



Approved January 19, 2021

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for December 15, 2020

PRESENT	Directors:	Jeff Becker (Chair), Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Jim Johnson, Jan Lee, Jesse Nelson (Vice-Chair), Joan Zuber
	Associate Directors:	John Keith, PK Melethil, Anna Rankin
	Directors Emeritus:	
	Staff:	Nicole Ahr, Drew Donahue, Scott Eden, Jason Faucera, Courtney Gattuso, Tami Guttridge, Lindsey Karr, Lisa Kilders (Acting General Manager), Clair Klock, Chris Lapp (General Manager), Sam Leininger, Cathy McQueeney, Eann Rains, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker, Matt Van Wey
	Partners:	
	Guest:	
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 4:03 p.m., on Tuesday, December 15, 2020, on a “Zoom” meeting originating from the home office of Staff Faucera.

Chair Becker asked if there were changes to the agenda. Acting General Manager Kilders requested the following changes:

- Add the length of service awards to the agenda under item 1C.
- Add Resolution 2020-007 to change the date of the Annual Meeting as item 4A.
- Add Authorization for the General Manager to sign a contract with Cedar Mill Construction, LLC for the build-out of the west wing office as item 4D.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to accept the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Public Comment – There was no public comment given.

C. Director reports –

- Director Guttridge reported the mud was getting deeper, and there had been a new calf born at his farm.
- Director Fantz reported that he had delivered his stock of Christmas trees, and they were nearly sold out.
- Director Johnson reported that the Board of Agriculture has two openings. The Board of Agriculture will be meeting in January and review new resolutions they have received.
- Director Lee reported that the Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) is helping to build a working lands program. Staff Faucera will be working on this through his position on the OACD board. Lee also noted that the OACD Board was welcoming Karen Stutzman from the Polk SWCD as a newly elected board member.
- Director Nelson reported he is digging trees and playing in the mud.
- Associate Director Rankin reported that the Pudding River Watershed Council (PRWC) had received a variety of plant materials from the Oregon Conservation Partnership. These plant materials are available to Clackamas SWCD to be used on projects. Rankin will be forwarding a report to the District that Pudding River Watershed Council normally gives to the Marion SWCD. Rankin noted that the PRWC had recently completed a base-line macroinvertebrate survey and have hired a contract Certified Public Accountant to look at internal controls. Rankin also reported she had completed her finals for the Clackamas Community College classes she had taken this quarter.
- Associate Director Keith reported on work he had been doing regarding the opposition of a sports facility that the county has approved to be placed in the farm/urban interface in the Stafford area. Keith would like the District to consider taking a stand regarding the use of these interface areas.

Director Zuber joined the meeting at 4: 10 p.m.

- AGM Kilders presented length of service pins for five years to staff members Tami Guttridge, Nicole Ahr, and Scott Eden who were all hired in 2015. She thanked them for their service.

D. Introduction of the new General Manager – General Manager Chris Lapp was introduced to the Board. GM Lapp reported that he had received the \$100 tour from Staff Guttridge of the Conservation Resource Center and found it to be a very welcoming space. He sat in with Staff Faucera in the morning on a meeting regarding the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) lease. Lapp stated he was happy and excited to be hired by the District.

Chair Becker took the opportunity to thank AGM Kilders for keeping the District on track for the last year.

E. Manager's report on committees – Chair Becker asked AGM Kilders to report on committees.

- The Finance Committee has been exchanging e-mails regularly.
- The Personnel Committee met on Thursday, December 10, 2020, and will report later in the meeting.
- The Building Committee has been exchanging e-mails and will report later in the meeting.
- The Working Lands Committee met on December 4, 2020. The Committee discussed the Northwest Land Conservation Trust that agreed to hold the easement for the Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program grant application for the Molalla Forest property owned by the Rowan Family. Also discussed were the Eagle Creek Community Forest, and the Camp Adams Easement. They reviewed financial considerations, templates for staff use regarding easements, upcoming succession planning workshops, and a variety of other topics. Please see their complete report which is attached as a part of these minutes.

2 – MINUTES

A. November 17, 2020, Regular Board Meeting minutes – The minutes of the November 17, 2020, Regular Board Meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the minutes of the November 17, 2020; Regular Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. November 25, 2020, Special Board Meeting minutes – The minutes of the November 25, 2020, Special Board Meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Lee/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve the minutes of the November 25, 2020; Special Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Review and accept financial reports – Staff Tucker reviewed the November 2020 financial reports with the Board. Current total assets are \$11,630,028 and liabilities are \$7,022,327. The District's tax base revenues are on par with last year and with what the District had predicted when developing the fiscal year 2020/2021 budget. Tucker noted the need to review the December tax revenues to see if they will be in line with last year's numbers.

Director Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to accept the November 2020 financial reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Disbursements – Staff Tucker presented the Automatic Clearing House (ACH) payment report for the Board's review. ACH payments include payments to ADP for payroll services, Wells Fargo for banking fees, Abila for accounting hosting fees and the Wells Fargo credit card payment.

Tucker then presented the December 2020 Disbursement list to the Board. Checks were numbered 100450 to 100470 with no breaks in the sequence and no voids. Disbursements totaled \$40,604.19 for December.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the December 2020 disbursements. Motion carried unanimously.

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. **Resolution 2020-007 to set the date of the Annual Meeting** – AGM Kilders presented Resolution 2020-007 to set the date of the Annual Meeting for January 19, 2020. It was necessary to move the meeting date as the audit has not been completed and must be part of the annual meeting. Staff Tucker reported that the Audit should be available by the end of December as required by law.

Directors Johnson/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve Resolution 2020-007 to establish the date of the Annual Meeting of the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District per Oregon Revised Statute 568.580. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Equipment Rental Rates for 2021** – Staff Rains presented the suggested equipment rental rates for 2021. Rains proposed the rental rates remain the same for 2021 and asked that the cleaning rate for equipment being returned caked in mud and/or full of seed be increased from a flat \$50 to \$50 per hour. Rains also asked to remove the water wagon from rental list at this time.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve the proposed rental rates for 2021, including increasing the cleaning fee to \$50/per hour and removing the water wagon from rental. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. **Proposed increase for septic system loans** – Staff Rains reported that the cost of installing septic systems has increased since the District began the loan program. In 2017 septic systems cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000. Newer systems are currently in the range of \$25,000 to \$35,000. Many of the homeowners needing septic repairs are in lower-income brackets and are unable to raise the extra dollars needed to complete a repair if it is over the Districts loan limits. Rains asked the Board to consider raising the limit on septic system loans to \$30,000. Loans over \$25,000 will be brought to the Board for approval.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to increase septic system loans to \$30,000. Motion carried unanimously.

- D. **Authorization for General Manager to sign construction contract** – Staff Faucera asked that the Board approve General Manager Chris Lapp to sign the construction contract for the build-out of the west wing area. The contract is with Cedar Mill Construction, LLC. The build-out is to complete the space for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and Farm Services Agency to lease.

Directors Johnson/Guttridge moved/seconded to authorize General Manager Lapp to sign the construction contract with Cedar Mill Construction, LLC to build out the west wing area. Motion carried unanimously.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. **Video of Suter Creek Project** – AGM Kilders with the help of Staff Faucera presented two videos taken by David Bugni of salmon spawning in Suter Creek under and around new log structures.

6 – PERSONNEL

- Chair Becker asked for a motion to relieve Acting General Manager Lisa Kilders of her duties as General Manager

Directors Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded to relieve Staff Kilders of the General Managers duties. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Becker and other Directors thanked Kilders for her exemplary work keeping the District operational through the year.

- Chair Becker asked that the Board make Staff Reische's promotion to Conservation Program Planning Manager permanent, and raise her pay from Band D Step 12 to Band D Step 15. This action to become effective on January 1, 2021.

Directors Lee/Johnson moved/seconded to make Staff Reische's promotion to Conservation Program Planning Manager permanent, and raise her pay from Band D Step 12 to Band D Step 15, effective January 1, 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

- Chair Becker asked General Manager (GM) Lapp to speak to the Board regarding assigning a Budget Officer for the coming fiscal year budget.

