



Approved May 18, 2021

Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for April 20, 2021

PRESENT	Directors:	Jeff Becker (Chair), Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Jim Johnson, Jan Lee, Jesse Nelson (Vice-Chair), Joan Zuber
	Associate Directors:	PK Melethil, John Keith, Anna Rankin
	Directors Emeritus:	Mike Weinberg
	Staff:	Nicole Ahr, Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Chris Lapp (General Manager), Sam Leininger, Eann Rains, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
	Partners:	Kim Galland (Natural Resources Conservation Service), Sandi Hiatt (Oregon Dept. of Agriculture)
	Guest:	Al Hrynyshyn (Soil and Water Conservation Commission), Lauren Courter (Cottrell Community Planning Organization)
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 4:00 p.m., April 20, 2021, via a “Zoom” call originating from the home office of Staff Faucera.

Chair Becker asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. No changes were requested. Chair Becker asked for clarification of when an “Executive session” could be called. It was noted that while “Executive sessions” could be called during a meeting without prior notice that should only be done for emergency purposes. These sessions should be noticed in advance for other purposes.

- B. Public Comment** – Chair Becker asked guest Hrynyshyn and partner Hiatt if they would like to address the board.

- Al Hrynyshyn reported on the February Soil and Water Conservation Commission meeting that was delayed until recently due to the ice storm. Hrynyshyn reported that the commission was still in the process of reviewing Oregon Revised Statute 568 regarding

eligibility to serve on a soil and water conservation district board. There was also discussion regarding the need to have focus areas and strategic implementation areas (SIA) for Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) funding.

Hrynyshyn reported that the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) would see a modest increase of 3 percent to their budget if the currently proposed budget is accepted. The department would still be short 17 positions.

ODA is closely watching the status of HB 1602 regarding helicopter spraying of herbicides/pesticides and the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts (OACD) is watching SB581 regarding carbon sequestration. Studies are currently underway regarding Oregon's water needs for the next 100 years and there is growing concern regarding water resources in the Klamath Basin. Legal expenses are on the increase for many partners due to litigation of water issues.

Hrynyshyn also reported that Barbara Boyer had been re-elected to be Chair of the Soil and Water Conservation Commission. The commission will be meeting again in May.

- Sandi Hiatt with the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) reported that Focus Area's will be optional for the 21-23 ODA Capacity Grants, but the SIA's will still be in place.

C. Director reports –

- Director Guttridge reported that he is still working on repairing storm damage, fencing, and killing tansy ragwort.
- Director Fantz is also working outdoors. There is a lot to do on a 30-acre wood land.
- Director Lee reported that OACD has been testifying in support of the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) budget and asked that the Soil and Water Conservation District Program Lead position with ODA be reinstated. A million dollars set aside for marketing grants had an impact on the budget. Lee also reported that the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is working on meeting sequestration and cap goals.
- Director Johnson reported that the Oregon Drought Readiness Council has reported that there are 11 counties in Oregon under a federal drought declaration. The lack of precipitation and storage reservoirs that are not full will have a large impact on agriculture in the state.

Johnson also reported that the Oregon Sustainable Agriculture Lands Trust is currently holding easements on four working lands properties. The District may wish to partner with them in the future. He noted that the Board of Agriculture will be meeting in May.

Johnson also reported that the North Willamette Research and Extension Center is in the process of hiring a new director.

- Director Emeritus Weinberg reported that he has received his second COVID shot and looks forward to when the Board can meet in person again.
- Associate Director Melethil reported that he had recently read a paper regarding adaptive management of forests and the effect that removing snags in forested areas has on raptor habitat.

- Director Nelson reported that he is busy planting trees and enjoying the sunshine.
- Associate Director Rankin reported on the unending amount of groundwork projects that are in the Pudding River watershed. Rankin reported that she would be meeting with Marion County Commissioners on April 21, 2021 as they still need to sign off on the permits for the removal of a dam on Butte Creek.

Rankin noted that the term "citizen science" is being change to "community science" to be more inclusive. Not everyone in a community maybe a citizen.

The Pudding River Watershed Council is looking to focus more on tributaries in their area in a change of strategies and trying to stockpile large trees for other projects. Rankin would also welcome any information that is available on nutria management as this small rodent is causing big problems.

- Associate Director Keith reported to the board that he will be leaving the District around mid-May. Life circumstance has impacted this decision and he is sorry will not be able to continue to serve.

D. Partner reports – Kim Galland with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) reported that bids for movers have been accepted and awarded and NRCS is hoping to move into the new office space by the end of May.

Galland reported that NRCS had a town hall meeting with the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Vilsack. Secretary Vilsack noted that the Department of Agriculture needs to hire about 3000 people to fill positions left open. He reported that Debt Burden Relief under the new COVID relief package would be targeting black, indigenous and under served farmers. Much of the COVID-19 farming relief under previous packages went to big agriculture.

Galland will be taking part in a state-wide phone conference with climate experts. Drought conditions are happening more frequently so they will be discussing conservation practices that may help farmers and how they may play into the carbon market. There are questions on how USDA will be involved in the carbon markets as well. Galland hopes the Farm Services Administration will take the lead.

Galland reported that she is still involved in contracting and that Matthew Edwards and Mike Hensley have completed training to become certified conservation planners with USDA.

E. Manager's report on committees –

- Manager Lapp reported that the Budget Committee had met on March 30, 2021 to review the proposed 21/22 fiscal year budget. The Committee will be meeting again on April 27, 2021 to receive public comment on the proposed budget.
- Manager Lapp reported that the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee would be meeting on April 21, 2021, at 3:30 to discuss how the District is going to revise programs to be more diverse, equitable, inclusive.
- Staff Tucker reported that the Finance Committee has been exchanging e-mails regarding the distribution of credit cards and credit card procedures.
- The Building Committee has been exchanging some e-mails regarding the tenant build out.

2 – MINUTES

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

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

- B. **March 30, 2021, Budget Committee Meeting minutes** – The minutes of the March 30, 2021 Budget Committee meeting were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

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

3 – FINANCIAL REPORTS

- A. **Review and accept financial reports** – Staff Tucker presented the March 2021 financial reports to the Board. As of March 31, 2021, the Districts total assets are 11.7 million and total liabilities were at 7.2 million. Total net assets are 4.49 million. The District is maintaining a healthy asset position.

Tucker reviewed several charts with the Board to show where the District finances are in comparison with the projected budget for the rest of fiscal year 20/21.

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

- B. **Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the disbursements to the Board for review. Tucker presented the automatic clearing house payments for March. The regular disbursement list showed check numbers 100555 to 100596 with no voids or breaks in the sequence. Tucker noted that the Watershed Council grants had been paid out at the first of the month. Disbursements totaled \$158,241.03 with \$22,392.41 of the total from the conservation fund.

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

PRESENTATION:

Lauren Courter with the Cottrell Community Planning Organization brought a presentation to the Board concerning a proposed water filtration project that will have an impact on approximately 89 acres of class 2 productive farmlands. Some of the impacted properties are in Clackamas County and the majority is in Multnomah County. Concerns regarding the project include cost of the project, impacts on agriculture, other options that should be considered, and whether the City of Portland has followed land use rules.

Directors asked that this be brought up at the May 18th, meeting to discuss the possibility of sending letters to Metro, the City of Portland, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture regarding this matter. Please see the attached presentation which is a part of these minutes.

4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. Approval for Board members to attend the CONNECT conference** – GM Lapp asked the Board if there were any members who would like to attend the CONNECT conference in May. The conference will be on-line, and the cost will be \$53.55 per person. The dates of the conference are May 11-13, 2021. Board approval is required for Board members to attend. Directors Zuber and Becker, as well as Associate Director Rankin asked to attend. Staff Guttridge will register the Board directors if approved.

Directors Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded for Board Directors and Associate Directors to register and attend the CONNECT conference. Motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Proposed Oregon Association of Conservation District (OACD) increase in membership dues** – Director Lee reported to the Board that OACD had not raised their dues in 8 years. The OACD Board is asking for a 5.25% increase in dues from larger districts and will be dropping the minimum dues for several smaller districts. The invoices will be submitted to the Districts in June for payment in July.

Chair Becker asked that this be brought back to the Board in May.

5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. Septic Contractor Request for Qualification (RFQ) renewals** – GM Lapp reported to the Board that it was time to renew the Districts septic system contractors list for the septic loan program. Lapp also reported that the new RFQ will extend the qualification time from two year to three years. The Board asked if there had been any problems with the existing list of contractors and other than one contractor being slow to respond to requests there have been no problems. Staff Rains reported that the District would be reaching out to 112 contractors in Clackamas, Marion, Multnomah, and Washington counties. The RFQ qualifications will be reviewed by committee and a new list put in place by July 1, 2021.

6 – PERSONNEL

- A. Recruitment status for Conservation Planner position** – GM Lapp reported that the recruitment period for the planner position closed on Friday, April 16, 2021 and that the District has received 31 applications. Staff Reische and GM Lapp will be meeting to review the applications for minimum qualifications and select applicants to be interviewed. Applicants will be interviewed by a panel. GM Lapp hopes to hold interviews during the first part of May and have a conservation planner hired by the end of May.

7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

A. Management reports –

- Staff Reische reported about the planning staffs on-going projects including oak habitat, riparian restoration, and spring weed treatments. The damage from the ice-storm and the severe weather are impacting projects. Staff is also working on Environmental Quality Incentive Program applications and updates and receiving many technical assistance calls. Please see Staff Reische's report which is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Leininger reported on the WeedWise department. Garlic Mustard is the April weed of the month. The WeedWise staff has been sending out permission mailings and doing field work. Staff Cooley took the lead on getting storm damage cleaned up at the Conservation Resource Center. Leininger reported that the agreement with Bonneville Power for weed control funding has been completed, the Cooperative Weed Management Areas are busy and new boot brush stations have been installed. Please see Staff Leininger's report which is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Kilders reported for Education and Outreach. Kilders thanked Associate Director Melethil for attending the Landscaping for Wildlife seminars. Kilders reported that Staff McQueeney would be moderating the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion session at the CONNECT Conference and Kilders will be speaking at a National Association of Conservation Districts summit about our partnerships in the County to bring wildfire preparedness workshops to high-risk areas of the County. Kilders will send out a link regarding this summit. Please see Staff Kilders' report which is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Faucera reported on his continuing work with the Oregon Department of Forestry tax programs. Faucera will be reaching out to the legislature and meeting with Representative Jeff Reardon regarding the issue. These tax deferral programs are important for the Districts oak habitat and other critical habitat work. Please see Faucera's report which is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Faucera also reported on the tenant improvement in the west wing. The contractor is currently waiting for doors which are scheduled to arrive the first week in May. Once the doors are installed there will be a walk-through and a punch list to complete. Faucera is working to get signage approved. He showed the Directors pictures of the work that has been completed.

- B. Urban Ecology Research Consortium Symposium (UERC) overview –** Associate Director Melethil gave a slide presentation about an UERC Symposium that he attended. The symposium focused on providing an interface between research and development. The goal is to create policies for community forests and parks and how help can be provided to those in need for building better communities. Please see the presentation which is a part of these minutes.

8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING

A. No Topics this month.

9 – OTHER REPORTS

- Director Johnson reported that at this time Governor Brown has set a date of September 1, 2021, for state agencies to re-open.

ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING

- The Budget Committee will be meeting on April 27, 2021, at 2:30 p.m.
- The next regular meeting will be on May 18, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge
Office Administrator



