



Approved July 18, 2023

**Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for June 20, 2023**

<b>Directors:</b>	In Person: Jeff Becker (Chair), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Via Zoom: Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Jim Johnson, Jan Lee, Joan Zuber
<b>Associate Directors:</b>	Via Zoom: PK Melethil
<b>Directors Emeritus:</b>	
<b>Staff:</b>	In Person: Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Chris Lapp, Sam Leininger, Cathy McQueeney, Heather Nielsen, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
<b>Partners:</b>	In Person: Kim Galland (Natural Resources Conservation Service) Via Zoom: Karin Stutzman (Oregon Dept. of Agriculture)
<b>Guest:</b>	
<b>NOT PRESENT:</b>	Jesse Nelson (Vice Chair)

**1 – CALL TO ORDER and ACCEPT AGENDA / PUBLIC COMMENT / DIRECTOR REPORTS / MANAGER’S REPORT ON COMMITTEES**

**A. Call to order** – Chair Becker called the meeting to order with a quorum present at 4:05 p.m., June 20, 2023, in the Clackamas SWCD conference room at 22055 S Beaver Creek Rd, Beaver Creek, Oregon.

Becker asked if there were any changes or amendments to the agenda. District Manager (DM) Lapp noted that he would be presenting Staff Kilders’ report under tab six.

**B. Public Comment** – No Public Comment was given.

**C. Director reports** –

- Director Lee reported that Senate Bill 775 that changed qualifications required to run for Soil and Water Conservation District board positions in the five largest counties in Oregon had passed the Senate by 20 votes. It now goes to the House Rules Committee.
- Staff Faucera answered a question from the Board regarding HB 2527 relating to wildlife habitat special assessment. Faucera reported that the bill would have a hearing on

Wednesday, June 21, 2023, and asked the Board permission to re-submit a letter of support for the bill.

Directors Guttridge/Becker moved/seconded authorize Staff Faucera to send a letter of support and to testify on behalf of House Bill 2527. The vote was as follows: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The vote was unanimous.

- Associate Director Melethil has a report regarding his attendance at the Urban Ecosystem and Research Symposium. This will be added to the July meeting.
- D. **Partner reports** – Kim Galland reported that her two new employees should be here before the end of July. NRCS will be hosting an intern training at the Conservation Resource Center next week (June 26 to 29, 2023). Galland is also participating in making training videos, and completing contracts before the next funding cycle begins.
- E. **Manager’s report on committees** – DM Lapp reported that the only committee that met in the previous month was the Equity Team which met on June 7, 2023. Staff McQueeney met later with Yee Won Chong to discuss the Decision-Making tool.

## 2 – MINUTES

- A. **May 16, 2023, 2023/2024 Budget Hearing Meeting Minutes** – Minutes for the May 16, 2023, 2023/2024 Budget Hearing were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Becker moved/seconded to approve the 2023/2024 Budget Hearing minutes as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, and Zuber. Abstaining: Jim Johnson (did not attend). The motion carried.

- B. **May 16, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes** – Minutes for the May 16, 2023, regular Board Meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the May 16, 2023, Regular Board Meeting minutes as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, and Zuber. Abstaining: Jim Johnson (did not attend). The motion carried.

- C. **June 6, 2023, Special Board Meeting minutes** – Minutes of the June 6, 2023, Special Board Meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Johnson/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve the June 6, 2023, Special Board Meeting minutes as presented. The vote was as follows: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

## 3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. **Review and accept financial reports** – Staff Tucker presented the May 31, 2023, financial reports. Total assets at the end of May were \$11.9 million, total liabilities were \$6.6 million, with total net assets of \$5.3 million. Revenue for May 2023 was \$62,000, with ten thousand from taxes, putting the District \$34,000 over projected tax base revenues for the year. Total expenses for May 2023 were \$284,077.68.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve the financial reports as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the Automatic Clearing House (ACH) payments for June 2023. Total ACH payments were \$38,788.15, including payments to DEQ, and for septic loans/grants.

Tucker then presented the disbursement list. Checks from the beginning of the month were numbered 101466 to 101477 and totaled \$54,674.17. Tucker then presented the report for the regular monthly check run. Due to a misprint error, checks numbered 101478 to 101499 were voided. Tucker did not have further check stock to reprocess the checks. New checks are ordered and due to arrive Monday, June 26, 2023. Tucker asked that the Board approve the disbursement lists for the amounts on file, he will run checks on Monday, June 26, 2023, and asked that two board directors come in on Monday to sign checks. Directors will be able to compare the checks to the disbursement list, invoices, and posted ledger to verify amounts.

Directors discussed tabling the disbursement list until the next meeting. Staff Tucker noted that doing so would make most payments past due.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the disbursement amounts presented, to require an updated report on disbursements at the July board meeting and checks to be reprinted on June 26, 2023. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motions carried unanimously.

#### **4 – OTHER FINANCIALS**

- A. Recurring Disbursements via Electronic Transfer Funds (ETF)/Automatic Clearing House (ACH)** – Staff Tucker presented a list of accounts currently paid by ETF or ACH, along with other accounts he would like to add to these payment methods. Tucker also presented a form that he uses to add accounts to the list. In the process, the District Manager signs off on the request, and then the request is approved by the Board Treasurer. Tucker noted that first-of-the-month accounts that could not be served via ETF/ACH methods would be moved to the regular check run.

Director Guttridge asked about fiscal controls when it comes to this type of payment. He noted that these payments are made before the Board has reviewed them, it is the Board's responsibility to make sure finances are properly recorded.

Director Fantz, Board Treasurer, has discussed these updates with Staff Tucker. He noted that the Board needed to be comfortable with the process and the accounts Tucker wanted to add to the payment list were regularly paid each month, and he does not see how payments could be diverted.

It was discussed that no less than two directors should approve of these payments before they are made. The Board asked how they were to maintain proper controls over these finances.

Staff Tucker asked how the Directors would like to be informed of needed payments. He proposed posting the report for the Board to review or having two directors come in to review the list.

Directors concluded that further discussion was needed. Director Guttridge asked that the Finance committee along with any other director who might be interested meet to discuss this process.

## 5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. Approval of the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Strategic Master Plan** – DM Lapp asked the Board to approve the Strategic Master Plan for the Clackamas SWCD. He thanked the Board for participating in individual meetings to go over the plan and ask questions or offer edits. If approved, staff will move forward with a final public copy. District staff will work on a high-level outreach document to show the public what 2023 to 2025 goals and strategies are. Lapp is happy with the outcome, and that everyone stepped up to the challenge.

Directors Guttridge/Lee move/seconded to approve the Strategic Master Plan for 2023 to 2026. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- B. Approval for District Manager to sign Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Backyard Habitat Certification Program** – Staff Leininger presented the Backyard Habitat Certification Program annual report. He explained the work they did in Clackamas County and how it supports the District’s urban programs. Staff Leininger and Ahr are working on an assessment to see if the program can be extended beyond the Urban Growth Boundary to smaller communities in the County. Leininger asked the Board to authorize DM Lapp to sign a Memorandum of Agreement not to exceed \$48,000 with the Backyard Habitat Certification Program.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve District Manager Lapp to sign a Memorandum of Agreement for 2023/2024 with the Backyard Habitat Certification Program Not-To-Exceed \$48,000. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- C. Equity Team** – Staff McQueeney reported that the Equity Team had met on June 7, 2023, with Yee Won Chong to work on the Decision Focus Tool. The tool will focus on a broad range of topics and help inform decisions. A select group met with the Management Team for final edits to the tool. McQueeney noted that staff will be beta-testing the tool for six months.