GM Lapp reported that initially, the personnel committee had recommended Staff Faucera be the budget officer for the coming year. Lapp noted that he has the skill set to take on this task and it is part of his job description. Staff Faucera has indicated his willingness to help with the process. Directors discussed options and felt that GM Lapp should be the Budget Officer for Fiscal 2021/2022 Budget and work on the supplemental budget for Fiscal 2020/2021.

Directors Johnson/Guttridge moved/seconded to appoint General Manager Chris Lapp Budget Officer for the Fiscal 2021/2022 Budget process. Motion carried unanimously.

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- A. Approve Board member attendance at Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) and the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) Annual meetings –** Staff Kilders asked the Board to approve a stipend for Director Zuber who attended the 2020 OACD annual meeting. Kilders also asked Directors to consider if they wished to attend the on-line NACD Annual convention to be held in February. Directors who wish to attend the NACD virtual meeting will notify the District in January of 2021.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to authorize a stipend to Director Zuber for her attendance at the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Manager's Reports

- Staff Reische thanked the Board for their vote of confidence in making her promotion permanent.

Reische reported that Staff Eden has been working on several irrigation conversion projects. NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program and Conservation Implementation Strategy funds have been made available to help with the costly engineering to replace big gun and hand-line sprinkler systems with more efficient drip irrigation.

Reische also reported that Staff Ahr was excited about the wildlife she was seeing on oak sites she has been working to restore. Please see Reische's complete written report which is included as part of these minutes.

- Staff McQueeney reported on Education and Outreach. McQueeney attended a meeting on December 14, 2020, regarding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion with Districts from the Mid and Lower Willamette Basin. She will be sharing this information with Chair Becker and the Oregon Conservation Education and Assistance Network (OCEAN) Board. McQueeney has been busy compiling the annual reports from the watershed councils. Most councils are asking if there will be funding available from the District in the coming year. Please see McQueeney's complete written report and the watershed council reports which are included as part of these minutes.

- Staff Kilders reported that she has been working with local watershed councils to reach out to landowners affected by the recent wildfires. There is funding from the US Department of Agriculture and the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. With the help of Cheryl McGinnis of the Clackamas River Basin Council and Asako Yamamuro from the Molalla River Watch, the District sent out over 400 letters to landowners asking them to contact one of the partners. Kilders has received 13 calls so far, most of whom will qualify for the federal assistance.

Kilders reported that she has completed the annual report and it is ready for the annual meeting.

Kilders noted that she is very happy to have Chris Lapp on board as the new general manager and thanked the staff for their help this last year.

- Staff Leininger reported that the WeedWise staff is busy with year-end reports and planning for next year's field season. Reports are due to the US Forest Services, Bureau of Land Management and for the Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP).

There will be less funding for the coming year due to the hit the Forest Service took in the Riverside wildfire. A loss of logging revenue, equals less money available for WeedWise projects. The Bureau of Land Management may be able to make \$100,000 available for work in areas of the Molalla River Basin damaged by the Beachie Creek Fire. Leininger also reported that the ETART (Erosion Threat Assessment and Reduction Team) videos are on-line. Please see the WeedWise written report that is included as part of these minutes.

- Staff Faucera reported on his continuing work on the National Water Quality initiative (NWQI) project. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) met on December 14, 2020, to work on plans for moving forward. The wildfires dominated much of the conversation regarding their impact on clean water. The Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Department of Agriculture, and community groups have provided input to this process. The hope is to have a draft proposal for NRCS soon. Outreach to the community has been pushed back a month due to COVID-19 and the fires.

Director Lee left the meeting at 5:44 p.m.

- Funding for the Clackamas NWQI will come from the EQIP dollars, and the planning process is still in the assessment phase. It is hoped that monies will be available in May or June to get the projected started and begin outreach to individual landowners
- Faucera reported that he continues to work with other Districts in the Lower Willamette Basin along with Jackson County for strategic planning to get the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) tax programs working. There is a need to catch up on monitoring of existing tax deferrals and make sure that they are in compliance. ODFW staff capacity and funding are limiting factors. Funding that may have been available through the Oregon Conservation Recreation Fund will not be matched by State Legislature due to COVID-19.
- Faucera also reported that the District had experienced a major IT problem when a switch failed on the computer server. The District had limited phone service for several days until a new switch arrived and Faucera was able to install it and restore service.
- Director Zuber asked if there was outreach being done in the Molalla area that was impacted by the Beachie Creek Fire for funding of restoration? Staff Kilders and Associate Director Rankin reported that the OWEB funding outreach for the Beachie Creek fire is being handled by a Watershed Council Coordinator in Marion County. They will contact this person to see if outreach is being done outside the Santiam Canyon area.

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING

- A. Update on Building and NRCS Lease process** – Director Guttridge reported that he had participated with Staff Guttridge on a final walkthrough of the building with P&C Construction. Staff had provided a checklist of items and P&C was responsive about getting these items closed out. The main areas of concern discussed with P&C was not warranty issues, they include problems with the stormwater retention pond and the drainage from the condenser units behind the building. P&C will be contacting Konell Construction about the ramp washout at the stormwater pond to see if they have any suggestions. Guttridge noted that the building is very functional. Guttridge then asked Staff Faucera to address the Board concerning the work on the NRCS lease.

Staff Rains left the meeting at 5:54 p.m.

Staff Faucera reported that the District had received a signed written lease from the US Department of Agriculture. The NRCS and FSA staff in Oregon City must move out of their space by February 16, 2021. However, FSA may have some changes to make to the design they were presented and that will cause delays in getting the build outdone. USDA has committed

to pay for the build-out and any changes if change orders are filled out and signed. The current plan is to meet every two weeks. Faucera hopes to have the construction contract soon so that it can be signed by General Manager Lapp. Faucera has reached out to the designer about possible changes to the plan.

Chair Becker noted that he is grateful for all of Staff Faucera's work on this process.

Faucera also reported that along with Staff Guttridge he had completed a walk around the building with a FLIR thermal camera looking for possible heat leaks. Faucera shared images with the Board and noted only two or three areas of concern. One area, in the attic looked like insulation had been pushed aside for wiring. Another area, just over the lunchroom, showed heat loss at a vent in the gable. Faucera has reached out to P&C to see if they can help us figure out why this area is shedding more heat than other areas.

Staff McQueeney left the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

9 – OTHER REPORTS

- Director Johnson reported that the budget proposed by Governor Brown will be eliminating positions at the Oregon Department of Agriculture including one in confined animal feeding operations, two water quality specialists, and one position in Soil and Water Conservation District program. The ODA marketing office in Portland will also be closed and there will be less money for water quality monitoring. At this time, the noxious weed department is not impacted.
- Director Fantz joked with Staff Leininger saying that he had lots of holly available. Fantz noted that he was glad to see the Working Lands Committee look at long term planning and mission statements.
- Chair Becker noted that the Board needed to meet to talk about long term planning outside of regular board meetings. Becker noted that Associate Director Keith would like to be more involved. The templates under discussion will help the board as well as staff. Becker would like to address this more at the next Board meeting.
- Staff Guttridge reported that she had spoken with a Portland General Electric energy auditor about the new building. Staff Faucera showed the Board the graph sent by PGE showing the power usage during the day. There is significantly less power used during the day due to the solar panels.