Portland's Proposed Water Filtration Project at Carpenter Lane

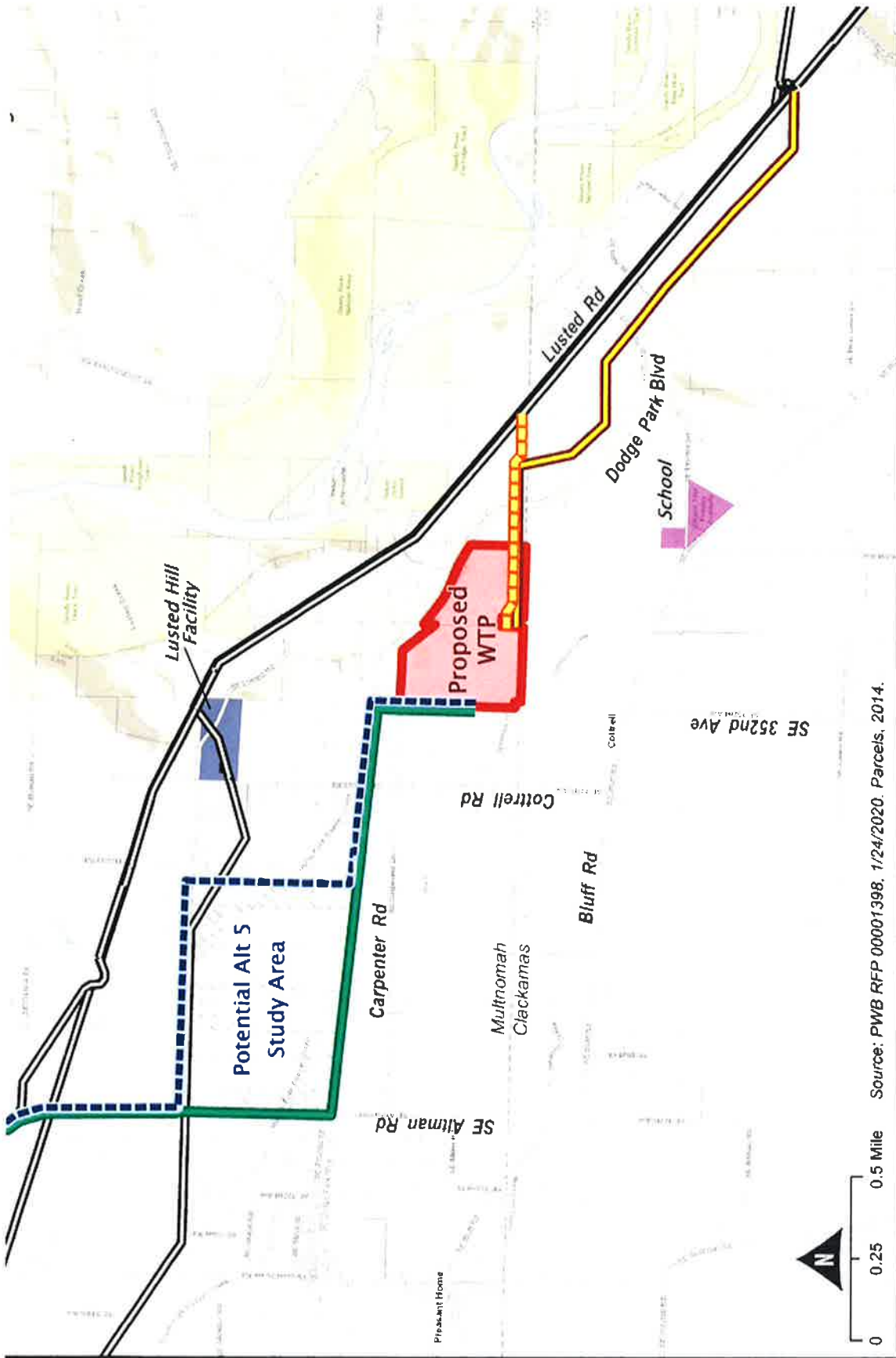
Lauren Courter

Gottrell Community Planning Organization

Clackamas County

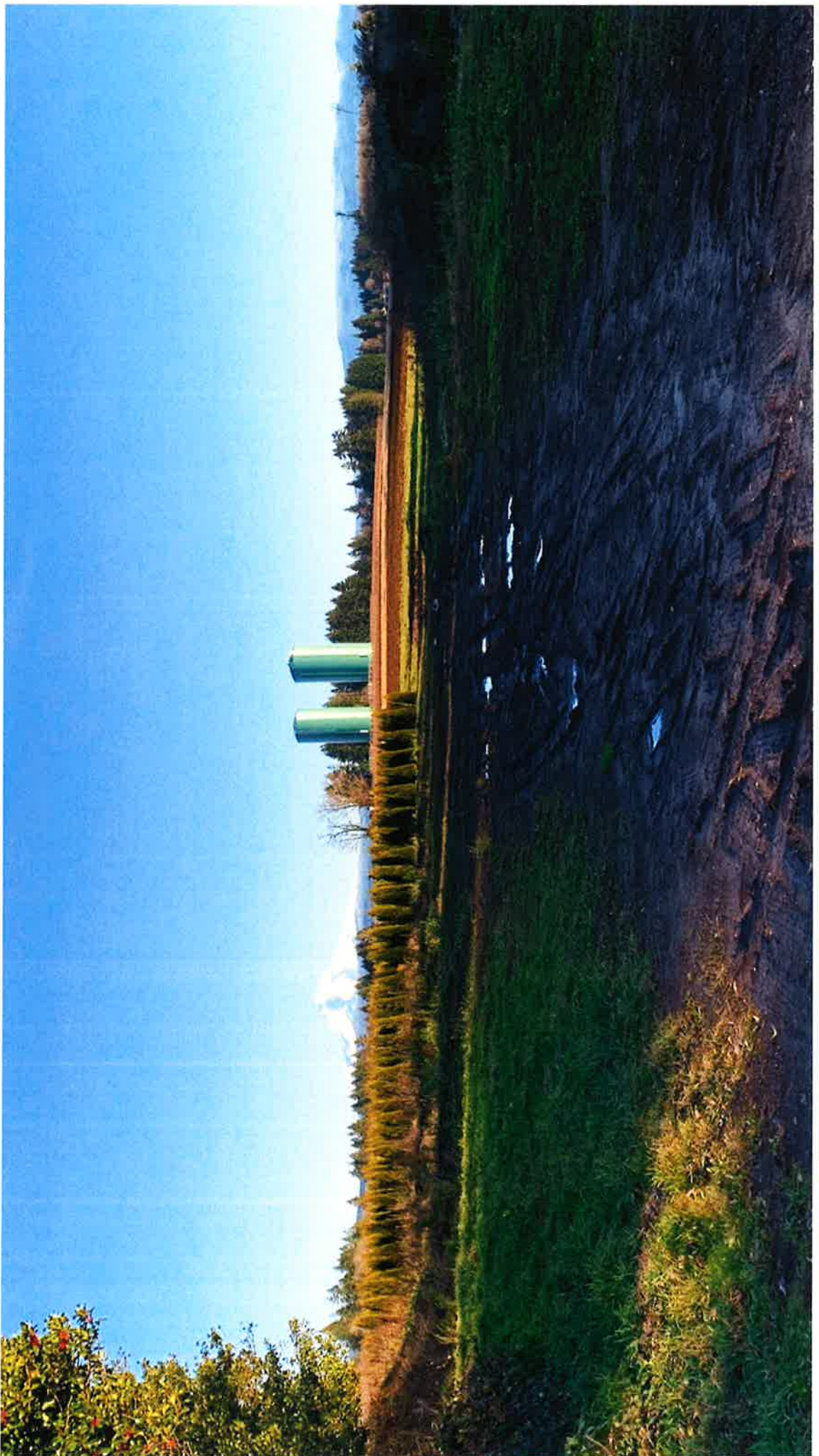
Brief Timeline

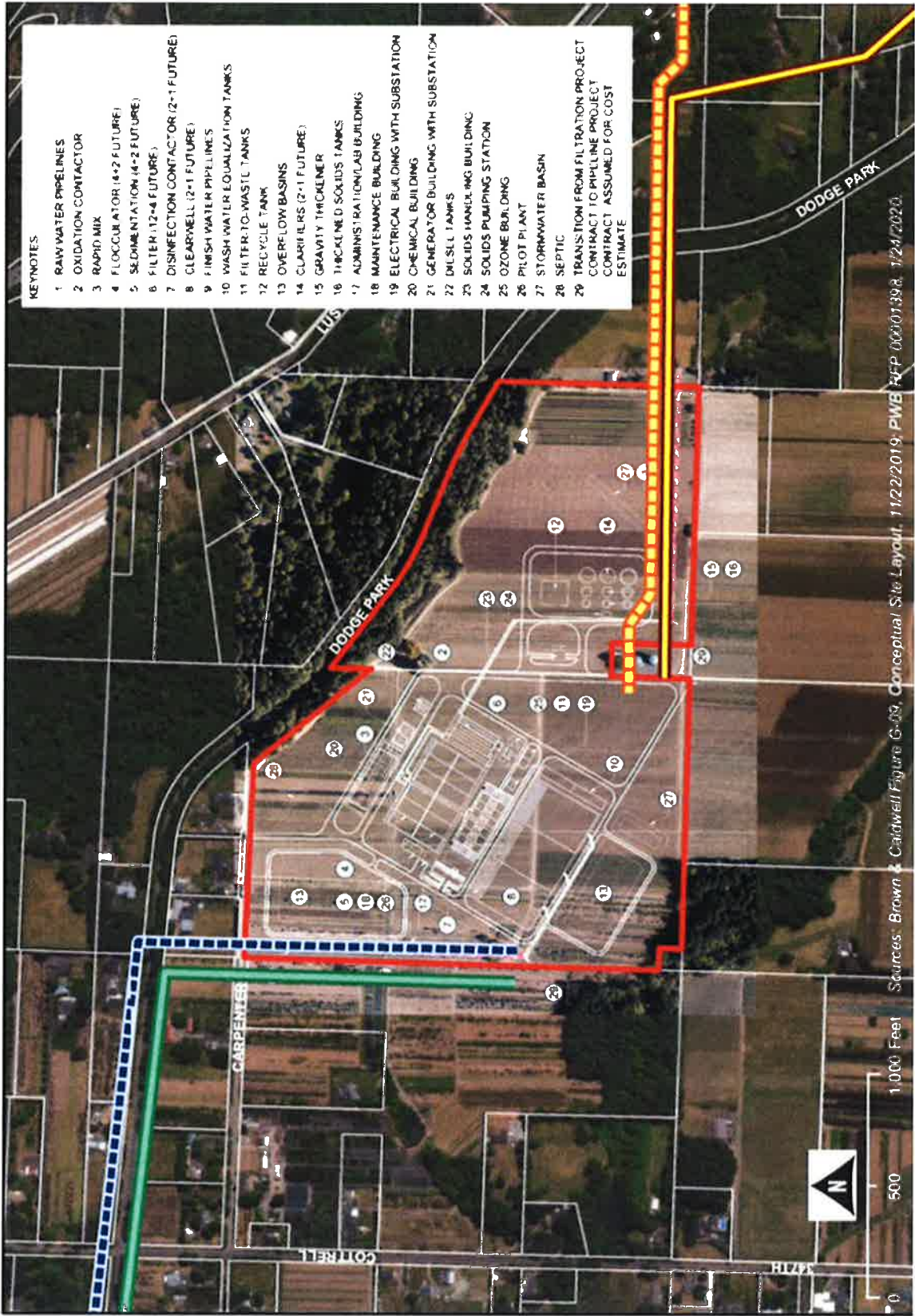
- 2017: *Cryptosporidium* detections; City must treat water (LT2 rule)
- 2018-2019: Filtration approved \$350, then \$820M; Carpenter Lane
- 2019-present: Design, planning, testing
- 2021: City is approved \$727M Federal WIFIA funding for \$1.5B Project
- To date:
 - City yet to submit conditional land-use application to Mult. Co.
 - Recently unknown (Feb.'21) to Clackamas Co Planning + Transportation
 - Recently unknown (Feb.'21) to Clackamas Co. Commissioners
 - Test drilling, property access, damage on farms and residences, Clack + Mult.
 - 16% of ratepayers are aware



Source: PWB RFP 00001398, 1/24/2020. Parcels, 2014.

0 0.25 0.5 Mile





KEYNOTES

- 1 RAW WATER PIPELINES
- 2 OXIDATION CONTACTOR
- 3 RAPID MIX
- 4 FLOCCULATOR (4*2 FUTURE)
- 5 SEDIMENTATION (4*2 FUTURE)
- 6 FILTER (12*4 FUTURE)
- 7 DISINFECTION CONTACTOR (2*1 FUTURE)
- 8 CLEARWELL (2*1 FUTURE)
- 9 FINISH WATER PIPELINES
- 10 WASH WATER EQUALIZATION TANKS
- 11 FILTER-TO-WASTE TANKS
- 12 RECYCLE TANK
- 13 OVERFLOW BASINS
- 14 CLARIFIERS (2*1 FUTURE)
- 15 GRAVITY THICKENER
- 16 THICKENED SOLIDS TANKS
- 17 ADMINISTRATOR/CAB BUILDING
- 18 MAINTENANCE BUILDING
- 19 ELECTRICAL BUILDING WITH SUBSTATION
- 20 CHEMICAL BUILDING
- 21 GENERATOR BUILDING WITH SUBSTATION
- 22 DISELL TANKS
- 23 SOLIDS HANDLING BUILDING
- 24 SOLIDS PUMPING STATION
- 25 OZONE BUILDING
- 26 PILOT PLANT
- 27 STORMWATER BASIN
- 28 SEPTIC
- 29 TRANSITION FROM FILTRATION PROJECT CONTRACT TO PIPELINE PROJECT CONTRACT ASSURED FOR COST ESTIMATE

1:000 Feet Sources: Brown & Caldwell Figure G-03, Conceptual Site Layout, 11/22/2019; PIWB RFP 00001398, 1/24/2020.

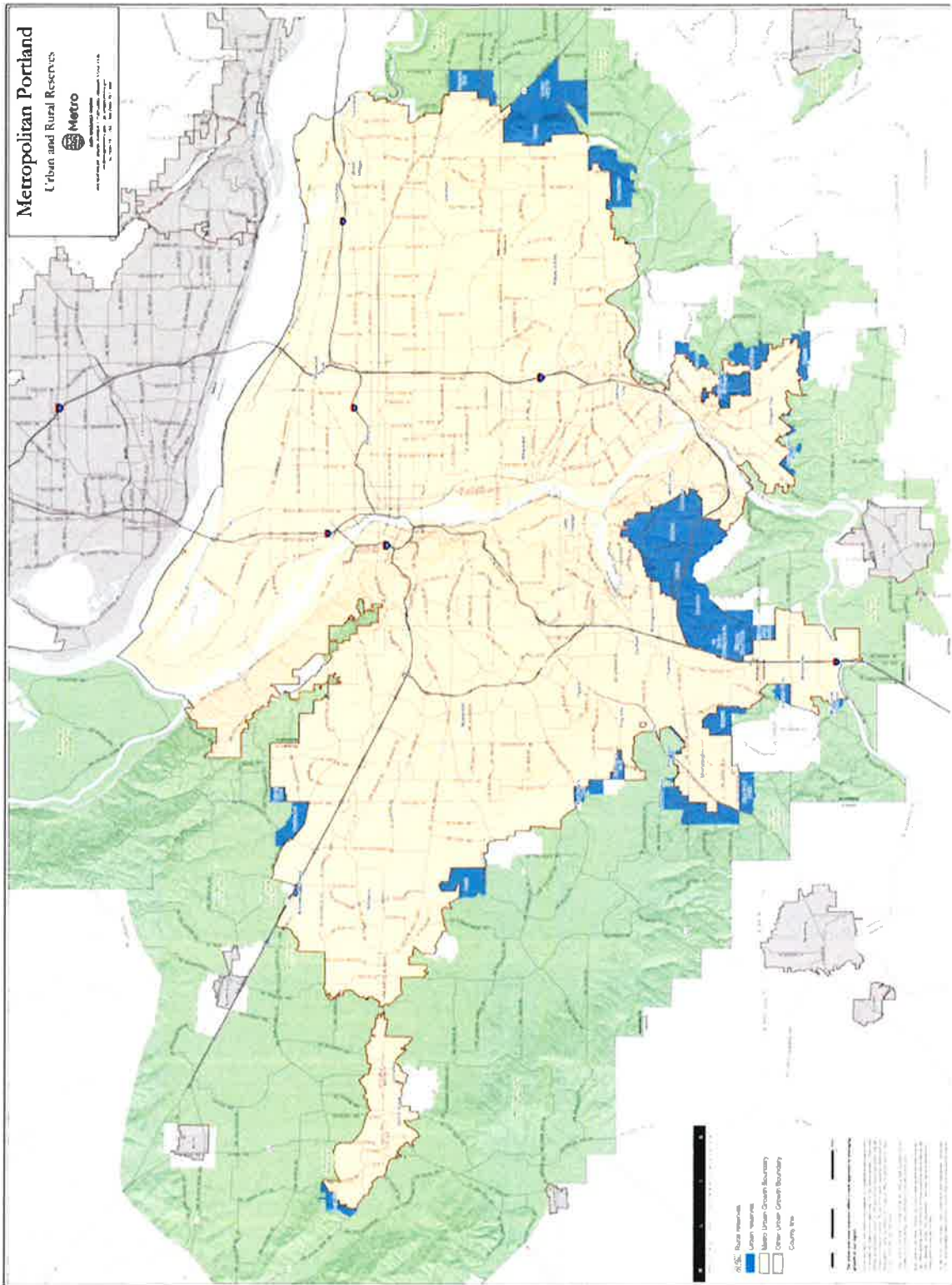
Proposed Site and Pipeline

- 96-acres of Class II, high-value soil
- Removal of 1.3 million cubic yards
- Over 4 miles of new pipe through residential and farmland
- At the headwaters of Johnson Creek
- Pipelines impact tributaries to Sandy River
- Impacts to water rights
- * Within Rural Reserve
- * Does not adhere to long term Plan

Metropolitan Portland
 Urban and Rural Reserves



Metropolitan Area Council
 1000 NE Oregon Street, Suite 1000
 Portland, Oregon 97232
 Phone: 503.241.1000
 Fax: 503.241.1001
 www.metro.or.gov

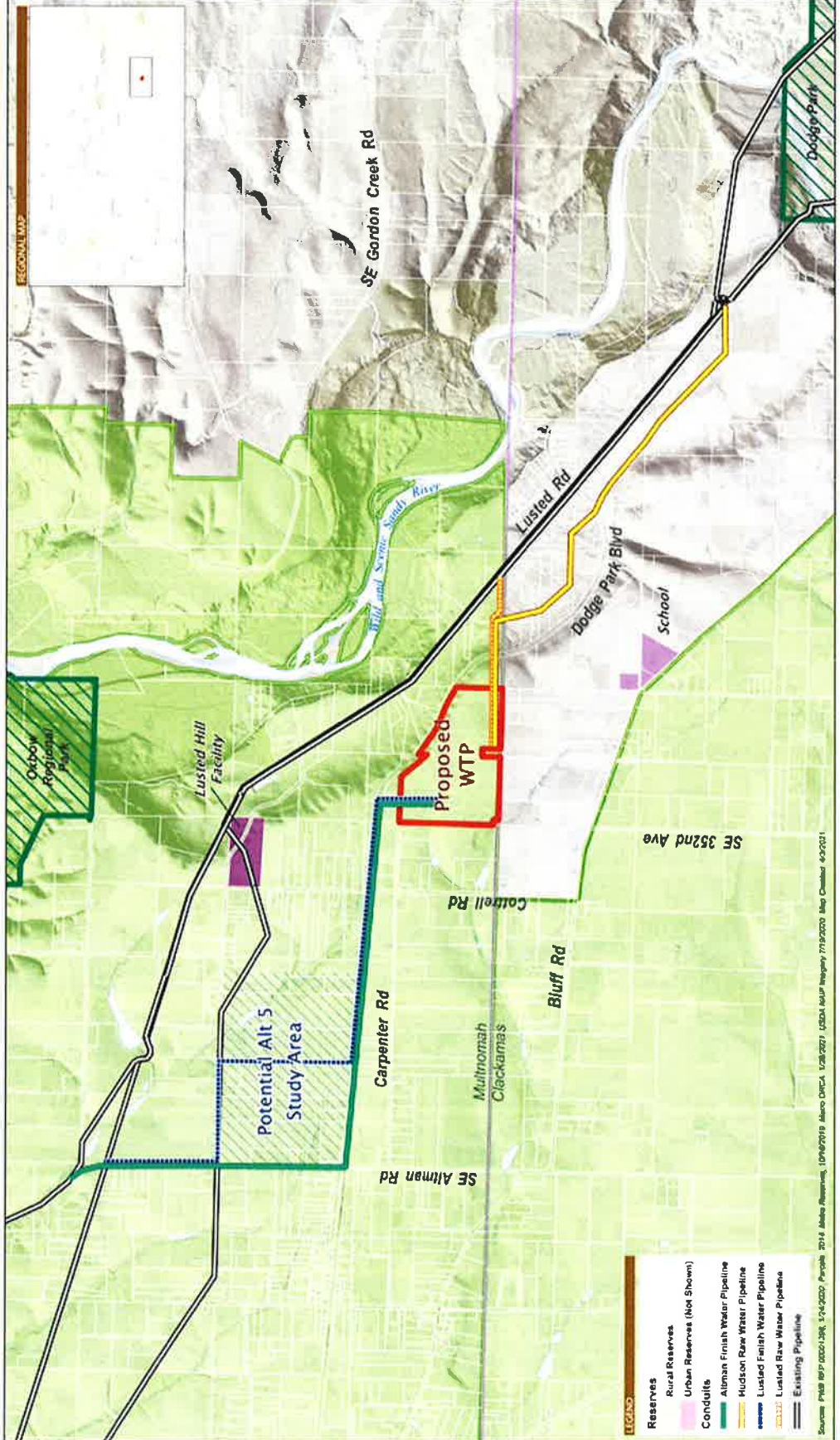


Metro's Rural Reserve

...high value working farms and forests or have important natural features like rivers, wetlands, buttes and floodplains. These areas will be protected from urbanization for 50 years after their designation.

