



Approved September 21, 2021

**Clackamas SWCD Board Meeting Minutes for August 17, 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>	
	<b>Staff:</b>	Jason Faucera, Tami Guttridge, Lisa Kilders, Clair Klock, Chris Lapp, Sam Leininger, Cathy McQueeney, Jenne Reische, Nathan Tucker
	<b>Partners:</b>	
	<b>Guest:</b>	Kim Galland, Natural Resources Conservation Service
<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 4:01 p.m., August 17, 2021, via Zoom originating from the District office at 22055 S Beaver Creek Rd, Beavercreek, Oregon. Chair Becker asked if there were any additions, or changes to the agenda. No changes were requested.

**B. Public Comment** – Clair Klock gave public comment regarding the District Board’s position on the proposed siting of a water filtration facility to be built by the Portland Water Bureau. Klock felt that the District should concentrate more or at least equally on solar projects that are impacting much more farmland than the water filtration facility.

**C. Director reports –**

- Director Lee reported that the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts annual meeting will most likely be virtual due to the surge in COVID-19. Lee also reported that both the Oregon Global Warming Commission and the Department of Environmental Quality are working on carbon sequestration plans for the state.

- Director Fantz reported that things were fine at his farm, some of the plants like the hot weather, others don't
- Director Guttridge asked that everyone please be careful about sparks and fire when working outside.
- Director Johnson reported that the anticipated opening of state offices to the public on September 1, 2021, has been postponed. Also, Johnson has been contacted by the Oswego Lake Watershed Council. They thanked the District for supporting the Hallinan Woods project. The City of Lake Oswego has purchased the property. Oswego Lake Watershed Council would like to meet and work more closely with the District in the future.
- Director Zuber reported that she was nervous about a fire burning near her property that has burned approximately 3500 acres. Zuber attended a meeting with Associate Director Rankin regarding the removal of a dam in the Scotts Mills area. The Marion County Commission are not moving forward with a decision regarding the project.
- Director Nelson reported he was just keeping the trees growing and would be working at the Far West show the rest of the week.
- Associate Director Rankin reported more on the Butte Creek Dam. This project has been a priority for the Fish and Wildlife for 10 years. Landowner permission is part of the problem. Rankin noted that a person had died recently at the dam site, possibly due to the channel flow. Marion County needs to come to the table.
- Rankin also reported that she had reviewed a large wood debris project on Abiqua Creek. Rankin noted that there was money available for water resiliency projects.

**D. Partner reports** – Kim Galland reported that the Natural Resources Conservation Service has moved into the west wing of the Conservation Resource Center. Glad to be here. They are in the process of unloading boxes and after they have their cubicles inspected, they will work at getting rid of the excess furniture.

Galland reported that Mike Hensley would be on paternity leave from about mid-September as his wife is expecting. He will work half-time when he returns.

Farm Services Agency has hired a new person, who will be working part-time in Clackamas until her training is completed.

NRCS is trying to catch up on current contracts and planning for the next contracting period.

Galland recommended that the planned open house be postponed.

**E. Manager's report on committees** – General Manager (GM) Lapp reported that the Finance and Building Committees had been communicating via e-mail. The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee had met and will have a report later in the meeting.

## 2 – MINUTES

- A. **June 20, 2021, Regular Board Meeting minutes** – The June 20, 2021, regular Board meeting minutes were presented. The Board Secretary has reviewed the minutes.

Directors Johnson and Fantz moved/seconded to approve the June 20, 2021, regular Board meeting 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 July 31, 2021, financial reports. Tucker reported that the Districts total assets were at \$10.7 million and total liabilities were 6.8 million. The Districts total net assets were at \$3.9 million at the end of July. Tucker hopes to have the fiscal year 2020/2021 closed out by the end of September. Tucker reported that the new loan software is up and running, there is quite a bit of entry that must be done. A letter has been sent to District borrowers explaining the system. He hopes to have it up and running by the end of the fiscal year. Tucker also noted that interest payments would be due on the District's loans for the Conservation building and the Eagle Creek Community Forest in December.

Director Fantz/Nelson moved/seconded to accept the June 20, 2021, financial reports as presented. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Disbursements** – Staff Tucker presented the Automatic Clearing House (ACH) payments for August. Tucker noted that the Voya Retirement payment was new to the ACH listing. This item was added as Voya will no longer accept payment by check. Tucker then reviewed the disbursement list. Checks were numbered 100709 to 100742, with check number 100728 being voided as it was inadvertently issued to the incorrect vendor. The total disbursement list was \$119,664.92 with \$31,860.14 from the conservation fund.

Director Guttridge noted that he had refused to sign three checks from the first of the month check run. He felt that the checks were not part of the recurring expenses covered by the Districts resolution. The checks were for a septic loan payment, legal advice, and service on the alarm system.

Staff Tucker replied that he felt the check for the septic loan needed to be paid because the work had been completed in early July and should have been paid last month. The legal counsel's invoices have often been paid in the early check run.

