



Oregon HB 3017 the Value of Investing in Collaboration

High Desert Partnership is a Force for Rural Community Progress (Oregon Needs HDP)

- High Desert Partnership has 15 years experience in promoting progress in the face of challenging and complex issues in Southeastern Oregon
- HDP convenes six collaborative working groups to address community-identified challenges and opportunities
- HDP seeks out participation by diverse groups and perspectives, including groups and individuals who reside outside the southeast Oregon communities serviced by HDP

Our Positive Track Record, For Example...

- In 2022, the Harney County Wildfire Collaborative of more than 20 organizations and individuals came together to envision, define and find common ground around the Southeast Oregon Wildfire Resilience project. The Southeast Oregon Wildfire Resilience project is a wildfire resilience project in Harney and Malheur Counties that is using critical fuel treatments to enhance wildfire resilience across sagebrush steppe landscapes in Southeast Oregon.
- First convened in 2011, the Harney Basin Wetlands Collaborative has been successfully working together to enhance the private ranching wild flood irrigated wet meadows and restore Malheur Lake. These lands are a critical Pacific Flyway rest stop for migratory birds and vital for the southeast Oregon ranching economy. This group has successfully implemented more than \$6 million in Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board funding and continued working together during the 2016 militia occupation of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge.

High Desert Partnership is an Oasis of Collaboration in a Desert

- With 15 years of collaboration experience, HDP is ready for this opportunity to expand the culture of collaboration.
- HDP creates and coordinates—not duplicates programs and will work closely with Oregon Solutions to make collaboration more readily available for communities wanting to use the HDP collaborative model.
- This expansion will fill a vital regional gap, as current collaboration services other than what HDP is providing do not extend to southeast Oregon.
- This request is about connecting, engaging and growing community place-based resources that will lead to greater ecological resilience, economic growth, and social vitality in remote rural communities while reducing the potential for litigation logjams.

Funding Allocation

- High Desert Partnership - Capacity support for 6 collaboratives = \$750,000
- High Desert Partnership – SE Oregon Collaborative Center - New program development = \$600,000
- Collaborative Center Building = \$750,000
- Oregon Solutions contract facilitation and experiential community-building in SE Oregon = \$400,000

Support | Legislative & Other

Senator Lynn Findley (R), Senator Jeff Golden (D), Representative Mark Owens (R), Representative Pam Marsh (D), Representative Ken Helm (D), Representative Khan Pham (D), Oregon Solutions

"In a nation staggering to find its center of gravity, Harney County proved the power of a community that knows how to work together." from Sagebrush Collaboration