These designations do not change current zoning or restrict landowners' currently allowed use of their lands. They do provide greater clarity regarding long-term expected uses of the land, allowing public and private landowners to make long-term investments with greater assurance

PROPOSED BULL RUN WATER TREATMENT PLANT
Rural Reserves



- LEGEND**
- Reserves**
 - Rural Reserves
 - Urban Reserves (Not Shown)
 - Conduits**
 - Altman Finish Water Pipeline
 - Muddy Raw Water Pipeline
 - Lusted Finish Water Pipeline
 - Lusted Raw Water Pipeline
 - Existing Pipeline

Source: PWS MAP 00201308, 1/4/2020 / People, 2014 Atlas Reserves, 10/6/2019. Also DRCA, 1/28/2021. (2024) WTR Mapway 7/15/2020 Map Created 6/30/21

Multnomah County, West of the Sandy River

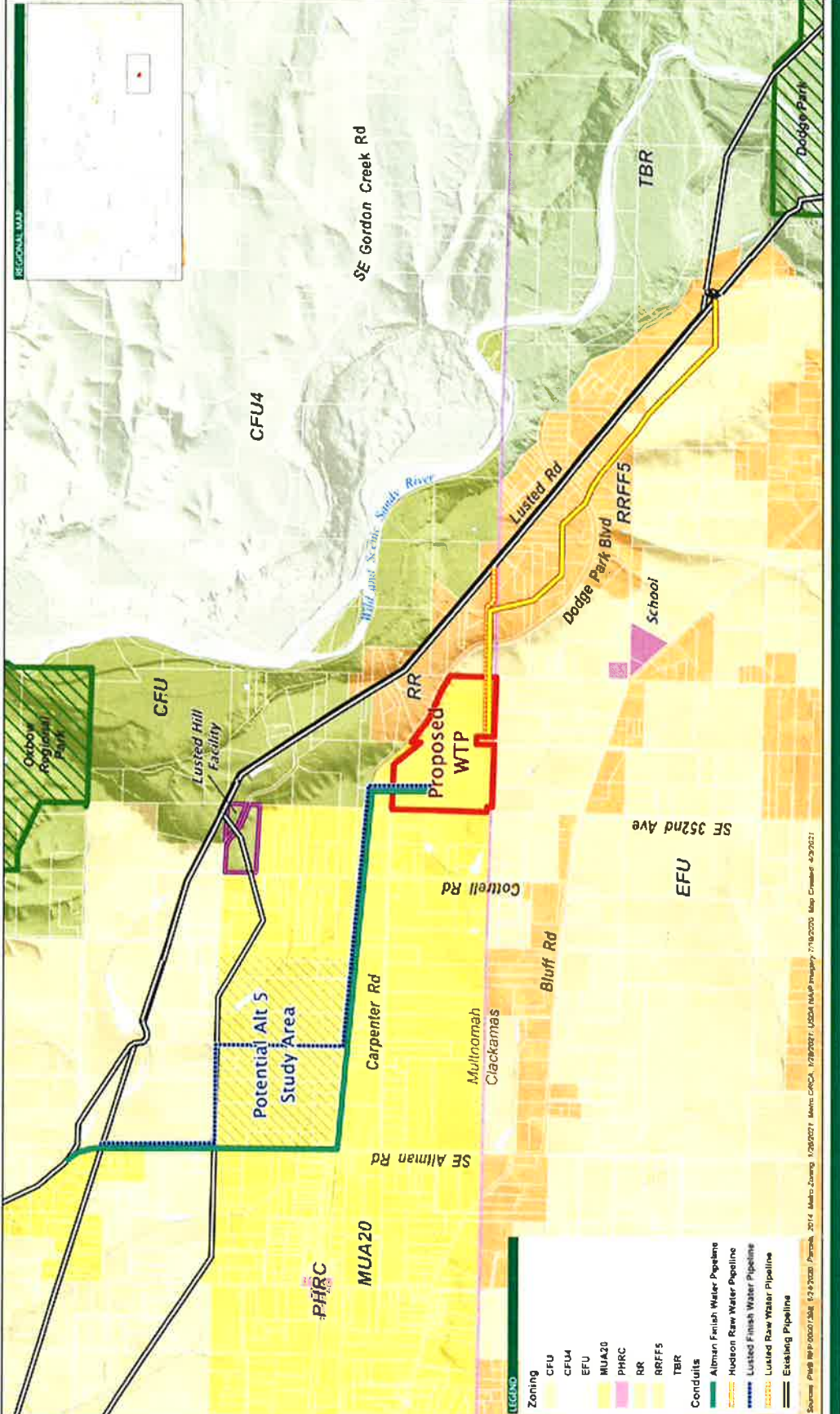
We value.. open spaces, vistas of productive farm and forest lands and of Mt Hood, country roads, healthy air, soils and streams, and a night sky where we can clearly see the stars.

..the planned density of residential development must not increase, that the agricultural economy of the area must remain strong, and that development of new non-agricultural businesses should serve the needs of the local area..

PROPOSED BULL RUN WATER TREATMENT PLANT Zoning Designations



0.25 0.5 1.0 Miles



Source: GIS 8/2001/MSL, 6/2/2002/Park, 2014, Metro zoning, 1/26/2017, Metro GIS, 1/26/2017, LOST MAP Project, 7/19/2020, Map Creator: 4/29/2021



We're Investing in our Water Future and Reducing Costs with a WIFIA Loan

We secured a low-cost WIFIA loan from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help finance important and necessary improvements to Portland's water system, including improved corrosion control, a new filtration facility, and related pipelines.

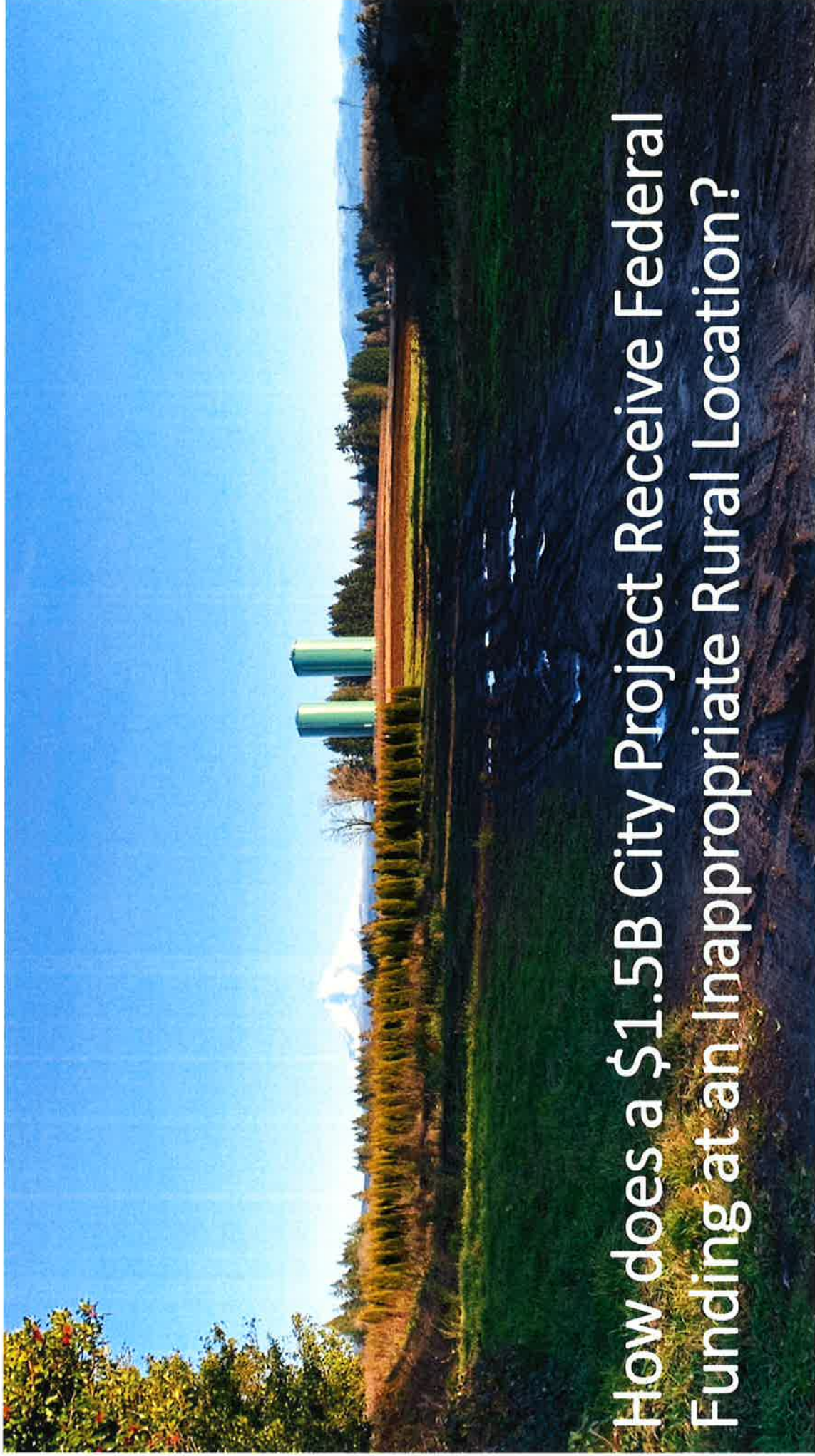


EPA's \$727M Loan to Portland Water Bureau the Largest to Date

Highlights from the March 4, 2021 Bull Run Treatment Projects WIFIA Loan Recognition event

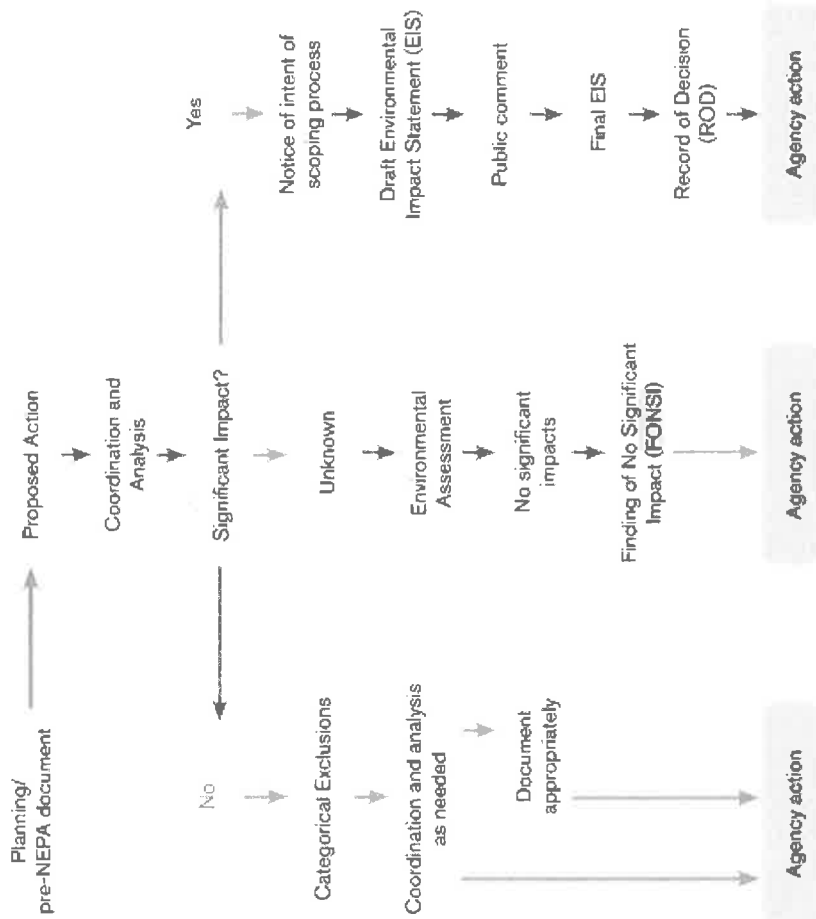
The Portland Water Bureau secured a Water Infrastructure Finance Innovation Act (WIFIA) loan from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to help finance important and necessary improvements to Portland's water system, including improved corrosion control, a new filtration facility, and related pipelines. On March 4, 2021, the Water Bureau was joined by Governor Kate Brown, Sen. Jeff Merkley, EPA's Acting Assistant Administrator for Water Programs, Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, Portland Water Commissioner Mingus Stanley, and former Portland Water Commissioner Amanda Fritz to acknowledge this significant WIFIA benefits for everyone in our community who relies on safe, reliable drinking water.





How does a \$1.5B City Project Receive Federal Funding at an Inappropriate Rural Location?

City Bypasses EA/EIS and Public Comment



“..77 acres of Farmland of Statewide Importance..”

“Foundational agricultural area” designated by ODA

FPPA score 158/160; therefore, less than significant impact

A. LAND USE:	IMPACT ANTICIPATED		
	NO IMPACT	LESS THAN SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	POTENTIALLY SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
1. Conversions of Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), to non-agricultural use as defined under the Farmland Protection Act 7 U.S.C. 4201 et seq.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Conflicts with any applicable land use plan, policy, act, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, habitat conservation plan, specific plan, local plan, or zoning ordinance).	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please provide mitigation measures related to land use, including those that reduce a significant impact to less than significant. Please provide references and supporting documents.

Level of Impacts Conclusion:

1. Construction of the filtration facility will take approximately 77 acres of Farmland of Statewide importance out of agricultural production defined by FPPA. The level of impact for the filtration facility was determined to be below the FPPA impact threshold. The pipelines will have only a temporary impact to agricultural production; therefore, construction of the pipelines will not contribute to the FPPA impact. The ICCT project does not impact any agricultural lands.
2. Local land use - All projects will be compatible with all local land programs and policies. Local land use permits will be acquired for all projects prior to construction. See proposed mitigation measure listed below that would further minimize this impact.

Supporting Impact Analysis For filtration facility: The proposed filtration facility site is considered a foundational agricultural area by the Oregon Department of Agriculture and a farmland of statewide importance by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). In accordance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) the proposed filtration facility site was evaluated by NRCS and PWB using the Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment (LESA) using USDA form AD-1006 (Attachment C). The LESA evaluation shows that the proposed filtration facility site has a score of 158 points which is below the FPPA impact threshold of 160 points. Therefore, the filtration facility will have a less than significant impact to Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance.

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Name of Project: **Bull Run Treatment Program** Date of Land Evaluation Request: **2/27/2020**
 Proposed Land Use: **Portable Water Filtration Plant** Federal Agency: **involves EPA**
 County and State: **Multnomah, Oregon**

PART II (To be completed by NRCS)

Date Request Received By: **J. Winter** Form Completed Form: **39**
 Acres Irrigated: **5747** Average Farm Size: **39**
 Acres of Farm Land As Defined in FPPA: **108115 % 36.3**
 Amount of Farmland Returned by NRCS: **108115 % 36.3**
 Date Land Evaluation Returned by NRCS: **2/27/2020**

Does the site contain Prime, Unique, Statewide or Local Important Farmland? **NO**
 (If no, the FPPA does not apply - do not complete additional parts of this form)

Major Crops: **none**

Name of Land Evaluation System Used: **drain Multnomah County LE**
 Farmable Land in Govt Jurisdiction: **108115 % 36.3**
 Name of State or Local Site Assessment System: **none**

PART III (To be completed by Federal Agency)

A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly: **100** Alternative Site Rating: **77** Site A: **13** Site B: **13** Site C: **13**
 B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly: **8** Site A: **8** Site B: **8** Site C: **8**
 C. Total Acres in Site: **85** Site A: **85** Site B: **85** Site C: **85**

PART IV (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Information

A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland: **2** **0.7**
 B. Total Acres Statewide Important or Local Important Farmland: **100** **77.1**
 C. Percentage Of Farmland in County Of Local Govt. UIR To Be Converted: **0.09** **0.07**
 D. Percentage Of Farmland in Govt Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value: **29.6** **29.6**

PART V (To be completed by NRCS) Land Evaluation Criteria
 (Criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5 b. For County Projects use Nym NRCS (ppa 109))

PART VI (To be completed by Federal Agency) Site Assessment Criteria

1. Area in Non-Urban Use	150	13
2. Farmland in Non-Urban Use	150	13
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed	20	8
4. Protection Provided By State and Local Government	20	15
5. Distance From Urban Build-Up Area	150	15
6. Distance To Urban Support Services	150	10
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average	150	10
8. Creation Of Non-Farmable Farmland	20	0
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services	150	5
10. On-Farm Investments	150	5
11. Expense Of Conversion On Farm Support Services	150	3
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use	150	0
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	79

PART VII (To be completed by Federal Agency)

Relative Value Of Farmland (From Part VI)
 Total Site Assessment (From Part VI) above local site assessment)
TOTAL POINTS (Total of above 2 lines)

Relative Value Of Farmland	100	77.3
Total Site Assessment	160	79
TOTAL POINTS	260	156.3

