



Approved April 20, 2021

**Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for March 16, 2021**

<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>Directors:</b>	Jeff Becker (Chair), Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Don Guttridge (Secretary), Jim Johnson, Jan Lee, Jesse Nelson (Vice-Chair), Joan Zuber
	<b>Associate Directors:</b>	John Keith, PK Melethil, Anna Rankin
	<b>Directors Emeritus:</b>	Mike Weinberg
	<b>Staff:</b>	Nicole Ahr, Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Clair Klock, Chris Lapp (General Manager), Sam Leininger, Cathy McQueeney, Eann Rains, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker, Matt Van Wey
	<b>Partners:</b>	Kim Galland (Natural Resources Conservation Service)
	<b>Guest:</b>	
<b>NOT PRESENT:</b>		

**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., March 16, 2021, via “Zoom” with a call originating from the home office of Staff Faucera.  
 Chair Becker asked if there were changes to the agenda. No changes were requested.
- B. Public Comment** – No public comment was given.
- C. Director reports** –
  - Director Fantz reported that he was continuing to clean up after the ice storm in February.
  - Director Nelson reported that he would need to leave shortly after 5:00 p.m. Nelson also reported that he recommended that the Cottrell Community Planning Organization contact Manager Lapp regarding a presentation to the Board regarding the Portland Water Bureau’s proposed water filtration plant.
  - Associate Director Keith reported on Metro’s proposed location for a new recycling transfer station.

- Associate Director Rankin reported that she was recovering from surgery. Rankin reported that the Pudding River Watershed Council had a scheduled volunteer planting on Saturday, March 20, 2021. The planting will be to develop a green space for the city of Aurora with plants that have been donated to the watershed council.
- Director Emeritus Weinberg was glad to be participating in the meeting and is scheduled to receive his second COVID-19 vaccine next week.

**D. Partner reports** – Kim Galland had no report this month.

**E. Manager's report on committees** – General Manager (GM) Lapp reported on the following committees:

- The Watershed Council Grant Support committee met on February 26, 2021, to decide how to appropriate the funds between the 10 watershed councils. Lapp thanked Staff McQueeney for her briefing on the committee.
- The Working Lands Committee met on March 1, 2021. The committee is working on mapping the land management program directions and focus for the District. The committee has been discussing who should be involved and what the District can commit to. Staff Faucera will report later in the meeting.
- The Personnel Committee met on March 2, 2021, to discuss an upcoming change in personnel and some possible program changes.

## 2 – MINUTES

**A. February 16, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes** – The minutes of the February 16, 2021 Board meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Nelson/Fantz moved/seconded to approve the February 16, 2021 minutes as presented. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

## 3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

**A. Review and accept financial reports** – Staff Tucker presented the February 2021 financial reports. The District's total assets for February were \$11.7 million, and total liabilities were \$ 7.1 million. Total net assets for February were \$4.59 million. The District received \$80,000 in tax revenue in February, the District has received only \$16,000 less tax revenue than at this time last year.

Director Fantz/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the financial reports as presented. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the Automatic Clearing House payment report for the Directors to review. Tucker then presented the disbursement report to the Board. Checks were numbered 100527 through 100554 with no breaks or voids in the sequence. Total disbursements for the month were \$68,005.07, with \$11,620.97 from the Conservation Fund. Tucker noted that check # 100553 was a reissue for a check that was sent to an incorrect vendor. Tucker has spoken with the vendor who received the first check, and they will be returning the funds to the District.

Directors Fantz/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the March 16, 2021 disbursements as presented. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. **Proposed funding allocation to Watershed Councils** – Staff McQueeney presented the recommendations from the Watershed Council Support Grant committee. McQueeney reported that the District had allocated \$50,000 to council grant support. Support was recommended for those councils that do not receive funding from the Oregon Water Enhancement Board (OWEB) as well as councils that receive only limited funding. McQueeney presented a chart with the recommendations to the Board showing the proposed funding (please see attached chart). Directors asked about councils not receiving funding. McQueeney shared a letter from the councils asking that support be given to the smaller councils that did not receive funding from OWEB and did not necessarily have other funding sources.

Directors Fantz/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the Watershed Council Support Grants as presented. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Proposed elimination of the Building Reserve Fund** – GM Lapp asked the Board if there would be any objection to closing the existing Building Reserve Fund account. This account was created to use for construction of the new Conservation Resource Center, and all funds from this account will be expended by the end of the fiscal year with the tenant improvements taking place in the west wing. The closing of account will simplify the budgeting process. Hearing no opposition, this matter will be brought to the Budget Committee on March 30, 2021 for review and approval.

*Director Guttridge arrived at 4:33 p.m.*

- C. **Out of State Travel projections for Board members for FYE 2021-2022 – For budgeting purposes**, GM Lapp asked Board members if anyone was thinking of attending the National Association of Conservation Districts Annual meeting next fiscal year. The meeting will be held in Orlando, Florida. Board members replied that none of them were planning on attending this meeting next year. Other in-state travel is not in question for the coming budget.