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The Annual meeting will be on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
- The next regular board meeting will be on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at 4:15 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator

Voucher Approval List

12/4/2020

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
12/4/2020	100450	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 12/2020	766.21
12/4/2020	100451	Nicole Ahr	Reimbursement: Mileage 11/2020	56.35
12/4/2020	100452	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 12/2020	567.00
12/4/2020	100453	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 12/2020	21,340.50
12/4/2020	100454	Drew Donahue	Reimbursement: Mileage 11/2020	15.87
12/4/2020	100455	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 11/2020	73.44
12/4/2020	100456	Neyda's Custom Hardscaping	CSWCD: Svcs [Winterization] 11/2020	375.50
12/4/2020	100457	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 10/2020	180.64
12/4/2020	100458	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 11/20/20	727.09
12/4/2020	100459	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 11/2020	463.36
12/4/2020	100460	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 11/2020	70.84
12/4/2020	100461	Verizon Wireless	Acct: 242017036-00001 11/2020	240.06
12/4/2020	100462	VOYA Financial OSGP	CSWCD: EE/ER 457b Contributions PPE 11/30/20	12,023.48
12/4/2020	100463	Safe Deposit Box Wells Fargo	CSWCD: Box# ORFIB0000650017 12/13/20	100.00

Subtotal: 37,000.34

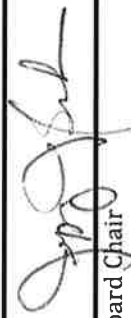
12/15/2020

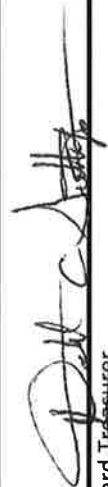
12/14/2020	100464	BOLI - Bureau of Labor & Industries	CSWCD: WH-39A [CRC-TI] 12/2020	250.00
12/14/2020	100465	Cascade Environmental Group, LLC	PSC-1820-4037 Prof Svcs [NWQI] 11/2020	681.25
12/14/2020	100466	Centurian Fire Protection, LLC	CSWCD: Fire Inspection [Annual] 12/2020	225.00
12/14/2020	100467	CWT, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Media] Bal 11/2020	1,772.72
12/14/2020	100468	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 12/2020	96.90
12/14/2020	100469	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 B/U 01/2021	450.00
12/14/2020	100470	The Oregonian Media Group	Acct: 1039096002 Pub Notice [Annual Mtg] 12/2020	127.98

Subtotal: 3,603.85

Total: \$ 40,604.19

Total Conservation Fund

 12/15/20
Board Chair

 12-15-20
Board Treasurer
Secretary



December 15, 2020

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: Conservation Planning Program Update

New Irrigation Funding Pool for EQIP

The "Source Water Depletion CIS" that covers areas in Southeast Clackamas County will help fund improvements and conversions of inefficient irrigation systems, as well as other supporting practices to maintain crop soil moisture. This area has intense irrigation from both surface and groundwater sources for agriculture. By converting to more efficient systems, less water and energy are used, while providing more water to the crop root zone for improved production. The NRCS Oregon City Field Office received three applications for this first round of funding, and planner Scott Eden is assisting with the development of two of these projects, which are currently going through an eligibility and ranking process. District staff time for this effort is possible because of the NACD grant we received earlier this year. Funding from the NACD grant will be used to help NRCS with this initiative and this winter with the Conservation Stewardship Program. Both of Scott's projects are conversions from a combination of hand line or big gun sprinklers to more efficient drip irrigation, one for vegetables and one for hemp and berries. These older handline systems are fairly inefficient as well as labor intensive, and the big gun traveler systems can have very low efficiency due to high pressure and droplet evaporation.



This photo shows a handline sprinkler system, an example of one that will be updated to a new drip system with funding from the Source Water Depletion CIS.



Fire damage to native plants seen on a recent planner site visit.

Wildfire Assistance

Last month, planners continued to visit several Clackamas county properties that were scorched by recent wildfires. These visits are helpful to landowners as they navigate the complex and often confusing steps to connect with resources and restore their land. We have been able to quickly schedule site visits to help assess resource damage and potential issues like erosion, and then connect the landowners to additional financial and technical assistance through organizations like the NRCS, FSA, OSU Extension, and ODF. From the field, some staff have noted that in many places the forest floor is rapidly revegetating with the existing seedbank and surviving roots of hardy species like sword fern and vine maple. In other cases, weedy species are emerging

more quickly, such as blackberry and thistle. There will likely be a significant need to assist landowners impacted by these wildfires to successfully replant their forests and manage the flush of noxious weeds that were released by the fires. Planning staff is directing affected landowners to the Federal relief programs. Those that are not eligible for NRCS and/or FSA funding will have an opportunity to apply for assistance from OWEB. Our plan is to work closely with Clackamas River Basin Council and Molalla River Watch to serve these customers.

ODA Strategic Implementation Area Update

The new Strategic Implementation Area in the Clackamas watershed is going to focus on the middle and lower Clear Creek tributaries. We have learned that ODA recently completed their remote (aerial photography) investigation of the SIA area, but because of COVID restrictions they have not been able to ground truth their data. The current timeline to complete ground truthing is March. So far, lots of manure piles, erosion, and need for riparian enhancements have been identified. ODA will hold partner meetings with us in April to review the full Clackamas Area Plan, followed by an open house and landowner outreach starting in May.

ODA has secured OWEB funding to help landowners with BMP implementation and/or monitoring in project areas throughout the state, however the District will need to apply for the OWEB funding to receive it. The OWEB grant application for SIA technical assistance funds is due on January 14th. Jenne Reische will work with Scott Eden and Lisa Kilders to complete the application before the January deadline.

Native birds found in restored oak habitat

One highlight of Oregon white oak restoration projects is seeing the wildlife that use these habitats. This fall planner Nicole Ahr visited a habitat project site in Yoder where Oregon white oak and valley Ponderosa pine trees have been released from Douglas-fir, invasive cherry trees, English hawthorn, and a dense thicket of Himalayan blackberry. At the edge of the released oak stand, Nicole heard a white-breasted nuthatch calling and noticed the nuthatch moving down the trunk of a mature oak tree. On the same visit she observed a brown creeper using a mature Douglas-fir tree that was left. Sometimes the Douglas firs that grow in oak stands develop an open, "wolf-tree" structure with many large lateral branches. In an oak release project, those trees are good to keep during thinning operations due to their unique wildlife value. The white-breasted nuthatch is an Oregon Conservation Strategy species and is associated with mature Oregon white oak stands in the Willamette Valley. Brown creepers are found in mature evergreen or mixed evergreen-deciduous stands. Nicole was pleased to see two species, that are not always easy to find because of their habitat requirements, using the oak site she is helping to restore.



White-breasted nuthatch, photo by David Budeau, ODFW



Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District

December 15, 2020

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Re: Education and Outreach Program Update

Year 2 Watershed Council Grant Reports

In January 2020, the District granted 10 watershed councils \$118,000. These grants represented the second installment of an intended three-year grant application process. Over the past few weeks, District outreach staff has worked with council coordinators and executives to collect and combine their efforts over the past year in a comprehensive 2020 Watershed Council Grant Report



Clean Rivers Coalition



22055 S. Beaver Creek Rd. Beaver Creek, OR 97004
Mailing address: PO Box 830, Beaver Creek, OR 97004
Ph: 503.210.6000; conservationdistrict.org

District Education and Outreach Staff took part in the ongoing development of a state-wide clean water messaging campaign being developed in coordination with Clean Rivers Coalition. District staff contributed valuable insight and resources to address concerns of rural populations including wells, septic systems, agriculture, noxious weed control, and mud/manure issues.



DEI Action Team

Education and Outreach staff helped develop the agenda for the upcoming Regional Conversation on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. This gathering includes eight conservation districts in the mid and lower – Willamette Valley. The group plans to learn from and support one another in this work as we all move into 2021.

Farm Transition Planning

In collaboration with East Multnomah SWCD, Tualatin SWCD, and the Small Business Development Center at Clackamas Community College, District staff contributed to the development and outreach of a new farm succession workshop series entitled Farm Transition Planning. This 4-day work shop covers the following topics:



- January 27 – The estate planning process and options
- February 10 - Strategies for having difficult conversations
- February 24 - Organizing your finances and businss structure
- March 10 – Preparing your operation and heirs for transition

Education and Outreach staff is grateful for the technical support provided by Staff Faucera, as well as his instrumental role in this workshop series.

