



Approved March 16, 2021

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for February 23, 2021

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
	Directors Emeritus:	
	Staff:	Nicole Ahr, Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Clair Klock, Chris Lapp, Sam Leininger, Eann Rains, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
	Partners:	
	Guest:	Suzie Peterson (Columbia Land Trust/Backyard Habitat)
NOT PRESENT:		

1

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 4:00 p.m., February 23, 2021, via "Zoom" meeting originating from the home office of Staff Faucera.

Chair Becker asked if there were any additions or corrections to the agenda. No changes were requested.

B. Public Comment – No public comment was received.

C. Director reports –

- Director Johnson reported that he had been busy with the legislature. He encouraged people to contact the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Farm Services Administration (FSA) regarding storm damage and reminded folks to take photos and keep good records. Johnson noted that the new Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack, is returning to a position he held under the Obama administration.

- Director Guttridge reported that he had been busy with storm damage around his farm.
- Associate Director Keith reported that the Clackamas County Commissioners are discussing a possible rollback of the \$30.00 vehicle fees applied last year and that there is an on-going discussion regarding the tolling of Interstate 205.
- Associate Director Melethil attended an Urban Ecosystems Research Consortium webinar on amphibians, it was very informative.

Director Fantz joined the meeting at 4:04 p.m.

- Director Fantz reported that he was in Seaside.

D. Partner reports – No report.

E. Manager’s report on committees – General Manager (GM) Lapp reported that the Working Lands committee planned to meet on March 1, 2021, and that the Finance Committee had been exchanging e-mails.

Director Zuber joined the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

2 – MINUTES

A. January 19, 2021, Annual Meeting minutes – The January 19, 2021, Annual Meeting minutes were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the January 19, 2021; Annual Meeting minutes as presented. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

B. January 19, 2021, Public Hearing minutes – The January 19, 2021, Public Hearing minutes for the 2020/2021 fiscal year supplemental budget were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the January 19, 2021, Public Hearing minutes for the 2020/2021 fiscal year supplemental budget as presented. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

C. January 19, 2021, Regular Board meeting minutes – The January 19, 2021, Board Meeting minutes were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Guttridge/Johnson moved/seconded to approve the January 19, 2021; Regular Board meeting minutes as presented. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. **Review and accept financial reports** – Staff Tucker presented the January 2021 financial reports. The District has current total assets of 11.8 million dollars and total liabilities of 7.1 million. Net assets as of January 31, 2021, are 4.7 million. Tucker noted that the District is on track for anticipated receipt of tax revenues and he expects to see more revenue in March.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to approve the January 2021 financial reports as presented. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the February 2021 Automatic Clearing House (ACH) payments and the disbursements for the Boards review. Checks were numbered 100500 to 100526 with no voids or breaks in the sequence. The total disbursements for the month were \$65,845.46 with \$65.00 from the conservation funds.

Directors Fantz/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the February 2021; disbursements as presented. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. **Corona Virus Relief Funds Reimbursement Grant** – Staff Tucker reported that costs tallied up for December 2020 for the Families First Coronavirus Response act were approximately \$8,000. Tucker submitted these dollars for reimbursement; however, he was informed that the grant dollars from the State of Oregon had run out. The District will be absorbing these costs at this time. The District has been working with Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) toward a legislative solution that may provide financial help to special districts.
- B. **Approval of the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget Calendar** – Staff Rains presented the proposed budget calendar for the coming fiscal year of 2021/2022. Rains noted that some dates had changed slightly due to the weather delay of the February Board meeting. All other proposed dates were unchanged.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Budget Calendar as presented. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. **Appoint new Budget Committee members** – Staff Rains reported to the Board that two members of the Budget Committee had completed their terms of office in 2020. Steve Fedje was contacted and said he would serve again. The other committee member will be unable to serve. Directors inquired of Associate Directors Melethil and Keith if they would be interested in serving on the committee. Both associate directors said they would serve, and Melethil deferred to Keith as he had previously served on the budget committee.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to appoint Steve Fedje and John Keith to the Budget Committee. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Lee arrived at 4:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker

Susie Peterson with the Columbia Land Trust provided a presentation of the Backyard Habitat Certification (BHC) program to the Board. Columbia Land Trust works with the Audubon Society of Portland to provide the BHC program to landowners in Clackamas County. The program is funded with donations from various sources and allows homeowners with small lots of 1 acre or less the opportunity to receive technical assistance and certifications for providing habitat on their properties. These habitats provide vital corridor functions for wildlife including birds and amphibians. There were 171 new site visits in Clackamas County this last year. Our county has a total of 1,101 properties in the program, totaling 344 acres with approximately 18,787 trees and shrubs planted.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. Approval of Septic Repair Loan SRL-7014** – Manager Lapp presented SRL-7014 to the Board for approval. The bids for this septic system repair are over the District's not-to-exceed amount of \$30,000. The applicant will cover the portion of the repair over \$30,000. All loans over the limit of \$25,000 must come to the board for approval.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to approve Septic Repair Loan SRL-7014 for a not-to-exceed amount of \$30,000. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Septic Repair Loan SRL-7013** – Manager Lapp reported that there had been a miscommunication between the District and the applicant for loan number SRL-7013. It is clearly stated on the District website that applicants are not to give a contractor the go-ahead to perform work before the loan agreement has been duly signed and authorized. There is, however, no mechanism in place to make sure that the applicant has fully read the instructions. This applicant gave the go-ahead to the contractor to do the needed repairs without an approved loan. The contractor is on the District's approved list of contractors. Lapp asked the Board if they would approve the loan which is for approximately \$10,000 with a three-year payback. Lapp noted that staff is working on a process to prevent this from happening again.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to approve Septic Repair Loan SRL-7013. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Assign Signature Authority for Septic Repair Loan SRL-7003 closure** – Staff Rains reported that the borrower on SRL-7003 has refinanced their home. District loan agreements specify that septic repairs loans must be paid off if the property is refinanced. The District received the final payment and now has 30 days to remove the lien from the property. Staff Rains is reviewing the proper forms to process the lien removal and asked that the Board approve the General Manager or Board Chair to sign the needed paperwork.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to authorize General Manager Lapp or Chair Becker to sign-off on the lien removal pending the receipt of the proper forms. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

6 – PERSONNEL – No topics to discuss.

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- Staff Klock reported to the Board that he has been working with the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts on legislative matters. Klock recommended that the Board review some upcoming legislation.
 - SB661 regarding rainwater harvesting and catchment, allowing property owners to impound water and retain it for their use.
 - SB404 an organic foods product bill. Oregon State University Extension is a sponsor of this bill.
 - HB2109 regarding the siting of solar facilities on farmland. This bill is trying to bypass land use planning to protect farmland.
 - HB2127 Eliminating the Oregon Forestry Resources Institute. This bill would impact Envirothon and other programs.
- Staff Reische presented the planning department report. Reische has been working with Staff Kilders and McQueeney on mini videos relating to mud and manure management. The goal is to get a jump start on outreach for the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) Strategic Implementation Area in the lower and middle reaches of Clear Creek. Initial analysis suggests mud and manure are important concerns. ODA has evaluated 2,258 tax lots and noted 97 with opportunities for improvement. Please see the planning department report which is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Leininger wished Board members a “Happy National Invasive Species” week. Leininger encouraged Board members to attend the Cooperative Weed Management Area “Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop” that Staff Gattuso was presenting later in the week. Currently, the free webinar has 270 signed-up to attend. The District's weed of the month for February is Scotch Broom, and WeedWise staff is gearing up for the change over from the Fulcrum system to ArcGIS for weed tracking. Please see the WeedWise report which is attached as a part of these minutes.
- Staff Kilders reported that the Education and Outreach staff is working on a Gardening for Wildlife “Zoom” webinar that will take place over two nights on March 17 and 24. The District is partnering with Backyard Habitat Certification program, Clackamas River Water Providers, and National Wildlife Federation to present these two-hour webinars. Staff is also working on a Septic System workshop to be presented in March, and on planning for the CONNECT conference that is scheduled for some time May 10 thru the 14. Kilders also informed the Board that Barbara Boyer, Chair of the Oregon Soil & Water Conservation Commission had lost her husband due to illness. Kilders will send a sympathy card on behalf of the Board. Please see the Outreach and Education report which is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Faucera reported that there will be a Working Lands committee meeting on March 1, 2021. He is busy with the Succession Planning workshop which wraps up on March 10. Faucera is arranging to do the annual Camp Adams Easement monitoring in March.
- Faucera is continuing to work with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) on their tax incentive programs along with six other districts in the state. These are important tax incentives to

encourage property owners to provide habitat for both game and non-game animals. Faucera will be working with the local ODFW office to help tackle the backlog of monitoring that needs to be done on the existing properties that are enrolled in these tax plans.