McQueeney reported on a website post regarding site accessibility and that the District is working on improvements. She asked if the Board or Staff have problems using the website that they email her with questions. McQueeney is in the process of cleaning up the existing website so the District can move forward in building a new one.

- D. **Conservation Resource Center Gate to reopen to the public** – DM Lapp reported that the District plans to reopen the gate to the public on Wednesday, July 5, 2023. The security cameras are up.
- E. **Board Development Options** – Chair Becker reported that he had met with Amy Stork and Allison Handler to discuss the Board Development Document. Becker asked that the Board members review the document and come back with opinions and recommendations for discussion. The purpose of the document is to help the Board support the strategic plan, help with committee structures, and see where the Board can grow and improve. Becker asked that this be added as a topic to the next Board meeting.

**6 – PERSONNEL**

- A. **Temporary Regional Conservation Partnership Program Forest Conservation Recruitment** – DM Lapp reported that the District would be hiring a temporary employee with Natural Resources Conservation Service funds. This position is to help with outreach and writing conservation plans for landowners affected by the 2020 wildfires. The funding is available for five (5) years, the employee will work remotely and part-time as needed.

**7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS**

- A. **Appointment list for Eagle Creek Community Forest (ECCF) Advisory Committee** – Staff Faucera spoke to the Board about the yearly reappointment of advisors to the ECCF Advisory Committee. Faucera presented a list of current advisors who would like to be reappointed (see attached list as a part of these minutes). Faucera noted that there are still openings for the 2023/2024 fiscal year so that other volunteers could be appointed to the Advisory Committee.

Directors Guttridge/Johnson moved/seconded to reappoint Eagle Creek Community Forest Advisory Committee members per the list provided for the year 2023/2024. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) Annual Meeting information** – Staff Guttridge reported that the OACD annual meeting is scheduled for October 16 to 18, 2023. This will interfere with the October 17, 2023, District Board meeting. Guttridge asked if the Board would like to reschedule the October Board meeting. She also needs to know at the July board meeting who would like to attend the OACD annual meeting.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to move the October 2023 meeting from October 17 to October 24, 2023. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- C. **Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) Training for Board Members** – Staff Guttridge reported that SDAO is offering two training sessions. The first is Board Member Duties, Liabilities, and Responsibilities. The second is Board Member Relations, Expectations, and Ethics. The cost of the classes is \$75.00 and there are several locations to take the classes. Guttridge asked that Directors let her know if they would be attending.

- D. **Management Reports** – Staff Faucera and Reische presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the implementation of the Strategic Plan at the Conservation Resource Center. The PowerPoint showed one vision for how the plan would be implemented on the ground, starting with the natural areas, and progressing through the more structured areas of the farm property. The planners will be following the Natural Resources Conservation Services nine (9) step conservation plan, making sure the staff take the time to gather ideas, how-to's, checking accessibility, etc. (Please see the Land Management and Planning reports that are a part of these minutes).

## **8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING – No topics**

## **9 – OTHER REPORTS**

- Staff Faucera reported that the invitation to bid on the shop build-out would be closing on Wednesday, June 28, 2023.
- Staff Leininger wished everyone a Happy National Pollinator Week.
- Director Lee reported she had received a notification that Senate Bill 775 would be having a hearing on Wednesday, June 21, 2023. Did the Board want to resend the letter of opposition to the House Rules Committee?

Directors Guttridge/Becker moved/seconded to resend the letter of opposition of SB 775 previously sent to the Senate to the House of Representatives Rules Committee. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- Director Lee asked if any Board member would be available to testify in person to the House Rules Committee on Senate Bill 775. Lee stated that if the Board would like she could testify.

Directors Johnson/Guttridge moved/seconded to authorize Board Director Jan Lee to testify on behalf of the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District regarding their opposition to Senate Bill 775. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. The motion carried unanimously.

- Associate Director Melethil asked again to make sure his report from the Urban Ecosystem and Research Symposium is on the July agenda.

## **ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING**

- The next regular meeting will be on July 18, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge  
Office Administrator



June 20, 2023

## BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### White Rock Larkspur Conservation Working Group Update

This spring planner Nicole Ahr has continued to partner with organizations to support the conservation of state endangered white rock larkspur (*Delphinium leucophaeum*). This plant species is also listed as a species of conservation concern in the federal 2010 Recovery Plan for Prairie Species in Western Oregon and Southwestern Washington and is an Oregon Conservation Strategy species. Last summer Nicole facilitated a small group of organizations (NRCS, Metro, Oswego Lake Watershed Council) to determine the interest in active conservation work for this species in the northern Willamette Valley. Since then, she has continued to engage with a private landowner who found white rock larkspur on his property. Nicole is working closely with the landowner to develop a detailed restoration plan for his property designed to restore the oak and madrone woodland habitat and support this species and several other rare plants found there. Additional oak-associated native plant species have been located on his site through staff plant surveys, plant ID education with the landowner and referrals to botanist colleagues, and some of them include: fernleaf biscuitroot (*Lomatium dissectum* var. *dissectum*), ookow (*Dichelostemma congestum*), checker lily (*Fritillaria affinis*), fawn lily (*Erythronium oreganum*), rough-leaved aster (*Eurybia radulina*) and large-flowered blue-eyed Mary (*Collinsia grandiflora*). Many of these same species occur at Iron Mountain City Park in Lake Oswego, another local site with a white rock larkspur population where we are coordinating conservation work.



White rock larkspur leaves (before bloom), large-flowered blue-eyed Mary and poison oak on private property in Oregon City.

The Prairie Species Recovery Plan states there are fewer than twenty known locations for this plant across its range in Clackamas, Marion, Multnomah and Yamhill Counties in Oregon and Lewis County (Washington). Since most of the known sites for this plant are in Clackamas County, it makes sense to gather support to increase the populations of white rock larkspur and consider diversifying the genetics of the existing populations to build-up resilience for this declining species. Since last year, Nicole has facilitated additional meetings to build on this conservation effort and is directly engaging with partners to gather interest and commitment to seeing this larkspur conservation effort move forward.

In April of this year, Nicole reconvened the same small group of partners to discuss next steps for this work. Hannah Schrager, with the Metro Native Plant Nursery, said this is good timing for Metro to be involved in this effort to propagate white rock larkspur plants for their own sites and partner sites which is important to the success of this work. Our District, along with Metro, NRCS and OLWC, have invited a larger number of organizations to our larkspur working group meetings to get a better sense of where the species currently resides, where it could be and to determine interest in joining these efforts. Contacts have been made to those working with native plants at Marion SWCD, Yamhill SWCD, Tualatin SWCD, East Multnomah SWCD, West Multnomah SWCD, Oregon Department of Agriculture, City of Lake Oswego, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services, Portland Water Bureau, Rae Selling Berry Seed Bank, Oregon Biodiversity Information Center, The Nature Conservancy, USFWS Recovery Office, Reed College, Native Plant Society of Oregon and the Institute for Applied Ecology. One thing is for sure, there is a lot of excitement around this species!

Nicole also coordinated and facilitated a meeting with ODA Native Plant Conservation Program staff, Jordan Brown and Danielle Marshall, to discuss our larkspur conservation project proposal. The purpose of the meeting was to convene a large group of organizations in one place to get the specifics from ODA on the feasibility of this work and to learn more about the permit requirements for collecting larkspur seed, transporting seed, propagating it and out-planting it onto sites over different ownerships. ODA was very supportive of our plans and encouraged us to move forward with permit applications. They also helped us think through some ways to streamline the process.

