

Community Stewardship Program

Photo Monitoring Guidelines

Goals of the Requirement:

1. Track the progress of your individual stewardship project
2. Evaluate the impact of the Community Stewardship Grant Program
3. Encourage the continued use of photographs to monitor habitat improvements at natural areas

Instructions:

The Foundation asks that you follow the general guidelines listed in your grant agreement and provided below for reference.

- 1) Identify two measurable stewardship objectives from the Proposal's work plan that the Grantee will monitor (i.e. buckthorn removal or native seeding).
- 2) Establish two photo points – one for each stewardship objective – that will show the change in habitat over the course of the project. The photo points should be established using permanent markers (i.e. a rock or steel post), as well as compass bearings. **Use permanent markers for both the camera location and the photo point** so the distance between the two remains constant for each photo.
- 3) Before work begins, take one photograph of each point during the growing season. You will be asked to upload these “before” photos with your Final Report.
- 4) At the end of the grant period, take one photograph of each point during the growing season. You will be asked to upload these “after” photos with your Final Report.
- 5) One year after the end of the Grant Period, conduct photo monitoring once more. Provide two photographs (one of each point during the growing season) to the Foundation along with a short narrative describing how your organization is continuing to meet the two stewardship objectives identified in (1) above.

If you would like to follow a more detailed monitoring protocol than the Foundation is requiring, please do so. If you are looking for more information about how to set up a photo monitoring system, we have identified a few helpful resources below.

Photo Monitoring Resources:

1. Hall, Frederick C. 2001. Photo point monitoring handbook: part A—field procedures. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-526. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 48 p. 2 parts
 - a. <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/gtr526/>
 - b. *This publication discusses the basics of photo monitoring and provides a detailed description of strategies and procedures.*
2. McDougald, N., Frost, B. & Dudley, D. (2003). Photo-Monitoring for Better Land Use Planning and Assessment. Rangeland Monitoring Series. Oakland, CA: University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 1-10.
 - a. <https://anrcatalog.ucanr.edu/pdf/8067.pdf>
 - b. *This publication discusses the basics of photo monitoring as well management objectives and provides good example photographs.*
3. Shaff, C., Reiher, J. & Campbell, J. (2007). OWEB Guide to Photo Point Monitoring. Salem, OR: Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, 1-16.
 - a. <https://digital.osl.state.or.us/islandora/object/osl:16450>
 - b. *This is another publication that provides basic procedures and strategies for photo monitoring and is specifically focused on the use of photo monitoring to track the progress of restoration projects.*