Guttridge asked that there be further Board discussion regarding what is considered to be a recurring payment at a later date. Chair Becker stated that this should happen soon.

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

#### 4 – OTHER FINANCIALS

- A. **Cosignatory on 2021 Audit Engagement Letter** – Staff Tucker presented a letter of engagement from Richard Winkel for the 2020/2021 fiscal year audit. The cost for this year’s audit will be \$5,900. Tucker asked that the Board authorize Chair Becker and General Manager Lapp to sign the agreement.

Directors Guttridge/Fantz moved/seconded to authorize Chair Becker and General Manager Lapp to sign the audit engagement letter with Richard Winkel|CPA. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Request for Proposal for Certified Public Accountant services** – Staff Tucker noted that it was time to solicit bids for audit services. Richard Winkel has been the Districts auditor for the last 5 years or more. It was noted that it would be good to have a someone else review the Districts finances. Winkel has provided excellent service and is welcome to bid on the new request.

#### 5 – PROJECTS, PROGRAMS

- A. **Approval for final spending authority for the Conservation Resource Center Tenant Improvement project** – Staff Faucera reported that the tenant improvement project is nearly complete. There are three small items to be addressed. Faucera reminded the Board that they had approved a not-to-exceed amount of \$140,000 to complete the project, and Cedar Mills Construction had presented the final billing. It came in at \$518.50 over the not-to-exceed amount. Faucera reported that Cedar Mills had done a very good job and he asked that the Board approve the overage on the final billing.

Directors Guttridge/Lee moved/seconded to approve the final payout to Cedar Mills Construction of \$140,518.50 for the tenant improvement projects. The motion carried as follows: In Favor: Becker, Fantz, Guttridge, Johnson, Lee, Nelson, and Zuber. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. **Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Training** – Staff McQueeney reported that the DEI committee met on August 12, 2021. They are reviewing options for training for the Board and staff. They have approached other districts regarding the training and providers they are using. Some providers tailor training to each organization they work with and are not currently taking new clients. Staff Faucera put together a survey for the Districts DEI committee members to provided opinions of the training they have reviewed. The committee is looking for an entry-level training video that will explain terms and concepts of diversity, equity, and inclusion. Special Districts Association of Oregon is working on DEI information to send out to all board and staff to review, hopefully by the end of September. Director Lee reported that the legislature is also working on a list of DEI definitions and environmental justice needs.

## 6 – PERSONNEL

- A. **Conservation Resource Center Interim COVID-19 Guidance** – GM Lapp reported that he had included a copy of the newest interim guidance for the Conservation Resource Center in the Board packet. He noted that masks were now required in the office for all staff, board members and visitors until further notice. Lapp will keep the Board informed of any changes that occur to this guidance.
- B. **Implementation of Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) rules for Heat and Wildfire Smoke** – Staff Guttridge reviewed the OSHA temporary rules for heat and smoke and noted that the original documents were posted in the Board online packet. A similar review will be presented to staff at the Wednesday, August 18, 2021, staff meeting. The staff are required to check heat indexes daily and the District is required to check Air Quality indexes and inform staff daily. These are part of 180-day temporary rules that the District must follow. Employees are encouraged to keep in touch, let supervisors know where they are, follow ventilation rules for air quality and COVID. The District takes employees safety very seriously.
- C. **Employee Handbook revision** – GM Lapp reported that he is working with the Special Districts Association of Oregon (SDAO) and HR Answers on revisions to the Districts employee handbook. SDAO has an organized template specific to special districts, including state specific rules. Lapp stated that Staff Tucker would be helping him to transfer the existing manual into the template. A draft manual with highlighted changes will be brought to the Board for approval. The current manual has not been updated for several years.

## 7 – BOARD AND MANAGER REPORTS

- A. **Eagle Creek Community Forest work session** – GM Lapp reported that he had his first visit to the community forest with Staff Cooley on August 10, 2021. This gave Lapp a chance to see the forest before our strategic planning. Lapp would like to have a Board work session at 3:00 p.m. before the September 21, 2021, board meeting to review the history of the acquisition and community forest obligations. Lapp noted that everyone has a different view, opinion, or information regarding the property, and he would like to see everyone brought up to date prior to strategic planning. Staff Faucera will be putting together a structure for this discussion before the next board meeting.

Staff Faucera reported that he will go over the outline with the management team. If the Board has specific questions about the Eagle Creek Community Forest, please send them to Faucera so that they can be researched before the work session. The plan is to review the forest acquisition grant, projects on Suter Creek currently managed by David Bugni, the Forestry Management plan developed by Barry Sims of Trout Mountain Forestry, and the Community Forest Advisory committee.

Several Board members noted that the community input would be very important as planning moves forward. Directors said they would be available for the work session before the September meeting.