The Larkspur Working Group had a field tour recently to see blooming white rock larkspur, meet with new and existing organizations interested in joining the effort and further refine a plan. Nicole helped coordinate this field tour to a Metro property in West Linn in early June. In the meantime, she continues to coordinate and facilitate meetings with the City of Lake Oswego, OLWC, ODA and TNC to keep the momentum going and finalize permits for seed collection later this summer.



White rock larkspur in bloom on Metro property in West Linn during field tour (photo by Kirsten Wright).

## **New Project: Heavy Use Area for a Small Cattle Operation**

Planner Scott Eden has been working with a small cattle farm south of Molalla to improve their grazing management system. About three acres are available to graze cattle, which are then sold as locker beef. Due to the wet nature of the soils on this farm, they can extend the growing season for grasses into the summer with rotational grazing management, but they also must start grazing later in the spring than most farms. This means keeping the cattle longer in a confined sacrifice lot or heavy use area with improved footing. Having the option



of a “rest” rotation whenever grazing conditions are not suitable for cattle permits better overall pasture and grazing management as the timing of grazing can negatively affect plant growth or soil health if for example the soils are too wet, or the paddock is overgrazed. The manager on this farm would like to have the option to contain cattle to an all-weather outdoor area in winter where they will have firm dry footing. We suggested the construction of a Heavy Use Area (HUA) to improve their forage management system. Cattle panel fencing with driven steel posts will be used as permanent fencing to contain the cattle to the HUA during the winter or anytime a rest is needed for grass to regrow during the rotational grazing schedule.

Keeping the cattle off pastures will reduce compaction and overgrazing which also spreads weeds. High use traffic and feeding areas are the types of disturbed areas where annual weeds like Hare Barley get established first. Having an all-weather heavy use area rocked surface, and maintaining it by periodic scraping to remove manure, will also keep the cattle’s hooves out of ankle-deep mud and manure, which is unhealthy. The SWCD has an engineered design for HUAs on wet soils that includes a pipe drainage system beneath the HUA. Gutters and downspouts were also recommended on their livestock barn to divert water away from the livestock heavy use area, which will also help to reduce the amount of stormwater in the barnyard area in winter. We worked with the farm manager and landowner on this farm to develop this HUA and gutter project where the District supported some of the costs for installation. The landowners found a contractor to help install the project later this summer. Stay tuned for updates!



Spring pasture at cattle farm.

## Emerald Ash Borer Monitoring in Clackamas County



EAB monitoring has been a great collaboration between the Planning and Weedwise departments, although an unpleasant topic!

The District is joining the regional effort to monitor the spread of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). The pest was first sighted on the West Coast in Forest Grove last June. Since then, there has been concern about its eventual effects on riparian ecosystems that are dominated by Oregon ash. As the pest begins to migrate to adjacent areas, including Clackamas County, it will be important to detect and treat new infestations.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) at ODA kindly supplied us with EAB traps free of charge. These devices are sticky cardboard prisms that attract EAB with a sweet-smelling lure and catch them on its surface. Last month, the EAB monitoring team

(consisting of Drew, Jordan, Monte, and Suzie) placed eight of these traps at five locations in the county: 1 in Wilsonville, 2 in Oregon City, 2 in Beavercreek, 2 in Lake Oswego, and 1 in Molalla. These sites are all on private property and include a range of habitat conditions, including an ongoing riparian restoration project, a new restoration project that has not begun yet, and an oak restoration site where ash is intentionally being removed. Trap installation was timed to coincide with peak insect emergence. Over the summer, the EAB monitoring team will check the traps every 6 weeks for insect specimens. All samples will be identified, and if any are suspected to be EAB, they will be sent to ODA for further inspection.

## Hare Barley and Spring Technical Assistance

Planners often have customers with weedy grasses in their pastures and hayfields. Probably the most problematic annual weedy grass we encounter in pastures is the **Hare or Mediterranean barley complex (*Hordeum murinum* sp)**. The other most problematic annual grasses for pasture producers include *Vulpia* spp. (mainly rattail fescue, *Vulpia myuros*) and various annual bromes (*Bromus* species including ripgut, downy and Japanese brome).

**Hare barley** is a cool season winter annual, meaning it germinates and establishes during the fall rains, and matures in early summer when it produces an unpalatable bristly seedhead April through June. The seedhead becomes dry and unpalatable and can cause mechanical injury to grazing livestock's mouth, internals and eyes due to its sharp awns. It is typically 1-2 feet high but can sometimes reach 3'. In mowed or grazed areas, it will send up repeated seedheads and have a very low growth habit, similar to how annual bluegrass reacts when mowed. So, mowing will not be effective unless you can also collect the follow-on lower growth seedheads. Grazing can help control it, up until late spring when it becomes unpalatable. In general, heavy infestations are going to require full chemical control with a nonselective herbicide like glyphosate, or



repeated summer tillage and reseeding with desired pasture grass mix in the fall. Light infestations may be controlled with mechanical removal, grazing timing, spot sprays with monitoring, and promoting healthy perennial grass forage with proper pasture management and soil health fertility testing and treatment, or possibly with a professionally recommended specialty herbicide treatment.

Hare barley most often comes from imported hay for feed. It establishes quickly in high traffic areas where there is bare ground and disturbance such as sacrifice areas, feeding areas, gate entrances, etc. These areas have disturbed, compacted soils and bare earth, an environment that weedy annual grasses are able to establish in. Hare barley is slower to compete with healthy stands of perennial forage grasses, so pasture management is a key in preventing infestation, as well as trying not to import infected hay, and quarantining animals coming off any field infected with hare barley before allowing them on a new pasture. If these precautions are taken, and

the pasture is regularly limed, fertilized, mowed high and/or rotationally grazed between 4-8 inches, the perennial forage grasses can be kept healthy and will better resist encroachment by these weedy annual grasses.

Hare barley is often confused with, but not the same as foxtail barley (*Hordeum jubatum*), which is a short lived perennial native grass with similar characteristics. <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/crop-production/pastures-forages/foxtail-control-pastures-hayground>. The herbicide mentioned in the article is not labelled for pasture and range and is also no longer available. Olymplus is the replacement, but it also is not labelled for pasture and range.

Ironically, there seem to be more herbicides labelled to treat foxtail barley than the exotic hare barley, which has few labeled options for chemical control in pasture and range that don't also harm the desired perennial forage grasses. Small, isolated infestations should be controlled immediately to prevent further seeding. An herbicide, mulch or solarization could be used on patches, but it will likely kill all the vegetation, and these bare areas should be reseeded, marked and monitored to look for any re-emergence. If the patches are very small, mowing and bagging and clipping seedheads may be a control strategy, followed by close monitoring. Very few labelled herbicides are available that can be used that would not harm the perennial forage grasses. If it is a large infestation but generally the pasture stand is in good condition, consultation with a professional agronomist is recommended, to see if a specialty herbicide applied at the right time might be a control option. Once a field has significant amounts of hare barley, full renovation/ reseeded and grazing management changes are likely needed. Planners are currently working with a cattle operation on technical assistance for hare barley control (and other items). The farm manager has been attempting to control hare barley on his place for years using herbicide products and while he is not eradicating hare barley, it is suppressed enough so that he hasn't had to completely renovate his fields, and he is still hopeful to completely control it. However, hare barley is also known worldwide for herbicide resistance, and is likely continuing to build resistance. Several other clients we are working with who have bad infestations of hare barley are trying to completely eliminate it by spraying out their existing pasture and reseeded. Another client with a low-level infestation plans to try collecting all the seedheads and monitoring. It seems to me that we are seeing a lot more Hare barley than usual this year, possibly the population is expanding. Staff will be checking in with OSU pasture specialists on any improved control recommendations that might be available.