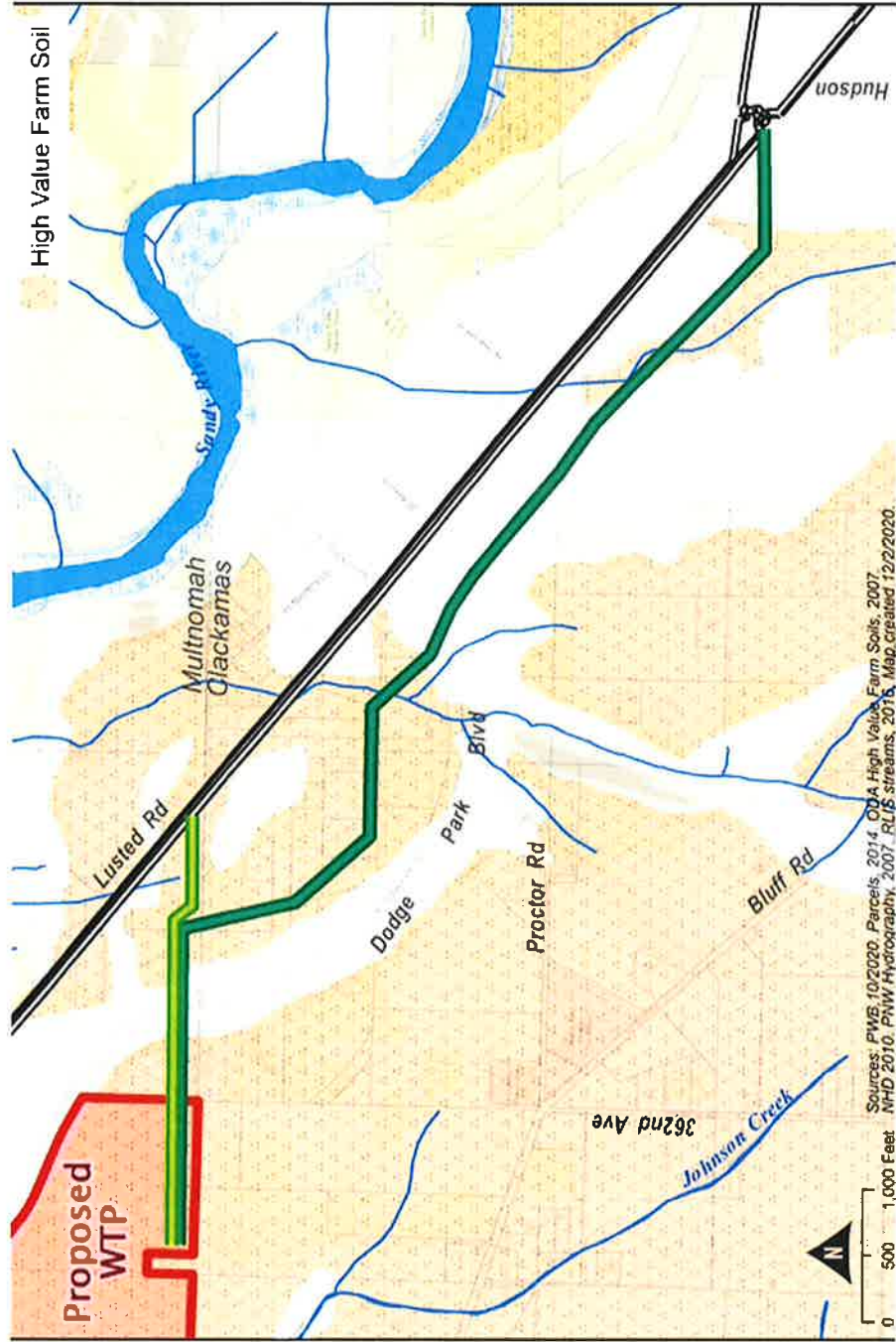
Site Selected: **Site B** Date Of Selection: **NO**

NRCS FPPA Impact Scoring

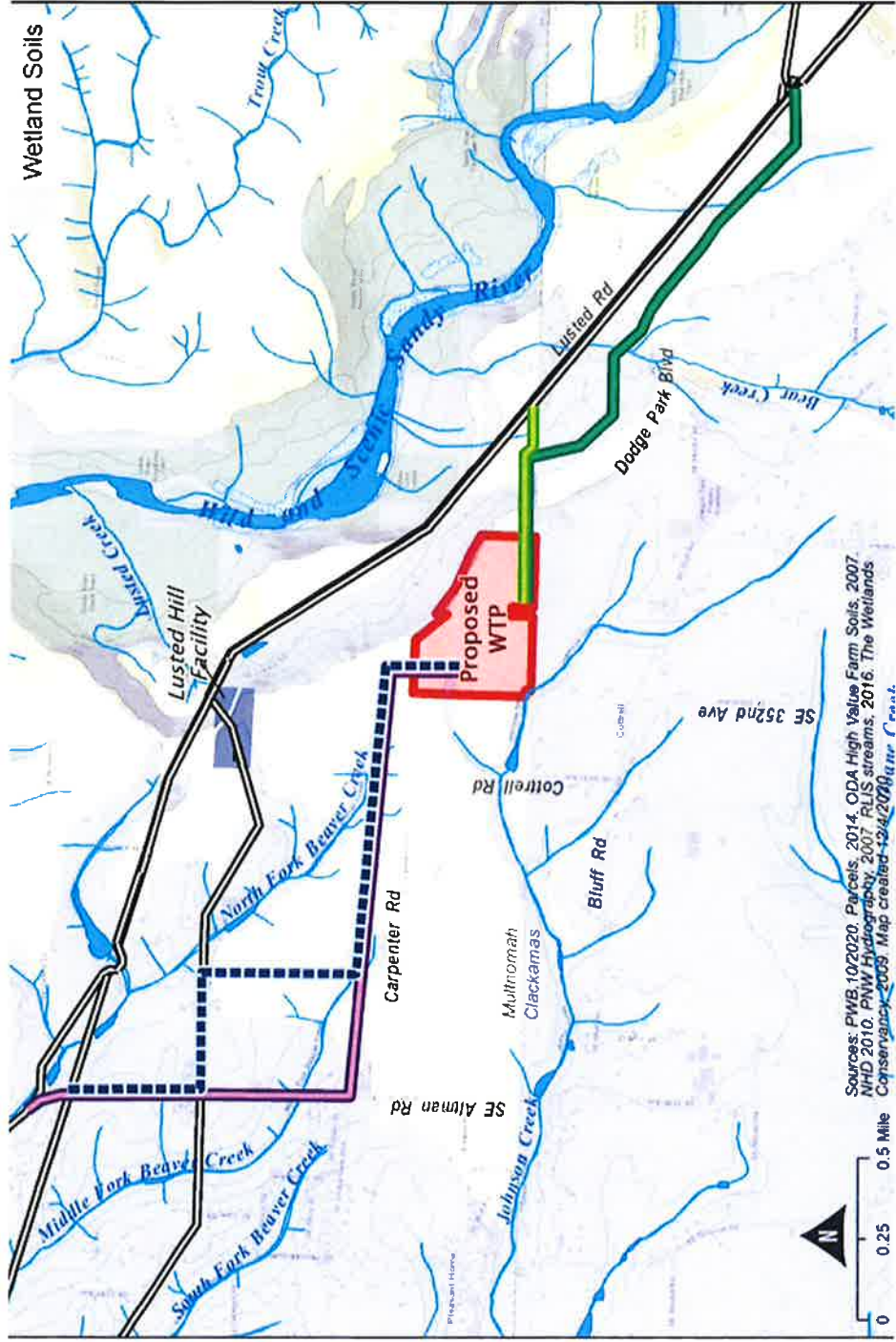
0/20: Protection provided by state and local government

0/20: Creation of Non-Farmable Farmland

Clackamas Co. Agricultural Impact



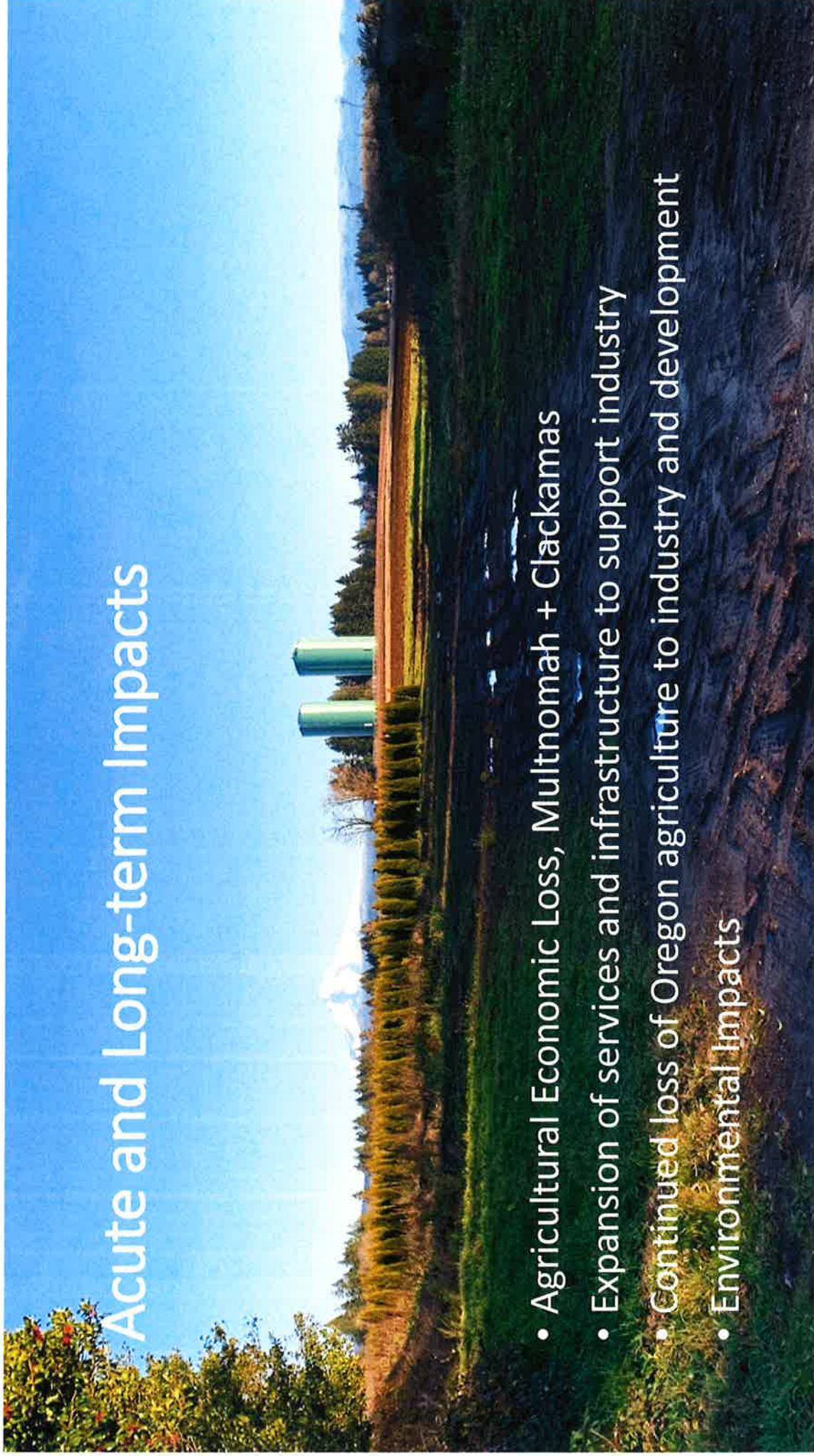
Clackamas Co. Watershed Impact



Sources: PWB 10/2020, Parcels, 2014, ODA High Value Farm Soils, 2007, NHD 2010, PWB Hydrography, 2007, RUS streams, 2016, The Wetlands Conservancy, 2008. Map created 12/4/2020.

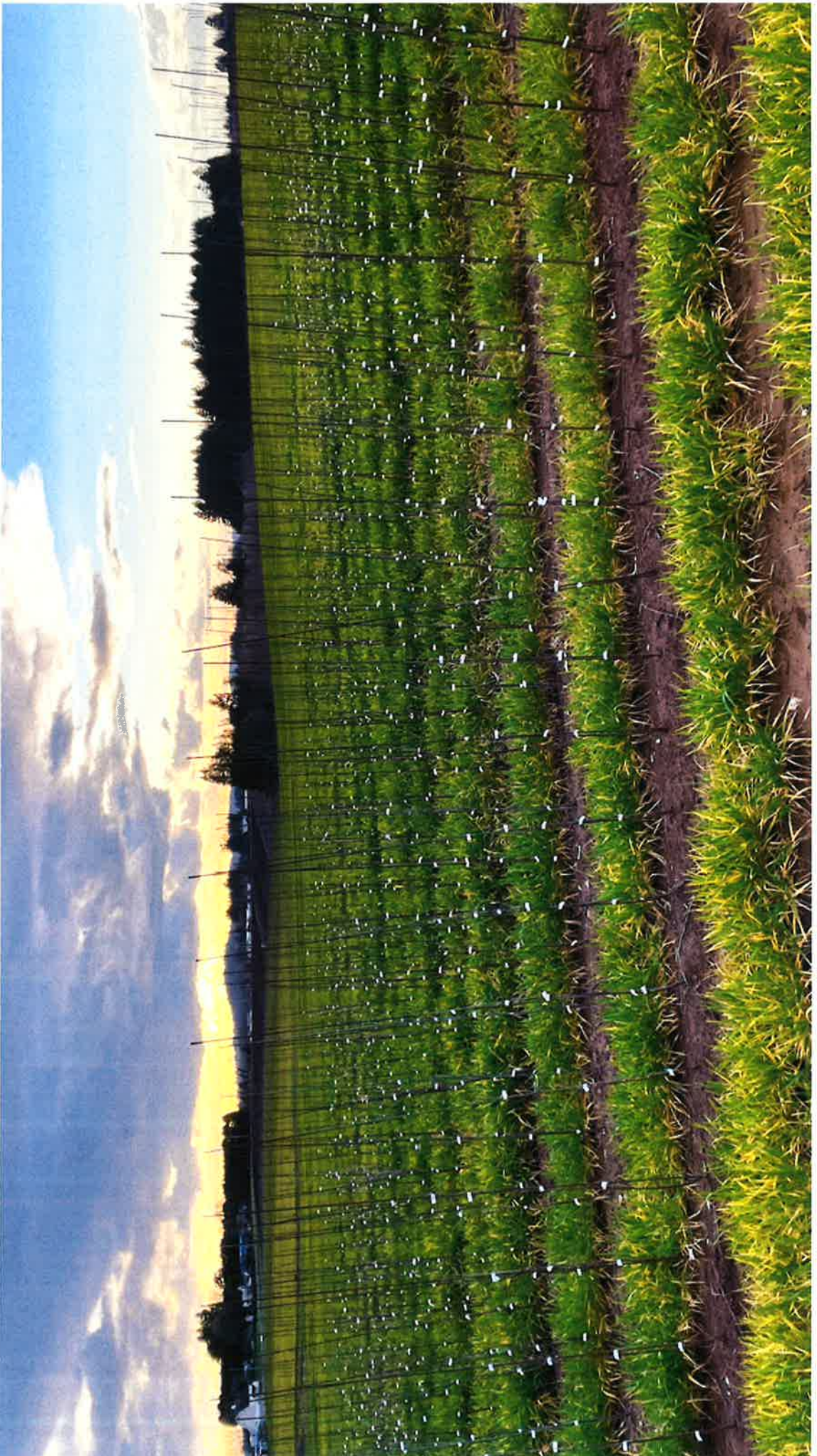
Acute and Long-term Impacts

- Agricultural Economic Loss, Multnomah + Clackamas
- Expansion of services and infrastructure to support industry
- Continued loss of Oregon agriculture to industry and development
- Environmental Impacts



We need your support..

- Significant Impact to Agriculture
- Contradicts long-term planning vision
- No reasonable mitigation
- United opposition: Cottrell, Bull Run, Boring CPOs
- 500+ signatures: Gresham, Boring, Damascus, Sandy
- Political pressure





April 20, 2021

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: Conservation Planning Program Update

Beaver Creek Riparian Planting Project Update

Nicole Ahr has been working with landowners along Beaver Creek, very close to the Conservation Resource Center, to restore a native riparian buffer. The site was heavily infested with reed canary grass and had a variety of other weed species, including Armenian blackberry and English holly. The landowners have worked on weed control for years on their own but needed an extra boost of technical assistance and a restoration contractor to tackle the reed canary grass. With a DOG grant from the District, the landowner has been able to receive cost-share to improve the riparian buffer and wildlife habitat on their property. Nicole helped coordinate weed control work for the past two years and the site was ready for native grass seeding last fall. Last month she led the contractor on the installation of 2,450 native bare root trees and shrubs along Beaver Creek. This riparian buffer was designed to provide more native trees, as there are few remaining and most of them are declining red alders on their last years. The buffer also includes a variety of flowering and fruiting shrubs that can tolerate the riparian conditions and support native pollinators and wildlife. See photos below of before and after photos of the weed control efforts/planting (photos taken by Nicole Ahr).