- B. Position letter for water filtration project** – Chair Becker and Director Nelson thanked Directors Lee and Guttridge for their editorial comments on the Board’s position letter. They will move forward on the changes and get the letter sent out.
- C. Management report formats** – GM Lapp reported that he sent an email to Board Directors regarding the structure and value of the management reports. He has heard back from about half of the Board members and will be directly contacting the rest. There have been some good suggestions from managers, and the goal is to provide reports that are valuable to the Board.
- D. Management reports –**

**WeedWise Department**

- Staff Leininger reported that the weed of the month is puncture vine, which has been found in the Canby/Molalla area.
- Work is shifting from spring weeds to perennial ones such as knot weed, and policeman’s helmet which Staff Gattuso is working on in the Sandy area, and Staff Karr is treating in the Deep Creek area.
- Tansy season is in full swing, with many calls from landowners. There has been some progress at the Sandy Ridge farm where off-site management has been reluctant to keep the tansy down.
- Staff Cooley has been working very hard to keep the roads open on the Eagle Creek Forest property.
- Staff Cooley and Staff Karr have also been working in the wildfire areas to help with weed control.
- The Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMAs) are also hard at work. Staff Gattuso has been organizing meetings on Zoom for the CWMAs. (Please see the WeedWise report which is a part of these minutes).

**Planning Department**

- Staff Reische reported that this is the last year of the current Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) oak Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) funding, and the planning staff is working with Staff Kilders on a promotional postcard mailing. Contracting that is completed this fall will be for work next spring. Mapping that has been completed by the Intertwine Oak and Prairie Working Group is the basis for the mailing area. Reische is hoping to have Staff Ahr make a presentation to the Board later this fall.
- Staff Reische and Eden visited a dairy on Rock Creek that has a dam that impedes fish passage part of the year. This dam is on the top of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife list for removal. The Pudding River Watershed Council has agreed to help try to get Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) funding for the dam removal project.
- Staff Donahue has been with the District for one-year. She has been successful in securing the first new Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) project in Clackamas County in the past 10 years. Funding for Donahue’s position runs out in December and staff are currently working to renew the grant.

- New employee Cloutier is getting up to speed with District programs and doing outreach to former Staff Van Wey's clients.
- Reische and GM Lapp continue to work on the hiring of a new planner with ag water quality experience. (Please see Reische's report which is a part of these minutes).

### **Conservation Initiatives**

- Staff Faucera reported that he is working on recruiting volunteers for a first flush water quality sampling in the Molalla National Water Quality Initiative area. This sampling event will begin with the fall rainy season. Faucera hopes the results will help pinpoint which streams are contributing the most sediment, so that there can be focused outreach in the area.
- Faucera continues to work with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) on their tax-incentive programs. ODFW's budget allowed for increased staffing. With the help of the Oregon Association of Conservation Districts and Jim Cathcart of West Multnomah Soil and Water Conservation District, Faucera has been able to meet with members of the legislature regarding the need to fund these programs. Progress is being made on these programs. When the programs are fully functional it will help the planning department work with landowners to protect vital habitats.

### **Education and Outreach**

- Staff Kilders reported that the horse videos recently completed are available to view on the District's website. Each video is only about three (3) minutes long.
- Kilders worked with the Clackamas River Basin Council to submit a pesticide strategic plan last month addressing water quality.
- Small Farm school registration is open and limited to 150 attendees. The workshops will be held outside and if need be, can be switched to a virtual format.
- Staff Kilders and Director Guttridge attended a fire preparedness workshop at the Beaver Creek Fire Station. Approximately 50 people attended.
- Staff Kilders and Kim Galland (NRCS) presented at the Fire Preparedness webinar in Clackamas County on July 28, 2021.
- Kilders is participating on the Clackamas County Climate Action team. They are off to a slow start but hopes the team will be successful. She will report at the next meeting. (Please see Kilders report which is a part of these minutes).

Director Fantz asked Staff Kilders if she had received a new video from David Bugni regarding the impact that woody debris was having on gravel beds in Suter Creek. Kilders said she had not received the video. Fantz will forward the video to her.

## **8 – PROPERTY, PLANNING**

- A. Scope of Work for Strategic Planning Facilitation** – GM Lapp has been contacting other Districts regarding their strategic planning process. He is hoping to find options for the District and set up a scope of work for strategic planning by this fall. Lapp would like the District to go through the planning process during the winter and be ready to finalize a plan in the spring.
- B. United States Department of Agriculture open house** – GM Lapp noted that with the uptick in COVID-19 this open house would be rescheduled.

## **9 – OTHER REPORTS**

- Director Fantz asked Chair Becker if he would be coming into the office to sign checks and other documents. Becker said yes, he would take care of signing checks.
- Director Lee complimented Chair Becker on closing the meeting by 6:00.

