



Validation Checklist

Date submitted:

Project Information

Project Name

Trading Area Name

Trading Area Type (e.g., TMDL, TNC
Ecoregion)

Project location

Latitude/longitude
EstimatedArea (acres/hectares)
EstimatedLinear Feet of Stream

Project Developer

Organization
Contact person
Title
Phone/Email

How to use this check-list

Credit Validation is an initial screen of a project's eligibility to generate credits in the Ecosystem Credit Accounting System (ECAS). The Validation Checklist (Checklist) is meant to be completed early in the project development process so that the Willamette Partnership can give a preliminary determination of eligibility before significant project investments are made.

This Checklist should be filled out by the Project Developer or a party acting on their behalf that is highly familiar with the proposed project. Questions in the Checklist are designed to determine whether the project will meet ECAS eligibility requirements, as described in the relevant General Crediting Protocol (GCP) (noted in 1a). Please use the space provided to describe any circumstances that affect the answer. Complete and correct information is required for the Willamette Partnership to accurately evaluate project eligibility. Please note that this document will be made public for projects that are successfully verified and registered.

The Willamette Partnership's review and validation of the project at this stage is only a preliminary determination of the project's eligibility to generate credits. The type, quantity, and final approval of credits are confirmed in later phases. Contact the Willamette Partnership (info@willamettepartnership.org) for assistance with the Checklist.

Validation Checklist

1. Credit Types

Indicate all credit types that the Project Developer seeks to generate, the validation lead entity for each credit type and whether that credit will be compliance-grade or voluntary. For more detail on generating credits, please reference the GCP version noted in 1a.

- a. Which protocol and version will be used to generate credits?

Enter current protocol name and version unless an earlier version should apply (e.g. General Crediting Protocol version 1.1)

Credit Categories	Credit Types (check all that apply)	Quantification Method and Version	Validation Lead	Compliance Grade	Voluntary
Aquatic Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Salmon habitat	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Wetland habitat	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Upland Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Oak woodland habitat	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Upland prairie/Fender's blue butterfly habitat	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Water temperature	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Nitrogen	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphorus	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other 1: _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other 2: _____	_____	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Project Description and Timeline

- a. Provide a brief summary (approx. 200-400 words) that Willamette Partnership can use (if needed) to publicly describe the project:

Including but not limited to project location, credit type(s) being sought, anticipated credit-generating activities, pre-project and anticipated post-project conditions, timeline for project implementation.

3. Types of project activities that will be used to generate credits (check all that apply)

Credit Categories	Credit Types (check all that apply)	Credit Generating Project Activities (check all that will generate credits)
Aquatic Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Salmon habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Plant native vegetation <input type="checkbox"/> Restore and create wetland hydrology <input type="checkbox"/> Restore channel geomorphology <input type="checkbox"/> Fish passage barrier removal <input type="checkbox"/> In-stream: Large wood placement <input type="checkbox"/> Protect existing habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Improve function of an existing habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Restore habitat functions <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Wetland habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Protect existing habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Improve function of an existing habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Restore habitat functions <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Upland Habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Oak woodland habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Protect existing habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Improve function of an existing habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Restore habitat functions <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Upland prairie/Fender's blue butterfly habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Protect existing habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Improve function of an existing habitat <input type="checkbox"/> Restore habitat functions <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Water temperature	<input type="checkbox"/> Active riparian restoration <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Nitrogen	<input type="checkbox"/> Fencing/animal exclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Cover crop <input type="checkbox"/> Crop rotation <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation tillage <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient management <input type="checkbox"/> Filter strips <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Phosphorus	<input type="checkbox"/> Fencing/animal exclusion <input type="checkbox"/> Cover crop <input type="checkbox"/> Crop rotation <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation tillage <input type="checkbox"/> Nutrient management <input type="checkbox"/> Filter strips <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Other	<input type="checkbox"/> : _____	_____

4. Ownership

- a. Have you reviewed and confirmed ownership of the property where the project will take place? Yes No

Please provide separate documentation describing the items that would potentially disqualify the project if not resolved prior to project implementation.

- b. How will ownership of the credits generated from this project be documented between the property owner(s) and Project Developer?

Check the applicable form of document:

- Property lease, recorded with the county
- Property lease, unrecorded
- Access agreement
- Easement, permanent
- Easement, term of years
- Other: _____

5. Additionality

- a. Has the proposed project been reviewed for compliance with all applicable federal, state and local laws? Yes No

As applicable, provide separate documentation substantiating compliance (e.g., permits, etc.) where specific actions were/are taken to comply with applicable laws.

For thermal credit projects in the Rogue River Basin, please complete Rogue Basin Baseline Appendix at the end of this form.