Newest Articles on the Website

- District Offers Interest-Free Septic Loan Program
- December Invasive Weed of the Month: English Holly
- Farm Transition Planning – Why is it So Important?
- Farm Transition Planning – Virtual Workshop Series
- Focus on Staff: Tami Guttridge, Office Manager

22055 S. Beaver creek Rd. Beaver creek, OR 97004
Mailing address: PO Box 830, Beaver creek, OR 97004
Ph: 503.210.6000; conservationdistrict.org

2020 Watershed Council Grant Reports



CLACKAMAS SOIL AND WATER

CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

Good dirt. Clean water.



2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

1. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2019? \$15,000

2. In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for 2020 and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.

Our proposal for using CSWCD grant funding included:

Yes: Identify Priority Projects for Improving Watershed Health, throughout the next 3 years and beyond - Clackamas Partnership, through 2025. Will also include Clackamas Stewardship Partners Zone of Agreement development.

Yes, with adaptations due to COVID-19 protocols: Education and Outreach, throughout the next 3 years and beyond – Involving local community members is a priority for the Council, as well as the District. Our joint efforts include ~~Clackamas Water Education Team, Intertwine, Earth Day/Celebrating Water hands-on volunteer work party events,~~ Stash the Trash bag program (encouraging recreationists to take out trash they produce while playing on the river) and a Down the River Clean Up. Also, continue to respond to requests from local residents.

Yes: Board Involvement – Our Board of Directors provide leadership ensuring success. Monthly Council and Executive Committee meetings include presentations on issues of interest in the watershed.

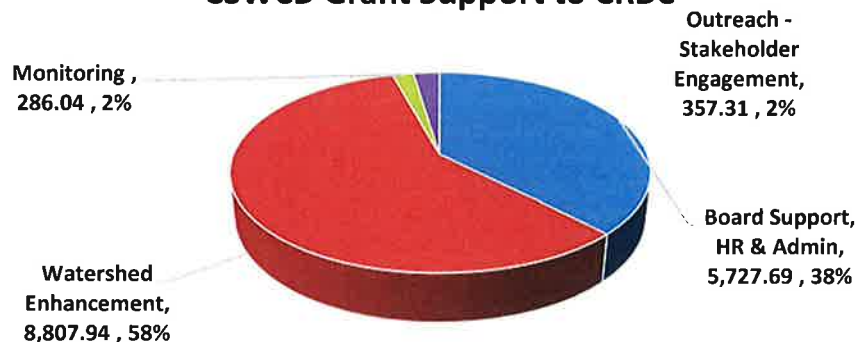
Yes: Other, Ongoing Projects with CSWCD with separate funding (e.g., CRISP, Clackamas Confluence, OWEB Focused Investment Partners) AND includes Post-Wildfire Recovery Response & Assistance

3. If there were items above for which you did not use specified grant funding, please explain here. (If this is not applicable, please use this space to insert some photos of work done in your watershed that was supported by grant funds provided by the District.)

Pandemic protocols to protect health safety were most significantly seen in outreach and stakeholder engagement activities. Educational events, typically held in-person with large gatherings, were not held (CWET, Intertwine symposium, Earth Day/Celebrating Water events. Likewise, tours of restoration projects were not held for general public and instead limited to reviews with permitting authorities as was required.

Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD.

CSWCD Grant Support to CRBC



4. Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.

- 2020 Post Wildfire Recovery Assistance – Current activity and ongoing; technical assistance via sharing resources with landowners, assessing needs and planning for future assistance resources (grants)
- Ag Water Quality – Resource support
- Clackamas Partnership – OWEB Focused Investment Partnership grants awarded in 2019 for 6 years of restoration project implementation
- Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) – Invasive management; planting restoration via CRBC Shade Our Streams program
- Clackamas Stewardship Partners – Forest Collaborative general meetings and strategic planning retreat; Budget and HR Committee, Project Committee
- Clackamas Technical Working Group – Water quality sampling, data sharing, trends analysis, and outreach planning
- Clackamas Pesticide Stewardship Partners, ODA – Last year prepared for Strategic Plan initiative, 2020: in the thick of things with coordinating consultant activities and contingency planning to achieve deliverables in 2021
- Clackamas Confluence Restoration – Weed management to achieve plant establishment
- Down the River Clean Up and Stash the Trash programs – adapted for compliance with pandemic protocols (i.e., no group meetings or celebration afterwards, activities pursued by small groups that were socially distancing)
- Eagle Creek Community Forest Plan – Advisory Committee
- Mt Hood Territory tourism planning input that focused on the Clackamas County grant the County received from Travel Oregon
- Outreach and Education including early 2020 workshops such as Gardening with Natives & for Wildlife
- Promotions of CSWCD, and joint activities via CRBC Current News, web site and social media
- Public resource to property owners and callers such as on emerging land use issues, etc.
- CRBC Board members participate on CSWCD Budget Committee

Please insert additional photo(s) representing your watershed here.



5. Is there anything else you would like to share with us that was not addressed above?
 CSWCD support was greatly appreciated. Funding is important to us as is our partnerships on projects, and for developing new programs (ODA Strategic Planning, currently; CRISP planned and continued, Clackamas Partnership, Post-Wildfire assistance). Thank you.



2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

6. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2019? **\$10,000**

7. In a line-by-line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for **2020** and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.

Support the GOCWC's participation in the Clackamas Partnership – no

Further study and restoration on Abernethy Creek – yes

Ongoing collaboration with OC Public Works - no

8. If there were items above for which you did not use specified grant funding, please explain here. (If this is not applicable, please use this space to insert some photos of work done in your watershed that was supported by grant funds provided by the District.) **Support the GOCWC's participation in the Clackamas Partnership – did not use CSWCD funding, covered by OWEB funds.**

Ongoing collaboration with OC Public Works – CSWCD funds awarded in 2017 were expended in 2020 for construction drawings.

Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD.



2020 funds are dedicated to the Holcomb Creek Restoration Project to begin in 2021

9. Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.
Site visit at 19548 S. Lyons Rd. with landowner Hall and CSWCD staff to consider options to collaborate on restoration projects.



Please insert additional photo(s) representing your watershed here.



Abernethy Creek Park Restoration, OWEB small grant funded



Root Creek/Abernethy rapid bioassessment, CSWCD funded



North Newell Creek Restoration Project, OWEB/Metro funded

10. Is there anything else you would like to share with us that was not addressed above?

The 2017 and 2018 funds were rolled over due to unforeseen developments. The funds were expended as follows:

2017 - \$8,000 was used to complete final plan drawings for the Mt. View Cemetery/Scattering Canyon project. Disbursed to OC Public Works in 2020. Construction to begin summer 2021.

2018 – \$8,000 was used for consultant fees for the second phase of the Abernethy stream survey aka Upper Abernethy Creek rapid bioassessment.

2019 - \$10,000 was allocated as follows: \$1,671.68 for Upper Abernethy and \$8,328.32 and will be rolled over to the next fiscal year as salary for the executive director position expected to be filled in 2021.



2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

1. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2019? \$10,000

2. In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for 2020 and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.

Salaries

Outreach	2,000	yes
		yes
New Project Development	2,000	yes
Professional Development/Training	1,000	yes
Americorps member	2,000	

Operating Expenses

		yes
Printing & copying	1,000	yes
Technology (hardware & software)	1,000	yes
Insurance	1,000	

Total 10,000

3. If there were items above for which you did not use specified grant funding, please explain here. (If this is not applicable, please use this space to insert some photos of work done in your watershed that was supported by grant funds provided by the District.)

N/A

4. Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD.





“Science in the Park” photos showing how JCWC safely does environmental education in the COVID era. Event at Mill Park (NCPRD). Photos by Tiffany Mancillas.

5. Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.

With statewide limitations on gatherings because of COVID, we were only able to hold three volunteer events in Clackamas County (before mid-March). This included two sites at our 22nd Annual Watershed Wide Event (planting, invasives removal), at the Mitchell Creek Natural Area & the Americold industrial property in Milwaukie. Totals: 147 volunteers (108 adults, 39 youth) with 1,850 native trees & shrubs planted. A portion of our annual Johnson Creek Cleanup, included parts of Clackamas County. Total 2.14 tons trash removed.