## **5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS**

- A. Septic Loan Application format** – GM Lapp presented the Board with a new format for the septic loan application. Changes were made to the existing application to clarify the process for applicants. Applicants must confirm that they have read the application and understand the limitations of the program guidelines. This form has been reviewed by the District's legal counsel. The form will be updated on the District's website.

## **6 – PERSONNEL**

- A. The departure of Conservation Planner Matt Van Wey** – GM Lapp reported to the Board that employee Matt Van Wey will be leaving at the end of March. Van Wey will be leaving to concentrate on his growing family and his organic farm.

Staff Van Wey spoke with the Board regarding his amazing time working with the District, his deep respect for his co-workers and the Board. Van Wey noted he has been reassessing his life priorities and with a new baby on the way felt this was the time to step back into working with his wife on the Quackenbush farm in Eagle Creek, Oregon.

The Board wished Van Wey the best of luck.

- B. New Performance Review Plan proposal** – GM Lapp presented a new performance review form that he is currently working on. Lapp has reviewed the form with the management team and is working on making performance reviews more meaningful for staff and the District. The review will be based on employee job descriptions and the annual work plan. This is a flexible plan that will outline staff objectives and be based on the fiscal year. The management team commented that they felt this review framework would be more objective than the previous one they have been using. The Board is welcome to send comments about the form to GM Lapp.

## **7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS**

- A. Portland Water Filtration Project** – GM Lapp reported that he has been contacted by the Cottrell Community Planning Organization (CPO). The Cottrell CPO has asked to make a presentation to the Board at the next meeting regarding the siting of a water filtration project on 92 acres of farmland and the subsequent routing of pipelines to supply and distribute water through other existing farm properties.

Director Nelson noted that most of the properties for this proposed project are class 1 or 2 agricultural lands that are zoned exclusive farm use. It was noted that the Portland Water Bureau has been less than forthcoming in answering questions and that they are being required to upgrade filtration by 2027 by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Director Fantz wondered why Metro did not use ultraviolet light technology to treat the water at the main outlet of the Bull Run water system. Fantz would like to know Metro's justification for this siting and what other options are available.

Director Johnson reported that the Oregon Department of Agriculture may get involved with this proposed siting. There is the question of why urban problems are being addressed in a rural setting. The lands that have already been purchased by Metro, are class 2 agriculture in a rural reserve zone that is supposed to protect the land for agricultural use for at least 50 years. Johnson noted that Metro has sidestepped many of the required rules in siting this facility and the District should consider what they would like to do. There are many groups involved and a presentation by the Cottrell CPO will provide the District with more information.

*Director Nelson left the meeting at 5:33 p.m.*

**B. New Committee Structure** – GM Lapp reviewed the current committee structures and functions. Lapp found that some of the committees were outdated, and no longer provided needed guidance. Lapp made some recommendations to the Board.

- The Master Plan Evaluation Committee that was established in 2015 has fulfilled its purpose and is recommended for elimination. A new Strategic Planning Committee will be established to help set 3–5-year goals for the District.
- As part of the outcome of the Strategic Planning effort, a new Conservation Resource Center Planning Committee will be established in place of the Demonstration Farm Use Guidelines Committee. This new committee will begin the process of looking at how the Center and supporting grounds could best meet the District's mission in the coming years.
- He recommended to make the Watershed Council and Farmer's Market Grant review committees formal and permanent.
- He also recommended making the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee formal. This committee is doing research and planning on how to tie this need into the programs at the District to better serve the community.

**C. Managers Reports** –

- Staff Reische reported that the February ice storm caused serious damage to trees in Clackamas County. There has been a big impact on the District's white oak projects. Staff Ahr wrote an article with Arborist Brian French regarding what to do with damaged trees, it has been published in several local newspapers and on the District website. The District is referring many callers to the Farm Services Agency which is providing some funding for farms with storm damage.
- Reische also reported that the Local Work Groups for Multnomah and Clackamas Counties have met. There were about 30 participants. Funding for Forest lands, Oak restoration, and irrigation were the main concerns.
- Reische noted the with the departure of Conservation Planner Van Wey, she is working with GM Lapp on hiring a new planner.