## **ADJOURN AND NEXT MEETING**

- There will be a work session on September 21, 2021, at 3:00 p.m.
- The next regular meeting will be on September 21, 2021, at 4:00 p.m.
- There being no further business, Chair Becker adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Tami L. Guttridge  
Office Administrator





August 17, 2021

## BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Oak Mapping Prioritization Project Update

In the spring of 2019 the Intertwine Oak and Prairie Working Group (OPWG) in the Greater Portland-Metro Area contracted with Biohabitats to produce a prioritization model for the recently completed Oakquest mapping dataset. The Oakquest data includes data points of mature Oregon white oak trees and Oregon white oak tree canopy/stands collected by volunteers on the ground and delineated with aerial photos by professionals. The District contributed to the Oakquest mapping effort both through data collection and funding for aerial photo interpretation. The Oakquest data covers the Regional Conservation Strategy Area of the Greater Portland-Metro Area which includes portions of

Multnomah, Columbia, Washington, Clackamas and Yamhill Counties in Oregon and Clark County in Washington. There are many organizations participating in our local OPWG, and collectively we wanted to develop a prioritized spatial map for where to focus oak habitat conservation and restoration efforts. The Oakquest data gave us that opportunity. An Oak Mapping Committee formed from the OPWG, and we put together a Request for Proposal to hire a contractor to complete the oak mapping prioritization, including compiling existing oak habitat and landcover data, a literature review to understand key attributes, creating and scoring polygons, incorporating habitat connectivity, and identifying gaps. Biohabitats recently completed the oak mapping prioritization project, and we are just starting to work with the mapping products to think about how they can be used by different organizations to prioritize work and how we can share the new information with the public in a meaningful way. Stay tuned for a presentation on this work at an upcoming Board Meeting.



There are many organizations participating in our local OPWG, and collectively we wanted to develop a prioritized spatial map for where to focus oak habitat conservation and restoration efforts. The Oakquest data gave us that opportunity. An Oak Mapping Committee formed from the OPWG, and we put together a Request for Proposal to hire a contractor to complete the oak mapping prioritization, including compiling existing oak habitat and landcover data, a literature review to understand key attributes, creating and scoring polygons, incorporating habitat connectivity, and identifying gaps. Biohabitats recently completed the oak mapping prioritization project, and we are just starting to work with the mapping products to think about how they can be used by different organizations to prioritize work and how we can share the new information with the public in a meaningful way. Stay tuned for a presentation on this work at an upcoming Board Meeting.

### Outreach Planning for the Oak Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) Area

It's that time of year again when staff prepares for another Oak CIS outreach mailing to gather interest from landowners with Oregon white oak in our Greater-Molalla Oak Conservation Implementation Strategy (CIS) Area (see the map below of the CIS area). This is the focus area where we received NRCS EQIP funding for landowner to complete oak restoration projects over five years. 2022 is our last year of funding for this CIS. Outreach this summer and fall will be for projects contracted this coming winter/spring of 2022. Staff plans to use the new Oak Mapping Prioritization products to inform

our outreach mailing. A couple of examples of the types of oak mapping products we may use include Oak Habitat Cores and Oak Patches. Both mapping products emphasize key oak habitat areas using criteria including oak patch size, edge condition and territory size of species that require Oregon white oak to thrive (white-breasted nuthatch, western gray squirrel, and acorn woodpecker). Some early reviews of the new mapping products have shown us that we are already working with landowners to conserve oak in Clackamas County in many core areas. Stay tuned for more to come on the overlap of our current oak habitat efforts and how they relate to the new oak mapping prioritization products.



### Rock Creek Push Up Dam Update

Planning staff joined partners on a recent site visit to a push up dam at a dairy on Rock Creek. This project has been considered by District planners for many years, but it has been difficult to find full funding because it isn't a complete fish blockage year-round, only seasonally. Local ODFW fish biologist Dave Stewart has taken up the ball to get this dam removed/replaced as it is ranked at the very top of the State's list of migratory barriers to address. An engineer from River Design Group attended the site visit in order to put together a basic scope and some alternatives to help start an OWEB technical assistance application that is due in November. Consultant Denise Hoffert was also on site; she has successfully removed many fish passage barriers and serves on the ODFW state fish passage task force. Denise has extensive experience implementing the state's fish passage policy, particularly as it relates to dam removal projects and has an excellent track record of delivering grant funds to many restoration projects in Oregon including a District dam removal project on Corral Creek in 2013. Anna Rankin with the Pudding Watershed council was present and agreed to be an OWEB TA grant applicant for the project. If all goes smoothly, the project could potentially be implemented in 2023.



Rock Creek push up dam.

Native Upper Willamette Winter Steelhead and Spring Chinook salmon (both TE status) were thought to use Rock Creek historically. Additionally, native cutthroat trout and possibly rainbow trout or Pacific lamprey and suckers are also residents. Introduced runs of Coho, summer steelhead and fall chinook, all documented in nearby Pudding and Molalla streams, could also potentially use this stream reach.

The dam consists of a concrete slab built in the 1960's or 70's, spanning the channel bottom with concrete columns imbedded in either bank which have I beams to place flashboards. Three metal posts are then placed in holes in the structure, and a wall of wooden boards is erected consisting of four segments. The height is usually about 4 feet, although they could place additional boards if desired. Since the boards are placed in April or May and not removed until September or October, they are likely a physical barrier to adult returning anadromous fish due to the concrete slab placing any jump pool well downstream of the flashboards. Juvenile fish and resident fish upstream migration may also be blocked longer than the period the boards are placed due to the low concrete barrier.