We were limited in our ability to do in-person service learning events with schools because of shutdowns. We managed a few before the shutdown and continued with a few online learning sessions after that, serving 127 students: Mt. Scott Learning Center, Clackamas Web Academy (2 events), Clackamas Middle College, Ardenwald Elementary (2 events). We used this school shutdown period to have our Americorps member develop curriculum for future programs. We did hold our annual Science In The Park family event in September—masked & distanced—offering grab-and-go science kits for kids. We also held several online educational opportunities,

With our CreekCare partnership, crews planted 7,987 native trees & shrubs on 17 properties in Clackamas County.



Photos at the 22nd Annual Watershed Wide Event, at the Americold property in Milwaukie, prior to COVID shutdowns. Photos by David Gruen.

6. Is there anything else you would like to share with us that was not addressed above?

Although no CSWCD funds were spent on this project, in 2020 JCWC implemented a large wood project in Milwaukie in a partnership with ODOT on their property at the Hwy 224 cloverleaf. 25 pieces of large wood in 7 structures were installed.



2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

1. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2020?

In 2020, Molalla River Watch was fortunate to receive \$20,000 from Clackamas SWCD.

2. In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for 2020 and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.

- Pay remaining salary, wages, & benefits for ED not covered by other funding – YES
- Search for, hire, & pay part-time staff – NO
- Update MRW's website – YES
- Organize Strategic Planning Committee – YES
- Pay for office & storage space – YES
- Project development & implementation – YES
- Community engagement events – YES
- Educational field trips – YES
- Hosting educational presentations to landowners – YES
- Presenting info on MRW to potential new partners – YES
- Tabling events to meet the public – NO
- Education & outreach through newspaper articles, social media, & newsletters – YES
- WC evaluation – YES
- Scientific surveys – YES
- River & restoration project tours – YES
- Operating expenses – YES
- Travel – YES
- Staff training workshops – YES
- Tools, materials, & supplies - YES

3. If there were items above for which you did not use specified grant funding, please explain here.

In February 2020, the ED and two board members met to review a new staff position advertisement for an MRW Executive Assistant. However, due to financial concerns caused by reduced future funding from Clackamas SWCD & COVID related reductions from other funders, Molalla River Watch (MRW) board members took a financially conservative approach. It was decided to not pursue hiring another staff person since it was uncertain how long the current staff could be paid for full-time work. Another financial concern was how much longer MRW would be able to afford the new office space rent and associated utilities, which we had just acquired in April 2019 with CSWCD WC Support funds.

At the beginning of 2020, MRW had met with Molalla River High School teachers to help plan and participate in the high school teacher's in-service day in the Molalla Recreation Corridor with various education-related learning activities for the teachers. However, that in-service day was eventually cancelled due to COVID. Since many of the teachers live in the Portland area, it would have been a great opportunity for them to learn more about the Molalla area where their students live and for them to brainstorm ideas for incorporating Place-based Education into various disciplines. Likewise, we had planned to table a new 4th of July event planned for the downtown business area of Molalla (during Molalla's Buckeroo Rodeo celebrations), along with a Celebrate Molalla event we tabled in 2019, but those events were cancelled due to COVID. A fear of lack of future funds and COVID social distancing rules cancelled what would have been our 2nd board member retreat. We also could not practically plan for safe river cleanups and trail-work fundraiser events due to COVID.

MRW spent a lot of time working on Small Business Association Paycheck Protection Plan loan applications (we got denied by 3 banks because our ask was low for a 1 staff organization). MRW also worked very hard on two grant applications for OWEB restoration grant funding that may bring in additional future funds. Additionally, MRW staff had a period of 2 weeks with fire evacuation and related cleanup resulting in unanticipated time off from work. Since the Molalla R Watershed was affected by multiple fires (Macksburg, Unger, Wilhoit, Beachie, Riverside), MRW staff has spent many hours on wildfire recovery related webinars, group meetings, and education & outreach efforts.

Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD.

New



Best MRW website!



MRW office space!



Helping to keep staff working full time (currently from home).

4. Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.

- MRW is a member of the District's National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) Technical Advisory Committee & attended a meeting in June 2020. We will participate in another meeting on Dec 14, 2020.
- MRW ED sent John Runyon & Jason Faucera 4 emails with various info related to Molalla water quality to help provide additional info for the District's NWQI work.
- MRW got permission from another funder to share knotweed maps created by imagery taken in Aug 2019 to help inform John Runyon's NWQI work with updated knotweed distribution mapping in the mainstem Molalla and the never before mapped lower Milk Creek.
- MRW ED and board chair participated in a small Zoom meeting scheduled by John Runyon to discuss Molalla River NWQI characterization and priorities in July 2020.
- MRW was planning on participating in in-person NWQI community meetings and helping with event outreach & collecting community input. When the in-person meetings were cancelled due to COVID, MRW helped advertise the District's May 2020 virtual meeting for community input on MRW's Facebook page (527 followers) and sent emails out to MRW members (209 members). We also participated in the virtual meeting.
- MRW ED and 3 board members attended the Clackamas SWCD open house where board members were able to check out the new location and chat with District staff in person.
- MRW shared final monitoring report on Cedar Cr-Molalla River restoration project, a collaboration for which District staff created a conservation plan.
- District conservation staff attended site visit, helped review planting plan, & provided letter of support for riparian restoration portion of an OWEB application to remove a fish passage impediment on Woodcock Cr.
- MRW helped introduce District conservation staff to Port Blakely, a prominent forestry company. District staff helped advise on a planting plan during site visit with Port Blakely education & wildlife specialists.
- District WeedWise staff provided letter of support for knotweed management in and around Molalla River State Park for an OWEB restoration implementation grant application.
- MRW helped introduce WeedWise staff to a funder, Willamette Water Supply Program, which is working on invasive weed management, native replanting, & water quality improvements in the Molalla R Watershed.
- Whenever requested, MRW has shared posts from CSWCD on the MRW Facebook page.
- MRW added fire recovery related resources to our website, molallariverwatch.org, that features a link to CSWCD's fire resources page.
- MRW has helped WeedWise's Sam Leininger with outreach to community members for local knowledge on unique natural areas & weed concerns for Erosion Threat Assessment Reduction Team efforts.
- MRW, CSWCD, & Clackamas R Basin Council are partnering on Riverside Fire OWEB Post Fire Funding opportunities.



2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

7. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2019? \$20,000

8. In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding **for 2020** and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.

Expense Category	Projected Expenditure	Actual Expenditure	Explanation of Variance
General Operating Expenses			
General operating costs	\$3,505.00	\$2,080.00	Office rent forgiven April-Dec due to Covid-19 closure
Phone and Internet	\$1,440.00	\$1,440.00	
Executive Director Board Management & Administration	\$3,100.00	\$3,500.00	Increased financial management due to Covid-19 changes in grants & contracts
General Liability & Directors & Officers Insurance	\$1,524.00	\$1,524.00	N/A
Software	\$75.00	\$170.00	Zoom Subscription (Covid)
Capacity Development			
Fundraising	\$5,159.00	\$7,100.00	2019-20 assessment indicated future focus on new sources of grants; sources identified, grant responses pending; Covid-19 and wildfires required frequent pivot as funding priorities and charitable giving patterns shifted
Financial Systems Design	\$1,397.00	\$285.00	Mostly completed in 2019
Clackamas Partnership	\$310.00	\$310.00	N/A
Outreach, Education & Events			
Outreach events	\$1,240.00	\$841.00	Outreach events postponed/shifted online after 3/2020
Website, Newsletter, & Social Media	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	Covid-19 placed premium on developing/disseminating online landowner resources
Newsletter and social media	\$500.00	\$0.00	Completed by volunteers
Volunteer Program Development	\$750.00	\$750.00	N/A
Programs			
Watershed Plan Development	\$0.00	\$0.00	Proceeding with funding from other sources
Total	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	

9. If there were items above for which you did not use specified grant funding, please explain here. (If this is not applicable, please use this space to insert some photos of work done in your watershed that was supported by grant funds provided by the District.) Covid-19 required redirection of funds from in-person outreach and public events, office space, and to online resources, with increased emphasis on fundraising to build organizational resilience to provide the best likelihood of weathering funding downturns related to Covid-19 and fires.

Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD.



Larger files on



request



10. Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.

- Distributed CSWCD information to landowners to Streamside Stewards and SSP waiting list participants
- During Covid-19 social distancing, worked with CSWCD staff to compile materials
- Convened "Covid-19 Watershed Outreach Group" of Watershed Councils, Clackamas and E & W Multnomah SWCDs, and similar programs (Backyard Habitat Program, SOVLE, Friends of Trees, etc.). To refine, curate, post online, and distribute a variety of materials to landowners about ongoing land management, stewardship, native plants, weed management, and site monitoring to help them become better stewards while on lockdown and while social distancing restricts the reach of NCWC restoration crews
- Developed online Watershed Workshops to replace planned in-person and workshop tours
- Conducted site visit with CSWCD staff, City of Gladstone Staff, Northwest Housing Alternatives, & residents to plan next phase of Olson Wetlands restoration project at affordable housing complex.
- Conducted 8 site visits to property owners resulting in referral to CSWCD staff for landowner technical expertise on erosion control, weed management, and other land management topics
- Recognized CSWCD in Annual Report and other publications and online forums
- Participated in Council of Councils Watershed Council gatherings
- Along with CSWCD, is a core partner in the Clackamas Partnership, developing and implementing projects to restore vital habitat for the Clackamas Fish Population
- Participated in ongoing message development/refinement with Clean Rivers Collaborative around education of pollution via yard and lawn chemicals
- Participated in CSWCD budget process
- Using the Council's email and social media reach to expand outreach of CSWCD materials, social media post, news items, etc.
- Distributed CSWCD materials at Earth Day stewardship event (120 people); fall event postponed due to Covid
- Clair Klock presented re: CSWCD programs at NCWC Board Meeting

Please insert additional photo(s) representing your watershed here.



Rapid Bio Assessment Report
North Clackamas Watersheds



11. Is there anything else you would like to share with us that was not addressed above?

Thank you for your ongoing support of our Council and building capacity in all the Councils in Clackamas County. As our only source of general operating funds that can be used for fundraising, the continued support if CSWCD district will be essential for our thriving—and surviving—the ongoing economic downturn resulting from Covid-19. We are aware that the District's funds are tight, and we look forward to finding ways we can both move forward in the coming year.

Oswego Lake Watershed Council



2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

1. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2020?

\$10,000

2. In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for 2020 and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.

Watershed Education Programs – Yes

Contractor Services – Yes

Public Outreach/ Volunteer Events – Yes

Urban Forest Outreach, Education, and Monitoring - Yes

Project Sourcing/ Meetings – Yes

Administration Needs – Yes

Travel – **No** (due to COVID-19)

Re-certifications/ Watershed Conferences/ Tools – Yes

3. If there were items above for which you did not use specified grant funding, please explain here. (If this is not applicable, please use this space to insert some photos of work done in your watershed that was supported by grant funds provided by the District.)

N/A. See photos below

4. Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.

- Hosted virtual, 2nd annual [Lake Oswego Tree Summit](#) with 55 attendees, made possible by Clackamas SWCD
- Developed tree inventory community science program to monitor tree health in Lake Oswego
- Westlake Oregon White Oak Woodland collaboration, technical support from Nicole Ahr
- Collaboration in groups like 4-County CWMA, Council of Councils, Together for Watersheds, Clean Rivers Coalition
- Worked with WeedWise to coordinate Garlic Mustard management on a watershed scale
- Sharing Clackamas SWCD updates, posts, and announcements via email and social media
- Launched educational Soil Your Undies Challenge within Lake Oswego School District
- Partnered with Lake Oswego High School and Lakeridge Green Teams for on-campus ivy pulls (including socially distanced, masked, small events during COVID) using CSWCD funds

Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD. (Note, many of these photos were taken in early 2020, prior to COVID 19)



5. Is there anything else you would like to share with us that was not addressed above?
This year, we have been fortunate to continue to provide stewardship resources, watershed education and remote learning opportunities to community members through email, Zoom, and social media. COVID-19 has presented our community with many challenges, and we are grateful for Clackamas SWCD's investment in Oswego Lake Watershed Council- all of these opportunities have been made possible by our ongoing partnership with Clackamas SWCD. Please contact us if you have any questions or would like additional information. **Thank you.**



Pudding River Watershed Council
 190 Garfield Street
 Woodburn, Oregon 97071
 (503) 548-7159 Mobile
 (503) 982-5387 Office

2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

12. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2019? \$10,000

13. In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for 2020 and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.

2020 Expenses		
Contract Services, special project coordinator	3,000	yes
Website management	400	yes
Office supplies, software subscription, marketing materials	600	yes
Volunteer appreciation (events including annual meeting)	500	no
Surplus funds to build cash base for leveraging small grant opportunities available on reimbursable basis	4,500	yes
Total*	9,000	

*Requested \$9,000 and received \$1,000 additional



14. Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD.

Ron Garst, retired fish bio USFWS, collecting data for the national genomic lamprey data base.

15. Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.

The Council works closely with the District. PRWC relies on the expertise of the planners to verify that information given to landowners is accurate and current. We are participating with the District to improve water quality in Rock Creek and its tributaries. Specifically, the Council is engaged at the board-level and provides emerging information to the District. Building relationships in the community, and bridging the gap is one of the most vital components of our partnership between landowners and the District.

Please insert additional photo(s) representing your watershed here.



16. Is there anything else you would like to share with us that was not addressed above?



2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

1. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2020? \$12,000
2. In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for 2020 and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate. Personnel \$7,000, Program \$2,000, Accounting. \$2,000, Admin. \$1000 All funds were used for their expressed purposes.
3. Please use this space to insert some photos of work done in your watershed that was supported by grant funds provided by the District.

As is true for most globally and across the region, between the global Covid-19 pandemic and regional forest fires, 2020 has been a challenging year! Despite the limitations imposed by these events and staff transitions at SRWC, we managed to maximize digital outreach opportunities to reach audiences in new ways and to continue on the ground restoration work with volunteers and contract crews. All told, SRWC made 161 direct contacts, either digitally through presentations or in-person through Covid-safe planting and outreach events.



Examples of digital outreach efforts include a guest blog SRWC staff wrote for the National Forest Foundation website, highlighting the partnership with ViveNW to increase the accessibility of recreation and stewardship activities in the Mt. Hood National Forest to Latinx communities. Two volunteer events scheduled for 2020 were canceled due to Covid-related restrictions, though SRWC collaborated with ViveNW on Covid-19 safe outdoor recreation messaging through social media. The partnership hopes to implement in-person events in 2021 once it is safe to do so.

Due to limitations on in-person educational activities, usually conducted at the Sandy River Delta, SRWC staff utilized the Sandy Salmon Floodplain Reconnection Project restoration site to create a series of seven mini-educational videos regarding the benefits of this large scale project for fish habitat and reducing flood risk. To date these videos have been well received and incorporated in to guest presentations to Sandy High School students. [Link](#) to our Youtube page:



https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCrI_ZyYqzNINmQ8BN5Tp16w

Sandy Salmon Floodplain Reconnection Project

Work from the 2019 Sandy Salmon Floodplain reconnection project continues including planning for phase II construction in 2021. Contractors installed a total of 27,150 native plants at the site of the 418 acre project in spring of 2020 and volunteers during the fall of this year.



The spring contract crew planting used funds from a new partnership with One Tree Planted in Vermont, facilitated through the Bonneville Environmental Foundation. The goal of this fund is to support Orca recovery through salmon recovery, via riparian habitat restoration. The initiative is called “Promise the Pod.”

The Sandy Salmon Floodplain Reconnection project was featured in the Society of American Foresters newsletter (below) and in presentations featuring projects reflecting climate resiliency through National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. SRWC hired contract crews to control invasive Scotch broom proliferating onsite in September. In preparation for phase II construction, staff conducted in-person outreach events during the recreation season to inform visitors of the construction and ensuing access limitations to come in 2021. Trout Unlimited provided match funding and volunteer support through two planting events -attended by a total 41 participants in the pouring rain, who installed 900 native plants in newly opened floodplain (pictured above).