- Director Zuber asked if Reische knew of any place to store trees with attached root wads for conservation projects. Reische noted that some companies that do restoration work may have a place to store these. Reische will see if she can find more information. Please see the Planning report that is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Leininger asked the Board and Staff if they had heard about Marimo moss balls that are being sold as aquarium accessories. These moss balls are a carrier for zebra mussels, a major invasive species. Leininger was interested to see how outreach was working about the need to destroy the moss balls.
- Leininger reported about the WeedWise mapping and staff planning. Staff Karr will be leading a training webinar for the new mapping system on Wednesday, March 17, and March 24, 2021. Staff Cooley is working with Lake Oswego on garlic mustard treatment. The WeedWise team is working on seasonal planning and landowner outreach. Please see the WeedWise report that is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Kilders reported that she is continuing to work on erosion control videos with Staff Faucera and Eden. They will be moving on to mud and manure videos when they finish with the erosion control video. Public notices for the budget meetings have been published. Kilders reported that the CONNECT Conference will be on-line and is currently planned for May 11 through 13. Workshops are planned for Gardening for Wildlife on March 17 and 24, 2021, and a Septic System workshop is scheduled for April 28, 2021. The workshops will be on-line. Please see the Outreach report that is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Faucera reported on his continuing work with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife tax programs. Faucera noted that the working group for this project is meeting frequently and are planning on engaging the Oregon State Legislature. Faucera noted that he is working with Director Lee and the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts on a one-page summary for the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee to be presented when the State Legislature meets in the next biennium. These tax programs will help with the Districts' Oak projects.
- Staff Faucera reported that he had wrapped-up the final Succession Planning workshop and hoped that funding could be found to put this workshop on again next year.
- Staff Faucera reported that the Working Lands Committee is exploring what outcomes they would like to see for easements and acquisitions by the District. They are working on a structured and systematic plan that will help the District.
- Staff Faucera reported that electricians have been in the office doing some prep work in the west wing. The construction company is still waiting for permits from the county to move forward on the tenant improvement. There have been some issues with the electronic gates that Faucera is working on, and he noted that there may be a need to replace \$4,000 worth of filters on the heating/air system due to wildfire damage, and Staff Guttridge will be clarifying some questions with the heating company.

## **8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING**

- A. **Strategic Planning update** – Associate Director Keith had a PowerPoint presentation for the Board about strategic planning. Keith pointed out the need for a workable plan that would show what the District wants to accomplish without overburdening staff. Keith outlined the need for a meeting to engage staff and the board and would like to set a date for a work session. Chair Becker asked that a doodle poll be sent out to everyone to refine a date. Director Johnson noted that a work session would be a public meeting, with no comment allowed.

## **9 – OTHER REPORTS**

- Director Guttridge asked that the District continue outreach on wildfires. Guttridge was much impressed with the Firewise workshops of two years ago and believes they may have a bigger impact in the years to come due to the wildfires experienced last fall in Clackamas County. Staff Kilders noted that the Extension service has taken over the workshops and she will send out a list of dates they are planning to have them. Director Johnson also noted that the legislature is working on more information related to wildfires.
- Associate Director Melethil reported that he had been selected to serve on Metro's Natural Area Bonds Oversight Committee. Melethil noted the increasing number of reports about how good green spaces are for people and the environment in urban areas. Melethil has asked for time at the April meeting to report on his attendance at the Urban Ecological Research Consortium symposium.
- Chair Becker reported that he would be out of town from April 1 to April 14, 2021. He is going to Colorado where he is expecting a second granddaughter.

## **ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING**

- The first Budget Committee meeting will be on March 30, 2021, at 2:30 p.m.
- The next regular meeting will be on April 20, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 5:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge  
Office Administrator



March 16, 2021

## BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **RE: Conservation Planning Program Update**

#### **February Ice Storm Response**

The month of February may be short, but it certainly left its mark on Clackamas County landowners with trees! In the middle of the month, landowners all over the Willamette Valley were dealing with power outages and extreme weather of ice, snow, and wind in some areas. In Clackamas and Marion Counties in particular, we heard of major tree failures. Unfortunately, some of those trees fell on homes, vehicles, barns, and fences. Many of the landowners we have worked with who have Oregon white oak trees lost several trees and limbs in the storm. In a couple of cases, we heard rumors of landowners who wanted to remove all their Oregon white oak trees so they would not have to deal with them ever failing and possibly causing damage. Oregon white oak habitat is an initiative at our District, with good reason, as it is a declining habitat throughout the valley and is also an Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Strategy Habitat for the state. The loss of these trees from the storm and the talk of removing more trees than was likely necessary, prompted staff to take action. Planning staff discussed the situation with Lisa and decided to contact local arborist, Brian French, for an interview. We have worked with this arborist on an oak/ash habitat project at the Westlake HOA in Lake Oswego in partnership with the Oswego Lake Watershed Council. Brian is an arborist with an emphasis on wildlife habitat and he has a good understanding of native tree species, including Oregon white oak. Staff interviewed Brian to develop an article about tree damage after the ice storm and balancing safety and habitat. With help from Lisa and Cathy, we recently published the article on our District website:

<https://conservationdistrict.org/2021/after-the-ice-storm-assessing-tree-damage-and-moving-forward.html> and it was

featured in the Estacada News on March 4<sup>th</sup>:

<https://pamplinmedia.com/en/30-news/499930-400763-arborists-advice-for-tree-cleanup-in-willamette-valley> Staff was happy to get

the word out on this tree damage situation and hopefully deter some folks from removing all their Oregon white oak trees! We are already referring landowners to this article.

#### **Arborist's advice for tree cleanup in Willamette Valley**

▲ Pamplin Media Group ■ March 04 2021

Clackamas County agency speaks with expert in management following historic ice storm



COURTESY PHOTO: A tree felled by the ice storm in February clears a path leading toward a barn.