Before: Reed Canary Grass infested buffer along Beaver Creek.



After: Planted buffer this winter.

Upland Habitat Partners Project Update

Scott Eden has been working on an upland pollinator planting project with a client in the Clarkes/Mulino area for the last 3 years. Funding was secured with the help of the USF&WS Partners Program. One aspect of the project was to establish oak islands and pollinator hedgerows. A half-acre of native trees and shrubs were planted to add pollinator and habitat diversity. Beginning in 2018, several oak islands were planted with a mix of oak seedlings and associated native shrubs, as well as additional pollinator forbs, including showy milkweed, and Roemer's fescue. Additionally, approximately 1,600 linear feet by 15 ft wide hedgerow was established on the field edges with a similar mix of native grasses, forbs, shrubs and trees to promote pollinator and beneficial insect habitat. Originally the hedgerow was planned for only 1,100 ft, but this year was expanded. Weed control in the oak islands and hedgerow areas has been great, with several areas of blackberry and scotch broom now eradicated.

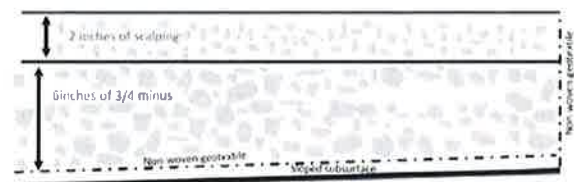


Oak islands on upland habitat project.

The majority of seedlings were mulched and watered during their establishment year, leading to excellent growth. Beautiful examples of native ribes, milkweed, hairy manzanitas, oaks, ceanothus, mahonia, willow, viburnum, potentilla and coyote brush are on display. Some mortality was caused by rodent activity (mainly voles) which favor the cover offered under the burlap mulch. There was also some deer and beaver browse; despite being an upland planting, foraging/exploring beavers wander up from a small swale on an adjoining downhill property. Plant mortalities have been replaced with new seedlings. Some additional plant material is also planned to supplement lean areas. Much of the stock has been propagated and transplanted by the landowner, but some is purchased material from local nurseries specializing in native plant material. The project will be completed in another couple years, and likely will be quite a transformation from where it started, and a great local pollinator habitat.

Two New Heavy Use Area Projects

With the addition of extra dollars in the conservation fund this spring, planning staff were able to contract two “shelf ready” heavy use area projects that will be implemented this fiscal year, starting this month. Often seen constructed near horse stables, heavy use areas are useful on any livestock farm. These systems are designed to eliminate mud near barns or heavily used livestock areas and have several conservation benefits. Reducing mud has a positive effect on surface water quality by reducing soil erosion and preventing sediment from entering water ways. Heavy use areas also allow the landowner to rest pastures during key times of the year. These areas complement appropriate pasture management which is critical for soil health and equates to less invasive weeds and improved grass yields.



**The above diagram is not to scale, but shows schematically the dimensions of the heavy use area and Animal Walkway

Training

Earlier this year CREP Tech, Drew Donahue, started training to become a certified conservation planner with NRCS. Last week she attended a weeklong (online) training as part of the course. *The emphasis of conservation planner certification is on obtaining, demonstrating, and maintaining the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to carry out the NRCS conservation planning process.* Since the CREP program uses the NRCS conservation planning process to develop projects, the certification will be very beneficial in her position.



An Initiative of:
Clackamas SWCD
East Multnomah SWCD
Jackson SWCD
Marion SWCD
Polk SWCD
Tualatin SWCD
West Multnomah SWCD
Yamhill SWCD

BRING BACK OREGON'S WILDLIFE HABITAT TAX DEFERRAL

Oak Habitats in Oregon are in Significant Decline

Oak woodland habitats are some of Oregon's most iconic, culturally important, and imperiled wildlife habitats and have been called out as one of a handful of priority habitats in Oregon's Conservation Strategy.

Over the past few decades, loss of oak habitats have accelerated at an alarming pace due to development and conversion to agriculture. The oak woodlands and forests that remain are severely degraded - altered by fire suppression; frequently dying in the shade of mature Douglas-fir trees that encroach into these habitats as a result of excluding fire from these systems. Only 5-10% of oak forests, woodlands, and associated prairie remain in Oregon.

- It is estimated that oak habitat in the Willamette Valley is found on less than 7% of its pre-settlement area while prairie is found on less than 1%.
- Oak woodlands and savannas have declined by more than 65% in the East Cascades.
- In the Umpqua Valley, oak woodlands have declined by almost 60%.

Private Lands are Critical for Oak Conservation

Public lands are insufficient for meeting Oregon's oak woodland conservation and restoration goals as much of the remaining oak habitat is on privately held lands in small, isolated pockets surrounded by other land uses. In the Willamette Valley alone, 93% of the land is currently under private ownership.

Many private landowners want to conserve and restore oak however oak woodland conservation and restoration requires private landowners to incur significant up-front and long-term maintenance costs with little opportunity for direct economic return.



The Problem - Lack of Incentives for Landowners to take on Conservation

Some counties in Oregon recognize the value of oak woodlands to their tourism economy and iconic sense of place as well as their ecological value and are willing to offer private landowners a property tax deferral in recognition of this value. However, the Wildlife Habitat Conservation and Management Program (WHCMP), created by the Oregon Legislature in 1997 to give counties this option, didn't come with enough funding for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to administer.

As a result, private landowners have little incentive to protect, restore or establish oak woodlands on their land. And because oak woodlands do not typically generate an annual crop income or provide commercial forestry opportunities, those private landowners that wish to conserve and restore oak woodlands stand to lose their forestry or agricultural tax deferrals. In addition, many landowners not enrolled in the agricultural and forestry deferral program could benefit from the wildlife habitat deferral given the opportunity to manage their oak woodlands as habitat.

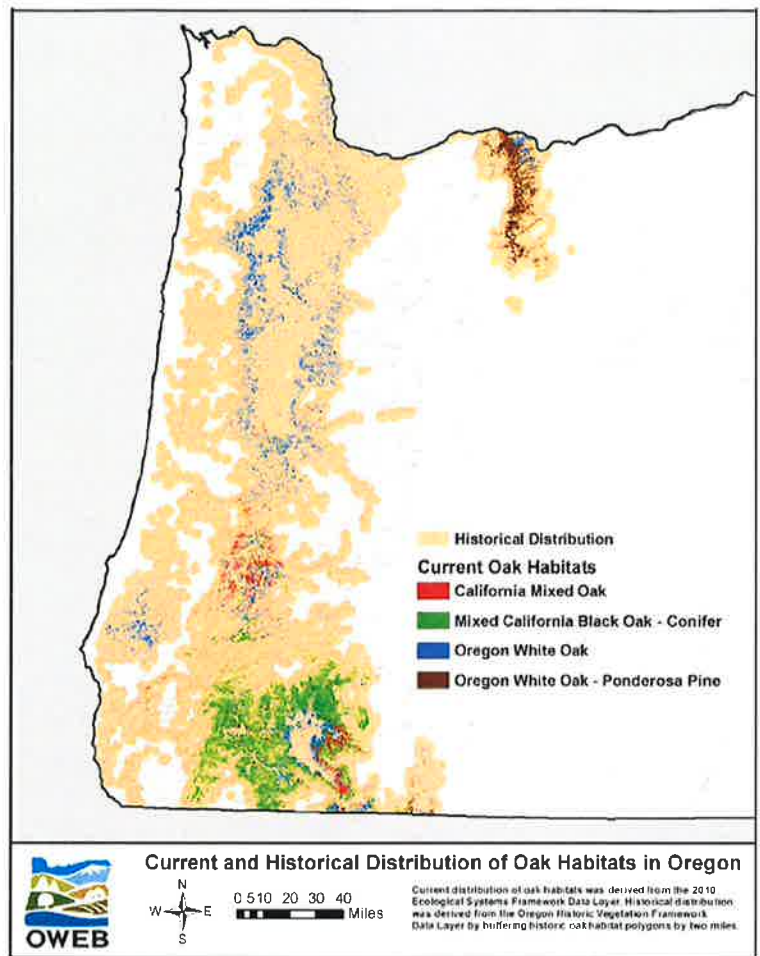
The Path Toward a Solution

The governor's recommended budget for the 2021-23 biennium includes resources for the establishment of a Habitat Division within ODFW. It is very important that the legislature establish the Habitat Division and add to the Governor's request by funding the necessary field non-game biologist positions that ODFW originally requested. This will provide ODFW the capacity for administering tax deferral programs like the WHCMP as well as protect and preserve all wildlife and their habitats; thus protecting Oregon's natural and cultural heritage.

- Wildlife habitat tax deferral programs such as the WHCMP are needed and could become fully functional and available when other technical resources are recognized such as those provided by Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) - local government entities specifically charged with working with private landowners to conserve soil, water and habitat.
- In 2019, SWCDs in the lower Willamette River basin entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with ODFW to explore how to leverage respective funding and technical expertise to determine what would be necessary to bring about fully functional wildlife tax incentive programs such as the WHCMP.

Throughout the range of Oregon White Oak:

- There are **40 oak and prairie species listed as Threatened or Endangered** at the Federal, State and Provincial levels,
 - **23 that have been extirpated or near extirpated** from at least one ecoregion in their range,
 - and an additional **50 species are considered vulnerable and at risk** of continued decline to levels qualifying for listing as Threatened or Endangered.
-
- There are **6 bird species in Oregon considered wholly dependent on oak**,
 - **20 additional bird species** are considered highly associated with oak,
 - and **5 species are primarily grassland species** but regularly occur in oak savannas
 - Of these **31 species**, many are declining throughout their ranges.



Oak woodlands and associated savanna have been identified as a priority habitat type in the Oregon Conservation Strategy.

- Phase I of the IGA has been completed with funding provided by the SWCDs. Plans are in the works for Phase II in 2021 - a pilot project demonstrating how SWCDs can work with ODFW in the North Willamette Watershed District to bring oak woodland conservation and restoration projects into the WHCMP.
- Continuation of the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund is another critical pathway for securing funding for much needed non-game habitat biologists in ODFW's Habitat Division since the fund is designed to support implementation of Oregon's Conservation Strategy. The fund is also necessary to secure Oregon's required state match for anticipated federal funds from the Recovering America's Wildlife Act.

For more information, please contact:

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jfaucera@conservationdistrict.org

Production and design of this document provided by Willamette Partnership



CLACKAMAS SOIL AND WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT
www.conservatiodistrict.org

Good dirt. Clean water.

April 14, 2021

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: Update on Efforts to Revitalize the ODFW Administered Tax Incentive Programs

SWCDs continue to work with ODFW toward the goal of fully functional tax incentive programs. Since completing Phase 1 of the IGA with ODFW in 2019, 7 SWCDs from the Lower Willamette and one from Southwest Oregon have been meeting to develop a strategy for completing subsequent phases of the IGA.

It has become clear that ODFW needs additional staff capacity to deliver the Wildlife Habitat Conservation and Management Program (WHCMP) and the Riparian Lands Tax Incentive Program (RLTIP) in their North Willamette Watershed District. However, these tax programs are competing with many priorities within ODFW, and as such no new tax incentive program positions were proposed for the upcoming biennium budget under consideration by the legislature in the current session. Priorities that did make ODFW's proposed budget have suffered from the economic reality of the past year of the pandemic and fire season.

ODFW has, at the governor's request, proposed to reestablish a Habitat Division within the agency, but many of the positions that were included were cut from the proposed budget. The proposed reestablishment of a Habitat Division has been seen by the SWCD group as a positive sign that non-game habitat issues will eventually have dedicated capacity, making it more likely that programs like the tax incentive programs will be functional.

Additionally, the legislature has created the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) as a vehicle to receive money from outside the state budget specifically for implementing on-the-ground and educational actions around habitat and recreation. This fund enables ODFW to bring in additional federal and private dollars that might be used for dedicated tax incentive program capacity and other district led habitat projects.

As a result of the budget climate during this legislative session, the SWCD group has developed an outreach strategy to share with legislators the potential positive impacts to be gained from the creation and staffing of a Habitat Division and the continued funding of the OCRF. However, we've stopped short of specifically requesting capacity funding for the tax incentive programs in this session. With the help of OACD, we'll share that a focused Habitat Division will result in conservation of critical habitats like the Oregon white oak grasslands and woodlands that SWCDs and others are working hard to protect.

Once this session has finished, the SWCD group will continue to work with OACD to push hard for a fall legislative hearing specifically about the ODFW administered tax incentive programs. Our goal in this hearing will be to seek capacity support for dedicated tax incentive program positions in the legislative sessions that follow. In the meantime, we'll develop a pilot program with ODFW to demonstrate the results we'd expect from functioning tax incentive programs.

In the board packet, directors will find a two-page legislative handout developed with the Willamette Partnership and Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture that the SWCD groups will be using to discuss these issues with legislators. Staff will provide future updates on this topic this fall.

Background Information from Prior Briefings:

Since 2017, Lower Willamette SWCDs have engaged ODFW to revitalize their state mandated tax incentive programs that provide tax deferrals for lands managed for wildlife habitat. Both the Riparian Tax Incentive Program and the Wildlife Tax Incentive Program are critical tools for encouraging private landowners to implement and maintain practices that promote numerous important habitats, especially oak and other habitats that are explicitly emphasized in the Oregon Conservation Strategy.

These tax incentive programs defer county property taxes for activities that are implemented from plans developed by landowners/natural resource organizations and approved by ODFW and County Assessors. The Riparian Tax Program is available state-wide, and the Wildlife Tax Program is available where Counties opt into the program. Clackamas County has opted into the wildlife plan and thus has access to both when being serviced.

ODFW has been mandated at the state level to administer and monitor compliance for both programs, but without additional funding to do so. With their budget constraints and prioritization on game wildlife species conservation, the tax programs are effectively unserved in many areas of the state. While they cannot refuse to provide service for Riparian Tax Program requests, they can and have refused to service any additional Wildlife Tax Program requests in Clackamas County. Additionally, they have no clear idea of what plans have been approved to date because of poor record-keeping, and as such no real understanding of the workload that would be required to service even their existing approved plans.

In Clackamas we've found that without the ability to provide a habitat-based deferral, there is little incentive for landowners to engage in restoration activities that may jeopardize their existing farm or forest deferrals. Where there aren't existing deferrals in place, we have very limited mechanisms to provide financial offset for the activities landowners must undertake to protect or improve conditions for wildlife. This is especially true with oak habitat restoration which requires a lengthy time investment and above average levels of landowner management and maintenance with very little commercial benefit.

In 2019, Lower Willamette SWCDs signed an IGA with ODFW with a phased approach to attain fully functioning tax incentive programs for landowners in ODFW's North Willamette Watershed District. The SWCDs are not asking ODFW to guarantee fully functioning tax programs at the close of the IGA, only that they will work with SWCDs to assess the feasibility of and pathways toward making the programs fully functional. In other words, we are asking for an effort in good faith to demonstrate that these programs are important to the agency by dedicating time toward that goal.

Phase 1 of the IGA was completed in 2019, resulting in a revamped database for tracking tax program enrollments with the SWCD group paying the cost of two interns to complete the work. This phase allowed ODFW to determine the capacity needed to monitor and administer existing enrollments while simultaneously enrolling new properties. Subsequent Phases include the creation of a pilot program and efforts to seek permanent funding for ODFW to administer the program.