The annual All Mountain Cleanup was doubly challenged, first by the pandemic, and secondarily by fires, this year. Despite this, SRWC and partners were able to regroup to host the event on a single site (instead of four), at the Summit Resort in Government Camp. 55 volunteers attended collecting 1000 pounds of trash. SRWC facilitated the second successful summer of “Stash the Trash,” with mesh trash bags left at five popular float put-ins along the river.

Mountain cleanup braves COVID and snow posted on



Contributed photo.

11/01/2020

More than fifty volunteers put on warm layers and protective masks to help clean up Summit Ski area and Government Camp on Saturday, Oct. 24, despite steady snow and social distancing restrictions.

To encourage socially distanced cleanups throughout the year, and throughout the watershed, SRWC collaborated with Solve to create a site targeted Adopt-A-River program for the Sandy. Individuals choose a spot along the river to clean twice a year for two years. With this initiative, SRWC has seen steady growth in cleanup efforts in recent years, from the original Timberline to Troutdale single day, annual event cleanup efforts, to the summer long stash the trash program piloted in 2019 and continued in 2020, to creating year-round mechanisms for safe volunteer trash removal and stewardship of the Sandy.

SRWC collaborated with CSWCD on the 2020 Soil your undies challenge. SRWC made five social media posts on the topic, each with nearly 900 likes.

SRWC hosted guest blogs written by CSWCD Weedwise staff on orange hawkweed and the partnership to control hawkweed along Lolo Pass Rd. SRWC also worked with Weedwise staff to host and facilitate the annual Sandy River Basin Vegetation Partners meeting, in which several collaborations emerged or were renewed (Japanese knotweed, Sandy Ridge Trail system, Lolo Pass Rd., etc.) to control invasive weeds throughout the Basin.

SRWC continues to work with the City of Sandy to explore sustainable alternatives to planned effluent releases directly into the Sandy, and continued to explore regulatory options to support channel migrations zone projects and permitting through Rep. Earl Blumenauer’s office and federal partners.

In response to the killing of George Floyd and too many other African Americans, SRWC wrote a community letter and blog post and is actively working on developing more robust organizational equity strategies.

Ten area watershed councils have met periodically throughout 2020 to compare Covid-19 survival strategies, develop cohesive messaging around shared goals and funding priorities.



2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

17. How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2019?
The Tualatin River Watershed Council received \$4,000 in 2019.

18. In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for 2020 and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.

1. Computer Equipment and Support for increased TRWC staff - **YES**
2. Restoration plans and native plants to continue the work we are doing in Clackamas County when we don't have other identified grant money available. – **NO**

Council used the funding for:

- A. Two laptop computers to establish two remote workstations.
- B. MicroSoft Office 365 for four workstations.
- C. VPN capability for accessing files remotely.
- D. ArcGIS license and ArcGIS Online for remote GIS work.

19. If there were items above for which you did not use specified grant funding, please explain here. (If this is not applicable, please use this space to insert some photos of work done in your watershed that was supported by grant funds provided by the District.)

TRWC is transitioning from a single person office to a multi-person office over the next few years. There will be a need for more computers and computer related equipment and programs than previously. The Watershed Council has recently hired a project manager for a January 2020 start date. This new position will require a new computer and related supplies and software. With Covid-19 dramatically changing the physical work environment, CSWCD funds were essential to allow the TRWC to purchase computer equipment and web based VPN capabilities to allow for remote work.

TRWC is expanding its presence in the Basin and needs to significantly revise or replace its current website. It will also be expanding its focus on social media. We did not have the capacity complete this work in 2020. We have been in contact with a number of website contractors to assess costs. This expense will be next year.

Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD.

20. Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.

1. Continue its partnership with ECO (Ecology in the Classrooms and Outdoors), private landowners and community volunteers for enhancing areas in the Carter Creek watershed through a five-year City of Lake Oswego enhancement grant award.
2. Continue to assist with enhancement activities with partners to improve water quality in the Clackamas portion of the Tualatin Basin.
3. Continue a partnership with Clackamas Watershed Environmental Services to i) treat invasive vegetation and enhance through native plantings (including monitoring and maintenance) a City of Rivergrove property (publicly owned) and two adjacent private properties located on the Tualatin River; ii) treat invasive vegetation on publicly owned property located on Borland Road;
4. Initiate contacts with adjacent property owners near Our Table farm and CSA for future enhancement work on Lower Rock Creek.

Please insert additional photo(s) representing your watershed here.

5. Is there anything else you would like to share with us that was not addressed above?



TRYON CREEK WATERSHED COUNCIL

2020 Watershed Council Partnership Grant Report

- **How much money did your watershed receive from Clackamas SWCD in 2019? \$7,000**
- **In a line by line format, please note the expenses for which you requested grant funding for 2020 and note whether or not funding was used for this express purpose – yes or no is adequate.**
 - **[Yes]** Continue to expand our work on the Nettle Creek Restoration Project, which currently includes a dozen private properties along a key tributary within the Tryon Creek Watershed;
 - **Notes:** CSWCD Support Funds allowed TCWC to apply for (and be awarded) a 3-year, \$38k grant for Nettle Creek restoration with the City of Lake Oswego
 - **[Yes]** Conduct site visits to identify new projects and provide advice to community members - such site visits often result in on-the-ground projects;
 - **Notes:** TCWC is managing an OWEB Small Grant in Clackamas County
 - **[Yes]** Host watershed science and health workshops for adults (and modified, as necessary, for student groups) through our Watershed 101 Program;
 - **[Yes]** Participate in relevant and timely local advisory committees (these relationship-building meetings are not typically covered by restricted grant funds), specifically as they apply to policy and program development within Lake Oswego and Clackamas County;
 - **[Yes; see notes]** Host our annual "Watershed-Wide Event" and annual "State of the Watershed" event, the first of which includes on-the-ground work at 7- 10 sites, the second of which includes presentations (for example, from US Fish & Wildlife and Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife) - these two events draw over **200** people annually;
 - **Notes:** This year, we had to greatly scale-back our Watershed Wide Event in response to the onset of COVID-19. We canceled our kickoff gathering and hosted two small work parties across the watershed; we had a pleasantly surprising turnout at the Lake Oswego United Church of Christ, where CSWCD funds were used to apply for an OWEB Small Grant in progress at that property and volunteers leveraged the work by removing invasive species. We had 10 volunteers join us for a 3-hour work party... in several inches of unexpected snow! (Blog post [linked here](#) - shared via newsletter too)
 - **Notes:** We shifted our State of the Watershed's Science Talk to an online format which was well-attended with over 45 attendees. ([recording here](#))
 - **[Yes]** Update and maintain our website, and other outreach tools such as social media.
 - TCWC social media reach has grown the past few years. In 2020...
 - Facebook: 1/2020: 580 likes, 665 followers; 12/2020: 687 likes & 831 followers
 - Instagram: 1/2020: 300 followers; 12/2020: 1,005 followers
- **If there were items above for which you did not use specified grant funding, please explain here. (If this is not applicable, please use this space to insert some photos of work done in your watershed that was supported by grant funds provided by the District.) [N/A; photos below]**

Please insert some photos here that reflect the grant funds provided you in 2020 by Clackamas SWCD.

2020 Watershed Wide Event at Lake Oswego United Church of Christ (LO UCC): Thanks to CSWCD Partner Support, TCWC is working on an OWEB Small Grant at LO UCC. Our Watershed Wide Event work party at this location leveraged that work.



- **Please list the ways in which you partnered with the Clackamas SWCD in 2020.**
 - TCWC has helped to increase CSWCD visibility by acknowledging CSWCD support on [our website](#), newsletter articles, social media posts, and [blog posts](#), about Council activities;
 - TCWC & CSWCD amplified one another's outreach efforts via newsletters and social media;
 - TCWC has invited CSWCD staff to attend our board meetings;
 - TCWC has finalized a MOU with CSWCD to merge property access permissions across both TCWC & CSWCD in order to address Garlic Mustard in the Clack Co portion of the Tryon Creek watershed. The funding for this had to be removed from our LO HEP contract but they support the collaboration; as we anticipate funding in future FYs we're glad to have the foundation laid.
 - TCWC is coordinating a meeting across CSWCD, Oswego Lake WC, City of Lake Oswego, and WMSWCD to strategize 2021 Garlic Mustard management.

