



Approved August 17, 2021

**Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for July 20, 2021**

<b>PRESENT</b>	<b>Directors:</b>	Jeff Becker (Chair), Roger Fantz (Treasurer), Don Guttridge (Secretary) Jim Johnson, Jesse Nelson (Vice Chair), Jan Lee, Joan Zuber
	<b>Associate Directors:</b>	PK Melethil, Anna Rankin
	<b>Directors Emeritus:</b>	Mike Weinberg
	<b>Staff:</b>	Suzi Cloutier, Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Clair Klock, Chris Lapp, Sam Leininger, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
	<b>Partners:</b>	
	<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 4:04 p.m., July 20, 2021, via “Zoom” originating from the home office of Staff Faucera.

Chair Becker asked if there were changes or additions to the agenda. Director Nelson reported that he would have to leave at about 5:30. Chair Becker said he would move up item 7D so that Director Nelson would be able to discuss it. Staff Reische asked for time to introduce the new conservation specialist.

- B. Public Comment** – No public comment was given.

Chair Becker asked Staff Reische to introduce the new conservation specialist to the Board. Reische introduced Suzi Cloutier and asked Staff Cloutier to tell the board a bit about herself.

Staff Cloutier thanked the Board for letting her speak. Cloutier noted that she had worked many years for the Clackamas River Basin Council, and with the staff of the Conservation District. Cloutier has experience in riparian restoration, outreach, instream fish habitat, she is a biologist, and has lived in Oregon for 20 years after moving from New England. Cloutier runs an equine rescue facility and has an on-going sustainable riparian project on her property. The Board welcomed Staff Cloutier.

### C. Director reports –

- Director Guttridge reported that all his hay was in the barn.
- Director Lee reported that the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts would be holding their annual meeting in person at Eagle Crest Resort in Redmond on November 8th and 9th, 2021.
- Director Zuber noted that she was having difficulty logging into the zoom meeting. Staff Faucera sent her the link.
- Director Johnson reported that the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) budget was favorable. There is good funding for Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The Oregon Forestry Department will be holding a webinar to begin planning for the implementation of Senate Bill 762 regarding risk mapping, defensible space, communication, and other factors involving wildfire preparation. The Oregon State Fire Marshal and the Land Conservation and Development Commission will also be involved. There will be new requirements and guidelines in the future regarding wildfire prevention.
- Associate Director Rankin reported that the Pudding River Watershed Council is wrapping up work on a strategic implementation area at Howell Prairie. This council is going on a tour of the upper Abiqua watershed on Weyerhaeuser property. They will be checking on seedling survival. Rankin noted that they are also trying to work with Amazon who is building a new distribution center in Woodburn to mitigate any damage to a riparian area that is near this construction. There will also be a project in the Abiqua watershed to place large woody debris instream.
- Director Lee added to her report that the ODA budget includes back filling a position that will work with soil and water conservation districts, and two additional water quality specialists for strategic implementation areas.
- Associate Director Melethil reported that he went on a tour of sites being treated by the WeedWise program with Staff Gattuso and Leininger. He noted it was very educational and the work was challenging.

### D. Partner reports – No partner report was given

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

- Finance Committee has been keeping in touch via email.
- Building Committee has also been keeping in touch via email and will report later in the meeting.

- The Working Lands Committee met on July 1, 2021, via zoom. Staff Faucera reported he had a site visit at Magnus Tree Farm. The District maybe helping with conservation planning at the site. Faucera also reported that the annual monitoring for the Camp Adams easement has been completed and the property looks great. The Committee discussed getting the Eagle Creek Community Forest Advisory Committee back up and running. The Working Lands Committee would like to have a work session with the full board and staff to refamiliarize everyone with the property and program development.

## 2 – MINUTES

- A. **June 15, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes** – Chair Becker presented the minutes from the June 15, 2021, regular board meeting. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Director Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The 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 June 30, 2021, financial reports. Tucker noted that June is the end of fiscal year 2020/2021 and that the balances shown could change based on outstanding invoices and contracts that may need to be closed out.

Tucker reported that total assets for the district, as of June 2021, were 10.9 million, with total liabilities at 6.9 million and net assets at 3.2 million. Revenue for June was \$56,000, and expenses were \$396,000.

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

Staff Tucker reviewed a set of graphs regarding income and expenditures for fiscal year 2020/2021. The graphs are attached and a part of these minutes.

