

AGENDA
McKenzie Watershed Council
Thursday, October 13, 2022
International Paper
785 N 42nd St, Springfield, OR 97478
5:00 – 7:45 p.m.

- 1. Welcome and catered dinner** 5:00 - 5:30
Please use this time to mingle and take advantage of a catered dinner (vendor pending...)
- 2. Approval of Agenda** 5:35 - 5:40
Action Requested – Approve October Meeting Agenda.
- 3. Approval of June 9th Meeting Minutes** 5:40 - 5:45
Attachment: June Meeting Minutes
Action Requested – Approve June meeting minutes.
- 4. Lane County Parks 5-Year Levy** 5:45 – 6:05
Consider request to endorse Lane County Parks Levy – working on getting a presenter
Action Requested – Discuss formal MWC endorsement of Lane County Parks Levy
- 5. Small Group Exercise** 6:05 – 6:25
In groups of 3-4 please answer the following. Each group will designate one person to report out.
- What drew you to the McKenzie Watershed Council?
 - What has kept you engaged as Council Partner?
- 6. Combined FY 2023 Budget and Projects Presentation** 6:25 – 7:05
Overview of Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and highlights from planned 2023 projects
Information Only
- 7. Short Break** 7:05 – 7:15
- 8. Partner Announcements and Public Comment** 7:15 – 7:45
Overview of Fiscal Year 2023 Budget and highlights from the 2023 work plan
Information Only

Upcoming Meeting Schedule

- November 10, 2022. 500 Years of Fire in the McKenzie Valley, OSU Forestry Dept.
- December 8, 2022. Urban Waters & Wildlife Program, Sarah Whitney, LTWC
- January 12, 2023 – OPEN (potentially hold for internal planning)
- February 9, 2023. McKenzie River Channel Migration Study, Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI)
- March 9, 2023, OPEN

Contact: Jared Weybright, 458-201-8150, jared@mckenziawc.org, www.mckenziawc.org

McKenzie Watershed Council
Meeting Minutes
June 9th, 2022
Virtual Meeting

Present: Dian Albino (Resident Partner), Commissioner John Barofsky (EWEB), Brian Brazil (International Paper), Bob Bumstead (McKenzie Flyfishers), Darren Cross (USFS), Nate Day (McKenzie Schools), Arlene Dietz (Rice Farms), Rod Fosback (NW Steelheaders), Susan Fricke (EWEB), David Kretzing (Resident Partner), Karl Morgenstern (EWEB), Mike McDowell (Resident Partner), Ralph Perkins (UWSWCD), Bryan Robinson (City of Springfield), Emily Semple (City of Eugene), Wade Stampe (Resident Partner), Dave Thomas (McKenzie Fly Fishers), Eli Tome (MRT), Nancy Toth (EWEB), Kelly Wood (Wildish),

Staff: Chase Antonovich, Jennifer Weber, Lara Colley, Cori Carpenter, Jessica Jackman, Vanessa Taylor, Cameron Coronado, Alex Enriquez

1. Approval of Agenda and Zoom Logistics

Arlene Dietz motioned to approve June 9th meeting agenda. Agenda approved as written, all Partners showing consensus level 3.

2. Approval of May 12th Meeting Minutes

Commissioner John Barofsky motioned to approve the May 12th meeting minutes. Meeting minutes approved as written, all partners showing consensus level 3.

3. Lara Colley Master Thesis Presentation

Lara Colley, Council staff member, presented her recently completed OSU Master of Natural Resources capstone presentation. The presentation, "A Review and Recommendations for Assessing Floodplain Vegetation Recovery Following Stage 0 and Beaver Dam Analog Restorations in the Pacific Northwest," covered research relevant to floodplain restoration work being completed in the McKenzie basin. Ms. Colley discussed what restoration practitioners expect to see in terms of plant community development following stage 0 restoration and beaver dam analogs, and how this affects recommendations for how floodplain restorations with these treatments are managed. Ms. Colley also covered how these recommendations fit within the social context of the landscape.

Bob Bumstead asked if we should be planting Lupins in the McKenzie following wildfire and other disturbances. Lara Colley noted that she had seen Lupin in the South Fork, although she is unsure if it was seeded by the Forest Service or naturally occurring. Lupin played a key role on the Elwha River in establishing the forb and shrub layer.