The Latest from the Education and Outreach Program

Web Posts

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

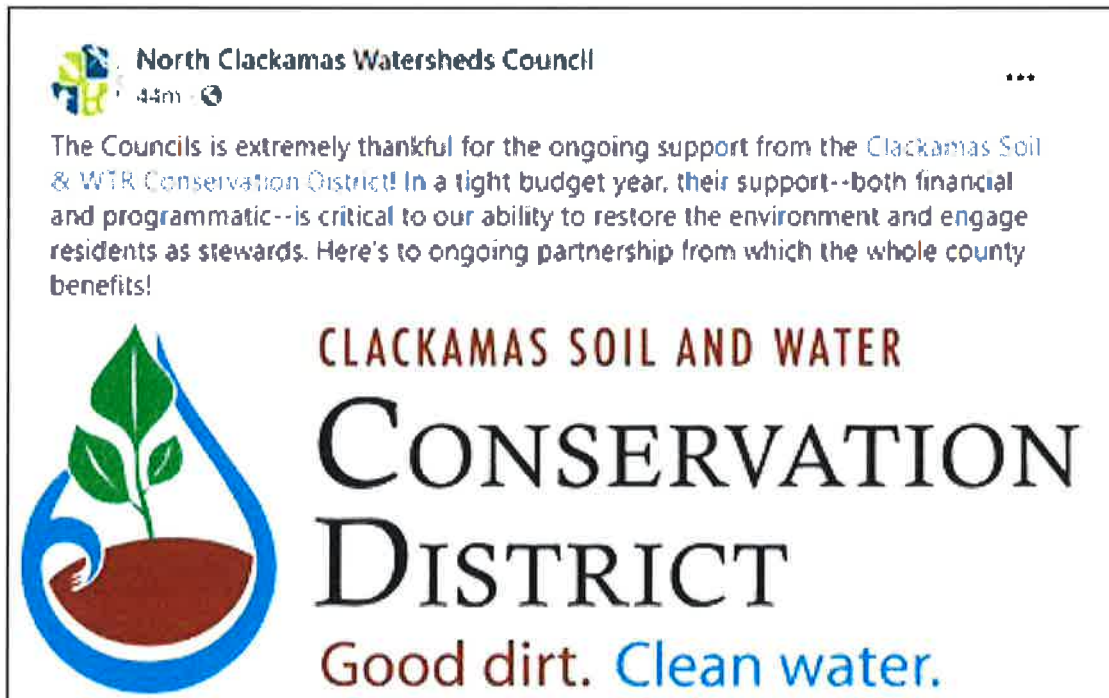
- [Conservation Specialist Position Announcement](#)
- [April Invasive Weed of the Month: Garlic Mustard](#)
- [Septic System Workshop, April 28, 2021](#)
- [Proposed Budget and Budget Message Released for FY 2021-2022](#)
- [Notice of Budget Committee Meeting](#)
- [Gardening for Wildlife: Naturescaping Workshop](#)
- [The Undesirable Beauty of Lesser Celandine](#)



April Invasive Weed of the Month:
Garlic Mustard

Big Thank You!

Many appreciation notes were received from Watershed Councils for unexpected partnership grant support. Below is a thank you from the North Clackamas Urban Watersheds Council that was posted on their Facebook page.



Update on the CONNECT Conference

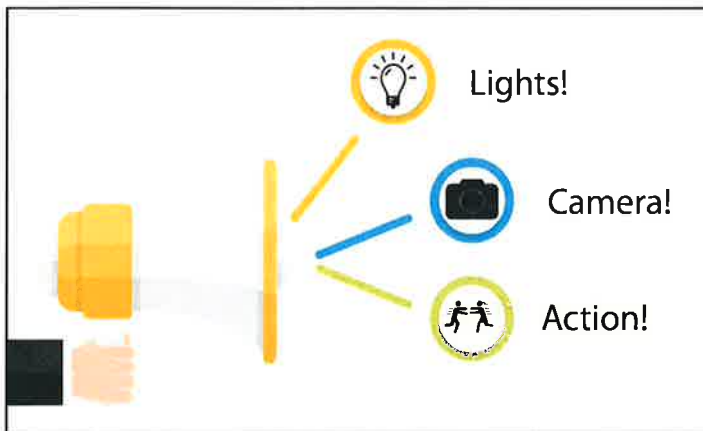
Registration is open for the OCEAN Connect Conference - May 11 - 13th. This year twenty virtual sessions plus meetings will be offered. The keynote speaker, Dr. Rose Graves, Research Associate, Portland State University will present "The Role of Oregon's Natural and Working Lands in Mitigating Climate Change"



Cathy was the Outreach and Education track lead this year. She will be moderating a panel discussion "Introducing a DEI Program to Your Organization" which is located in the Administration, Management, Policy track.

Click here to view the conference [schedule](#).

Board members interested in attending should make that known during our April board meeting. Once approved, Tami will coordinate the registration.



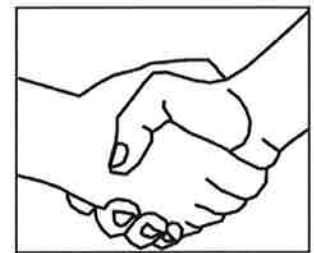
Video Production Update

Erosion Control - Our final editing for story content is taking place this week and I hope to have a link for you to view our *Erosion and Sediment Control for Growers* video by this time next month. Funding for this video comes from our Scope of Work grant through the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the Clackamas River Water Providers.

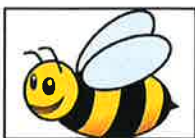
Horse Video Series - Planning and story discussion meetings have moved us forward in our short 2-3 minute videos on practices for landowners with horses videos. Our topics will be Heavy Use Areas, Manure Management, and Pasture Management. These videos will be completed by the end of June. Funding for these videos comes from our Scope of Work grant through the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

Working With Our Partners

Pesticide Strategic Plan - We continue to work with the Clackamas River Basin Council on the Pesticide Strategic Plan for the Clackamas River Basin. We will be reaching out to the individual user groups in the watershed to bring them important information on the pesticides of concern and practices that will help them reduce pesticides reaching surface water. Outreach will be tailored to each group.



Septic System Workshop - Our next Septic System Workshop, *Check It, Fix It, Maintain It*, will be held April 28, 2021, at 6 p.m. This is our first virtual septic system workshop, but we have held them annually for several years. There is always a lot of interest as many folks moving into rural areas have never had a septic system! Contact Tami if you would like to register!



Gardening for Wildlife Workshop - We had 76 participants in our Gardening for Wildlife workshops held on March 17th and 24th. This workshop covered naturoscaping design techniques, examples of gardens using designed with native plants and assistance with mapping your own yard. We also covered how to build habitat for beneficial insect, pollinators, and other urban wildlife.



April 15, 2021

BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RE: WeedWise Program Update



Garlic Mustard: Weed of the Month

The WeedWise program is highlighting garlic mustard as our [April Weed-of-the-Month](#). April is the month when garlic mustard really starts taking off for the season. The weather is mild, but dry enough to allow for garlic mustard control.

April is the ideal time to target garlic mustard because rosettes are large and easily identifiable but are just starting to bolt. The ground is also generally still moist, allowing for easy hand pulling of these plants as well. Late April is also when interest in Garlic mustard peaks, and landowners are [seeking information about garlic mustard](#).

Last year, we downgraded the designation of garlic mustard on the [Clackamas County Weed List](#), from “priority” to “containment”. As a result, we are only targeting garlic mustard patches in areas outside of our containment zone or in areas where we have local resources available for management. Our containment areas are predominantly within our urban areas. Within these areas, we are focusing on technical information and outreach, and are referring residents to our [Garlic Mustard Best Management Practices](#) for control and management.

Although, we had to focus our efforts on the last year, we have been able to prioritize our treatments to manage some of the most important garlic mustard populations in the state and doing our part to support a collective effort underway across the Pacific Northwest to manage this important noxious weed.



Spring Mailings

This last month, the WeedWise program has been busy preparing landowner mailings for project areas throughout the county. This has been an all-program effort with mailings going out to all our targeted management zones.

This effort has also been made possible thanks to Tami, who has been an immense help in getting our mailing packets prepared and distributed. She is now helping to process returned permissions into our Conservation Activities Tracking System (CATS), while WeedWise program staff process them for use in our new mobile system.



Spring Treatments and Surveys

The warm weather over the last several weeks has kicked the weeds into high gear and has allowed the WeedWise program to start our treatment activities for the season. The WeedWise program staff has been out in the field, surveying sites, doing phenology checks, and treating a suite of invasive weeds including garlic mustard, false brome, oblong spurge, goatsrue, and spurge laurel.

Lindsey has been out in the field treating sites and coordinating multiple contract crews in much of the lower Clackamas. Courtney has also been working on a large garlic mustard site in the Sandy River watershed, that was found late last season, and is trying to secure some additional permissions. Justin has been treating garlic mustard in the lower Willamette area while we wait for finalization of agreements with our partners with BLM and Lake Oswego.



Conservation Resource Center and Eagle Creek Forest Maintenance

This past month, the WeedWise program has been busy implementing some much-needed maintenance work at the Beaver Creek Farm and at the Eagle Creek Community Forest.

Justin has been leading the effort. He was recently able to put our truck mounted power sprayer to good use this past month and treated the hayfields at the farm for broadleaf weeds. He was also able to do some roadside spraying at the Eagle Creek Community Forest. Justin was pleased to report that the road rocking that was carried out last season seems to be in great shape.

Our typical spring maintenance needs have been greatly exacerbated by the massive amount of tree damage from the ice storms. Justin was able to get a WeedWise contract crew out on site at the Beaver Creek Farm to start clear down trees and limbs, and to prune or remove dead and damaged trees.

The crew spent a full day on site, cutting and chipping, and was able to get most of the work done. Unfortunately, some of the larger trees with broken tops and hanging branches will require tree climbing or bucket work. As a result, Justin and Sam are working to secure quotes from local arborists to complete this additional work. Staff have also been advised to avoid the areas with overhead trees, as several currently pose a health risk due to hanging limbs.

A Whole Lot of Ice Storm Clean Up!









Bonneville Power Administration Agreement & Lolo Pass Hawkweed Planning

This past month, the WeedWise program finalized a 3-year funding agreement from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) to support invasive hawkweed control in the Lolo pass region.

This new agreement brings BPA in as a new partner into the hawkweed management effort. Not only is BPA providing monetary support to the control effort, but they are going to be integrating hawkweed control into their vegetation management efforts and will be spearheading efforts on the Hood River County portion of the infestation.

BPA is joining a coalition of regional partners working with the WeedWise program on this project including the Oregon Department of Agriculture, the Mt Hood National Forest, and Portland Water Bureau.

This ongoing partnership is managing the largest hawkweed infestation in the state. Effort this season has 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.



4 COUNTY
Cooperative Weed
Management Area



Cooperative Weed Management Areas

Columbia Gorge CWMA

The Columbia Gorge CWMA recently hosted its General Meeting, and we welcomed a presentation from Angie Kimpo with the Portland Water Bureau to discuss vegetation management efforts in the Bull Run Watershed.

In addition, to this general meeting, the Columbia Gorge CWMA is also considering the development of a small grant program to reinvest partner contributions back out to the CWMA to support restoration, prevention, and education activities. One recent project that sparked the discussion was a series of boot and bike wash stations installed at local mountain bike trails. One such station was installed at the Sandy Ridge Trail, right here in Clackamas County.

Project partners stand proudly at the new bike, tool & boot brush station at Sandy Ridge trail. Photo Courtesy, Troy Abercrombie Western Invasive Network.



10th Annual Invasive Species & Exotic Pest Workshop Recap

The Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) is pleased to have hosted its 10th Annual Invasive Species & Exotic Pest Workshop! We want to thank all our co-hosts, planners, speakers, and attendees for participating in our first ever virtual conference. As a webinar event, we were able to reach further audiences well beyond the Columbia River Gorge, bringing in over 240 participants, the most attendance we've ever had!

The group had a fantastic lineup of speakers who shared topics surrounding giant hornets, eDNA technology on invasive species, first foods and their sensitive habitats, and more! We also had our attendees put their invasive species knowledge to the test with a competitive Kahoot! quiz.

If you missed the event, **a recording is now available!** Visit columbiagorgecwma.org/2021-isepworkshop for more info.

4-County CWMA

The 4-County CWMA has launched a new effort to update and develop its current website. This has long been a focus of the CWMA, in its efforts to better serve its member organizations. The CWMA Steering

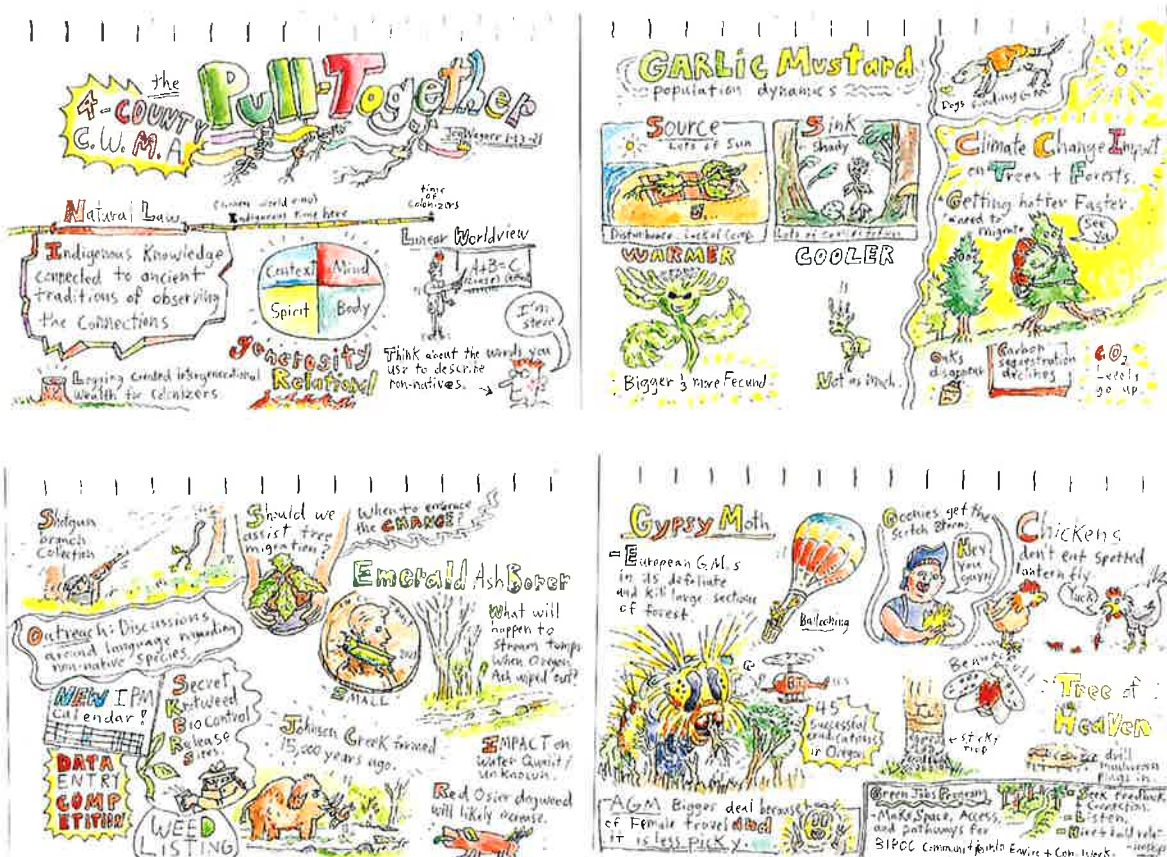
Committee has been discussing a scope of work and will be looking to secure design firms to help with this process.

12th Annual Pull Together Recap

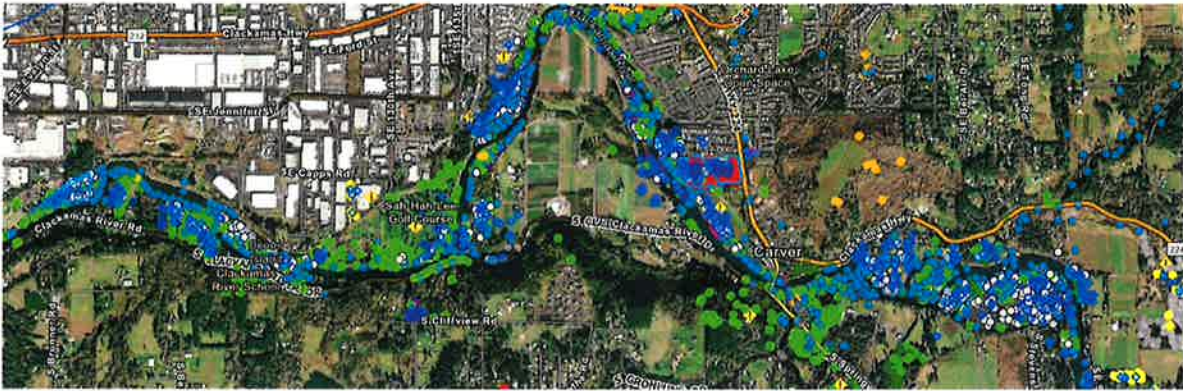
The 4-County Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) was pleased to have hosted its 12th Annual Pull Together! We want to thank all our planners, speakers, and attendees for participating in our first ever virtual conference. As a webinar event, we were able to reach further audiences well beyond the Portland metropolitan area, bringing in over 190 participants, the most attendance we've ever had!

The group had a fantastic lineup of speakers who shared topics surrounding sustainability decolonization, tree migration, invasive pests, and more! Partner videos from Tualatin Soil & Water Conservation District, Oregon Department of Agriculture, and Clark County Vegetation Management were featured throughout and Jon Wagner (East Multnomah Soil & Water Conservation District) displayed his live comics which kept this online event engaging for our attendees.

Jon's 4-County CWMA Pull Together Comic Notes



If you missed the event, **a recording is now available!** Visit 4countycwma.org/2021-pull-together for more info.



Our New Field Technology Roll Out

The WeedWise program is continuing to focus much of our attention to the transition of our mobile field data collection platform from a Fulcrum system to our ArcGIS Online (AGOL) system. This past month, we started the roll out of the new technology, and affects nearly all aspects of our workflow and protocols for coordinating with cooperating landowners and vegetation management contractors.