- B. **Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the Automatic Clearing House (ACH) payment list for payroll services, account hosting services, and the credit card payments. Tucker also reviewed the disbursement list of checks for the month of June 2021. Checks were numbered 100674 to 100708 with no breaks in the sequence, or voids. Check # 100669 from May was voided and was reissued in this month. Checks totaled \$164,226.98 with \$86,523.47 from the conservation fund.

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

#### 4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. **Loan management software** – Staff Tucker asked the Board to approve the subscription to a software program from BrytSoftware.com to track loans that the District makes. The program would help to track payments and make notifications to borrowers regarding their balances and payment reminders. Tucker noted the program would provide more transparency and decrease liabilities. Tucker and GM Lapp reviewed a couple of programs and demos. The company may be adding an on-line payment option in the future, which several borrowers have asked about. This is a month-to-month subscription with no long-term commitment.

Directors Guttridge/Nelson moved/seconded to procure loan management software from BrytSoftware.com. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously

- B. **Reestablish credit card authority** – GM Lapp asked the Board to approve the establishment of a credit card for the District in his name at a \$10,000 limit, and for Staff Kilders card to revert to the \$2,500 credit limit. This is not asking for anyone to have purchase authority other than the General Manager at this time, and current purchase approval will stay in place.

Directors Fantz/Johnson moved/seconded to approve providing GM Lapp with a credit card with \$10,000 credit limit. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously

- C. **Review Resolution regarding pre-approval of invoices** – GM Lapp provided a copy of Resolution 2017-003 outlining which recurring expenses are to be paid before the regular board meeting. The Board reviewed the document and felt that it specifically listed and covered what were considered standard monthly expenses. Director Guttridge did not agree that staff reimbursements and other non-recurring items should be paid at the beginning of the month, Staff Tucker felt these payments were time sensitive and employees should not have to wait for reimbursement. The Board chose to make no changes to this resolution at this time.

#### 5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. **Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** – GM Lapp presented an MOA for cooperative work with the NRCS and the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA). The MOA covers the working agreement between agencies to provide technical and financial assistance to farmers, ranchers, forest stewards, and other entities to voluntarily protect, restore, and enhance the productivity of agricultural lands. GM Lapp asked the Board to approve Chair Becker to sign the MOA.

Directors Fantz/Guttridge moved/seconded to authorize Chair Becker to sign the Memorandum of Agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation District and the Oregon Department of Agriculture. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Abstaining: Johnson. Motion carried

- B. Approval for final billing for the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI) contract** – Staff Faucera presented the final billing from Cascade Environmental Group for the NWQI report. The billing exceeded the contract by \$461.08. Faucera noted that John Runyon of Cascade Environmental had delivered a good comprehensive report during a year when the pandemic added many challenges for him, the District and the public at large. Faucera asked the Board to approve the overage on the not-to-exceed contract.

Directors Guttridge/Zuber moved/seconded to approve the \$461.08 overage to the not-to-exceed contract to Cascade Environmental Group. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- 7D. Review of draft position letter concerning water filtration project** – Chair Becker asked the Board for their input on the draft letter regarding a proposed water filtration project. Board members noted the letter was too general. The letter needs stronger points regarding applicable zoning and land use. There needs to be emphasis on the damage to habitat, water quality, and productive agricultural land. The District is not opposed to water purification, just the location. The property is in the rural reserve zone that is supposed to be protected for 50 years and there are miles of pipeline that will impact many more properties.

## **6 – PERSONNEL**

- A. Approval for recognition of Juneteenth holiday for District Employees** – GM Lapp noted that the current federal administration has approved Juneteenth as a federal holiday. The District currently recognizes all federal holidays, except for Columbus Day that has been switched with the day after Thanksgiving. Lapp asked the Board to approve Juneteenth as a paid holiday.

Directors Guttridge/Zuber moved/seconded to approve the adoption of Juneteenth as a recognized Federal Holiday and paid day off for employees. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Interim COVID-19 guidelines** – GM Lapp presented, for review, the interim guidelines for reopening the District office for staff. Lapp is taking a conservative approach to the re-opening and these guidelines will change as needed. The staff will also be taking some training regarding the newest Occupational Safety and Health Administration rules regarding heat safety.

*Director Nelson left the meeting at 5:30 p.m.*

- C. Recruitment status of conservation specialist** – GM Lapp reported that the District has received 33 applications for the term conservation specialist position. Two of the applicants had applied for the previous job opening. Lapp and Staff Reische will be reviewing the applications to check minimum qualifications before evaluating who to interview.