### It's Official! CREP is Back in Clackamas County

This month Drew Donahue successfully enrolled a new landowner in Clackamas County into the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, the first CREP enrollment since Jenne Reische previously held the CREP tech position at the District nearly 10 years ago. The restoration project, along Milk Creek, will provide approximately 25 acres of additional riparian habitat. This equates to almost 2,200 feet along Milk Creek, 2,800 feet of seasonal tributaries, and 1,300 feet of pond!

The current land use along these waterways is fallow hemp fields with plastic mulch covering almost 13 acres. Luckily for the landowner, Drew has been able to connect them with a neighbor experienced in removing plastic mulch. The area is dominated by Himalayan blackberry, Reed Canary grass, teasel, and a variety of other weeds. In 2017, a mustelid mink den was found in this section of Milk Creek and many raptors can be seen above the riparian area.

The current planting plan calls for almost 11,000 stems to be planted. In time this will provide a functional riparian buffer along this salmon bearing creek and its tributaries. This riparian restoration will not only provide habitat for the species present, but also lower water temperatures, reduce streambank erosion, provide flood mitigation, reduce sediment and pathogens from entering the creek, provide native woody species for pollinators, provide a sound buffer from the nearby road, and even act a natural fire break due to the moist nature of riparian species. A beneficial outcome for the client, wildlife, and everyone along Milk Creek.

### New Planner Update

Our new conservation specialist Suzi Cloutier is quickly getting up to speed in her new position. Suzi has been joining other planners on site visits, familiarizing herself with the various landowner assistance programs the District offers, and also creating technical reports for the landowners she is assisting. She is becoming familiar with the Lower and Middle Clear Creek Strategic Implementation Area and she and Scott are coming up with a game plan for the water quality monitoring portion of the SIA. We are thrilled to have Suzi's knowledge of the Clear Creek watersheds and experience in water quality monitoring. Lastly, she is reaching out to Matt's former landowners to introduce herself and offer assistance.

### Recruitment Process for Additional Planning Staff

Jenne Reische is working closely with Chris Lapp to review resumes and set up interviews for a new hire on the planning team. Again, we were very happy to receive many exceptional applicants to the job announcement last month. This latest addition to District will be largely funded by an ODA Capacity Grant and have a two-year term. The new staff will work with agricultural landowners to provide technical assistance and coordinate projects that improve water quality on farm properties in Clackamas County.



Drew surveying in a field of invasive Reed Canary grass, soon to be native trees and shrubs.



Suzi on a recent site visit with one of our oak clients.



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

### Web Posts

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

- [Have Horses? Pasture, Mud, and Manure Videos](#)
- [August is National Water Quality Month](#)
- [August Invasive Weed of the Month: Puncturevine](#)
- [Celebrate National Farmers Market Week: August 1-7, 2021](#)



August Invasive Weed of the Month: Puncture Vine

### Ten Years of Small Farm School!

Small Farm School has been educating beginning and experienced farmers in our area for 10 years!

Celebrate the tenth year of Small Farm School with a return to in-person sessions at Clackamas Community College in Oregon City on September 15. All programming will be outdoors and guidance from OSU Extension, Clackamas Community College, and the CDC will be followed to curb the spread of COVID-19. Masks will be provided at the registration table.



2021 Small Farm School Flyer

Classes are size limited to allow for distancing. Please register soon to ensure desired class selection. Class offerings and schedules are posted on the [Small Farm School webpage](#).

Regular Registration: \$60

Late Registration (Sept 8 - Sept 14): \$75

Scholarships are available for students, BIPOC farmers, and Veteran farmers from Oregon.

*p.s. The District is one of the sponsors for the scholarships.*



2012 Small Farm School Flyer

### Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Team Update

The DEI team met Thursday, August 11th, to discuss the wide variety of programs and training available to help the District become more adept on this topic. Options for training are diverse, so we will discuss:

- **Timing** - WHEN should we schedule training -- many organizations and trainers have pushed their programs back to 2022.
- **Type** - Should the training be online or in-person? Pre-recorded or tailored to our particular organization? Specific to a particular topic or broad and general?
- **Participants** - Who should be included? Staff and board of directors? Just staff to start? CSWCD only or with our partners?

Cathy will give us an update on Tuesday.

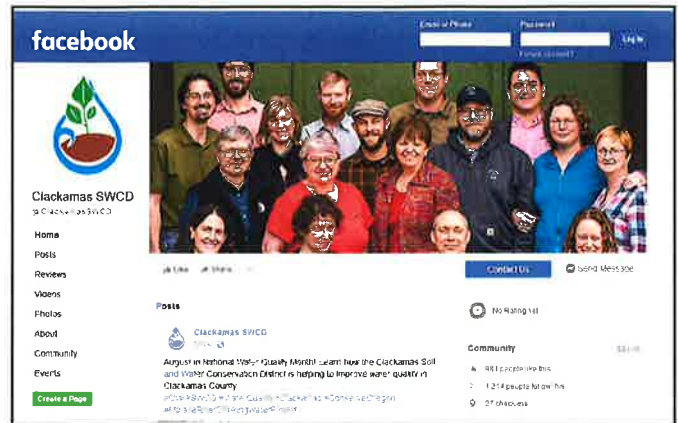
## Social Media Statistics

Do you ever wonder who is reading our Facebook posts? Cathy put together some demographics and interesting facts about our [Facebook page](#).