Arlene Dietz expressed the importance of long-term monitoring in river restoration, noting how difficult it can be to fund these activities. Ms. Colley noted how valuable the use of university researchers has been to fill the monitoring gap. Jennifer Weber commented that she and Jared Weybright have been discussing a programmatic approach to monitoring, specifically on private lands, and that the Council will likely see more of an effort to fund this work.

David Kretzing commented that aside from funding the monitoring work, it is crucial to archive the findings so that future researchers can access this information.

4. Partner Updates

Commissioner John Barofsky reported that EWEB will be holding a board meeting on the 16th to discuss the Leaburg project, and what is happening with the levees there.

Karl Morgenstern reported that EWEB has signed a grant of rights easement with Campbell Global on Quartz Creek to facilitate stage 0 work at that site.

Susan Fricke reported that there were low levels of toxins that occur from harmful algal blooms recorded in Blue River reservoir. The levels are barely above the reporting limit currently. Ms. Fricke noted that there is an interactive tool available at the link below to find out more information on these algal blooms.

<https://www.eweb.org/outages-and-safety/water-safety-in-your-home-or-business/drinking-water-quality/cyanobacterial-harmful-algae-blooms/hab-map>

Bryan Robinson reported that the 2022 Upstream art project is open through June 15th. He continued that the MWMC 2021 poplar harvest was very successful with 70,000 feet of boards available in various length available at Bring recycling. Lastly, the 2022 MWMC summer giveaway has started with lots of information and updates available about current projects.

Councilor Emily Semple reported that the riverfront park is opening this week. She continued that the boat tour she attended recently was extremely informative.

Brian Brazil reported that International Paper is making the previous Weyerhaeuser office center available to the Council to meet in the future.

Bob Bumstead reported that the McKenzie Flyfishers are working to help construct an ADA pond around the Discovery Center. He continued that club members are also volunteering at the Leaburg salmon sorter.

Darren Cross reported that the McKenzie Ranger Station is officially open to the public, with limited hours from 10am-2pm. Mr. Cross continued that USFS Rd-19 is currently open despite recent landslides. He also noted that the final phase of Deer Creek restoration will begin this next week.

Eli Tome reported that the Lopez base camp is available to partners for drop-in or overnight use, and to contact Brandi or Eli if you are looking to use the space. Additionally, Mr. Tome noted that the MRT is working on multiple acquisition projects upriver with staff looking forward to wrapping that up. He continued that the MRT is also still looking for funding to improve the Finn Rock boat launch. Lastly, Mr. Tome reported that the MRT has hired a new land steward and 2 interns as well.

Nate Day wanted to thank Dave Kretzing and the Forest Service for allowing his students to attend an upriver geology presentation that included a stop at the Ranger Station. He also wanted to thank the MRT for allowing students to work at the Finn Rock Reach property.

Dave Kretzing reported that he had a great day in the woods with Nate's students. He also noted Fish Lake and Lost Lake are currently still full of water which is rare for this time of year. Lastly, he noted June 19th the Weather Channel will feature himself and Darren Cross on a program about lakes.

5. Staff Updates

Jennifer Weber reported that the Pure Water Partnership has engaged over 200 landowners through the watershed stewardship pipeline. Ms. Weber continued that there are currently 7 project managers working on 20-40 properties each. Ms. Weber continued that final planning is underway for in-stream restoration work on Deer Creek and North Fork Gate Creek. She noted that work on Deer Creek will begin this month and run through July, with Gate Creek restoration occurring later in the summer.

Chase Antonovich reported that the Council has secured a new office in downtown Springfield, several blocks from the previous office location. He continued that the Council has hired two seasonal naturescaping interns, Cameron Coronado and Vanessa Taylor, to assist with landscape design work for PWP landowners. Mr. Antonovich continued that the Council will be taking a break from monthly meetings over the summer but plans to offer multiple tours and a BBQ over the next several months. Lastly, he announced that Salmon Watch trips will resume this fall, noting that interested volunteers should contact Emma Garner at the MFWWC for more information.

Meeting adjourned, 6:45pm.