## 7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- A. Approval for stipend for Director Guttridge** – GM Lapp asked that the Board approve a stipend for Director Guttridge. Guttridge spent over four hours one day working on the no-till drill at his farm with former employee Rains. Rains had questions about whether the Tye no-till's hydraulics were working properly and the District's tractor is not large enough to operate the hydraulics to test the system. Guttridge also helped with the drills seed boxes/dispersing tubes and the drill hydraulics are working as expected.

Directors Fantz/Johnson moved/seconded to approve a stipend of \$50.00 for Director Guttridge. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. Abstaining: Guttridge. Motion carried.

- B. Retitling of Working Lands Committee** – Staff Faucera reported that the Working Lands Committee discussed that the name of the committee did not reflect the issues they are addressing. They would like to change the name to the Working Lands and Natural Lands Protection Committee.

Directors Johnson/Lee moved/seconded to rename the Working Lands Committee to the Working Lands and Natural Lands Protection Committee. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. Motion carried.

- C. Certificate of appreciation for Associate Director Toops** – Staff Kilders showed the Board a copy of the Certificate of Appreciation for Associate Director Toops. Toops served 11 years as Associate Director for the District and in 2012 was named Oregon Association of Conservation Districts Cooperator of the Year for small acreages. On his farm, Toops practices rotational grazing, off-site water for livestock, and has installed housing for birds, bats, and bees. Staff Kilders asked that Chair Becker stop by the office to sign the certificate and it will be presented to Associate Director Toops personally.

**E. Managers Reports –**

- Staff Kilders reported that articles on establishing wildfire defensive zones have been published. She will be participating in an Extension Service Wildfire webinar on July 28 and announced Clackamas Fire District # 1 town hall wildfire meetings to be held at the Beaver Creek Fire Station on July 22, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. and at the Redland Fire Station on August 9, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.
- Staff Kilders reported that registration for Small Farms School will open on August 10, 2021, and the program will be held on September 15, 2021.
- The Drylands Farming Institute will have a field day on August 26, 2021.
- The District has completed three more videos to be posted on the Vimeo channel, these videos have to do with horse properties and how to help maintain them. Please see the Outreach and Education report that is a part of these minutes.

- Staff Leininger reported that this is the time of year the District starts receiving calls about tansy ragwort. There is a large property in the Sandy area that Leininger has been receiving numerous calls about. It is bank owned and the bank is refusing to manage the property. A neighbor had to destroy the honey from over 40 hives due to tansy toxicity.
- The Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership had their summer meeting, and a great amount of work was done in the Clackamas River Basin
- Leininger related that a citizen reporting on the iNaturalist platform helped to identify a Plumeless Thistle as a new weed to the area. This was found in the Milwaukie area and has hopefully been eradicated.
- Staff Gattuso is working in the Sandy area, Staff Cooley in Lake Oswego, and Staff Karr in the fire zone of the Clackamas River watershed. Please see the attached WeedWise report that is a part of these minutes.
- Staff Reische reported that the Planning Staff had completed two heavy use area projects in the past month. Both projects were funded by the additional dollars allocated in the supplemental budget. These were shelf ready projects that had been waiting for available funding. One project was in the Sandy area, the other in Oregon City.
- The Planning staff is working with new employee Suzi Cloutier to get her up to speed on the Districts work.
- Reische is working on finishing up fiscal work and fielding 3 to 5 phone calls a week for technical assistance. Please see the Planning report which is a part of these minutes.

## **8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING**

- A. Open house for Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)** – GM Lapp reported to Board members that he had spoke with Kim Galland of NRCS about holding an open house. Dates are being discussed. Lapp and Galland thought maybe in mid-August. Board directors talked about holding the open house prior to an in-person board meeting, perhaps holding it out on the plaza. It was noted that there are challenges with remote access when outside and the District Board room has sound issues that need to be resolved. It was decided to look for a date in September. The issues will be discussed at the August meeting.
- B. Update on Tenant Improvement** – Staff Faucera reported that the doors have been received and installed and an occupancy permit has been approved. Signs have been installed outside the building. Faucera will be contacting NRCS regarding their lease payments. He noted that part of the cost of the improvement will be charged in fiscal year 2021/2022.
- C. Information Technology (IT) proposals** – Staff Faucera reported that he has met with three firms regarding network monitoring. Faucera will be reviewing the bids with GM Lapp and Staff Tucker. All the firms are offering similar programs for monitoring networks and back up solutions. Prices, however, are running a bit higher than anticipated, between \$25,000 to \$30,000. There will be some changes for users and the environment will be a bit more locked down. It has been suggested that those working from home will need to have District laptops to connect to the Districts computers through virtual private networks (VPN). Faucera asked the Board if they were comfortable increasing the not-to-exceed amount of \$25,000 or if they

wanted to wait to see what the best option will be. Directors felt that staff were in the best position to make the decision and the NTE could be raised to \$30,000.