WeedWise Specialists Justin Cooley and Lindsey Karr have *accomplished a herculean effort* to get our system functional ahead of the current field season. This transition has a significant learning curve associated with it, and we are all learning and adapting to the changes and challenges of operating the new system.



Knotweed Biocontrol

The WeedWise program has been coordinating with the Oregon Department of Agriculture's Biological Control Program to follow-up on releases of the knotweed psyllid releases that occurred last year. The release site in Clackamas County has been one of the most promising in the state with the psyllids performing very well on plants sourced from the county. Justin has been doing phenology checks with to help time monitoring and additional releases. Sam will be meeting with ODA to assist with monitoring and viability monitoring.



Native Plant Appreciation Week

April 25- May 1 is Native Plant Appreciation Week. This is the week that we encourage folks to get outside and enjoy our native flora. One of the best ways to enjoy Native Plant Appreciation Week is to get outside and enjoy the natural beauty of our state. But before you venture out to your favorite wildflower hiking spot, you will want to make sure to clean your boots, clothing, and equipment to avoid spreading invasive weed seeds.

We are one of the primary ways that invasive weeds move, so help *Stop Invasive Weeds in Your Tracks!* Please take some time to celebrate Native Plant Appreciation Week by learning and familiarizing themselves with the native plants in our region. Be sure to check the [WeedWise website](#) and social media platforms to learn more during Native Plant Appreciation Week when our post is published on April 25th.

A New (to us) Addition to our Weed Equipment Library

This month we were gifted a classic Weed Wrench through a generous surplus donation from our friends at Metro!

This lightly used beauty is unfortunately no longer produced, and we are not able to replace them. So it was great to receive this gift, that we get to share with our Clackamas County residents through our [Weed Equipment Library](#).

Happy Pulling!



Urban Ecology & Conservation Symposium (MARCH 1 & 2, 2021)

Clackamas SWCD Director Report, P K Melethil

Urban Ecosystem Research Consortium (UERC)

Portland, OR - Vancouver, WA Metropolitan Region

The UERC is a consortium of people from various universities and colleges, state and federal agencies, local governments, non-profit organizations and independent professionals interested in supporting urban ecosystem research and creating an information-sharing network of people that collect and use ecological data in the Portland/Vancouver area. <http://www.uercportland.org/>

Mission Statement

To advance the state of the science of urban ecosystems and improve our understanding of them, with a focus on the Portland/Vancouver metropolitan region, by fostering communication and collaboration among researchers, managers and community members at academic institutions, public agencies, local governments, non-profit organizations, and other interested groups.

Goals and Objectives

Provide direction and support for urban ecosystem research
Create an information-sharing network within the research community
Track and house available information
Promote greater understanding of urban ecosystems and their importance

Advocacy Statement

The role of the UERC is not to provide a political or advocacy platform, but rather to foster communication and collaboration by offering a forum for professionals to exchange and discuss information regarding urban ecology and its application to relevant fields.

**Branching Out: Forests from the Canopy Perspective (UERC 2021, March 1 Keynote Address
Nalini M. Nadkarni (PhD), Department of Biology University of Utah Salt Lake City, Utah**



Canopy-dwelling biota has critical roles in ecosystem processes. The way scientists communicate knowledge about these plants and animals is key to raising awareness about the importance of trees to people and their engagement with the natural world. By developing novel ways to share knowledge, ecologists can be more inclusive and responsive to elements of society that have been underserved by science or who lack access to nature.

Talking about Trees w

- Adults in Custody, vocational rehab (post prison)
- school children, inspiring the next generation of ecologists

This talk will provide an overview of how understanding the ecology of plants and animals that live in rainforest canopies might advance ways that people understand and value trees in urban environments.

**Building sustainable ecology through participatory planning (UERC, 2021 March 2 Keynote Address
PK Das, Architect & Activist , Mumbai, Maharashtra, India**



Very impressive transitions in Mumbai during the last decade, though grass roots organizing and local funding + allocations from Central (Federal) legislators.

Local applications of this work?

- Community forests/lands designs
- New homes for our homeless urban & forests-park dwellers (marginalized communities)

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Ecology includes people and nature. The two are inextricably entwined; to separate one from the other is to undermine our struggle to achieve ecological sustainability. Mumbai's history of excluding nature from planning and development has led to destruction of its natural waterbodies, forests, and hills. As these conflicts dominate the city landscape, we are intervening and re-envisioning cities through integrating people and nature, particularly in the city edges where it is the most vulnerable. With localized projects, we facilitate maximum community participation using bottom-up neighborhood-based planning approach that focuses on the networks of people and natural places. Our fight is for integrating people and nature, equality, environmental justice, and democratization of the ecology.

Open Mumbai Projects

<http://www.pkdas.com/social-environmental-projects.php>

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Oak Prairie Working Group Oak Prioritization Mapping (UERC 2021)

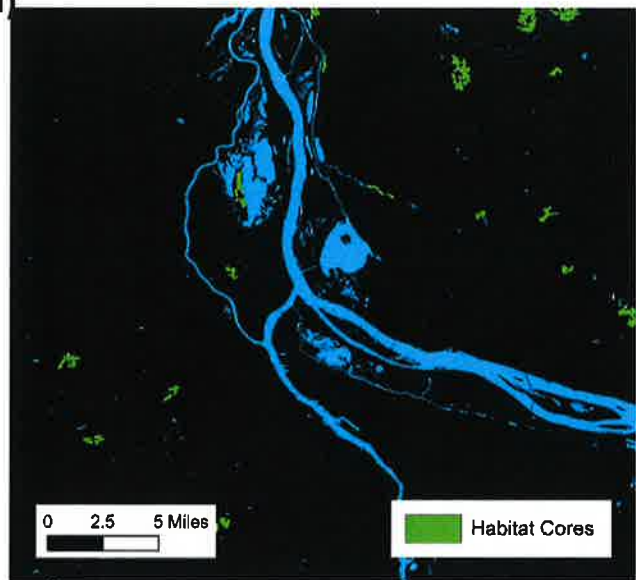
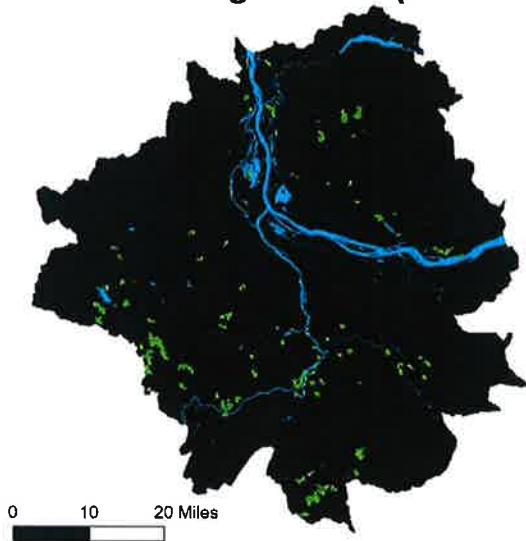
Nicole Ruggiero (Tualatin SWCD) & Aiman Duckworth (Biohabitats, Inc.)

Oregon white oak ecosystems >> Oak Prairie Working Group >> OakQuest

Prioritization Effort

- Subgroup of OPWG partners hired Biohabitats
- Methods • Compile existing data • Literature review to understand key attributes
- Create and score polygons • Incorporate habitat connectivity • Identify gaps

110 Habitat Cores region wide (30 are urban)



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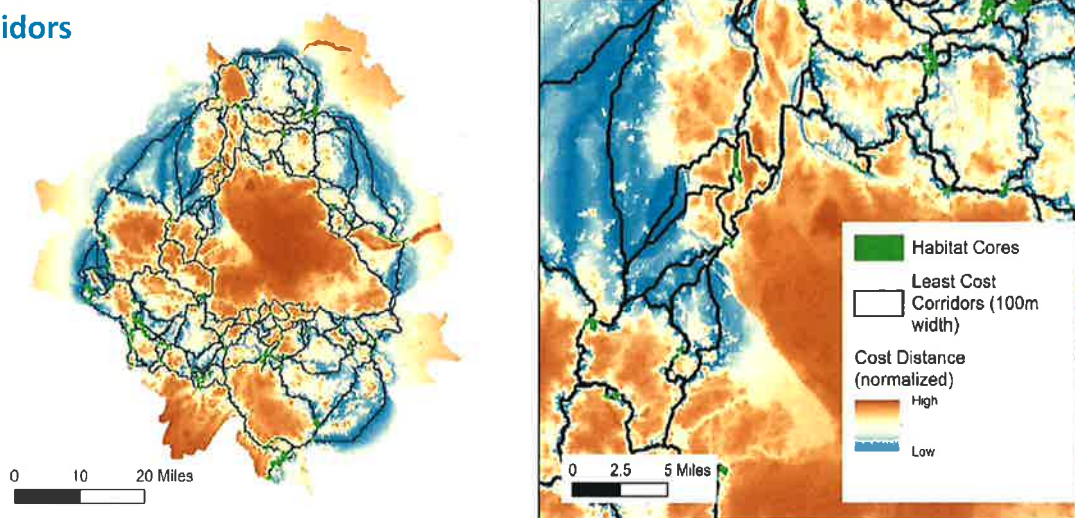
Oak Prairie Working Group Oak Prioritization Mapping (UERC 2021)

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Connectivity (Guiding investment in conservation & acquisitions)

- Modeling the Habitat Cores as sources/destinations for movement
- Relies on a resistance surface
- Lowest resistance- other oak patches
- Highest resistance-major roads, buildings, large gaps in habitat
- Circuitscape vs. Least Cost Path

Least Cost Corridors



Circuitscape award-winning connectivity analysis software package which borrows algorithms from electronic circuit theory to predict patterns of movement, gene flow, and genetic differentiation among plant and animal populations in heterogeneous landscapes. Circuit theory complements least-cost path approaches because it considers effects of all possible pathways across a landscape simultaneously. <https://circuitscape.org/about/>

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Determining amphibian presence in constructed stormwater ponds throughout Gresham, Oregon using community science (UERC 2021)

Marissa Eckman (she/they), Forest Education and Outreach Specialist, Confluence AmeriCorps Member, City of Gresham Natural Resources



Water Quality Monitors
Late winter monitoring



Distributed Resources
Potential Partners
City of Gresham
Wetland Conservancy



Increasingly seen in Disturbed (Urban) Environments

Determining amphibian presence in constructed stormwater ponds throughout Gresham, Oregon using community science (UERC 2021)

Marissa Eckman (she/they), Forest Education and Outreach Specialist, Confluence AmeriCorps Member, City of Gresham Natural Resources



Long-toed salamander Pacific tree frog
Northwestern salamander Red-legged frog

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Species of Interest: Frogs, Salamanders

12 Year Changes

- Semi-rare frog species persisting in constructed stormwater ponds
- Finding more species with consistent egg mass surveys
- **Constructed stormwater ponds are attractive habitat for amphibians**

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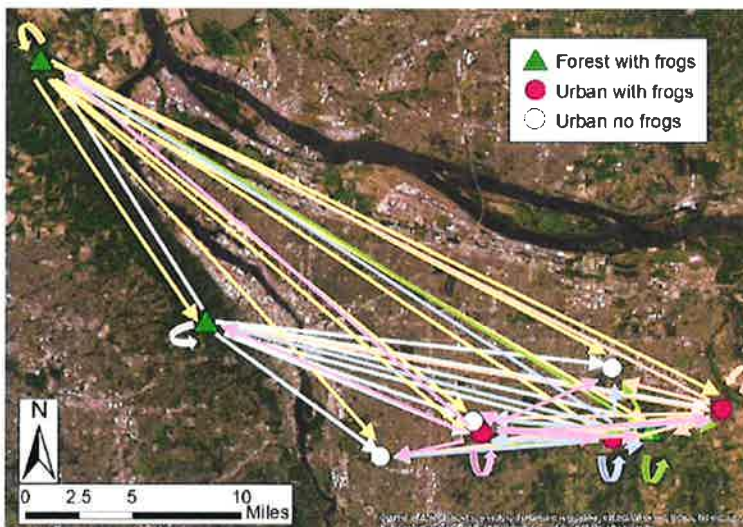
Tadpoles Survive Urban Pollutants and Cages to Show Conservation Value of Altered Landscapes (UERC 2021)

Marissa Eckman, AmeriCorps Confluence Member & Katie Holzer, Watershed Scientist, City of Gresham
Lauren Chan, Associate Professor, Pacific University Laura Guderyahn, Ecologist, Portland Parks and Recreation
Kelly Smalling, Research Hydrologist, United States Geological Survey
Max Lambert, Post-doctoral Fellow, University of California Berkeley

Study Sites for Reciprocal Transplant Experiment

Each of the 9 sites received eggs from each of the 6 source ponds.

Wildlife use urban stormwater ponds
"They Use It, but is It Good for Them?"



Frequent pollutants of interest

- 42 different pesticide compounds
- Plasticizers
- Flame retardants

Major predation of frog eggs

- Leeches
 - Amphipods (crustaceans)
- "The Scud Ate My Homework!"*
Portland's own Stumptown Scud –
Ramelllogammarus similimanus

Lower survival in nonoccupied urban ponds likely due to low depth (warming), silt.

Research questions (and answers)

1. Can urban stormwater ponds support tadpole survival at similar rates to forested ponds? **Yes**
2. Are urban stormwater ponds acting as ecological traps? **No**

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A Successful Mitigation and Monitoring Project to Address Bird Window Collisions at the City of Portland's Columbia Building (UERC 2021)

Mary Coolidge, Biologist, BirdSafe & Non-Lead Campaign Portland Audubon

David Helzer, Terrestrial Biologist & **Jade Ashcroft**, Avian Biologist City of Portland Env Services



Est 355-988 M birds die hitting windows every year in US alone *Loss et al 2014*
 Loss of nearly 30% of migr birds since 1970 *Rosenberg et al 2019*
 51% collisions occur at low rise commercial buildings
 49% collisions occur at 1-3 residential buildings

<< Photo credit FLAP Canada

The Columbia Building at the Columbia Blvd Wastewater Treatment Plant



Project Timeline	Project Element
Feb 2015 - Jan 2016	Joint BES/Portland Audubon study to characterize scope and scale of issue.
Oct 2017	Retrofit: installation of Solyx collision reduction window film on 3424 square feet of glass.
Sept 2018 - Sept 2019	Joint BES/Portland Audubon study on effectiveness of treatment.

Solyx SX-BSFH
 3,424 square foot retrofit
\$8.34/square foot
 \$28,544 total cost

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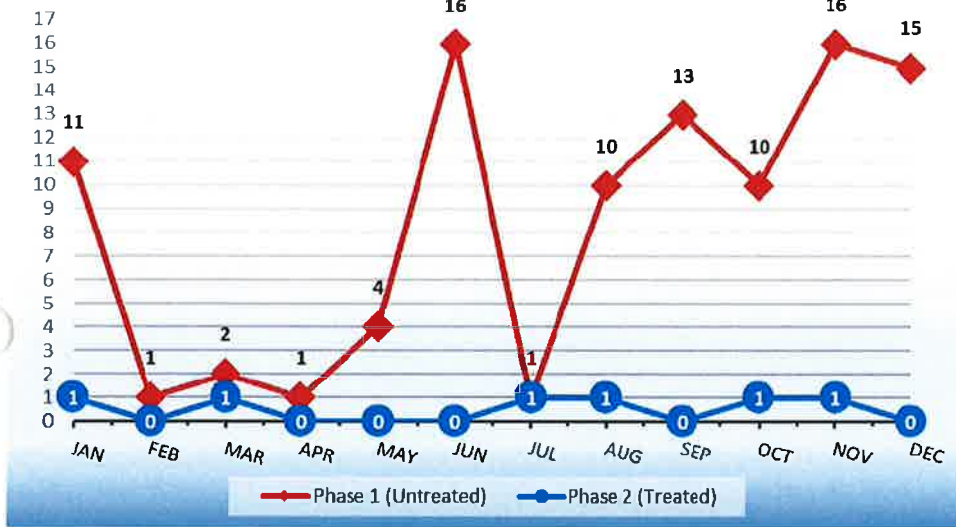
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Phase One & Two: Strike Totals by Month



Adjusted collision totals:

25%-50% of collisions go undetected

Phase 1 adjusted total=125-150 collisions

Phase 2 adjusted total=7.5-9 collisions

Mortality Rate Estimates:

51.7-76.5% of collisions result in death

Phase 1 mortality rate=65-115 fatalities

Phase 2 mortality rate= 4-7 fatalities

Potential applications / needs for Bird Safe Design, @ CRC?