We have 1, 229 followers who are regularly receiving conservation news from the District!

Who are these followers?

- 72.5% are women
- 24.8% are men
- Over 50% of our followers are 35 - 55 years old
- Most of our followers live in Clackamas County
- 20% of our followers live in Portland
- We even have followers in Germany, India, Canada, The Netherlands, and the U.K.!

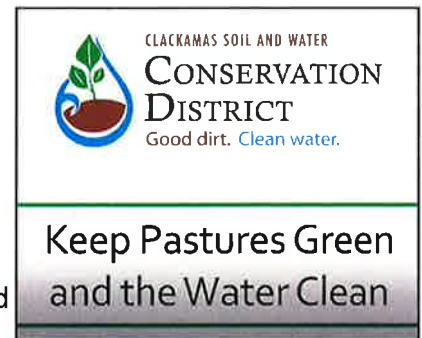


Our most popular posts over the past month include information on:

- Fire Prevention and Preparedness
- Small Farm School
- Native Plants and Plant Sales
- Subterranean Clover
- Oregon White Oak
- Dry Farming

## New Videos for Horse Properties

Pop your corn and sit back for a few SHORT videos featuring our Conservation Planning staff! This year, due to COVID restrictions, we were unable to engage our customers through our normal activities. So, we used our Oregon Department of Agriculture outreach funds to take our story directly to our customers!



New video for those with pastures

As you may remember, we have a Strategic Implementation Area in Middle and Lower Clear Creek. From ODA's survey, we see that there are many horse properties in that area of the watershed. To jump-start our outreach to these properties we produced three 3-4-minute videos. The topics are pasture management, manure management, and mud management. We invite you to watch these [videos!](#)

## Wildfire Update



The July 22 Wildfire Season Town Hall meeting at the Beaver Creek Fire Station was very well attended by local residents. I counted 50 folks.

Thank you to Don Guttridge who also attended. The meeting included a recap of events from the terrible wildfires last fall, an update on new equipment, lessons learned, and improvements made for the upcoming season.

The Fire Preparedness in Clackamas County webinar held on July 28 was also well attended. We had over 217 people register, 105 attended, and many emailed requesting a link to the video. Kim Galland (NRCS) and Lisa Kilders presented on the assistance each organization has to offer landowners before AND after a wildfire. Here is [the video](#).

**Have a Great Month!**



August 12, 2021

## BRIEFING NOTE FOR THE CLACKAMAS SWCD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

#### **Puncturevine: Weed of the Month**



This month we are highlighting puncturevine (*Tribulus terrestris*) as our [August Weed-of-the-Month](#). Puncturevine is meaningful because of the thorny fruits of the plant. These seeds, also known as “goatheads”, easily puncture through the bottoms of feet and paws, and flatten any bike tire they encounter.

Our puncturevine outreach efforts are continuing to yield significant observations in the Canby and Molalla areas. Justin is the WeedWise program specialist working in these areas, and he has been treating all known puncturevine infestations to bring them under control before they have a chance to spread further.

This week a new location in Canby was discovered through the [Clackamas County Priority Weed Project](#). This infestation was reported in a gravel parking area near the Molalla River. This new discovery suggests that there are still other unknown populations in the area and demonstrates the ease with which these plants move on shoes and tires.

So, help us spread the word about puncturevine and keep an eye out for this plant in parking lots and trail heads where it is likely to be introduced.

### Policeman's helmet treatments



This past month, we have been working on much of our policeman's helmet control work in the county. Courtney has been notifying landowners and coordinating work with contractors along the Salmon River. This season Courtney reports that we are seeing significant reductions in the abundance of policeman's helmet compared to last year. Our initial pass through the treatment corridor was completed in a quarter of the time that it took last season. Great news on the Salmon River!

Lindsey has also been working with staff from Clackamas River Basin Council and Metro to treat a stretch of Policeman's helmet along Deep Creek on the Clackamas River. This infestation is a priority in the Clackamas Basin, where policeman's helmet has not become widely established.

### Mt Hood Resource Advisory Committee Funding



Earlier this year, the WeedWise program submitted a grant application to the Mt Hood Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) for Title II funding. This application was submitted with input from staff from the Mt Hood National Forest. This application was submitted to help address current budget shortfalls within the Sandy Basin. We recently learned that the WeedWise program has been awarded \$20,000 to support our ongoing work!

## Forest Service Accomplishments Report



The WeedWise program was recently recognized for our weed control efforts in the most recent [Pacific Northwest Region Invasive Plants Program Accomplishments Report](#). The Lolo Pass invasive hawkweed control project was one of the highlighted accomplishments for the region.