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/crop-production/pastures-forages/foxtail-control-pastures-hayground>

## Threatened and Endangered Plant ID Training

Earlier this spring Planning and Weedwise staff attended the last annual Threatened and Endangered plants training led by the incomparable Kathy Pendergrass (NRCS Plant Material Specialist) at Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge. Kathy has led many of these trainings and will be retiring later this year. In this field training, participants were led through plant keying exercises on several T and E species such as **Kincaid's lupine (L.**

*oreganus*), Nelsons checkermallow (*S. nelsoniana*), Western penstemon (*D. menziesii*), and Bradshaw's lomatium (*L. bradshawii*) as well as some of their closest lookalikes.

Kathy brought many potted native meadow species along from well-known conservation growers such as Metro, Sauvie Island Natives and Heritage Seedlings. Participants tested their plant skills with a hand lens and botanical plant anatomy knowledge as they keyed plants down to species.

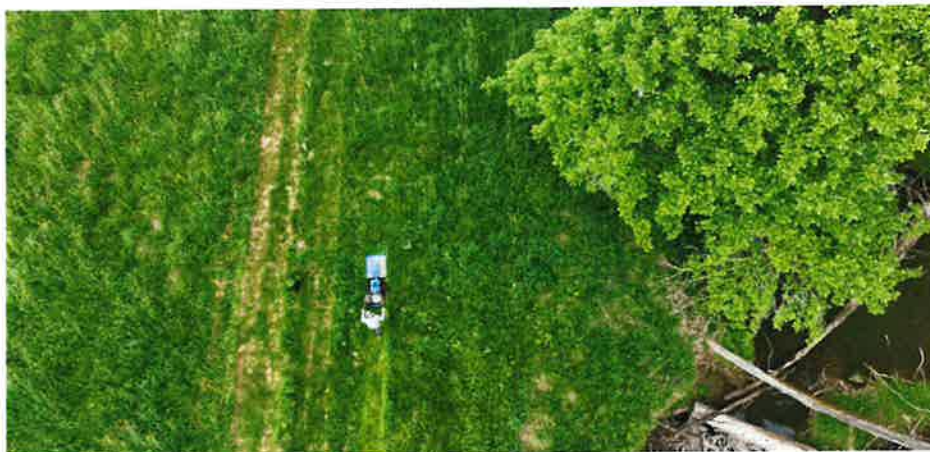


Kathy Pendergrass teaching plant ID.

The second half of the training was spent walking through the beautiful Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge in search of some of the identified T and E species among many other native meadow species. The meadow was blooming with many native species including Tolmie's Star Tulip (*Calochortus tolmiei*), Death camas (*Toxicoscordion venenosum*), Yellow pea (*L.aphaca*), and Red Columbine (*A. Formosa*). To make the day perfect, attendees were accompanied on their field walk by dozens of rare, nickel sized Fenders Blue butterflies who have been brought back from the brink of extinction through the conservation and recovery of its host plant- Kincaid's lupine. Fenders Blue butterflies lay their eggs exclusively on the bottom of the Kincaid leaves and preservation of this plant species is integral to the preservation of the butterflies. District staff is grateful for the expertise that Kathy Pendergrass has brought to the native plant world and for helping so many more scientists learn to identify and conserve these species long after she retires!

## CSWCD Riparian Video Series

Drew Donahue, Riparian Technician, in partnership with Nicole Coon from Matrix Videos are developing a Riparian Restoration Video series! This four-part series will include the basics of riparian restoration for private landowners including "What is a Riparian Area?", "Site Preparation", "Planting", and "Maintenance". Live action shots will include contractors planting native plants, Justin Cooley demonstrating spraying, shots of each of Clackamas County's major river and creek systems, and more. The first video is expected to be finished this summer. Drew plans to develop workshops and a riparian restoration guide to accompany this series to further education for riparian restoration.



# Land Management Program Bi-Monthly Report

June 20, 2023

## Conservation Resource Center (CRC)

Equipment rental has slowed down with summer closing in, so farm activities have shifted to vegetation management and property maintenance.

We recently hired a vegetation management company to control weeds and trim vegetation in the areas around the building to catch up from staff capacity issues at the office related to Covid. Now that the property has been reset, it will be easier to maintain with one maintenance staff, and occasional spraying by Weedwise staff.



*Figure 1 - Gus loading pelletized fertilizer into District's PTO spin spreader for field application*

Fence lines and field borders have been mowed along with the sight lines along Beaver Creek Road, and haying of the property will occur before the end of June if weather cooperates. Staff are in the process of preparing field irrigation for the hay fields from our water right in the upper pond. Fields have received lime and fertilizer. Our landscape irrigation system has been patched and initialized and backflow devices have been tested. Lastly, a load of gravel has been brought in to replenish the drive around the building.

## Invitation to Bid – Shop Office Retrofit

Our Shop Office Retrofit project Invitation to Bid (ITB) was advertised in the Daily Journal of Commerce on May 22, 24, and 26, and construction documents can be found on the District website:

<https://conservationdistrict.org/2023/invitation-to-bid-shop-office-space-retrofit.html>

The ITB will be open until June 28 when the bids will be opened and bid amounts will be posted on our website. We've added an addendum to the bid packet to clarify the high voltage electrical needs for the building and also to outline the needs in the main shop area that shares the electrical panel with the new office space.



Figure 2 - Web posting for Office Space Retrofit Project

A bid review committee will be assembled to evaluate responsiveness, and recommendations will be made to the board on July 18<sup>th</sup> to issue a notice of intent to award the contract to the lowest cost, responsible, responsive bidder. With the board's approval of the district manager negotiating a final contract, we hope to be ready to start the project by August 1.

## New No-Till Seed Drill for Equipment Rental Program

We are adding to our stable of rental equipment with funds from our biennial Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Statement of Work funding for agricultural water quality work. Our no-till pasture drill is by far our most popular implement, and we have a hard time meeting demand during the spring and fall peak seeding windows.

We are purchasing a Land Pride 706NT no-till drill with a 7-foot seed path and 2 seed boxes that will have the following benefits:

- Reduced soil compaction
- Reduced soil erosion

- Increased soil organic matter
- Improved soil structure
- Better water infiltration
- Increased efficiency and lower fuel, labor, and machinery costs due to reduced field passes

We have several farmers who depend on the use of our no-till drill to get their hay seed or cover crops in the ground within the tight planting window. More people are learning about and seeking out no-till practices which has increased the demand for our current drill.

Having a second drill will alleviate the seasonal, time sensitive backlog we have been experiencing. Additionally, if or when one of the drills is out of service due to maintenance or repair, there will now be another available for rent. We'll pick up the drill when it arrives at the dealer this month.



*Figure 3 - New no-till drill for Equipment Rental Program*

### Security Camera System Upgrade

We've completed the initial upgrades to our security camera system to add monitoring at the front gate and around the perimeter of the building. While there are still a few areas that are not covered, this system provides comprehensive coverage of critical areas of the property. We added 6 new cameras

with a seventh on back order, giving us the ability to have real time monitoring of the front gate, parking areas, the shop, and machine shed.

Additionally, the new monitoring software can log license plates as vehicles enter the front gate. Those plates and associated images are stored in the system in both text and image formats and would allow us to quickly identify all vehicles entering the property each day.

The system we installed has capacity for 24 cameras, 11 of which we are now using. We previously only had 5 cameras monitoring our entrances. As we build the shop office space this summer, we will add several more cameras to the shop interior and exterior and may consider adding to the main building to fill the few remaining gaps in coverage.

One final improvement is that we now have the storage capacity with the new server to continuously record all cameras with a retention time greater than 30 days. We'll know specifically how much longer we can retain recordings once we've been running long enough to fill the hard drives.