We also learned recently of potential funding available from the Farm Service Agency to assist qualified applicants with storm related clean up and damages. FSA is accepting applications for the Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) to address damages to livestock fences and debris disposal. The signup will begin on March 1, 2021, and end on April 30, 2021.



## Local Work Group Meeting Recap

NRCS hosted their joint Local Work Group meeting for Multnomah and Clackamas counties on the evening of March 3rd. Several of our conservation planning staff attended the meeting. The purpose of this annual event is to identify resource concerns that local conservationists and landowners would like to see addressed and is also an opportunity to shape local NRCS funding pools. Over 30 participants attended the meeting with individuals representing the local Districts and watershed councils, Xerces, and Metro. Several rural landowners and farmers also attended the local work group.

The virtual meeting was divided into four groups for discussion, which included habitat, forestry, cropland, and livestock. The wildlife and cropland group had the most interest from participants. Surprisingly, fewer participants were interested in the livestock group creating a good reason to do more outreach for livestock producers for next year's local work group.



In the wildlife group, the main topics of concern were pollinators, invasive plants, oak habitat, climate change, and forest biodiversity. One of our project clients participated in this group and suggested an oak focus area at the corner of Clackamas and Yamhill Counties, which would create connectivity with the two oak working groups to make a wildlife corridor.

Several small farmers from more urbanized areas participated in the cropland group. There was discussion about the need to incentivize investments in new conservation technology such as with drip systems, greenhouses, carbon, energy and labor conservation as opposed to only funding improvements and upgrades. Ideas about how to farm with wildlife were also discussed.

A summary of meeting notes from NRCS will be available within the month, along with the introductory PowerPoint at: <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/or/people/partners/?cid=nrcseprd1300223>.

## Farwell Matt Van Wey!

As some of you may have heard by now, I will be ending my position as a conservation planner with the Clackamas SWCD at the end of March and will be transitioning to working full time with my wife Jennifer on our farm business. The last couple years have seen tremendous growth in the business as well as our family, and it has been a challenge to find balance managing everything. With another baby on the way, I will be stepping back to manage more of the farm business, allowing Jennifer a little breathing room. As you can imagine, it's a little terrifying stepping out into the unknown, but that's how every adventure begins.

I have an incredible amount of respect and appreciation for the work you all do at the District, and feel honored to have been a part of it. I will remain a close ally, and will hopefully drive the hordes of new, young, idealistic farmers to your doors for years to come. Perhaps now I'll finally get a planner out the farm and a conservation plan of my own! Should you get a hankering for some farm fresh veg, you can find us at the Milwaukie and Vancouver Farmer's Markets.



– *Matt Van Wey*



## The Latest from the Education and Outreach Program

### Happy March!

It was only two short weeks since we last met. So, this may be a brief report! Not to say this is about underwear. That is coming up later in the spring!



Jason taking the tough shots!

We continue to work on our erosion control video. Last week Jason lent his photography and videography skills to the project. We are so thankful for his talent. He recorded interviews with Brenda Sanchez from the Oregon Department of Agriculture and Anna Rankin from the Pudding River Watershed Council. Then filmed Lisa giving the introduction and wrap-up to the video.

Jason will shoot some requested B-roll (video lingo for background images) and we will be close to having everything we need. Then the editing begins. We are also grateful for Scott Eden, Kim Swan from Clackamas River Water Providers, and Anna Rankin from the Pudding River Watershed Council who round out this project committee along with Jason and Lisa.

### Web Posts

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

- [Focus on Staff: Chris Lapp, General Manager](#)
- [March Invasive Weed of the Month: Canada Thistle](#)
- [National Invasive Species Awareness Week: February 22 – 26](#)
- [After the Ice Storm: Assessing Tree Damage and Moving Forward](#)



March Invasive Weed of the Month:  
Canada Thistle



### Public Notices

We are on track to publish our budget committee meeting notices in the timeframe required by Oregon Budget Law. You will see it in the Friday, March 12, 2021, edition of the Oregonian. We are required to publish all public notices in a newspaper of general circulation. The Oregonian fits that obligation.

Public notices are necessary for many of the activities we are required to complete. Public notices are mandatory for board member elections, annual meetings, hearings for budgets, loans, and acquisition of conservation easements.

Meeting our deadlines and staying legal takes a team. We work with all departments of the District to make sure we stay legal and the public is notified when we are taking action! Go Team!

### Update on the CONNECT Conference

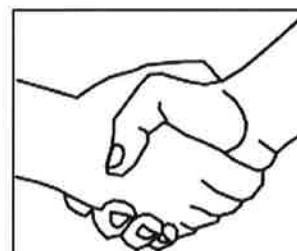
This year's CONNECT conference will be held virtually on May 11 - 13, 2021. Education & Outreach staff oversaw the development of this year's Education and Communications track as well as developed a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion session for the Administrative track.