Measure 20-335

Lane County Parks Proposed Levy 2022



Background

On August 9, 2022 the Lane County Board of Commissioners voted to refer a five-year proposed local option levy for Lane County Parks to the November 8, 2022 ballot. If passed, this would be a dedicated funding source (local option property tax levy) to fund a committed, specific set of projects that fund access and park amenities like restrooms, water access, and restoration of natural areas.

The County recently completed a Lane County Parks and Open Space Master Plan and appointed a resident-led Parks Funding Task Force. This multi-year project resulted in a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners to refer a proposed property tax levy measure to the voters.

Public parks provide affordable recreational opportunities for community members. Lane County Parks are open to all county residents and visitors and are an easy way to get outside close to home. Lane County Parks provide access to nature, water, and hiking trails across the community.

Visits and usage of Lane County Parks have increased significantly since the pandemic as community members have sought outdoor opportunities to play, hike, exercise, and gather.

Cost

If passed, the proposed Lane County Park's levy would increase property taxes \$0.16 per \$1,000 of assessed property value for five years beginning in fiscal year 2023. The median Lane County taxpayer is estimated to pay about \$3.20 per month, or less than \$40 per year. If the proposed levy does not pass, the specific set of projects identified below would not be completed. In addition, the proposed property tax increase would not occur.

If passed, what would the proposed levy fund?

The proposed levy would fund specific projects focused on access and park amenities such as restrooms, water access, and restoration of natural areas. The Board of Commissioners approved a specific list of projects that would be funded during the 5 years of the levy.

A complete list is attached on the back with details, and include:

- Special Projects
 - Facilities and restroom projects
 - Site security
 - Restoration of trails at Buford/Pisgah
 - Cooperative projects, such as pickleball courts, and restoration of natural areas
 - Environmental education with Mt. Pisgah Arboretum
 - Water access improvements
- Park Amenities
- Maintenance & Employees
- Conservation & Education

Creating Partnerships

If passed, these levy dollars would be used to build cooperative partnerships with other governments, private groups, and Lane County departments to leverage funds and grants, to bring additional revenue to support the identified projects.

For More Information

If you have questions, please email Lane County at ParksLevy@lanecountyor.gov or call Lane County Parks at **541.682.2000**

This information, except for the website link(s), was reviewed by the Oregon Secretary of State's Office for compliance with ORS 260.432.



Measure 20-335

Proposed 5-Year Budget



Park Amenities to Facilitate Use	
Restrooms	\$2,439,678
Day Use, Shelters, & Pavillions	\$1,310,428
Paving & Curbs	\$6,447,210
Site Utilities	\$1,362,637
Other Features & Improvements	\$1,146,613
Waterway Access	\$1,178,103
Maintenance & Employees	
Increased employee coverage to provide maintenance and safety for parks infrastructure, and related materials and services.	\$11,499,284
Special Projects	
Facilities: Armitage Campground expansion; Howard Buford Recreation Area North Trailhead Restroom; North Jetty Parking Lot, Restrooms, and Access	\$1,250,000
Site Security: Sheriff's Deputy security, and work crew support	\$750,000
Water Access Improvements: Ada; Baker Bay; Eagle Rock Park; Forest Glen Landing; Hayden Bridge Landing; Hileman Landing; Howard Buford Recreation Area; Mapleton Landing; Perkins Peninsula; Rodakowski Landing; Whitely Landing	\$850,000
Trails at Buford/Pisgah: New trails, accessibility improvements, trail maintenance, kiosks	\$500,000
Cooperative Project: Park & Rec: Blue River Park; McKenzie River Discovery Center; Regional Pickleball Facility	\$820,000
Cooperative Project: Habitat Restoration: Friends of Buford Park Habitat; McKenzie River Trust: Finn Rock Reach	\$330,000
Environment Education with Mt. Pisgah Arboretum: Educator, bilingual walks, forums, low-income youth scholarships	\$500,000
Conservation & Education	
Natural Areas Program—Habitat Stewardship	\$350,000
Riparian and Floodplain Restoration	\$270,000
Interpretive Programming	\$100,000
Recreation Programming	\$100,000
Water Trail Signage—McKenzie	\$75,000
Water Trail Guide—McKenzie	\$75,000
EV Charging Stations	\$30,000
Total 5-Year Levy Funding	\$31,383,953