Directors Johnson/Lee moved/seconded to have employees make the decision regarding selection of a monitoring contractor and to raise the Not-To-Exceed amount to \$30,000. In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

*Director Johnson left the meeting at 6:17 p.m.*

**9 – OTHER REPORTS** – No other reports were given.

### **ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING**

- The next regular meeting will be on August 17, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge  
Office Administrator





July 20, 2021

## BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

#### **Heavy Use Area Projects Completed with Conservation Fund**

Last month Scott Eden worked with two small acreage farms to complete equine Heavy Use Areas. Implementation of the projects was possible due to District Dollars on the Ground grant funding. For livestock producers in western Oregon, our heavy clay soils and long wet season often lead to muddy paddocks and degraded pastures with low forage productivity. The soil is easily compacted when livestock are allowed on pastures and paddocks during the wet season. Heavy animals like horses will especially cause soil compaction. Desirable perennial forage grasses preferentially grow in soil that has open pore spaces for their delicate fibrous root systems to obtain adequate air and water. Once the soil is compacted and/or overgrazed, the deep rooted-perennial forage grasses tend to die out, while weedy vegetation (oxeye daisy, wild carrot, false dandelion, tansy ragwort) with strong taproots proliferate and become dominant. A good management strategy to help to reverse this trend is to confine livestock during the winter months to dry lots or improved footing Heavy Use Areas (HUAs). These HUAs are constructed with compacted layers of crushed aggregate, underlain with non-woven geotextile. This construction can hold up to the livestock hoof pressures, keeping their feet dry and mud free. By containing them to a smaller area during the wet season, the pastures can be rested and the grass roots can expand and grow, reducing the soil compaction. A system of rotational grazing can then be set up so that the pastures and paddocks are uniformly grazed but have long periods of rest between grazing events. This practice provides more rest for the soil and grass roots to thrive, eventually producing good perennial forage grass cover. HUAs can also be helpful whenever there is insufficient forage grass available on the farm, such as during summer drought periods or when maintenance is needed like weed spraying or fertilizing. While the HUA's themselves are relatively small (about 5,000 sq ft for use by a few horses at a time), they provide a huge conservation benefit to the whole managed acreage system the horses use.



Muddy paddock before construction.



Completed HUA.

## Unique Riparian Habitat on the Pudding River

The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) has been capturing interest of those in Clackamas County, including past clients that have fallen out of touch with the District. One landowner on the Pudding River has reached back out to the District for technical advice and funding opportunities to restore 5.2 acres of their riparian habitat. CREP will provide the support this landowner needs to maintain eligibility for the ODFW Riparian Lands Tax Incentive Program and to restore this unique type of riparian habitat. Approximately one quarter of an acre of this riparian area is a solid wapato, an incredibly rare site to find naturally in this part of Clackamas County. Wapato is a semi aquatic perennial from tuber-producing rhizomes. These tubers are eaten by many native wildlife



Wapato area in new CREP project.

species, and it is a very important cultural food to Native Americans. The common name 'wapato' is the Chinook for 'tuberous' plant and the scientific name literally means

'broad-leaf arrowhead.' Although this unique riparian habitat is still thriving, the invasive species reed canary grass can be seen adjacent to the wapato patch. Reed canary grass is extremely aggressive, and its removal is of great importance if this habitat is to be maintained. This is exactly what CREP will help this landowner do, as well as remove blackberry and other invasives that impair this riparian buffer.



Wapato

## Please Welcome Our New Conservation Specialist!

The planning team is very excited to welcome our new conservation specialist – Suzi Cloutier. Suzi has an extensive natural resource professional background including working as a fish biology and habitat conservation, water quality assessment and aquatic work, habitat restoration and enhancement and environmental education. She spent nearly six years recruiting landowners for riparian and instream enhancement projects with the Clackamas River Basin Council. Ms. Cloutier's experiences also includes 14 years designing and implementing a week-long environmental education camp for 160 of Oregon's inner-city youth.

Suzi grew up tending to a menagerie of animals on her parent's small farm while working on large local cattle and hay operations. She continues her love of animals, agriculture and ecological sustainability on her farm filled with equines in the Clackamas River Basin.

Initially Suzi will be taking over a few projects from previous planner, Matt Van Wey, but we have lots of ideas how we can put her extensive conservation experience and knowledge to great work with the planning team.



