



Approved November 19, 2023

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for October 24, 2023

PRESENT	Directors:	In Person: Jeff Becker (Chair), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Jim Johnson, Jan Lee-Weinberg Via Zoom: Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Jesse Nelson (Vice Chair), Joan Zuber
	Associate Directors:	Via Zoom: PK Melethil
	Directors Emeritus:	
	Staff:	Scott Eden, Jason Facera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Chris Lapp, Sam Leininger, Jenne Reische, Cathy McQueeney, Heather Neilsen, Nathan Tucker
	Partners:	Eric Nusbaum (Oregon Department of Agriculture)
	Guest:	In Person: Joe Matteo (Beavercreek Hamlet) Via Zoom: Jessica Sernach (Beavercreek Hamlet)
NOT PRESENT:		

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 4:10 p.m., October 24, 2023, in the Clackamas SWCD conference room at 22055 S Beavercreek Rd, Beavercreek, Oregon.
- B. **Public Comment** – No public comment was given.
- C. **Director reports** –
 - Director Guttridge reported that he had attended the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) Annual meeting but was a bit confused by the lack of a call to order, there was not a quorum of districts present, and no business meeting took place.

- Director Lee-Weinberg reported that she had spoken with the new Executive Director of OACD that the conference was not a meeting, but an annual report. Lee-Weinberg also spoke regarding Senate Bill 775 which turned out worse than expected when it nullified 24 positions in 5 soil and water conservation districts. Several of these districts will not be able to conduct business after January 1, 2024. The legislative committee does not want to re-open the ORS due to the possible consequences that might trigger. Lee-Weinberg also reported that the climate website had been completed and she hoped that it would be helpful to our district.
- Director Fantz reported he had enjoyed the OACD Conference.
- Director Zuber reported that she had missed the work session, because she had not received the notice in a timely fashion. She also said that she had a problem with the meeting link for the board meeting.

D. **Partner reports** – There was no partner report.

E. **Manager's report on committees** – District Manager (DM) Lapp reported that the Equity Team met on October 4, 2023, and Staff McQueeney would report later in the meeting.

2 – MINUTES

A. **September 19, 2023, Regular Board Meeting minutes** – The minutes of the September 19, 2023, board meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Johnson moved/second to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023, Board meeting as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee-Weinberg, Nelson, Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. **Review and accept financial reports** – Staff Tucker reviewed the financial reports for September 30, 2023. Total assets were 10.9 million, total liabilities were 6.3 million, and net assets totaled 4.6 million. The District is under budget for the first quarter, though there was higher than normal activity with WeedWise contractors and the buildout of the shop.

The profit and loss statement showed revenue for September at \$272,456, with \$248,122 from grant reimbursements and \$8,121 from interest on accounts. Expenses for the period were \$345,833.

Director Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded to approve the financial reports for September 30, 2023. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee-Weinberg, Nelson, Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

B. **Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the disbursement reports and voucher list for October 24, 2023.

- Electronic Funds Transfer-Regular Disbursements for October 1, 2023 – \$69,904.40.
- Electronic Funds Transfer-Recurring Disbursements for October 1, 2023-\$84,364.68

- Automatic Clearing House-Disbursements for October 1, 2023 - \$723.27
- Regular Disbursements for October 2023 – Check numbers were 101701 to 101741, with no voids or breaks in the sequence. Checks totaled \$338,046.31, with \$110,228.94 from the conservation fund. Large payments to note: Buildskape, LLC for the build-out of the office in the shop and several payments to WeedWise Contractors.

Directors Fantz/Becker moved/seconded to accept the Disbursements as presented. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee-Weinberg, Nelson, Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. Proposed Amendment to Fiscal Policy** – Staff Tucker asked the Board to approve the proposed amendment to the fiscal policy. Added wording to the policy included the statement *"the Fiscal Agent reviews, initials, and submits batch for approval and authorization to process payments electronically to the Board of Directors and District Manager (or acting agent) prior to each regular board meeting."*

Director Guttridge proposed that the wording be changed from "approval and authorization to process prior to each regular board meeting" to " *approval or disapproval at the next board meeting*".

The policy statement will be updated and presented at the November board meeting.

- C. National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Dues** – Staff Guttridge reported that the NACD dues notice had been received. Guttridge informed the Board that the District paid \$776.00, which is the Gold level of dues, for the past three years. Director Johnson noted that this was not shown as an action item for this month, and thus should be voted upon at next month's meeting. Guttridge asked that the Board let her know at the next meeting what level they would like to pay this year.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. Equity Committee** – Staff McQueeney reported that the Equity Committee met on October 4, 2023. The leadership of the committee has been expanded so that there will be follow-through should Staff McQueeney be unable to participate. The name of the committee is being changed to the Equity Forum as there are many staff members. A smaller nimbler committee will be formed to assist with the implementation of the strategic plan.

The meeting last month brought forth some discussions regarding human resources and the forum is exploring some options for outside sources to help with handling the concerns. Newer staff feel that their concerns may not be received with the same consideration as long-term employees or supervisors.