McKenzie Watershed Alliance
Annual Budget and Project Overview
Fiscal Year 2023 (October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023)

Table 1. Income

Contract	Secondary Source	Description	Amount
Donations	Various	Projected private donations	\$15,000
Bonneville Environmental Foundation	-	PWP 2023 Capacity for outreach position	\$20,000
Cascade Pacific RC&D: PWP 2022	EWEB	PWP 2022 Capacity	\$4,000
Cascade Pacific RC&D: PWP 2023	EWEB	PWP 2023 Capacity	\$20,000
Cascade Pacific RC&D: MWMC	MWMC	PWP 2023 Capacity	\$6,800
Cascade Pacific RC&D: UWWP	EPA/EWEB	UWWP Capacity 2023	\$3,000
Cascade Pacific RC&D: HFF 2022	EWEB/Various	Holiday Farm Fire Recovery 2022	\$100,000
Cascade Pacific RC&D: HFF 2023	EWEB/Various	Holiday Farm Fire Recovery 2023	\$300,000
Cascade Pacific RC&D: PWP Riparian	OWEB grant	PWP Restoration Projects	\$55,000
Cascade Pacific RC&D: DFIP	OWEB grant	PWP 2022 Capacity	\$1,350
City of Eugene	-	Local Match	\$12,000
City of Springfield	-	Local Match	\$5,000
CFWWC - MMT Collaboration Grant	MMT	UWSN collaboration	\$6,000
CFWWC - OWEB Collaboration Grant	OWEB	UWSN collaboration	\$3,360
EWEB: General Support	-	Local Match	\$10,000
EWEB: 412	-	Leaburg-Walterville Mitigation	\$100,117
EWEB: Middle McKenzie Floodplain Rest	OWEB	Delta CG/Quartz Creek Floodplain Projects	\$900,000
EWEB: Deer Creek Phase 4	-	Deer Creek Phase 4	\$28,800
McKenzie River Trust: BWCA	-	BWCA Project Maintenance	\$10,000
International Paper	-	McKenzie Firewood Program	\$10,000
SWCD: Deer Creek Monitoring	ODF	Deer Creek Monitoring Report	\$20,000
OWEB 222-038: Council Support	-	Council Capacity Oct 22-June 23	\$66,300
OWEB 224-038: Council Support	-	Council Capacity June 23 - Sept 23	\$16,435
OWEB 218-3044: OR Spotted Frog Mon	-	Oregon Spotted Frog Monitoring Report	\$5,515
OWEB 220-7000: Stage 0 Monitoring	-	South Fork Monitoring Report	\$20,150
OWEB 220-9005: HFF Erosion Control	BLM	GNA funding for cooperative project	\$36,000
OWEB 220-030: Deer Creek	-	Deer Creek Phase 3	\$39,725
OWEB 222-8311: UWSN Strategic Planning	-	UWSN collaboration	\$60,000
SUB: General Support	-	Local Match	\$2,000
TFT: Dehne	MWMC	Shade Credit Riparian Project	\$15,000
TFT: WWR	MWMC	Shade Credit Riparian Project	\$10,000
Tribal Liaison Funding	OWEB/EWEB	Estimated capacity for new staff position	\$65,000
USFS: South Fork Phase 3 SPA	-	Delta Campground Floodplain Restoration	\$701,500
University of Oregon	FEMA	Lower McKenzie Floodplain Planning	\$6,000
TOTAL INCOME:			\$2,674,052