Suzi water quality testing in the Clackamas Basin.



## The Latest from the Education and Outreach Program July 2021

### Web Posts

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

- [Public Input Sought on Molalla River Assessment and Action Plan](#)
- [Weekend Wildfire Warrior - Intermediate Zone](#)
- [National Pollinator Week 2021: June 21st - June 27th](#)
- [District Honors Conservation Initiatives Manager Jason Faucera](#)
- [Final Draft Presentation on Molalla River Drinking Water Project Available for Viewing](#)
- [Weekend Wildfire Warrior - Extended Zone](#)
- [Conservation Specialist Term Position Announcement](#)
- [District Bids Farewell to Career Conservationist Eann Rains](#)
- [Tansy Poisons Livestock and Neighborly Relationships](#)
- [July Invasive Weed of the Month - Tansy Ragwort](#)
- [Fire Preparedness Webinar for Clackamas County](#)
- [How Wildfire Affects the Forest Soil](#)



July Invasive Weed of the Month:

Tansy Ragwort

### Small Farm School

Registration for Small Farm School will open on August 10 and the event will be held on Wednesday, September 15. The District will be providing 4 canopy tents for the event which will be a hybrid in-person and virtual learning experience. Education and Outreach staff are in the process of developing short "Ask the Expert" videos which will include District Conservation Planners and WeedWise Specialists.



### Dry Farming Institute



You are invited to attend the Summer field day for the Dry Farming Project. In case you are not familiar with the [Dry Farming Institute](#) (DFI), this group supports the goals and mission of District by:

- Increasing the knowledge and awareness of practices that enable growers to produce crops with little to no irrigation
- Supporting stewardship of water, soil, and seeds for resilience

Exciting news is that the DFI recently took the [Resilient Seed Stewardship Program](#) under its umbrella. Cathy McQueeney serves on the Board of Directors.

### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Team

The next meeting of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Team will be at 3:30 p.m. on August 2, 2021, via Zoom. The topic of the August meeting will be to discuss the merits of DEI training opportunities available to the District.

### Soil Health

Two Soil Your Undies Campaigns are underway with the Oswego Lake Watershed Council and the Bringing Nature

Home committee at Rose Villa in Milwaukie. This is a fun way to introduce the community to the science and importance of soil health. (Look for our upcoming article!)

The photo to the right is of the Rose Villa residents ready to bury their undies!



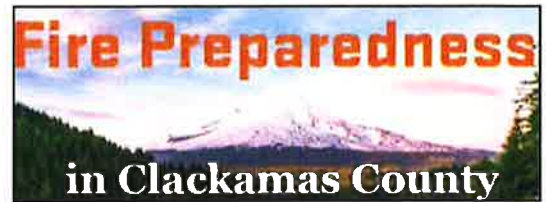
### Social Media

Do you follow us on Facebook? If not, you should [check us out!](#)

Facebook allows us to provide conservation content to people living in Clackamas County (and beyond). We share content originating from the District as well as information generated by our valued partners. The District's social following has grown consistently over the past year and posts, especially the recent posts recommending fire preparedness, are regularly seen by thousands of people.

### Wildfire Preparedness

The District and many of the partners in the wildfire group that we convened two years ago were invited by OSU to participate in a panel for a wildfire preparedness webinar. The purpose of this webinar is to help Clackamas County residents to be more prepared and resilient to wildfires. To that end, our first group workshop will be held **July 28 at 6pm. This is an online Zoom workshop and registration is FREE.**



Register online at <https://beav.es/3Bc> You may also email [Amanda Brenner](#) or call: 503-655-8631 to register.

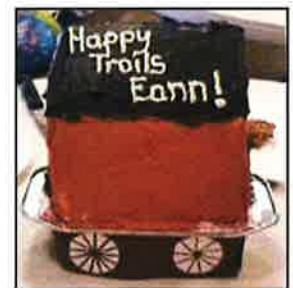
### Wildfire Town Halls

Clackamas Fire District #1 is holding three Town Hall meetings to talk about the 2021 wildfire season outlook, creating defensible space, and local firefighting resources. These in-person meetings will be held from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at:

- Eagle Creek Station 18 on Tuesday July 20, 2021
- Beavercreek Station 10 on Thursday July 22, 2021
- Redland Station 11 on Monday August 9, 2021

### First in-person Staff Meeting

District staff were giddy with excitement for the first in-person staff meeting in over a year! We had an outdoor meeting with a variety of updates and awards plus a potluck. Highlights included a farewell to Eann video and certificates of appreciation for both Eann, for 25 years of service to Conservation Districts, and Jason, for managing the build-out and leasing of the west wing to our federal partners. Chris experienced his first potluck and won the Dog Show prize awarded by Eann!