- Faucera also continues to work on the National Water Quality Initiative for the Molalla River. The main concerns continue to be quality and quantity of water and watershed protection. Faucera is working on outreach and education but is disappointed in the lack of data that is available on which to build the program. Turbidity is an issue, but they have not been able to identify the source. Faucera hopes to be contacting and working with landowners by the end of the year.
- Faucera gave an update on the lease of the west wing. The District and the contractor are waiting on approval of the building permit. Faucera has reviewed the lease documents with the contractor to make sure all requirements are met. The United States Department of Agriculture has approved the change order.

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING

- A. Board approval for the surplus of office equipment** – Staff Kilders asked the Board to declare 14 sit/stand desks and 23 side desk tables as surplus and to approve the General Manager to dispose of the items to the best benefit of the District. Kilders referred to Resolution 2020-005 regarding public contracting and procedures, and she has contacted the State of Oregon Department of Administrative Services surplus manager regarding the value of the furniture. His opinion is that the value of each piece is less than \$50.00 each.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to declare as surplus 14 sit/stand desks and 23 side tables and authorize General Manager Lapp to dispose of the property in a manner consistent with our Public Contracting Rules and is the most beneficial to the District. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

9 – OTHER REPORTS

- Associate Director Keith spoke to the Board regarding work on long-range planning. Keith reported that he would like to discuss the benefit to the Board and staff of having in place a clear strategic plan. Setting clear goals for the District to achieve will benefit the public and the District.

Manager Lapp recommended that the plan be limited to the next three to five years to help the District prioritize staff programs and recently acquired properties. Directors noted that this was a timely topic, and they would support meeting for further discussions. Chair Becker would like to involve as many Board and staff members as possible.

- Director Lee reported on work in the state legislature. The recent fires are a big issue and the impact they have on the budget. OACD is working on climate and working lands issues.
- Director Fantz asked Director Zuber if she needed any assistance as her property is still without power from the recent ice storm. Director Zuber said she was OK and did not need any help at this time.

- Associate Director Melethil reported that he had a possible conflict of interest regarding the Working Lands committee meeting on March 1, 2021.
- Director Lee wants to thank all the hard-working Portland General Electric crews who have been working long days and nights to restore power after the ice storm.
- Staff Leininger gave a shout-out to Staff Karr for completing the Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership report. The report outlined the \$700,000 investment by the partnership to control invasive species in the Clackamas River Basin. The report is available on the WeedWise website.
- Staff Faucera reported that hopefully the security monitoring system would be transferred to a new contractor by Thursday, February 27.

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The next regular meeting will be on March 16, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
- The first Budget Committee meeting will be on March 30, 2021, at 2:30 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator



February 16, 2021

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: Conservation Planning Program Update

Manure Composting Technical Assistance

Planning staff developed a table of the available sizes and designs we have for storing/composting livestock manure when horse farm owners are unable to spread or export manure during the winter. While planners often see improperly stored manure on small farms, they always encourage that piles be tarped or covered in some way during the winter months. We also make suggestions on piles being sited in a well-drained location and without a high-water table or near water sources. Why do encourage covering manure piles? Covering the piles prevents leaching of nutrients, which not only loses valuable nutrients that could be spread on pasture, but also slows passive composting of the pile due to excess moisture. Uncovered piles also leach excess nutrients (N, P & K) into the ground and can contaminate surface water resources.

Some of our composting designs can be done by a landowner themselves, and others would take the assistance of an experience construction worker. Many of the options are 3-bin designs, ranging from 8' x 8' bins to 12' x 20' bins. This gives horse farms an excellent range of volume choices. The table also includes options such as aerated vs. non-aerated systems, windrow methods, roofed vs. covered, and concrete slabs. Our dive into manure composting has been expediated by the upcoming Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) in the Clear Creek Watershed. We hear from ODA that folks in that area could use help with improved manure management. We are actively developing educational materials so that planners are ready to help.