Many of the program efforts undertaken by WeedWise program staff were prominently featured on the Mt Hood Accomplishments page. It is great to see the value that our partners place on our work!

Our CWMA's were also featured in the accomplishment pages for the Mt Hood National Forest, the Columbia Gorge National Scenic Area, and the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Many thanks to Courtney and other contributing staff to the success of these partnerships.

## Tansy Ragwort Season Continues



The District continues to receive a number of calls, emails, and hotline reports each week about the tansy ragwort in Clackamas County. Sam continues to field these technical assistance calls from local landowners. We have been collecting landowner complaints and locations of large tansy infestations and are preparing a mailing to send our tansy brochures to affected landowners.



## Plumeless Thistle Discovered in Clackamas County



This past month a new species of thistle was discovered in Clackamas County. This new thistle, commonly known as plumeless thistle (*Carduus acanthoides*), is the first reported sighting of this species in Western Oregon. This is a class A species and has a very limited distribution in the state and has previously been known from only 3 locations in the state. To learn more about plumeless thistle see the following resources from the [Oregon Dept of Agriculture](#) and the [Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board](#).

The thistle was discovered at a park in Milwaukie. It is believed that the thistle may have been brought in by construction equipment when a recent elevated walkway was constructed at the site. The site will be monitored in the coming years to ensure that new plants are controlled and not allowed to seed. Sam has been coordinating with NCPRD staff managing the site to ensure that the infestation is controlled. Upon surveying the property, only 4 plants were found! This is one of the Early Detection and Rapid Response success stories!



*Plumeless thistle (right), Bull thistle (center), Canada thistle (left)*



*Mature Plumeless thistle*



*Plumeless thistle flowers*



*Plumeless thistle stems*



*Plumeless thistle leaves*

### Knotweed Season Approaching



WeedWise program staff have been busy planning for our upcoming fall knotweed control season. Staff have been working to update our field maps and process property ownership changes ahead of the fall treatment season. As a follow up to this process, we will be generating mailings to secure permissions for recently sold properties.

### Eagle Creek Community Forest



The WeedWise program recently participated in an Eagle Creek Community Forest planning meeting to discuss current and past management efforts undertaken at the Eagle Creek Forest. Over the last two years, Justin has been spearheading the management activities on the forest and has been working to suppress weeds and keep our roads clear and maintained. He has also been working to support the Sutter Creek wood placement project that runs through the riparian portion of the Eagle Creek Community Forest.

Justin was recently able to provide Chris with an introductory tour of the property and discuss some of the past activities on the property. The efforts undertaken by Justin have provided the District with valuable time to maintain access and begin the planning process for the future of the Eagle Creek Forest.

## Wildfire Updates



The WeedWise program has been spearheading a good deal of work within the recently burned areas of Clackamas County. Lindsey has been coordinating treatments within the footprint of the Riverside Fire. Work has been focused on both priority weeds as well as some more common species, to suppress the weeds long enough to allow native systems to recover. Unfortunately, control work on the Mt Hood National Forest is currently being complicated by new closures due to several fires burning along the Marion County line.

Justin has also been initiating some control efforts associated with the Beachie Creek fire in the southern portion of the county. He has been out on site and has crews committed to treating emergent weed populations to again allow our natural systems to regenerate.

## Scenes from the Beachie Creek Fire





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



The WeedWise program has been continuing the mad dash through the field season. For the month of July, the WeedWise program treated 6.7 million sq ft of ground in one month.

Technical assistance requests have also continued to pour in over the last month. There have been many calls over the last month about control of tansy ragwort, blackberry, knotweed, tree-of-heaven, false dandelion, and purple loosestrife, among others.

Last month, the WeedWise program reported 490 noxious weed control treatments totaling 401 net acres to date for the year. *This month these totals have grown to 559 noxious weed treatments totaling 510 net acres.* Another impressive month! Nice work WeedWise team!

## Cooperative Weed Management Areas



### *Columbia Gorge CWMA*

The Columbia Gorge CWMA Steering Committee has been busy this month discussing small grants. In recent years the Columbia Gorge CWMA has generated a surplus of resources. These resources have been set aside to provide some added security for Courtney's coordinator position. But over the past several years the Columbia Gorge CWMA funds have built up to the point that the CWMA is looking to reinvest these resources into worthy project funding for CWMA partners. As a result, the Columbia Gorge CWMA Steering Committee has been discussing initiating a limited duration small grant program to put these resources to good use, and to bolster activities within the Columbia Gorge CWMA boundary.

### *4-County CWMA*

The 4-County CWMA recently held a general meeting, hosted by our partners from Clark County, WA. The meeting provided some great information about new weeds, aquatic weed control, new false brome options, and of course the "scoop on the poop" from our friends at Clark Conservation District.

The General Meeting was followed up by a Steering Committee meeting to discuss cooperative messaging with the [Clean Rivers Coalition](#). This group is currently working on messaging to reduce the impacts of pesticides on our streams and waterways. Member organizations of the Clean River Coalition are in many cases also members of the CWMA. As a result, the CWMA is interested in helping to refine the messaging to support toxic reduction efforts, while not undermining important noxious weed control efforts, that are often undertaken specifically for water quality reasons.

