upper Deschutes
Predatory Fish Removal (bullhead)	Crane Prairie	2022	For bullhead removal, stomach sample collection, and reports	\$10,910.00	USGS- Ft. Collins Science Center	USGS, ODFW, OSU	Crane Prairie	Upper Deschutes
Predatory Bullfrog Removal	Little Deschutes	2021	To perform bullfrog control activities, data collection, and reporting	\$50,000.00	Upper Deschutes Watershed Council	UDWC	Little Deschutes	Little Deschutes
Predatory Fish Removal	Crane Prairie	2023	For genetics work on samples collected	\$48,972.00	OSU Sponsored programs	USGS, ODFW, OSU	Crane Prairie	Upper Deschutes
Predatory Fish Removal	Crane Prairie	2023	For bullhead removal, stomach sample collection, and reports	\$16,492.00	USGS- Ft. Collins Science Center	USGS, ODFW, OSU	Crane Prairie	Upper Deschutes
Bullfrog Removal	Little Deschutes	2023	To perform bullfrog control activities, data collection, and reporting	\$68,509.00	Upper Deschutes Watershed Council	UDWC	Little Deschutes	Little Deschutes
<b>Total Amount Awarded to Date*</b> <b>\$228,307.00</b>								

Fund balance as of 05/18/23:  
 \$242,616.