An example of manure composting system the District helped install.

Wildfire Grants Update

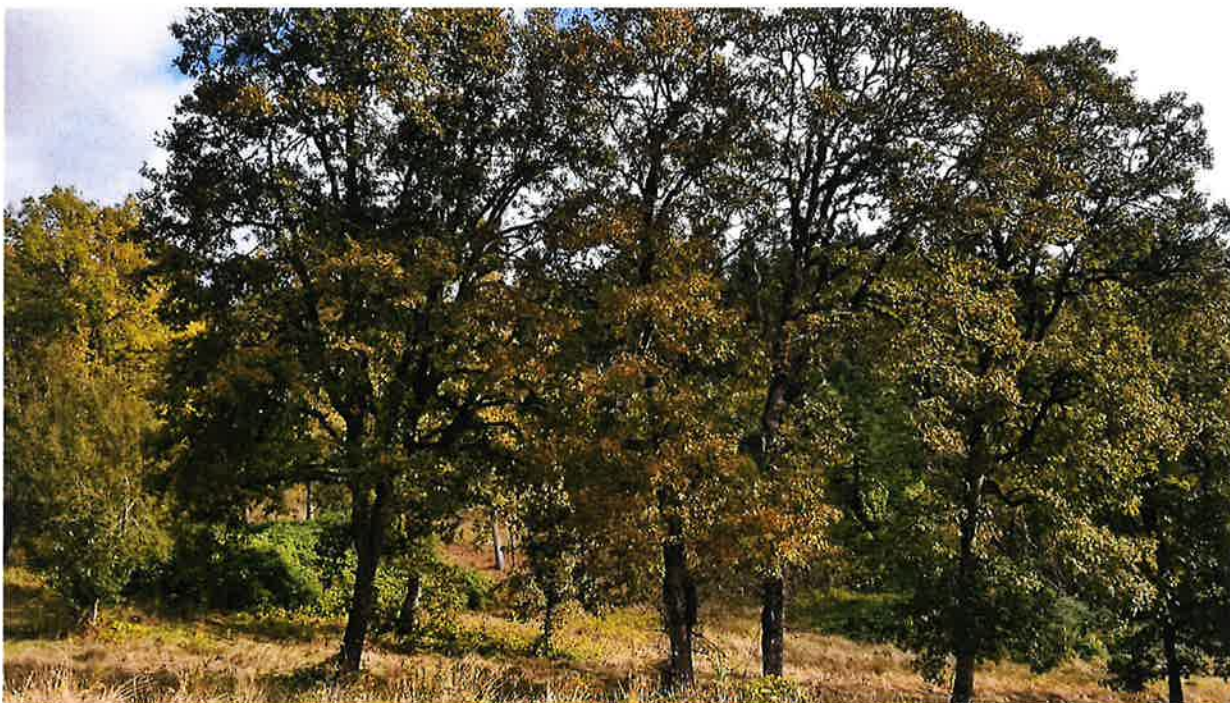
Matt VanWey has been continuing his work collaborating with Clackamas River Basin Council (CRBC) and Molalla River Watch (MRW) to connect landowners impacted by the Labor Day fires with assistance in rehabilitating their land. OWEB funding will be available to those within the Riverside fire boundary, but unfortunately the Dowty fire was not included. However, we recently were notified of a very short turnaround grant opportunity through the Oregon Department of

Forestry for restoration activities. Matt worked quickly with Ari Sindel of CRBC to put together a grant application and submitted the grant last week.

The OWEB Wildfire Recovery grant application will be completed soon and will provide replanting and erosion control assistance to landowners in the Riverside fire. Additionally, the grant will provide compensation for Sam Leininger's ETART work, the District's technical assistance work, and salvage logs for future MRW and CRBC in stream projects. MRW will be the grantee for the Riverside application. For all fire grants, all work must be completed by June 30th of this year. District planners will provide technical assistance on all the awarded grants in our county.