### Working With Our Partners

**Farmers Market Partners** - The District organized a meeting with managers from area farmers markets to discuss how the District could support them in lieu of a grant through the coming year. Managers were understanding and thought the District could help in the following ways:

- Be a physical presence at the market with a booth and information\* - especially about invasive weeds
- Provide conservation handouts materials to have at the information booth.
- Provide signage
- Promote market attendance through the season via social media
- Provide items (birdhouses, books?) for fundraising prizes
- Provide materials, games, etc. for children for the POP Club.
- Provide letters of recommendation to potential funders.



Due to COVID many of the markets have had to scale back their POP Club programs. Some of the markets will be carrying the money from our grant from last year to have those children's programs up and running again this year.

*\*The District traditionally provides some materials, signage, and a physical presence when possible and appropriate.*

**Watershed Council Partners** - The District co-hosted, with Neil Shulman of the North Clackamas Watersheds Council, a Council of Councils meeting on Monday, March 8, 2021. All 10 councils attended. Introducing Chris was a highlight. The meeting focused on how the District could support the councils in light of our reduced financial support.

Suggestions included:

#### In Kind:

- Staff time for a myriad of projects/needs
- Vehicle use – pickups, flatbed
- Lend wheelbarrows, shovels, gloves, etc.
- Letters of support
- District created materials, handouts, videos
- Grant writing support

#### Technical Assistance:

- District staff leads tours, talks, etc
- Build on ongoing projects
- Utilizing District expertise on landowner projects

#### Shared Operations:

- Develop materials, copying, etc.
- Water rights development?
- Collaborative Research Grants?
- DEI Collaboration? Sharing resources, etc.

#### Outreach:

- Utilizing social media and networking
- Collaboration with the WET program at CCC
- Art events within watersheds with a show at the CRC
- Participate in Council or District-sponsored events
- Update a shared media list

Clean Rivers Coalition and Community Based Social Marketing - Members of the [Clean River Coalition](#), including Outreach staff, met to refine plans for creating a series of short videos which will target specific behaviors tied to pesticide usage in Oregon urban neighborhoods. These videos have been designed using [community-based social marketing](#) (CBSM) techniques and will be funded by a grant from the EPA. If you are interested in learning more about this marketing approach, there will be a [free CBSM presentation on March 18th at 7:00 p.m.](#)



March 11, 2021

## BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### **RE: WeedWise Program Update**



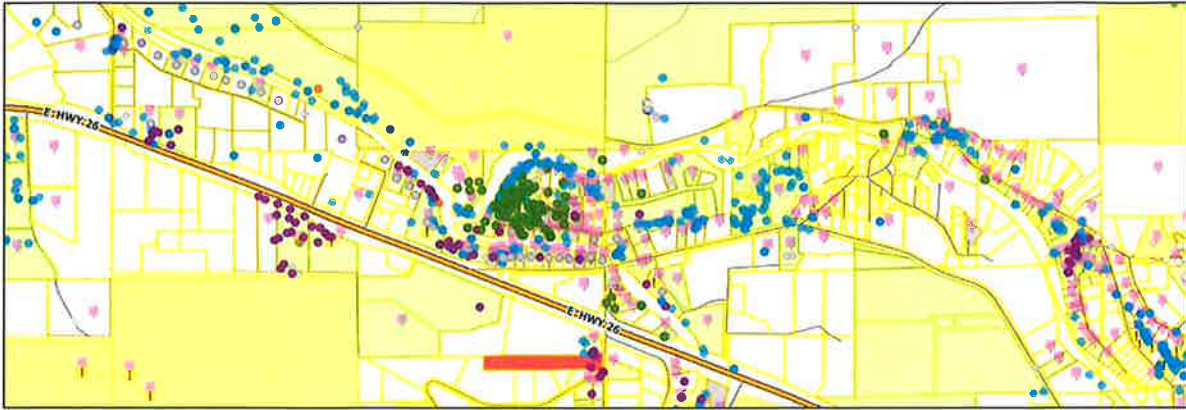
#### **Canada thistle: Weed-of-the-Month**

The WeedWise program is highlighting Canada thistle as our March weed-of-the-month (<https://weedwise.conservatondistrict.org/2021/march-weed-month-canada-thistle-2021.html>).

March is a great month to focus on the treatment of Canada thistle. In March Canada thistle plants are in their smaller seedling and rosette stages before bud development. This makes it the perfect time to target this plant. Unfortunately, this is not typically the time of year that the public is thinking about Canada thistle. Most commonly people are [looking for information about Canada thistle in April to June](#). Unfortunately, by that time plants are fully developed, and treatments are less effective. By highlighting Canada thistle as early as we do, we will hopefully help to increase awareness and promote more effective control practices.

#### **Annual Performance Reviews**

The WeedWise program is continuing to work on 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-19, 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.



*The map above illustrates the density of information and includes landowner contact, site hazards, and priority weed occurrence information along one short section of the Sandy River.*

### **Field Technology Transitions**

The WeedWise program has been focusing much of its attention to the transition of our mobile field data collection platform from a Fulcrum 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 down to a single service provider.