SDAO provided a \$4,000 grant that helped offset the costs of the project, which totaled \$17,410.



*Figure 4 - Monitoring views provided by upgraded camera system*

### **House Bill 2527 - ODFW Tax Incentive Program (WHCMP)**

After weeks of inactivity in the Oregon Senate, HB 2527 regarding the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's (ODFW) Wildlife Habitat Conservation and Management Program (WHCMP) has been read and referred to the Senate Committee on Finance and Revenue.

Because of the inactivity, there are limited days left before the June 25<sup>th</sup> end of session date for this bill to move out of committee to the Senate floor for a vote. We'll do what we can to reach the finish line, but time may be against us.



In the case that it doesn't make it through this session, Representative Marsh's office has reached out and offered to help find a way to get into the 2024 short session or the 2025 long session.

Link to SWCD/Regional Group developed flyer on HB 2527:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/PublicTestimonyDocument/41174>

Link to all public testimony:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Testimony/HB2527>

Link to the bill to track on the Oregon Legislature website:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/HB2527>

### George Community Fuels Reduction Project

Work on the George Community Fuels Reduction Project that is funded through an Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) grant is complete. We've treated over 100 acres of forest with dollars from Oregon Department of Forestry's Small Forestland Grant Program. Of the \$294,420 requested, we were able to spend \$285,016 across 9 properties in the George area near Estacada.

Work included the following practices:

- Forest thinning through mastication of smaller accessible trees hand cutting of larger or less accessible trees on sloped areas. Material was either left low to the ground through lop and scatter and several cords of wood was donated to the Estacada Food Bank.
- Brush cutting of blackberries, scotch broom, and weedy trees through mowing or hand cutting
- Pruning of trees to reduce ladder fuels
- Herbicide application
- Riparian planting and seeding of open disturbed areas



Figure 5 - Before treatment on a grant funded property



Figure 6 - After treatment on the same property

# Strategic Transition: Putting the strategic plan in motion at the CRC



# Strategic Planning: 2023-24 CRC Property Goals

**Strategy 4.2 - Plan for and begin development of the CSWCD Conservation Resource Center farm as a destination for people from throughout our community, where CSWCD and partners promote and demonstrate sustainable and climate-resilient conservation practices.**

**2023-24 Action 1:** Develop an initial site plan showing the natural area conservation zones, conservation practice demo areas, and CRC plaza/landscaping upgrades

**2023-24 Action 2:** Design a research/community input process for long-term conservation practice demonstration programming



# Strategic Planning: 2024-25 CRC Property Goals

**2024-25 Action 1:** Begin initial site plan implementation

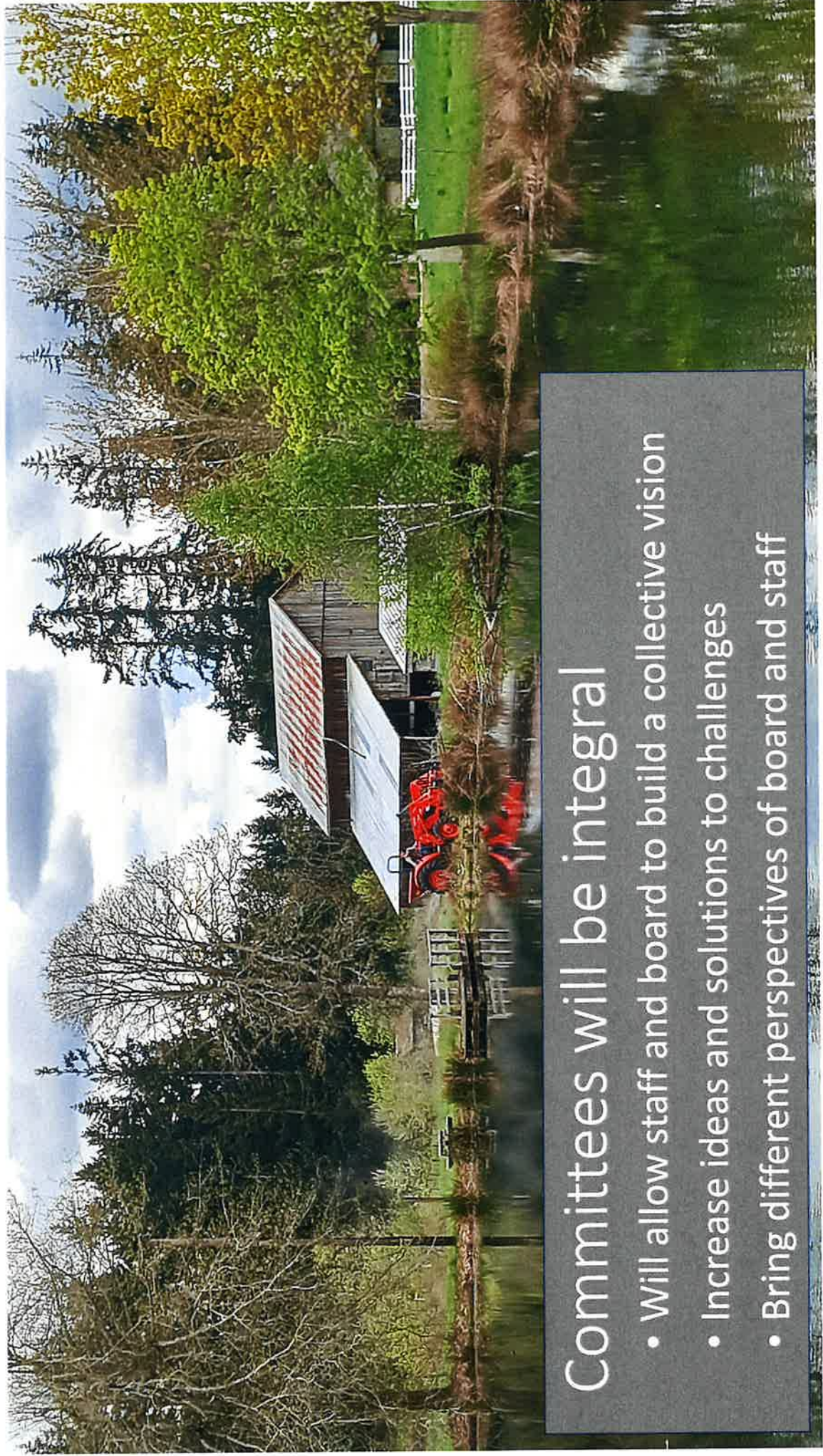
**2024-25 Action 2:** Gather partner and community input; Analyze program, staffing, and funding options; Decide program/staffing/funding design; Finalize site/infrastructure plans



# Strategic Planning: 2025-26 CRC Property Goals

- 2024-25 Action 1:** Continue site plan implementation
- 2024-25 Action 2:** Begin long-term conservation practice demonstration program implementation





## Committees will be integral

- Will allow staff and board to build a collective vision
- Increase ideas and solutions to challenges
- Bring different perspectives of board and staff