Small OWEB Grant for Wildlife Habitat Project

Staff recently applied and was awarded a \$14,928 of OWEB Small Grant funding through the Lower Willamette West Small Grant Funding Team for an oak and riparian restoration project in Ladd Hill. Nicole Ahr has worked with the landowner on this 10-acre property in Newberg since last summer with the mutual goal of restoring native Oregon white oak, wetland, and riparian habitats. These habitats are all designated Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Oregon Conservation Strategy habitats. The landowner is very enthusiastic about Oregon white oak and is hopeful that his property can provide high quality oak habitat with careful attention to the restoration process over several years. In his research of oak habitats, he has acknowledged upfront that the restoration process will take extra time and long-term planning for success. The landowner has already invested in oak habitat restoration on his property this past fall and winter. After initial guidance from planning staff, he hired a restoration contractor to complete oak release logging, slash treatment, blackberry cutting and mowing on a large portion of the property. This OWEB Small Grant funding will supplement the work he has already invested in and allow for more weed control and site preparation work, seeding native grasses in bare areas, installing native trees and shrubs along a small creek, and establishing native forbs and grasses found in oak woodland habitats.



Amazing oak stand at Ladd Hill property.

CREP is in the Air!

Abernethy Creek, Butte Creek, Milk Creek, Newland Creek, Rock Creek, and Clackamas River are just a few of the waterways in Clackamas County with landowners interested in the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). Under CREP, landowners can register up to a maximum of 180 feet riparian buffer width and several applicants have opted to do the full extent. One property has a historic tributary of Milk Creek that runs through the parcel and is also bordered by Milk Creek. If enrolled, this landowner will register over 30 acres of his property into the program and would provide much needed habitat back to the salmon bearing creek.

CREP helps landowners restore their creeksides into a healthy, functioning riparian buffer. Riparian buffers deter sediment, nutrients, pesticides, and other contaminants. Long term they also help lower stream temperatures and increase habitat and food for wildlife. Over time the addition of woody debris is used by aquatic organisms and upland wildlife. Buffers also help the property owner by aiding in bank stabilization, groundwater recharge, and flooding mitigation. CREP can provide an alternative for landowners who want to stop farming right up to the stream or just want to provide habitat for fish and wildlife. These landowners can reap the benefits of an annual rental payment, tax deferrals, and 75% cost share on restoration practices in this program. The increased interest in Clackamas County is not just a coincidence. CREP provides a multitude of benefits for the people and wildlife of this area.



Potential CREP client found a salmon carcass on his property along Abernethy Creek!



The Latest from the Education and Outreach Program

Time sure flies when you are having so much fun!

Web Posts

Since last we met, we have posted four articles on our website:

- [District Adopts 2020-2021 Supplemental Budget](#)
- [February Invasive Weed of the Month: Scotch Broom](#)
- Focus on Staff: Chris Lapp, General Manager
- [Annual Report Published for Fiscal Year 2019-2020](#)
- [Manage Weeds With Our Weed Tool Library](#)



Lights, Camera, ACTION!

As we continue to follow social distancing guidelines, the outreach team is moving forward with new ways to connect with our county residents. We are stepping into video production. Our goal is to work with the District programs to provide outreach opportunities via the internet!

Currently, we have three types of videos in production or the planning phase:

First is the large professional video that is being created for us by a company out of Washington state. This project is ongoing and we expect the final video this summer. The topic is Erosion Control: Practices From the Construction Industry. Jason has been braving the cold to capture the three remaining interviews.

Second, we have an opportunity to use a local videographer that does production work with the Clackamas Government Channel. We will use some of our Oregon Department of Agriculture Scope of Work dollars to pay for several short videos focusing on managing pastures, mud, and manure on horse properties. These short videos will help us get a jump start on our upcoming Strategic Implementation Area (SIA) located on Middle and Lower Clear Creek in the Clackamas Watershed. This SIA has many horse properties whose owners may need assistance.

Third, we are venturing into short YouTube videos that we can shoot ourselves with a cell phone. The video technology on today's cell phone rivals older video cameras. We are anxious to dip our toes into this mode of communication. Our first attempt is being planned for sometime in the next two weeks.



Update on Oregon Conservation Education and Assistance Network (OCEAN) CONNECT



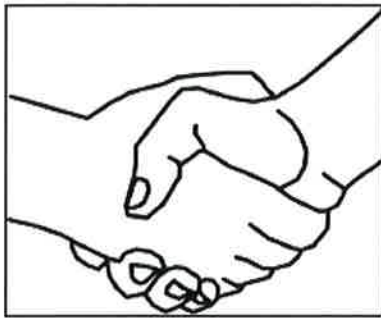
We are happy to have Cathy serving on the OCEAN board in the Western At-Large Representative-A position. As a board member she has been actively involved in planning for the 2021 conference, CONNECT. As anticipated, this year's CONNECT will be presented in a virtual format.