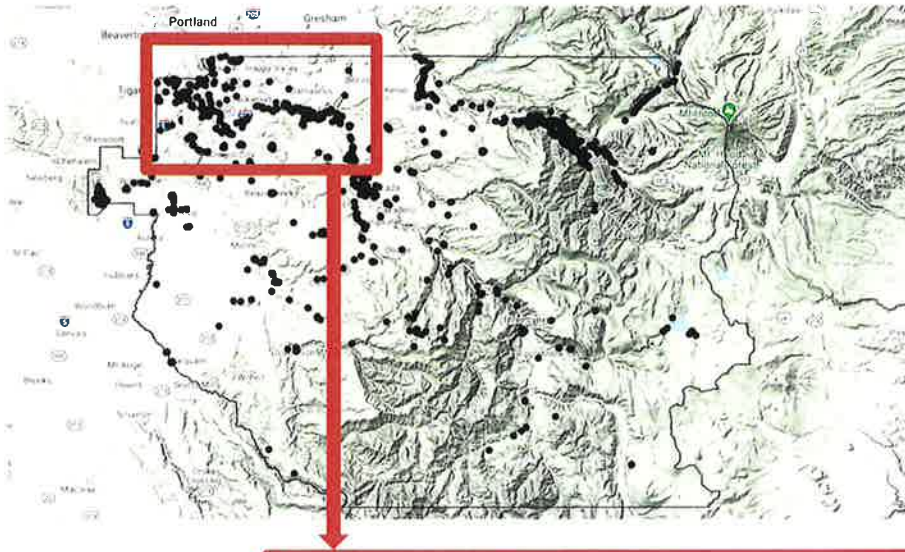
This transition, currently underway will significantly affect our workflow and protocols for coordinating with our vegetation management contractors and with our cooperating landowners. WeedWise Specialists Justin Cooley and Lindsey Karr have been spearheading this transition and are working diligently in preparation for upcoming contractor trainings and our treatment season.

Many thanks to the efforts of Justin and Lindsey in working through this important task for us!

The transition of our system is no small undertaking, but it is critical to our work. Our mobile data system is currently used to communicate important site location information, landowner permissions, contact information, site notes, site hazards, landowner communication logs, weed occurrences, weed surveys, weed treatments, contractor and staff assignments, and site documentation like photos and routes.

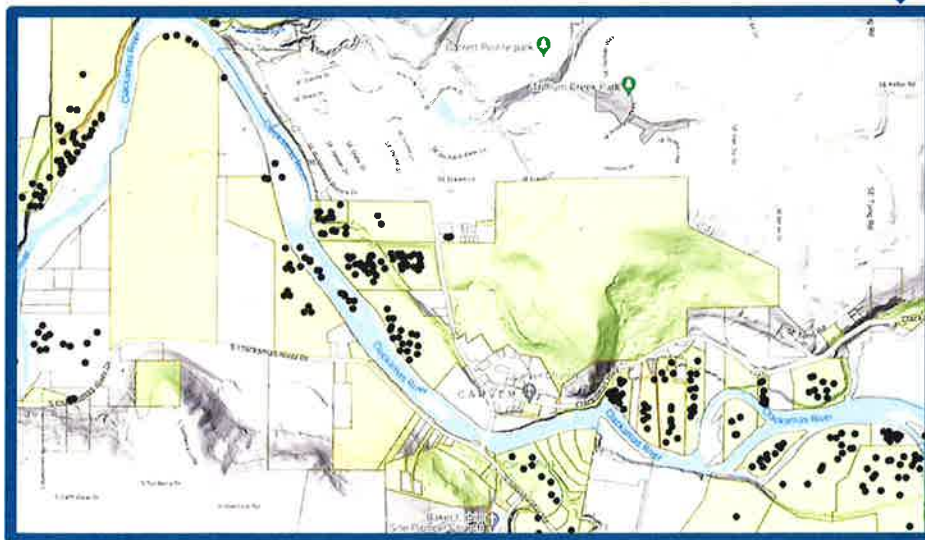
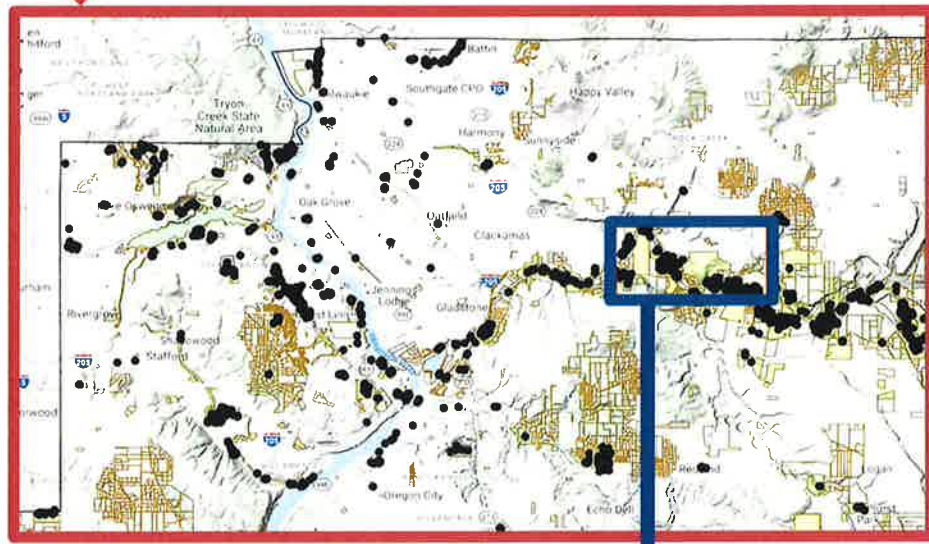
Ultimately, this transition should reduce our overall cost and minimize our maintenance moving forward. This transition will also offer additional features to enhance our work efforts. During this development process, WeedWise staff are dedicating a significant amount of time toward development, but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