6 – PERSONNEL

- A. Approval of Paid Leave Oregon Manual** – Staff Guttridge presented the District’s draft Paid Leave Oregon Handbook. Guttridge explained that the handbook was based on recommendations from the Special Districts Association of Oregon. The handbook establishes the protocols the District must follow and staff should take to apply for the leave. Guttridge noted that the District has no say in whether or not the leave will be granted. The program is administered by the State of Oregon Employment Department.

Staff Tucker noted that due to logistical problems with payroll, the District opted not to make up salary loss if employees who use the program are not paid their whole salary. The Paid Leave Oregon plan mandates that employees must take a full day or full week of leave, not a few hours at a time.

Director Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded to approve the Paid Leave Oregon Handbook. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee-Weinberg, Nelson, Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Recruitment of WeedWise Positions** – DM Lapp reported that the District is in the process of recruiting for two positions in the WeedWise Department. The recruitment for the WeedWise Specialist/Cooperative Weed Management Area Coordinator is open at this time and closes on November 17, 2023. The hope is to have that position filled before the first of the year. The second position is paid for by Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funding through an agreement with the US Forest Service. The District would like to have this position filled before the spring field season.

The District is also implementing a new application process, with a supplemental minimum qualifications questionnaire that is specific to each job opening. It is hoped that this will help the District judge qualifications and experience levels. This will be the first opportunity to use the new process.

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- A. Establish Board Development Committee** – Chair Becker reported on the need for a Board Development committee to meet the next steps in implementing the strategic plan. He would like the committee to meet before the next board meeting and asked for volunteers to participate. Directors Guttridge and Lee-Weinberg, along with Chair Becker volunteered to serve. Chair Becker asked DM Lapp to also be a member of the committee.

Directors Guttridge/Lee-Weinberg moved/seconded to appoint Directors Becker, Guttridge, Lee-Weinberg and District Manager Lapp to the Board Development Committee. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee-Weinberg, Nelson, Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Resolution 2023-003 Annual Meeting Date** – Staff Kilders presented Resolution 2023-003 to set the date of the annual meeting. This action is required by Oregon Revised Statute 568.580. She asked the Board to approve December 19, 2023, as the date of the Annual Meeting. The meeting will convene at 4:00 p.m., followed immediately by the regular board meeting.

Directors Lee-Weinberg/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve Resolution 2023-003 to set the date of the Annual Meeting for December 19, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee-Weinberg, Nelson, Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. **Attendance at National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) and Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) Annual Conferences** – DM Lapp reported that there were two conferences scheduled for February. He asked that there be discussion about the benefits to the district when deciding to send board directors to some of the trainings. It was the general consensus that the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts and Special Districts Association of Oregon provided good training for Board directors, and these discussions should be held when deciding upon who should attend other events. It was also suggested that the training budget for both Directors and staff should be revised, increased, if necessary, and regularly reviewed. DM Lapp would benefit from attending the NACD Conference for networking opportunities, and Director Lee-Weinberg should attend as she hopes to be making a presentation at the conference. Directors Guttridge and Zuber requested to attend the SDAO conference.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve the attendance of District Manager Lapp and Director Lee-Weinberg to the National Association of Conservation Districts Conference and Directors Guttridge and Zuber to attend the Special District Association of Oregon Conference both to take place in February 2024. The vote was as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee-Weinberg, Nelson, Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Management Reports

Conservation Planning Department – Conservation Planning Program Manager Reische introduced Staff Scott Eden and gave a brief overview of a pollinator habitat project Eden had been working on over many years.

Eden presented a PowerPoint showing what the property owner wished to preserve as a butterfly and pollinator habitat. Over several years, with a grant and help from the District, the property owner has converted field edges to pollinator habitat, planted native plants, opened areas for small oak restoration, and thinned coniferous wood lots. The property owner has recorded a few monarch butterflies in her habitat in the last few years and hopes to attract many more in the future. (Please see PowerPoint slides, and the Conservation Planning report which are a part of these minutes).

Land Management Department – Land Management Program Manager Faucera reported on work that is in progress around the Conservation Resource Center and at the Eagle Creek Community Forest. Faucera noted that there are some plans in the works for making the plaza a more useable space. Also, the buildout in the shop is nearing completion and if any of the Board members would like to see it after the meeting, he would be glad to give them a tour.

Faucera showed several slides of the work that is being done in the Eagle Creek Forest and thanked Staff Cooley for his help with the fire breaks.

Faucera reported on the Oregon Habitat Tax Incentive program, noting it will probably be 2025

before the program accepts new applications. Districts will have the ability to comment and be a part of the process and will possibly be approached to be agency sponsors.

Associate Director Melethil asked if the District would be looking into the feasibility of making biochar during the thinning process at the Eagle Creek Community Forest. It may be a way to help fund the property. Faucera said that this might be a possibility in the future.

Faucera also reminded the Board that the Eagle Creek Community Forest Advisory Committee would be meeting on Thursday, November 2, 2024, via Zoom beginning at 1:00 p.m. (Please see the Land Management report which is a part of these minutes).

