

**Tom  
Hesseldenz &  
Associates**

Ecologically-Sustainable Landscape Architecture and Natural Resources  
Planning Services • Parks & Greenways • Trails • Ponds • Stream and  
Natural Area Restoration • Wetland & Stormwater Mitigation

October 21, 2022

RE: Bob Odell Letter of Recommendation for PTBA Membership

To Whom It May Concern,

I first met Bob Odell of Nature Bound Construction LLC on the multi-year McCloud River Club Trails Project in Northern California when he became a partner with Ken Baughman of Yakima Construction about a decade ago. Ken's previous partner for many years had been Jerry Morrison of Jerry Morrison, Inc. After Jerry passed away, Bob purchased half of the trail equipment accumulated by Ken and Jerry over the years.

Bob came into the company with experience in equipment operation, repair, and maintenance, and quickly developed a sense for trail and trail bridge construction. He also obtained his California blasting license, since much of the trail construction along the McCloud River requires blasting. On trail projects, Bob plays the role of job foreman.

Bob is a very hard worker and strives for high-quality work as well as expedience. The McCloud River trails and bridges are particularly challenging due to their remote location and extremely rugged conditions, typically requiring the use of hundreds of pounds of explosives each year. The resulting trails are spectacular.

The McCloud River Club owners recently wanted to widen and retrofit some of their trails and bridges for ATV access. In response, Bob was tasked with figuring out bridge approach modifications and cable safety railings above cliffs. Bob came up with creative design solutions to these challenges and implemented them with high-quality and durable installations.

Ken, Bob, and their crew have also undertaken other trail projects I've designed, including upgrades to the Hedge Creek Trail accessing Mossbrae Falls in Dunsmuir, and trails at a city park and on private property in Mount Shasta City. The private project included log bridges over one creek, large steppingstones over another, and boardwalks and geo-fabric reinforced trails through a wet meadow, all of which were beautifully constructed.

As a trail designer, I rely on contractors like Bob who understand and support trail design goals, offer alternatives where better solutions might be warranted, and are self-directed to deal with the myriad logistics of a project and get the job done. He is one of the best, and I recommend him highly for acceptance as a member of the PTBA.

Sincerely,



Tom Hesseldenz, Owner/Principal