



Stream Restoration Partnership

- Problem: The processes of funding and permitting stream restoration projects can be slow and poorly coordinated.
- This can slow the pace of implementing projects.
 - Can create disincentives for landowner participation.
 - Can divert limited project resources which can strain project budgets as well as partner relationships.
 - Can impede restoring streams at a meaningful scale and pace, and thus can have an unintended negative impact on the conservation and restoration of species.



Stream Restoration Partnership

- Purpose: identify and deliver enhanced and accelerated restoration projects for private landowners and landowner coordinators.
- Goal: to facilitate more restoration actions by private landowners in and along streams across the state to improve freshwater health in a timelier manner.



Stream Restoration Partnership

- Broad involvement of stakeholders including

Oregon Solutions: Ken Bailey, Convener

Sponsoring Stakeholders: The Freshwater Trust (formerly Oregon Trout) and Oregon Department of State Lands

State Agencies: Oregon Department of Agriculture; Oregon Department of Environmental Quality; Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife; Oregon Department of Forestry; Oregon State Governor's Office; Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board; Office of Regulatory Streamlining; Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries; Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development.

Federal Agencies: USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service; Northwest Power and Conservation Council, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service; US Army Corps of Engineers; US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management

Non-Profits: Defenders of Wildlife; Jubitz Foundation; Meyer Memorial Trust; The Nature Conservancy, Willamette Partnership, Network of Oregon Watershed Councils, Oregon Association of Conservation Districts, Oregon Association of Counties

Private Sector: Individual agricultural producers, landowners, Parametrix



Stream Restoration Partnership

- Focus on using new tools and new thinking to address institutional barriers to efficient voluntary restoration actions, primarily in the project funding and permitting arenas
- Enhance efficiency without sacrificing restoration project quality.



Stream Restoration Partnership

- The desired outcomes include:
 - comprehensive advancement of needed project development elements,
 - Improved, timelier permitting processes
 - more efficient movement of restoration dollars to the ground,
 - improved ability to focus time on landowner outreach and project development instead of paperwork,
 - greater ecological and local economic benefit from this work through increased scale of actions, and
 - Greater landowner interest in restoration.



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■ Complications

- Complexity of the programs as well as the duplication of programs - complicated by Congress and laws passed over time
- Lack of clarity of what is regulated (different authorities, regulations, exemptions).
- “Work-arounds” of state and federal requirements tend to result in sub-optimal restoration projects.
- Historical and cultural artifacts and modern infrastructure are common in riparian environments



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- Because the permitting requirements are based in state and federal law, fundamental change must address these foundations:
 - federal exemptions for restoration activities
 - federal deferral to state authority over restoration activity
 - elimination of state law,
 - etc.
- Short of legislative changes and time, we must work better and more creatively together to implement and accelerate the pace of restoration projects.
 - The development of risk assessment tools can allow regulatory agencies to focus their resources on projects that have greatest potential to cause the greatest harm



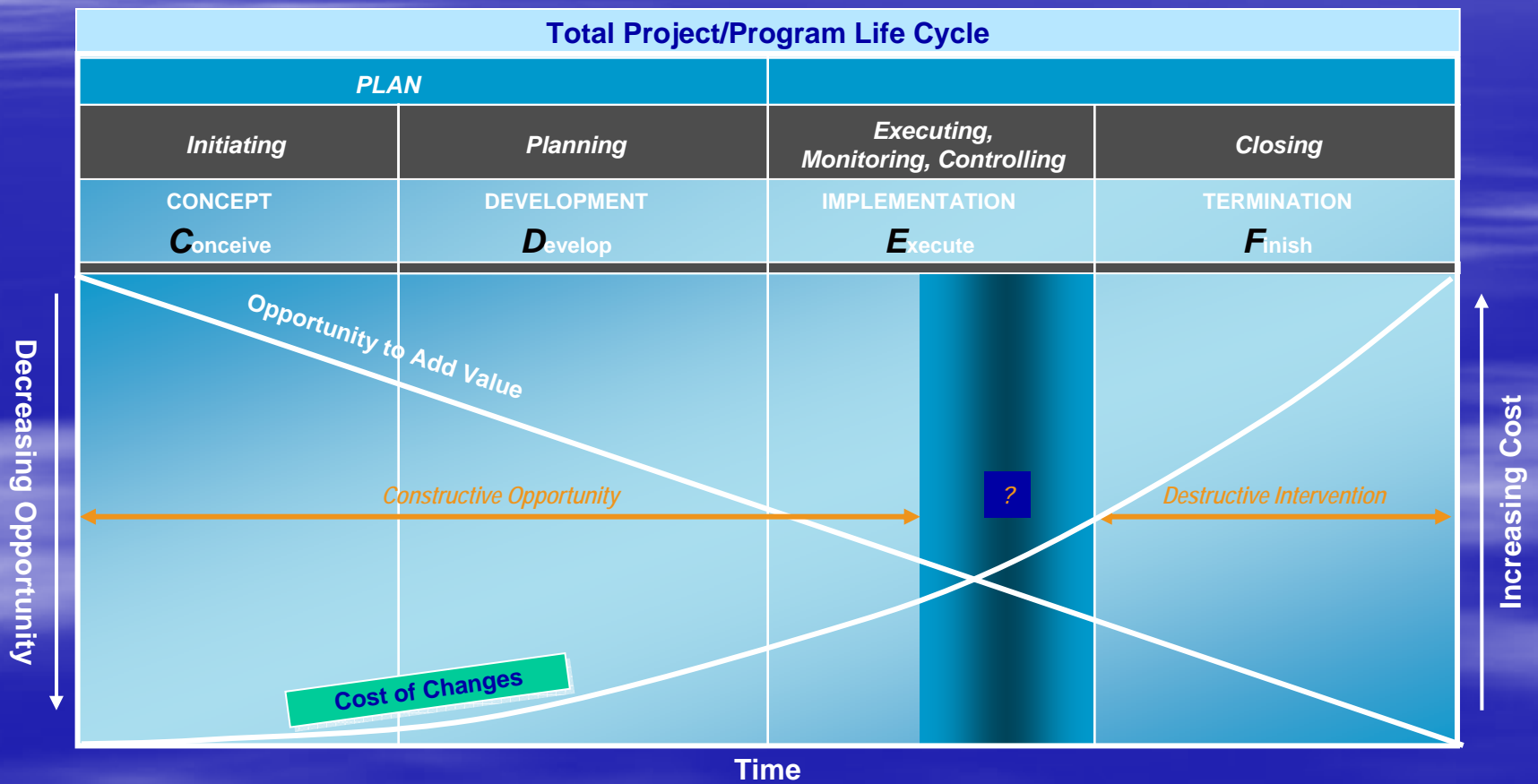
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Outcomes to date include

- Testing and improvement of StreamBank web tool
- Identification & Investigation of technology fixes
 - Electronic forms, GIS utilization
- Development of new permitting options
 - Large wood and boulder DSL GA & USACE RGP
 - USFS/BLM Restoration DSL GP & USACE RGP
 - 13 actions (buffet style) covers most common actions
 - Can be applied off federal land when BLM/FS is a partner
 - Culvert barrier removal workgroup
 - Unable to develop a permit but did ID resources and tools
 - Development of Tool Box and clarifying guidance

Useful tools for restoration work

Adding Value vs. Cost to Change



Reference: Modified from Wideman, R. 1991