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING

- A. Strategic Planning Workshop** – DM Lapp reported that the staff would be meeting with Amy Stork, from Amy Stork Consulting on Wednesday, October 25, 2023, to discuss roles and responsibilities within the committee structure. The Management Team will be meeting on Monday, October 30 to begin building committees.

9 – OTHER REPORTS

- There were no other reports at this time.

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The next regular meeting will be on November 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator



October 24, 2023

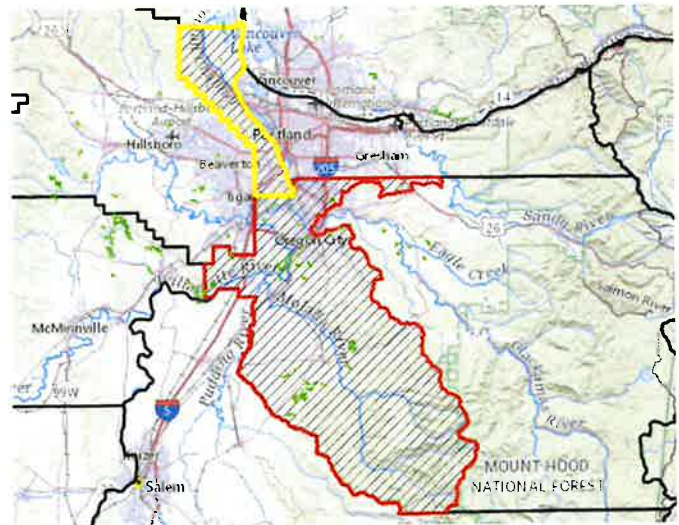
BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Oak Conservation Implementation Strategy Funding Renewed

In late August we received word from NRCS that the Clackanomah Oak Habitat Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) funding has been renewed for another 3 years! This oak partnership initiative with West Multnomah SWCD started in 2018 and wrapped up in 2022. Those five years of funding led to 20 oak habitat contracts. We continue to have interest in oak habitat projects, so we are excited to have this renewed NRCS funding!

Both Clackamas and West Multnomah Counties were able to increase the geographies of our Oak CIS focus areas for the renewal funding. This will allow us to fund land managers (with an agricultural use) in a larger portion of each county (see below for a map of the new Oak CIS focus areas). For Clackamas County, land managers may now be funded with NRCS EQIP dollars for oak habitat work if they reside in any of these general areas: Marquam, Molalla, Canby, Beaver Creek, Oregon City, West Linn, Lake Oswego, Milwaukie, Wilsonville, Sherwood, and Newberg.

We have \$75,826 to spend between the two counties per year for federal fiscal years 2024-2026. In our proposal we estimated 10 applications and 3-4 contracts a year. Applications will be ranked with the Oak CIS ranking criteria we developed, and then funded accordingly. Applications are also sorted by Historically Underserved status (<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/getting-assistance/underserved-farmers-ranchers>) and those applications are typically ranked and funded separately from the other applications. Conservation Practices that can be funded and Ranking Questions can all be found online here: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/conservation-basics/conservation-by-state/oregon/clackanomah-oak-habitat-phase-2-expansion>



We already had a waiting list of clients interested in these oak funds. This list includes clients who have been waiting for renewed funding since 2022 or funding for their part of the county. Staff have been following up with oak clients to assess current interest, determine project details and get them started on FSA eligibility paperwork and the NRCS application. The Oak CIS sign-up process includes a site visit with Kim Galland and a District planner to go over the oak project proposal. Kim has been very helpful in coordinating with staff to join these site visits and in helping clients get started on the FSA and NRCS paperwork as soon as possible.

We currently have 7 landowners interested in Oak CIS funding this year and West Multnomah SWCD has 5 land managers interested in the funding. We will likely have a larger number of applications and contracts this year than anticipated, but we won't know more until land managers follow through with the sign-up process, which will take some time. Applications that are not completed or funded this year can be submitted for funding the following year. The first NRCS application sign-up is this fall on November 16, 2023. This will likely be the only sign-up this year. Land managers (owners and/or farmers) interested in applying for these funds can contact Nicole Ahr directly: nahr@conservationdistrict.org OR 503-998-5273. For NRCS application sign-up information they can contact Kim Galland with NRCS: kimberly.galland@usda.gov OR 503-210-6032.



Clear Creek SIA Water Quality Testing Results Meeting

In addition to receiving OWEB technical assistance grant money, our District also received \$25,000 in OWEB funds to conduct a water quality study in the Lower and Middle Clear Creek Basins as part of the SIA work. In order for our planners to focus their attention on serving customers, it was decided to contract this water quality sampling work out to experts at the task, Geosyntec. Jo Lewis and Lindsey Spencer from Geosyntec Consultants performed the water quality sampling and analysis and presented results of the SIA water quality monitoring project they performed in Clear Creek during the spring and early summer of 2023. The meeting included ODA staff Ryan Beyers (WQ compliance) and Rob Hibbs (WQ Monitoring Coordinator), also Sam Doane (J Frank Schmidt Nursery), Dave Bugni who performs yearly temperature monitoring in the Clackamas basin, DEQ staff, CRBC and CSWCD staff, and Kurt Carpenter (USGS) who has current studies on nutrients and algae/ cyanobacteria in cascade foothill valley watersheds.