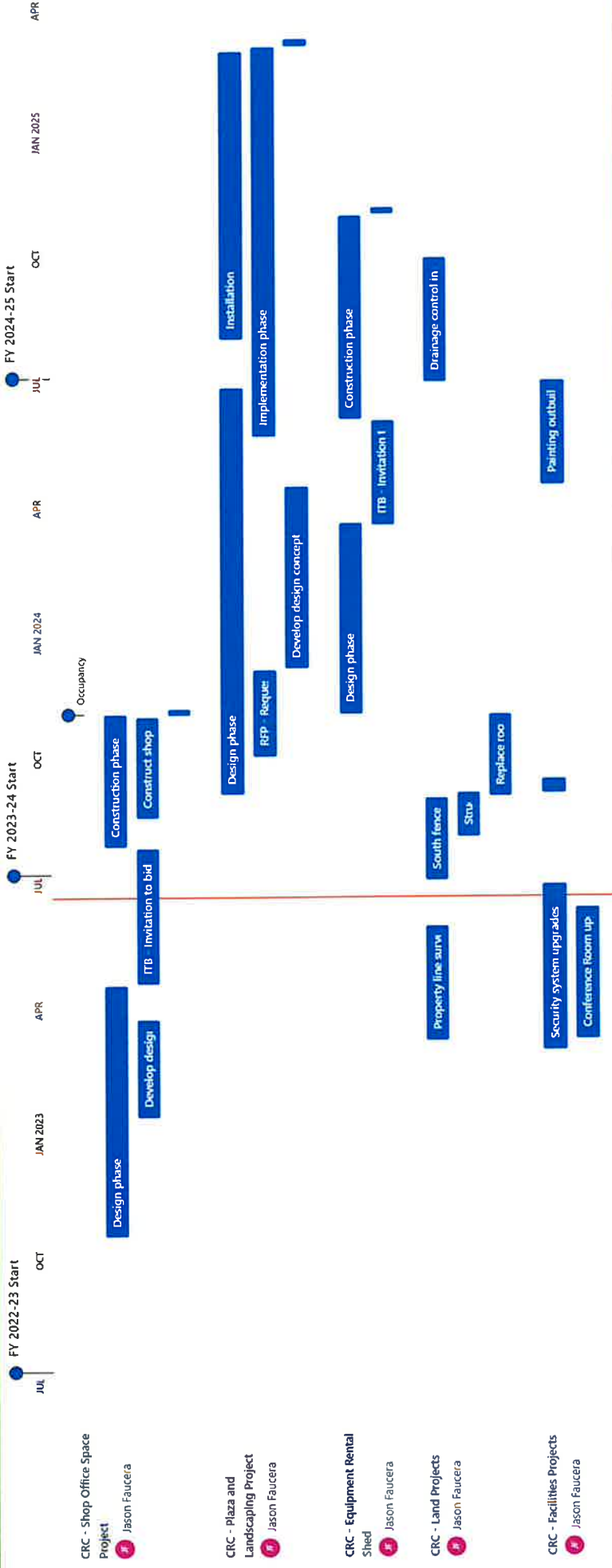


# Beavercreek Demonstration Farm Overview Map



Map created using ArcGIS Pro. All rights reserved. Clackamas SWCD. All other trademarks and registered trademarks are the property of their respective owners.

# Timeline View



CRC - Shop Office Space Project  
 Jason Faucera

CRC - Plaza and Landscaping Project  
 Jason Faucera

CRC - Equipment Rental Shed  
 Jason Faucera

CRC - Land Projects  
 Jason Faucera

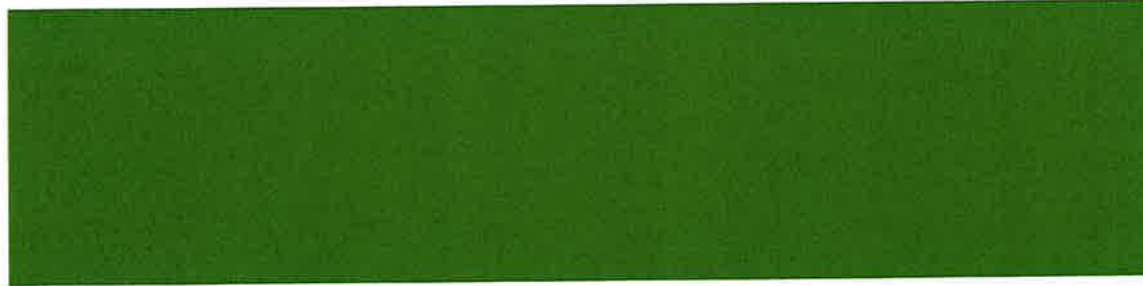
CRC - Facilities Projects  
 Jason Faucera



# Conservation Resource Center



# 2023-2024 Activities



# 2024-2025 Activities



# 2025-2026 Activities

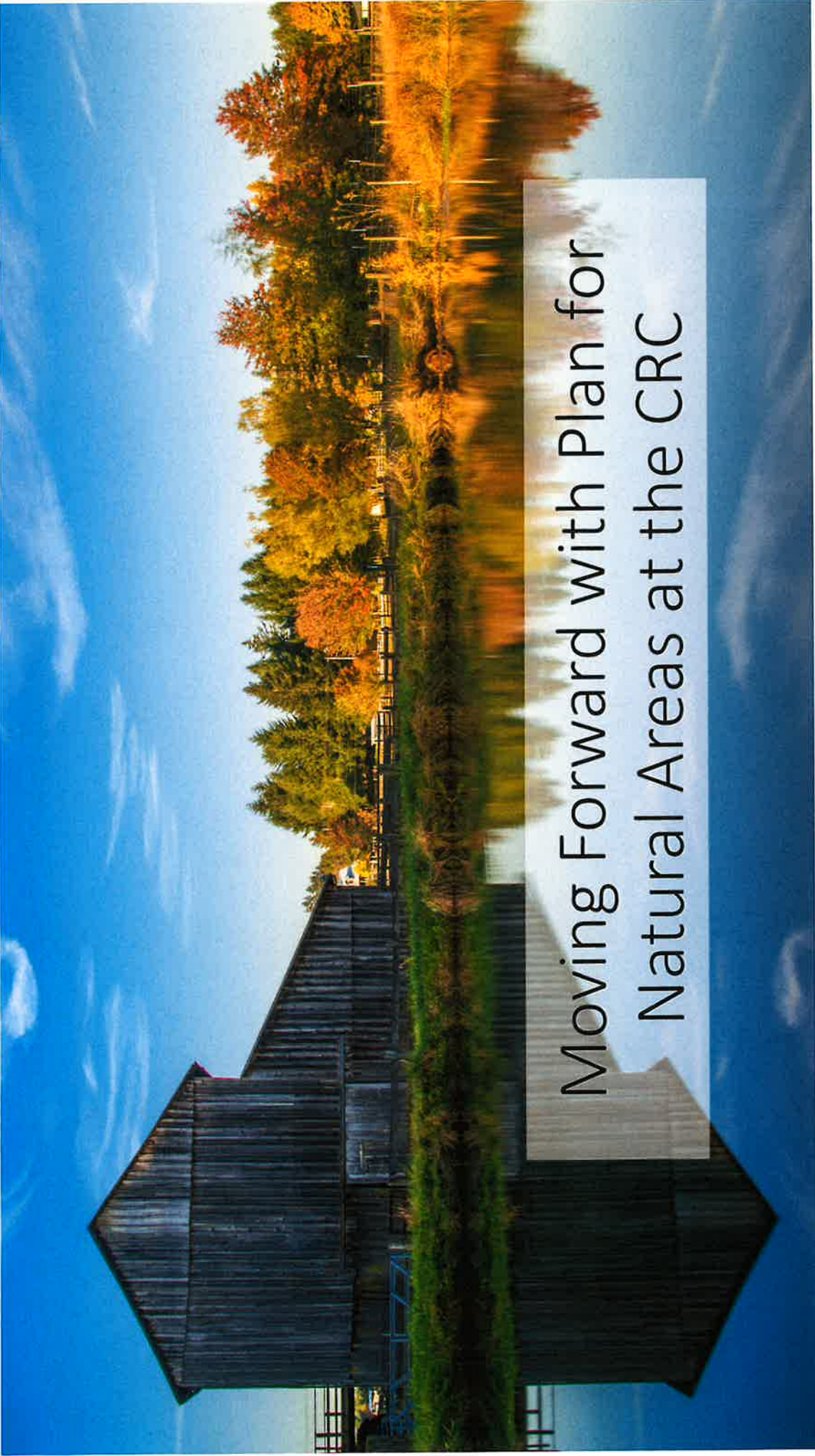


# 2026-2027 Activities



# 2027-2028 Activities





Moving Forward with Plan for  
Natural Areas at the CRC

A group of people are gathered in a lush, green forest. In the center, a woman wearing a high-visibility orange and yellow safety vest is pointing towards a large map or screen that is partially visible. Other people, some wearing hats and outdoor gear, are looking towards the map. The background is filled with dense tropical vegetation, including palm trees and various green plants. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting a sunny day.