The coveted Dog Show award.

The lucky Dog Show winner!



### Last But Not Least!

We welcome new Conservation Planner Suzi Cloutier! She joined the staff on Monday July 12, 2021. She comes to us from the Clackamas River Basin Council. We are so happy to have her join our team!



**Have a Great Month!**



July 15, 2021

## BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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



#### **Tansy Ragwort: Weed of the Month**

This month we are highlighting tansy ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*) as our [July Weed-of-the-Month](#). This toxic weed has a long history in Clackamas County as one of the noxious weeds that was regulated under the now defunct noxious weed control district. It continues to be one of the most hated weeds in Clackamas County.

The bright yellow flowers are now in full bloom and our phone is starting to ring off the hook. In response to several landowner inquiries, we have also republished one of our first WeedWise posts about the [adverse impacts of tansy ragwort on neighbors](#), that has also been cloned on the District website. These articles help to answer many of the common questions we receive during the growing season.

We are also collecting location information of reports from concerned citizens to include these areas in our annual tansy mailing that we generate each year. This goes out to infested areas to remind landowners about the impacts of tansy ragwort and to encourage management of this plant.



### Summer CRISP Meeting

The WeedWise program recently hosted our summer Clackamas River Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) Meeting. Our summer meeting was a great opportunity for partners to discuss current projects, new observations, field operational concerns, outreach activities, and plan for the fall season.

The immense amount of work underway in the Clackamas Watershed is astounding! Last season, CRISP partners expended [\\$221,510 in CRISP-sourced funding, and documented an additional \\$470,306 in partner funding, and 2,113 hours of personnel time.](#) Many thanks to everyone involved in this effort!

A screenshot of the iNaturalist project page for "Priority Weeds of Clackamas County". The header features the "WeedWise" logo, which includes a circular emblem with a plant and the text "WeedWise" in a red, cursive font, followed by "A conservation program of the Clackamas SWCD". Below the logo is a photograph of various weeds. The page has a red sidebar with navigation options: "About" (with 3 members), "Members" (3), "Read More", "Your Membership", "Edit Project", and "Project Journal". At the bottom, a summary bar shows: Overview (148 observations), 21 species, 60 identifiers, and 62 observers, along with a "Stats" icon.

### iNaturalist Priority Weeds of Clackamas County Project Update

Over the last year the WeedWise program has been utilizing a platform known as iNaturalist to monitor community science observations to quickly crowd-source local noxious weed observations. This effort has been so fruitful, that we have created a [Clackamas County Priority Weed Project](#) a year ago to document and [track priority and containment designated weeds](#) in Clackamas County. In the last year our crowd-sourced observations of priority noxious weeds have nearly doubled. This is a huge contribution, gleaned from our community scientists. So many thanks to plant enthusiasts that are utilizing this platform and helping us to detect and respond to new invasives!



### **Summer Treatments, Surveys, and Technical Assistance.**

The WeedWise program has been continuing, the mad dash through the field season. For the month of June, the WeedWise program treated 162 net acres of noxious weeds. That equates to 7.05 million sq ft of ground in one month.

Summer is the time of the year when we transition from our spring weeds like garlic mustard to summer targets. In the past few weeks, we have been focusing on orange and meadow hawkweed control, policeman's helmet, false brome, oblong spurge, puncturevine, and others.

Justin has been focusing on puncturevine and oblong spurge populations, as well as wrapping up the end of season reporting for our Lake Oswego partnership work. He has also been focusing on coordinating survey work in the Beachie Creek burn area.

Lindsey has been busy targeting false brome, policeman's helmet, sulfur cinquefoil, and orange hawkweed treatments. She has been managing multiple crews simultaneously up and down the Clackamas. Lindsey has also been coordinating work in the upper portions of the Clackamas impacted by the Riverside Fire. She is currently working with Forest Service staff and select contractors to survey and treat these areas.

Courtney has been busy wrapping up our meadow and orange hawkweed treatments in the Lolo Pass area and has begun the policeman's helmet treatments in the Salmon River corridor. carrying out follow-up treatment on garlic mustard in the Sandy River watershed.

Sam has been busy addressing the many requests for technical assistance. He has been responding to calls related to tansy ragwort, blackberry, poison hemlock, butterfly bush, Japanese knotweed, and tree-of-heaven, among others.