The event is expected to be three days in May. Cathy anticipates five different tracks will be offered, but the overall number of sessions offered will be fewer than in our traditional face to face event. Registration costs will be kept to a minimum to encourage all Districts, Councils, and Land Trusts to participate.

Working With Our Partners

Farmers Market Partners - Our county is fortunate to have ten Farmers Markets to serve the residents. The District has always been a dedicated supporter of the markets, but this year we were not able to offer grant assistance. Regardless

of the funds, we work hard to help promote and assist the markets in any way we can. This last week a brainstorming meeting with the market managers was held to find other ways we can support this group's success in the upcoming market season. More on the results of that meeting next month.



Watershed Council Partners - In collaboration with the North Clackamas Watersheds Council, the District is coordinating a Council of Councils meeting in March. Watershed Council partners are excited to meet the District's new leader, Chris. Also on the agenda is a brainstorming session to find ways the District can support the Councils even though our traditional grant support has been reduced.

Soil Health

Interest in soil health is starting early this year! We had a request from the Rose Villa retirement community in Milwaukie to participate in the Soil Your Undies campaign for 2021. This is excited to bury their cotton underwear and learn about the health of their soil. Staff provided instructions as well as a variety of resources to assist the homeowners and gardeners in evaluating their soil health. An online presentation and meeting are planned for later this spring.



Helping Out our Neighbors



Deschutes SWCD and Denise Rowcroft of the EnviroCenter in Bend requested our support for their soil health project. Denise is a former participant in our District's ongoing workshop series on Soil Health Curriculum for School and Community Garden Educators. We provided ideas, educational resources, and a letter of recommendation to help support their efforts to secure an NRCS grant which will enable them to bring soil health education to the educators in their region.



February 10, 2021

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: WeedWise Program Update



Scotch Broom: Weed of the Month

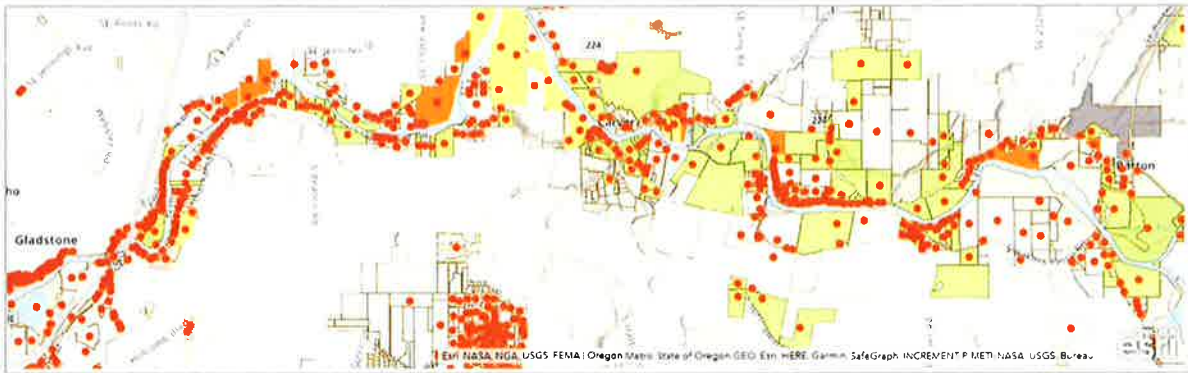
The WeedWise program is highlighting Scotch broom as our February weed-of-the-month (<https://weedwise.conservatordistrict.org/2021/februarys-weed-month-scotch-broom-2021.html>).

February is a great month to focus on the impacts and treatment of Scotch broom. In February, Scotch broom is active and visible. This early in the season, the Scotch broom is also not yet blooming. As a result, treatments carried out earlier in the season help to minimize any adverse impacts to pollinators.

In February, the soil is also still soft, which makes February the ideal time to focus on manual removal of Scotch broom. One of the resources that we provide to assist in these efforts is our weed equipment library <https://weedwise.conservatordistrict.org/resources/weed-equipment-library>. In the COVID era, Tami has been overseeing this resource, so we are very thankful for all her efforts.