Planners take the lead...

Our Conservation Planning Team at the District has the expertise to develop the initial site plan for the natural areas at the farm. Planning would also involve other District departments and ideally a newly formed committee that includes Board members to help inform the process and decision making.



# Conservation Planning Process



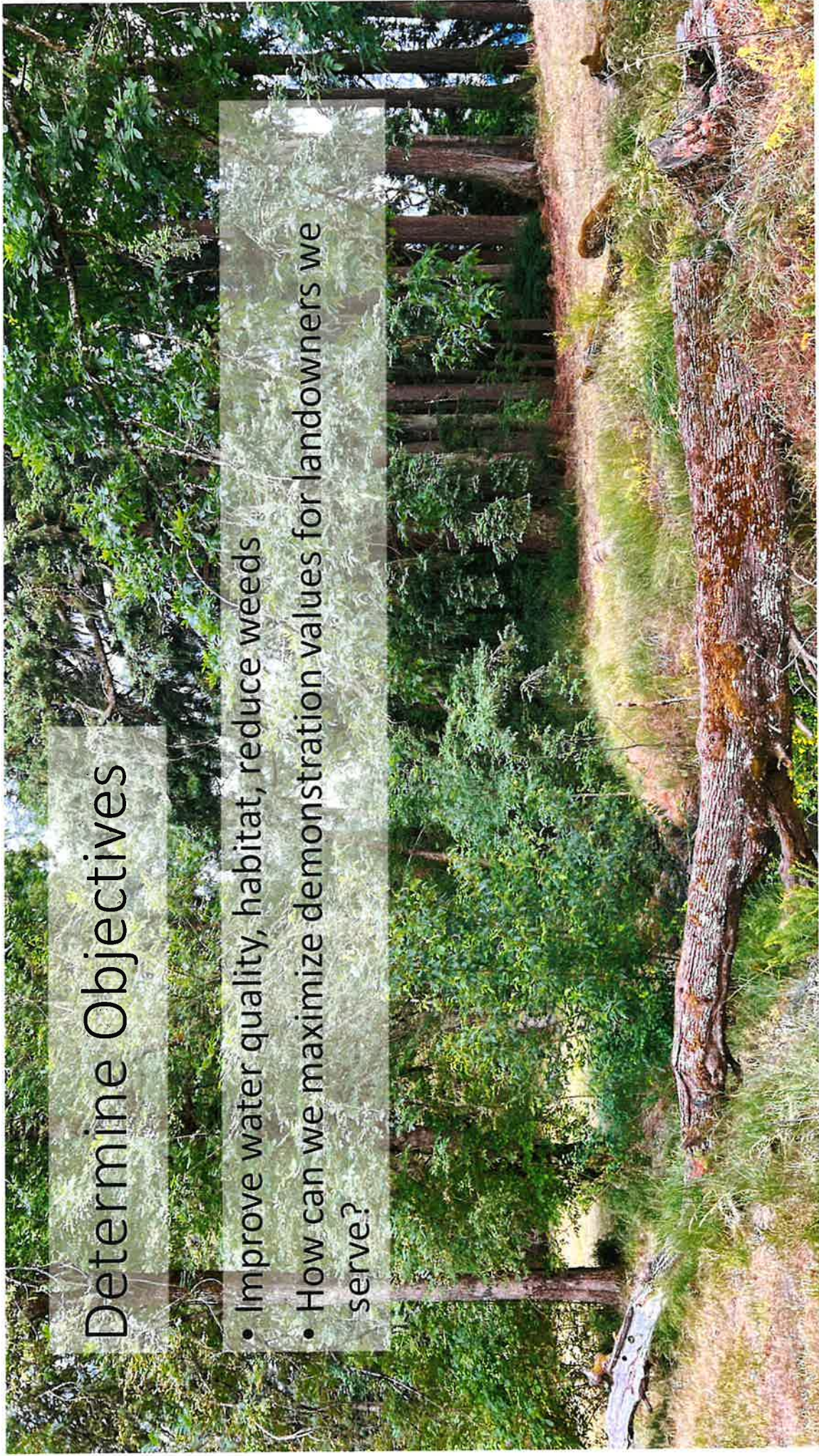


## Identify Problems

- Water Quality
- Lack of Habitat
- Invasive Weeds
- Stream erosion
- Emerald Ash Borer may become a problem in the future

## Determine Objectives

- Improve water quality, habitat, reduce weeds
- How can we maximize demonstration values for landowners we serve?