This transition is complicated by the immense amount of information required to manage our activities at the county, regional, and property scales.



*At the county scale the WeedWise program's documented invasive weed treatments (displayed in black) do not fully illustrate the scope of our management efforts.*

*At the regional scale, we begin to see the complexity associated with coordinating WeedWise program activities between cooperating landowners and contractors in a given year.*



*At the property scale we start to see the true scope of the WeedWise program's treatment efforts and the infestation rate of some invasive weeds within a relatively small reach of the Clackamas River.*



### **WeedWise Contractor Trainings**

The WeedWise program will be hosting a training for District staff, contractors, and partners on priority noxious weed identification and on the proper use of our new mobile data collection system. This annual half day training is usually offered in person, but due to COVID-19 it will be offered online.

Lindsey Karr is leading the training and is working to prepare for the event while simultaneously dealing with a transition of our data collection platform. This training is important to ensure that our targeted plants are properly identified and treated by our contractors and that data is collected in a consistent manner. Training attendees are eligible for pesticide applicator recertification credits.



### **Lake Oswego Garlic Mustard Planning**

Our recent collaboration efforts with the City of Lake Oswego, Tryon Creek WC, Oswego Lake WC, and West Multnomah SWCD are beginning to come to fruition as we prepare for the season ahead. Sam is currently working at securing an agreement with the City of Lake Oswego to fund our garlic mustard treatment efforts in the city.

Justin is currently planning our implementation efforts within the city and is coordinating with our partners at the watershed councils to coordinate landowner mailings and outreach in the coming year.

We are excited by this new collaboration and are looking forward to the season ahead.



### Seasonal Planning

Spring is upon us, and we have been busy preparing for the upcoming treatment season. The WeedWise program staff are currently finishing up project planning and starting to prepare our spring mailings to secure missing and expired landowner permissions.

In addition to landowner outreach, the WeedWise program is monitoring plant phenology and field conditions and coordinating with our contractor to initiate control activities.

The warmer weather has brought some of the first [Oregon Invasive Species Hotline](#) reports of the season, and our phones and emails are starting to fill up with requests for technical assistance.

This season will pose some real challenges to the WeedWise program. Complications due to COVID-19, wildfires, ice storms, and budget constraints all increase the complexity and logistics of our work. Despite the challenges, we are making the most of the situation and are adapting our program to meet the demands of our work.



### Lolo Pass Hawkweed Planning

The WeedWise program is helping to coordinate our annual planning meeting with partners from the Mt Hood National Forest, Oregon Dept of Agriculture, Portland Water Bureau, and Bonneville Power Administration to plan our Lolo Pass hawkweed control activities.



This ongoing partnership is managing the largest hawkweed infestations in the state. Effort this season have been complicated by the Riverside fire that has greatly impacted the resources and capacity of the Mt Hood National Forest. This impact affects the WeedWise program as well as the Oregon Dept of Agriculture, Noxious Weed Control Program.

This has led to a greater involvement by Bonneville Power Administration that has stepped up to help support the effort. Sam and Nathan are currently working with BPA to finalize a contract to help fund the effort over the next 3 years.



### Grants, Contracts, and Budgets

The vast number of partnerships, agreements, grants, budgets, and contracts that we utilize within the WeedWise program requires a significant amount of time. These administrative tasks are not the most glamorous but are a necessary element of our work.

Sam has been working on several agreements to help fund our work in the coming year. These include:

- Forest Service Retained Receipts funding for Lolo Pass implementation
- Forest Service Burn Area Emergency Response Funding for CRISP implementation within the Riverside Fire boundary
- Forest Service Funding to support CWMA coordination.
- BLM agreement for Title II RAC funding for implementation in the Molalla and Sandy Basins
- BLM Emergency Stabilization Funds for implementation within the Beachie Creek Fire boundary.
- BLM funding to support coordination of the Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership, the Sandy Basin Vegetation Restoration Coalition, and our Cooperative Weed Management Areas.
- City of Lake Oswego funding for priority weed control within the city limits.
- Bonneville Power Administration funding to fund Lolo Pass implementation
- Clackamas County Parks funding to support CRISP implementation efforts.