GeoSyntec sampled two sites in the Clear Creek Watershed. One in the mid watershed just below the confluence with Little Clear Creek, and the other at the mouth of the Clackamas River. They tested for total dissolved solids (TDS), nitrates (N), and phosphates (P). For the TSS, they wanted to determine if the totals ever exceeded 17 mg/L, which was a surrogate for potential high levels of



mercury getting into the water from soil erosion. They also sampled for P to determine if it was from soil erosion, or a dissolved form of P, potentially from other sources. The results showed that TSS levels did typically exceed 17 ppm during periods of high precipitation events resulting in increased stormwater runoff, but that P was below 17mg/L during normal flows. The lower basin sampling site had higher amounts of TSS than the upstream sampling point.

GeoSyntec also analyzed whether nitrate loading was higher in the lower watershed, which was more agricultural, or the forested upper watershed, and what the total and dissolved phosphate levels were at the two sampling sites. There was a slight but statistically significant overall increase in the N levels at the lowest basin sampling point. This result could point to potential agricultural land use influence increasing N, although other factors could also contribute to this result. High N also correlated strongly to higher flows, indicating N could be coming from stormwater inputs. Kurt Carpenter of USGS noted that overall, the N levels were relatively high, and are likely contributing to excess algal and cyanobacteria growth.

Phosphorous sampling had a lab detection limit that was set to 0.1 ppm, and so resulted in mostly non-detects. One exception was during a storm event when it was 0.124 ppm at the downstream sampling site, in particulate form, not dissolved. Having only one detection made it impossible to answer the question if the phosphorus originated from soil particulates or was dissolved in the water column. This reading concluded that BMPs designed to limit erosion could also help limit P in lower Clear Creek. The original conclusion was that existing good ag practices in Clear Creek might be limiting P levels because they were below the detection limit, but after discussion with Kurt, he postulated that it was likely that P was the limiting nutrient to algal and bacterial growth. These algae were uptaking the available P, which could lead to nuisance or toxic blooms if nutrient inputs to the system are not controlled. He thanked them for the data but thought the lab should have used a lower detection limit for P, he postulated that both N and P levels were far in excess of EPA recommendations, and that these levels could also increase the pH of surface water.

Kurt was in favor of additional nutrient sampling. Robb noted that they get concerned when P is above 0.8 ppm but thanked the presenters for the data and presentation. The consultants noted that any future continued nutrient testing in the rainy season, and flow measurements could help answer remaining questions on Clear Creek nutrient levels. Data will be entered into the DEQ volunteer data system.

The original SIA WQ Sampling was on an extremely limited budget, and completely spent down, although other SIA activities are ongoing (technical assistance, compliance, projects, etc.).

Ryan Beyers at the ODA noted that he was still working on a few remaining landowner compliance issues, but overall, they are getting close to concluding the work in this watershed, although there could still be a year or two of working with landowners. He reported many successes with improving manure management and other BMP projects.

Update on Heavy Use Area for a Small Cattle Operation

Construction is nearly complete on a heavy use area (HUA) at a small cattle farm south of Molalla. This project was funded by the District to help implement BMPs that will help solve the resource concern of accumulation of nutrient laden manure in the barnyard area. The HUA will also help to improve their grazing management system so that the nutrients in manure are collected and safely stored and later spread on fields to be utilized to grow forage grass as well as improve soil quality. Having the option of

a “rest” rotation whenever grazing conditions are not suitable for cattle allow for a better overall pasture and grazing management system. Cattle will be kept on the HUA during times when the soils are wet and grazing would damage the soil. The pictures below show the site prior to construction of an HUA, and after. Gutters will also be added to the barn and the excess water will be taken away from the concentrated livestock area to prevent contributing to muddy conditions.



Planners Attend Small Farm School

Last month, the planners attended a number of interesting presentations at this year's Small Farm School. Our very own Suzi Cloutier taught an informative class about mud and manure management for horse-owners. There were 10 attendees in her session who kept cattle, sheep, dairy goats, and equines. Participants learned about how to properly manage their manure, how to create heavy use areas and how to rotate pastures for optimal forage health. Producers also learned about additional FSA and NRCS programs to assist producers.

In addition, Suzi attended an informative farm succession class, which was woefully under attended but rich in valuable information about succession of income producing farms to the next generation. Succession planning can be a complex process that many farmers and ranchers will need to consider as they move toward retirement. This class was taught by staff from Oregon Agricultural Trust. New farmers are often priced out of getting into farming, so a succession plan brings that ability into

sharper focus for those stepping into already productive businesses- often with the tutelage of the retiring farmer.



Summer forage class with professor Shayan Nitazedi Ghajar.