For all others, check all that have been reviewed:

- County ordinances
- Local ordinances (City/Unincorporated areas)
- State law (e.g., Oregon Forest Practices Act); list: _____
- State guidance; list: _____
- Federal law; list: _____
- Federal guidance; list: _____

Water quality:

- TMDL
- Oregon Agricultural WQMP

- State water quality rules
- Other: _____

- b. Does the scope of the credit-generating activities on the property meet and exceed any requirements under Section 5(a) or other standard practices (i.e., “business as usual”) given the applicable land use type, entity, or industry on site? Yes No

If “No”, please contact the Willamette Partnership before completing the rest of this form, as your proposed project may not be additional.

- c. Were public dollars dedicated to conservation¹ used to fund any portion of the credit-generating activity? *If “Yes”, please provide separate documentation demonstrating additionality of credit-generating activities.* Yes No

- d. Have previous conservation actions or restoration activities been attempted on the site within the last 10 years? Yes No

- e. Have any credits been previously generated or sold on the property? Yes No

Describe any previous credits generated on the site and how those actions and areas relate to the current project activities.

¹ For the purposes of the ECAS, public funds dedicated to conservation include those targeted to support voluntary natural resource protection and/or restoration with a primary purpose of achieving a net ecological benefit through creating, restoring, enhancing, or preserving habitats, as described in Oregon Interagency Recommendations: Public Funds to Restore, Enhance, and Protect Wetland and At-Risk, Threatened and Endangered Species Habitats: Appropriate Uses of These Funds in Species and Wetland Mitigation Projects (2008). Some examples include Farm Bill Conservation Title cost share and easement programs, EPA 319 funds, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Partners for Wildlife Program, state wildlife grants, and other sources. Public loans intended to be used for capital improvements of public water systems (e.g., State Clean Water Revolving Funds and USDA Rural Development funds), and utility stormwater and surface water management fees are not public funds dedicated to conservation.

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| f. Has the site history been reviewed to identify, to the best of your knowledge, whether any significant portions of the site's natural land cover been converted or undergone significant ecological change (e.g., wetlands fill, vegetation removal) in the last 10 years or since the current owner took possession? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Where applicable, provide separate documentation describing the changes and ownership status when they occurred.

6. Stewardship

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| a. Will the agreement listed in Section 4(b) prohibit incompatible property uses for the life of the credit? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. If your answer is "no" to Section 6(a), how will incompatible property uses that may impact credits be restricted? | | |

Notes/Comments as necessary

7. Project Suitability

- | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| a. Does the project manager have past experience with this type of restoration? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. Will the project design meet all applicable ECAS minimum quality standards? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Describe components of the project concept relevant to meeting minimum quality standards and project performance standards.

8. Documentation

- | | | |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Yes | No |
| a. Does the project require agency pre-approvals (e.g., county or city development permit, ODFW review of restoration plan)? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. If so, have agency pre-approvals been secured? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Please provide notes, commentary, or separate documentation as needed.

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Please attach documentation to support the Checklist. Required and optional documents are listed below. (Note: documents that are optional for Validation may be required for Verification.) Descriptions of these document types can be found at the end of the checklist, see the Willamette Partnership website for links to available document templates (<http://willamettepartnership.org/ecosystem-credit-accounting>). Where final or signed versions of documentation are not available, please include labeled drafts. Final versions will be required and reviewed during Verification. Unless required by law or regulatory requirements, documents submitted during Validation will not be shared or made publicly available without consent from the Project Developer.

Required:

- Proof of Ownership*: _____
- Proof of Rights to Credits*: _____
- Project Design**: _____
- Project Map: _____

Optional:

- Project protection documents
- Accounting Area Map
- Service Area Map
- Wetland delineations
- Monitoring Plan
- Stewardship Plan
- Approved bank prospectus documents or bank instrument
- Other agency-pre-approval notices _____
- Other: _____

Attestation:

I attest that this information is true to the best of my ability and is consistent with Ecosystem Credit Accounting System’s General Crediting Protocol Version _____ and Verification Protocol Version _____ for the _____ basin.

Signature Line: _____

Printed Name: _____

Project Developer: _____

Date: _____

* In most cases, draft documents are acceptable at Validation. Full proof of ownership and rights to credits will be required and reviewed at verification.

** It is understood that during the implementation phase, project specifics are likely to change and new information will become available. Upon seeking verification, as-built conditions should be provided in the As-Built Project Design Document.