These administrative tasks are also compounded by the maintenance required for the existing agreements we already have in place. These are no small task, but they are well worth the effort.



## **4 COUNTY Cooperative Weed Management Area**



### **4-County CWMA**

Last week, the 4-County CWMA hosted its Multnomah County General Meeting. This meeting highlighted a review of [Portland Parks' Integrated Pest Management program](#). This program has become the foundation for weed control approved practices with the city. There was a great discussion about the Salmon-safe certification process and the limitations that program poses to land managers working within the city.

The CWMA also reviewed the term “invasive” through the lens of diversity, equity, and inclusion. There was a spirited discussion about the language surrounding invasive weeds and the potential for alternative terminology.

The CWMA also voted in three Steering Committee members from three SWCDs in the Portland Metro Region. The 4-County CWMA is in good hands!

### **Columbia Gorge CWMA**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Columbia Gorge CWMA Invasive Species and Exotic Pest Workshop was a great success this past month. We had our best turnout (*albeit virtual*) in the history of the event. Much of the success of the event was the result of Courtney's thorough preparation and planning. She did an amazing job preparing our speakers and planning for the inevitable technical disruptions associated with a remotely held event.

The event occurred during [National Invasive Species Awareness Week](#) and was promoted across Washington state by the Washington Invasive Species Council.

This event featured 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.

A full recording of the day will be available soon on the Columbia Gorge CWMA ISEP webpage (<https://columbiagorgecwma.org/2021-isepworkshop/>).

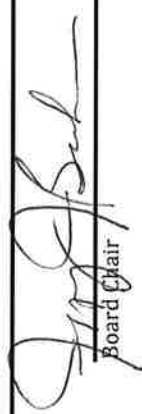
Voucher Approval List

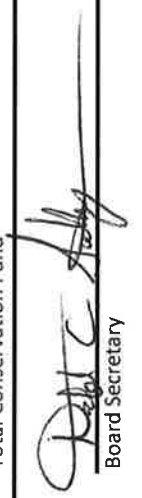
3/9/2021

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
3/9/2021	100527	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 02/2021	766.21
3/9/2021	100528	Nicole Ahr	Reimbursement: Mileage 02/2021	29.46
3/9/2021	100529	Clackamas County Clerk	CSWCD: Recording Fee [Oblack SRL-7003] 03/2021	103.00
3/9/2021	100530	Clackamas River Water	Acct: 032327-00 Water 02/2021	440.05
3/9/2021	100531	Covenant Systems LLC	CSWCD: Security/Fire Monitoring 03/2021	929.99
3/9/2021	100532	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 03/2021	567.00
3/9/2021	100533	CWT, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Video] 03/2021	3,235.00
3/9/2021	100534	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 03/2021	22,583.44
3/9/2021	100535	Drew Donahue	Reimbursement: Mileage 02/2021	131.82
3/9/2021	100536	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 01/2021	32.40
3/9/2021	100537	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL527537 02/2021	73.88
3/9/2021	100538	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 02/2021	100.00
3/9/2021	100539	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 02/2021	96.90
3/9/2021	100540	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 01/2021	192.43
3/9/2021	100541	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 02/2021	858.81
3/9/2021	100542	Jennifer Reische	Reimbursement: Mileage 02/2021	49.84
3/9/2021	100543	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 04/2021	629.58
3/9/2021	100544	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 02/2021	521.89
3/9/2021	100545	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 86928-4679 02/24/21	36.14
3/9/2021	100546	Verizon Wireless	Acct: 242017036-00001 02/13/21	240.06
3/9/2021	100547	VOYA Financial OSGP	CSWCD: 457b EE/ER PPE 02/28/2021	12,487.70
<b>Subtotal:</b>				<b>44,105.60</b>

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
<b>3/16/2021</b>				
3/12/2021	100548	Buel's Impressions Printing	CSWCD: ISEP Posters 02/2021	45.00
3/12/2021	100549	Cascade Environmental Group, LLC	PSC-1820-4037 Prof Svcs 01/2021-02/2021	11,272.50
3/12/2021	100550	Champoeg Nursery	DOG-1922-4039 Powell Riparian 03/2021	1,274.25
3/12/2021	100551	Clackamas River Basin Council	CSWCD: CRISP MOU [Req5] 02/2021	10,346.72
3/12/2021	100552	Converging Creeks LLC	CSWCD: Site Svcs [MailBx] 03/2021	162.00
3/12/2021	100553	Friends of Tryon Creek State Park	CSWCD: CWMA-4C [PT] Honorarium 01/2021	500.00
3/12/2021	100554	Impact Printing - Void incorrect amount	CSWCD: Brochure [Pulling for You] 02/2021	299.00
<b>Subtotal:</b>				<b>23,899.47</b>

Total Conservation Fund  
**Total: \$ 68,005.07**  
**11,620.97**

  
 Board Chair

  
 Board Secretary