Jordan DeLawder attended a small-scale orchard class where he learned about underrated varieties that thrive in Oregon, like mulberries, kiwi berries, and pineapple guava. The talk was given at the Home Orchard Education Center where students were able to see good orchard management firsthand. Later in the day, he and Suzi Cloutier attended a cutting-edge talk on new warm-weather forage varieties currently being trialed at OSU. As we continue to have hotter summers and longer periods of drought, it will be important to have more reliable forage species for the summer months. Initial research has found promising results for teff grass, sun hemp, cowpeas, and mung beans. Jordan plans to keep up with emerging recommendations as research continues.

Drew Donahue attended a practical guide to growing medicinal plants in Oregon. Western herbalism has historically focused on European plants. Many of these herbs are perennials in their home range, but they are often annuals here in Oregon. The class focused on species that show promise in our climate, including tulsi, ashwagandha, astragalus, red sage, and bitter melon, to name a few.

CREP OWEB TA Grant Submitted and Two New Projects!

We are pleased to announce that the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) Technical Assistance (TA) Grant has been submitted for the 2024-2025 period. This grant will fund half of Drew Donahue's position as a Riparian Specialist, for another two years. After a workload analysis was completed it was determined that she was spending more than 50% of her time working in Clackamas County and there was a large increase in interested landowners in the CREP program. It is also of note that many riparian landowners asking for assistance were urban/rural residential; these landowners could not be assisted by CREP. Therefore, CSWCD is



only asking OWEB for a half time CREP technician in the TA grant so that we may fulfill the other riparian needs of the County and, additionally, splitting off from the other two counties involved in the grant in the past, Marion and Yamhill. Heather Nielsen, Conservation Investments Coordinator, has been a significant help in writing and submitting this grant and will be the lead on reporting in the future.

In September, Clackamas County also received two new CREP enrollments! One in Aurora on the Pudding River and another in

Wilsonville on a tributary to Newland Creek. These new projects have committed approximately 30 acres and 1.48 stream miles into riparian restoration for the next 10 years. We are looking forward to working with them!

Fall 2020 Wildfire Recovery RCPP Update

The last month of RCPP work has been focused on moving applicants through the FSA eligibility process. We have a strong pool of 12 applicants moving forward. The five fire footprints included in this funding (Riverside, Wilhoit Road, Unger Road, Dowty Road, and Beachie Creek) are all represented.

Jenne, Lisa, and I have been working closely with Sustainable Northwest's new Senior Wildfire Manager, Becca Shively. Mid-month we hosted Becca on a tour of three project sites in the county. It was a great opportunity to develop our partnership and show firsthand the issues our



landowners are still dealing with three years after the Labor Day Fires. Far from barren “moonscapes,” these project sites are in many ways tougher to work in. They are complex, with steep topography, large amounts of standing dead wood, and aggressive brush growth.

Land Management Program Bi-Monthly Report

October 24, 2023

Shop Office Retrofit Construction Project

Construction has proceeded quickly, and if no setbacks occur, the shop office project is slated for completion in the first week of November. Remaining items include floor sealing, painting, and door installation.

Buildscape has been easy to work with and to date we've only needed two change orders to address items that were unexpected. Overall, the total cost with change orders will likely be near \$260,000, remaining below the \$261,442 not-to-exceed dollar amount the board approved in July.

There will still be items to address outside the scope of the construction project to outfit the new office space with cubicles, security cameras and monitoring equipment, conference room table and chairs, and shelving for the storage areas. These items are in motion and will be installed after construction is completed.

We'll again make time for those who are interested in seeing the space to do so just prior to the October board meeting.

Eagle Creek Community Forest (ECCF)

Our next Eagle Creek Community Forest Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for November 2nd at 1:00pm. Since our last full committee meeting, a subset of members from the full committee and some community members met to focus more energy on long term plan development for the full committee to consider.

This meeting helped to identify data gaps for understanding the economics of the current management model in enough detail for the full committee to make informed management recommendations. The current plan provides a general framework for the forest but doesn't provide enough detail to ensure that management actions will be both fiscally and ecologically sustainable.

Staff are seeking the services of a consulting forester that can generate harvest and management scenarios for the committee to consider that range between a fully commercial forest model and one that focuses on ecological resilience.

Staff visited the east side of the property in September to assess the conditions of the road into Stand 5. Access to this portion of the property is only available through a neighboring property. This is the first

visit to this portion of the property since it was purchased and we were glad to find that while there was some growth on the road, it is manageable and we are able to address it with thinning activities this fall.



Figure 1 - Justin providing scale to the height of vegetation encroachment along the road in stand 5

CSWCD budgeted \$40,000 for thinning work in both this and next fiscal year with the hopes that we'd be able to match District dollars with equal dollars from Dave Bugni's Landscape Scale Restoration grant applications that will improve fish habitat in the Eagle Creek watershed. He received those grants and we've commenced thinning work over the past few weeks.

Justin has been coordinating crews from the WeedWise vegetation management contracts to thin at the forest. Ten acres of heavy mastication was completed in stand 4 and along the main haul road, including a 50-to-75-foot buffer on both sides of main haul road to serve as the ECCF's primary fuels break. Additionally, 5 to 10 acres of thinning was completed in stand 4 with less bucking of downed material. Finally, we brushed the Stand 5 road system (east side) and will probably do more than 20 acres of thinning by the end of the week of the October board meeting.