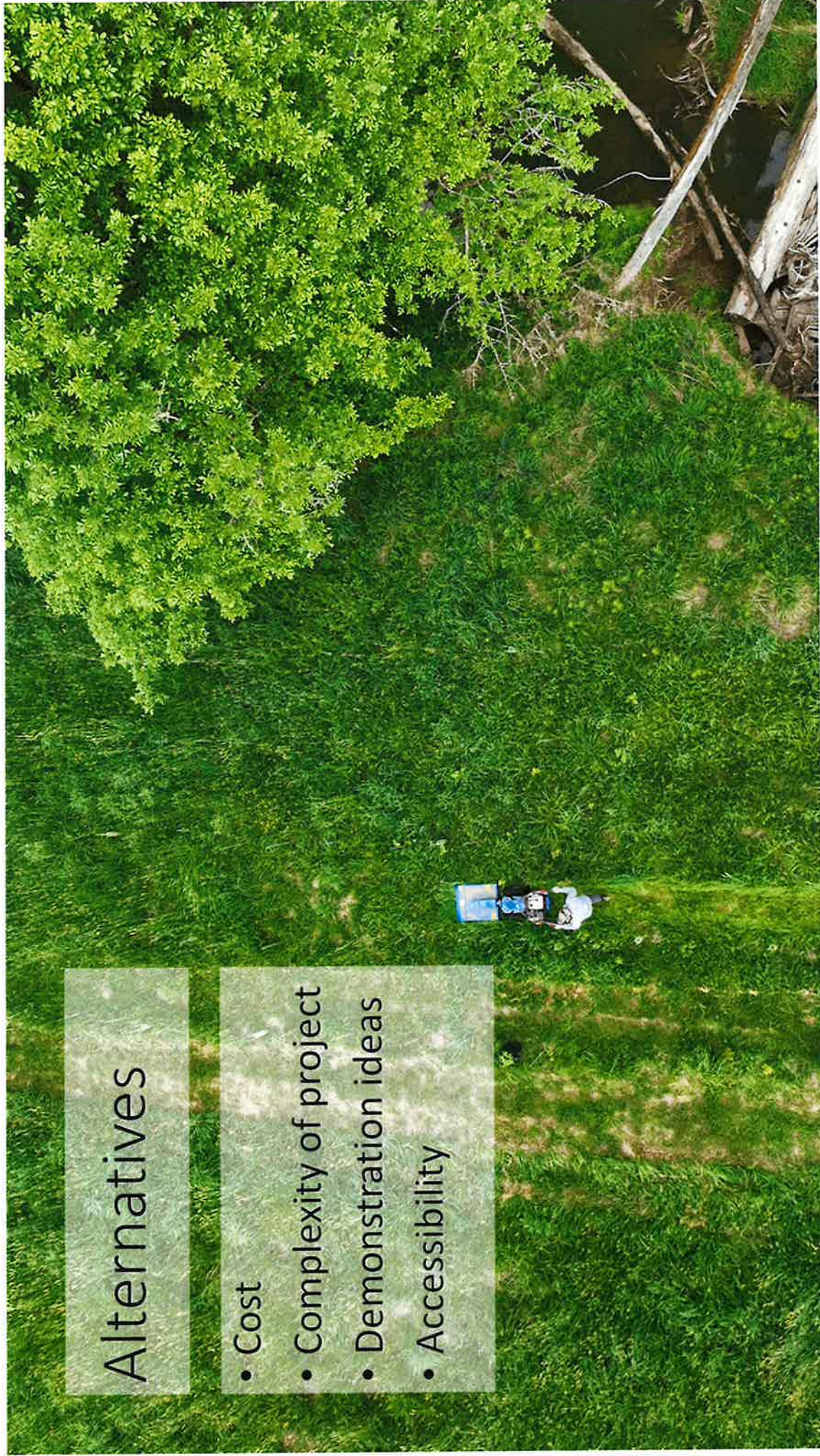
# Inventory and Analyze Resources

- What wildlife and plants are present now?
- What are the limit factor for habitat?
- What is contributing to degraded water quality conditions?
- Economic and social considerations



# Alternatives

- Cost
- Complexity of project
- Demonstration ideas
- Accessibility



# Decide on Final Plan

- Final decision making will be informed and involved
- Committees will help staff and board stay in sync
- Adaptive management
- Capacity constraints could impact chosen alternatives



## Implementation

Restoration Elements could start in Fiscal Year 24/25 or 25/26 depending on scope of the project.

*N*

Voucher Approval List

6/8/2023

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
6/8/2023	101466	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 06/2023	\$ 1,040.37
6/8/2023	101467	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 CRC/USDA 06/2023	\$ 1,569.00
6/8/2023	101468	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 04/2023	\$ 28,465.28
6/8/2023	101469	E & A Systems Incorporated	CSWCD: SRG-7901 Cantine FINAL 05/2023	\$ 8,900.00
6/8/2023	101470	E & A Systems Incorporated	CSWCD: SRG-7902 Broadway FINAL 05/2023	\$ 7,980.00
6/8/2023	101471	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 05/2023	\$ 70.30
6/8/2023	101472	MassMutual Life Insurance Company	GRP: 76453 PPE04302023;Pd 05/05/23	\$ 649.50
6/8/2023	101473	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 04/2023 05/2023	\$ 3,135.00
6/8/2023	101474	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0345641-000 04/2023	\$ 334.64
6/8/2023	101475	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 05/2023	\$ 982.73
6/8/2023	101476	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 05/2023	\$ 687.90
6/8/2023	101477	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 86928-4679 05/24/23	\$ 859.45
<b>Subtotal:</b>				<b>\$ 54,674.17</b>

6/26/2023

6/26/2023	101500	Amy Stork Consulting LLC	CSWCD: Consulting [Planning] 06/2023	\$ 16,703.00	
6/26/2023	101501	Ash Creek Forest Management, LLC	WW-2022-01 [GarlicMust] 05/2023	\$ 4,559.71	CF
6/26/2023	101502	Jeff Becker	CSWCD: Stipend 05/2023	\$ 200.00	
6/26/2023	101503	Biohabitats, Inc	WW-2022-02 [LM-JF-2022-01] 04/2023	\$ 7,063.68	CF
6/26/2023	101504	Buel's Impressions Printing	CSWCD: Printing [500 SRG] 05/2023	\$ 465.00	
6/26/2023	101505	Centerline Concepts Land Surveying Inc	CSWCD: Survey [BVRRCR] 05/2023	\$ 2,625.00	
6/26/2023	101506	Clackamas County Clerk	Acct: 126 Recording/Records [SRL] 05/2023	\$ 320.00	
6/26/2023	101507	Clackamas County Clerk	CSWCD: ROS Filing [BVRRCR] 06/2023	\$ 450.00	
6/26/2023	101508	Columbia Land Trust	CSWCD: MOA-22-23 Backyard Habitat 06/2023	\$ 34,000.00	
6/26/2023	101509	Covenant Systems LLC	CSWCD: Security System [CAM] 06/2023	\$ 6,160.00	
6/26/2023	101510	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 05/2023	\$ 45.85	
6/26/2023	101511	Roger Fantz	CSWCD: Stipend 04/2023-05/23	\$ 200.00	
6/26/2023	101512	Geosyntec Consulting Inc	Acct: PNW0494 SIA Monitoring 04/2023	\$ 5,875.73	
6/26/2023	101513	Green Banks, LLC	WW-2022-04 [MM-2023-01] 05/2023	\$ 7,372.95	CF
6/26/2023	101514	Donald Guttridge	CSWCD: Stipend/Mileage 05/2023	\$ 142.44	
6/26/2023	101515	HR Answers	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [PRSS] 04/2023	\$ 1,026.00	
6/26/2023	101516	J Franco Reforestation, Inc	WW-2022-06 [GarlicMust] 05/2023	\$ 19,931.21	CF
6/26/2023	101517	Johnson Creek Watershed Council	CSWCD: Creekcure FY22-23	\$ 5,000.00	
6/26/2023	101518	James Johnson	CSWCD: Stipend 05/2023	\$ 50.00	
6/26/2023	101519	Lisa Kilders	Reimbursement: Mileage/Supplies 06/2023	\$ 263.21	
6/26/2023	101520	Kuznetsov Thinning Company	WW-2022-07 [GarlicMust] 05/2023	\$ 4,688.13	CF
6/26/2023	101521	Jan Lee	CSWCD: Stipend/Mileage	\$ 125.38	
6/26/2023	101522	Gus Liszka	Reimbursement: Supplies 06/2023	\$ 33.36	
6/26/2023	101523	MassMutual Life Insurance Company	Acct: 76453 06-2023	\$ 649.50	
6/26/2023	101524	Catherine McQueeney	Reimbursement: Mileage [10/2022]06/2023	\$ 920.00	
6/26/2023	101525	Mosaic Ecology, LLC	WW-2022-08 [BAER] 06/2023	\$ 6,318.41	CF
6/26/2023	101526	Jesse Nelson	CSWCD: Stipend 04/2023-05/2023	\$ 100.00	
6/26/2023	101527	Christenson Electric, Inc	Acct: 29948 [11148 Cam] 05/2023	\$ 10,994.00	
6/26/2023	101528	Portland Irrigation Inc	CSWCD: Site Svc [Irr Sys] 06/2023	\$ 545.00	
6/26/2023	101529	Rickreall Farm Supply Inc	CSWCD: Equip [LP 706 NT] 06/2023	\$ 34,652.86	
6/26/2023	101530	Sound Native Plants Inc	WW-2022-11 [GarlicMust] 06/2023	\$ 19,993.80	CF
6/26/2023	101531	Wild Habitat Contracting, LLC	WW-2022-12 [OSWB/BLM] 05/2023	\$ 11,458.22	CF
6/26/2023	101532	Joan Zuber	CSWCD: Stipend 05/2023	\$ 100.00	
<b>Subtotal:</b>				<b>\$ 203,032.44</b>	

Total: \$ 257,706.61

Total Conservation Fund \$ 81,386.11

*J.B.L. 6/26/23*  
Board Chair

*[Signature]*  
Board Secretary