Annual Performance Reviews

The WeedWise program is currently working on our annual performance reviews. This review process is an important activity that lets us discuss our many successes over the last year. More than that, this process also allows us to address any challenges or concerns that staff have. With COVID, budget constraints, and wildfires this past year has certainly proven to be challenging. Although time-consuming, this is a valuable process that greatly benefits the quality of the WeedWise program and the health and cooperation within our WeedWise team.



Field Technology Transitions

The WeedWise program is currently working on transitioning our field data collection from our Fulcrum based system to an ESRI ArcGIS Online based system. ESRI products are the industry standard, and this transition will help to streamline our mapping and data collection from multiple services toward a single service provider.

This transition should reduce our overall cost and minimize our maintenance moving forward. This transition will also offer additional features to enhance our work documentation. During this development process, WeedWise staff are dedicating a significant amount of time toward development, but we are looking forward to a more effective tool to meet our growing needs.

The transition is also creating a little unease, as we prepare for the season ahead. It is forcing us to evaluate our workflow and develop new protocols for coordinating with our contractors and with our cooperating landowners.



National Invasive Species Awareness Week.

Each year during the last week of February, we join our partners across the country in celebrating [National Invasive Species Awareness Week](#) (NISAW) on February 22-26, 2021). This annual event allows us to highlight the impact and importance of managing invasive species. So help *spread the word and not the weeds*. Be sure to check out the [WeedWise website](#) and social media during NISAW for great information.



Columbia Gorge CWMA Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop!

The 10th Annual Columbia Gorge CWMA Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop is rapidly approaching on February, 25th and is being held virtually this year. Because we are not holding the event in person, this year, we are hosting the event at no cost to attendees! So make sure to reserve your spot by registering for this event (<https://columbiagorgecwma.org/2021-isepworkshop/>) today.

The event will occur during [National Invasive Species Awareness Week](#) and is a great way to celebrate! This event is sure to be a great event with great topics, 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, and of course everyone's favorite invasive species from 2020, Asian giant (aka "murder") hornets.



PNW Garlic Mustard Working Group

Each season land managers from across the Pacific Northwest come together to discuss all things garlic mustard. The WeedWise program will be participating in this group to learn about the many successes and lessons learned from the last year. We will also be discussing best management practices and planning for the year ahead. With garlic mustard being one of our most problematic weeds in Clackamas County, we are heavily dedicated to its management.



New Collaboration in Lake Oswego

Over the last few months, we have been collaborating with staff from the City of Lake Oswego, Tryon Creek WC, Oswego Lake WC, and West Multnomah SWCD to work together to address garlic mustard and other priority noxious weeds. This collaboration has been an extension of the MOU agreements that we developed this last winter with the Lake Oswego area watershed councils.

Following these discussions, we were approached by the City of Lake Oswego that they were able to assist us with additional financial resources to help with priority weed control efforts within the city boundary. These resources will help to backfill District budget reductions and will allow us to maintain management on many of the private properties that we have been working on for many years. These resources also help us to coordinate with other partners in the area to address populations that may be growing along jurisdictional boundaries and prevent these weeds from spreading further.



Updating our WeedWise Brochures

It has been over a year since we have moved to the Beaver Creek Farm. With the move, comes the task of updating our online and print materials with all our new contact information. In preparation for our upcoming spring mailings, we are updating our WeedWise brochures with our new information. Many thanks to Lisa for initiating the process and for helping to review the changes. The new brochures are completed and ready for our spring mailings!



Mt Hood National Forest Working Group

This past week the WeedWise program participated in an annual planning meeting with various partners working on the Mt Hood National Forest. This meeting brought together staff from the WeedWise program, Mt Hood National Forest, Oregon Dept of Agriculture, Portland Water Bureau, Portland General Electric, and Bonneville Power Administration.

This annual meeting allowed partners to discuss activities in the coming year, and to strategize how we are going to continue many of our ongoing efforts, with looming budget constraints, COVID related complications, and the massive wildfires, that swept across the county.