Last month, the WeedWise program reported 334 noxious weed control treatments totaling 214 net acres to date for the year. ***This month these totals have grown to 490 noxious weed treatments totaling 401 net acres. That is one impressive month! Nice work WeedWise team!***



### **Lolo Pass Hawkweed Project and Site Tour.**

The WeedWise program has wrapped up surveys and treatments near Lolo Pass to control invasive meadow and orange hawkweeds. This effort was undertaken in cooperation with the Mt Hood National Forest, ODA Noxious Weed Program, Portland Water Bureau and Bonneville Power Administration.

This season we were able to not only treat our treatment areas but were also able to survey an additional two-mile section of the powerline corridor. This expanded survey has yielded new discoveries of meadow hawkweed as well as a large patch of ribbongrass within the BPA powerline corridor. We will be working in the coming year to address these new discoveries.

The WeedWise program also recently hosted Associate Board Member PK Melethil for a tour of the Lolo Pass project area. Sam and PK were able to meet Courtney on site to look at several new observations in the newly surveyed area. Sam and PK were also able to survey a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail, that has historically had significant portions of orange hawkweed, but are now hawkweed free and wildflower abundant.

This has been a monumental year for the Lolo Pass Hawkweed Project. The addition of new partners, and addition funding has increased our capacity. Courtney has done an amazing job of coordinating WeedWise field operations this season. This is no small feat given the nearly [15 miles of powerline corridors associated with this project!](#)



*Lolo Pass Hawkweed and Implementation Photos*



*A new two mile section of powerline corridor that was surveyed this season.*



*A large infestation of ribbongrass was discovered by ODA staff during implementation*



*A large population of flowering meadow hawkweed*



*WeedWise Specialist, Courtney and Associate Board Member PK are touring some of the new discoveries west of the Lolo Pass project area.*



*Associate Board Member PK Melethil tours the Lolo Pass Hawkweed Project Area.*



*This Western swallowtail feeding on a Columbia lily that was observed at the Pacific Crest Trail is just one of the many Clackamas County residents we are serving as part of this project.*



### Lake Oswego Garlic Mustard Partnership

This past month, the WeedWise program completed our Lake Oswego project work. This project was funded by grant funding from the City of Lake Oswego as part of a new partnership between the WeedWise program, City of Lake Oswego, Oswego Lake Watershed Council, Tryon Creek Watershed Council, and West Multnomah SWCD.

Justin has been the lead on this project and has done an amazing job coordinating the work with a relatively short timeline. In the recently completed project report Justin notes that in a short 6-week period, the WeedWise program:

- Mailed 134 landowner packets,
- Secured 66 new or renewed permissions,
- Treated priority weeds on 119 sites,
- Identified 352 new priority weed locations,
- Identified new populations of garlic mustard, spurge laurel, knotweed, oblong spurge, spotted knapweed, false brome, and sulphur cinquefoil,
- Treated 221 acres, of which 153 of those acres are designated as “sensitive lands”,
- Treated 37,696 feet of stream length.

Many thanks to Justin for the extraordinary effort in organizing and implementing this project given such a short implementation window.

Lake Oswego Implementation Photos





## 4 COUNTY Cooperative Weed Management Area



## Cooperative Weed Management Areas

### *Columbia Gorge CWMA*

The Columbia Gorge CWMA has been celebrating its first ever virtual Boot Brush Kickoff event. Courtney has been working with regional land managers to implement much needed maintenance and repair to boot brushes throughout the Columbia Gorge. Support for these repairs has been funded by the Columbia Gorge CWMA.

Courtney has also coordinated with Cathy to spearhead an outreach campaign to help *spread the word and not the weeds*. This social media outreach campaign has been organized to make people more aware of the importance of cleaning boots and equipment. Posts have been written and shared from partners across Western Oregon and Western Washington. Kudos to Courtney, Cathy, and all our partners in making this campaign a huge success.

### *4-County CWMA*

The 4-County CWMA continues to work toward a redesign and upgrade to the CWMA website. This has long been a focus of the CWMA, to better serve its member organizations. The 4-County CWMA Steering Committee has been discussing a scope of work and will be looking to secure design firms to help with this process. We are excited to update this resource to help assist our member organizations.

The 4-County CWMA has also announced a Data Sharing Contest to map weeds using iNaturalist. If you are interested in competing for the fame and glory and sought after prizes, be sure to check out the Data Sharing Contest for 2021 (<https://4countycwma.org/mapping-data/data-sharing-contest-entry-2020/>)

The 4-County Technical Committee also hosted a recent field trip to look at invasive members of the parsley family (*Apiaceae*). Participants toured several field sites to learn to distinguish *Anthriscus* and *Torrilis* species. This field trip was a milestone in that it was the first in-person event to be held by one of our CWMA's since the start of the pandemic! Great news indeed!