Table 2. List of Acronyms

Acronym	Name	Description
BEF	Bonneville Environmental Foundation	Foundation with grant programs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	Federal agency
BWCA	Berggren Watershed Conservation Area	MRT owned property and restoration project site
CFWWC	Coast Fork Willamette Watershed Council	Local partner & UWSN member
CPRCD	Cascade Pacific Resource Conservation and Development	Fiscal sponsor for PWP: administers some of the program funding
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	Federal agency with grant program
EWEB	Eugene Water & Electric Board	Local utility & PWP member
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency	Federal agency with grant program
GNA	Good Neighbor Authority	Funding mechanism allowing local partners to do work on federal land
HFF	Holiday Farm Fire	
LTWC	Long Tom Watershed Council	Local partner & UWSN member
MFWWC	Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council	Local partner & UWSN member
MMT	Meyer Memorial Trust	Private Foundation with grant programs
MRT	McKenzie River Trust	Local partner, UWSN member & PWP member
MWMC	Metropolitan Wastewater Management Commission	Eugene-Springfield wastewater management entity
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency	Federal agency with grant programs
ODF	Oregon Department of Forestry	State agency with grant programs
OWEB	Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board	State agency with grant programs
PWP	Pure Water Partners	Local cooperative partnership
SUB	Springfield Utility Board	Local utility
SWCD	Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District	Local Partner & PWP member
TFT	The Freshwater Trust	Regional partner: administers MWMC funding for shade credit projects
USFS	United States Forest Service	Federal agency
UWSN	Upper Willamette Stewardship Network	Local cooperative partnership
UWWP	Urban Waters & Wildlife Program	Local cooperative program: managed through UWSN

Table 3. Pending Funding

Source	Amount	Note
UWSCD - PWP Outreach Position	\$20,000	Potential funding for new PWP outreach position to be housed at MWC
UWSCD - Council Capacity	\$20,000	Potential funding for local partner capacity
OWEB - Silver Creek Boat Launch	\$131,000	Pending project funding from BLM/GNA
BEF	\$200,000	PWP/HFF Planting - pass through for PWP
NOAA	\$7,500,000	Quartz Creek Resiliency Project
Roundhouse Foundation	\$2,500	Firewood program
Weyerhaeuser Foundation	\$3,000	Firewood program
Rotary	\$17,000	PWP support
Total Possible Funding	\$7,893,500	

Table 4. Expenses

EXPENSES	FY 2023 Amount	Note
Salary		
Salaries	\$659,195	Combined for 11 staff positions (see Table 5)
Benefits	\$75,000	Insurance retirement
Payroll Taxes	\$60,000	Local, state, federal
Overtime	\$10,000	Contingency for non-exempt staff
Payroll Service	\$1,000	
Salary Subtotal	\$805,195	
Projects		
HFF Supplies and Materials	\$10,000	HFF recovery
PWP Riparian	\$43,000	OWEB-funded riparian projects
EWEB 412 Project Activities	\$80,117	Hold for priority conservation projects
Middle McKenzie Floodplain Restoration	\$790,000	Quartz Creek wood sourcing and transport
Deer Creek Phase 4 Instream	\$23,200	Final administrative costs for 2022 project
BWCA Maintenance	\$8,000	Contracted services
Deer Creek Monitoring	\$19,000	Final reporting and administrative costs
OWEB/BLM Erosion Control	\$30,000	Contracted services
UWSN Strategic Planning	\$55,000	Sub-contracts for local partners
TFT: Dehne Riparian	\$12,000	Contracted services
TFT: Whitewater Ranch Riparian	\$8,000	Contracted services
South Fork Phase 3	\$617,000	Delta Campground project
USWN Director	\$5,000	Sub-contract with LTWC
UWSN Regional Education Program	\$5,000	Sub-contract with MFWWC
Scholarship Program	\$5,000	New program with local supporters
Firewood Program	\$25,000	New program
Projects Subtotal	\$1,735,317	
Operations		
Office Operations	\$75,000	Rent, utilities, subscriptions, printing, supplies, etc.
Travel	\$35,000	Staff travel reimbursement
Training and Conferences	\$20,000	Misc conferences, trainings, etc.
Technology	\$10,000	New computers, monitors, iPads, etc.
DEI Support and Activities	\$5,000	Support for a range of programs and partners
Council Activities	\$5,000	Food, supplies, services for meetings, tours, etc.
Fiscal Review	\$6,000	Annual review required by 412 funding
Insurance	\$12,000	Liability, directors and board, workers comp, etc.
Operations Subtotal	\$168,000	
Total Expenses	\$2,708,512	FY2022 Expenses Budget was \$2,419,824
Total Income	\$2,674,052	FY2022 Income Budget was \$2,451,936
Projected Ending Fund Balance (9/30/23)	(34,460)	Projected deficit expected to be addressed through pending funding.