Despite the many challenges, the Mt Hood NF working group has been able to shift resources to ensure that much of our project work continues in the coming field season. The meeting yielded some very good news, including clarification that the WeedWise program will be receiving some unexpected resources from the Mt Hood National Forest for work both within and outside the Riverside fire perimeter as well as resources from Bonneville Power Administration to help fund our Lolo pass hawkweed control efforts in the coming year.



Happy Birthday WeedWise!

On February 2nd, the WeedWise program celebrated its 12th anniversary. Twelve years ago, the WeedWise program was little more than an idea developed by the District's *ad hoc* Weed Task Force and a newly hired program manager. Since that time, our WeedWise program has grown to four full-time employees supported by a cadre of on-call restoration contractors.

It is truly rewarding to reflect on how much the program has accomplished over the last 12 years. We have assisted thousands of county residents with their noxious weed issues. Since 2010, when we launched our county-wide Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) initiative we have documented more than 50,000 hours of "boots-on-the-ground" implementation to manage some of the most damaging noxious weeds in the state. Based on an [economic analysis published by the Oregon Department of Agriculture](#), the EDRR efforts of the WeedWise program equate to an economic benefit of \$66,215,686 to the residents of Clackamas County over the last twelve years!

These accomplishments are the result of a lot of folks. From the residents of Clackamas County that approved our tax base, to our Board of Directors that saw the value in starting a noxious weed program. Our District management and WeedWise staff that have overseen operations, our contractors that have enabled us to do much of the work, our many regional partners that have worked alongside us, and the thousands of landowners that have and continue to work with our program have all played important roles over the last twelve years. We want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of everyone involved in this WeedWise adventure. Thank you!

Voucher Approval List

2/8/2021

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
2/8/2021	100500	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 01/2021	766.21
2/8/2021	100501	Clackamas ESD	CSWCD: SIP [Qtr 2] 02/2021	894.14
2/8/2021	100502	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 02/2021	567.00
2/8/2021	100503	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 02/2021	22,496.84
2/8/2021	100504	Drew Donahue	Reimbursement: Mileage 01/2021	70.18
2/8/2021	100505	E & A Systems Incorporated	CSWCD: SRL-7012 Cordway [50%] 02/2021	12,200.00
2/8/2021	100506	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 01/2021	77.84
2/8/2021	100507	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 02/2021	73.88
2/8/2021	100508	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 01/2021	750.00
2/8/2021	100509	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 02/2021	96.90
2/8/2021	100510	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 12/2020	159.89
2/8/2021	100511	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 01/26/21	1,004.63
2/8/2021	100512	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 03/2021	450.00
2/8/2021	100513	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 01/20/21	51.17
2/8/2021	100514	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 01/2021	36.36
2/8/2021	100515	Verizon Wireless	Acct: 242017036-0001 01/13/21	240.06
2/8/2021	100516	VOYA Financial OSGP	CSWCD: EE/ER 457b PPE 01/31/2021 Pd 02/05/21	13,581.30
Subtotal:				53,516.40

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
2/19/2021	100517	ABILA	Acct: 41443 [Annual] 03/2021-03/2022	1,515.50
2/19/2021	100518	Cascade Environmental Group, LLC	PSC-1820-4037 [NWQI] 01/2021	2,851.25
2/19/2021	100519	CWT, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Media] 02/2021	4,212.00
2/19/2021	100520	Verena Fabian	SuperDOG-1822-4032 [Tree/Shrub] 01/2021	65.00
2/19/2021	100521	OCEAN	CSWCD: Mbr 2021	230.00
2/19/2021	100522	Angelica Eloisa Patterson	CSWCD/AC-CWMA: Prof Svcs [Pull Together] 02/2021	250.00
2/19/2021	100523	Powell Minuteman Press	CSWCD: B/C [Lapp] 01/2021	43.01
2/19/2021	100524	The Oregonian Media Group	Acct: 1039096002 Ann Mtg/Supp Budget 01/2021	1,252.30
2/19/2021	100525	Tryon Creek Watershed Council	CSWCD: AC-CWMA: Prof Svcs (GS) [Pull Togeth] 01/2021	500.00
2/19/2021	100526	ZED Design LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svc [Design] CRC-T 01/2021	1,250.00
Subtotal:				12,169.06

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
Total:				\$ 65,685.46
Total Conservation Fund				65.00

[Signature]
Board Chair

[Signature]
Board Treasurer
Secretary

2-23-21