Voucher Approval List

7/8/2021

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
7/8/2021	100674	AFLAC	Acct: LGF14 06/2021	\$ 766.21
7/8/2021	100675	Columbia Land Trust	CSWCD: Backyard Habitat [MOA-20/21] 06/21	\$ 15,000.00
7/8/2021	100676	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 06/2021	\$ 73.96
7/8/2021	100677	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 05/2021	\$ 187.47
7/8/2021	100678	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 02208 08/2021	\$ 1,275.00
7/8/2021	100679	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 06/2021	\$ 496.36
7/8/2021	100680	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 06/2021	\$ 430.74
<b>Subtotal:</b>				<b>\$ 18,229.74</b>

7/20/2021

7/19/2021	100681	Nicole Ahr	Reimbursement: Mileage 06/2021	\$ 371.17
7/19/2021	100682	BIO-Med Testing Services, Inc	Acct: CLACOREG 06/2021	\$ 18.00
7/19/2021	100683	Cascade Environmental Group, LLC	PSC-1820-4037 06/2021	\$ 2,112.50
7/19/2021	100684	Cedar Mill Construction Company LLC	CSWCD: TI [004] 06/2021	\$ 35,575.12
7/19/2021	100685	Clackamas ESD	CSWCD: Phone Sys [Q4] 06/2021	\$ 894.26
7/19/2021	100686	Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts	CSWCD: Mbr 21/22 07/2021	\$ 3,500.00
7/19/2021	100687	Covenant Systems LLC	CSWCD: Security Monitoring 06-2021-08-20:	\$ 300.00
7/19/2021	100688	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 07/2021	\$ 567.00
7/19/2021	100689	D Franco Contracting Inc	WW-2019-03 [CRISP-LK-2010-05] 05/2021	\$ 1,398.80
7/19/2021	100690	E & A Systems Incorporated	CSWCD: SRL-7015 Final 06/2021	\$ 12,525.00
7/19/2021	100691	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 06/2021	\$ 161.28
7/19/2021	100692	Green Banks, LLC	WW-2019-05 [CRISP-LK-2021-02] 06/2021	\$ 24,298.41
7/19/2021	100693	J Franco Reforestation, Inc	WW-2019-07 [WW-CG-2021-02] 06/2021	\$ 27,730.52
7/19/2021	100694	Jillian Lamont & Associates	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Data] 06/2021	\$ 4,235.00
7/19/2021	100695	Johnson Creek Watershed Council	5000.18 Creek Care 20/21	\$ 2,500.00
7/19/2021	100696	Matrix Video Production Inc	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Media] 06/2021	\$ 4,360.00
7/19/2021	100697	Benjamin McCune	DOG-2021-4049 HUA 06/2021	\$ 9,000.00
7/19/2021	100698	Neyda's Custom Hardscaping	CSWCD: Site Svcs [BVRRCR] 06/2021	\$ 375.50

7/19/2021	100699	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 07/2021	\$	103.10	
7/19/2021	100700	Pamplin Media Group	Acct: 11011518 Herold Pioneer 07/2021	\$	37.00	
7/19/2021	100701	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 06/2021	\$	402.36	
7/19/2021	100702	Eann Rains	Reimbursement: Supplies 06/2021	\$	42.97	
7/19/2021	100703	Jennifer Reische	Reimbursement: Mileage 06/2021	\$	112.00	
7/19/2021	100704	Sound Native Plants Inc	WW-2019-12 [CRISP-LK-2021-02] 06/2021	\$	4,850.74	CF
7/19/2021	100705	Special Districts Insurance Services	36W18476-100 WC 21/22 07/2021	\$	2,520.16	
7/19/2021	100706	Nathan Tucker	Reimbursement: Supplies [Fulcrum] 07/2021	\$	720.00	
7/19/2021	100707	Michael Van Derwater	DOG-2021-4048 HUA 06/2021	\$	6,720.00	CF
7/19/2021	100708	Wilbur-Ellis Company LLC	Acct: 2266434 05/2021	\$	566.35	

**Subtotal: \$ 145,997.24**

<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>164,226.98</b>
<hr/>		
Total Conservation Fund	\$	86,523.47

CF

  
 Board Chair

  
 Board Secretary

7-20-21