Figure 2 - Recently thinned area of stand 4 near the road that will operate as the ECCF's main fire break

Northwest Community Forest Coalition, whose membership consists of other community forests in Oregon and Washington, will be hosting their November quarterly meeting at the Conservation Resource Center and will be touring the ECCF on the afternoon of November 7th, with their quarterly meeting to follow at the CRC on the 8th.

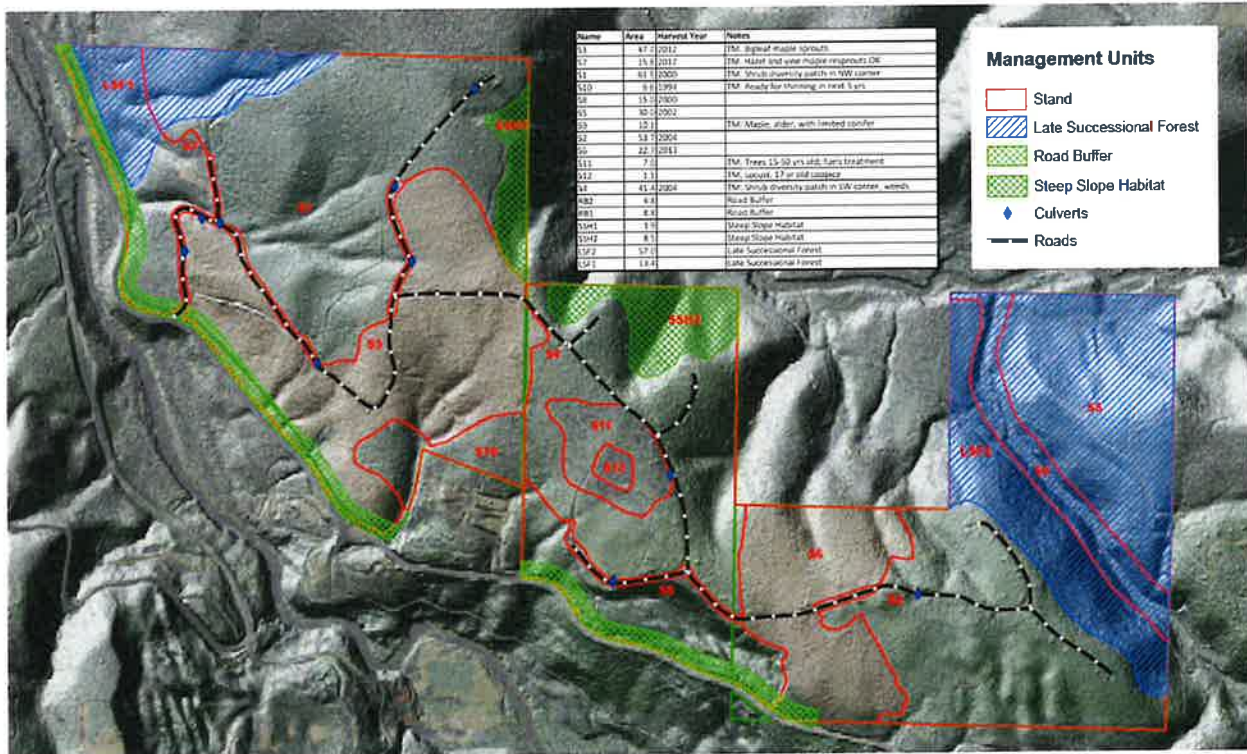


Figure 3 - Stand map of the ECCF showing Stand 5 on the east portion of the property and Stand 4 just north of the road near the center of the property where thinning work if taking place this fall

Conservation Resource Center (CRC)

While the shop construction has taken center stage in terms of activity at the CRC, we are busy on a few other fronts as well. Once the project is complete, we'll begin moving items back into storage and organizing the shop for better utilization. With the floor space being occupied since 2019 with leftover furniture from our move, we've never been able to fully use the space to intended purposes.



Figure 4 - Gus pulling posts from the south fence line in preparation for replacement

We continue to work toward replacing the fence on the south border of the property. The surveyor has staked the boundary line for the fencing company to follow. Gus has been busy pulling the old fence posts and wiring along the property line and has cleared the vegetation from the footprint of the line. Our fencing contractor should be on site by the end of October to complete the fence.

Weed control continues with woody material removal from the lower pond mostly complete and horsetail control in the west corner of the planted area below the plaza ongoing.

We have begun the process of winterization of the grounds, starting with the landscape irrigation system. The system has been turned off and pressurized air has been used to blow remaining water out of the system. There was a valve repair that also needed to be completed to keep the system functioning as designed.

As the shop office space build out begins to wind down, focus will shift to development of farm committees and ramping up of a planning phase for the plaza and landscaping at the farm to support

our services to customers and reflect our conservation mission. We'll also focus on continuing the natural area planning.