Table 5. Updated MWA Staff List

Title	Name	Note
Executive Director	Jared Weybright	Organization management, partner coordination, Council and Alliance coordination, funding development
Finance Director	Amanda Gilbert	Approximately 0.3 FTE (also works as CFWWC Executive Director). Funding development and management
Restoration Program Manager	Jennifer Weber	Floodplain/in-stream, riparian, and Naturescaping management and support
Operations Manager	Chase Antonovich	Operations and fiscal management
Watershed Restoration Specialist	Lara Colley	PWP and floodplain/in-stream Project Management
Watershed Restoration Specialist	Alex Enriquez	PWP project management
Watershed Restoration Specialist	Jessica Jackman	PWP and floodplain/in-stream Project Management
Naturescaping Design Specialist	Vanessa Taylor	New position – began October 3, 2022. PWP Naturescaping program
Watershed Restoration Specialist	New hire to start October 17, 2022	PWP project management
PWP Community Engagement Coordinator	TBD	Work with McKenzie River Valley communities on behalf of the PWP and McKenzie Valley Long Term Recovery Group
Tribal Liaison	TBD	Work with Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians on behalf of the PWP and UWSN

Table 6. 2023 Project Highlights

Project	Partners	Funders	Description
HFF riparian planting	PWP (EWEB, UWSWCD, MRT)	OWEB, EWEB	Plant ~ 400,000 native trees and shrubs on 175 acres across 125 PWP properties. Work completed under EWEB contract and not reflect in MWA Budget
HFF riparian planting maintenance	PWP (EWEB, UWSWCD, MRT)	OWEB, EWEB	Maintenance and monitoring on 200-250 acres of PWP-enrolled properties. Work completed under EWEB contract and not reflect in MWA Budget
HFF forest fuels reduction	PWP (EWEB, UWSWCD, MRT)	EWEB, ODF, USDA (pending)	Forest fuels reduction projects on 150-200 acres across 25-50 PWP enrolled properties. Large wood from these sites supports Firewood Program and Quartz Creek project . Work completed under EWEB contract and not reflect in MWA Budget
PWP Riparian Projects	PWP (EWEB, UWSWCD, MRT)	OWEB, TFT, EWEB	Resume 2-3 riparian restoration projects outside the HFF perimeter.
Middle McKenzie Floodplain Projects	USFS, MRT, EWEB,	OWEB, EWEB, NOAA (pending)	Design and permit development for a large-scale floodplain restoration project (~200 acres) on Quartz Creek has occurred throughout 2022. The funded scope of work for 2023 focuses on the harvest and transport of 4,000-6,000 pieces of large wood. Pending funding from NOAA will support the replacement of a bridge in 2023. Floodplain restoration would take place in 2024. This project will compliment the MRT Finn Rock Reach Phase 2 project planned for 2023.
Delta Campground Decommissioning	USFS	USFS, EWEB/OWEB	Phase 3a of the Lower South Fork Floodplain Restoration Project. HFF-impacted Delta CG will be decommissioned in late 2022 through spring 2023. Working with the USFS to remove all infrastructure and set stage for later restoration work
Delta Campground Floodplain Restoration	USFS	USFS, EWEB/OWEB	Once infrastructure is removed, Phase 3b of the Lower South Fork Floodplain Restoration Project will be developed. This project will restore and enhance connection to approximately 100-150 acres of floodplain in and around the Delta CG perimeter. Estimated timeline is summer 2023.
UWSN Regional Planning	UWSN, UWSWCD	OWEB	The UWSN is embarking on a regional planning effort with a focus on 1) Floodplain/riparian, 2) Uplands, 3) Working lands, and 4) Urban project areas. The objective is a combined strategic plan that supports future large-scale funding and project development
USWN Regional Education Program	CFWWC, MFWWC,	Various and emerging	UWSN partners moved to a regional approach to youth education in 2022. The program is managed by the MFWWC Education Coordinator and supported by UWSN partners. In the 2022-23 school year the program is focusing on Salmon Watch, WATERS-style programming, Outdoor School, and several new initiatives.
PWP Firewood Program	EWEB, MRT, UWSWCD, Brink Inc,	International Paper, Roundhouse	New program to assist HFF-impacted residents and community members in need. Modeled off of similar programs in Wallow and Jackson counties. Seeks to meet an unmet need in form of assistance with home heating.