Rogue Basin Baseline Appendix

ORS 340-039-0030(1)	BASELINE REQUIREMENT	JUSTIFICATION THAT BASELINE REQUIREMENTS ARE MET FOR THIS SITE
(a) NPDES permit requirements	None. Medford’s Thermal Trading Plan does not specify any baseline requirements. There are no federal or state technology-based effluent limits (TBELs) for temperature.	
(b) Rules issued by Oregon Department of Agriculture for an agricultural water quality management area under OAR chapter 603 division 095	Inland Rogue Agricultural Water Quality Management Program Rules, OAR 603-095-1400 et seq. OAR 603-095-1440(3)(a) (“agricultural management of riparian areas shall not impede the development and maintenance of adequate riparian vegetation to control water pollution”).	
(c) Rules issued by Oregon Board of Forestry under OAR chapter 629 divisions 610-680	Will be considered if/when forestry-zoned sites are considered for implementation.	
(d) Requirements of a federal land management plan, or an agreement between a federal agency and the state	These will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Unlikely to apply unless recruited site is federally or stated owned.	
(e) Requirements established in a Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality certification	N/A, as Medford holds NPDES permit.	
(f) Local ordinances	Jackson County. Land Dev. Ord. § 8.6.4(A) (existing vegetation and tree cover “will be retained” on land within 75 feet of the top of the Rogue River	

	bank and within 50 feet of any Class 1 or 2 streams, except in certain narrowly prescribed, regulator-approved situations, including where non-native vegetation may be removed if being replaced with native vegetation).	
(g) Tribal laws, rules, or permits	None that TFT is aware of, but will confirm on site-by-site basis.	
(h) Other applicable rules affecting nonpoint source requirements	None that TFT is aware of, but will confirm on site-by-site basis.	
(i) Projects completed as part of compensatory mitigation, or projects required under a permit or approval issued pursuant to Clean Water Act section 404, or a supplemental environmental project used to settle a civil penalty imposed under OAR chapter 340 division 012 or the Clean Water Act	Medford is acting pursuant to its NPDES permit obligations, not a SEP or settlement. If a potential project site is already hosting a CWA 404 or SEP project, Medford will have the burden to demonstrate the proportion of the CWA 402 trading site that is additional.	
(j) Regulatory requirements a designated management agency establishes to comply with a DEQ-issued TMDL, water quality management plan or another water pollution control plan adopted by rule or issued by order under ORS 468B.015 or 468B.110.	INLAND ROGUE BASIN LOCAL ADVISORY COMM. & OR. DEP'T OF AGRIC., INLAND ROGUE AGRICULTURAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREA PLAN 12 (May 2010) ² ("Agricultural activities that eliminate the possibility of natural regeneration of trees and shrubs along waterways are not allowed. ... [N]ear-stream riparian management [is limited] to seasons and practices that enhance growth of grasses, shrubs, and trees canopy....").	

² This document can be found here: <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/shared/Documents/Publications/NaturalResources/InlandRogueAWQMAreaPlan.pdf>.

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Forms and documentation for the credit generation process

DOCUMENT TYPE	DESCRIPTION
Proof of Ownership	Confirmation of the legal ownership of the property on which project activities will take place.
Project Map	Delineates the project site, indicating where project activities and any relevant geographic context. For users of Version 2.0, additional information is available in the Protocol Appendix for the relevant credit type.
Project Design	Describes the intended project activities, considerations, and timelines, demonstrates that minimum quality standards will be met.
Proof of Rights to Credits	Document confirming the Project Developer has legal title to the credits to be issued for the project. This could include an easement, legal agreement, legal opinion, deed restriction, letter of intent, contract or other form clearly stating who owns the underlying land and who has rights to own and sell credits generated from the project.
Project Protection Documents	Confirms that the project site will be legally protected from development actions and alterations impacting the performance of credits for the life of the credit. Project Protection Agreements may be the same as Proof of Rights to Credits.
Accounting Area Map	Delineates subareas for which accounting of credits will be linked (accounting units). Accounting units cannot overlap.
Service Area Map	Delineates area within which the credits will be tracked, or, from compliance credits, the area in which they can be sold.
Wetland delineations	Establishes the location and size of a wetland for the purposes of federal, state and local regulations.
Monitoring Plan	Describes how monitoring will be conducted over the life of the credit to ensure project success and the attainment of project performance standards in the ECAS. The Stewardship and Monitoring Plans may be combined.
Stewardship Plan	Describes the Project Developer's intent for project maintenance including the designation of stewardship responsibility, cost estimates, anticipated activities, and management of stewardship funds. The Stewardship and Monitoring Plans may be combined.
Agency Pre-Approvals	Where applicable, confirmation of agency approval to proceed. This may be an approved prospectus, bank, letter or other form.
Bank Prospectus	Where necessary, detailed description of proposed mitigation bank that has undergone review and comment from the Interagency Review Team to assess technical feasibility of the bank development and operations.
Bank Agreement	Where necessary, the formal agreement between the Project Developers and agencies establishing liability, performance standards, management and monitoring requirements, and the terms of bank credit approval.