City of Portland Policies for Bird Safe Design

- 2003 Portland became a USFWS Urban Bird Treaty City
- 2012 *Resource Guide to Bird Friendly Building Design* and City commits to consider bird friendly design for city plans and polices
- 2015 Bird Friendly design incorporated into City's Green Building Policy for City buildings
- 2018 Bird Safe Standard added to Central City Plan

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The Understory Species Increase Project: *The Need to Seed*

Erin McElroy¹ Advisor : Jennifer Morse, Ph.D.¹ Project Manager : John Goetz²

Team Members: Adrienne S t. Clair³, Christa von Behren⁴, Toby Query⁴, Jack Hayden⁴, Laura Taylor⁵, Michael Ahr⁵

¹Portland State University, ²Clean Water Services, ³Metro, ⁴City of Portland Reveg, and ⁵West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District

Why the understory?

Vast resources spent on invasive removal.
Revegetation rarely includes herbaceous species.

Biodiversity
Nutrient cycling
Wildlife
Runoff & erosion control
Protection from re-invasion

Ecosystem
Benefits

Why not the understory?

Lack of:

- Technical information
- Budget
- Commercial availability



Tellima grandiflora (Fringecup)



Claytonia sibirica (Candyflower)

Key Findings

- Seeding significantly increased presence and cover of target species and native species richness.
- Success depends on site-specific factors, especially soil health.

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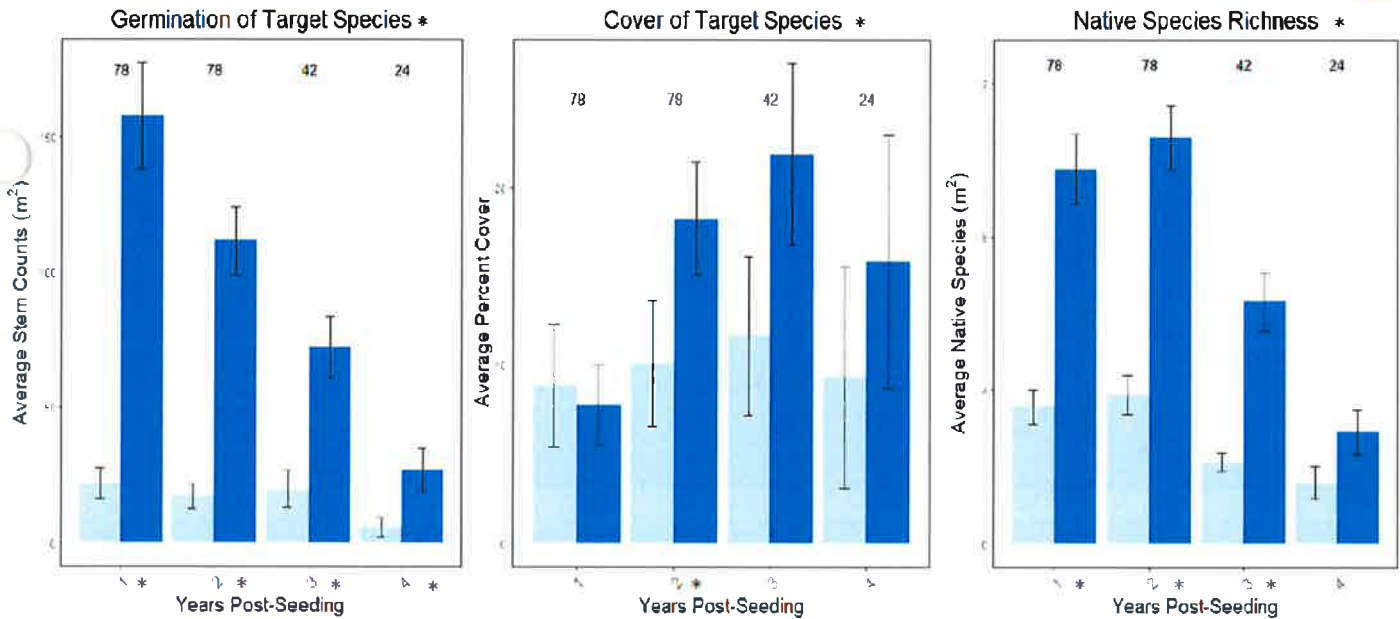
¹Portland State University, ²Clean Water Services, ³Metro, ⁴City of Portland Reveg, and ⁵West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District

Seeding increased germination, cover, and richness

* Wilcoxon Rank-Based significance, p=0.05

Treatment

control
seeded



Johnson Creek Cold Water Strategy (D Newberry, JCWC) UERC 2021 Poster

Johnson Creek and its tributaries retain small runs of chinook and coho salmon, and also steelhead trout.



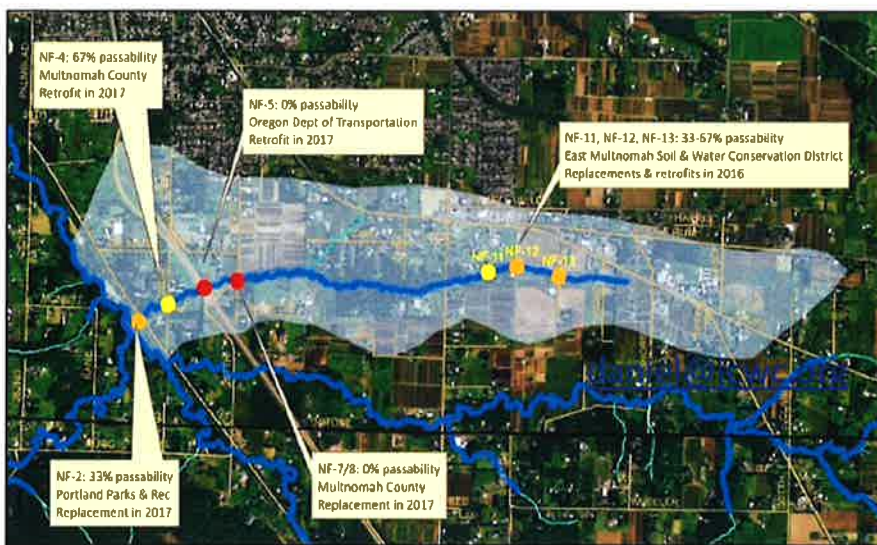
Water impoundments/ Inline Pond Removal to reduce summertime warming.

Above: 0.7 acre pond, Mitchell Creek (2019)

NOTE 132 inline ponds impound water in Johnson Creek, ranging in size from ~0.1 acre to over 1 acre.

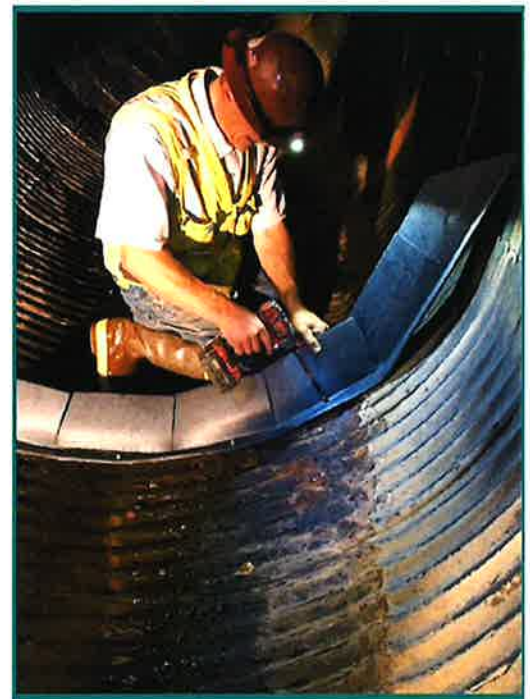
Johnson Creek Cold Water Strategy (D Newberry, JCWC) UERC 2021

North Fork Johnson Creek Culvert Projects



- 0% passability
- 33% passability
- 67% passability
- Perennial Streams
- Intermittent Streams
- North Fork Subwatershed

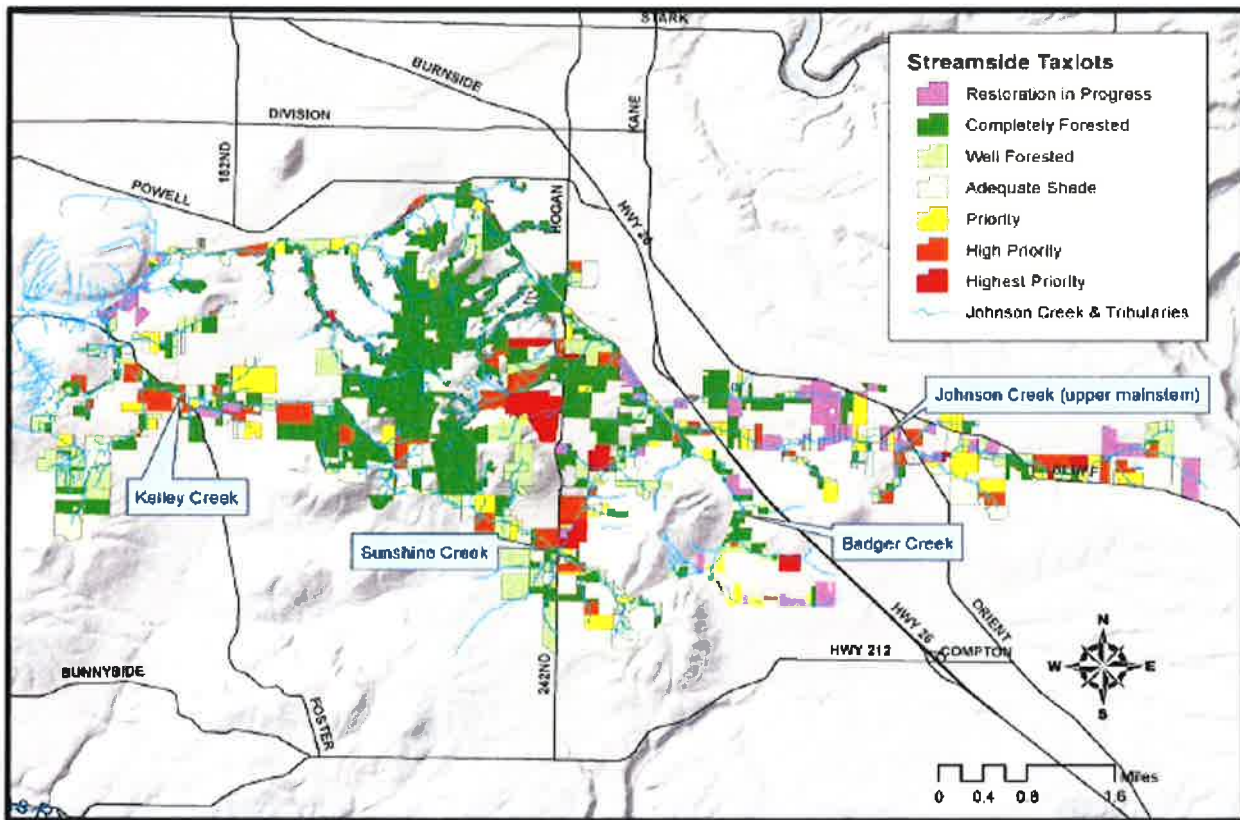
3 Miles



Above: Flexibaffles being installed at a culvert on North Fork Johnson Creek. These flexible baffles bend during high flows, slowing the velocity, and stay upright in low flows, creating resting pools.

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Johnson Creek Cold Water Strategy (D Newberrv. JCWC) UERC 2021
Riparian Restoration Priorities by Taxlot
in Target Johnson Creek Subwatersheds



Gardener Perceptions of Native Pollinator Plants (A Anderson | Graduate Research Assistant, Oregon State University | andeaaro@oregonstate.edu)

Combined with the results from our pollinator field trial, the top plants for both gardeners and bees are: *Gilia capitata*, *Eschscholzia californica*, *Symphyotrichum subspicatum*, *Eriophyllum lanatum*, and *Achillea millefolium*.



Gilia capitata
Globe gilia
Likelihood of Planting:
4.21



Eriophyllum lanatum
Oregon sunshine
Likelihood of Planting:
3.73



Eschscholzia californica
California poppy
Likelihood of Planting:
3.81



Achillea millefolium
Common yarrow
Likelihood of Planting:
3.87



Symphyotrichum subspicatum
Douglas aster
Likelihood of Planting:
3.92

Thank you. Questions?


Voucher Approval List

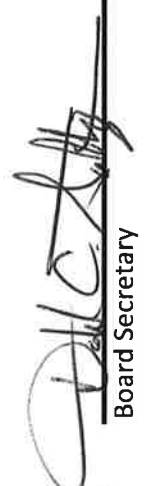
4/7/2021

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
4/7/2021	100555	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 04/2021	\$ 766.21
4/7/2021	100556	American Heating Inc	CSWCD: 28043 Maint 03/2021	\$ 1,977.00
4/7/2021	100557	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 04/2021	\$ 567.00
4/7/2021	100558	CWT, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Video] 03/2021	\$ 2,729.28
4/7/2021	100559	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 04/2021	\$ 19,658.18
4/7/2021	100560	Drew Donahue	Reimbursement: Mileage 03/2021	\$ 12.10
4/7/2021	100561	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 03/2021	\$ 112.00
4/7/2021	100562	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 03/2021	\$ 73.88
4/7/2021	100563	Greater Oregon City Watershed Council	CSWCD: Grant [Partnership] 2021	\$ 2,000.00
4/7/2021	100564	Impact Printing	CSWCD: Brochure [Pulling for You] 02/2021	\$ 229.00
4/7/2021	100565	Johnson Controls Fire Protection LP	Acct: 448-2721071 02/2021	\$ 1,471.00
4/7/2021	100566	Molalla River Watch	CSWCD: Grant [Partnership] 2021	\$ 8,000.00
4/7/2021	100567	North Clackamas Urban Watersheds Council	CSWCD: Grant [Partnership] 2021	\$ 15,000.00
4/7/2021	100568	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 03/2021	\$ 500.00
4/7/2021	100569	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 04/2021	\$ 96.90
4/7/2021	100570	Oswego Lake Watershed Council	CSWCD: Grant [Partnership] 2021	\$ 7,000.00
4/7/2021	100571	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 02/2021	\$ 159.45
4/7/2021	100572	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 03/2021	\$ 750.38
4/7/2021	100573	Pudding River Watershed Council	CSWCD: Grant [Partnership] 2021	\$ 8,000.00
4/7/2021	100574	Sandy River Watershed Basin Council	CSWCD: Grant [Partnership] 2021	\$ 5,000.00
4/7/2021	100575	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 Backup 05/2021	\$ 450.00
4/7/2021	100576	The Oregonian Media Group	Acct: 1039096002 Budget Comm 03/18/21	\$ 349.53
4/7/2021	100577	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 03/2021	\$ 491.56
4/7/2021	100578	Tryon Creek Watershed Council	CSWCD: Grant [Partnership] 2021	\$ 5,000.00
4/7/2021	100579	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 03-24-21	\$ 111.29
4/7/2021	100580	Verizon Wireless	Acct: 242017036-00001 03/13/21	\$ 240.06
4/7/2021	100581	VOYA Financial OSGP	CSWCD: EE/ER 457b PPE 03/31/2021	\$ 13,955.63
4/7/2021	100582	Dan E Wolf	SRL-7013 [Cascade Septic] 04/2021	\$ 9,275.00
Subtotal:				\$ 103,975.45

4/20/2021

4/19/2021	100583	AG West Supply	Acct: 169225 Repair Svcs [Tye Drill] 04/2021	\$	1,298.76	CF
4/19/2021	100584	Nicole Ahr	Reimbursement: Mileage 03/2021	\$	218.12	CF
4/19/2021	100585	Ash Creek Forest Management, LLC	CSWCD: EQIP 03/2021	\$	7,355.12	CF
4/19/2021	100586	Cascade Pacific RC&D, Inc	CWMA: SPACE Grant [Boot Brush] 04/2021:i	\$	1,500.00	CF
4/19/2021	100587	Cedar Mill Construction Company LLC	CSWCD: TI [001] 03/2021	\$	28,500.00	CF
4/19/2021	100588	D Franco Contracting Inc	DOG-1922-4039 [WW-2019-03] 03/2021	\$	994.50	CF
4/19/2021	100589	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 03/2021	\$	112.00	CF
4/19/2021	100590	Evergreen Remodeling Inc	SRL-7006 Evans [50%] 04/2021	\$	12,500.00	CF
4/19/2021	100591	Verena Fabian	SDOG-1822-4032 [Planting] 03/2021	\$	108.51	CF
4/19/2021	100592	Impact Printing	CSWCD: Letters [CRISP] 04/2021	\$	123.59	CF
4/19/2021	100593	Integrated Resource Management	WW-2019-06 AGOL 03/2021	\$	687.96	CF
4/19/2021	100594	Kuznetsov Thinning Company	WW-2019-08 AGOL 03/2021	\$	308.56	CF
4/19/2021	100595	Eann Rains	Reimbursement: Supplies 04/2021	\$	120.70	CF
4/19/2021	100596	Sound Native Plants Inc	WW-2019-12 AGOL 03/2021	\$	437.76	CF
				Subtotal:	\$ 54,265.58	
				Total:	\$ 158,241.03	
				Total Conservation Fund	\$ 22,392.41	CF


Board Chair

4/21/21

Board Secretary