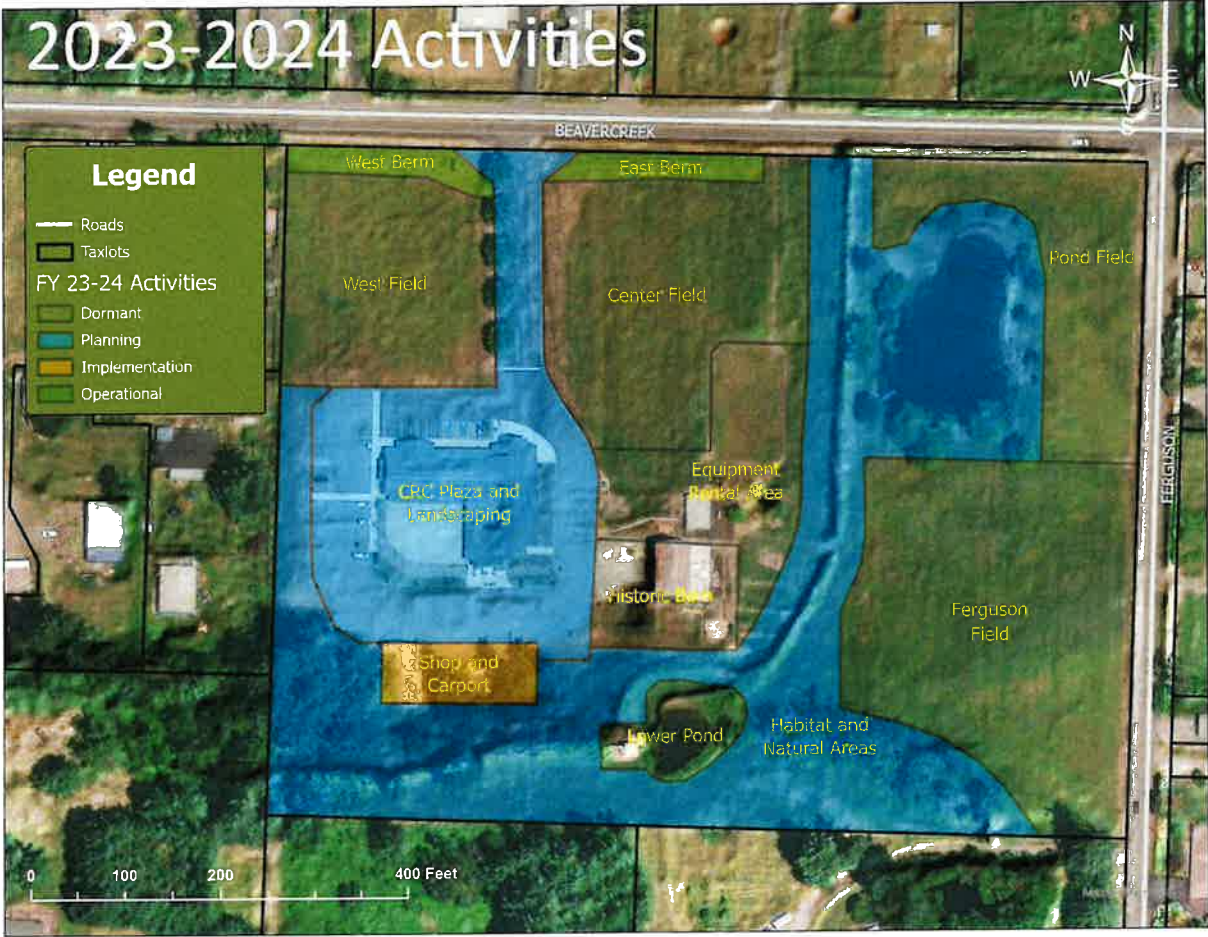


Figure 5 - Upcoming activities this fiscal year for the CRC

Equipment Rental Program (ERP)

Gus is busy wrapping up the fall rental season for 2023. October has been our busiest month for rentals.

Most of the equipment is in for the season and ready for regular maintenance, repairs, and winterization. We are looking forward to having the shop space to perform these tasks in.

The seed drills are gaining in popularity as more people learn about our program, and we anticipate even more demand in the spring.

About 350 acres were seeded between the three seed drills with the large drills being the most frequently requested. There have been a couple of great forage seed trials that utilized our large seed drills.

There has been an increase in equipment rental requests from neighboring Districts that do not have programs. We are navigating this topic this winter to determine what protocols will be set moving forward.

The manure spreader has been sought after but falls short in capability for many people with larger properties. There are no larger capacity manure spreaders available for use and we should consider bringing one into the ERP.