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.

**Voucher Approval List**

8/5/2021

Date	Number	Payee	Memo	Payment
8/5/2021	100709	AFLAC	Acct: LGIF14 07/2021	\$ 766.21
8/5/2021	100710	Bruce Johnson Construction LLC	CSWCD: SRL-7014 Final 07/2021	\$ 7,250.00
8/5/2021	100711	Covenant Systems LLC	CSWCD: 2107-003 Door Contact [TI] 07/2021	\$ 205.00
8/5/2021	100712	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 07/2021	\$ 21,319.16
8/5/2021	100713	Department of the Treasury	CSWCD: CP220 [12/31/2020] 06/2021	\$ 8,779.66
8/5/2021	100714	Garmin Services, Inc	Acct: DL627537 07/2021	\$ 73.68
8/5/2021	100715	Northwest Local Government Legal Advisors, LLC	CSWCD: Prof Svcs [Legal] 07/2021	\$ 100.00
8/5/2021	100716	Oregon City Garbage, Inc	Acct: 57768000 07/2021	\$ 103.10
8/5/2021	100717	Pacific Office Automation	Acct: 900-0266949-000 [100-0417] 06/2021	\$ 190.62
8/5/2021	100718	PGE	Acct: 9606754531 07/2021	\$ 486.49
8/5/2021	100719	T-MOBILE	Acct: 961602090 07/2021	\$ 518.94
8/5/2021	100720	US Bank Voyager Fleet Systems	Acct: 869284679 07-24-21	\$ 283.75
8/5/2021	100721	Vertical Computers	CSWCD: MIP Hosting 08/2021	\$ 170.00
<b>Subtotal: \$</b>				<b>40,246.61</b>

8/17/2021

8/16/2021	100722	Nicole Ahr	Reimbursement: Mileage 07/2021	\$ 305.31
8/16/2021	100723	Architectural Metalcrafters Inc	CSWCD: Signage [TI] 07/2021	\$ 1,425.00
8/16/2021	100724	Cedar Mill Construction Company LLC	CSWCD: Site Svcs [TI] Final 07/2021	\$ 7,025.93
8/16/2021	100725	Clackamas Community College	Acct: 813621 Succession Plan 06/2021	\$ 1,500.00
8/16/2021	100726	Clackamas River Basin Council	CSWCD: MOA [Req6] 2021	\$ 1,810.59
8/16/2021	100727	Clackamas River Water	Acct: 032327-00 06/2021	\$ 844.63
8/16/2021	100728	Clean Harbors Environmental Services	<b>VOID:::In Correct Vendor</b>	\$ -
8/16/2021	100729	Coverall North America, Inc	Acct: 157-6800 08/2021	\$ 1,616.26
8/16/2021	100730	Clackamas Dept of Finance	CSWCD: EE/ER Benefits 08/2021	\$ 23,293.50
8/16/2021	100731	Scott Eden	Reimbursement: Mileage 07/2021	\$ 134.96
8/16/2021	100732	Environmental Systems Research Institute Inc	Acct: 606324 [ArcGIS] 09/2021-09/2022	\$ 8,700.00
8/16/2021	100733	Jason Faucera	Reimbursement: Supplies [Farm] 07/2021	\$ 54.55
8/16/2021	100734	Green Banks, LLC	WW-2019-05 [WW-CG-2021-03] 07/2021	\$ 12,557.97
8/16/2021	100735	Integrated Resource Management	WW-2019-06 CRISP 06/2021	\$ 1,686.50
8/16/2021	100736	Kuznetsov Thinning Company	WW-2019-08 [CRISP-LK-2021-06] 07/2021	\$ 5,995.04
8/16/2021	100737	Christopher Lapp	Reimbursement: Supplies [Uniform] 07/2021	\$ 200.00

8/16/2021	100738	Mosaic Ecology, LLC	WW-2019-09 [CRISP-LK-2021-08] 07/2021	\$	7,060.63	CF
8/16/2021	100739	Pamplin Media Group	Acct: 11011518 Sub [Canby Herald] 07/2021-06/2022	\$	37.00	
8/16/2021	100740	Sound Native Plants Inc	WW-2019-12 [WW-CG-2021-04] 07/2021	\$	4,560.00	CF
8/16/2021	100741	Spire Technologies, Inc	Acct: 10608 B/U 09/2021	\$	450.00	
8/16/2021	100742	Suzie Cloutier	Reimbursement: Mileage 07/2021	\$	160.43	

**Subtotal: \$ 79,257.87**

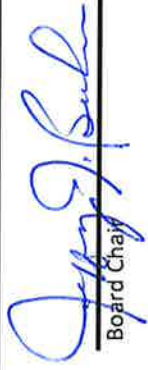
---

**Total: \$ 119,664.91**

---

**Total Conservation Fund \$ 31,860.14**

---

  
 Board Chair

  
 Board Secretary

8-20-21