Please insert additional photo(s) representing your watershed here.

Intrepid volunteers at our last in-person event pre-COVID, at a restoration project site in Clackamas County with a Nettle Creek tributary!



- **Is there anything else you would like to share with us that was not addressed above?**
 - Because of COVID-19 a lot of our community engagement work was impacted. We would have had a bigger impact at our Watershed Wide Event and through Watershed 101 workshops if it had been safe to gather in groups.
 - USFWS in-stream fish monitoring of Tryon Creek (for which CSWCD contributed to collective funding to include Nettle Creek) was shared in our online Science Talk ([recording here](#)).



December 11, 2020

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: WeedWise Program Update



English Holly: Weed of the Month

This month the WeedWise program is highlighting English holly for our weed of the month (<https://weedwise.conservationsdistrict.org/2020/december-weed-month-english-holly-2020.html>). December is a great time to highlight English holly because of its cultural significance to the holiday season. English holly provides an opportunity to discuss the differences between noxious and invasive plants, and the potential for some of our horticultural plants to adversely impact our natural areas and open spaces.

WeedWise Annual Planning

The WeedWise program is beginning our annual work planning process for the 2021 field season. This year holds some unique challenges due to COVID-19, wildfire impacts, budget constraints, and uncertainty about partner resources, that staff are having to consider over the next year.

WeedWise staff are currently drafting individual work plans that outline their anticipated activities and workloads in the coming year. These individual plans will be used to also outline important team-led and programmatic activities in the coming season. Although, this process takes some time and resources to complete, it will help to keep our program efforts focused and prioritized over the season.

Due to the many unknowns in the coming year, we will be focusing on staying flexible and adaptive as we move forward with our planning process.

Backyard Habitat Certification Program



This past month, District staff from the WeedWise, Conservation Planning, and Education and Outreach programs were able to meet with staff from the Backyard Habitat Certification Program. The meeting was very encouraging to see that despite COVID-19 and stay-at-home orders, the BHCP has been able to continue serving residents of Clackamas County using modified social distancing policies and strategies. They are well on their way to exceeding targets across the county.

Mt Hood National Forest Update



The WeedWise program was recently contacted by our partners at the Mt Hood National Forest to discuss activities and funding for the coming year. The Mt Hood NF has been a significant contributor to the WeedWise program's efforts in the Clackamas and Sandy River watersheds. The forest has been a sponsor of significant portions of CRISP-related activities, as well as our work in along Lolo Pass to control invasive hawkweeds.

Unfortunately, the wildfires that swept across Clackamas County have severely disrupted the timber program on the Mt Hood National Forest. This program has been the primary source of funding for these efforts. As a result, we are expecting that all timber-related funding will be eliminated for next several years. We remain hopeful that some BAER funding may be made available but use of these funds will be limited to work within the fire footprint.

Western Oregon Resource Advisory Committee and BLM funding



The WeedWise program recently applied for funding through the Title II, Secure Rural Schools funding pool administered by the Bureau of Land Management's Resource Advisory Committee (RAC). Sam attended the RAC meeting this past week to present on behalf of the WeedWise program. After some "rollercoaster" deliberations the committee voted to award the District \$40,000 to support weed control efforts in Clackamas County.

The intended use of the Title II funding will be to survey and treat invasive weeds in the Molalla and Sandy watersheds, where BLM has a significant presence. We have been struggling to address noxious weeds associated with BLM properties in those areas, and these resources will help to fill that gap.

In addition to Title II funding, Sam is also in discussion with BLM staff to initiate a new agreement that may also include general funds and fire-related funding arising in the coming years. Discussions are still ongoing, but we remain hopeful.

Riverside and Beachie Creek ETART Completed



The Riverside and Beachie Creek fires that spread through significant portions of Clackamas County, are certainly having a significant impact on the WeedWise program and our operations.

Last month, the WeedWise program participated in the Erosion Threat Assessment and Reduction Team (ETART) to develop a post-fire recovery plan for state and private lands in the footprint of the Riverside and Beachie Creek fires. We are pleased to announce that this effort has been completed, and the ETART report has been turned over to the Forest Service to be bundled alongside the BAER plan and submitted to FEMA for funding consideration.

The final close-out presentations for the ETART fires can be viewed at the following links below.

Beachie Creek: <https://youtu.be/Bi3htxS5aqI>

Riverside: <https://youtu.be/XZFv7AoHJL8>

The ETART planning effort was extremely taxing and not something we hope to repeat. But we are hopeful that our efforts will serve to bring resources to the county to assist affected residents and businesses.

CRISP Annual Meeting



This past week the WeedWise program hosted our winter CRISP meeting. The event was well attended by partners working across the Clackamas Basin. WeedWise staff were joined by staff from Clackamas County Parks, Oregon State Parks, Oregon Department of Agriculture, Columbia Land Trust, Clackamas River Basin Council, US Forest Service, Portland General Electric, and Bureau of Land Management.

The CRISP has a lot of important discussion topics this season related to ongoing complications from COVID-19, wildfires, and disruptions in anticipated funding. In particular, funding reductions from the US Forest Service will have a significant impact on field operations. Lindsey did a great job preparing the meeting and the group came together to discuss current activities and agree on upcoming projects this season, as well as approaches to reduce cost and bridge current funding constraints.

Italian Thistle Control



A small Italian thistle seedling treated during the Willamette Vall Scenic Viewpoint.

WeedWise Specialist, Justin Cooley was out this past week controlling the only known patch of Italian thistle (*Carduus pycnocephalus*) in Clackamas County. This patch was first discovered in Oregon City near the Willamette Falls Scenic Viewpoint on Hwy 99. Justin has since identified it spreading into portions of downtown Oregon City.

We have been able to treat the infestation for a few seasons, and this fall application we are seeing a few small seedlings that Justin is treating ahead of the growing season.

Cooperative Weed Management Areas

The WeedWise program has been busy working on CWMA-related activities over the last month. Courtney has been busy planning for several upcoming events. These events are requiring additional planning to deal with the technical requirements of operating large events held virtually.

Sam has also been working to secure partner contributions for the CWMA. He has reached out to 16 sponsoring organizations to verified funding, and Nathan has assisted with partner invoicing. Our partners have continued to strongly support our CWMA and they are financially secure for the coming year.

4-County CWMA

The 4-County CWMA has been very active in the last month planning the annual Pull Together event. Courtney recently distributed an announcement for the annual event. A full agenda and registration are now open available at <https://2021pulltogether.eventbrite.com>

The 4-County CWMA also recently released the newly revised *Integrated Weed Maintenance Calendar*. This updated calendar provides great recommendations for treating some targeted noxious weeds and helps with planning seasonal activities. The Integrated Weed Maintenance Calendar can be download from the 4-County CWMA Website (<https://4countycwma.org/integrated-weed-maintenance-calendar/>). Many thanks to the City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental Services and Metro for overseeing the development of this resource.

PULL TOGETHER
January 13th 2021 Webinar

Join the 4-County Cooperative Weed Management Area to learn about invasive species management!

2021pulltogether.eventbrite.com

Questions?
info@4countycwma.org

4-COUNTY Cooperative Weed Management Area

Columbia Gorge CWMA

The Columbia Gorge CWMA is also busy preparing for the Invasive Species and Exotic Pest workshop (ISEP) planned for February 25th during [National Invasive Species Awareness Week](#). This event is sure to be a great event with several confirmed speakers, including Dr. David Coyle from Clemson University to discuss their [Bradford Pear bounty program](#) and Dr. Rachel Meyer from UC Santa Cruz to discuss the use of environmental DNA for the detection and management of invasive species.

Happy Holidays!

We wish you a very happy holiday season!