Figure 6 - Drilled grass completed with district drill, small drill seeding between rows of flowers, and the manure spreader in use with small UTV

VOUCHER DISBURSEMENT SUMMARY

10/1/2023

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment	
10/23/2023	101701	American On Site	CSWCD: SRL-7030 Septic Repair FINAL 10/2023	\$ 25,099.88	
10/23/2023	101702	Jeff Becker	CSWCD: Stipend 09/2023	\$ 100.00	
10/23/2023	101703	Buel's Impressions Printing	CSWCD: Printing [Strat Plan] 09/2023	\$ 567.00	
10/23/2023	101704	Buildskape, LLC	CSWCD: CIP [SHOP] 09/2023	\$ 142,930.35	
10/23/2023	101705	Ted R Burkholder	CSWCD: SRG-7923 [Retro] 10/2023	\$ 4,120.00	
10/23/2023	101706	Alex Burton	DOG-2324-4055 [HUA] 09/2023	\$ 17,340.00	CF
10/23/2023	101707	Clackamas County Clerk	Acct: 126 Doc Recording 09/2023	\$ 563.00	
10/23/2023	101708	Covenant Systems LLC	CSWCD: Site Svcs [Security-SHOP] 10/2023	\$ 7,809.80	
10/23/2023	101709	Jordan DeLawder	Reimbursement: Mileage/Supplies 10/2023	\$ 132.50	
10/23/2023	101710	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 10/2023	\$ 28,466.66	
10/23/2023	101711	D Franco Contracting Inc	WW-2022-03 [CRBC] 09/2023	\$ 6,208.17	CF
10/23/2023	101712	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 09/2023	\$ 44.54	
10/23/2023	101713	Roger Fantz	CSWCD: Stipend 09/2023	\$ 100.00	
10/23/2023	101714	Jason Faucera	Reimbursement: Travel/Training 10/2023	\$ 410.97	
10/23/2023	101715	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 09/2023	\$ 70.30	
10/23/2023	101716	Green Banks, LLC	WW-2022-04 [CRISP] 09/2023	\$ 4,319.66	CF
10/23/2023	101717	Donald Guttridge	CSWCD: Stipend/Mileage 09/2023	\$ 142.44	
10/23/2023	101718	HR Answers	CSWCD: HR Svcs [PR] 09/2023	\$ 2,466.00	
10/23/2023	101719	James Johnson	CSWCD: Stipend 09/2023	\$ 50.00	
10/23/2023	101720	Kuznetsov Thinning Company	WW-2022-07 [CRISP] 09/2023	\$ 10,426.15	CF
10/23/2023	101721	Christopher Lapp	Reimbursement: Mileage/Supplies 10/2023	\$ 310.62	
10/23/2023	101722	Jan Lee Weinberg	CSWCD: Stipend/Mileage 09/2023	\$ 125.41	
10/23/2023	101723	Samuel Leininger	Reimbursement: Supplies/Parking 10/2023	\$ 32.64	
10/23/2023	101724	MassMutual Life Insurance Company	CSWCD: EE GUL 10-2023	\$ 649.50	
10/23/2023	101725	Monte Mattsson	Reimbursement: Supplies 04/2023 REISSUE	\$ 123.71	
10/23/2023	101726	Catherine McQueeney	Reimbursement: Mileage 09/2023	\$ 120.65	
10/23/2023	101727	Padmanabhan K Melethil	Reimbursement: Travel OACD 10/2023	\$ 333.39	
10/23/2023	101728	Mosaic Ecology, LLC	WW-2022-08 [USFS BAR] 09/2023	\$ 14,163.83	CF
10/23/2023	101729	Jesse Nelson	CSWCD: Stipend 09/2023	\$ 50.00	
10/23/2023	101730	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 09/2023	\$ 1,650.00	
10/23/2023	101731	Office Space Planners	CSWCD: Design Svcs [SHOP] 10/2023	\$ 1,850.00	
10/23/2023	101732	Pacific Crest Consulting, LLC	WW-2022-09 [USFS-SA/BAR] 09/2023	\$ 8,909.60	CF
10/23/2023	101733	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949 09/2023	\$ 732.37	
10/23/2023	101734	Pamplin Media Group	Acct: 341 LakeOswegoReview 11/2023	\$ 72.00	
10/23/2023	101735	Portland Irrigation Inc	CSWCD: Site Svcs [Irr] 10/2023	\$ 970.00	
10/23/2023	101736	SADA Systems, Inc	CSWCD: GSuite [Lic-1yr] 09/2023	\$ 7,655.04	
10/23/2023	101737	Sound Native Plants Inc	WW-2022-11 [BLM-WF/USFS-BAR] 09/2023	\$ 21,666.42	CF
10/23/2023	101738	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 WW 09/2023	\$ 80.60	CF
10/23/2023	101739	United States Geological Survey	Acct: 6000008442 [23YFJA015] 06/2023	\$ 10,000.00	CF




10/23/2023 101740 Wild Habitat Contracting, LLC
10/23/2023 101741 Joan Zuber

WW-2022-12 [USFS-Bull/CRISP] 09/2023 \$ 17,004.51 CF
CSWCD: Stipend 09/2023 \$ 178.60

Subtotal: \$ 338,046.31

Total: \$ 338,046.31

Total Conservation Fund \$ 110,118.94 CF


Board Chair 10/24/23


Board Treasurer

Secretary

ACH-Recurring 09-2023 723.27
EFT-Recurring 10-2023 84,364.68
EFT-Regular 10-2023 117,854.40
Voucher-Regular 10-2023 338,046.31
540,265.39